

Century and Consumers Buildings- 202 and 220 S. State Street, Chicago

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To: ccl <ccl@cityofchicago.org>

Cc: Kandalyn Hahn <Kandalyn.Hahn@cityofchicago.org>; Dijana Cuvalo <Dijana.Cuvalo@cityofchicago.org>; Maurice Cox <Maurice.Cox@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Dear Chairman Wong and Members of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks,

We at Preservation Chicago, wanted to share the story and video released last month by “The B1M,” a media source out of London, on the Century and Consumers Buildings, located at 202 and 220 S. State Street in Chicago. Within seven hours of the release of the story, it had over 100,000 views and now has 818,724 views, as of this Monday afternoon. This number has increased by 18,000 views in just one week, and is The B1M’s first story on Chicago. The video is beautifully produced and gives a short overview and history of the built environment, the early skyscrapers, the issues regarding the Century and Consumers Buildings, and our Landmark buildings in Chicago. Here’s the link to the story: <https://youtu.be/BmiDUw-MPWA>

We were honored at Preservation Chicago, to have been a part of this amazing piece and story about our beautiful city and wanted to share this information with all of you, as part of the public record. Last month, the Commission on Chicago Landmarks voted to further the research on these two seminal buildings and request a formal Chicago Landmark Recommendation Report, so we felt this would be important information to share. The piece now also has 20,000 “likes,” from across the world.

We also wanted share that our “Preservation Chicago, Change.org petition” for the Century and Consumers Buildings has now broken the 23,000 mark, with support for preservation, Landmarking and reuse of the two buildings from people across the nation. This all indicates the tremendous support to save these two important Chicago School buildings from potential demolition.

Looking to the future, we will resubmit the Change.org petition list of signatures for the public record, along with The B1M video for any upcoming meetings before the Commission on Chicago Landmarks, where the Century and Consumers Buildings are part of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks Agenda.

Again, we wanted to share this amazing support from across the globe for the Century and Consumers Buildings and Chicago’s early skyscrapers, including nine buildings which are being considered as a UNESCO World Heritage site. However, as noted prior and in our testimony before the Commission, US/ICOMOS has warned, a loss of these two buildings to demolition will adversely and profoundly impact Chicago’s chances of the “Chicago’s Early Skyscrapers,” from being forwarded to join the UNESCO sites around the globe.

That would be a tragic loss to our City, our built environment, State Street, and also the tremendous loss of potential architecture and heritage tourism—potentially millions of additional visitors to Chicago.

Thank you for your time in noting this support for the Century and Consumers Buildings, in the very heart of our City. We at Preservation Chicago, fully support the Chicago Landmark Designation and reuse of the Century and Consumers Buildings.

Sincerely,
Ward Miller

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Ward Miller, Executive Director

Preservation Chicago

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