PULLMAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

Bounded by 103rd Street, railroad tracks, 115th Street, and Grove Avenue, Chicago Constructed between 1880 and 1884 as a model company town for industrialist George M. Pullman was a radical departure from the unhealthful, overcrowded working-class districts typical at the time. The town also played a pivotal role in the history of the American labor movement. In 1894 Pullman was the focal point of a violent strike that spread across the nation, prompting President Grover Cleveland to intervene with federal troops. This was the first time that provisions of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act played a part in smashing the unions. Many of Pullman's handsome Queen Anne and Gothic style buildings remain, and its Hotel Florence houses a museum. Unfortunately, a disastrous fire in the fall of 1998 damaged the clock tower and the factory where Pullman's railroad cars were built.