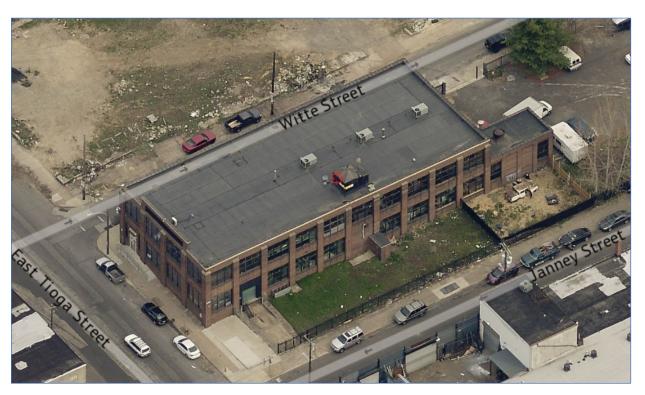
#### **COMMENT ON NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION**

## ADDRESS: 2215 E TIOGA ST, Sandoz Chemical Works

Overview: The Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC) has requested comments from the Philadelphia Historical Commission on the National Register nomination of 2215 E. Tioga Street located in the Port Richmond neighborhood of Philadelphia and historically known as the Sandoz Chemical Works. PHMC is charged with implementing federal historic preservation regulations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including overseeing the National Register of Historic Places in the state. PHMC reviews all such nominations before forwarding them to the National Park Service for action. As part of the process, PHMC must solicit comments on every National Register nomination from the appropriate local government. The Philadelphia Historical Commission speaks on behalf of the City of Philadelphia in historic preservation matters including the review of National Register nominations. Under federal regulation, the local government not only must provide comments, but must also provide a forum for public comment on nominations. Such a forum is provided during the Philadelphia Historical Commission's meetings.

According to the nomination, the Sandoz Chemical Works building is significant under Criterion A in the Area of Industry, as one of the major United States branches of the Switzerland-based Sandoz Chemical Works. This local branch of the company supplied dyes to the area's many textile companies, particularly those manufacturing goods using synthetic fibers that became increasingly popular beginning in the 1930s. The building housed offices, a warehouse and distribution center, and laboratory where dyes could be custom formulated for clients. The Period of Significance begins in 1937, when Sandoz acquired and opened its expanded branch in the former Willard Candy & Chocolate Company Building at 2215 E. Tioga Street, and ends in 1963, after the company consolidated its Northeastern operations and moved to a new facility in New Jersey.



# **National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

	Signature of certifying official/Title:  State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Gove  In my opinion, the property meets does residue.  Signature of commenting official:	
	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Gove	ernment
	Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
_		
	Applicable National Register Criteria:  _X_ABCD	
	In my opinion, the property meets does not recommend that this property be considered significatelevel(s) of significance:nationalstatewideX_localetelevel(s)	nt at the following
	I hereby certify that this nomination request the documentation standards for registering propertie Places and meets the procedural and professional req	s in the National Register of Historic uirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
	As the designated authority under the National Histor	ric Preservation Act, as amended,
	3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
	2. Location Street & number: 2215 E. Tioga Street City or town: Philadelphia State: PA County: I Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A	Philadelphia
	(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple prop	perty listing
	rume of related multiple property insting.	
	Name of related multiple property listing:	
	Historic name: <b>Sandoz Chemical Works</b> Other names/site number: Name of related multiple property listing:	

Sandoz	Chemical Works	Philadelphia County, PA
Name of	Property	County and State
	National Park Service Certification	
1 11	ereby certify that this property is:	
	entered in the National Register	
	_ determined eligible for the National Register	
	_ determined not eligible for the National Register	
	removed from the National Register other (explain:)	
	_ other (exprain:)	
	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5	Classification	
	wnership of Property	
(C Pri Pu Pu	heck as many boxes as apply.) ivate:    X     blic - Local       blic - State       blic - Federal	
	ntegory of Property heck only one box.)	
Bu	ailding(s)	
Di	strict	
Sit	te	
Stı	ructure	
Ot	pject	

Sandoz Chemical Works		Philadelphia County, PA
Name of Property		County and State
Number of Resources within		
(Do not include previously list		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total
Number of contributing resour	ces previously listed in the Natio	onal Register
6. Function or Use		

# 6. Function or Use Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: Processing Plant and Warehouse

## **Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

## **VACANT/NOT IN USE**

## 7. Description

# **Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

# **Spanish Colonial Revival**

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: **Brick** 

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State

## **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

# **Summary Paragraph**

The Sandoz Chemical Works Building is located on the north side of East Tioga Street between Janney Street (to the east) and Witte Street (to the west). Built in 1925, the heavy timber-framed, red brick building is two-stories tall, measures approximately 68' by 153' in plan, and has a flat roof. The property is surrounded by concrete sidewalks on the east, south and west sides and faces two two-story rowhouses on the north side. On the south and west sides – along Tioga Street and Witte Street, respectively – the building sits at the property line. To the north, between the building and adjacent rowhouses, there is an at-grade parking area with trees that is enclosed by a modern metal picket fence, which extends south along the east side of the property to enclose a lawn that exists between the building and the sidewalk along Janney Street. This lawn extends south to the second to last bay on the east elevation (two bays in from Tioga Street), where there is a concrete driveway that leads to a loading dock. To the south of the loading dock driveway, there is a flat concrete pad. The Sandoz Chemical Works retains all seven aspects of integrity.

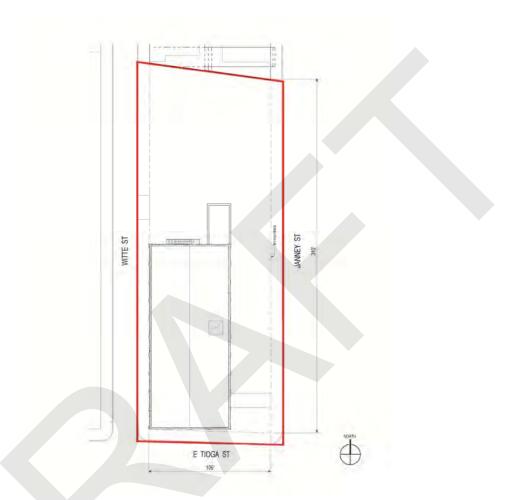


Figure A: Current Aerial View (Google Maps).

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA

County and State



**Figure B:** Site Plan with National Register Boundary. The boundary conforms to the historic and present parcel and includes all resources that were historically and functionally related to the Sandoz Chemical Works.

#### **Narrative Description**

The south or primary elevation is four bays wide and faces Tioga Street (**Photos 1, 2**). The westernmost bay on the first floor contains the main entrance to the building, consisting of a modern, hollow metal door with a concrete surround (**Photo 3**). There are narrow, three-light aluminum windows on either side of the door. Above the door, there is a terra cotta panel that reads "OFFICE." The entrance is reached by a concrete ramp with a metal railing, installed in 2015, that is located parallel to the building. The remainder of the first and second floor openings contain large, nine-light aluminum windows that were installed in 2015. The bays are separated by slightly projecting brick piers that rise to a point just above the second-floor windows. Above the piers, there is a stepped parapet with terra cotta coping. In the taller section of the parapet (above the two center bays), there is a terra cotta panel reading "WILLARD CANDY AND CHOCOLATE COMPANY" that is currently mostly covered by metal panels.

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State





**Photo 1** (left): South and east elevations, view northwest **Photo 2** (right): South elevation, view north



Photo 3: South elevation, entrance, view north

The west elevation, which is ten bays wide and faces Witte Street, is similar in treatment to the south elevation in that the bays are separated by brick piers and contain nine-line aluminum windows that were installed in 2015 (**Photo 4**). The only exception is that the fourth bay in from Tioga Street contains a pair of hollow metal doors.



Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State

Photo 4: West elevation, view east





**Photo 5** (left): North elevation, view southeast **Photo 6** (right): North elevation, view south



Photo 7: Site north of the building, view north

The north elevation, which is four bays wide and faces the parking area described above, again contains brick piers between all bays (**Photos 5-7**). On the first floor, the first three bays in from Witte Street contain six-light aluminum windows (installed in 2015) that are shorter than those found on the other elevations. In the fourth or easternmost bay, a one-story boiler house extends four bays north of the north elevation. On the second floor, the first three bays contain nine-light aluminum windows (installed in 2015) matching those on the other elevations. The only exception is that the window in the third bay also contains a hollow metal door, which that opens to a fire escape stair that descends to the ground. The fourth bay consists of a blank brick wall and contains no windows or doors.

The boiler house that extends from the north elevation is one bay wide and four bays long. On the west elevation, the two center bays contain tall, six-light aluminum windows (installed in 2015) while the northernmost bay contains a hollow metal doors and the southernmost bay consist of a blank brick wall with no openings (**Photo 5**). The north elevation there is a large opening that rises nearly the full height of the single bay, but it has been infilled with concrete block (**Photo 6**). The east elevation contains tall, six-light aluminum windows in the southernmost and northernmost bays (matching those on the east elevation), with blank brick walls in the two center bays. All bays on the

Philadelphia County, PA

Name of Property County and State

boiler house are slightly recessed between the piers and are corbelled at the top. The parapet on all three sides of the boiler house contains terra cotta coping.





**Photo 8** (left): East elevation, view southwest **Photo 9** (right): East elevation, view west

The east elevation, which is ten bays wide and faces Janney Street, is nearly identical to the east elevation except that the second bay in from Tioga Street on the first floor contains a loading dock with a modern, metal garage door, and the sixth bay on the first floor contains a black brick wall with no openings (**Photos 8, 9**).

#### Interior:

The building functioned as a manufacturing facility and warehouse until the early 2000s, when it was converted for use as artists' studios and storage. Many of the existing interior partitions were installed during this time. Despite the subdivision of some spaces, the voluminous feel of the interior has been maintained in several areas and the historic industrial features and finishes, described in greater detail below, remain largely intact and visible throughout the first and second floors.





**Photo 10** (left): First floor, former office, view northeast **Photo 11** (right): First floor, loading area, view east

The southern half of the first floor contains a number of large, open spaces with concrete floors, painted brick perimeter walls, sheetrocked and vertical wood slat partitions, and exposed heavy timber columns and beams at the ceiling (**Photos 10-12**). To the north, the first floor contains artist

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA

County and State

studios along the perimeter walls (the east and west sides) with similar finishes except that the brick walls are not painted (**Photos 13, 14**). The space between the studios contains a series of small storage units with simple, wood slat partitions that were installed in 2004 (**Photo 15**). There is another large studio at the northwest corner containing industrial features and finishes matching those elsewhere on the first floor (**Photo 16**). The boiler house is a tall space with concrete floors, exposed brick walls, and exposed steel beams at the ceiling (**Photo 17**). The boiler house has been subdivided with a partial-height wood slat partition that was installed in 2004.





**Photo 12** (left): First floor, view northwest **Photo 13** (right): First floor, view southSe



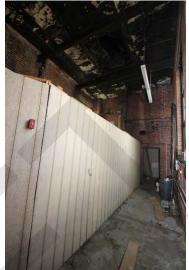


**Photo 14** (left): First floor, view north **Photo 15** (right): First floor, view north

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State





**Photo 16** (left): First floor, view northwest **Photo 17** (right): First floor, view north

The southern half of the second floor is similar in many respects to the first floor. The second floor is reached via a stair at the southeast corner of the building. The stair, which appears to be original, is wood with a wood slat railing and leads to a large room on the second floor with rubber mat floors, painted brick perimeter walls (the exterior walls on the south and east sides) painted, full—height wood slat partitions on the north and west sides, and exposed heavy timber beams and roof decking at the ceiling (**Photo 18**). Unlike the wood slat partitions on the first floor, these appear to be historic partitions.





**Photo 18** (left): Second floor, view east to main stair **Photo 19** (right): Second floor, view south

A doorway adjacent to the stair leads to a corridor with wood floors, full-height, sheetrocked partitions and exposed heavy timber beams and roof decking at the ceiling (**Photo 19**). On both sides of the corridor, there are additional artist's studios with similar industrial finishes (**Photo 20**). A doorway at the north end of the corridor leads to a former living space with studios that was constructed in 2004 (**Photos 21-25**). Although some partial-height sheetrocked partitions were installed at this time – including some curvilinear partitions at the north end of the space, the historic

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA

County and State

industrial finishes and features remain largely intact. One notable feature is the historic freight elevator, which remains at the southeast corner of the space (**Photo 22**). The elevator also remains on the first floor.





**Photo 20** (left): Second floor, view west **Photo 21** (right): Second floor, view north



**Photo 22** (left): Second floor, freight elevator, view north **Photo 23** (right): Second floor, view south





**Photo 24** (left): Second floor, view west **Photo 25** (right): Second floor, view west

Sandoz Chemical Works

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State

Name of Property

*Integrity* 

The Sandoz Chemical Company Building retains integrity. In particular, the design and materials remain largely intact and the workmanship, expressed in a consistent Commercial Style, is of good quality. More specifically, both the overall form and the defining industrial characteristics of the building remain, including its exterior brick walls with projecting brick piers, regular window openings, concrete and wood floors, and characteristic heavy timber columns and beams. While the original windows were replaced in 2015, the historic window openings were not altered; therefore, the historic fenestration patterns remain intact. The quality, placement and condition of the construction materials, as well as the building's characteristic 1920s Commercial Style treatment are both highly characteristic of the period and also all remain wholly intact. Although the machinery was removed long ago, the overall spatial arrangements and volumes remain. While the interior was slightly altered in 2004, the original manufacturing function of the building is easily conveyed through the remaining voluminous spaces and the industrial finishes and structural features described above.

Sandoz Chemical \	Works Philadelphia County, PA
Name of Property	County and State
8. Stateme	ent of Significance
	National Register Criteria one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register
/ `	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B. I	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or nistory.
	nsiderations a all the boxes that apply.)
A. (	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
B. I	Removed from its original location
C. A	A birthplace or grave
D. A	A cemetery
E. A	A reconstructed building, object, or structure
F. A	A commemorative property
G. I	Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Julian Simsohn

Sandoz Chemical Works	Philadelphia County, P.
Name of Property	County and State
Areas of Significance	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
Industry	
maustry	
Period of Significance	
1937-1963	
Significant Dates	
<u>N/A</u>	
Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)	
<u>N/A</u>	
Cultural Affiliation	
<u>N/A</u>	
Architect/Builder	

Sandoz Chemical Works Philadelphia County, PA
Name of Property County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Sandoz Chemical Works Building is significant under Criterion A in the area of Industry as one of the major United States branches of the Basel, Switzerland-based Sandoz Chemical Works. The branch served as a sort of regional headquarters for the Sandoz company, housing offices, a warehouse and distribution center, and a laboratory where dyes could be custom formulated to the exact specifications of any client. Located in the Port Richmond section of the city, the Philadelphia branch of Sandoz was well situated to supply its dyes to the area's many textile companies, particularly those manufacturing goods using the synthetic fibers, such as viscose, that became increasingly popular beginning in the 1930s and bolstered the Philadelphia textile industry even as many firms departed for the South. The Period of Significance begins in 1937, when Sandoz acquired and opened its expanded branch in the former Willard Candy & Chocolate Company Building at 2215 East Tioga Street, and ends in 1963, after Sandoz consolidated its Northeastern operations in a large new facility in suburban New Jersey.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History of the Sandoz Chemical Works Building

The Sandoz Chemical Works Building began its life as the Willard Candy & Chocolate Company. Willard was founded in 1922 by partners Joseph Lindauer, Sim J. Simon, Sydney N. Greenberg and Sidney Blumenthal, the latter being a founding partner of Blumenthal Brothers, one of Philadelphia's most well known chocolate companies (Blumenthal's involvement with Willard Candy & Chocolate lasted only until 1923, when he left the partnership). The company was initially located in a two-story former textile mill at the northeast corner of Jasper and East Willard Streets in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia (this building remains standing as of the writing of this nomination). Owing to growth, the company hired Julian Simsohn, an industrial architect, to design a new two-story plant on a property they acquired at the northeast corner of East Tioga and Witte Streets in Port Richmond, about a half mile east of their original location. Despite its early success, Willard appears to have remained a minor player in the Philadelphia confectionery industry. Although employment statistics for Willard are not currently available, the building itself was dwarfed by the plants of the Blumenthal Brothers, Stephen F. Whitman & Son, Wilbur & Sons, and the Quaker City Chocolate & Confectionary Company, which each employed between 140 and 800 people.

The Willard Candy & Chocolate Company is only sparsely mentioned in period newspapers and trade publications, reinforcing the assertion that it remained a relatively minor presence in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Philadelphia Real Estate Record and Builders' Guide, March 25, 1925, p. 186.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Employment statistics for Willard's competitors are found in the 1922 edition of the *Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, the most recent edition of the directory that is available online. The 1922 edition does not include the Willard Candy & Chocolate Company, which was founded only that year. Later editions, which would include Willard, are available in local repositories, however they are currently inaccessible due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Sandoz Chemical Works

Philadelphia County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

Philadelphia confectionery industry. In 1932, partner Sim J. Simon committed suicide, after which the business appears to have been carried on by partner Joseph Lindauer.<sup>3</sup> The company only lasted until early 1936, although the circumstances behind its demise are currently entirely unknown. In June 1937, the property was sold to Sandoz Chemical Works, Inc., of Basel, Switzerland. Founded in Basel in 1886, Sandoz was a manufacturer of synthetic aniline dyes – one of several notable Swiss and German dyestuffs firms that eventually expanded into pharmaceuticals.<sup>4</sup>

In the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the dyestuffs industry was insignificant compared to that which existed in Europe. Although there were numerous large textile dying companies, particularly in Philadelphia and several New England towns and cities, they largely relied on dyes imported from Germany and Switzerland. These countries, especially Germany, had made significant investments in the research and development of synthetic chemicals since the 1890s in a way that simply did not exist in the United States.<sup>5</sup> As late as 1916, although there were eight manufacturers of "dyestuffs and extracts" in Philadelphia according to the official Pennsylvania state industrial directory, they employed a total of only 54 workers, with all but two of the companies having less than ten each. Compared to Philadelphia's other vast industries, such as textiles and metalworks, which each employed tens of thousands, the dyestuffs industry was almost nonexistent.<sup>6</sup>

The beginning of World War I in August 1914 marked a turning point in the American dyestuffs industry as trade networks became severely disrupted. With imports from Germany suddenly cut off, the textile industry, one of the United States' (and Philadelphia's) major economic drivers, suddenly faced a severe shortage of the dyestuffs on which it so heavily relied. The American textile industry initially turned to neutral Switzerland. Prior to the war, Germany produced around 85% of the world's textile dyestuffs to Switzerland's 10%, but these market shares reversed nearly overnight with the outbreak of war. All three of the major Basel dyestuffs manufacturers – Sandoz, CIBA and Geigy – posted huge gains as early as 1915, with Sandoz making the strongest gains in relative terms. The company's sales skyrocketed from 6 million Swiss francs in 1914 to 37 million Swiss francs during the last two years of the war. Although the United Kingdom was Sandoz's biggest customer, making up about 40% of sales, the United States was the company's second biggest market, coming in at about 22% of sales.

Although dyes from Switzerland did become available, the United States began to foster the development of its own dyestuffs industry, with the Congress creating policies that included high tariffs on imported dyes and investments in synthetic chemical research and production. Apart from the economic imperative of such practices, the establishment of a dyestuffs industry in the United States became a matter of national pride, to overcome the long association of dyestuffs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Man Slashes Throat," *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, January 25, 1932.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Raymond Nelson, "Variety is Keynote of Week's Business," *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, June 13, 1937.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Gary N. Mock, "The Textile Dye Industry in the United States," *Review of Progress in Coloration*, Vol. 32 (June 2002).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Second Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, PA, 1916).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Walter Dettwiler, Philipp Gafnerr and Carole Billod, *Novartis: How a Leader in Healthcare was Created Out of CIBA, Geigy and Sandoz* (London: Profile Books, 2014), 44.

Sandoz Chemical Works

Philadelphia County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

with Germany and to make the country's textile industries less dependent on foreign imports. DuPont and Dow soon became national leaders in the fledging dyestuffs industry. In Philadelphia, the first major dyestuffs plant – the American Co-operating Dye and Chemical Works – opened in 1915.<sup>8</sup>

As a means of working around the protective tariffs of the Longworth Bill, passed by the Congress in 1919, as well as Dye and Chemical Control Act, passed in 1921, the three major Swiss dye firms organized a joint venture in 1920, acquiring a dye plant outside Cincinnati, where they opened the Cincinnati Chemical Works, which would produce dyes for all three companies. Now that their products could be manufactured in the United States, they were no longer subject to the tariffs that made competition so difficult for foreign companies.

Sandoz also opened its first Philadelphia branch in 1920. According to an announcement in *Textile World* in October of that year, the company, due to the increasing volume of business in the United States, found it necessary to enlarge its office, warehouse and sales facilities. Sandoz already had sales representatives in the United States, but decided to unite with an existing sales agency, F. Bredt & Company, who had established relationships with industrial clients across the northeastern United States. The corporate headquarters would be located in New York City, and the company eventually opened sales offices in Boston and Paterson, New Jersey, according to a 1921 advertisement in *Textile World* (Figure 1).

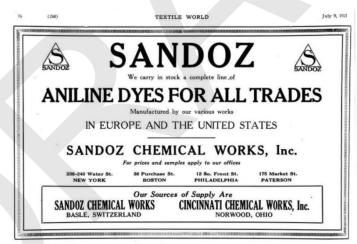


Figure 1 – Sandoz advertisement in *Textile World*, 1921.

Eventually, Sandoz's Philadelphia operation grew to a point where a larger space would be required, and in 1937 the company purchased the former Willard Candy & Chocolate Company Building (Figure 2). A zoning application provides some insight into the activities that took place in the new facility. On the first floor, there was an office and warehouse as well as a space where the blending of dyestuffs took place. On the second floor, there was a laboratory and storage area for dyestuffs samples. <sup>10</sup> The branch would have been staffed with managers as well as field

<sup>9</sup> "Dyes and Chemicals," *Textile World* (October 2, 1920), 215.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Mock, 80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Philadelphia Zoning Application No. 24094 (1937).

Philadelphia County, PA

Name of Property County and State

salesmen who interacted daily with customers on supply, inventory and pricing. The facilities also had technical personnel, such as trained chemists, who worked in the laboratory to formulate special colors as requested by customers. In such cases, a sample skein would be dyed to demonstrate the finished appearance of a particular color. The technical staff also visited customer mills to help them apply the products correctly to textile products – such as hosiery, clothing, carpets, or draperies – and investigate quality complaints. Due to the frequent and ever changing requests for custom colors from textile manufacturers, support facilities like the Philadelphia branch of Sandoz needed to be close to the customers, making the location at Tioga and Witte Streets an advantageous one for its proximity to the large textile district of Kensington.<sup>11</sup>

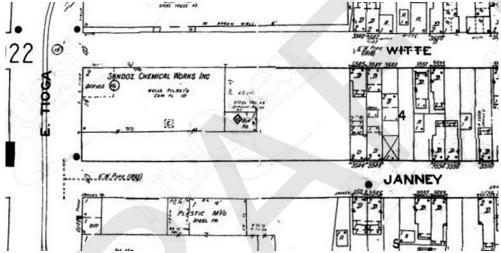


Figure 2 – Sanborn Map, 1951.

By the time Sandoz opened its new Philadelphia branch in 1937 the city's traditional textile industry – consisting of cotton, woolen and silk goods, with full-fashioned silk hosiery the dominant product by the 1930s – had begun to decline. Seeking cheaper labor and hoping to avoid the increasing unrest caused by northeastern labor unions, many textile manufacturers closed or moved their operations to southern states. Still, textiles did not disappear altogether in Philadelphia, and Sandoz remained in a strong position despite the increasing loss of many of its old customers. In fact, new developments in synthetic fibers, particularly rayon, which was an artificial silk produced locally by the American Viscose Company, "fed a...vogue in woven goods," that allowed many Philadelphia textile firms to thrive even into the 1940s and beyond.<sup>12</sup>

In fact, Sandoz had invested heavily in the development of aniline dyes tailored specifically to viscose fibers, producing a series of catalogs during the 1930s and 40s that demonstrated what each color looked like on real fibers (see Figures 3 and 4). These catalogs would have been used by companies like Craftex Mills, one of the best known Philadelphia manufacturers of rayon fabrics, particularly for upholstery, as well as the Globe Dye Works, a massive dying plant that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> E-mail correspondence with Robert J. Baptista, Ph.D., of <u>www.colorantshistory.org</u>, September 15, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Philip Scranton, "Large Firms and Industrial Restructuring: The Philadelphia Region, 1900-1980," *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 116, No. 4 (October 1992), 439.

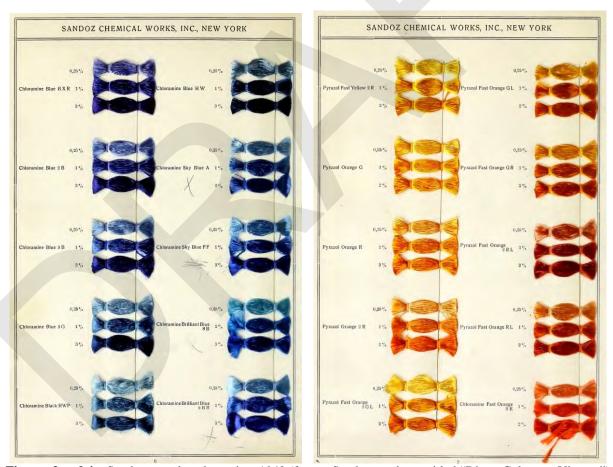
Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA

County and State

remained operational through the twentieth century. Although the companies to which Sandoz supplied dyes are not currently known, it is likely that they maintained connections to many of the larger firms in and around Philadelphia. Morris H. Klein, manager of the Philadelphia branch from 1937 through 1962, started his career at the American Viscose Company and therefore was well positioned to market Sandoz dyes to industry leaders. Klein was regularly involved in organizing national trade exhibitions for the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists and his retirement in 1962 was reported by several well-known industry publications.<sup>13</sup>

Sandoz competitors offered similar products to the textile industry but appear to have maintained a smaller presence in Philadelphia. Rather than purchasing property, Ciba and Geigy both had offices in rented office and warehouse spaces in the Old City section of Philadelphia, where Sandoz also had its start in 1920. These branches acted more as sales and distribution centers rather than full-fledged regional outposts where custom dyes could be mixed on site by staff chemists. All three companies continued to rely on dyes produced in Cincinnati although Sandoz later opened its own manufacturing facility in Paterson, New Jersey in 1939.



Figures 3 and 4 – Sandoz sample colors, circa 1940 (from a Sandoz catalog entitled "Direct Colors on Viscose")

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Paper Trade Journal, Vol. 146 (1962), 52.

Sandoz Chemical Works

Philadelphia County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

Two other Sandoz competitors, including the General Dyestuff Corporation and Andreykovicz and Dunk, Inc, also maintained offices in Old City. General Dyestuff, however, which was the selling agency for the General Aniline & Film Corporation, an American subsidiary of the German industrial giant IG Farben, was seized by the United States government at the start of its involvement in World War II in 1941. It ceased to operate in Philadelphia after the U.S. took control. Andreykovicz and Dunk, which remains in operation to this day in its original facility at 60 North Front Street in Old City (the company is now known as Presto Dyechem), was one of Sandoz's most enduring competitors in Philadelphia. In its relatively small size, Andreykovicz and Dunk was typical of the American-owned, Philadelphia-based dyestuffs manufacturers that arose during the early twentieth century. Much larger manufacturers, such as DuPont and Althouse, a Reading, Pennsylvania-based firm that was acquired by Crompton & Knowles in the 1950s, were located outside of Philadelphia. Although several Swiss manufacturers remained in the United States during and after World War II, the country's post-World War I efforts to build up its dyestuffs industry meant that the United States would be able to weather the conflict with a more than sufficient supply of dyes for all types of products.

Following the war, the departure of Philadelphia textile firms to the south resumed and a standalone Philadelphia branch became less of a priority for Sandoz. Additionally, the company was increasingly expanding its pharmaceutical division and diversifying its dyestuffs operations to include dyes for new types of plastics and paints developed during the war. A modern new facility was needed, and Sandoz embarked on the construction of a vast office and laboratory complex in East Hanover, New Jersey the early 1960s. The activities of the Philadelphia branch were consolidated into what was known as the Sandoz Research Center, and the property at 2215 East Tioga Street was sold the same year.

Soon after the departure of Sandoz, the building was leased to the Hansen Rubber Company, a manufacturer of waterproof coatings that remained in the building until at least the late 1970s. By the 1980s, the building had become a self-storage facility, a use it maintained until 2004 when it was converted into work spaces and artist studios.

Sandoz Chemical Works	Philadelphia County,	
Name of Property	County and State	

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

#### Books and Articles:

Bureau of Statistics and Information, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Second Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Harrisburg, PA, 1916.

Bureau of Statistics and Information, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Fourth Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Harrisburg, PA, 1922.

Dettwiler, Walter, Philipp Gafnerr and Carole Billod. *Novartis: How a Leader in Healthcare was Created Out of CIBA, Geigy and Sandoz.* London: Profile Books, 2014.

Mock, Gary N. "The Textile Dye Industry in the United States." *Review of Progress in Coloration*, Vol. 32 (June 2002).

Scranton, Philip. "Large Firms and Industrial Restructuring: The Philadelphia Region, 1900-1980." *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 116, No. 4 (October 1992).

## Periodicals (Newspapers and Trade Journals)\*:

Paper Trade Journal
Philadelphia Inquirer
Philadelphia Real Estate Record and Builders' Guide (PRERBG)
Textile World

<sup>\*</sup>see footnotes for specific citations

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Sandoz Chemical Works	Philadelphia County, P.
Name of Property	County and State
<b>Previous documentation on file (NPS):</b>	
X preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR	67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register	
previously determined eligible by the National Register	
designated a National Historic Landmark	
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	
Primary location of additional data:	
State Historic Preservation Office	
Other State agency	
Federal agency	
Local government	
University	
Other	
Name of repository:	
Name of repository.	

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900 Sandoz Chemical Works Name of Property

# County and State

Philadelphia County, PA

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ~0.8 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates Datum if other than WGS84:	_
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)	
1. Latitude: 39.994516	Longitude: -75.100809
2. Latitude:	Longitude:
3. Latitude:	Longitude:
4. Latitude:	Longitude:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the property is shown as a dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "Sandoz Chemical Works: Site Plan with National Register Boundary" (Figure B).

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The proposed National Register Boundary conforms to the historic parcel and includes all remaining resources that were historically associated with the Sandoz Chemical Works.

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State

## Form Prepared By

name/title: Kevin McMahon, Associate organization: Powers & Company, Inc.

street & number: 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1717 city or town: Philadelphia state: PA zip code: 19107

e-mail: kevin@powersco.net telephone: (215) 636-0192 date: February 9, 2021

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State

Name of Property

## **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## **Photo Log**

Name of Property: Sandoz Chemical Works

City or Vicinity: Philadelphia

County: Philadelphia State: PA

Photographer: Robert Powers

Date Photographed: May 1, 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photograph #	Description of Photograph
1.	South and east elevations, view northwest.
2.	South elevation, view north.
3.	South elevation, entrance, view north.
4.	West elevation, view east.
5.	North elevation, view southeast.
6.	North elevation, view south.
7.	Site north of the building, view north.
8.	East elevation, view southwest.
9.	East elevation, view west.
10.	First floor, former office, view northeast.
11.	First floor, loading area, view east.
12.	First floor, view northwest.
13.	First floor, view south.
14.	First floor, view north.
15.	First floor, view north.
16.	First floor, view northwest.
17.	First floor, view north.
18.	Second floor, view east to main stair.
19.	Second floor, view south.
20.	Second floor, view west.
21.	Second floor, view north.
22.	Second floor, freight elevator, view north.

Sandoz Chemical Works		Philadelphia County, PA
Name of Property		County and State
23.	Second floor, view south.	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Sandoz Chemical Works	Philadelphia County, PA
Name of Property	County and State

**Index of Figures – Section 7** 

Figure #	Description of Figure	
A	Current Aerial View (Google Maps).	
В	Site Plan with National Register Boundary.	

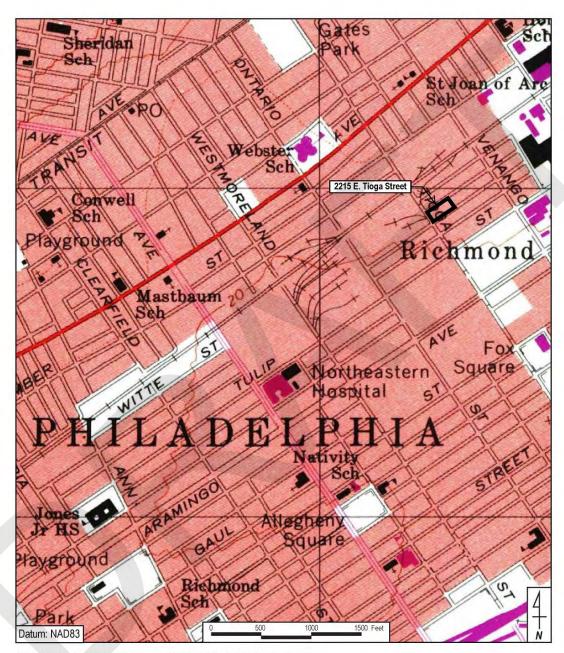
# Index of Figures – Section 8

Figure #	Description of Figure
1.	Sandoz advertisement in <i>Textile World</i> , 1921.
2.	Sanborn Map, 1951.
3.	Sandoz sample colors, circa 1940 (from a Sandoz catalog entitled "Direct Colors
	on Viscose")
4.	Sandoz sample colors, circa 1940 (from a Sandoz catalog entitled "Direct Colors
	on Viscose")
5.	USGS Map.
6.	First floor plan with photo key.
7.	Second floor plan with photo key.

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA

County and State



USGS Map - Camden Quadrangle - New Jersey-Pennsylvania (1995)

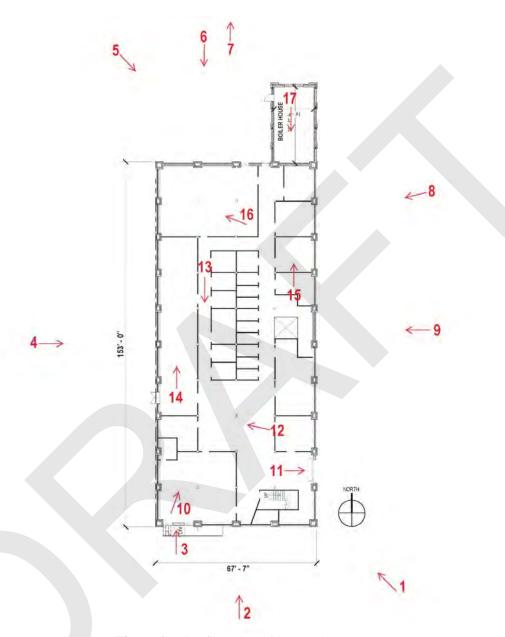
Sandoz Chemical Company 2215 E. Tioga Street Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA Latitude, Longitude 39.9944516, -75.100809

Figure 5 – USGS Map.

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA

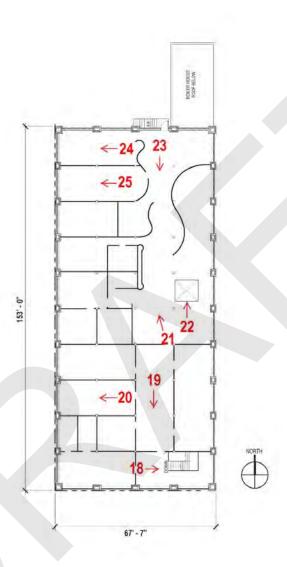
County and State



**Figure 6** – First floor plan with photo key.

Name of Property

Philadelphia County, PA
County and State



**Figure 7** – Second floor plan with photo key.