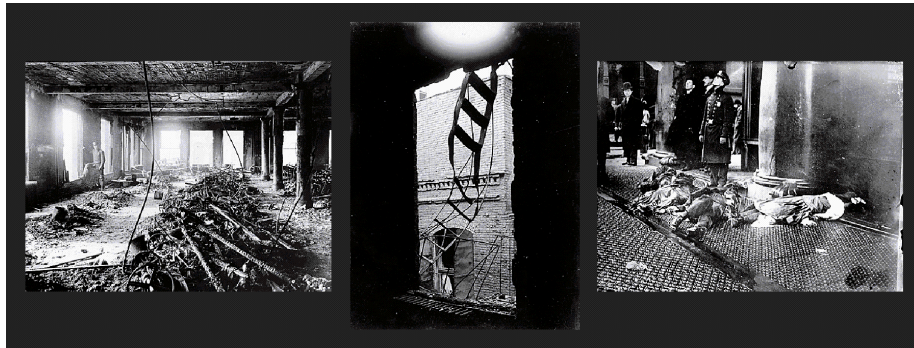


CHALK

In memory of
The Triangle Factory Fire



March 25, 1911, the Triangle Waist Company, an overcrowded, unsanitary and notorious sweatshop, was located one block east of Washington Square Park. There were over 500 employees - most were young women, most were recent immigrants,

On the 8th floor a fire broke out. The workers ran to the fire escape. It collapsed, dropping them to their death. On the 9th floor the bosses, in order to prevent stealing, had locked one of the exits. People on the street watched as the workers began to jump. Fire trucks arrived but their ladders only reached the 6th floor. The girls leaped for the ladder, missed & fell to their death. The freight elevators ran as long as they could, girls pressed into the cars, and tumbling down the elevator shaft.

In the end over 140 people died. There was a trial but the bosses, long known for their anti-union activities, got off. The fire demonstrated the cost of unconstrained greed and became a rallying cry for the international labor movement. Many of our fire safety laws were created in response to this tragic event.

We remember because we are still fighting- for worker's rights, for immigrants, all who deserve life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Join us!

CHALK was created to commemorate the Triangle Factory Fire workers. Each year on the anniversary of the fire we inscribe their names & ages in chalk in front of their former homes. If you would like more information or to participate in future events please email: ruth@streetpictures.org

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