

NJHPO INVENTORY RECORD

ID#:	5579
A-sort:	MCGUIREMEMORIAL
Name:	Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite
NR Refnum:	
SITS#:	
Address:	1620 Cove Road
Address2:	
☐ MASTER.MULTI	
SHPO date:	
DOE date:	
COE date:	8/11/2017
SR date:	
NR date:	
NHL	☐ NHL date:
Publication Text:	
NOTES:	Memorial and Gravesite's: National Register Criteria: B; Criteria Considerations: C; F Memorial: Criterion B Criteria Consideration. F; Gravesite: Criterion B Criteria Consideration C; Period of Significance: c. 1907-1952 Project # 17-1886; H2017-0106-PROD located in Arlington Cemetery
☐ PROBLEM	
Entity Type	Individual Property
Attribute ID#:	0

Cnty	Municipality	Primefig	MULTI
CAMDEN	PENNSAUKEN TOWNS	P	☐

- ☒ Property or District GIS Digitize Quad Reference Number(s)
☐ District Inventory GIS Digitized

TYPE:

☐ New District
☒ Individually Eligible
☐ Individual and Contributing
☐ Contributing Only

☐ Mapped
USGS Quad Name _____
Quad Reference Number _____
Digital Identification Number _____

ELIGIBLE PROPERTY WORKSHEET

Name Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite A.K.A. _____

Address/Location Arlington Cemetery

1620 Cove Road Block / Lot _____ / _____

County and Municipality CAMDEN - Pennsauken Township

District (If applicable) N/A

☐ SHPO OPINION ☐ DOE ☒ COE ☐ ITC (HPCA-Part 1)

DATE SIGNED 8/11/2017 PROD H2017-106 LOG 17-1886

AUTHOR Tingey

REPORT (Accession Number) N/A

SURVEY FORM# (Historic Sites Inventory, Historic Bridge Survey) _____

Enclosure Checklist

☒ SHPO Signed Document
☐ NPS Signed Document
☐ Report Information (Title Page, Photograph copies, Relevant Sections)
☐ Property Information (Survey forms)
☐ Photographs (Historic and Current)
☐ HABS/HAER documentation
☐ Maps (Copy of Historic Properties USGS Quad, Historic, Tax)
☒ Other Preliminary Application

PROJECT FILE NAME N/A

CABINET LOCATION OF FILE N/A

COVENANT/AGREEMENT N/A

STATUS OF THE PROPERTY N/A

Prepared by: Tingey Date: 8/10/2017



HPO Log# 17-1886-1
HPO-H2017-106-Prod

State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

August 11, 2017

CERTIFICATION of ELIGIBILITY

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Dear Mr. Shinn:

This letter is in response to your request for a formal certification of eligibility for the Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite located within the Arlington Cemetery at 1620 Cove Road in Pennsauken Township, Camden County, New Jersey. We appreciate the time and effort that went into compiling the application and the supplemental information that has been provided, including a site visit by my staff on August 10, 2017.

Based on a review of available documentation, it is my opinion as Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for New Jersey that the Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite are eligible to be listed in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places under Criterion B for their associations with Peter J. McGuire and that Criteria Considerations C and F are met.

Peter J. McGuire (born in New York on July 6, 1852 and died in Camden NJ on February 18, 1906) is a figure of major importance in the area of labor history. McGuire joined the labor force at the age of 11. His exposure to long hours, low wages, and difficult working conditions galvanized him to work for their improvement by the time he was 20. As a trade unionist, McGuire successfully advocated for an 8 hour work day. He is also credited by many as the father of Labor Day. McGuire founded or helped found several significant labor organizations, including the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and the American Federation of Labor.

A memorial is only eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance. The memorial has been the site of Labor Day commemorations since its erection in 1952 by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (such events had previously been focused on the gravesite). Therefore, McGuire's memorial is eligible under Criterion B and meets Criteria Consideration F.

A gravesite of a historical figure of outstanding importance is only eligible if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his/her productive life. McGuire's work kept him on the move. He lived in New York NY, New Haven CT, St. Louis MO, Cleveland OH, Philadelphia PA, and Camden NJ. Your submission did an excellent job tracing down his homes, offices, and sites of significant public demonstrations. The majority of the sites appear to have been obliterated. And while two may still be extant (529 McClellan St in Philadelphia – tax data for this part of Philadelphia frequently gives a construction date of circa 1920, a visual examination of Google Street View indicates

an older building; and 221 Vine Street in Camden – while some sources indicate a construction date of 1910, a visual examination of Google Street View indicates an older building) a persuasive argument could be made that neither of these fairly short term, likely rented domiciles adequately represent McGuire's contributions to American Labor History. Therefore, McGuire's gravesite is eligible under Criterion B and meets Criteria Consideration C.

The period of significance for the Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite is circa 1907 (the date that McGuire was moved from Calvary Cemetery to Arlington Cemetery) through 1952 (the date of construction of the memorial). The boundaries of the eligible resource are discontinuous and are indicated on the attached map.

Two of my staff made a site visit to delineate boundaries for this resource on August 10, 2017. A secondary purpose of their visit was to determine whether Arlington Cemetery had potential for New Jersey and National Register listing. Based on their site visit and currently available information, it does not appear to be. However, the Egyptian Revival mausoleum built in 1929 may be individually eligible under Criterion C as an example of its architectural style. Energies put into preparing a preliminary application for the mausoleum might bear fruit.

If you wish to pursue registration, please contact Douglas McVarish of my staff at either (609-633-2390) or Doug.McVarish@dep.nj.gov. The Historic Preservation Office advises you to notify the property owner if you intend to nominate this property to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. To help expedite our review and response, if additional consultation with the HPO is needed regarding the nomination of this property, please reference the HPO project number (17-1886) in any future call, emails, or written correspondence.

Thank you for your interest in New Jersey's irreplaceable historic resources. If you have any further questions, please contact Andrea Tingey at 609-984-0539 or Andrea.Tingey@dep.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,



Katherine J. Marcopul
Administrator &
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

**Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite**

Arlington Cemetery
1629 Cove Road
Pennsauken Township
Camden County, New Jersey

Scale 1:500

0 15 30 60
Feet

Legend

-  Eligible INDV. boundary
 Tax Parcels

Boundary and Tax Map

10.77 Acres



NJDER,
Historic Preservation Office
July 2017



CAM - Penn Sauken

Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite

(Memorial)



P. J. McGUIRE
BORN JULY 6, 1852
DIED FEB. 18, 1906

FOUNDER OF U. S. OF C. & I. O. F. A.



ALSO FATHER OF LABOR DAY.

MCGUIRE

CHRISTINA I. MCGUIRE

1865 — 1919

PETER H. MCGUIRE JR.

1889 — 1938



P. M. MCGUIRE
BORN JUN 4 1862
DIED FEB 18 1903
MEMBER OF U. S. OF A.



OF LABOR DAY

MCGUIRE

CHRISTINA I. MCGUIRE
BORN 1865 DIED 1913
PETER MCGUIRE JR
BORN 1865 DIED 1938



BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA 1952

CAM - Pennsauken Peter J. McQuire Memorial and Grave site (Memorial date: 11)

Peter McGuire

Peter McGuire, father of
Labor Day, lies buried
in this cemetery. He was
a founder and early
officer of AF of L.

17-1886 AT



RECEIVED

July 13, 2017

JUL 17 2017

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 420, Mail Code 501-04B
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Attn: Andrea Tingey

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Re: Preliminary Application for Eligibility of Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite,
Pennsauken, Camden County, NJ

Dear Ms. Tingey:

Enclosed herewith, please find the Preliminary Application and supporting documents requesting a determination of eligibility for listing on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places of the Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite located in Arlington Cemetery in Pennsauken Township, Camden County. This application is made by Robert Shinn of the Camden County Historical Society and Robert Fisher-Hughes of the Pennsauken Historical Society.

As reflected in the accompanying documents, we believe that the Memorial and Gravesite of Peter J. McGuire qualify for the Register under Criteria A and B and Criteria Consideration iii because of their association with Peter J. McGuire, a figure of outstanding importance in American labor history as founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and its most significant officer and organizer throughout that Union's first two decades; as a co-founder of the American Federation of Labor and its predecessor, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions; as the labor leader believed to have first proposed the creation of a holiday to honor the working men and women of the United States; and for his tireless activities in the early labor movement such as the struggles for the eight hour day.

We believe that the Memorial and Gravesite at Arlington Cemetery qualifies as the last surviving site with the appropriate direct association and integrity to represent the active life of McGuire. This is well documented in the Comparative Analysis included with the application.

In addition, we believe that the Memorial and Gravesite qualify as a commemorative property under Criteria Consideration vi as they have come to symbolize the value placed upon the life and work of Peter J. McGuire and they are widely recognized as a reminder of enduring

PRELIMINARY APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

DETACH & RETURN

(Please type or print)

Name of Property: McGuire, Peter J, Memorial and Gravesite _____

Location or Street Address: Arlington Cemetery, 1620 Cove Rd. _____

Municipality: Pennsauken _____ County: Camden _____

Your Name: Robert A. Shinn

Daytime Telephone Number: 856 428 8672

E-mail address: bobshinn@gmail.com

Address: 10 White Oak Court, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034 _____

Do you wish to have your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address kept confidential? NO

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING CLOSELY DESCRIBES YOUR REASON FOR PURSUING REGISTRATION FOR THIS PROPERTY.

(Check all the reasons that apply)

- ☒ To seek public recognition of its historical, architectural, engineering, industrial, or archaeological value.
- ☒ To seek protection for this property from a harmful federal, state, county, or municipal project or undertaking.
(Describe the undertaking under "Threats" below)
- ☒ *(For counties, municipalities, or non-profit organizations)* Apply for restoration or rehabilitation grant funds from the New Jersey Historic Trust.

To apply for an investment tax credit for the rehabilitation of an income-producing historic building.

- ☒ To apply for a grant from a county historic preservation program.

To get relief from the strict interpretation of building codes by demonstrating that this property is an historic building, and therefore subject to the historic building provisions of the New Jersey Rehabilitation Subcode.

Other - Explain: _____

- ☒ Check if you are requesting a Certification of Eligibility letter (COE) (see instructions)

OWNERSHIP

(Note: Applicants do not have to be the owners of the properties they seek to register; but if the owner of a privately-owned individual property objects to the listing, the property will not be listed in the National Register and might not be listed in the New Jersey Register.)

Do you own the property? Yes ☒ No ☐ If not, give the name, address, and telephone number of the owner.

Name of owner: StoneMor Partners L.P. Daytime Telephone Number: 215 826 2800

Address: 3600 Horizon Blvd, suite 100, Trevose, PA 19053 _____

THREATS: IS THE PROPERTY THREATENED IN ANY WAY?

Describe how or from what source the property is threatened.

Describe Threat (attach an extra sheet if necessary): No threats at present. _____

FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE USE ONLY

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Map | ☐ Base Form | ☐ CLG |
| ☐ Photos | ☐ Attachment | ☐ Eligibility Worksheet |
| | | ☐ Property subject to NJ Pine lands Commission jurisdiction |

ELIGIBILITY WORKSHEET *(for Preliminary Application)*

History: Peter J. McGuire (1852 – 1906) was a figure of transcendent national significance in the labor history of the United States. He joined the Cabinet Makers Union of N.Y. in 1872 and, recognizing the need for one international union of wood works, called for and led a convention in Chicago in 1881 that formed the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, which elected him its first General Secretary and retained him in that position until 1901. McGuire probably did more than anyone else to convince skeptical, locally minded union activists around the country that a national labor federation was not only necessary but also possible. He co-founded the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor unions and reorganized it into the American Federation of Labor in 1886, where he served variously as Secretary and vice president between 1886 and 1900. He successfully led the fight for the eight-hour day in 1890. He proposed that “one day in the year be designated as Labor Day” in 1882, a proposal that was adopted first by a number of states and then as the first Monday in September by an act of Congress in 1894.

Statement of Significance: Starting in 1906 and each year since, groups of labor leaders, political VIPs, family and working people gathered at the McGuire graveside on Labor Day. They lay wreaths and deliver speeches in tribute to the man and his great work. As the anniversary of McGuire’s Centennial birthday approached the organizations he had helped found decided to install a new memorial – a monument including a central statue of McGuire embraced by a semi-circular colonnade of marble columns. Several thousand people, many of them ordinary union members, attended the memorial dedication ceremonies on Aug. 9, 1952. Speakers included the President of the New Jersey Federation of Labor; the mayors of Camden and Pennsauken; General President Hutcheson of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; the President of the A.F. of L., William Green; the secretary and treasurer of the A.F. of L., who later attained near legendary status himself, George Meany; and the U.S. Secretary of Labor, Maurice Tobin. In 1956, when a new postage stamp dedicated to American labor was issued at Labor Day, President Dwight Eisenhower held a special ceremony at the White House in which he met with family and descendants of Peter J. McGuire. In 2004, Peter J. McGuire was admitted to the national Labor Hall of Fame of the U.S. Department of Labor, since renamed the Hall of Honor.

Eligibility for New Jersey
and National Registers: ☒ Yes

No

National

Register Criteria: ☒ A ☒ B C D

Level of Significance: Local

State

☒ National

Justification of Eligibility/Ineligibility: The property’s direct, historical association with Peter J. McGuire as a figure of transcendent national importance in the labor history of the United States is well documented. The landscape characteristics, physical features, and overall layout and visual appearance of the McGuire memorial and gravesite reflect a very high degree of overall integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. The sculptural representations of labor and union themes associated with McGuire’s career as an effective labor leader and organizer that embellish the memorial and gravesite, are intact and well preserved. Perhaps most important is the fact that national political and labor leaders have made annual pilgrimages to the grave since 1906 and to the memorial and grave since 1952 every September on Labor Day. Unlike other known properties related to McGuire (see “Comparative Analysis of Known Properties Associated with Peter J. McGuire attached), his memorial and gravesite is the only one that retains both the necessary direct association with McGuire as a person of national stature and the high level of integrity required for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. The property satisfies the criteria for graves of historical figures and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years under category (c.) “a grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive live and (f.) “A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance.” (II. National Register Criteria For Evaluation, Criteria Consideration categories, https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm)

Boundary Description: A grave and memorial in Block 1001, Lot 14, Arlington Cemetery, Pennsauken, NJ (See aerial maps attached)

Prepared by:

Revised 6/02

BUILDING/ELEMENT ATTACHMENT (for Preliminary Application)

Common Name:	McGuire, Peter J, Memorial and Gravesite	
Historic Name:	McGuire, Peter J, Memorial and Gravesite	
Present Use:	Graveyard memorial gathering site and gravesite	
Historic Site:	Graveyard memorial gathering site and gravesite	
Construction Date:	1906 Gravesite and stone	Source: Newspapers & gravestone
	1952 Memorial	Source: Program & newspapers
Alteration Date:	None	
Designer:	M.C. Lyons & Sons, Camden – gravestone; John J. Gurantee Studio, Philadelphia – memorial.	
Builder:	[see designer above]	
Style:	Full length portrait sculpture before a free-standing curvilinear colonnade of six Greek Doric columns – memorial Massive granite multistage headstone monument topped by cross for family burial site early 20 th century – grave headstone	
Form:	Statue with colonnade within dedicated circular drive – memorial Large headstone inscribed with McGuire family members buried at gravesite	
Type:	Graveyard memorial and gathering site; gravesite and family headstone	
Roof Finish Materials:	not applicable	
Exterior Finish Materials:	Cherokee Georgia marble – memorial; Granite - gravestone	

Exterior Description: **Memorial:** Outdoor sculpture of Peter J. McGuire standing. Made of Cherokee Georgia marble, 72 x 26 x 19 in.; Base: H. 44 in. x Diam. 73 in.; Colonnade: approx. H. 48.5 ft. x D. 21 in. Inscription: (Carved on front of base:) PETER J. MCGUIRE/JULY 6, 1852/FEBRUARY 18, 1906. Full-length portrait of McGuire standing with left arm against chest and right arm, elbow bent, at waist, dressed in a frock or mourning coat. Behind sculpture is a free-standing curvilinear colonnade of six Greek Doric columns of the same material. Inscribed on entablature frieze of colonnade: IN MEMORY OF PETER J. MCGUIRE FOUNDER OF UBC AND FATHER OF LABOR DAY. (Below the base of the colonnade is inscribed:) ERECTED BY UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA 1952. Peter J. McGuire Gravesite and Monument: Massive granite multistage headstone rests on a large cemetery plat topped by a cross and a sculpted center sphere in the middle of the cross juncture and set within a triangular shape the letters "IhS". Beneath the front of the cross is a raised slightly darker but smooth surface inscribed: "P.J. MCGUIRE, BORN JULY 6, 1852 DIED FEB. 18, 1906." Around the squared off base of the monument is a band of laurel leaf figures that carries around all four sides of the base within an etched band. On the front underneath the death date is an etched underline beneath which is inscribed: "FOUNDER OF U.B. OF C. & J. OF A."

Interior Description: not applicable

Setting: Arlington. The memorial and gravesite are located in the southeast section of western half of Arlington Park Cemetery at 1629 Cove Road, Pennsauken, New Jersey. The memorial is within a shaded oval driveway not far from the gravesite monument. Established in 1901 and the adjoining Bethel Memorial Park cemetery between River Road and Westfield Avenue less than a mile from the Delaware River, the cemetery is on land that was a former hunting ground for local Native Americans. The cemetery features a well tended lawn and many shade trees, including an abundance of unique purple beech trees.

Comparative Analysis of Known Properties Associated with Peter J. McGuire

Current status

July 11, 2017

Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite, Arlington Cemetery, Pennsauken, NJ

The property's direct, historical association with Peter J. McGuire as a figure of transcendent national importance in the labor history of the United States is well documented. The landscape characteristics, physical features, and overall layout and visual appearance of the McGuire memorial and gravesite reflect a very high degree of overall integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. The local chapter of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners purchased the grave lot and family headstone for the McGuire family. The sculptural representations of McGuire and labor and union themes associated with his career as an effective labor leader and organizer that embellish the memorial and gravesite, are intact and well preserved. Perhaps most important is the fact that national political and labor leaders and thousands of workers and families have made annual pilgrimages to the grave since 1906 and to the memorial and grave since 1952 every year on Labor Day or the Friday before Labor Day. Unlike other known properties related to McGuire, his memorial and gravesite is the only one that retains both the necessary direct association with McGuire as a person of national stature and the high level of integrity required for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. The property satisfies the criteria for graves of historical figures and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years under category (c.) "a grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life and (f.) "A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance."¹

Lower East Side, New York City, NY

McGuire was "probably" born in a lower east side tenement in New York City on July 6, 1852 to parents John J. McGuire and Catherine Hand O'Riley, both Irish immigrants, who had married in 1850. The house and place of birth "is now forgotten."² It is highly unlikely that his birthplace building still exists or retains the ability to provide archaeological information that would prove nationally significant.

Haines Piano Shop. New York City, NY

In 1869 at age 17 McGuire began an apprenticeship at the Haines Piano Shop, which was located at 330 to 342 Second Ave.³ The building that housed the shop no longer exists. The site of the piano shop is now "Peter's Field," a park between 20th and 21st Streets and First and Second Ave. named for two other prominent Peters: Peter Stuyvesant and Peter Cooper.⁴ It is possible that McGuire's place of work may have been different Haines facility than the shop on Second Ave. In 1891, long after McGuire left New York, there was a Haines piano factory on the southern boulevard between 132 and 133 Streets and Alexander Street that included 21 lots, a lumber yards, and building. An

advertisement for Haines said the company was established in 1851 by Napoleon J. Haines.⁵ That piano factory building no longer exists at this address.⁶

Tompkins Square Park, East Village, Manhattan, New York City, NY

Tompkins Square Park is a 10.5-acre public park in the Alphabet City portion of East Village, Manhattan, New York City. The park is bounded on the north by East 10th Street, on the east by Avenue B, on the south by East 7th Street, and on the west by Avenue A, is abutted by St. Marks Place to the west.

McGuire's association with Tompkins Square Park is based on his leadership of the famous Tompkins Square rally of January 13, 1874. This rally and demonstration, involving thousands of workers, occupies an important place in the pages of American labor history because it ended when police crushed it causing a riot that marked an unprecedented era of labor conflict and violence. The riot occurred in the midst of the Panic of 1873, a depression that began in 1873 and lasted for several years. Workers movements throughout the United States had been making demands of the government to help ease the strain of the depression. Organizations rejected offers of charity and instead had asked for public works programs that would provide jobs for the masses of unemployed. When organizations of the unemployed sprang up in the many cities, McGuire joined the New York committee and spoke almost nightly on soap boxes in the vacant lots of his neighborhood, urging his fellow citizens to demand work or relief. His forceful and dynamic speaking style drew crowds and attention. His reputation was still limited to his ward until he was elected to the Committee of Safety, the umbrella organization that coordinated demonstrations for public relief in the winter of 1873-74. His role as a city-wide spokesman for the unemployed catapulted him out of obscurity and led the proper New York Times to brand him as a "disturber of the public peace." As part of a campaign to discredit the Committee of Safety, police officials arranged for his father, John McGuire, to issue a public denunciation of his notorious son's "radical and atheistic" behavior. McGuire continued his work, leading up to the famous Tompkins Square rally and a violent attack on the young labor movement.

Tompkins Park's association with McGuire is limited to one demonstration and riot induced by police brutality. It has an equal or greater association with other demonstrations and noteworthy historical figures. In 1857, immigrants protesting unemployment and food shortages were attacked by police in the park. In 1863 the deadly Civil War Draft Riots occurred in the park.⁷ In 1877, three years after the McGuire-led march, 5,000 people fought with the National Guard when they amassed to hear Communist revolutionary speeches at the park.⁸

The park is named for Daniel D. Tompkins (1774-1825), Vice President of the United States under President James Monroe and the Governor of New York from 1807 until 1817. The park also contains three historical monuments. There is a monument in the north side of the park to the General Slocum boating disaster on June 15, 1904. This was the greatest single loss of life in New York City prior to the September 11, 2001 attacks. Over a thousand people, mainly German immigrant mothers and children, drowned in the

East River that day. The park is also the place where Indian Sadhu A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada came to sing and preach in 1966, beginning the worldwide Hare Krishna movement. An elm tree in the park's southern plaza that he chanted beneath is now considered sacred to the Hare Krishna faith. The southeast corner of the park contains a statue of Samuel S. Cox (1824–1889), a New York City politician who served in the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio and New York, and as U.S. Minister to the Ottoman Empire in 1885–1886.

The layout of the park was changed by Robert Moses in 1936 and was designed to divide and manage crowds that have gathered there in protest since the 1870s. That tradition was rekindled as the park became the locus of demonstrations against the Vietnam War in the 1960s. By the 1980s Tompkins Square Park had become synonymous with New York's increased social problems; it was a high-crime area that contained encampments of homeless people and was a center for illegal drug dealing and heroin use. In August 1988, a riot erupted in the park and thirty eight people were injured when police attempted to clear homeless people from the park. Like the McGuire led demonstration one hundred years before, bystanders and political activists got caught up in the police action after a large number of police surrounded the park and charged at the hemmed-in crowd. The park had become a symbol of the problems in the city, including homelessness—which had prompted the 1988 riot.

In addition to the Robert Moses redesign, increasing gentrification in the area during the 1990s and 2000s, enforcement of a park curfew, and the eviction of homeless people have changed the character of Tompkins Square Park. The park was refurbished in 1991, reopening in 1992 with playgrounds and basketball courts, dog run, ping pong table, handball courts, and built-in outdoor chess tables.

Pease Piano Company, New York, NY

On August 2, 1874 McGuire went to work for the Pease Piano Company and “finished his trade.” Pease factory and warerooms were located at 316-322 W. 43 St, New York, NY. The piano company building no longer exists at this site, which is now occupied by the Ford Foundation Building.⁹ During the Great Depression, Pease was purchased by the large Winter Piano Company which produced the Pease brand name until 1950. McGuire did not work long at Pease. McGuire moved to New Haven, Connecticut in September 1875 to organize the New Haven Branch of the Socialist Democrats and in December went on six week tour making speeches on behalf of socialism. In February 1877 McGuire embarked on a five week walking tour of New England giving speeches.

New Haven Folding Chair Company, New Haven, Connecticut

In June 1877, McGuire went to work for the New Haven Folding Chair Company at 352 State Street for money to continue campaigning. The folding chair building no longer exists on the site which is currently occupied by a vacant retail building and former community center.¹⁰

Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, St. Louis, Missouri

In October 1879 McGuire and his family relocated to St. Louis where he went to work in furniture factory. The Workingmen's Party had mobilized St. Louis workers during the great railroad strike of 1877, and McGuire imagined the city would be fertile ground for organizing. Representing the St. Louis Trades and Labor Assembly, he lobbied the Missouri State Legislature for bills on mine ventilation and child labor. His efforts also established the first bureau of labor statistics in the United States after he convinced the legislators to establish a State Bureau of Labor Statistics. He was subsequently appointed Deputy Commissioner. McGuire was not cut out for the life of a state appointed official. He grew impatient with the Bureau's limited authority. After some conflict with his supervisor heightened his dissatisfaction with watching labor struggles from a distance, McGuire quit after six months and returned to the trades to promote trade unionism and fight for the eight-hour day

In 1881 McGuire organized a Chicago convention to form a union. Representatives from 11 cities joined him, and over four spirited days, they produced a constitution and structure. On August 8, 1881, thirty-six carpenters from eleven cities met in a Chicago warehouse to form a national union. Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (renamed UBC&J in 1888). Unanimously elected first general secretary, the only full time position in the union.

McGuire started writing and publishing the union's periodical, *The Carpenter*, from his offices at 911 N. 19th St., St. Louis, Mo. The building containing these offices no longer exists and the site is currently occupied by a parking lot.¹¹

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, New York, NY

In 1882 McGuire returned to New York City. His union was penniless. The March issue of *The Carpenter*, the official monthly, was printed thanks to a friend's \$30 loan. McGuire did not mind personal poverty, but he dreaded the collapse of the organization. The March issue listed 184 William Street as the union's office and McGuire's address as a post office box: PO Box 3560 New York. The union's 1882 building no longer exists at 184 William Street. It is currently occupied by the Shaefer Trading Company, listed as a foreign business corporation in the State of New York.¹²

Clarendon Hall, New York, NY

There is a consensus among historians that Clarendon Hill, located at 114 East 13th Street, New York was the site of McGuire's May 8, 1882 speech to the Central Labor Union in which he first suggested the designation of a holiday for labor. It was a hall used for meetings, performances and exhibitions. The former Clarendon Hall no longer exists. Instead the site is now the American Felt Building, including condos created in 1984, building erected 1909.¹³

Union Square, New York, NY

Union Square is between E. 14th and E. 17th Streets and Union Square West and Union Square East in New York City. McGuire helped organize, gave a speech, and sat on the reviewing stand in Union Square for the first Labor Day parade and picnic September 5, 1882. Union Square is designated a National Historic Landmark ("NHL") and site under Criteria A.¹⁴

While Union square held the reviewing stand for the first large scale parade including wide representation of labor after the idea of establishing a holiday was first presented to the Central Labor Union by McGuire in May 1882, the NHL nomination states that the square is "not associated with a single significant person, but is "nationally significant for the role it has played in the history of labor in this country" including the first Labor Day Parade and parades for twelve subsequent years that culminated in passage of national legislation for Labor Day.

Union Square and the Labor Day parade and festival of Sept 5, 1882, are nationally significant for many more people and events other than McGuire. They represented a culmination of ten years of agitation for the 8 hour day, elimination of repressive tactics of employers, support for Irish peasants' struggles against absentee landlords, dealing with massive unemployment caused by the depression of 1873, and frustration of dealing with police violence as occurred at Tompkins Square Park in 1874.

Union Square is closely associated with other important labor leaders of the McGuire era, all of who actively participated and occupied prominent positions speaking and on the reviewing stand. These include Robert Blissert, President of the NY CLU and Grand Marshall William McCabe, NYC local of the International Typographical Union. It also includes the leadership of the Knights of Labor, including especially Grand Master Workman Terence V. Powderly, who had scheduled the Knights' convention in New York City at the same time as the parade. Sixty seven Knights of Labor delegates representing 42,517 members, shared the reviewing area stand at Union Square with McGuire.¹⁵ Union Square itself had nothing to do with the creation of Labor Day. As the NHL nomination states:

"While the grand parade and the picnic of 1882, with much of the attention focused on Union Square because of the placement of the reviewing stand in the pavilion at the north end of the park, did not itself create the Labor Day holiday, it was during preparation for the event that the idea was first espoused and it was in Union Square that the expression "Labor day" first took hold. ... It was through demonstrations such as the grand parade of the Knight of Labor, through the Central Labor Union of NYC, hoped to convince state governments and the national government to set aside one day a year to honor the workingman. A recent historian has stated that the annual Labor Day holiday survives as perhaps the most permanent contribution of the Knights of Labor to the American scene."¹⁶

Union Square Park contains many commemorative sculptures, including a bronze equestrian statue of George Washington that was dedicated in 1856 because the park was the location of a reception given Washington in 1783 in recognition of his leadership and on the occasion of the British evacuation from New York. A statue of Abraham Lincoln holding the Emancipation Proclamation was completed in 1870 in the southwest corner of the Square. A statue of Marquis de Lafayette was dedicated in the park in 1876. A 36-foot diameter base Liberty Pole with the entire Declaration of Independence and Thomas Jefferson quote was installed in the park to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Office and Home, Cleveland, Ohio

In 1884 McGuire married Christina Wolff of Staten Island NY after 8 month courtship. The couple moved to Cleveland, Ohio by November where he publishes the November issue of *The Carpenter* (Vol. IV, No. 11) which lists only "Lock Box 180 Cleveland, OH" as the office address. The Cleveland Directory lists a residence of Peter J. McGuire at 252 Hanover. This address is not discoverable online. The McGuires' first child, Lillian Elizabeth Mc McGuire, is born in Cleveland on March 3, 1886.

Office and Homes, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

McGuire established a work office as the General Secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners (UBC&J) in Philadelphia at 124 N 9th Street from 1890 until he resigned in 1901.¹⁷ The building standing at this address today built circa 1930 has lost its ability to interpret McGuire's times and headquarters activities for the UBC&J.¹⁸ It is a three story brick fronted commercial building featuring a blue awning of a Nationwide agency, Gannon Insurance Associates, Inc.¹⁹ It also has offices of the Oriental Treatment Center – Acupuncture and Skytech International Electricians.

McGuire resided at three different locations in Philadelphia.²⁰ He first lived at 529 McClellan in 1890 and moved shortly after to 906 Cherry Street. The current building at 529 McClellan St. was built in 1920, thirty years after McGuire had moved out.²¹ Similarly, the building at 906 Cherry Street was built in 1930, forty years after McGuire resided there.²²

In 1892 he moved his home to 336 Franklin Street. That residence was demolished to make way for the Vine Street Expressway and US Route 676.²³

Homes, Camden, New Jersey

From 1893 to 1902 McGuire and his family resided at 221 Vine Street, is in the Cooper Point neighborhood of Camden, NJ.²⁴ The current single-family home located at 221 Vine Street was built in 1910, four years after McGuire's death. 221 Vine St in Camden, NJ.²⁵

From 1903 until 1905 McGuire resided at 916 N 5th St., Camden, NJ.²⁶ The building at this address today, a single family home, was built in 1889 before the McGuire's took up residency. ²⁷ However, the building has been substantially modified since the McGuires lived there and lost architectural integrity as a single family home and its ability to interpret McGuire's life and times. It has been converted to a church: Iglesia Tesalonica, C.L.A., Pastores Jose y Maritiza. ²⁸

From 1904 to 1906 he resided at 204 Byron Street, Camden.²⁹ 204 Byron was destroyed by a large fire and was gone by 2004.³⁰ The site is now a vacant lot.³¹

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, General Headquarters Building, 222 E Michigan St, Indianapolis, IN 46204

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners moved their headquarters from Philadelphia in 1909 to be more centrally located. On April 11, 1910, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners placed a bronze tablet in memory of their founder, P.J. McGuire, at the foot of their headquarters, the Carpenters' building. The tablet was a gift and a tribute from the Chicago District Council and affiliated unions. The General Executive Board being in session, all of its members and all general officers participated in the ceremonies following its placing in position.

General President Huber, accepting the tablet, said:

"I congratulate the District Council of Chicago in presenting such a fine memorial to the memory of P.J. McGuire in the Brotherhood's own building. It is something that will be a credit to Chicago as well as to the Brotherhood in general. It will be there as long as the building stands and I hope an incentive to the younger element of the U.B., when they look upon it, to do what he tried to do in the interests of the carpenters.

"I knew P.J. McGuire for many years no one in this Brotherhood thought more of him than your humble servant. While you as members of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America may not realize it, I knew Brother McGuire in his young manhood; I knew him in his prime; we worked side by side for some time in the interests of the Brotherhood. May his memory, may his actions, may his good deeds and his wholesome advice be a lesson to us to carry on this work in the future better than it has been in the past and make a lasting monument to his memory as the founder of the Brotherhood.

"The administration has changed, but the present administration is doing the best it knows how to keep the organization on the boom, and with the presentation of this magnificent tablet I hope it will be the means of binding the Brotherhood of Carpenters closer together than we have been in the past and forge a chain of unions throughout and across this continent whose links will be unseverable whose forging will withstand the rust of time and the strain of adversity. It means much to me as an individual and it ought to mean more to the rank and file. The

rank and file did not know "Old Pete" as I did, but let us take an example from his good deeds and do the best we can. When we have done that, we have fulfilled our duties."

The Carpenters Building, the former general headquarters of the United Brotherhood is not a suitable site for interpreting the life of Peter J. McGuire. McGuire never set foot in the building as it was constructed after his death. After the United Brotherhood moved its headquarter again to Washington, D.C. in 1960 to reflect the growing importance of the union's influence in national politics, the building was used for other purposes and by May 2014 had been converted into the Salvation Army's Carpenters Apartment building.³²

Terre Haute, Indiana, Eugene Debs Home and Museum, McGuire Marker

In 1990, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America erected the Peter J. McGuire Marker in Terre Haute Indiana in the backyard of the Eugene Debs Home and Museum.³³ The marker acknowledges McGuire's founding of the largest construction/industrial international union in North America, his help founding and leading the American Federation of Labor, his travels throughout the land fighting for workers rights and leading campaigns for protective laws, his establishment of the eight hour day, and is credited as "The Father of Labor Day."³⁴

The Eugene V. Debs Home and Museum is not a suitable site for interpreting the life of Peter J. McGuire. McGuire's marker is but one of sixteen plaques on the memorial wall of the Virgil E. Morris Memorial Gardens adjacent to the Debs Museum honoring early labor leaders and prominent pioneers of the American labor movement.³⁵ The Eugene V. Debs Museum, the former house of Eugene V. Debs and Katherine Metzger Debs, is now owned and operated by the Debs Foundation as a museum whose interior features many of Debs' possessions and other artifacts from his lifetime.³⁶

Endnotes:

¹ (II. National Register Criteria For Evaluation, Criteria Consideration categories, https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm)

² Corotis, A. Charles and Charles W. Phillips, *The Life Story of a Forgotten Giant. P.J. McGuire Father of Labor Day*, Memorial Committee of the Central Labor Union of Camden County and Vicinity, 1946. p. 1

³ <http://antiquepianoshop.com/online-museum/haines-brothers/>

⁴ <https://goo.gl/maps/8nmtGwDJCoR2>

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/peters-field>

⁵ <http://antiquepianoshop.com/online-museum/haines-brothers/>

⁶ See view at <https://goo.gl/maps/UWEGJMW95SF2>

⁷ Strausbaugh, John (September 14, 2007). "Paths of Resistance in the East Village". *The New York Times*. Retrieved August 25, 2008.

⁸ Same source.

⁹ <http://newyorkyimby.com/2015/12/12-story-ford-foundation-building-at-320-east-43rd-street-to-get-renovations-midtown-east.html>

¹⁰ <http://www.loopnet.com/Listing/17323780/352-State-Street-North-Haven-CT/>

¹¹ See view of 911 N. 19th St today at: <https://goo.gl/maps/gdoc2LvY3MA2>

¹² Current view of 184 William Street: <https://goo.gl/maps/tQgBTCgxLrp>

- ¹³ <https://www.cityrealty.com/nyc/east-village/american-felt-building-114-east-13th-street/8614>
- ¹⁴ Qualified under Criteria 1 (Theme V. Developing the American Economy 5. Labor Organization and Protests. Significance: Social History). See, Union Square National Register of Historic Places Registration form, NHL Survey Jan 7, 1998, prepared by John W. Bond, Historical Consultant. Form prepared 12/29/94, Revised 3/6/96
- ¹⁵ Same source, P. 13
- ¹⁶ NHL Survey Jan 7, 1998, prepared by John W. Bond, Historical Consultant. Form prepared 12/29/94, Revised 3/6/96.
- ¹⁷ Philadelphia City Directory for each year cites. March 28 Samuel Gompers letter to Mr. P.J. McGuire, Sec. UBC&JofA, 124 N. 9th St. Philadelphia, PA.
- ¹⁸ Based on year of construction of adjacent property: <https://www.redfin.com/PA/Philadelphia/126-N-9th-St-19107/home/40555946>
- ¹⁹ <https://www.google.com/maps/place/124+N+9th+St,+Philadelphia,+PA+19107/@39.9541232,-75.154553a,75y,288.92h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s4mLWEW4Gix6D97922uwksQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c6c62a0bad10e1:0x5f0cc6f2ee82bbe6!8m2!3d39.9541359!4d-75.1546972>
- ²⁰ Residence addresses from relevant years of the Philadelphia City Directory.
- ²¹ https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/529-McClellan-St-Philadelphia-PA-19148/10172612_zpid/
- ²² https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/906-Cherry-St-Philadelphia-PA-19107/10197669_zpid/
- ²³ <https://www.google.com/maps/place/336+N+Franklin+St,+Philadelphia,+PA+19106/@39.957674,-75.1512099,18.62z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c6c88085baa265:0x5c09fc6d221f9537!8m2!3d39.9570986!4d-75.1511153>
- ²⁴ Camden City Directory for relevant years.
- ²⁵ https://www.trulia.com/homes/New_Jersey/Camden/sold/20380758-221-Vine-St-Camden-NJ-08102
- ²⁶ Camden City Directories for relevant years.
- ²⁷ https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/916-N-5th-St-Camden-NJ-08102/64753428_zpid/
- ²⁸ <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.954333,75.1180953,3a,74.2y,208.27h,94.29t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s3tzhDHam4Av0vaRuleNicQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656>
- ²⁹ "P. J. McGuire Buried," *Camden Post Telegram*, Feb 21, 1906, p. 9.
- ³⁰ <http://www.dvrbs.com/camden-streets/CamdenNJ-Streets-ByronStreet.htm>.
- ³¹ https://www.google.com/maps/@39.9560695,-75.121694,3a,75y,199.25h,79.97t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sObBWRElyr_6GijSOjcs-og!2e0!7i13312!8i6656?hl=en
- ³² See <https://www.apartments.com/carpenter-apartments-indianapolis-in/ecf5gem/>
- ³³ <http://www.hmdb.org/PhotoFullSize.asp?PhotoID=215795>
- ³⁴ http://www.historicalmarkerproject.com/markers/HM13P5_peter-j-mcguire_Terre-Haute-IN.html
- ³⁵ <http://debsfoundation.org/index.php/landing/visit-the-museum/virtual-tour/virgil-morris-memorial-gardens/>
- ³⁶ <http://debsfoundation.org/index.php/landing/visit-the-museum/>







Arlington Park Cemetery



Arlington Park Cemetery

Photo - May 2009



Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite



Arlington Cemetery
1629 Cove Road
Pennsauken, Camden County

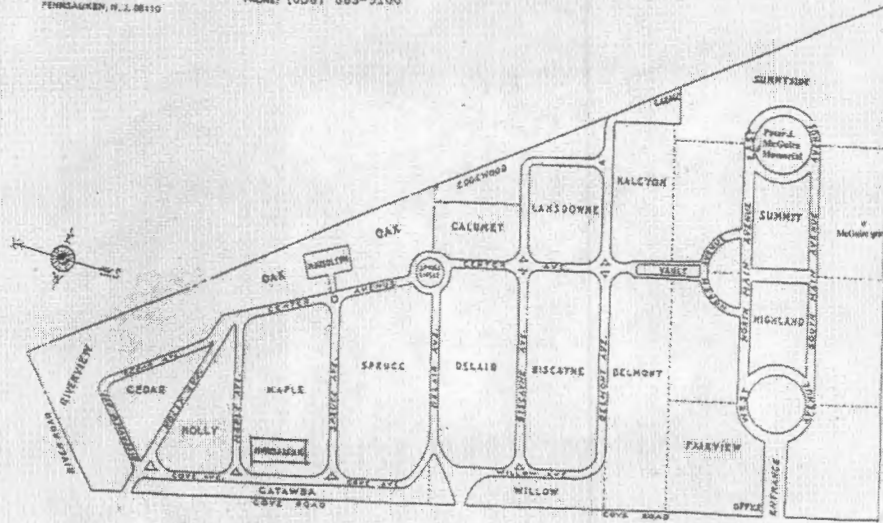
1906 gravesite and stone
1952 memorial with statue

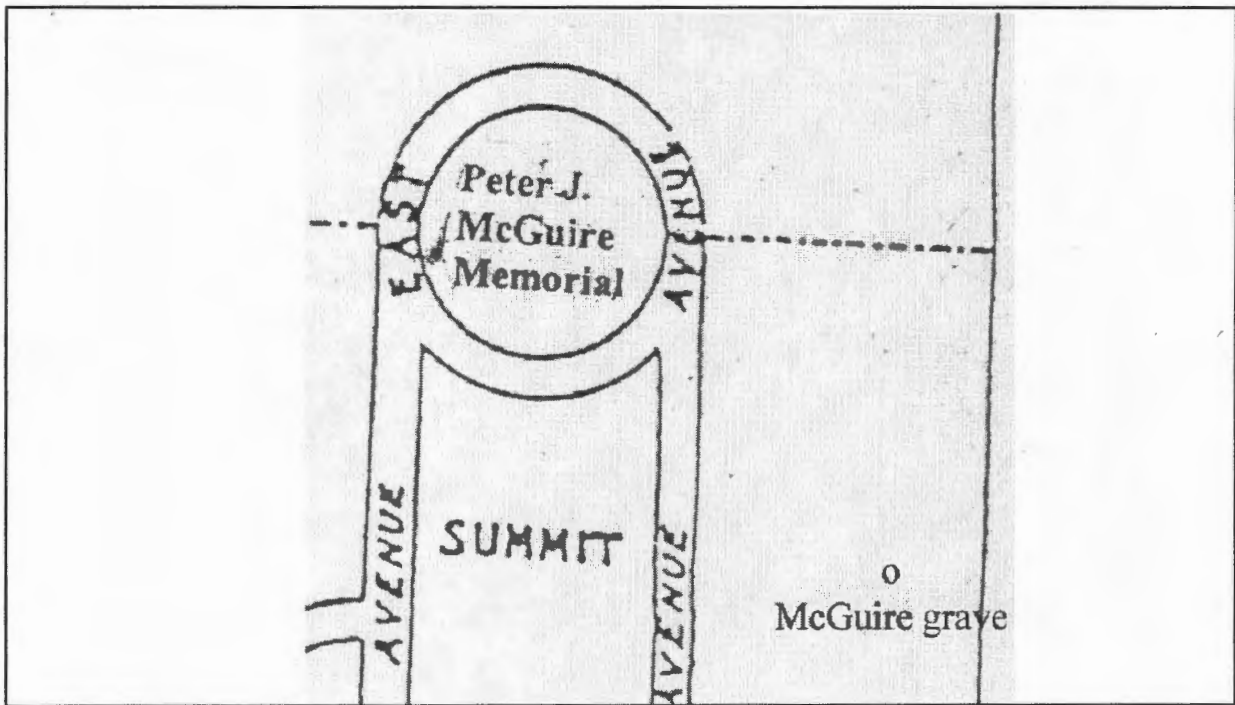


Arlington Cemetery

1625 COVE ROAD
FENNSDALEN, N. J. 08110

PHONE: (956) 663-5100





Claiming Criteria A & B for association with McGuire and labor history

- **A.** That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- **B.** That are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- Last surviving site with the appropriate direct association and integrity to represent the active life of McGuire
- Symbolize the value placed upon the life and work of Peter J. McGuire

Criteria Consideration C & D & F also apply:

- **c.** A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life; or
- **d.** A cemetery that derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- **f.** A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or

Peter J. McGuire (July 6, 1852-February 18, 1906)



One of the great labor leaders of the 19th c

Born NYC McGuire's birthplace has been listed as Dublin, Philadelphia, or New York, depending on which source you read. His final days were spent in Camden, NJ

McGuire grew up on New York City's Lower East Side. He left school at 11 (when his father enlisted in the Union Army to fight Civil War) to become the family's breadwinner and later became an apprentice in the Haines Piano Shop. There McGuire was exposed to long hours, low wages, and difficult working conditions

He was a political activist before he became a trade unionist

Helped build one of the largest trade unions of his time

Deeply involved (along with Samuel Gompers) in campaign for 8 hr workday McGuire spearheaded efforts that led to the eight-hour workday and the founding of the American Federation of Labor.

1873ish – joined with Adolph Strasser to found the Social Democratic Workingman's Party of North America

1875 – moved to New Haven CT

1878 – moved to St Louis

1881 – helped convene the convention of various local carpenter's unions that lead to the formation of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners Of America

1882 – Labor Day first observed in NYC (Tues Sept 5)
1884 – married Christina Wolff (daughter Lillian born 1886, eventually had three girls and a boy) (Another daughter was Kathryn)
1886 & 1890 - Through the AFL and the Carpenters, McGuire led the great strikes of 1886 and 1890, which put the eight-hour workday on the nation's agenda
1893 – Labor Day observed on first Monday in Sept by 20 states
1894 – Congress approved a National Labor Day
1901 – diagnosed with dropsy
1906 - His death was hastened by alcoholism

2014 inducted into NJ Hall of Fame

WHEN LABOR DAY WAS RATIFIED

Before it became a national holiday, Labor Day was officially recognized in most of the states. Gompers cited these dates:

Labor Day was enacted into law at different periods since 1887, as the following list will show. The date given indicates when the law received executive approval.

1887, February 21, Oregon.	1891, March 4, Montana.
1887, March 18, Colorado.	1891, March 4, Kansas.
1887, April 8, New Jersey.	1891, March 9, Indiana.
1887, May 6, New York.	1891, March 11, Tennessee.
1887, May 11, Massachusetts.	1891, March 31, New Hampshire.
1889, March 20, Connecticut.	1891, June 17, Illinois.
1889, March 29, Nebraska.	1891, October 10, Georgia.
1889, April 28, Pennsylvania.	1891, December 22, South Carolina.
1890, April 8, Iowa.	1892, February 5, Virginia.
1890, April 28, Ohio.	1892, February 23, Utah.
1891, February 10, Maine.	1892, July 7, Louisiana.
1891, February 24, Washington.	1892, December 12, Alabama.
	1893, February 11, Texas.
	1893, February 14, Delaware.
	1893, March 25, California.
	1893, April 18, Minnesota.
	1893, April 19, Wisconsin.
	1893, April 29, Florida.
	1893, May 26, Rhode Island.
	1894, June 28, District of Columbia.
	1895, April 9, Missouri.

Sept 5, 1882 – first celebration of Labor Day in US (NYC)

Comparative Analysis

Criterion B

Comparative Properties

State	Municipality	Neighborhood	Address	Name	Association	Date(s) of Assoc	Extent (Y/N)	Integrity
NY	NYC	Lower East Side	Unknown	Tenement	Birthplace		1882/Unknown	?
NY	NYC		350-362 Second Ave	Mannes Piano Shop	Apprenticeship		1889- No, now Peter's Pk No	
NY	NYC	East Village		Tompkins Sq Park	Italy	1/23/1874	Yes	No substantially altered by Robert Moses in 1996. Refurbished 1991
NY	NYC		316-322 W 43rd St	Pease Piano Company	finished his trade		1876 No, now Ford Post No	
CT	New Haven			New Haven Folding Chair Company Employer			1877 No	Vacant retail and former community center
MO	St Louis			Brotherhood of Carpenter and Joiner Office			1888 No	Now parking lot
NY	NYC		164 William St	United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners			1882 No	Now Shepher Trading Company
NY	NYC		114 East 13th St	Clarendon Hall	Speech	5/6/1882	No	Now building circa 1906
NY	NYC			Union Square	Speech	5/5/11882	Yes	No mention of Crit 8 in file, nomination
OH	Cleveland		252 Hanover	Home and Office	Residence	1884- at least 1898	No	
PA	Philadelphia		124 N 9th St	Union Office	Office	1890-1901	No	Current Bldg built c 1930
PA	Philadelphia		529 McClellan	Home	Residence		1890 No	Current Bldg c 1920
PA	Philadelphia		808 Cherry St	Home	Residence		No	Current Bldg built circa 1910
PA	Philadelphia		338 Franklin Street	Home	Residence		1892 No	Now Vine St Expressway
NJ	Camden	Cooper Point	221 Vine St	Home	Residence	1895-1902	No	Current Bldg built 1910
NJ	Camden		916 W 3rd Street	Home	Residence	1903-1905	Yes	Altered, now Church
NJ	Camden		204 Byron St	Home	Residence	1906-1908	No	Destroyed by fire, gone by 2004
IN	Indianapolis		222 E Michigan St	United Brotherhood of Carpenters Memorial Plaque			1956- Yes	Postdates life
IN	Terre-Haute			Eugene DebeHome and Museum	Memorial Plaque		1990 Yes	Postdates life

Work, Haines Piano Shop, 330-342 Second Ave, NYC



Haines Piano Shop. New York City, NY

In 1869 at age 17 McGuire began an apprenticeship at the Haines Piano Shop, which was located at 330 to 342 Second Ave. The building that housed the shop no longer exists. The site of the piano shop is now "Peter's Field," a park between 20th and 21st Streets and First and Second Ave. named for two other prominent Peters: Peter Stuyvesant and Peter Cooper. It is possible that McGuire's place of work may have been different Haines facility than the shop on Second Ave. In 1891, long after McGuire left New York, there was a Haines piano factory on the southern boulevard between 132 and 133 Streets and Alexander Street that included 21 lots, a lumber yards, and building. An advertisement for Haines said the company was established in 1851 by Napoleon J. Haines. That piano factory building no longer exists at this address.

<http://antiquepianoshop.com/online-museum/haines-brothers/>

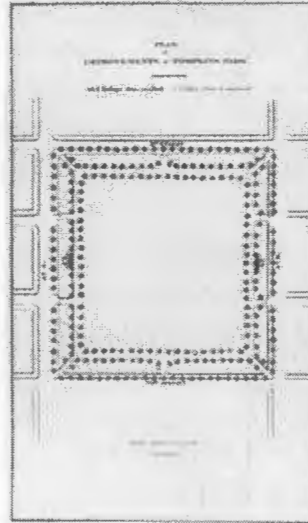
<https://goo.gl/maps/8nmtGwDJCoR2>

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/peters-field>

<http://antiquepianoshop.com/online-museum/haines-brothers/>

See view at <https://goo.gl/maps/UWEGJMW95SF2>

Speech, Tompkins Square Park, NYC



Center image is improvement plan for Tompkins Square Park (1870-1871)

Tompkins Square Park, East Village, Manhattan, New York City, NY

Tompkins Square Park is a 10.5-acre public park in the Alphabet City portion of East Village, Manhattan, New York City. The park is bounded on the north by East 10th Street, on the east by Avenue B, on the south by East 7th Street, and on the west by Avenue A, is abutted by St. Marks Place to the west.

McGuire's association with Tompkins Square Park is based on his leadership of the famous Tompkins Square rally of January 13, 1874. This rally and demonstration, involving thousands of workers, occupies an important place in the pages of American labor history because it ended when police crushed it causing a riot that marked an unprecedented era of labor conflict and violence. The riot occurred in the midst of the Panic of 1873, a depression that began in 1873 and lasted for several years. Workers movements throughout the United States had been making demands of the government to help ease the strain of the depression. Organizations rejected offers of charity and instead had asked for public works programs that would provide jobs for the masses of unemployed. When organizations of the unemployed sprang up in the

many cities, McGuire joined the New York committee and spoke almost nightly on soap boxes in the vacant lots of his neighborhood, urging his fellow citizens to demand work or relief. His forceful and dynamic speaking style drew crowds and attention. His reputation was still limited to his ward until he was elected to the Committee of Safety, the umbrella organization that coordinated demonstrations for public relief in the winter of 1873-74. His role as a city-wide spokesman for the unemployed catapulted him out of obscurity and led the proper New York Times to brand him as a "disturber of the public peace." As part of a campaign to discredit the Committee of Safety, police officials arranged for his father, John McGuire, to issue a public denunciation of his notorious son's "radical and atheistic" behavior. McGuire continued his work, leading up to the famous Tompkins Square rally and a violent attack on the young labor movement.

Tompkins Park's association with McGuire is limited to one demonstration and riot induced by police brutality. It has an equal or greater association with other demonstrations and noteworthy historical figures. In 1857, immigrants protesting unemployment and food shortages were attacked by police in the park. In 1863 the deadly Civil War Draft Riots occurred in the park. In 1877, three years after the McGuire-led march, 5,000 people fought with the National Guard when they amassed to hear Communist revolutionary speeches at the park.

The park is named for Daniel D. Tompkins (1774–1825), Vice President of the United States under President James Monroe and the Governor of New York from 1807 until 1817. The park also contains three historical monuments. There is a monument in the north side of the park to the General Slocum boating disaster on June 15, 1904. This was the greatest single loss of life in New York City prior to the September 11, 2001 attacks. Over a thousand people, mainly German immigrant mothers and children, drowned in the East River that day. The park is also the place where Indian Sadhu A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada came to sing and preach in 1966, beginning the worldwide Hare Krishna movement. An elm tree in the park's southern plaza that he chanted beneath is now considered sacred to the Hare Krishna faith. The southeast corner of the park contains a statue of Samuel S. Cox (1824–1889), a New York City politician who served in the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio and New York, and as U.S. Minister to the Ottoman Empire in 1885–1886.

The layout of the park was changed by Robert Moses in 1936 and was designed to divide and manage crowds that have gathered there in protest since the 1870s. That tradition was rekindled as the park became the locus of demonstrations against the Vietnam War in the 1960s. By the 1980s Tompkins Square Park had become synonymous with New York's increased social problems; it was a high-crime area that contained encampments of homeless people and was a center for illegal drug dealing and heroin use. In August 1988, a riot erupted in the park and thirty eight people were injured when police attempted to clear homeless people from the park. Like the

McGuire led demonstration one hundred years before, bystanders and political activists got caught up in the police action after a large number of police surrounded the park and charged at the hemmed-in crowd. The park had become a symbol of the problems in the city, including homelessness—which had prompted the 1988 riot.

In addition to the Robert Moses redesign, increasing gentrification in the area during the 1990s and 2000s, enforcement of a park curfew, and the eviction of homeless people have changed the character of Tompkins Square Park. The park was refurbished in 1991, reopening in 1992 with playgrounds and basketball courts, dog run, ping pong table, handball courts, and built-in outdoor chess tables.

Strausbaugh, John (September 14, 2007). "Paths of Resistance in the East Village". The New York Times. Retrieved August 25, 2008.

Same source.

Work, Pease Piano Company, 316-322 W 43 St, NYC



Pease Piano Company, New York, NY

On August 2, 1874 McGuire went to work for the Pease Piano Company and "finished his trade." Pease factory and warerooms were located at 316-322 W. 43 St, New York, NY. The piano company building no longer exists at this site, which is now occupied by the Ford Foundation Building. During the Great Depression, Pease was purchased by the large Winter Piano Company which produced the Pease brand name until 1950. McGuire did not work long at Pease. McGuire moved to New Haven, Connecticut in September 1875 to organize the New Haven Branch of the Socialist Democrats and in December went on six week tour making speeches on behalf of socialism. In February 1877 McGuire embarked on a five week walking tour of New England giving speeches. <http://newyorkyimby.com/2015/12/12-story-ford-foundation-building-at-320-east-43rd-street-to-get-renovations-midtown-east.html>

Work, New Haven Folding Chair Co, 352 State St, New Haven CT

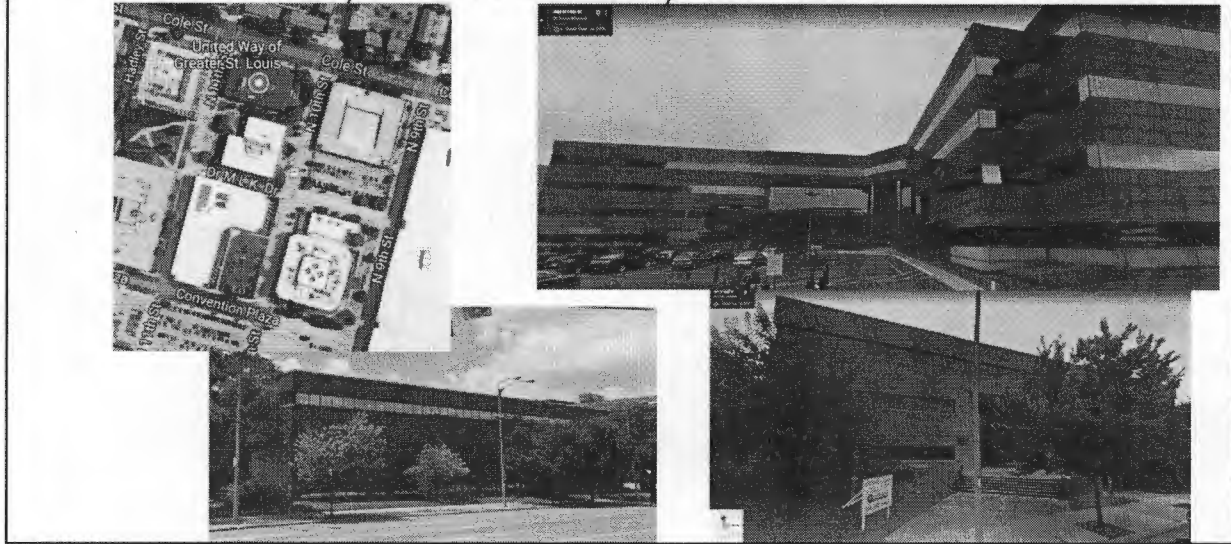


New Haven Folding Chair Company, New Haven, Connecticut

In June 1877, McGuire went to work for the New Haven Folding Chair Company at 352 State Street for money to continue campaigning. The folding chair building no longer exists on the site which is currently occupied by a vacant retail building and former community center.

<http://www.loopnet.com/Listing/17323780/352-State-Street-North-Haven-CT/>

Office, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, 911 N 10th St, St Louis MO



Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, St. Louis, Missouri

In October 1879 McGuire and his family relocated to St. Louis where he went to work in furniture factory. The Workingmen's Party had mobilized St. Louis workers during the great railroad strike of 1877, and McGuire imagined the city would be fertile ground for organizing. Representing the St. Louis Trades and Labor Assembly, he lobbied the Missouri State Legislature for bills on mine ventilation and child labor. His efforts also established the first bureau of labor statistics in the United States after he convinced the legislators to establish a State Bureau of Labor Statistics. He was subsequently appointed Deputy Commissioner. McGuire was not cut out for the life of a state appointed official. He grew impatient with the Bureau's limited authority. After some conflict with his supervisor heightened his dissatisfaction with watching labor struggles from a distance, McGuire quit after six months and returned to the trades to promote trade unionism and fight for the eight-hour day

In 1881 McGuire organized a Chicago convention to form a union. Representatives from 11 cities joined him, and over four spirited days, they produced a constitution and structure. On August 8, 1881, thirty-six carpenters from eleven cities met in a Chicago warehouse to form a national union. Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

(renamed UBC&J in 1888). Unanimously elected first general secretary, the only full time position in the union.

McGuire started writing and publishing the union's periodical, *The Carpenter*, from his offices at 911 N. 19th St., St. Louis, Mo. The building containing these offices no longer exists and the site is currently occupied by a parking lot.

See view of 911 N. 19th St today at: <https://goo.gl/maps/gdoc2LvY3MA2>

Office, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, 184 William St, NYC

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, New York, NY

In 1882 McGuire returned to New York City. His union was penniless. The March issue of *The Carpenter*, the official monthly, was printed thanks to a friend's \$30 loan. McGuire did not mind personal poverty, but he dreaded the collapse of the organization.

The March issue listed 184 William Street as the union's office and McGuire's address as a post office box: PO Box 3560 New York. The union's 1882 building no longer exists at 184 William Street. It is currently occupied by the Shaefer Trading Company, listed as a foreign business corporation in the State of New York.

Current view of 184 William Street:<https://goo.gl/maps/tQgBTCgxLrp>

Speech, Clarendon Hall,
114 East 13th St, NYC



Clarendon Hall, New York, NY

There is a consensus among historians that Clarendon Hill, located at 114 East 13th Street, New York was the site of McGuire's May 8, 1882 speech to the Central Labor Union in which he first suggested the designation of a holiday for labor. It was a hall used for meetings, performances and exhibitions. The former Clarendon Hall no longer exists. Instead the site is now the American Felt Building, including condos created in 1984, building erected 1909.

<https://www.cityrealty.com/nyc/east-village/american-felt-building-114-east-13th-street/8614>

Speech, First Labor Day Parade, Union Square, NYC



Union Square, New York, NY

Union Square is between E. 14th and E. 17th Streets and Union Square West and Union Square East in New York City. McGuire helped organize, gave a speech, and sat on the reviewing stand in Union Square for the first Labor Day parade and picnic September 5, 1882. Union Square is designated a National Historic Landmark ("NHL") and site under Criteria A.

While Union square held the reviewing stand for the first large scale parade including wide representation of labor after the idea of establishing a holiday was first presented to the Central Labor Union by McGuire in May 1882, the NHL nomination states that the square is "not associated with a single significant person, but is "nationally significant for the role it has played in the history of labor in this country" including the first Labor Day Parade and parades for twelve subsequent years that culminated in passage of national legislation for Labor Day.

Union Square and the Labor Day parade and festival of Sept 5, 1882, are nationally significant for many more people and events other than McGuire. They represented a culmination of ten years of agitation for the 8 hour day, elimination of repressive tactics

of employers, support for Irish peasants' struggles against absentee landlords, dealing with massive unemployment caused by the depression of 1873, and frustration of dealing with police violence as occurred at Tompkins Square Park in 1874.

Union Square is closely associated with other important labor leaders of the McGuire era, all of who actively participated and occupied prominent positions speaking and on the reviewing stand. These include Robert Blissert, President of the NY CLU and Grand Marshall William McCabe, NYC local of the International Typographical Union. It also includes the leadership of the Knights of Labor, including especially Grand Master Workman Terence V. Powderly, who had scheduled the Knights' convention in New York City at the same time as the parade. Sixty seven Knights of Labor delegates representing 42,517 members, shared the reviewing area stand at Union Square with McGuire. Union Square itself had nothing to do with the creation of Labor Day. As the NHL nomination states:

"While the grand parade and the picnic of 1882, with much of the attention focused on Union Square because of the placement of the reviewing stand in the pavilion at the north end of the park, did not itself create the Labor Day holiday, it was during preparation for the event that the idea was first espoused and it was in Union Square that the expression "Labor day" first took hold. ... It was through demonstrations such as the grand parade of the Knight of Labor, through the Central Labor Union of NYC, hoped to convince state governments and the national government to set aside one day a year to honor the workingman. A recent historian has stated that the annual Labor Day holiday survives as perhaps the most permanent contribution of the Knights of Labor to the American scene."

Union Square Park contains many commemorative sculptures, including a bronze equestrian statue of George Washington that was dedicated in 1856 because the park was the location of a reception given Washington in 1783 in recognition of his leadership and on the occasion of the British evacuation from New York. A statue of Abraham Lincoln holding the Emancipation Proclamation was completed in 1870 in the southwest corner of the Square. A statue of Marquis de Lafayette was dedicated in the park in 1876. A 36-foot diameter base Liberty Pole with the entire Declaration of Independence and Thomas Jefferson quote was installed in the park to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Qualified under Criteria 1 (Theme V. Developing the American Economy 5. Labor Organization and Protests. Significance: Social History). See, Union Square National Register of Historic Places Registration form, NHL Survey Jan 7, 1998, prepared by John W. Bond, Historical Consultant. Form prepared 12/29/94, Revised 3/6/96

Same source, P. 13

NHL Survey Jan 7, 1998, prepared by John W. Bond, Historical Consultant. Form prepared 12/29/94, Revised 3/6/96.

Home and Office, 252 Hanover/W 28th St, Cleveland OH



Office and Home, Cleveland, Ohio

In 1884 McGuire married Christina Wolff of Staten Island, NY after an eight month courtship. The couple moved to Cleveland, Ohio in the Fall of 1884. The McGuires lived and McGuire maintained the national headquarter of United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America national headquarters in Cleveland from 1884 through 1886. The McGuires' first child, Lillian Elizabeth Mc McGuire, was born in Cleveland on March 3, 1886.

The Cleveland Directory for this time period lists a residence of Peter J. McGuire at 252 Hanover. Cleveland's entire north south street grid was given new numbers and in some cases new street names in 1906. Hanover is now known as W. 28th Street. According to the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office, a street number of "252" on the old Hanover Street "was probably located south of Detroit Avenue and north of Franklin Circle" on today's W. 28th Street and "there are almost no residential scale buildings left in that area due to urban renewal era demos and a hospital located nearby that ate the area for parking."

None of the buildings remaining on W. 28th Street between Detroit Avenue and Franklin

Circle would have been the McGuire residence between 1884 and 1886:

1422 W. 28th street is a brick commercial building occupied by the Shafer Printing Company with entrance on Detroit Avenue.

1536 W. 28th was built in 1920.

1538 W. 28th was also built 1920.

1527 W. 28th was built in 1900.

1535 W. 28th was also built in 1900.

<https://www.trulia.com/homes/Ohio/Cleveland/sold/20679841-1536-W-28th-St-2-Cleveland-OH-44113>

https://www.zillow.com/homes/1538-W-28th-St-.num.-1,-Cleveland,-OH-44113_rb/

https://www.zillow.com/homes/1527-w.-28th-cleveland_rb/

https://www.zillow.com/homes/1535-W-28th-St,-Cleveland,-OH-44113_rb/

In January 1886: *The Carpenter* published at No. 19 Frankfort St., Cleveland.

<http://digital.lib.umd.edu/image?pid=umd:674042#fullMetadata>

[Note Frankfort St. became Frankfort Ave.] p. 252

<http://cplorg.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p128201coll0/id/942/show/387>. Note that in the address conversion guide, no Number 19 is specifically listed.

Number 18 is listed and it became number 707. Number 22 became 703, and 21 became 642. The remaining new addresses include Numbers 708, 718, 720, and 722, which corresponded to old Number 11. .

<https://goo.gl/maps/UwYdbeMst3A2>

Office, 19 Frankfort St/Ave, Cleveland OH



While the 1884 issues of the *The Carpenter* published in Cleveland listed only "Lock Box 180 Cleveland, OH" as the office address, subsequent issues gave No. 19 Frankfort St., Cleveland as the newsletter's address and, presumably, the address of McGuire's office. Frankfort Street became Frankfort Avenue after 1906 and No. 19 would have fallen between No.s 642 and 720 in the new numbering system of Frankfort Avenue. All of the possible corresponding addresses for the old No. 19 address on Frankfort Street on today's renumbered Frankfort Avenue are part of the ABM parking lot.

In January 1886: *The Carpenter* published at No. 19 Frankfort St., Cleveland.

<http://digital.lib.umd.edu/image?pid=umd:674042#fullMetadata>

[Note Frankfort St. became Frankfort Ave.] p. 252

<http://cplorg.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p128201coll0/id/942/show/387>. Note that in the address conversion guide, no Number 19 is specifically listed.

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<https://goo.gl/maps/UwYdbeMst3A2>

Home, 529 McClellan, Philadelphia PA



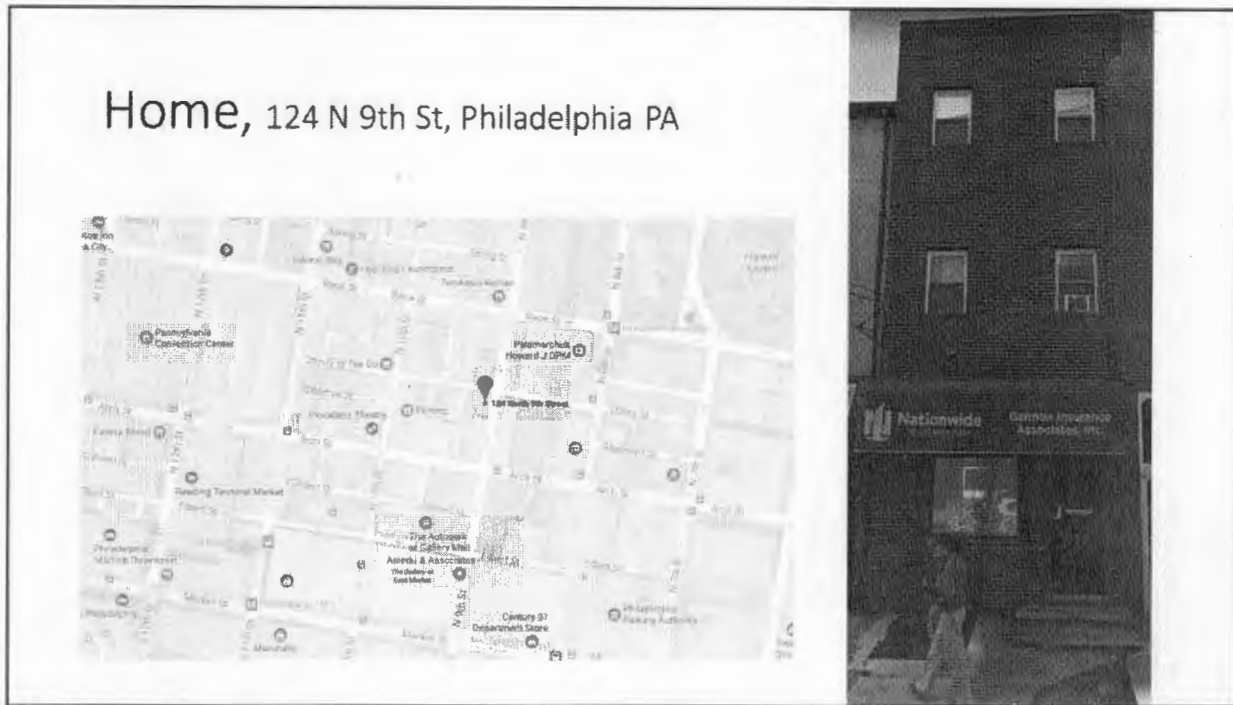
His home in 1890, current building circa 1920

McGuire resided at three different locations in Philadelphia. He first lived at 529 McClellan in 1890 and moved shortly after to 906 Cherry Street. The current building at 529 McClellan St. was built in 1920, thirty years after McGuire had moved out. Residence addresses from relevant years of the Philadelphia City Directory.

https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/529-McClellan-St-Philadelphia-PA-19148/10172612_zpid/

*tax
data
all
in Philly*

Home, 124 N 9th St, Philadelphia PA



1890-1901 office. Current building built after his death in 1910

McGuire established a work office as the General Secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners (UBC&J) in Philadelphia at 124 N 9th Street from 1890 until he resigned in 1901. The building standing at this address today built circa 1930 has lost its ability to interpret McGuire's times and headquarters activities for the UBC&J. It is a three story brick fronted commercial building featuring a blue awning of a Nationwide agency, Gannon Insurance Associates, Inc. It also has offices of the Oriental Treatment Center – Acupuncture and Skytech International Electricians.

Philadelphia City Directory for each year cites. March 28 Samuel Gompers letter to Mr. P.J. McGuire, Sec. UBC&JofA, 124 N. 9th St. Philadelphia, PA.

Based on year of construction of adjacent property:

<https://www.redfin.com/PA/Philadelphia/126-N-9th-St-19107/home/40555946>

[https://www.google.com/maps/place/124+N+9th+St,+Philadelphia,+PA+19107/@39.9541232,-](https://www.google.com/maps/place/124+N+9th+St,+Philadelphia,+PA+19107/@39.9541232,-75.15455,3a,75y,288.92h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s4mLWEW4Gix6D97922uwksQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c6c62a0bad10e1:0x5f0cc6f2ee82bbe6!8m2!3d39.9541359!4d-75.1546972)

[75.15455,3a,75y,288.92h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s4mLWEW4Gix6D97922uwksQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c6c62a0bad10e1:0x5f0cc6f2ee82bbe6!8m2!3d39.9541359!4d-75.1546972](https://www.google.com/maps/place/124+N+9th+St,+Philadelphia,+PA+19107/@39.9541232,-75.15455,3a,75y,288.92h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s4mLWEW4Gix6D97922uwksQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c6c62a0bad10e1:0x5f0cc6f2ee82bbe6!8m2!3d39.9541359!4d-75.1546972)

Home,
906 Cherry St, Philly



McGuire resided at three different locations in Philadelphia. He first lived at 529 McClellan in 1890 and moved shortly after to 906 Cherry Street. The current building at 529 McClellan St. was built in 1920, thirty years after McGuire had moved out. Similarly, the building at 906 Cherry Street was built in 1930, forty years after McGuire resided there.

Residence addresses from relevant years of the Philadelphia City Directory.

https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/529-McClellan-St-Philadelphia-PA-19148/10172612_zpid/

https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/906-Cherry-St-Philadelphia-PA-19107/10197669_zpid/

Home, 336 Franklin Street, Philly



In 1892 he moved his home to 336 Franklin Street. That residence was demolished to make way for the Vine Street Expressway and US Route 676.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/336+N+Franklin+St,+Philadelphia,+PA+19106/@39.957674,-75.1512099,18.62z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c6c88085baa265:0x5c09fc6d221f9537!8m2!3d39.9570986!4d-75.1511153>

Home, 221 Vine St, Camden NJ



Residence 1893-1902, current building built 1910

From 1893 to 1902 McGuire and his family resided at 221 Vine Street, is in the Cooper Point neighborhood of Camden, NJ. The current single-family home located at 221 Vine Street was built in 1910, four years after McGuire's death. 221 Vine St in Camden, NJ. Camden City Directory for relevant years.

https://www.trulia.com/homes/New_Jersey/Camden/sold/20380758-221-Vine-St-Camden-NJ-08102

②-15.

Possible

Home, 916 N 5th Street, Camden NJ



He lived here 1903-1906 (where he died). Altered, now church

From 1903 until 1905 McGuire resided at 916 N 5th St., Camden, NJ. The building at this address today, a single family home, was built in 1889 before the McGuire's took up residency. However, the building has been substantially modified since the McGuires lived there and lost architectural integrity as a single family home and its ability to interpret McGuire's life and times. It has been converted to a church: Iglesia Tesalonica, C.L.A., Pastores Jose y Maritiza. .

Camden City Directories for relevant years.

https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/916-N-5th-St-Camden-NJ-08102/64753428_zpid/

<https://www.google.com/maps/@39.954333,75.1180953,3a,74.2y,208.27h,94.29t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s3tzhDHam4Av0vaRuleNicQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656>

Home, 204 Byron St, Camden NJ



From 1904 to 1906 he resided at 204 Byron Street, Camden. 204 Byron was destroyed by a large fire and was gone by 2004. The site is now a vacant lot.

"P. J. McGuire Buried," *Camden Post Telegram*, Feb 21, 1906, p. 9.

<http://www.dvrbs.com/camden-streets/CamdenNJ-Streets-ByronStreet.htm>.

[https://www.google.com/maps/@39.9560695,-](https://www.google.com/maps/@39.9560695,-75.121694,3a,75y,199.25h,79.97t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sObBWRElyr_6GijSOjcs-og!2e0!7i13312!8i6656?hl=en)

[75.121694,3a,75y,199.25h,79.97t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sObBWRElyr_6GijSOjcs-og!2e0!7i13312!8i6656?hl=en](https://www.google.com/maps/@39.9560695,-75.121694,3a,75y,199.25h,79.97t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sObBWRElyr_6GijSOjcs-og!2e0!7i13312!8i6656?hl=en)

Marker @Eugene Debs House, Terra Haute IN



Erected 1990 by United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

Did he or didn't he?



**Matthew
Maguire**



**Peter
McGuire**

The Real Maguire - Who Actually Invented Labor Day?

While most sources, even the Department of Labor, credit Peter McGuire with the origination of Labor Day, recent evidence suggests that the true father of Labor Day may in fact be another famous union leader of the 19th Century, Matthew Maguire. According to legend, Peter McGuire stood before the New York Central Labor Union on May 12, 1882, to suggest the idea of setting aside one day a year to honor labor. McGuire believed that Labor Day should "be celebrated by a street parade which would publicly show the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations." Peter McGuire was a young, though well-respected, union leader. A child of immigrants, he quit school at an early age to go to work. In 1881, he founded the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, which would become the largest trade union of the time. Later, McGuire would join with his friend, Samuel Gompers, to found the American Federation of Labor (AFL). Through the AFL and the Carpenters, McGuire led the great strikes of 1886 and 1890, which would eventually result in the adoption of the eight-hour workday on the nation's agenda.

Recently, however, evidence uncovered at the New Jersey Historical Society in Newark reveals that another respected union figure of the day, Matthew Maguire, may quite possibly be the man behind the creation of Labor Day.

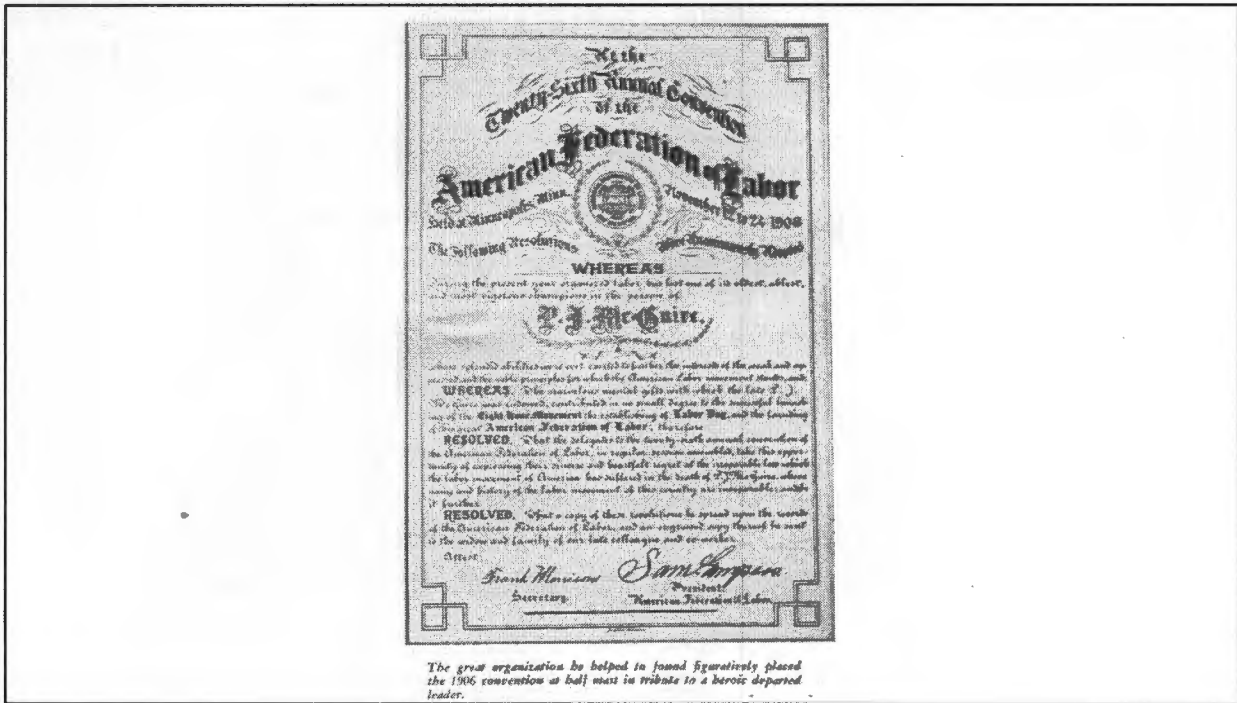
In the 1870s, Matthew Maguire led several strikes, most of which were intended to

force the plight of manufacturing workers and their long hours into the public consciousness. By 1882, Maguire had become the secretary of and a leading figure in the Central Labor Union of New York.

According to the New Jersey Historical Society, after President Cleveland signed into law the creation of a national Labor Day, The Paterson (N.J.) *Morning Call* published an opinion piece entitled, "Honor to Whom Honor is Due," which stated that "the souvenir pen should go to Alderman Matthew Maguire of this city, who is the undisputed author of Labor Day as a holiday." This editorial also referred to Maguire as the "Father of the Labor Day holiday."

So why has Matthew Maguire been overlooked as the "Father of Labor Day"?

According to *The First Labor Day Parade*, by Ted Watts, Maguire held some political beliefs that were considered fairly radical for the day and also for Samuel Gompers and his American Federation of Labor. Allegedly, Gompers did not want Labor Day to become associated with the sort of "radical" politics of Matthew Maguire, so in a 1897 interview, Gompers' close friend Peter J. McGuire was assigned the credit for the origination of Labor Day.



With respect to the second point of your email:

"The Dept of Labor website indicates the presence of evidence that it was Matthew McGuire who is the true father of Labor Day (<https://www.dol.gov/general/laborday/history-maguire>), could you address?"

We make the following observations and arguments:

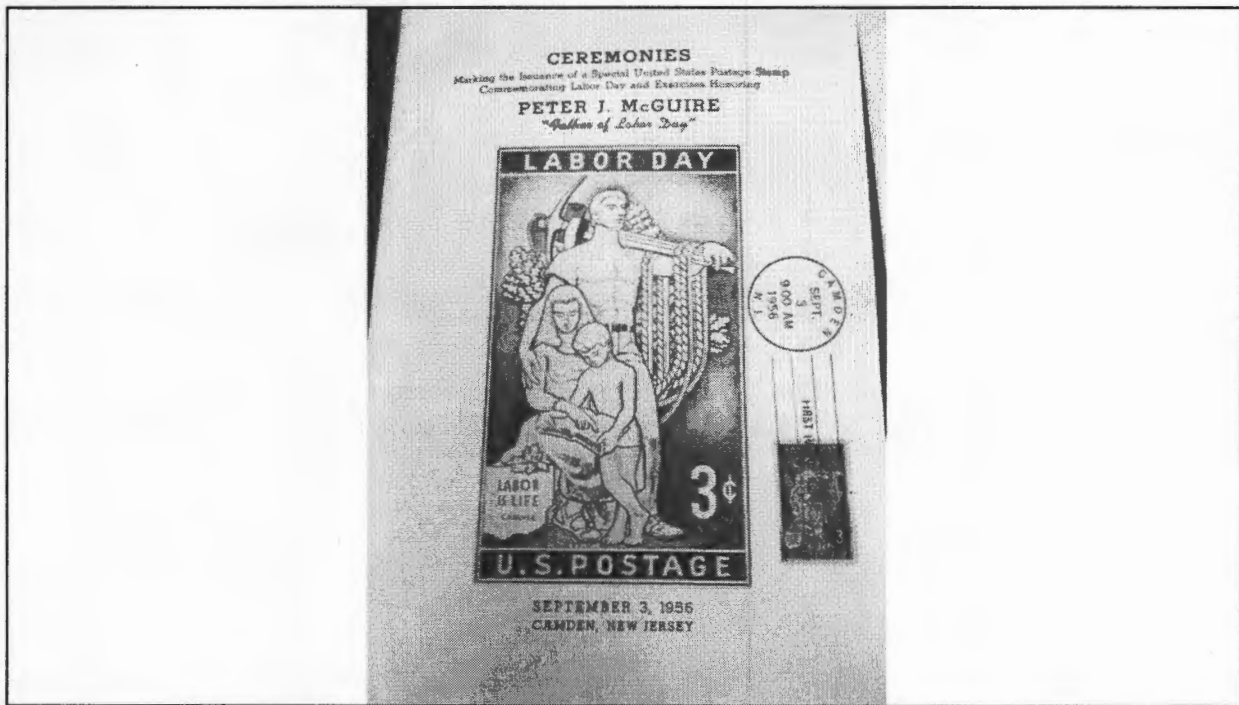
1. There exist contemporary, insider accounts crediting PJ McGuire with suggesting the idea, specifying the occasion and place, such as the Gompers article (attached). Also McGuire mentioned it himself, which claim of credit is not exactly consistent with his normal editorial policy at The Carpenter.
2. Most sources, even the Department of Labor, credit Peter McGuire with the origination of Labor Day. Matthew Maguire claim does not appear well supported, having originated apparently in a newspaper editorial from his hometown, with no explanation of a source and explicitly basing the claim on his involvement in but not his origination of the Labor celebration. Subsequent cases made on his behalf focus on explaining the motives for covering up his alleged role and rely on circumstantial evidence. So far as we have been able to determine so far, he never stated the claim

himself. As a challenge to a long-standing and accepted claim on behalf of PJ McGuire, it seems to us that the Matthew Maguire claim has the burden of proof.

3. It is entirely possible to reconcile the two claims, if one accepts that PJ McGuire came up with the idea of a widely observed Labor holiday while perhaps Matthew Maguire came up with the ideas for that first celebration held at Union Square and may have had a principal hand in organizing it. This appears to be more consistent with the available evidence, if one accepts the Matthew McGuire claims.

4. PJ McGuire's place in history does not depend on his having founded Labor Day. It is only his most well-known claim to fame. His founding of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, his part in the founding of the AF of L, and his substantive work on behalf of labor, especially with respect to the eight hour day, are all more important historically if less popularizing.

5. No groups make annual pilgrimages to the Matthew McGuire gravesite or any of his related sites. On the other hand, labor leaders, high elected and appointed government officials, and generations of family members and friends have made the annual visit to PJ McGuire's gravesite every year for the past 111 years. The annual ceremonies honoring PJ at Labor Day lend weight to a historical controversy that may never be entirely resolvable.



UPS credited McGuire through a stamp in 1956 (about the time that the Memorial was constructed)

As a commemorative site

Criteria Consideration f. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance



1933 Labor Day Ceremony



1937 Labor Day Ceremony



1956

PETER J. MCGUIRE MEMORIAL AND GRAVESITE



1620 COVE
RD



PETER J. MCGUIRE MEMORIAL AND GRAVESITE



1620 COVE
RD

PETER J. MCGUIRE MEMORIAL AND GRAVESITE

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