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# Newsletter

July 2025

## About SHHS

The Squirrel Hill Historical Society (SHHS) is a membership organization established in 2000, committed to gathering, preserving, and celebrating the historical memories of our neighborhood. The SHHS sponsors a monthly lecture series on topics of interest primarily focused on Squirrel Hill and Pittsburgh history. Programs take place on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Church of the Redeemer, 5700 Forbes Ave. A Zoom option is also available.

### How to contact the SHHS:

P.O. Box 8157  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Website:  
**[squirrelhillhistory.org](http://squirrelhillhistory.org)**

Email:  
**[sqhillhist@shhsoc.org](mailto:sqhillhist@shhsoc.org)**

Most of our programs are recorded. If you would like to view past programs, go to [squirrelhillhistory.org](http://squirrelhillhistory.org) and click on the link "Squirrel Hill Past Program Videos and Events."

SHHS Newsletters are sent only to SHHS members. Past issues are posted on the password-protected Members page on the SHHS website. If you are a member and need the password, email the SHHS to request it be sent to you.

*The Squirrel Hill Historical Society, Inc. has been determined to be exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). All contributions to the SHHS, including dues, are deductible from federal taxes under Section 170 of the IRS Code.*



Squirrel Hill Historical Society

The Squirrel Hill Historical Society (SHHS) is committed to gathering, preserving, and celebrating the historical memories of our neighborhood. To submit an item of historical interest for publication, suggest a topic for a speech, ask a question, or give feedback, send an email to [sqhillhist@shhsoc.org](mailto:sqhillhist@shhsoc.org), or write to SHHS, PO Box 8157, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

## *You're invited to a Social celebrating the Squirrel Hill Historical Society's 25th Anniversary*

**Tuesday, July 8, from 7:30–9:30**

*See page 3 for further details.*

## President's Message

Dear SHHS Members:

Welcome to the July 2025 SHHS Newsletter!

I hope everyone will enjoy the many July 4 fireworks shows around Pittsburgh. Our city is the fireworks capital of the United States, with fireworks shows for all kinds of events. July 1st was Canada Day and July 4th is also Sidewalk Egg Fry Day. I have never tried frying an egg on the sidewalk, but it has been hot enough to work. And during the dog days of summer (July 3–August 11), you can enjoy Hammock Day (July 22) and swing while reading a book and having a cold drink.

The SHHS's 25th Anniversary Social has been planned for our July 8 program. We hope many of you will be able to attend this fun event, with socializing and the chance to meet the SHHS board and other members. The event will be from 7:30 until 9:30 p.m. at our usual meeting place at Church of the Redeemer. You will hear about the many exciting projects the SHHS is involved in. Refreshments will be served, and dessert will be the fabled Pittsburgh cookie table!

The 2025 Vintage Grand Prix race and car show will be in Schenley Park on July 19-20. To see the full 10-day event schedule, go to <https://pvgp.org>. The Pittsburgh Grand Prix is a world-class, one-of-a-kind automotive event inside a city park. This year is the 43rd anniversary of the race. It is the nation's largest event of its type.

Since we won't have a program in August, we'll see you on September 9 for what promises to be an interesting talk about "Red-Lining in Pittsburgh," presented by CMU professor Dr. Randy Weinberg.

Thank you for being great supporting members of SHHS!

Jim Hammond, President, SHHS

## SHHS Officers and Board

The SHHS is an all-volunteer organization. Board Members are Toby Chapman, Audrey Glickman, James Hammond, Tony Indovina, Stanley Klein, Todd Miller, Alex Musicante, Rod Permigiani, Charles Succop, Helen Wilson, Todd Wilson, and Eveline Young.

President: Jim Hammond

Vice-President and Newsletter Editor: Helen Wilson

Program Coordinators: Todd Miller and Toby Chapman

Membership Coordinator: Stanley Klein

Email Coordinator: Tony Indovina

Treasurer: Rod Permigiani

Media Specialists: Audrey Glickman, Alex Musicante

Website Manager: Janine Michael

Principal Researchers: Helen Wilson and Tony Indovina

All SHHS members are welcome to contribute articles, suggest programs, and participate in our activities.

## Editor's Note: Forgetting to Say No

Helen Wilson

When several of us SHHS members were greeting visitors at the Neill Log House on Sunday, June 29, we were laughing about forgetting to say no when asked to volunteer. We were covering for the Park Ranger assigned to the Neill Log House when it is open to visitors, who was not able to come that day. Why did we do it? Why do SHHS board members volunteer their time and efforts to help out at meetings, represent the SHHS at various historical and community events, schedule speakers for programs, send out program announcements and newsletters, record programs and upload them to YouTube, maintain our membership list, and do so much more to keep the SHHS running smoothly?

Some volunteers might tell you that volunteering is their way of giving back to their community. While that is true, what we choose to volunteer for is only part of the whole picture. For me, as well as for others on the SHHS board, it is also a way of following our passion for the history of our neighborhood and keeping it from being forgotten.

This month, the SHHS is celebrating its 25th year of existence, which couldn't have happened without the many volunteers who made it possible. Thank you!

## Upcoming SHHS Programs (Live and on Zoom) and Other Events of Interest

*UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, all programs are presented both live and on Zoom on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. unless inclement weather causes a program to be aired on Zoom only. In that case, a notice will be sent to members and those on our extended mailing list the day of the program. Live programs are held at Church of the Redeemer, 5700 Forbes Avenue. Free parking is available in the Church of the Redeemer and St. Edmund's Academy parking lots. Members will be sent a link to the Zoom program a few days before the program. Programs are recorded and put on YouTube and can be accessed a few days after the program through the "SHHS Past Programs and Events" link on our website.*

### Tuesday, July 8: Members' Social Celebrating the SHHS's 25th Anniversary

It's time to get together to celebrate the SHHS's 25th Anniversary! Members and guests are invited to a social gathering at Church of the Redeemer to celebrate the SHHS's own history. This event is open to members and everyone who is interested in learning more about the SHHS. See the next page for information about the event.

**Tuesday, August 12: No Meeting** The SHHS doesn't schedule programs in August, so see you in September!

### Tuesday, September 9: "Red-lining in Pittsburgh"

**Randy Weinberg**, Professor of Information Systems at CMU, will discuss the origins and substance of racial covenants and other discriminatory housing practices in the City of Pittsburgh throughout much of the previous century.

### Tuesday, October 14: "Tales from the Graves of Smithfield Cemetery"

In keeping with the spirit of Halloween, **Jan Kurth**, editor of *Print, Pittsburgh's East End Newspaper*, will share captivating stories about some of the people buried in Smithfield Cemetery.

### November 11: "Pittsburgh's Historic Stadiums and Arenas"

**Mark Fatla**, author of the book, *Pittsburgh's Historic Stadiums and Arenas*, will present information about many of the city's iconic sports venues, including Forbes Field, one of the first "modern" concrete and steel ballparks; PNC Park, the best of the new millennium's retro design movement; Schenley Casino and Duquesne Garden, the first artificial indoor ice rinks; and the engineering marvel of the Civic Arena's movable dome.

### Tuesday, December 9: "The ABCs of Pittsburgh Aviation"

*Western Pennsylvania History* magazine editor **Brian Butko** and public historian **Sue Morris** will discuss the thrilling early days of flying in their new book, *Bettis: Where Pittsburgh Aviation Took Off*. Beginning in the 1920s, the daredevil women and men of West Mifflin's Bettis Field helped shape the industry from barnstorming to passenger service in less than a decade. A book sale and signing will follow.



**You are invited to a Social celebrating  
the Squirrel Hill Historical Society's  
25th Anniversary**

**Tuesday, July 8, from 7:30–9:30**

**Church of the Redeemer  
5700 Forbes Avenue**

*Free parking is available in the church's parking lot.*

**It's time to get together to celebrate the SHHS's own history!**

SHHS members and guests are invited to a social gathering to celebrate the SHHS's 25th Anniversary. The evening will begin with a short program featuring introductions of SHHS board members, reports on projects the SHHS is working on, and recognition of those who have been SHHS members the longest. Displays will highlight the SHHS's past accomplishments and current activities. Light refreshments will be served.

After the program, attendees can share their memories of Squirrel Hill and the SHHS with each other, talk to board members, view information about upcoming programs, and learn what SHHS volunteering opportunities are available.

The event is free and open to anyone interested in learning more about the SHHS.

RSVPs are requested but not required. We just would like to get an idea of how many people to expect.

*SHHS members with email addresses on file will be emailed an invitation with an RSVP function in the July program announcements. Members without emails have been mailed an invitation. Although it is not necessary to RSVP, if you haven't received your invitation and would like to RSVP or would like more information, contact us at [sqhillhist@shhsoc.org](mailto:sqhillhist@shhsoc.org). Put "RSVP to 25th" in the Subject box. You can also send a note to SHHS, Box 8157, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.*

*We hope to see you at the Social!*



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## July Update on the Friends of Neill Log House (FONLH): Midsummer Report of First Season Activities for the Neill Log House

July 2025

*Tony Indovina, FONLH President and SHHS Board Member*



### Mission Statement for the Friends of the Neill Log House (FONLH Inc.)

Adopted February 2022

"We secure funds to restore and maintain the Neill Log House, foster knowledge of its historic significance, and work with interested parties to ensure the continued educational use of the structure and its site for future generations."

Individual support for the FONLH restoration effort will always be needed. To make online donations by credit card or PayPal, go to the SHUC website, [shuc.org](http://shuc.org), and click on the "Projects" link in the black menu bar at the top of the page. A pull-down menu will appear. Select "Friends of the Neill Log House." Alternatively, checks can be sent to SHUC (put FONLH in the memo line) at the following address: SHUC, 5604 Solway Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15217.



The Board of FONLH met in person, with Zoom option, for its most recent Quarterly Meeting on June 10th at the First Tee Clubhouse on the Bob O'Connor Golf Course. Thanks again to our Board Member and First Tee CEO Eric Amato for his continued hospitality.

On the agenda were some housekeeping items such as attending to very minor damage to the house's roof shakes from the major April winds that devastated so many trees throughout the area, including the large grove of mature trees right outside the house's fence. And there was the ongoing update on new activities of Groundhog Bob's burrowing along the chimney wall. In the short run, put your money on Bob over our contractor.



The split-rail fence shown in the drawing from a 1900 Pittsburgh Press article (above) was emulated in Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation's restoration in 1967 (below).



Mardi Isler, our Site Committee Chair, reported on the latest enhancement to our aluminum perimeter fence, closing the gaps in the fence on either side of the Catahecassa Monument. She also brought us up to date on the planning that our architect is engaged in for a period-style Virginia fence around the log house that will enclose a cleared area and period garden close to the house. Mardi is currently working with our landscaper to have all of this area mowed within the next few weeks. At the same time, she is continuing to work with groups to maintain and expand the tree planting that was begun in the fall.

A major goal of Mardi's and ours is also to identify groups or individuals who can be engaged in ongoing weeding of the site, to include the period garden when it is installed. Expect to see continued appeals go out to anyone or group with interest or expertise in grounds and garden maintenance. Anyone reading this update who is interested or can offer suggestions can use the CONTACT US button on the SHHS website, [squirrelhillhistory.org](http://squirrelhillhistory.org), or email us directly at [sqhillhist@shhsoc.org](mailto:sqhillhist@shhsoc.org).

The last—and most important—item of my President's Report was regarding the recent collaboration between the Pittsburgh Department of Parks and Recreation and FONLH. Our very special thanks go to the CEO of our Parks Department, the Supervisors of City Park Rangers, and, of course, the Ranger who has become the face of the Neill Log House for our opening season. See the article about her on the next page of this newsletter, "Introducing Ranger Emily."

**Note on volunteering for the Neill Log House:** There will be many opportunities for help going forward, including substitute docent work and other duties in the log house such as examining and preparing artifacts. There will also be much to do on the grounds, including taking care of the garden. If you are interested in volunteering, send us an email through CONTACT US on our SHHS website to express any interest and to inquire about specific help most needed.

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## **Interview with Ranger Emily, Docent for the Neill Log House**

July 2025

*Tony Indovina, with Park Ranger Emily Ehrenberger*

As we near what may be the midpoint of the first season of FONLH opening the Neill Log House to visitors, we are pleased to formally introduce the individual who has become the person who greets most people who visit there—Pittsburgh City Park Ranger Emily Ehrenberger.

Helen Wilson and I first had the pleasure of meeting and working with Ranger Emily more than a year ago, when she approached SHHS for help with Frick Park history for a project she was assigned as a seasonal Ranger, to put together some pieces to help educate both the Ranger staff and visitors to the park about its history.

As we interacted with Emily, who subsequently became a member of SHHS and shared her work with us, I was surprised to learn that she graduated from the northern suburban school district from which I retired as a high-school counselor after thirty-one years—Shaler Area High School. Though Emily graduated some years after I retired, we both knew some of the same teachers and counselors there. I had worked with one of her distant cousins in my early years.



When the decision was made by the CEO of Pittsburgh Parks and Recreation to form a collaboration with FONLH for a ranger to be assigned to the Neill Log House beginning this season, Helen and I were pleased to be able to work with Emily as the person assigned this duty. We and our FONLH Executive Committee now actively work with Emily and her Supervisor, Ranger Erica Heide, to set the schedule that is now maintained on the City Parks website, and coordinate all other duties Ranger Emily assumes at the Neill Log House two to three days a week as part of her total job responsibilities. Emily's position has now been elevated to full-time at both Frick and Schenley Parks. For the current schedule of openings and how to schedule a private tour, follow the link to the Neill Log House on the SHHS website, [squirrelhillhistory.org](http://squirrelhillhistory.org), or go directly to the City site at <https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/Recreation-Events/Park-Facilities/The-Neill-Log-House>.



Recently, I had the opportunity to interview Emily for our newsletter. Here is the new “Face” of the Neill Log House—Ranger Emily Ehrenberger!

*Q. Can you briefly describe your job description and all of your duties as a City Park Ranger, and how your presence at the Neill Log House fits in with your duties every week?*

*A.* My role as a City Park Ranger is very interdisciplinary. Part of our job falls within the realm of public safety, with duties such as patrolling the parks, enforcing city ordinances, and assisting in emergency response. The other half of the job involves parks and recreation, with duties such as facilitating public programming, visiting schools and senior centers, leading

guided hikes, and more. My presence at the Neill Log House aligns perfectly with the parks and recreation realm of my job, as it gives me a chance to lead public programming in a historical landmark and spread knowledge about Schenley Park's history to visitors.

*Q. Do you anticipate that you will maintain your involvement with our project during the off-season and into the fall and winter in other ways than working with the public visiting the house?*

*A.* During the off-season, I envision continuing to offer private tours for any group that would like to schedule one, whether that be for a family researching their heritage or a school group that expressed interest. I would also like to plan a few special events during the colder months to keep up the excitement surrounding the log house.



This could be anything from a “spooky” storytelling program around Halloween, a history hike, or a spinning wheel demonstration.

*Q. Have those experiences prepared you for other work you see that you might be involved in with the history of the Neill Log House?*

A. When I first was hired as a ranger in Frick Park, I was interested in learning more about the park’s history, both out of genuine curiosity and as a way to connect with park guests. I ended up creating a historical timeline of Frick Park that we display at pop-up events, as well as many social media posts pertaining to the park’s history. I think this gave me some great experience in being able to communicate historical knowledge in an entertaining and accessible way.

*Q. Can we go back and have you share your post-secondary educational and any significant work experiences, and explain how these prepared you to become a City Park Ranger?*

A. I graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2023 with a B.A. in Environmental Studies and a Certificate of Sustainability. During my time in college, I completed an internship with the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy as a Community Engagement Intern, which gave me some hands-on experience working within the Pittsburgh parks system. Although I wasn’t sure exactly which direction I wanted to take my career, I knew parks and recreation was one of my main interests.

I ended up applying for a part-time position as a City Park Ranger because of this interest, and have been here ever since. During this period, I also worked as a barista and for Friends of the Riverfront as a Seasonal Crew Leader, the latter of which gave me even more valuable experience working in the environmental field.

*Q. How did you first decide to become a Park Ranger and in what ways can you say that your docent work for the Neill Log House is fulfilling the reasons that you first had?*

A. My interest in becoming a park ranger stems from my love for parks. Green spaces, especially within the confines of a city, are places to sit back and relax, meet with your friends, create memories, and build community. As a Pittsburgh native, one of the things I love most about this city is the lush and expansive parks system we have. I truly feel grateful to play a role in keeping these parks safe and beautiful.

One of my goals as a ranger is to broaden the scope of our programming to include a wider range of interests, such as art and history. I think the Neill Log House is a wonderful addition to the repertoire of ranger-sponsored public programming and fills a space that was previously underrepresented.

*Q. Please go back further yet and share some of your earliest life and educational experiences that may have prepared you for what you are now doing—are there any individuals from our high school who may have strongly influenced you in where you are now in your life?*

A. As with many people, most of my main interests and goals stemmed from when I was in high school. My two favorite subjects were history and English. I remember being particularly influenced by my AP U.S. History teacher, whose enthusiasm for the subject, genuine care for the students, and ability to accommodate constructive criticism, inspired me.

I also first became interested in sustainability around this age due to the Gifted Education Program’s involvement in the subject. Each year we participated in the Phipps Conservatory Fairchild Challenge, which centered around environmental education initiatives. This helped me realize the importance of sustainability and was one of the driving factors in my decision to major in Environmental Studies in college.

*Q. Is there anything else you think our readers would like to know about you?*

A. At work, I have been deemed the “artsy” ranger! I enjoy a variety of crafts in my free time. I love to crochet, make jewelry, and paint. Whenever we need a new craft for a program, my supervisor always counts on me to come up with an idea.

My interest in arts & crafting inspired me to create the “Art in the Park” program, which is a monthly free canvas painting event during the warmer months. During this event, we welcome people of all ages and skill levels to come to the park and let nature inspire them. It’s a lot of fun seeing what art people create!

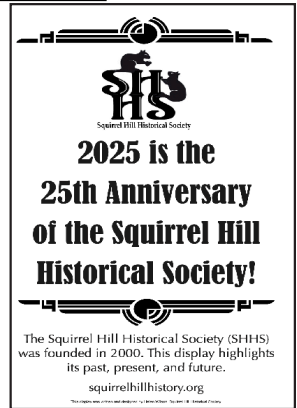
**July's "List of 25 ..."**

**Noteworthy Facts and Figures about Squirrel Hill**

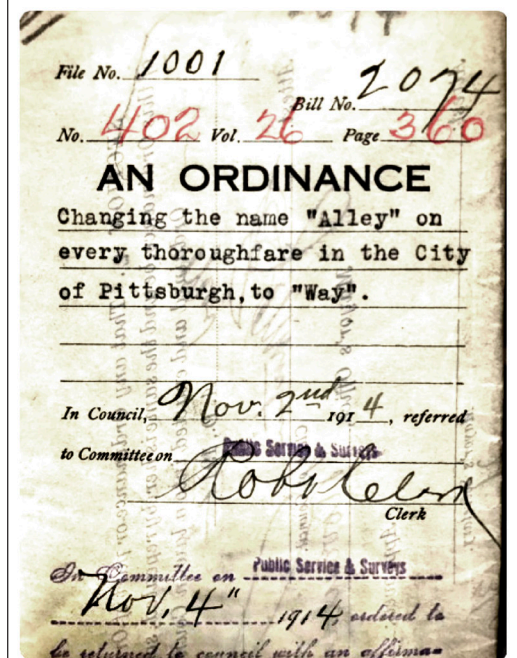
Helen Wilson

*Why do we love Squirrel Hill so much? The SHHS is continually researching its nooks and crannies to discover new and interesting things about the neighborhood. And indeed, it has more than its share of one-of-a-kind and unique things!*

1. **Squirrel Hill is the largest of Pittsburgh's 90 neighborhoods**, at 3.89 square miles, so large the City of Pittsburgh divided it into two neighborhoods—Squirrel Hill North and Squirrel Hill South—for census and tax purposes. Otherwise, it is universally considered to be a single neighborhood.
2. **Squirrel Hill is so large it has sub-neighborhoods** within it, including Murdoch Farms, Beacon Heights, The mile-long Forbes-Murray business district, Summerset, Munhall Road, and more.
3. **Squirrel Hill has the largest population** of all of Pittsburgh's neighborhoods at 26,500. Squirrel Hill South alone, at 15,317, has more people than any other neighborhood in the city.
4. **Squirrel Hill has the most diverse population** of all the city's neighborhoods, with people from all races and ethnicities, who range from very young to elderly, and who have a wide range of careers, interests, and religious beliefs.
5. **Squirrel Hill's development** began in the 1760s, when settlers, mostly Scots-Irish and German, began moving in. German Jews from Downtown and Allegheny City ( now the North Side) came in the late 1800s. Eastern European Jews moved from the Hill District and Oakland to Squirrel Hill in the first quarter of the 1900s, giving the neighborhood its distinctly Jewish character. The neighborhood has now become more diverse, with Asian and other ethnic restaurants and stores replacing grocery and retail stores that once catered to a mostly Jewish clientele.
6. **Squirrel Hill has more schools** than any other Pittsburgh neighborhood, among them two universities—Carnegie Mellon and Chatham; two public elementary schools—Pittsburgh Minadeo and Pittsburgh Colfax; Pittsburgh Alderdice High School; the Jewish Community Day School, Yeshiva Schools, and Hillel Academy; St. Edmund's Academy, and if you go by Pittsburgh's neighborhood boundaries map, even Central Catholic High School.
7. **Squirrel Hill has one of the few neighborhood theaters, the Manor**, left in Pittsburgh. Most have closed or been repurposed. Squirrel Hill used to have more theaters, including the Squirrel Hill Theater, the Forum, and the Guild (formerly the Princess and then the Beacon, and then it became Gullifty's restaurant). The oldest theater in Squirrel Hill was the Orpheum, opening before 1916, located where Uncle Sam's Subs is now on Forbes. Another long-gone, unnamed theater was in the Forward Lanes building.
8. **Squirrel Hill has over 200 roadways**, more than any other city neighborhood. They come in a variety of types, including streets, roads, avenues, boulevards, lanes, courts, ways, terraces, cul-de-sacs, private roads, paper streets, places, public steps, and trails. It even has an Interstate highway and tunnel. It has no alleys because in 1914, the city issued an ordinance mandating that all alleys be called "ways," deeming the word "alley" to have bad connotations (*right*).
9. **The Squirrel Hill Tunnel**, at 4,225 ft., is the seventh longest vehicular tunnel in Pennsylvania and the second longest in Pittsburgh, after the Liberty Tunnels. It is longer than the Fort Pitt Tunnel.
10. **The Blue Belt**, part of Allegheny County's Belt System, runs through Squirrel Hill, crossing the Homestead Grays Bridge and going up Browns Hill Rd. to Beechwood Blvd. to Monitor St., to Shady Ave.
11. **Squirrel Hill has more bridges** than any other neighborhood in Pittsburgh. Most, but not all, connect Squirrel Hill with other neighborhoods because Squirrel Hill is on high ground surrounded by valleys on all sides, including the Monongahela River valley, Nine Mile Run valley, Fern Hollow, Junction Hollow, Four Mile Run valley, the Saline St. ravine, and Fifth Ave., which is where the East Liberty valley begins.
12. **The Homestead Grays Bridge** is the longest bridge on the whole Monongahela River (excluding bridge ramps). It is also a very historic



Fun fact from the @PghArchives: In 1914 we changed the name of every "Alley" in Pittsburgh to "Way". This was thought to be more appealing because alleys were associated with crime.



bridge, the first of only a few Wichert Truss bridges ever built in the 1930s. Only around four remain. Squirrel Hill is lucky to have two. The other is the **Charles Anderson Bridge**. It was rehabilitated rather than demolished because of its historicity.

13. **Squirrel Hill has three watersheds**—Nine Mile Run on the east side, Four Mile Run on the west, and Negley Run on the north. Old maps show many creeks in Squirrel Hill, but all have been culverted except in the Frick and Schenley Parks. The only evidence of Negley Run in Squirrel Hill is Howe Springs—the charming but dilapidated little neoclassic temple on Fifth Avenue near Highland Avenue.
14. **The largest park in Pittsburgh is Frick Park**, with 644 acres. It opened in 1927, and is a different style of park from Schenley. It is wilder, with rougher terrain and no roads except Forward Ave./Commercial St. running through it, and the Fern Hollow Bridge going over it.
15. **The second-largest park in Pittsburgh is Schenley Park**, at 456 acres. Schenley is also one of the oldest, along with Highland Park. Both were dedicated in 1889 as bookends to Director of Public Works Edward M. Bigelow's sweeping pleasure drive of Beechwood Boulevard. (Allegheny Commons Park in the North Side is older, but that area was Allegheny City at the time, which was not annexed by the City of Pittsburgh until 1907.
16. **The Neill Log House** in Schenley Park, scientifically dated to c. 1795, is the oldest domestic log structure in the city. It underwent a complete restoration to historic standards over the past few years and is now open to visitors. Check the SHHS's website, [squirrelhillhistory.org](http://squirrelhillhistory.org), for visitation hours.
17. **The Bob O'Connor Golf Course at Schenley Park** is the last golf course in the City of Pittsburgh. It was originally called the Shady Side Golf Club, constructed by a group of East End businessmen. Its name was changed to **The Pittsburgh Golf Club** in 1897. It was a private golf club, but since it was built on public parkland, it was ceded to the city in 1911. The Pittsburgh Golf Club still exists because the stately clubhouse building was built outside the park.
18. **The Pittsburgh Country Club**, another private golf club, had been located in what became Frick Park on the fields behind the Blue Slide Playground. The country club building stood on the high ground at the far end of Riverview Trail. The club was founded in 1888 downtown by horse-riding enthusiasts, then moved to an old inn on the northwestern corner of Forbes and Shady. In 1900, the club bought a mansion where the off-leash dog area is in Frick park, and with increasing membership, built a new country club building on Country Club Hill in 1904. It closed in 1936.
19. **"Concrete Trail"** in Frick Park, in the ravine below Country Club Hill, has that name because it had been a dumping ground for years, and the trail is littered with large chunks of concrete, piles of bricks, and other detritus from many different deconstruction projects.
20. **A U.S. Army four-gun 90-mm anti-aircraft battery was located in Frick Park** during the Cold War from 1952 to 1955 in the old country club area beyond what is now Blue Slide Playground. Soldiers were stationed there in tents. The battery was placed there to defend local steel mills.
21. **Four of the very few creeks** in Pittsburgh that aren't culverted flow in Squirrel Hill—Phipps Run and Panther Hollow Creek in Schenley Park and Fern Hollow Creek and Nine Mile Run in Frick Park. Squirrel Hill also has **Panther Hollow Lake** in Schenley Park and the **Monongahela River**, which forms the southern boundary of the neighborhood.
22. **"Viewland"** was proposed in the early 1900s as a new name for Squirrel Hill because of the expansive views offered at various places in the neighborhood. Chestnut Ridge, around 30 miles away, can be seen from the heights of Frick Park, and people out for pleasure drives on Beechwood Boulevard would stop to enjoy the views from different vantage points on the road. The name change didn't happen.
23. **Summerset at Frick Park**, a beautiful new residential development, was built on top of a huge old slag dump in the early 2000s.
24. **Squirrel Hill extends from a riverbank to the top of the hill**, extending from the Monongahela River under the Homestead Grays Bridge at around 700 ft. above sea level to Beacon Heights near Beth Shalom, at 1200 ft.
25. **The Amtrak Washington Capitol Limited** runs through Squirrel Hill on the CSX railroad tracks in Duck Hollow.

## **Squirrel Hill Street Names Book Project Update**

*Helen Wilson*

The Squirrel Hill Street Names Book Project continues to move along. Two interesting things have happened. First, a group of talented people with different and complementary strengths in research has coalesced. Together, we are delving deeply into the history of Squirrel Hill's roadways. Second, we've been looking at ways AI can be helpful in our research—something new for those of us not familiar with it. A fuller report of progress will appear in the August newsletter. You can help! If you have any information to offer about your street's name, contact us at [sqhillhist@shhsoc.org](mailto:sqhillhist@shhsoc.org).