

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum

The Adler Planetarium

The **Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum** is a planetarium in [Chicago, Illinois, U.S.](#) It was the first planetarium built in the [Western Hemisphere](#) and is the oldest in existence. The planetarium was founded and built in 1930 by the philanthropist [Max Adler](#), with the assistance of the first director of the planetarium, [Philip Fox](#). The Adler Planetarium opened to the public on May 12, 1930.

The planetarium is on [Northerly Island](#). It is part of Chicago's [Museum Campus](#), along with the [John G. Shedd Aquarium](#) and the [Field Museum of Natural History](#). For its design, architect [Ernest A. Grunsfeld](#), Jr. was awarded the gold medal of the Chicago chapter of the [American Institute of Architects](#) in 1931. It was declared a [National Historic Landmark](#) in 1987.^[1]

References

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- ↑ James H. Charleton (October 1985), *[National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination: Adler Planetarium / Adler Planetarium and Astronomical Museum](#)* (PDF), National Park Service, archived from [the original](#) (PDF) on September 10, 2008, retrieved June 22, 2009 and [Accompanying 2 photos, exterior, from 1985.PDF](#) (461 KB)

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