<table>
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<tr>
<th>Negative Location:</th>
<th>Gateway Center 2 entrance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 3/01</td>
<td>Gateway Center 3 entrance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Camera</td>
<td>Gateway Center 2 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of View</td>
<td>Gateway Center 2 and 3</td>
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**Known Locations**

- Gateway Center
- Gateway Center 2
- Gateway Center 3

**Contact Information**

- Address: Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
- Municipality: Pittsburgh
- County: Allegheny
- Survey Code/Parcel/Other No.: 001-C-167

**Bureau of Historic Preservation**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

**Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey Form - Photo/Site Plan Sheet**

89A
**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Code:</th>
<th>Tax Parcel/Other No.: 001-C-167</th>
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<tr>
<td>County:</td>
<td>Allegheny 003 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Municipality:</td>
<td>Pittsburgh 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Name:</td>
<td>Gateway Center 1,2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner Name/Address:</td>
<td>Gateway Trizec Inc, 4 Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner Category:</td>
<td>X Private Public-local Public-state Public-federal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Category:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number/Approximate Number of Resources Covered by This Form:</td>
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<tr>
<td>USGS Quad: 1.</td>
<td>Pittsburgh West 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTM A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>References B.</td>
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**HISTORIC AND CURRENT FUNCTIONS**

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<table>
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<td>D.</td>
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**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>B.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.</td>
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</table>

| Exterior Materials: | Foundation: Concrete 65 Roof: |
|                     | Walls: Steel 56 Walls:         |
|                     | Other:                         | Other: |

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<tr>
<th>Structural System:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Width: 9 F Depth: 9 F</td>
<td>Stories/Height: 20 / 24 F</td>
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### HISTORICAL INFORMATION

**Year Built:** C. 1951 to C. 1953  
**Additions/Alterations Dates:** C. ___ ; C. ___  
**Basis for Dating:** X Documentary  ____ Physical

Explain:
Existing plans.

1. Cultural/Ethnic Affiliation

2. Associated Individuals:
   1. David L. Lawrence
   2. Richard K. Mellon

3. Associated Events:
   1. Pittsburgh Renaissance

4. Architects/Engineers:
   1. Eggers & Higgins
   2. Inrin Clavan

5. Builders:
   1. ___
   2. ___

### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Toker, Franklin, Pittsburgh an Urban Portrait . . .

### PREVIOUS SURVEY, DETERMINATIONS

### EVALUATION (Survey Director/Consultants Only)

**Individual NR Potential:** X Yes : ___ No : Context(s):

**Contributes to Potential District** Yes ___ No  
District Name/Status:

Explain:
Appears to meet NR criteria. See attached. . .

### THREATS


Explain:

### SURVEYOR INFORMATION

**Surveyor Name/Title:** Charles Uhl  
**Date:** 4/01

**Project Name:**  
**Organization:** Historic Preservation Services  
**Telephone:** 412 / 492-9100  
**Street and No.:** 6711 Stanton Avenue  
**City, State:** Pittsburgh, PA  
**Zip Code:** 15206  
**Additional Survey Documentation:**  
**Associated Survey Codes:**
Gateway Center is a 23-acre office park, a swath of land running from the Allegheny to the Monongahela Rivers just east of Pittsburgh's Point State Park. Point State Park and Gateway Center are products of Pittsburgh's Renaissance – the Post-World War II urban renewal of Pittsburgh's Point district. Liberty Avenue defines the northern section of Gateway Center. On this northern section are three International-style skyscrapers, Gateway 1, 2, and 3. Finished in 1953, these two 20-story and one 24-story skyscrapers were the first major buildings constructed in the massive redesign of Pittsburgh's Point. Gateway Center 1 – 3 were designed by New York City-based architects Eggers & Higgins, assisted by Irwin Clavan.

Gateway 1, 20 stories, is adjacent to Fort Duquesne Boulevard on the north center edge of the site. Gateway 2, 20 stories, is adjacent to the radius of the curve of Liberty Avenue into Stanwix Street. Liberty Avenue was redesigned into a boulevard for the redevelopment project. Gateway 3, 24 stories, is adjacent to Liberty Avenue, west of Gateway 2.

The skyscrapers are exclusively office buildings, and each is designed around a center elevator core feeding double-loaded corridors. The buildings are cruciform in plan for maximum useable office area. They are constructed of a steel frame with a shiny silver chrome-steel skin.

Exterior treatments are very simple, befitting the International style. The first floor of the buildings is smooth polished gray granite. The main entrances are through a glazed three-story quarter circle element that fills the 90-degree angle at the central core of the building. Gateway 2 and 3 have entrances on both the outer (street) and inner (courtyard) sides. The courtyard has a one-story version of the quarter circle entrance. This entrance element is the most dated part of the composition, resembling an early roadside drive-in. The ground floor of Gateway 1 has been altered to accommodate the studios of KDKA radio and television.

Above the first floor each wing of the cruciform is divided into three wide bays, each having four "punched" single light window openings. Wider steel sections divide the bays, and in the windowed areas the shiny steel skin is corrugated. The four short ends of each building are divided into three bays with a 2-3-2 window pattern. The buildings have no setbacks.

The bright steel skin was chosen deliberately to contrast with the generally dirty or drab buildings of mid 20th century Pittsburgh. Stainless steel was the original choice, but it became unavailable during the Korean War when the buildings were constructed.
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Another contrast is the height of the skyscrapers compared with the mostly 2-4 story buildings cleared from the site.

The interiors of the buildings have been well maintained, and the office space has been remodeled frequently. The ground floor lobbies are well finished, but relatively small and unpretentious by the standards of earlier Pittsburgh office buildings (the Gulf and Koppers buildings) and the most recent office buildings (PPG, Fifth Avenue Place, One Oxford Centre).

The Gateway 1-3 buildings created a courtyard that is marked at its center by a fountain. The area is extensively landscaped, and successfully isolated, as intended in the design, from the dense urban core of Pittsburgh.
The original office towers of Gateway Center, Gateway Center 1, 2, and 3, are an important component of the post-World War II re-planning and re-construction that became known as Pittsburgh's Renaissance. The three office skyscrapers in a park-like setting are the legacy of a classic and often-studied urban renewal project. Land clearance began in 1950, and the skyscrapers opened in 1953, so while the buildings are barely more recent than the 50-year suggested minimum for National Register eligibility, the project itself meets the minimum. The buildings were designed by nationally prominent architects, and may meet National Register criterion C as works of architecture. The Gateway Center component of the Pittsburgh Renaissance may be more important as one of the earliest, and arguably successful, urban renewal projects, which would make it eligible under National Register criterion A, for its association with a broad pattern of history.

English novelist Charles Dickens visited Pittsburgh in 1842 and noted: "It certainly has a great quantity of smoke hanging over it, and is famous for its iron works." The development of the iron and glass industries, and later in the century, steel, polluted the air and water, and desecrated the ground with grimy mills. The city became the destination for many thousands of immigrants who worked low wage jobs that were often menial or dangerous. At the start of the 20th century the city was no notorious that the Russell Sage Foundation examined its problems in the famous Pittsburgh Survey. The Survey found child labor abuses, political corruption, overcrowding leading to pervasive grossly unsanitary conditions, and ill-educated and un-Americanized immigrants. Pittsburgh suffered outbreaks of cholera well into the 20th century, long after most American cities had safe water and septic sewer systems. The city served as a model of all that was bad with unfettered industrial growth.

In the 1930s Pittsburgh's politicians and industrialists sought ideas on re-making the overcrowded urban core of Pittsburgh - the triangle created by the river confluence. Robert Moses submitted a plan, as did other individuals. Most of the plans focused on Pittsburgh's Point, the most visible and historically important part of the city, but an area that was densely packed with small-scale old buildings, and congested by railroad-related structures and sidings. Redevelopment was aided by a smoke control ordinance in 1941, curbing air pollution.

The Pittsburgh Renaissance synthesized after World War II. One of the earliest public-private partnerships, it was the result of the collaboration of Pittsburgh's most powerful politician, Mayor David L. Lawrence (later Pennsylvania governor), and banker/industrialist Richard K. Mellon. Lawrence arranged for the needed property condemnations and steered public monies to the project, while Mellon essentially underwrote the risk for the developers of downtown Pittsburgh. The project is believed
to be the first large-scale venture where the eminent domain power of government was employed to acquire property for a private development. As a testament to their power, Mellon and Lawrence persuaded a number of Pittsburgh’s largest corporations, including J&L Steel, PPG, Westinghouse, and Peoples Gas to lease space in the Gateway Center high-rises before the buildings were designed. As a development partner, Lawrence sought out the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, which was investing in Post-War urban renewal projects, aided by tax incentives. Metropolitan turned Lawrence down, but Equitable Life Insurance Company agreed to be the owner and developer of Gateway Center, provided Pittsburgh did something to control its notorious smoke, and if the frequent flooding of the site could be limited.

Point Park and Gateway Center are perhaps the archetypical urban renewal project, and much more successful than many that would follow. Planners and design professionals closely followed Pittsburgh’s Renaissance projects. Mayor Lawrence relentlessly promoted the re-making of Pittsburgh in interviews and speeches. In a speech delivered to Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design in 1956, Lawrence described the impact of renewal on Pittsburgh:

> It has been ripped apart, opened up, demolished and rebuilt on more than a quarter of its area.

A further section of the speech is a classic statement of the intent of urban renewal. In describing the new Pittsburgh, Lawrence stated:

> It is a business district relieved from the tyranny of land, and the pressure to cover every inch of ground to bring a maximum return. The redevelopment project, together with Point Park, has eliminated a street pattern and a lot pattern laid out in 1794. Land coverage which had been close to one hundred per cent, excluding streets and alleys, is now less than 30 per cent. The atmosphere of Point Park has been projected into the city’s premium business district.

Planning and Architecture:

Gateway Center 1 – 3 were designed by New York City-based architects Eggers & Higgins, assisted by Irwin Clavan. Eggers & Higgins were the successors to the well-known John Russell Pope (d.1937). They completed the National Gallery of Art (1937-41), and the Jefferson Memorial (1938-39) in Washington, D.C., projects started by John Russell Pope. Eggers & Higgins also participated in the design of the Pentagon, and were the architects for the Dirksen Senate Office Building. They designed several
skyscrapers in New York City including Canada House, the Morgan Guaranty Bank Building, and the Javits Federal Office Building. Along with their government and business contracts, the firm also designed many buildings for colleges and universities.

Architect Irwin Clavan was known for landscaped, multi-function high-rise projects. He participated in the design of Parkchester in the Bronx (1938-42), and Peter Cooper Village and Stuyvesant Town in Manhattan (both 1947). The latter two commissions were apartment complexes developed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, which declined to finance Gateway Center.

Landscape architect for the Point and Gateway Center design was the New York City firm of Clarke & Rapuano, one of the most prominent firms in the country. Clarke & Rapuano worked on projects with New York City planning legend Robert Moses in the 1930's. The firm designed the landscape for many of the better-known parkways in the New York City area. Clarke & Rapuano worked with many cities and dozens of colleges and universities on landscape plans.

Identifying the architectural precedents for Gateway Center is beyond the scope of this survey. It is clear, however, that in hiring prominent New York City firms for the critical designs of the Point and Gateway Center, Mayor Lawrence and Richard K. Mellon insured that Pittsburgh’s renewal would receive much attention from the world’s design community.

Gateway Center remains a premier Pittsburgh business address. Three additional buildings have been constructed on the Gateway Center site north of Liberty Avenue: The Stanwix Street parking Garage, Gateway Condominiums, and the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel. Gateway Center 4, a skyscraper by a different architect and of different design from the earlier buildings, was finished in 1960 on the south side of Liberty Avenue, and several other buildings have been constructed there.

The legacy of Point State Park / Gateway Center may be mixed. While Pittsburgh’s first urban renewal project is regarded as a qualified success, later projects using eminent domain and large-scale demolition have not been successful. The center of the old city of Allegheny was demolished in the late 1950's to create Allegheny Center Mall, which has not performed as intended. Much of Pittsburgh’s Lower Hill District was cleared at the same time, and some of the land is still vacant 40 years later. Wholesale demolition also was used to redesign the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh, much to its detriment.
Gateway Center is a commercial development in the Golden Triangle of Pittsburgh. It was developed by the Equitable Life Assurance Company. The crown jewel of Gateway Center is Gateway One, designed by Imhotep, Cleon and Kenneth Deimling in 1971. Gateway One is 20 stories tall, the tallest building in Pittsburgh. Gateway Two and Three are also part of the Gateway Center complex. The development was designed to provide a modern office environment in the heart of Pittsburgh's business district. The Gateway Center project is a significant part of the city's architectural heritage and a testament to the city's commitment to modern, innovative design.

9. Gateway Towers, designed by Roth and Sons. Built 1962-64. 27 stories with 314 apartment units.
10. Westinghouse Building, 72-80 Stanwix Street, designed by Harrison and Abromovitz. Built in 1967. 23 stories sheathed in dark gray aluminum - (Gateway 6).

Photo References: (numbers are keyed to numerical order above, to numbers below photos, on Additional Photo pages 1 and 2, and to numbers on Sites below)

1. Gateway One -- 003-P-R185-F8,10,11
2. Gateway Two -- 003-P-R184-F25,26,34
3. Gateway Three -- 003-P-R184-F36,34
4. State Office Building -- 003-P-R185-F3
5. Bell Telephone Building -- 003-P-R184-F29,32,33
6. Hilton Hotel -- 003-P-R185-F4,35;R341-F22
7. Four Gateway Center -- 003-P-R184-F27,28,30
8. Gateway Five (IBM/U.S. Steelworkers Building) -- 003-P-R184-F31
9. Gateway Towers -- 003-P-R185-F5-7,9
10. Gateway Six (Westinghouse Building) -- 003-P-R337-P8,24
11. Pittsburgh Press and Post Gazette building -- 003-P-R185-F2
12. Allegheny Towers -- 003-P-R184-F23,24

23. Sites

[Map of sites]

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)