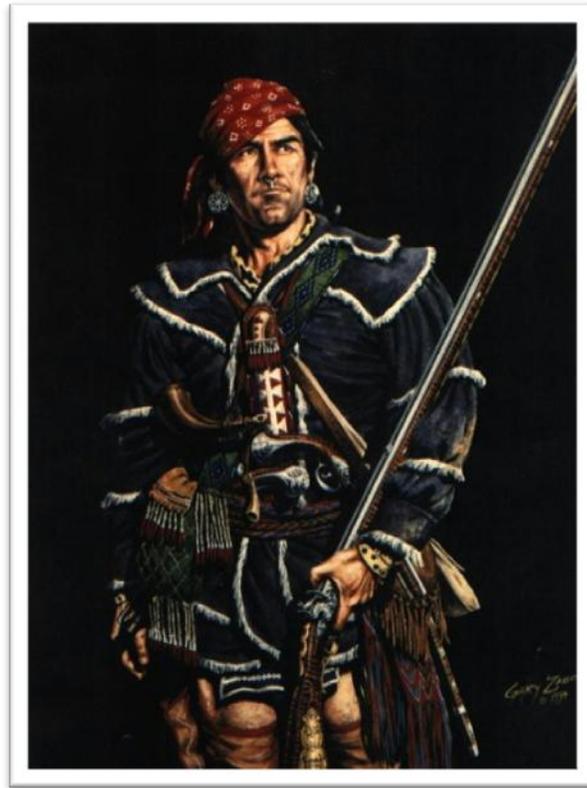


In the Footsteps of Renegades

A Virtual Tour of Greenfield



Anita Kulina

Photography by MJ Krchmar

In the Footsteps of Renegades
www.brandtstreetpress.com

“In the Footsteps of Renegades:
A Virtual Tour Of Greenfield”

By Anita Kulina, author of Millhunks and Renegades

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A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

This ebook is intended as a companion to my book, *Millhunks and Renegades*, though it stands on its own. It is a virtual tour of the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania neighborhood of Greenfield, which was once part of a suburb of Pittsburgh called Squirrel Hill.

Because the book is intended as a tour, the story is not told in chronological order. Instead, stories have been arranged to make it convenient for you to take this tour. Greenfield and Squirrel Hill have a rich and entertaining history. Visit these sites yourself. Stand in the footsteps of the millhunks, miners, clergy, prizefighters, tavern owners, homemakers, teachers, farmers and renegades who made this town what it is today.

I've done quite a bit of research for this ebook, and as far as I can tell, everything in here is fact. However, there are lots of people who know more about Greenfield than I do, and you may be one of them. If you disagree with something in this book, or if you have information you can add to this book, Brandt Street Press would like to hear from you. Turn to page 48 for contact information.

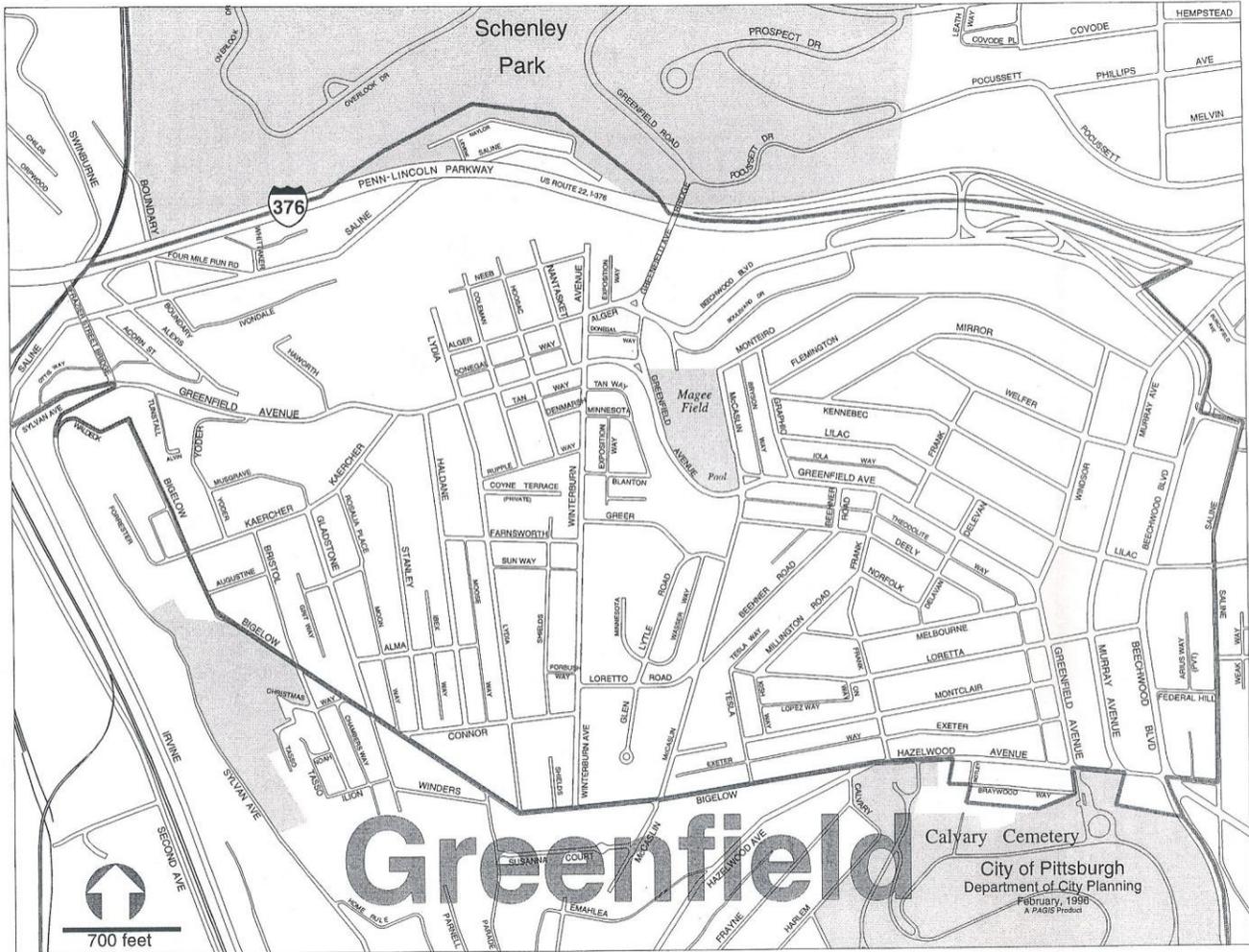
I'd like to say thanks to Gary Zaboly, Randy Wilkins, Fr. Tom Schaefer, and Ron & Roxanne Sugar, and to Elizabeth Roark for granting access to Chatham University's Arthur G. Smith Collection of Pittsburgh Images. Also thanks to Ken Girty, Phillip Hoffman, and the librarians of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Room. Thanks to MJ Krchmar for the location photography, Cyrilla Bakey for the cemetery photographs, and Scott Smith for being not only a great editor, but a great husband as well.

And thanks to all my siblings, who made it fun to grow up on Haldane Street.

Anita Kulina
October 2010

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Official City of Pittsburgh map, Department of City Planning, 1996

Greenfield was annexed to the City of Pittsburgh in 1868 and officially became its own neighborhood sometime between 1872 and 1875. Until that point it was part of Squirrel Hill.

During the town's early days, the area was claimed consecutively by three countries - France, England and America. Before that, it was hunting ground for the Iroquois Nation.

SITE 1 – Saline Street Corner of Saline Street and Hazelwood Avenue



photo by Cyrilla Bakey

We'll begin our tour with the early days of Squirrel Hill, which are also the early days of Greenfield. We'll start at Saline Street, where it runs parallel to Brown's Hill. In pioneer times Saline Street was Salt Lick Road. Obviously, there was a salt lick on it, which made it a good place for hunting, and also made it a well-traveled foot path. It became even more well-traveled after 1750, when Nemacolin came by.

A trader named Michael Cresap and an Indian named Nemacolin together blazed a foot path that went all the way from the Potomac River in Cumberland, Maryland to the Monongahela River here in Pittsburgh. The National Road (now Route 40) was built along that trail. Saline Street was a shortcut off Nemacolin's Path and led to Second Avenue on the way to downtown. Nemacolin's Path was later used as an escape route for the Underground Railroad.

But the story of Squirrel Hill actually begins near Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1743.

Simon Girty, an immigrant from Ireland, was a trader with the Delaware Indians. He and his wife Mary, an English girl, had four sons. The first, Thomas, was born in 1742. After that in quick succession were Simon, James and George.

The Girty boys, unlike the neighboring children, were raised around Indians. Their father had Indians at their house all the time, to visit or to trade. Indians brought the boys gifts, and they played games with them. The Girtys were socially unacceptable to their neighbors because of the company they kept, but this upbringing gave them an unusually good rapport with the Indians.

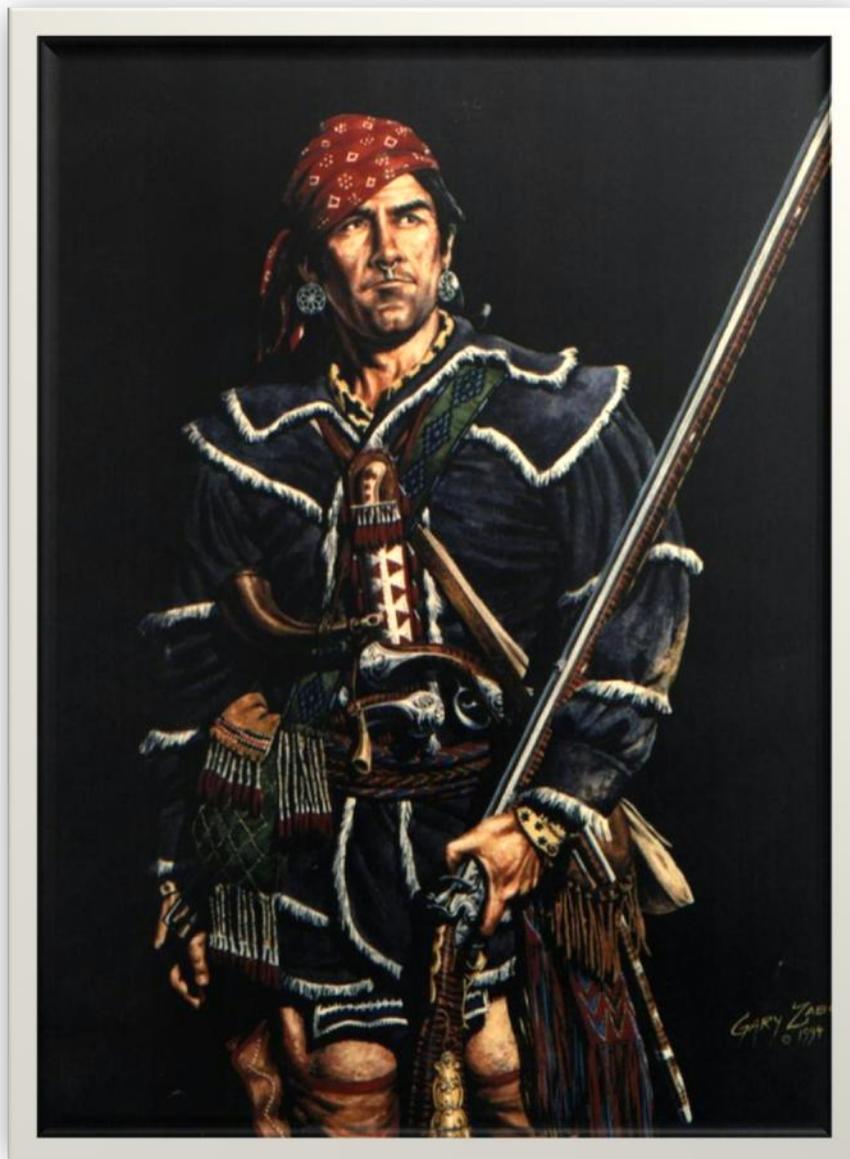
In 1750, when George was two years old, their father was killed in a swordfight, which some said was provoked by an argument over his wife Mary. The fellow who killed him went to prison, but that left Mary alone with four children. She eventually ended up with a fellow named John Turner, who probably worked for her husband.

In 1755, John Turner sold their land to John Harris, the founder of Harrisburg, and settled along the Juniata River. By then the French and Indian War was going on. Indians were fighting alongside the French. All over the area, neighbors banded together and built forts. There was one along the Juniata near where the Girty family lived, and settlers fought together there when they were under attack.

One night in July of 1756, a large war party of French and Indians captured the settlers in the fort, including the Girty family. Everyone was marched westward along an Indian path that led to a Delaware Indian town near Kittanning. If you drove this, it would take close to three hours, so this was a long march.

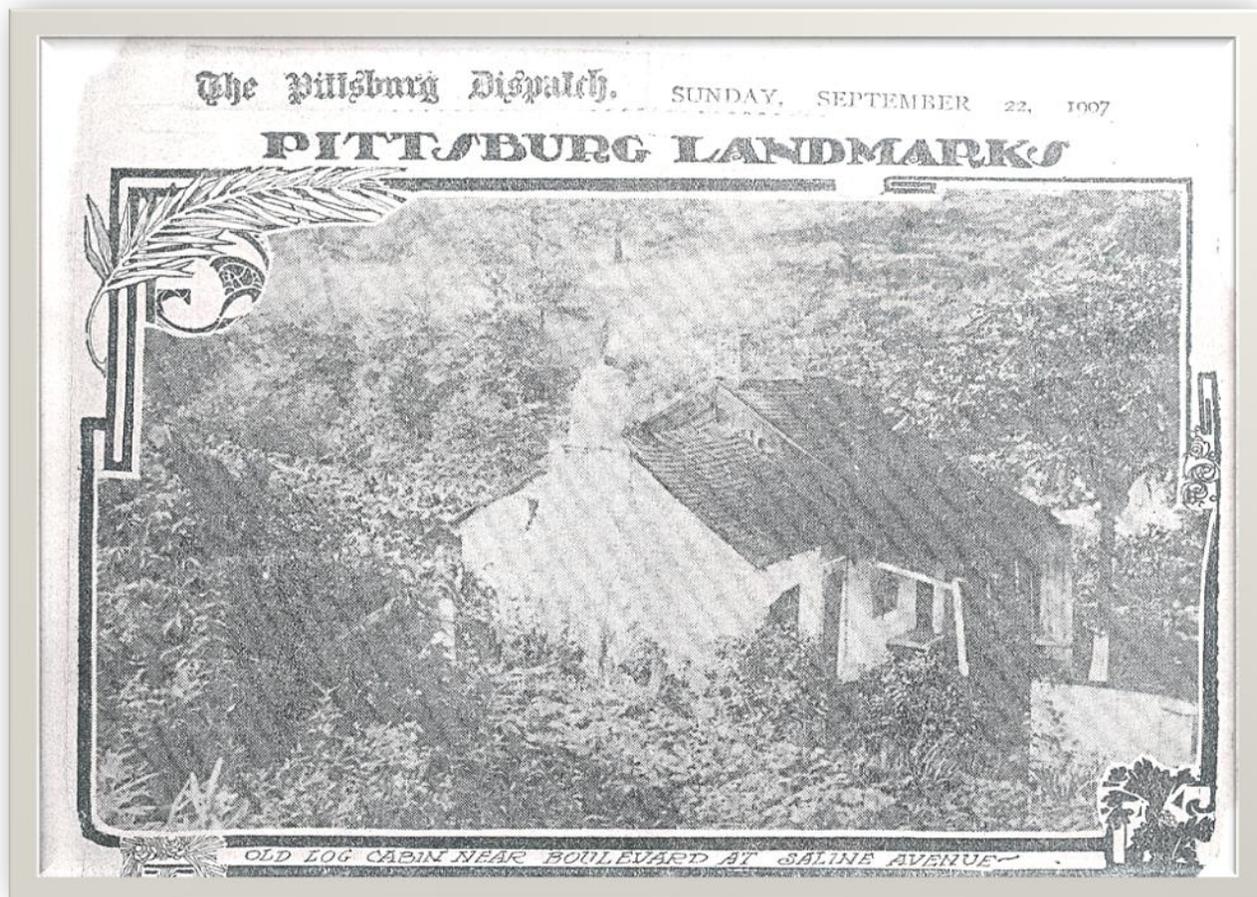
The Delaware, having been friends with Simon Girty, had heard rumors that he was killed. They knew a white man had killed him, but they didn't know the man was in prison. When John Turner was found with Mary Girty and the boys, the Indians assumed that John had killed their friend to make off with his wife. John Turner was tortured and burned at the stake.

The family was separated and adopted into different Indian families. Mary and her new baby, John Jr., were allowed to stay together, at least for a little while.



Portrait of Simon Girty by Gary Zaboly, from the collection of Randy Wilkins

Fast forward about ten years. The four Girty boys were now young men and, for all intents and purposes, white Indians. The Treaty of Easton had been signed, and the conditions of the treaty were spreading slowly, as word did in those days. Indian families were required by the treaty to surrender any white captives to the nearest British fort. One by one, the boys were reunited with their mother. Before long, their youngest brother John joined them. John, by this time, was an Indian in every way but biological. He spoke several Indian dialects, but no English.



The Pittsburg Dispatch, September 22, 1907

The family moved to Squirrel Hill, a dense forest full of bears, squirrels and deer where Indians gathered to hunt. The Girtys claimed land with “tomahawk rights,” marking trees at the border of their claim, and built some log cabins. They cleared land and began to farm. Thomas was married, and he and his wife Ann had a cabin on the upper part of Squirrel Hill Road (now Bigelow Street) not far from where Connor Street now stands.

George and James worked for the military. So did Simon, who had been trained by the Indians as an interpreter and spoke eleven Indian dialects. Thomas did occasional work as a scout. (Having been raised as Indians, it’s likely the Girty boys thought of farming as “women’s work.”) John did occasional military work, but mostly stayed with his mother at their farm. They raised produce and sold it to the soldiers at Fort Pitt.

This cabin was rumored to be Simon Girty’s, but no one’s really sure if that’s true.

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Pittsburgh map, with John Turner's Federal Hill claim outlined in yellow

By 1778, Simon, James and George had had enough of the Americans' treatment of the Indians and took sides with the British. When the Americans won the Revolution, the Girty boys were persona non grata in Pittsburgh. They signed their land over to their brother John and went west. John had the land surveyed in 1788, and called it Federal Hill.

In 1781, Hugh Henry Brackenridge came to Pittsburgh for the first time. Brackenridge was an educated man and eventually became owner of the first Western newspaper, the Pittsburgh Gazette. More importantly, Brackenridge hated Indians.

In 1782, Colonel William Crawford, a soldier and close friend of George Washington, was captured by Indians and burned at the stake. Brackenridge published a story saying that Simon Girty was at the execution and participated in the torture. It was a horrific account, and even had Simon laughing as Crawford burned. It was also a well-crafted, well-thought-out, boldfaced lie.

Simon had been trained as an interpreter. He, more than anyone, knew the political repercussions of the murder of a friend of George Washington. Not only did Simon intervene, he did so more than once. Finally, when the Indians wouldn't listen to his pleas, he left the scene of the torture. He couldn't watch his friend suffer.

Simon was a close friend of the entire Crawford family, and remained close to Crawford's son John for many years after the Colonel's death.

However, because of this story, Simon's name was besmirched. He became known as a villain and has been depicted that way for over two centuries in movies, on television and in books. Zane Grey portrayed Simon as a villain, and Stephen Vincent Benet had him sit on Satan's jury in *The Devil and Daniel Webster*. The myth has grown stronger than the man, and most people, because of Brackenridge, view Simon as a villain even today.

SITE 2 – Log Cabin Beechwood Boulevard in vicinity of Murray Avenue Bridge



Pittsburgh Press, May 12, 1921

In the late 1700s there weren't a lot of settlers in the area, but there were some. Jake Castleman had the next farm over, toward what is now Bigelow Heights, and Granny McElroy lived near Welfer Street, between Murray Avenue and Greenfield Avenue. More settlers – squatters, some of them – began to make their home in Squirrel Hill.

The spring on the McElroy property became known as Granny Spring, and was still there as late as 1929. Not far from the spring was a pile of boulders that may have been an Indian burial mound.

There was also a settler's fort in this area. Settlers would built forts in case of Indian attack. In the 1780s and up until 1795 there were Indian raids all over Western Pennsylvania. Keep in mind that by this time John Turner's brothers were all living with the Indians again, so a band of Indians coming through Squirrel Hill didn't necessarily mean trouble. It could just be someone visiting John and Susanna.

It's difficult to determine exactly where this cabin was. It looks like it could possibly be the same cabin as on page 8 from a different angle. From the location of the Murray Avenue Bridge in this photo, it seems likely this cabin sat near the intersection of Beechwood Boulevard and Monitor Street.

SITE 3 – Turner Graveyard Beechwood Boulevard and Federal Hill Street



photo by Cyrilla Bakey

This is a view from inside the gates of the Turner Graveyard, the second oldest cemetery in Pittsburgh. Mary Girty, the mother of the five boys, was likely the first person buried here. There are also two Indians in this graveyard. John killed them when they tried to steal his ax. On the frontier, an ax was essential to survival. Without an ax, your family could freeze or starve to death. The Indians were given a Christian burial here.

No records were kept of early burials, so the only way to know who is buried here is to rely on historical documents and the inscriptions on the tombstones themselves. And the current locations of the headstones in the Turner Graveyard may not be their original locations. There were no parks years ago, and cemeteries were used in the way we use parks today. If there was a picnic or other community event, headstones might be moved for convenience's sake, and moved back at day's end.

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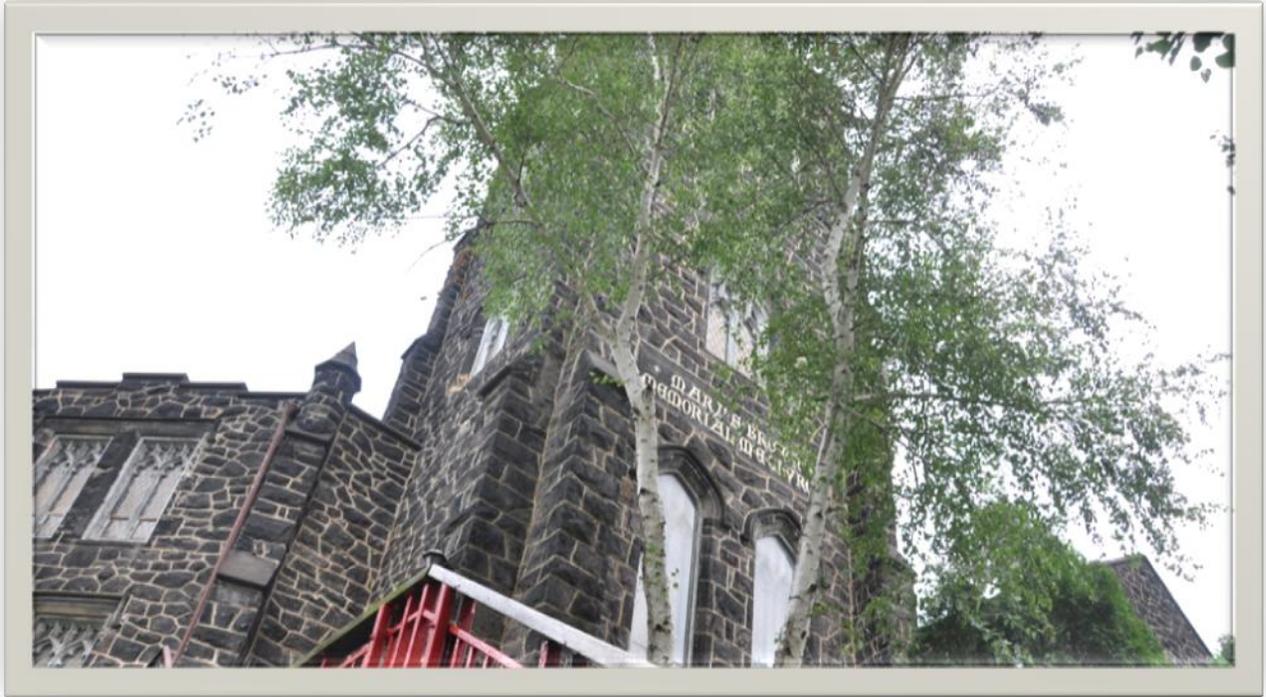


photo by Cyrilla Bakey

Susanna Turner died on April 1, 1833, and John Turner died on May 20, 1840. These are their gravestones. John left most of his property to his nephew, John McCaslin, and donated land to the community for a church and school.



Ludwick Street was once called Turner Street, but it was renamed in 1928. All that's left to commemorate Turner's Federal Hill is this sign on a little street bordering the graveyard.



This is the Mary S. Brown Methodist Episcopal Church, next to the Turner Graveyard. The church had its roots in Bible studies that Susanna Turner held in their old log cabin. Then there was a small brick church, and then a frame church, and finally this building, which was built in 1908.

The Brown family, for whom Brown's Hill was named, were wealthy and well-known not only in Pittsburgh but throughout the country. They made their money on coal mines among other ventures, including a shipyard in Hazelwood. Their son, Captain Sam Brown, was known as a bon vivant. If you look him up in Wikipedia it mostly talks about the thoroughbred horses and racetracks he owned. The Browns became donors at the church, which was called Brown Chapel for a while.

The Browns had a bookkeeper who spouted scripture so much that everyone called him "The Friar," and Captain Brown took it upon himself to appoint the bookkeeper as the church's pastor. The fellow must have been a good preacher, because when the bishops removed him and appointed an official pastor, the congregation actually dwindled for a while. In 1904 Captain Brown donated money to build a bigger church if they promised to name it after his recently deceased mother, which is how it got the name of the Mary S. Brown Church.

SITE 4 – Killymoon’s Inn Beechwood Boulevard near Brown’s Hill



A fellow called Killymoon arrived in Squirrel Hill in 1819. He built an inn and tavern in this spot. It was a prime location because this was a well-traveled shortcut off Nemaocolin’s Path. Killymoon’s Inn sat along the main entry to Pittsburgh by land.

Squirrel Hill at the time was still mostly forest. City folks from Pittsburgh would come to Killymoon’s Inn for a country vacation. Cattlemen also came up this way to take their livestock to Pittsburgh to market. A cowboy could stop for a whiskey here. It was three cents a shot.

After the inn closed, Killymoon’s daughters remained there, and lived in the inn until they died. The building stood in this spot for 131 years, and was only torn down in the 1950s when the Beechwood Gardens Apartments were built.

SITE 5 – Calvary Cemetery Hazelwood Avenue near Greenfield Avenue



Section 5, Row 1

photo by Cyrilla Bakey

Young Rose Stewart was an acrobat and contortionist from New Zealand, who went by the stage name of Aguinaldo. In 1905 she was an 18-year-old wonder, touring the world as a headliner at theaters from Australia to the Orient, and finally in the United States.

Rose played Pittsburgh's Grand Opera House on May 29 and May 30, but fell ill the next day and couldn't make it to the theater. She was dead the next morning, of spinal meningitis.

The Ringling Brothers Circus was passing through town and heard her sad story. The performers pooled their money and bought this headstone for Rose. The back of the stone wasn't engraved properly – the “g” was carved as a “q”, and “esteemed” was likely supposed to be “esteem,” but this stone is still a testament to their compassion for the tragedy that beset a young girl, alone and far from home.



Section W, Lot 40

photo by Cyrilla Bakey

Boxer Harry Greb defeated 14 world champions. He fought 299 times, and almost never lost. He beat every Hall of Fame boxer he ever fought.

Harry was known as The Human Windmill. He was so incredibly fast that one boxer compared a bout with Greb to “fighting with a buzzsaw.” At a time when boxing was fought dirty, Harry was said to be the dirtiest fighter. In Harry’s own words, “Boxing ain’t the noblest of arts, and I ain’t its noblest artist.”

Harry Greb was born in Pittsburgh in 1894, and grew up on North Millvale Avenue in Garfield. He was 5’8” tall and weighed 158 pounds, and often fought opponents who outweighed him by as much as 30 pounds. Gene Tunney, the world heavyweight champion from 1926 to 1928, said, “Greb taught me to fight, because I centered my mind on how to beat him.” Tunney lost his title of American Light Heavyweight to Greb in 1922.

Harry Greb met his wife, Mildred, when they were teenagers – she was 15, he was 18. They dated for three years, and the week he came home from the Navy he went out and bought her an engagement ring. They had a little girl, Dorothy, and Mildred settled down to become a housewife.

Sadly, Mildred soon contracted tuberculosis. Harry got her the best of care and called her nearly every day while he was on the road. She passed away in 1923, with Harry by her side. She was 22, and they had only been married a few years.

After his wife died, Harry's sister Ida, at Harry's bidding, took her beloved niece into her home and Harry continued with what he knew, boxing. By 1926 he had moved to the Morrowfield Apartments on Murray Avenue.

Harry became known as a playboy, and was the subject of New York magazine articles and gossip columns. They said he kept a "harem" of young women at his training camp, and that he drank too much - though some say Harry would really pretend to be drunk in public the night before a fight to "psych out" his opponent.

Harry had a minor operation because some bone chips in his nose were blocking his breathing, and died of complications the next day at the age of 32. Afterward, his doctor revealed that Harry had been fighting for half a decade while blind in one eye, the result of an injury during a bout in 1921. He won every one of his title bouts while blind in one eye.

Harry's funeral Mass was at St. Philomena's in Squirrel Hill. People began arriving at 8:00 a.m. There was a funeral procession along Negley Avenue and Beechwood Boulevard on the way to the church, as throngs of people gathered to pay their respects. After Mass, 31 cars and 5,000 mourners made their way to Calvary Cemetery. Gene Tunney was a pall bearer.

Photos of Harry Greb are online at

<http://www.harrygreb.com/familymanphotopage.html>



Section S, Lot 38

photo by Cyrilla Bakey

Greenfield Jimmy Smith was a baseball player. He began his pro career with the Pittsburgh Pirates, replacing Honus Wagner at shortstop when he was only 18.

Jimmy played ball with Cincinnati and the New York Giants, and played in three world series before he retired in September of 1922.

Officially, when he retired, Smith owned a coal company and eventually became the general manager of National Distillers. Unofficially, though much more well-known, Jimmy was a bootlegger and owned the upscale Bachelor's Club in East Liberty, which was a nightclub and gambling establishment after prohibition was ended.

Greenfield Jimmy Smith was the father-in-law of boxing legend Billy Conn.

SITE 6 – Church of God Corner of Greenfield Avenue and Montclair Street



The roots of this church began in 1893 on a riverboat at the Sixth Street Bridge in downtown Pittsburgh. It held old-fashioned revivals along the Ohio River, leaving budding churches everywhere it went.

The Church of God gained its first pastor in 1907, though the congregation had no building yet, and met where it could – in people’s homes or rented office space downtown.

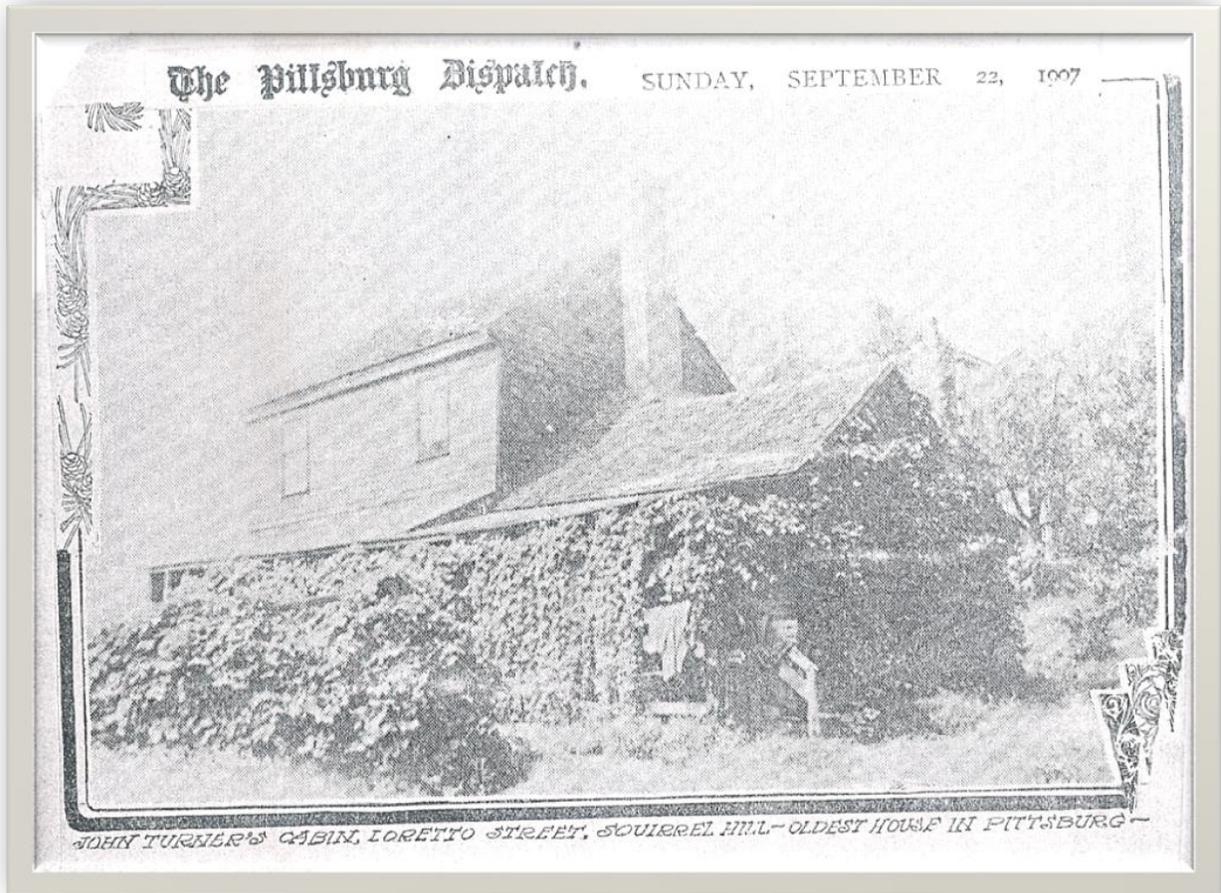
In 1926 they built a little frame church at Hazelwood Avenue and Bigelow Street. But the property was sold, and they moved from place to place without a home until 1942, when they bought this church from the Pittsburgh Church of the Brethren.

SITE 7 – Turner Log Cabin Corner of Frank and Loretta Streets



John Turner's wife was Susanna Clark, a young woman from Baltimore whose family lived in Scotch Bottom, a town near Hazelwood. John and Susanna lived on this corner.

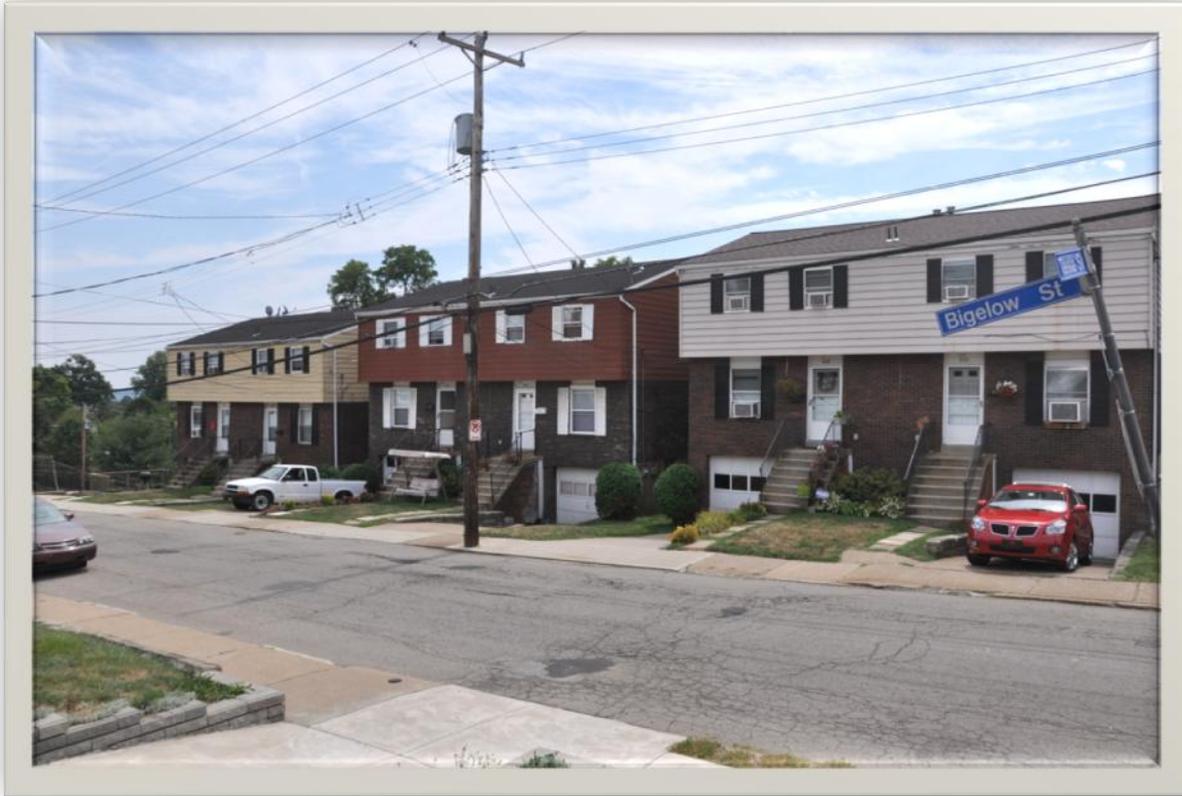
Susanna was a Christian, and she began to hold Bible studies in one of the Girty cabins. She and her neighbors called these meetings The Turner Society. In 1819, they formalized the gatherings and became The Country Class. These meetings eventually grew into the congregation of the Mary S. Brown Church on Beechwood Boulevard.



The Pittsburg Dispatch, September 22, 1907

This is John and Susanna Turner's log cabin, which was built around 1787. John added four rooms to the cabin for his wife, two upstairs and two downstairs.

SITE 8 – Squirrel Hill School Corner of Bigelow Street and Tesla Street



There was an old schoolhouse in this spot. In the 1800s this was still a rural area, and children came to school barefoot. The building was long and narrow, built to fit on this odd stretch of hillside.

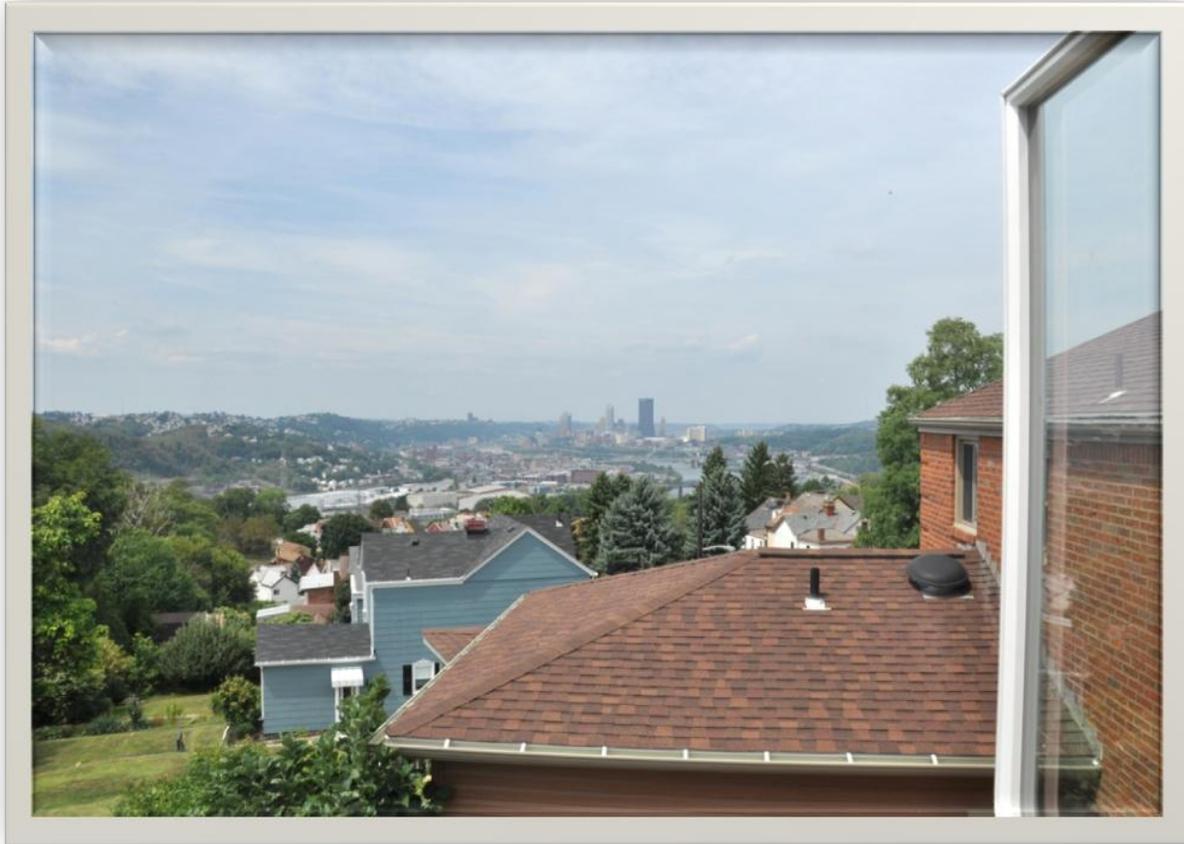
The school had open windows with shutters. Students learned to count on an abacus, and studied reading, writing, arithmetic, Psalms and Bible verses.

In the late 1800s the community gathered here to see Magic Lantern shows. Magic Lanterns were an early type of slide projector, and a forerunner of motion pictures.

This link will take you to a photo of the school, circa 1915. By that time the school had been remodeled and modernized.

<http://images.library.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/i/image/image-idx?view=entry;subview=detail;cc=hpichswp;entryid=x-MSP117.B004.F04.I10;viewid=PPS0065.TIF>

SITE 9 – Fort Black Corner of Lydia Street and Bigelow Street



This is a view of downtown Pittsburgh from the top of Bigelow Street. You can see why this site was ideal for a fort to defend the city.

Fort Black was one of 27 forts built in Pittsburgh in 1863. Pittsburgh, of course, was a target because the Union Army's munitions were made here – warships, cannons, and ammunition. The fort was named after a Union Colonel from Pittsburgh, Sam Black, who had recently been killed in the war. Fort Black wasn't a building, it was a parapet, and it was dug rather than built. It was composed of trenches where men could stand protected while they shot, and had cannons facing The Point.

As we know, the Confederates were stopped at Gettysburg, so this fort never saw battle. It was used for military training, however, until World War I. At least one Ku Klux Klan initiation ceremony – those we've all seen depicted, at which they burn a massive cross – was held here in 1928. At the time, the KKK's main target was Catholics.

SITE 10 – Coal Mine Connor Street at the top of Haldane Street



This building was once the entrance to a coal mine. The top of this hill, along Bigelow, Winterburn and Gladstone streets, was lined with coal mines, and there was at least one mine as far as Lilac Street. Mule teams walked these roads, carrying coal in wooden wagons.

Coal mines were all over the place in Greenfield. Pittsburgh sits on the Great Pittsburgh Coal Seam and many of Greenfield's farms, including the Welfer and Beehner farms, opened coal mines on the property to make some extra cash. The proximity to the steel mills made it easy to sell coal. Dogs and goats worked inside the mines, pulling the mining cars.

Scotch-Irish and Welsh immigrants lived in this part of Greenfield and worked in the coal mines. The Welsh often had coal mining experience when they came to America so they could qualify for the better jobs. Around 1850, the mining companies began to recruit Irish Catholics to work in the mines.

SITE 11 – Squirrel Hill Christian Church Corner of Gladstone and Bigelow



Squirrel Hill Christian Church was started by the Welsh families in the area. They had been attending Hazelwood Christian, which was a Baptist church. Edwin Collins, who owned the local brickyard, was one of the founding members of this church.

When the congregation first formed around 1878, they met in peoples' houses. By 1891 they had built themselves a little frame church, and by 1904 the congregation was so big that they built this brick church. Since Bigelow Street was still called Squirrel Hill Road, the church was named Squirrel Hill Christian Church.

SITE 12 – Inn Corner of Gladstone and Alma Streets



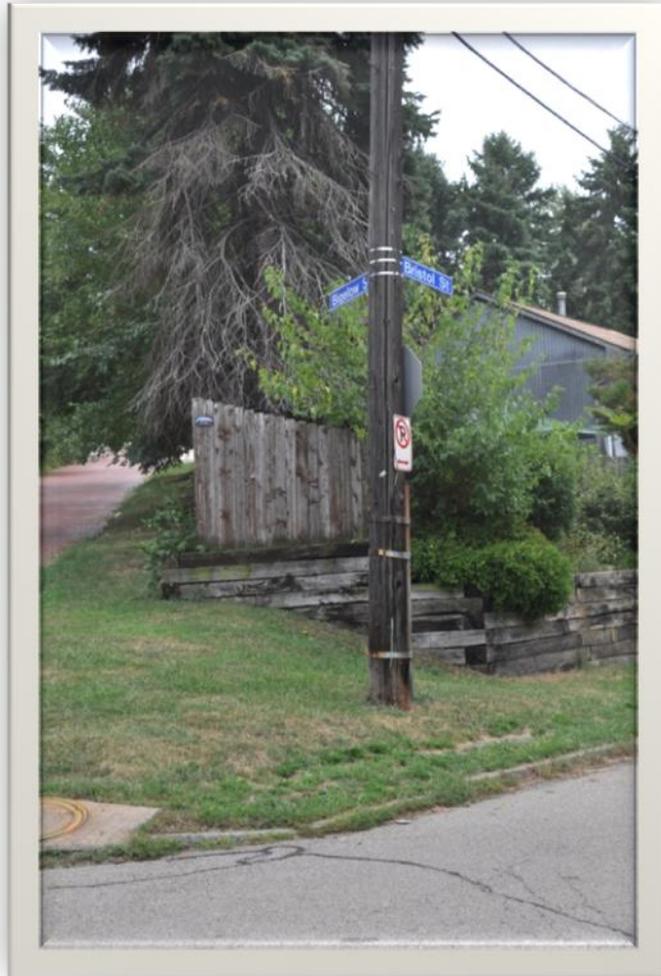
Bigelow Street, or as it was called then, Squirrel Hill Road, was another shortcut from Nemaocolin's Path. It went along Bigelow Street down Kaercher Street to Greenfield Avenue to Second Avenue and then from there along the Monongahela River to the Point.

This is the corner of Gladstone and Alma Streets near Bigelow Street, along that branch of Nemaocolin's Path. There was an inn on this ridge, possibly right in this spot. Stagecoach travel started in 1804, but even then people usually walked when they went from one place to another. People even walked the turnpike, which became the Lincoln Highway, Route 30. Of course it would take days to make a trip from one city to another, so inns popped up along the major routes.

Throughout the early 1800s, covered wagons and stagecoaches rattled up and down these trails. Folks were making their way west to claim land, or making their way east to the larger cities of Philadelphia and Baltimore. Sixteen thousand travelers passed through Pittsburgh between the years of 1786 and 1788 alone. Of course, a lot of Pittsburgh's business began to be centered around these folks. Travelers needed inns to stop for the night, and at least two were on this short stretch of road. There was also at least one blacksmith shop here, but its location is not known.

After Greenfield and Squirrel Hill became two separate communities, Squirrel Hill Road was renamed Bigelow Street after Edward Bigelow, the city's Director of Public Works.

SITE 13 – Gardner’s Spring Corner of Bigelow and Bristol Streets



Gardner’s Spring was located on this corner. Of course there was no running water at this time. There were runs, which were little streams, and there were springs.

People would come here to get their water. Spring water near your home made a pioneer’s life much easier, and Gardner’s Spring was probably the reason this part of Greenfield was one of the early areas to have settlers.

Settlers also caught rainwater in cisterns, and they dug wells. The sewer system wasn’t begun until around 1865, and water lines didn’t replace the wells until around 1875.

SITE 14 – The Glory Barn Corner of Christmas Way and Bristol Street



On this corner was a barn that belonged to the Squirrel Hill Brick Company.

When the brick company closed, their barn was put to reuse. In the 1930s and 1940s it became a social hall, and was renamed The Glory Barn. Dances, bingos and other social events were held there.

SITE 15 – Quarry Hammer Field, corner of Bristol and Bigelow Streets



When the gas company was laying pipe for the first time, one of the workmen realized this field was rich in yellow clay. He contacted the owner of the property, Edwin Collins, and together they created the Squirrel Hill Brick Company. From 1887 until 1932 this was their quarry.

Horse and wagon teams carried brick from here to building sites all over the East End. As you can imagine, it could take all day to get a load of brick from Greenfield to Oakland. The wagons were made with a bottom that slid out to unload the brick. Because of the hills, they would take two teams of horses – one to pull, and a second as a relief team.

Among the buildings built with brick from the Squirrel Hill Brick Company are Greenfield School and the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial.

SITE 16 – Inn Corner of Greenfield Avenue and Kaercher Street



Historians say this building was most probably an inn during the stagecoach days. These inns would have been in use until 1852 when railroads took over the travel trade.

This trail – Squirrel Hill Road, then down Greenfield Avenue – met the Monongahela Trail, which eventually became known as Second Avenue.

General Braddock used the Monongahela Trail to march his men to Fort Duquesne, and for a while it was known as Braddock’s Field Road.

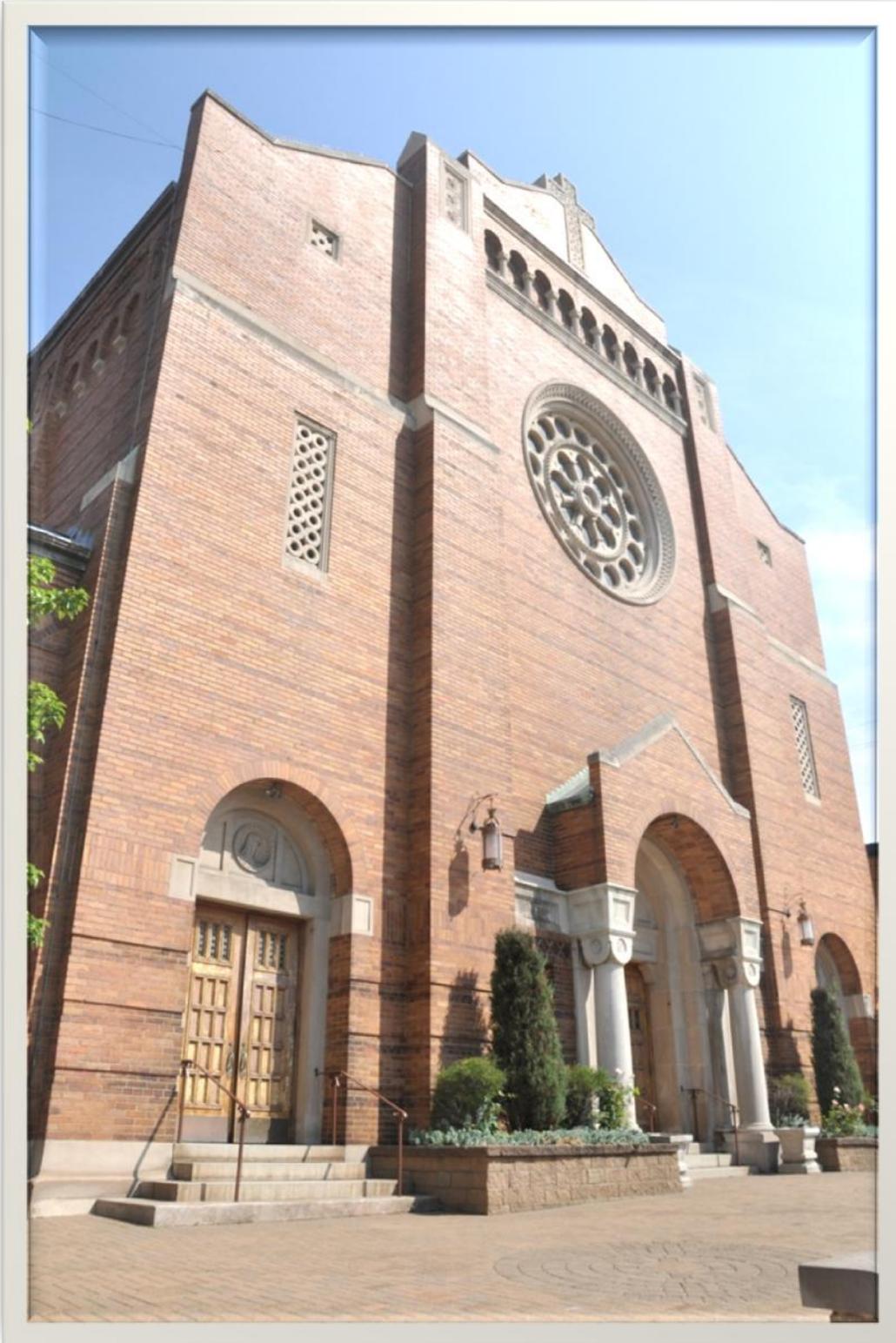
SITE 17 – Saint Rosalia School Greenfield Avenue near Haldane Street



Saint Rosalia School opened on February 3, 1913 to teach the children of the Catholic immigrants who came to Pittsburgh in droves, at the turn of the century, to work in the mills. There were 371 students the first year the school opened. It was built right next door to the church so the students could go to Mass before school. Behind the church was a lyceum with bowling alleys and a gymnasium.

There are twelve classrooms and a principal's office in this building. Students were taught by Immaculate Heart of Mary nuns, who lived across the street in the building that is now the Greenfield Organization.

Saint Rosalia Church Corner of Greenfield Avenue and Lydia Street





This is Saint Rosalia Church, on Greenfield Avenue near Lydia Street. It was built by Greenfield's Irish and Italian Catholics.

The mills had been recruiting in the poorer European countries practically since U.S. Steel's Homestead Works opened in 1881. But even though Greenfield's Irish and Italians were poor, they gave a good portion of their earnings to their parish, and were able to raise enough to build this beautiful church.

The church was built with a grassroots, buy-a-brick campaign, with more wealthy parishioners donating the stained glass windows. Two members of the Greenfield Presbyterian Church, Mr. Young and Mr. Calhoun, did the brick and stone work.

SITE 18 – Greenfield School Alger Street extension (not on map)



This is Greenfield School. There is a long entrance stairway from Greenfield Avenue, but most people drive behind Saint Rosalia School to reach Greenfield School.

Greenfield School opened in 1922 to serve public school students from three smaller schools – J.M. Logan, the old Greenfield School and the Forward Avenue School.

SITE 19 – Greenfield Presbyterian Church Corner of Coleman and Alger Streets



This church, a block back from Greenfield Avenue, was built by Irish Protestants who previously attended Hazelwood Presbyterian Church.

The congregation started out with a little church on this corner. By 1900 the church had grown enough to warrant the large church you see here.

SITE 20 – Row Houses Lydia Street near Farnsworth Street



When immigrants started coming to Pittsburgh to work in the mills, farms were carved up to create housing for them. Often working farms built row houses at the edge of their property to get their share of the booming housing market.

These row houses are pretty typical. They're what is often referred to as a 2-up-and-2-down, with two bedrooms upstairs and a living room and kitchen downstairs.

These were some of the better immigrant housing, since they were built of brick and had bathrooms. Some of the houses either had no bathroom or simply had a toilet and shower in the center of the basement.

SITE 21 – Grote Farm Winterburn Avenue, near Farnsworth Street



By 1960 most of the farmland in Greenfield had been developed. The Grote farm was one of the last. It stood in this area.

The Grote family had a large house which neighbors considered a mansion. Years ago, their cows grazed in the valley along McCaslin Street.

There was another farm on Stanley Street. A circular driveway led to a mansion that held a ballroom and a formal dining room.

The farmhouse on Stanley Street was still there in the early 1960s. The elderly woman who lived there mowed the pasture herself, with a hand mower.

Lannon's Orchard

Winterburn Avenue and Farnsworth Street, looking toward Bigelow Street



If you stood here years ago, you would have been looking at an orchard. It held a bonanza of fruit: raspberry and currant bushes, a grape arbor, and trees of peaches, apples, cherries, pears and quince.

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SITE 22 – Wheatland Bridge 700 block of Greenfield Avenue

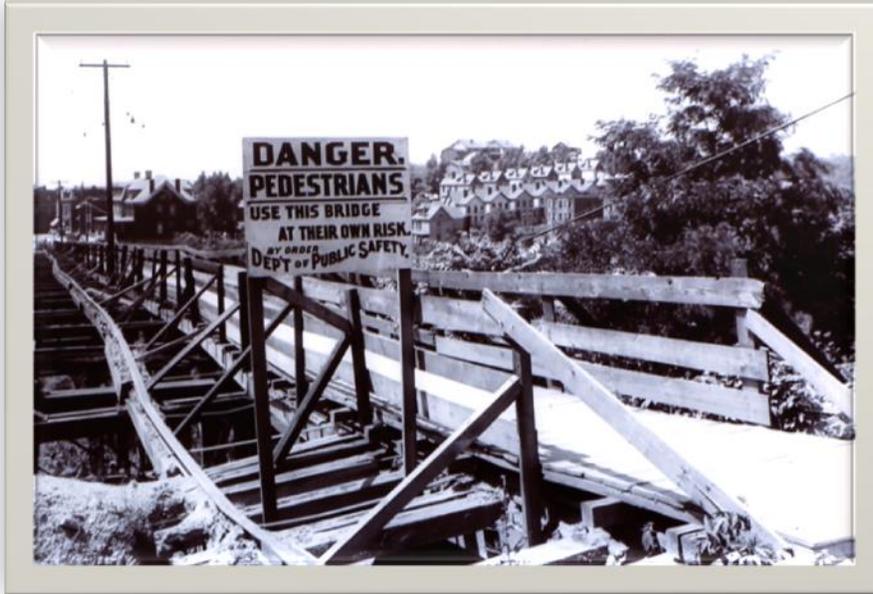
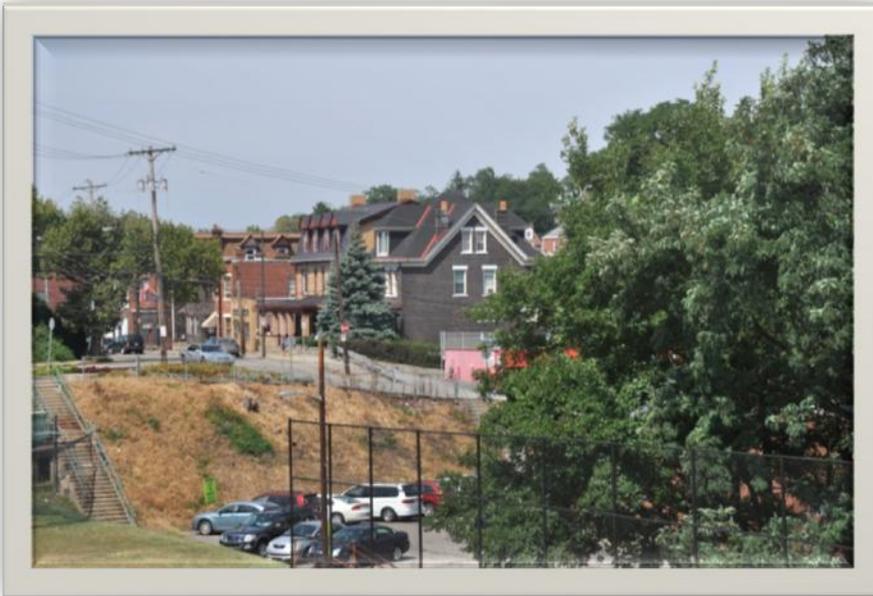


photo from the Arthur G. Smith Collection of Pittsburgh Images, Chatham University



This bridge spanned what is now Magee Field. At the time, the field was a pasture where livestock grazed.

SITE 23 – Smith Home Greenfield Avenue near Magee Field



This was the family home of Greenfield Jimmy Smith. Harry Greb was a friend of Greenfield Jimmy and his mother, and used to visit here.

Prizefighter Billy Conn, who was married to Greenfield Jimmy's daughter Mary Louise, was also a frequent visitor. Kids would gather around his car, waiting for a glimpse of the champ. Though Conn was from a later generation and never had the chance to meet Greb, he was a big fan and had a framed photo of Harry Greb in his game room.

If you'd like to learn more about Billy Conn, you might want to read the classic Frank DeFord article, "The Boxer and the Blonde," at the Sports Illustrated Archives website. <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1119578/1/index.htm>

SITE 24 – Schenley Park Over the Greenfield Avenue Bridge

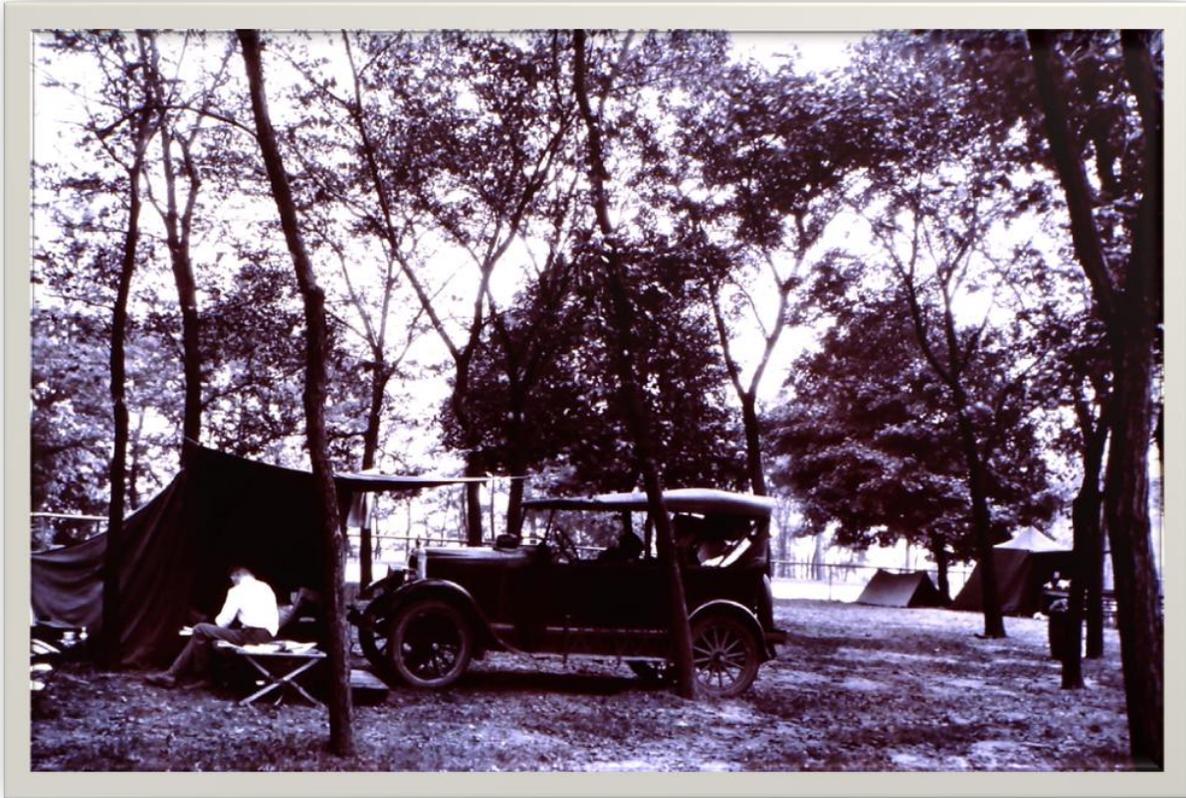


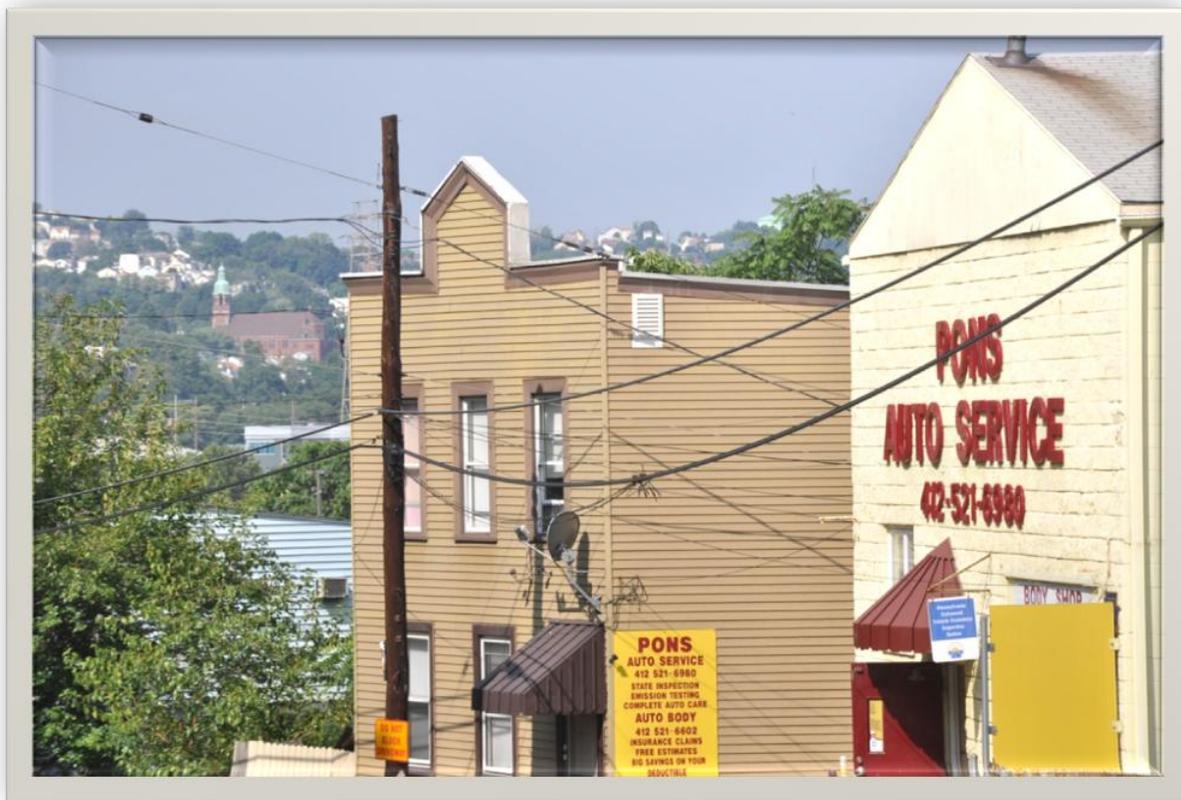
photo from the Arthur G. Smith Collection of Pittsburgh Images, Chatham University

This photo shows campers in Schenley Park.

Many Greenfield men were among those who spent four years building the roads in the park. The Squirrel Hill Brick Company, temporarily closed because of an economic depression, supplied the wagons and horses.

The Park opened in 1889. In Schenley Oval, there was a racetrack and grandstand, and in Panther Hollow there was a bandstand. Schenley Oval, predating Bettis Field in West Mifflin, was Pittsburgh's first airport.

SITE 25 – Old Western False Front Greenfield Avenue toward Second Avenue

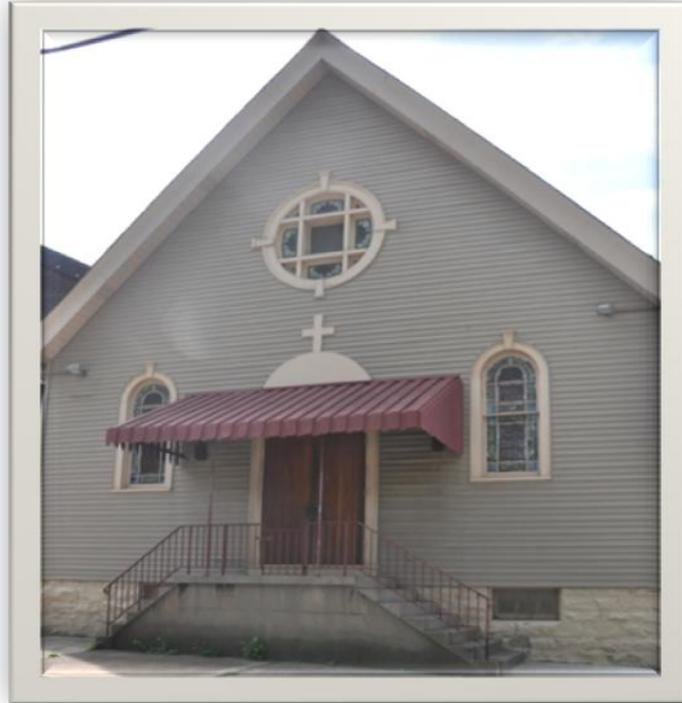


The Old Western False Front is depicted in almost every cowboy movie. These buildings are a constant reminder that, before Ohio and points beyond were settled, Pittsburgh was considered the Wild West.

Brick storefronts in Pittsburgh often have this feature, but false fronts on frame buildings like this one are less common. This style of architecture was most commonly used between 1860 and 1905. It hid a flat roof, and gave a building the appearance of being taller than it actually was.

There is a one-story house on Haldane Street that also has this Old Western False Front. The decorative frame has been covered by aluminum siding, but the basic structure of the false front is still evident.

SITE 26 – Saint Joachim Church Corner of Broadway and Four Mile Run



When the mills started recruiting Slovaks, they settled in the part of Greenfield known as The Run – shortened from Four Mile Run, the stream that ran through this neighborhood years ago. Most of these new immigrants were Catholic, but they couldn't attend Saint Rosalia Church because they didn't speak English. Even though Mass was in Latin, they needed priests who spoke Slovak to hear their confession.

The closest Slovak Catholic church was in Braddock. Braddock was a long trip by horse and buggy every Sunday. Slovak clergy who were already in America wrote to classmates in Slovakia for help in recruiting a priest for their new home. When they were finally successful, they obtained permission from the diocese to create Saint Joachim Church. The first Mass in St. Joachim Parish was celebrated on November 14, 1909 at the Marquette Hall at Second Avenue and Rutherglen Streets. The pastor was actually from Slovenia, but he spoke fluent Slovak.

Their first church was built in 1910. Like many churches we've talked about, it was quickly outgrown. This church was dedicated around 1914. It had a school, too, taught by Vincentian Sisters of Charity.

SITE 27 – Saint John Chrysostom Church Saline Street in The Run





This is another Slovak church, Saint John Chrysostom, on Saline Street in The Run. Saint John's is Byzantine Catholic and Saint Joachim's is Roman Catholic. St. John's congregation began in 1910, and parishoners met in a social hall until a church could be built. In 1917 they built their first church. The congregation continued to grow, and this church was built in 1935.

The people I talked to who attended St. John's told me they were Slovak. I was told later by a spokesperson from the Carpatho-Rusyn Society that he believed those people were actually Carpatho-Rusyn. He said that, because they were persecuted in their native country, people didn't always identify themselves as Carpatho-Rusyn.

The golden domes at the top of Saint John's are the ones you see on your right when you're traveling from downtown on the Parkway. Andy Warhol was baptized at St. John's. The church's splendor was enhanced when it was recently remodeled for its 100th anniversary.

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