THE ALLEGHENY CONFERENCE ON Community Development

Presents...
PITTSBURGH and ALLEGHENY County

An Era of Progress and Accomplishment
Planning to Reality

Pittsburgh and Allegheny County view the future with faith and confidence. This optimism springs from the successful experience of the past decade—gained in undertaking a broad improvement program and in forging a pattern of partnership between private enterprise and local government that has refashioned this community and endowed it with a vibrant civic spirit.

Beginning
The story of Pittsburgh’s Renaissance begins when World War II was drawing to a close—when the future of the community was a matter of serious concern.

The central City visibly was tired, older and run-down. It was beset by many complex problems—a trend toward more intensive urbanization and, at the same time, a shift of certain segments of the population from the central City to the suburbs. The gravest problem of all was the fact that there was no organized effort to meet the challenge of the future. Hard economic facts were known, too—that vigorous growth had stopped and decline threatened.

A Challenge
With concern and interest and a concept of civic and social responsibility—deeper than anything in all the past here—Pittsburgh’s leadership accepted a challenge: to work and build together for a better community.

Fortune magazine stated the proposition well in February, 1947 when its editors wrote, “Pittsburgh is the test of industrialism everywhere to renew itself, to rebuild upon the gritty ruins of the past a society more equitable, more spacious, more in the human scale.”

Allegheny Conference
To bring unity and a fresh approach to community problems, Pittsburgh’s leaders formed the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. Created as the overall civic organization to marshal the community’s full energies and resources on a non-partisan basis, the Conference set out to plan and forward a comprehensive improvement-development program for the region as a whole.

Established in 1943 and chartered by the State a year later, the Conference is a non-profit, privately-financed citizens’ organization concerned with research, planning and action.

Instruments of Progress
Broad in scope and covering all phases of the region’s physical, economic, civic and cultural life, a number of the Conference’s studies pointed to the need for wholly new local governmental agencies to cope with the community’s urban needs. State legislation and action by the City and County brought into being various authorities and commissions empowered to attack local problems on a much broader scope than could local government, acting under existing law and financial limitations.

With the establishment of these new public agencies, the role of the Allegheny Conference changed to some extent—from primarily fact-finding and study to a cooperating and coordinating role, helping the public bodies clear the way and carry forward their projects. The Conference continues to assist and function in this capacity.

The contributions and remarkable accomplishments of these new instruments of local government are set forth within these pages.

Government and Public Officials
As a non-partisan citizens’ organization, the Allegheny Conference cannot legislate or enact. It looks to the elected public officials for action where public policy, legislation and appropriations are required to carry out projects.

Local, State and Federal governments have contributed in full measure to the advancement of the community program, without regard to partisan politics.

In the City of Pittsburgh, the Mayor, City Council and the departments of City government have given wholehearted cooperation. Through the Board of Commissioners and the County agencies, Allegheny County has been an active, participating partner.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its departments, under the leadership of the Governors in the several administrations that have been in power during this era of rebirth, have advanced the program immeasurably. Members of both political parties in the State Legislature have supported it and passed vital enabling legislation which the City and County needed before local action could be taken. The United States Senators, members of Congress from this region and the Federal departments concerned with area projects have aided the program significantly.

Citizen Action
Facts and laws alone are inarticulate and inanimate. Only people are gifted with vision and imagination to act intelligently and courageously, and with capacity to mold a community to their will and needs.

Pittsburgh is fortunate indeed in its patriotic citizenry. Since the dawn of this new era, Pittsburghers have caught the vision of the potentialities of this dynamic industrial center.

Today several hundred of its citizens from every segment of life are furnishing the leadership and talent in private civic organizations. These devoted citizens are also serving, without compensation, on many committees, boards, authorities and other agencies of government established by the City, County and State to implement the program.

The record of this renaissance follows in word and picture.

Business, Civic and Labor Leaders, Educators and Public Officials
Unite To Build A Fuller, Richer Community Life
The Conference was created out of the community's industrial, business, labor, public administration and educational leadership to achieve unity and bring combined civic strength to the task of community rebuilding and development.

Objective
Its purpose is always to work for the sound growth and healthy development of the Allegheny region. Through planning and research, the Conference stimulates and coordinates the development of a comprehensive unified plan and program for the region as a whole and provides civic leadership to carry it forward. One of its major objectives is to secure and obtain broad public support and community action for the plan and recommendations it proposes.

The media of public information in the Pittsburgh district—the newspapers, radio and television stations—have kept the public fully informed and given vital support to the program.

Organization
Self-established in the beginning and self-perpetuating, the Allegheny Conference is composed of a Citizen's Sponsoring Committee with an authorized membership now of 100.

The body elected from its membership the officers and an Executive Committee, who have the responsibility of directing its functions. The Executive Committee is divided into three subcommittees—a committee on planning and development, a committee on economic and financial development and a committee on cultural and recreational advancement. Specific projects in the program fall within the purview of these subcommittees.

An executive director is responsible for administration, all operations and carrying out the policies of the Conference, under the Executive Committee. A small professional staff, and occasionally consultants in specialized fields, assist the executive director.

Planning Studies
Study and research have been the foundation on which the area's improvement-redevelopment program has been developed. Covering virtually every aspect of urban life, these studies have been made for the Conference by citizens' working committees, the staff, professional consultants and by other private agencies with whom the Conference works and operates.

These agencies include the Pennsylvania Economy League, the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association, the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, the Civic Club of Allegheny County, the Health and Welfare Federation and the Regional Industrial Development Corporation. The Conference also works with the City and County Planning Commissions on various projects.

The wide variety of subjects studied, reported on and published embraces land-use, highways, parking, county-wide recreational facilities, county-wide libraries, educational television, a factual housing inventory, a projection of future needs and demands for housing in the County, mass transportation, county-wide refuse disposal, care of the chronically ill aged, economics and availability of industrial sites, feasibility of a river-rail-truck terminal, trends in area agriculture, domestic consumption of solid fuels and many other subjects.

Community Development Program
In broad terms, the community improvement-redevelopment program which the Allegheny Conference is spearheading and coordinating covers these major elements:
- Cleaner Air
- Clean Rivers and Streams
- Conservation of Resources
- Flood Prevention
- Highway Improvements
- Point Redevelopment
- Urban Redevelopment and Renewal
- Increased Educational Resources
- More and Better Housing
- Greater Recreational Opportunities
- Ample Parking Facilities
- Improved Mass Transportation
- Adequate Airports
- Economic Growth and Expansion
- Expanded Health and Welfare Facilities
- Agricultural Development
- Enriched Cultural Opportunities

Pittsburgh Civic-Business Council
The operating budget of the Conference is provided through the Pittsburgh Civic-Business Council. This Council is the central fund-raising and coordinating agency for the Better Business Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Convention Bureau and the Allegheny Conference. The Council raises annually through solicitation from the Pittsburgh business community approximately $400,000, of which the Conference budget is about one-fourth.

In addition, the Conference receives grants for specific planning studies and projects from individuals, foundations and trusts, corporate interests and other sources.

United Community Action
The community development program has never been precisely set down or drafted into a master plan. It is as varying, evolving and changing as the reasons of the year and as fluid as the times in which we live. It is bold and imaginative and yet practical and realistic—capable of being accomplished for the benefit of this generation and yet designed for the wider horizons of tomorrow.

Through united community action, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are working to fulfill their highest aspirations.
A Great Industrial City...

By Day

At Dusk

By Night

Sparkles With New Life!
Pittsburgh’s central business district—the Golden Triangle—is the business and financial center of the Tri-State area, with a drawing power of 6,000,000 people. Located at the headwaters of the Ohio Industrial Valley, the Triangle is the hub of the area’s traffic ways and its vast transportation system. In addition to its regional importance, the Triangle is also the vital tax base of the City and County—accounting for about one-fourth and one-tenth of assessed valuations, respectively.

Approximately 330 acres in size, the Triangle is one of the most compact business districts in the United States. The Allegheny and Monongahela merge and form the Ohio River, at what is commonly called the Point. The area lying between these two rivers and extending nearly a mile eastward from the juncture comprises the famous Golden Triangle.

The renaissance began at the Point in 1945. This was the oldest part of the City—a section where blight and decay had made deep inroads over the years. It was the logical point for a beginning.
Since 1945 almost one-fourth of the Triangle has been rebuilt. Forty-four new buildings have been erected of which ten are major structures—and more are underway and in design. Many others have been reconstructed and renovated.

The new, imposing skyscrapers of steel, aluminum and glass have not only added new values to the Triangle and changed dramatically Pittsburgh’s skyline—they exemplify the City’s resurgence.

Furthermore, the rebuilding of the central business district has reversed impressively the trend in assessed valuations. The assessments on taxable properties in the first and second wards of Pittsburgh, which comprise roughly the downtown section, have risen from $253,802,156 in 1948 to $307,915,125 in 1955, representing an increase of 21% in seven years.

The rebirth of the Triangle has strengthened immeasurably the whole fabric of the community.
The promenade along the Allegheny River showing the waterfront bleachers, where up to 3,000 spectators can enjoy regattas and other aquatic and outdoor events.

"Through this river-gate poured the tide of conquest, of trade and of ideas which made America."

The strategic Point area was of decisive significance in United States history. It was here in 1758 that the British forces defeated the French and determined the destiny of the American colonies as an English-speaking nation.

Pittsburghers had dreamed for many years of reclaiming this historic site, which time decayed into a commercial slum.

Point Park has been the springboard for much of the Triangle's spectacular rebirth. Without the Park, it is doubtful if Gateway Center would have materialized. It will also be the focus for the celebration of Pittsburgh's Bicentennial in 1958 because it is at the Point that the City started.

In 1945 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania announced that it would build a 36-acre State Park at the forks of the Ohio. The construction of the Park is under the direction of the State Department of Forests and Waters, with the State Highway Department in charge of building the bridges and interchange.

At the request of the Department of Forests and Waters, the Allegheny Conference accepted responsibility for coordinating the planning, and organized the Point Park Committee in December, 1945. The same year a concept for the development of the Park was presented by the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association to the Conference.

A basic land-use plan, based on studies financed by the Conference, was approved by the State in 1951. The natural, primeval conditions that inspired the early pioneers are being recreated in the 18 acres at the Point. This State Park will be dedicated to the historic ties with the past. A policy recommended by the Point Park Committee and approved by the Commonwealth—stating that only historic events and personalities that symbolize the significance of the Point and of the frontier forts prior to the year 1800 shall be memorialized—was adopted in 1953.

Due to the constricting hills and rivers, vital highway connections—the Fort Pitt and Fort Duquesne Bridges and the Point Interchange—are an integral part of the plan of development.

In the nine acres between Gateway Center and the Interchange, there will be opportunities for active and passive outdoor fun and relaxation for all.

The 160-foot Gateway Portal, beneath the Interchange, will open up an unbroken sweep of the rivers and the western hills beyond.

Point State Park perpetuates the importance of Pittsburgh as the Gateway to the West and restores the beauty of this historic tract of land at the headwaters of the Ohio for the enjoyment of all the people.
Demolition under way along Penn Avenue in the Gateway Center area—September, 1950.

A total of 93 buildings was demolished to make way for Gateway Center. Demolition began on June 15, 1950.

Gateway Center—the new commercial district in the Lower Triangle—represents a fresh concept in urban planning and business living.

The opportunity to redevelop the 23 acres adjoining Point Park and thus reconstruct the original part of the City in a single swoop arose in 1946—a challenge that few cities have in many generations. That year a widespread fire largely destroyed the terminal facilities of the Pittsburgh and West Virginia Railroad, the largest property owner.

This project was first proposed by the Point redevelopment committee of the Conference, which recommended that the 23 acres bordering Point Park be rebuilt through private enterprise. Prior to the creation of the Redevelopment Authority, the Allegheny Conference in July, 1946, made the initial contacts to secure the interest of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U. S.

Redevelopment Authority

On November 18, 1946, the Mayor and City Council of Pittsburgh created the Urban Redevelopment Authority. In March, 1947, the City Planning Commission certified the whole Point area of 39 acres for redevelopment. After this required step, the Authority then negotiated a contract with Equitable Life as the redeveloper—for the nation's first commercial redevelopment, without Federal aid. In 1950 the Mayor and City Council approved the proposal, whereby the Authority agreed to assemble the land and transfer it to Equitable at acquisition cost, subject to land-use controls.

Since this was the first project of its kind in the United States, the test of its legality was to be expected. The Pennsylvania Redevelopment Act of 1945, and its application to this project, was upheld overwhelmingly in the State and Federal courts in historic decisions.

A New Planned District

The assessed valuation of the Gateway Center area prior to redevelopment was $6,315,074. Today Equitable Life's investment alone in Gateway Center is more than $45,000,000. These stainless steel skyscrapers have increased by 1,900,000 square feet the Triangle's rental office space.

A new 16-story State Office Building and the western headquarters for the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania are also in Gateway Center, on land purchased from Equitable.

In June, 1956, the Hilton Hotels Corporation announced its plans to build a Pittsburgh Hilton facing Point Park.

Gateway Center has emerged as an outstanding example of a commercial redevelopment project. Today it is the headquarters for many of the nation's leading corporations.

The first steel for the Gateway Center buildings goes into place on January 23, 1951.

Gateway Center from Point Park—with the 16-story State Office Building at the right. The Fort Pitt Block House is hidden in the cluster of trees.

Gateway Center

Ball of Pennsylvania's 12-story western headquarters building—Boulevard of the Allies and Stanwix Street.

In this woodland park business district, land coverage is less than 30%.
Rising 410 feet in the heart of the Triangle, the Alcoa skyscraper is the headquarters of the Aluminum Company of America.

Mellon Square Park—a harmony of fountains and cascades and flowers and trees.

**Midtown Triangle**

This beautiful park with its trees, flowers, fountains and cascades creates a new dimension in the Golden Triangle.

Most of the world’s great cities have a central square which reflects the character of the city and its people. Mellon Square Park embodies the personality and character of Pittsburgh—in the vision, civic spirit and philanthropy of the family that made the project possible, in its setting amid towering skyscrapers fashioned from the products that give the City its strength and vitality, in the perfection of its workmanship and in its simplicity and grandeur.

Bordering Mellon Square are the 525 William Penn Place Building, the Alcoa skyscraper, the Henry W. Oliver Building and the Penn-Sheraton Hotel.

Known popularly as the Mellon-U. S. Steel building, the 41-story 525 William Penn Place Building was fully occupied in February, 1952 and houses the general offices of the United States Steel Corporation and the principal offices of the Mellon National Bank and Trust Company.

America’s first aluminum skyscraper, the 31-story Alcoa Building is the headquarters of the Aluminum Company of America and was dedicated in September, 1953.

As part of the midtown revitalization, both the Oliver Building and the Penn-Sheraton Hotel have been extensively refurbished and their exteriors cleaned.

Near Mellon Square are the 22-story, 650-room Hotel Carlton House and the Bigelow Apartments, the Triangle’s first modern apartment house, both completed in 1952.

With Mellon Square Park, a new era dawned in the life of the midtown Triangle.
Mellon Square

Mellon Square in the center of the Triangle expresses the spirit of Pittsburgh's Renaissance

A crowning achievement in Pittsburgh's Renaissance, Mellon Square Park brings for the first time an openness and spaciousness to the center of downtown.

The Square, in the heart of the midtown Triangle, consists of a one-acre surface Park erected above a six-level underground public parking garage.

In April, 1949 the Mellon family initiated the project by advising the Mayor and City Council of its desire to give this site to the City for a park. The City willingly accepted.

Three Mellon family foundations—the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust, the Richard King Mellon Foundation and the Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation—made grants of more than $4,400,000 toward the project. Land acquisition and demolition amounted to $3,750,000, and the cost of constructing the Park was $665,000.

At the request of the foundations, the Allegheny Conference served as the contracting and disbursing agent for the construction of the Park.

The City of Pittsburgh and the Public Parking Authority signed an agreement with the Morrison-Knudsen Company and the H. K. Ferguson Company as joint venturers—leasing to them for 38 years the underground rights at Mellon Square. In return, they agreed to build, finance and operate the garage, which cost approximately $3,500,000 to construct. At the conclusion of the 38-year amortization period, the facility reverts to the City. The garage can accommodate 1,000 cars at one time.

In concept, design and beauty, Mellon Square is unequalled. The Park is an array of colorful fountains, fountain pools, cascades, terrazzo walks, and inviting granite benches. There are thousands of trees, plants, shrubs and flowers of many different varieties planted within its borders. Nine huge elevated bronze basins, especially cast, form the main fountain pool. It is maintained by the City Department of Parks and Recreation.

On October 18, 1955 Mellon Square Park was presented by Richard K. Mellon, in behalf of the Mellon family, to the City of Pittsburgh and dedicated to the memory of Andrew W. Mellon and Richard B. Mellon.
Parking

Adequate off-street parking is essential to a modern, dynamic business district. Pittsburgh’s Public Parking Authority has answered this inescapable fact by constructing a planned system of off-street parking garages.

Since its creation in 1947, the Authority has accomplished a major building program in the central business district, which has contributed immensely to the Golden Triangle’s rebirth.

Construction

Governed by a five-member, non-paid board, the Authority has planned, financed and erected four open-deck garages in the Triangle—with a capacity of 2,920 car spaces. Jointly with the City of Pittsburgh, it negotiated a long-term lease with a private concern for the construction and operation of a 1,000-car underground garage at Mellon Square Park. In addition, the agency has acquired a site at Ninth Street and Penn Avenue—now a parking lot—and is planning another structure there.

40% Gain

Altogether, these facilities—with over 4,100 spaces—have resulted in a net gain of 40% in the total number of off-street parking spaces over those in existence in the Triangle in 1946. This remarkable increase has been achieved during the biggest building boom in the Triangle’s history, at a time when many lots were being withdrawn for building sites.

First of the Authority’s open-deck garages, the Boulevard Garage at Bigelow Boulevard and Sixth Avenue has 756 car spaces.

The Allies Garage—with 528 car spaces—at the Boulevard of the Allies and Smithfield Street is a six-level, sloping-floor type.

This circular-ramp Third Avenue Garage was opened in November, 1952 and can handle 756 cars at one time.

Opened in November, 1955, the Diamond Street facility has 864 car spaces. The commercial character of Smithfield Street has been maintained by providing for commercial store space fronting on this important shopping street.

Financial Program

To finance site acquisition and the construction of its parking structures, the Authority has sold two revenue bond issues—an initial issue of $6,000,000 in 1951 and $5,750,000 in 1954. The City of Pittsburgh pledged part of its parking meter revenues as a loan to guarantee interim bank borrowing, and as collateral for the 1951 financing.

The garages are operated under a management lease contract, with the Authority retaining policy and rate control.

The impetus which led to legislation and the organization of Pittsburgh’s Parking Authority came from a downtown parking study made by the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association in 1946 for the Allegheny Conference.

Parking Studies

Surveys and studies of the parking needs in other City business districts are under way and programs are being developed by local business interests and the Authority to meet them. The Allegheny Conference and the Authority are co-sponsoring a parking study of the Oakland district.

Other Parking Authorities

Many municipalities throughout Allegheny County and surrounding counties—encouraged by the success of Pittsburgh—have implemented the State legislation and established parking authorities in their communities to meet local situations.
Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle

Projects completed or underway, 1946-1956

1. Point Park Fountain, Pool and Plaza
2. Fort Duquesne Tracery
3. Fort Pitt Tracery
4. Fort Pitt Blockhouse
5. Monongahela Bastion
6. Flag Bastion
7. Gateway Portal
8. Entrance Bridge over excavated Fort Pitt Rampart
9. Allegheny Overlook
10. New Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel

11. Gateway Center Building No. 1
12. Gateway Center Building No. 2
13. Gateway Center Building No. 3
14. State Office Building
15. Bell Telephone Building
16. Remington Rand Building
17. Third Avenue Garage
18. Gateway to the Allegheny
19. Rust Engineering Building
20. United Engineering Building
21. Alcoa Building
22. Mellon Square Park
23. Mellon-U. S. Steel Building
24. Kaufmann's Department Store Addition
25. Diamond Street Garage (Public Parking Authority)
26. Allies Garage (Public Parking Authority)
27. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station and new Facilities
28. Federal Reserve Bank Addition
29. Pennsylvania R.R. Warehouse and Terminal
30. Hotel Carlton House
31. Boulevard Garage (Public Parking Authority)
32. Bigelow Apartments
33. Diamond-Forbes Building
34. Duquesne University Campus
35. Crosstown Boulevard
36. Lower Hill Redevelopment Area
37. All-Purpose Civic Auditorium Site
38. Civic Building—200 Ross St.
Glimpsing the future of the Lower Hill, Pittsburgh foresees the realization of a long-cherished hope. This gigantic redevelopment involves rehousing families in decent homes, erasing the City's worst slum, erecting a long-needed auditorium-convention hall and opening the way for apartments in a park-like setting adjacent to the Triangle.

This is one of the nation's most dramatic redevelopment projects and is being directed by Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority. Its attainment will give new life to a dying section of the City and, in reality, extend the Golden Triangle by almost one-third.

**Redevelopment Plan**

Covering 95 acres, the ultimate plan of development envisages a wholly changed land-use pattern and when reached may well exceed $100,000,000 in public and private expenditures.

| All-Purpose Civic Auditorium | 20 acres |
| Other Cultural & Recreational Uses | 10 acres |
| Park Apartment Homes | 14 acres |
| Business & Commercial Development | 19 acres |
| Grostown Boulevard, Major Thoroughfares & Streets | 32 acres |
| Total | 95 acres |

At the request of the Redevelopment Authority, the Allegheny Conference studied the area's potentialities and presented its recommendations and over-all plan to the Authority in February, 1953.

**Present Conditions**

This densely populated area is now a welter of substandard housing, run-down commercial structures and a narrow and obsolete pattern of streets and alleys.

About 1,935 families live here. The relocation of these families is being guided by the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh and a Citizens' Advisory Committee. The area was certified as subject to redevelopment by the City Planning Commission in August, 1950.

**Action**

A cooperative agreement with the Redevelopment Authority was signed by the Mayor and City Council in July, 1955. As required by law, the City Planning Commission had previously approved the plans.

The Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency, which is providing substantial grants and loans to finance the redevelopment, announced its approval in September, 1955.

Large public slum clearance projects cannot be financed by local government alone. The Lower Hill project includes participation and financing by the four levels of government—the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Federal government. The Pittsburgh School District cooperated by the donation of its interest in public properties in the area.

Property acquisition began in March, 1956, and the first demolition took place two months later.

The renaissance of this valuable tract of land will be the fulfillment of a daring idea that was started at just the right time in Pittsburgh's history.
An all-purpose Auditorium overlooking the Golden Triangle is the cornerstone in the reconstruction of the Hill. A spacious Mall will open a striking vista of downtown and the Hill development.

Auditorium Authority

The Public Auditorium Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County—a joint City-County agency created in February, 1954—will build and operate the arena, which will occupy a 20-acre site in the area.

Combining in one dramatic building an amphitheater, sports arena, convention hall and exhibit center, this facility will be so flexible and adaptable that it will have year-round usage and, thus, an impressive earning potential. An adjustable seating arrangement—for 7,500 to 14,000 people, according to the event—has been planned.

Unique Roof

The immense roof structure, with a diameter of 415 feet, will be the largest dome in the world. Composed of metal, the roof will consist of eight pie-shaped sectors, six of them movable. As the roof is opened, these six sectors will move over the two fixed sectors, which will be reinforced and supported by a huge steel arm anchored at the rear and, in effect, constituting a giant cantilever spanning to a central point over the amphitheater.

In the summertime with the roof open and the elaborate stage in use, the arena will be an amphitheater for summer operettas and other spectacles under the stars. In case of rain, the press of a button will close the roof.

Conventions and Sports

At other times of the year with the roof closed, the Auditorium will be converted into a convention hall and sports arena. For the first time, Pittsburghers will have a suitable arena for sports of all kinds—from ice hockey to basketball and boxing.

With its unusual stage, air-conditioning, flexible seating, facilities for televising and broadcasting and separate exhibit space, the Auditorium will provide this region with a superb structure for conventions, trade shows and for events of all kinds.

Exhibit space—adequate for most of the big conventions and exhibitors—will be another feature of this extraordinary building.

Financing

The construction of the Auditorium, which will cost at least $14,000,000, will be financed through a combination of public and private funds and a revenue bond issue. The City and County are contributing $1,500,000 each, the Edgar J. Kaufmann Charitable Trust is giving $1,000,000, and contributions from corporations, other foundations and the general public will exceed $2,000,000. The balance will be financed on a long-term basis.

The 20-acre site worth $2,000,000 is being leased from the Redevelopment Authority.

Culture and Recreation

A 10-acre tract to the east of the Auditorium will be reserved for future cultural and recreational usage. A symphony-grand opera hall has been proposed for this site.

New Apartments

A new apartment district on the threshold of downtown, capable of housing 1,000 families, is planned for the 12 acres allocated for residential usage. Commercial usage will require 19 acres, thus extending the Triangle eastward and enlarging the central business district by almost one-third.

Crosstown Boulevard

The Crosstown Boulevard—a vital link in the Triangle's marginal highway system—will extend across the base of the Hill and will connect in its initial phase from the Liberty Bridge to Seventh Avenue. The City and County will build this section from Forbes Street to Bigelow Boulevard at Seventh Avenue. It will cost about $5,275,000; the State Highway Department will construct the section from the Liberty Bridge to Forbes Street. Eventually the Crosstown will connect to the North Side by a high-level bridge and a system of ramps to Fort Duquesne Boulevard.

A wholly new traffic pattern has been laid out for the Lower Hill, including new Wylie-Center Avenue which will be a six-lane thoroughfare.

Provision for adequate parking in the area for the arena and the other Hill developments has been a primary consideration in the planning.

This bold plan is now moving toward reality.
Airports

Designed and built with the future in view, the Greater Pittsburgh Airport serves the whole Tri-State district and is one of the world's outstanding air travel centers.

Commercial airline service began at Greater Pittsburgh in May, 1952, and today six trunk line carriers link this metropolitan area directly with all the principal cities in the United States. Several local service carriers also serve this airport.

An Allegheny County Project

The Greater Pittsburgh Airport is owned, operated and maintained by the County through its Department of Aviation.

More than 1,600 acres in size, the big Moon Run airfield represents a total investment at the present time of almost $33,000,000. This includes $24,700,000 spent by the County, $7,600,000 in Federal funds expended by the Civil Aeronautics Administration and the military and $600,000 by the State.

One of the busiest in the country, the airport handles as high as 700 aircraft movements daily—of which 50% are by scheduled airlines. The tremendous increase in air traffic volume has made a sizable expansion of facilities imperative. Construction of a new East Dock now under way will provide for 10 additional gate positions. A land acquisition program to extend the field and to provide for other new facilities is included in the capital improvements programmed for construction.

Accessibility

Regular air taxi service transports airline passengers from other airports in the County and the surrounding counties to Greater Pittsburgh. The Airport Parkway, connecting with the Penn-Lincoln Parkway West, provides direct access from the airport to downtown Pittsburgh, and with other major traffic arteries. It makes Greater Pittsburgh one of the most accessible airports to a central business district in the United States—just 20 minutes driving time from downtown when the new Fort Pitt Bridge and Tunnel are opened.

A number of heliports are in operation throughout this area and furnish service to communities within a 60 mile radius.

Terminal Building

The spacious and striking terminal building is virtually a little city within itself, providing excellent facilities for the air traveler. It is also a popular attraction for sightseers and the pride of Pittsburghers. There are over 60 hotel rooms in the building, shops, services and conveniences of all kinds. A spectacular glass-enclosed skyview dining room and night club overlooks the field.

Virtual a little city within itself—Greater Pittsburgh Airport.
Population and Land Area

Allegheny County (745 square miles) 1,515,237* (including Pittsburgh)
City of Pittsburgh (57 square miles) 676,806*

*1959 U.S. Bureau of the Census

In addition to these Major Projects, the Pennsylvania Department of Highways, the County of Allegheny and the City of Pittsburgh have spent many millions of dollars to build, reconstruct, widen and improve many miles of highways, bridges, roads and streets during this period.
No urban community has enough modern highways to move today's tremendous and ever-increasing traffic volumes—smoothly, efficiently and safely.

Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are no exception—in spite of an ambitious highway and bridge building program that has been moving steadily forward during this era of rebirth.

Penn-Lincoln Parkway

The biggest project in this highway program is the Penn-Lincoln Parkway—a non-toll, limited access highway being built by the State Highway Department to carry routes 22 and 30 into and through the City.

Locally, it provides a direct access to the Pennsylvania Turnpike in the East and a direct connection with the Greater Pittsburgh Airport in the West.

Parkway East

On June 5, 1953 seven miles of the Parkway East were opened to traffic. The remaining two and one-half miles from Bates Street to the Point Interchange in the Triangle are now in construction. Six interchanges are designed for maximum efficiency—for access and egress.

The Parkway East, costing approximately $4,000,000 a mile, has been financed by the State Highway Department, with matching Federal funds and a contribution of $5,000,000 from the County and $1,000,000 from the City.

Parkway West

On October 15, 1953 the Parkway West, extending from the Saw Mill Run Boulevard Interchange to the Campbell's Run Road Cloverleaf on routes 22 and 30 was opened—a distance of 10 miles.

This section of the Parkway—with its six interchanges—cost approximately $16,000,000 and was built by the State Highway Department, with the State Highway and Bridge Authority financing certain sections.

Fort Pitt Bridge and Tunnel

The new double-deck Fort Pitt Bridge, which will carry Parkway traffic across the Monongahela River, is in construction.

Construction of the 3,600-foot long Fort Pitt Tunnel will be started in late 1956. The twin-tube project under Mt. Washington will connect directly with the Parkway East and West between the Saw Mill Run Boulevard Interchange and the Fort Pitt Bridge.

West End By-Pass

Until the Fort Pitt Bridge and Tunnel are opened to traffic, the West End By-Pass—a limited access highway—affords a connection from the Parkway West to the Triangle. After the Bridge and Tunnel are in service, this By-Pass will continue to be an important connection to the West End-North Side Bridge.

Route 22—East

The widening of route 22 to four lanes, from the terminus of the Parkway to the Pittsburgh Interchange on the Turnpike, is under way.

The rapid growth of Monroeville and the commercialization of route 22 emphasizes the need for an extension of the Parkway East itself to the Turnpike. Engineering surveys to accomplish this are now in progress.

Pennsylvania Turnpike

In 1953 the 67-mile western extension of the Turnpike to the Ohio line was opened, bringing Pittsburgh's Triangle within 15 miles of the Turnpike.

Airport Parkway

In 1951 Allegheny County completed the five-mile Airport Parkway at a cost of $5,000,000—from routes 22 and 30 to the Greater Pittsburgh Airport.

Ohio River Boulevard

Studies for the route of the Pittsburgh Extension of the Ohio River Boulevard through the North Side, and its connection with the Fort Duquesne Bridge, have been completed. In the vicinity of Glenfield, a three and one-half mile stretch of this Boulevard has been reconstructed.

Fort Duquesne Bridge and Boulevard

The design of the Fort Duquesne Bridge is in progress—a project of high priority on the State program for this area.

In the Triangle, the elevated railroad tracks which were formerly along Fort Duquesne Boulevard have been removed, and the center Mall has been landscaped and planted.
Program

Sharpsburg-Elma By-Pass

A new expressway is being built by the State Highway Department from Blawnox through Elma—a relocation of routes 8 and 28 involving more than five miles of highway construction on new location. Construction of the first stage of this four-lane, limited access expressway is now under way.

Plans for the rebuilding of East Ohio Street from Millvale to the North Side have been completed, and the project has been programmed for construction.

Crosstown Boulevard

The Crosstown Boulevard from the Liberty Bridge to Seventh Avenue will be built by the City and County, as part of the Lower Hill redevelopment—with the State Highway Department constructing the section from the Bridge to Forbes Street. In a later phase, the Crosstown will be extended by an overpass behind the Pennsylvania Railroad station to Fort Duquesne Boulevard.

North Pittsburgh

A high level bridge across the Allegheny River, extending from the Crosstown Boulevard to East Street on the North Side, has been projected. It will be considered in future highway programming. This proposal also envisages a limited access highway parallel to East Street from the proposed North Side High Level Bridge to McKnight Road.

In 1954 the State Highway Department completed a three-mile extension of McKnight Road from its northern terminus to route 19.

City of Bridges

A number of major spans have been completed by the State Highway Department in the last few years—the inter-county Tarentum Bridge and the new Elizabeth Bridge.

Allegheny County Bridges

During the last five years, Allegheny County has completed the Rankin, Mansfield and Fleming Park Bridges—carrying out one of the biggest and most costly bridge building programs in its history.

The long-range public works program of Allegheny County includes a new Sixty-Second Bridge, a new Glenwood Bridge, grade separations at the north and south portals of the Liberty Tubes, as well as other public works projects.

Negley Run Parkway

The Negley Run Parkway, built by the City at a cost of $945,000, links Washington Boulevard with East Liberty.

Allegheny Conference Highway Study

In December, 1955 the Allegheny Conference announced that it would make a broad and comprehensive study of the highway problems and needs facing Allegheny County. This study is now under way, and its recommendations should provide the base for a long-range future highway program for this community.

Many Other Projects

The map of Allegheny County on the preceding page shows the community’s present major highway program.

Many other lesser projects and improvements have been carried out by the State, County and the City of Pittsburgh.

The wholehearted cooperation and close working relationship among these three levels of government—together with the financial assistance and interest of the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads—has made possible these far-reaching improvements.

While the highway building program of the past decade is impressive, there still remains the need for many other highway projects and also the development of a long-range highway program to meet the demands of tomorrow. The Allegheny Conference will continue to cooperate with the public agencies toward this end.
Since Smoke Control, more than $3,000,000 has been spent to clean the exteriors of buildings throughout the City. The Oliver Building—revealed in all its stately splendor as the grime of yesterday was washed away.

Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are now one of the cleanest industrial communities in the nation.

Effective smoke control was the first and basic project in the community improvement program and a vital step forward in making the area more attractive and inviting.

The smoke problem began here about 150 years ago, when the discovery of vast coal deposits set the mold for the area's industrial future.

After more than a century of discussion and the enactment of numerous weak and unenforceable laws, Pittsburgh passed an ordinance with teeth in 1941, but World War II prevented enforcement.

City Ordinance

With aggressive leadership from the Mayor and City Council of Pittsburgh, combined with support from civic organizations and the Pittsburgh newspapers, the regulations of the ordinance were first applied to industry, railroads and all solid fuel users except one and two family dwellings on October 1, 1946. The following year—October 1, 1947—private homes came under the law.

The United Smoke Council of the Allegheny Conference—a citizens' action group—has been in the forefront of this movement.

New Look in Pittsburgh

Today Pittsburgh is the outstanding example of what effective smoke abatement can mean in the life of a great industrial community. Delegations, official and unofficial, from the world over have come to study Pittsburgh's methods and observe the results.

In the City alone between 1946 and 1955, there was a reduction of 96.6% in heavy smoke; 92.8% in total smoke. Estimated individual annual savings amount to at least $41.00 in laundry and cleaning bills and other personal economies.

Allegheny County

When the Pittsburgh program was assured, civic leaders turned attention to the county-wide problem. In 1947, the State Legislature amended the County enabling act to bring railroads under the provisions of the 1943 law.

On May 17, 1949, the Board of Commissioners of Allegheny County passed a smoke control ordinance which, like the Pittsburgh law, was first applied to industry. On June 1, 1953 the County householders outside the City began complying with the ordinance—marking a milestone in the community's history.

It is very probable that the City and County smoke control operations will be combined and administered by the new Allegheny County Health Department.

Public Cooperation

Full support has been given to the program by the public at large. Wholehearted cooperation from industry has contributed immensely to the success of smoke control here. Industry has spent more than $250,000,000 to advance this program in the City and County, and additional funds have been appropriated recently by industry to reduce further the effluent from industrial operations.

The remarkable progress in air pollution control has taken place during a period of high industrial activity, when the consumption of soft coal in Allegheny County has exceeded 50,000,000 tons annually.

The Method

This community tackled the problem by stopping smoke at its source—by regulating the type of solid fuel for hand-fired equipment and by requiring the approval of plans for new installations of all fuel-burning equipment.

While there has been a substantial victory over smoke during the past ten years, this urban area, like most, is still faced with air pollution problems.

The results to date here point the way to even greater gains tomorrow.
After Smoke Control—in 1956 from about the same location. The City’s new skyline glistens in the bright sunshine.

Industry in the City and County has made striking progress in applying scientific “know how” to air pollution problems in the decade since the first provisions of Pittsburgh’s smoke control ordinance became effective.

More sunshine, cleaner living—far less household drudgery, white wash without soot spots—more leisure time.

Diesel road and switching locomotives have all but replaced the smoke-belching engine. Today the railroads operating in and through Allegheny County are almost 100% dieselized.

Modern diesel towboats are an everyday sight as they ply the district's rivers, hauling freight to many points of destination.
A ten-unit system of reservoirs protects this highly industrialized region from damaging floods. The rivers—and the far-flung inland waterway system they form—have shaped the life and economy of Pittsburgh and this region since pioneer days and have brought great material benefit. At times in history, though, they have caused severe suffering and serious damage.

March 17, 1936

On St. Patrick’s Day in 1936, the rivers crested at 46 feet at the Point—21 feet above flood level, causing the highest flood on record and heavy property losses.

**Flood Protection**

Under the leadership of the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, the area’s civic forces were organized to meet the challenge and in June, 1936, the U. S. Congress passed the Flood Control Act assuming responsibility for flood protection here.

**Flood Control System**

Since 1936 ten major flood control reservoirs have been constructed in the Upper Ohio Valley by the Pittsburgh District, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army at a cost of $114,000,000. Eight dams located in the headwaters now protect Pittsburgh. They could have reduced the 1936 crest at the Point by 10.6 feet, if they had then been in operation.

Two dams—Berlin and Mosquito Creek in Ohio—do not affect Pittsburgh but safeguard downstream Ohio river communities.

Several smaller dams, like Pymatuning reservoir built by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, also help stem flood waters.

In addition to flood prevention, many of these reservoirs aid in navigation through low water regulations and provide wide recreational opportunities.

Congress has already authorized other reservoirs for the region. In 1956 Congress, with the full support from the region’s Congressional delegation, appropriated $384,000 to complete the engineering surveys for the Allegheny River Dam near Warren, as well as additional funds for minor flood control measures and river navigation.

A by-product of flood control—boating at Youghiogheny Reservoir.

**Eight Dams Above Pittsburgh on the Headwaters of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers Now Protect the Pittsburgh District.**

- **Allegheny River Basin Reservoirs**
  - Conemaugh
  - Crooked Creek
  - Loyalhanna
  - Mahoning
  - East Branch Clarion
  - Tionesta

- **Monongahela River Basin Reservoirs**
  - Tygart
  - Youghiogheny

The grounds around most of the reservoirs are open for recreation—like Crooked Creek where sunning and swimming are popular.
Clean Streams

Through the abatement of stream pollution, the rivers will serve the people far better—for recreation and for the conservation of a priceless economic asset.

In rivers and streams and its abundant water supply are one of the region's invaluable natural resources—a resource essential to the economy of a great industrial center and popular as an outlet for partime along the waterways.

Sanitary Authority

Pittsburgh and Allegheny County have embarked upon a program of water restoration and conservation—by eliminating pollution caused by emptying raw, untreated wastes and sewage into the rivers and streams. This is being accomplished through the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority.

Incorporated in 1946 and reorganized as a joint City-County agency in 1955, the Authority now has its vast collector and disposal system under construction.

The unified plan calls for laying some 63 miles of sewers throughout the county-wide service area to collect and carry wastes to a central disposal plant where they will be treated. Ground was broken on April 4, 1956 for the central treatment plant.

Over 1,280,000 People

This intricate system will serve more than 1,280,000 people, representing over 80% of Allegheny County's present population.

In 1956 the Sanitary Authority completed negotiations to borrow $100,000,000 from Pittsburgh banks to start construction. As work progresses, the Authority issues revenue bonds to liquidate its bank loans and finance its long-term indebtedness. The agency's debt and operating expenses will be discharged through income from service fees paid by industries and the people the system serves. An initial bond issue of $25,000,000 was floated in 1956.

Restoration and conservation of the region's rivers and streams will benefit this generation and all who follow.

Construction shaft to a sanitary sewage tunnel along Negley Run near Highland Park. More than 30 miles, or nearly one-half of the collector sewers, will be in tunnels.
Typical of new single-family dwellings now being built in the City

There is still a serious housing shortage in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County — for middle and lower-income families. A housing shortage existed here before World War II. During the last 10 years, there has not been a sufficient supply of moderately-priced housing built to replace dwellings that have deteriorated, grown old or failed to meet the requirements of the City's housing code.

The housing market in metropolitan Pittsburgh is one of the tightest in northeastern United States, with a vacancy ratio of only 2%. Public opinion polls have shown time and again that in cities of over 500,000 the lack of adequate housing is the principal complaint of city-dwellers.

This lack of an adequate housing supply could have telling repercussions throughout the community — if not resolved. Future economic growth may depend on an effective approach to the housing problem. Urban renewal projects could be indefinitely delayed and the social effects could be far-reaching.

Conference Housing Studies

In 1946 the Allegheny Conference completed a housing inventory, revealing the county-wide inadequacy of housing. A later Conference study, estimating the housing needs of the community in reference to price range and the ability of people to pay for housing, was published in 1949.

New Housing

In spite of a ten-year boom in housing construction when more than 60,000 dwelling units were built throughout the County, the housing shortage still exists.

By far the largest number of homes has been constructed in the suburbs, where the growth has been explosive. Today the population of Allegheny County outside Pittsburgh is greater than within the City, marking for the first time a significant change in the local population pattern. From 1940 to 1950 the County's population grew by more than 100,000, while the increase in the City was negligible.

Extending through the length and breadth of Allegheny County, the suburban boom has produced phenomenal growth in many long-established municipalities and created brand-new communities in other areas.

This unprecedented expansion — in many instances unplanned from the community standpoint — has resulted in many problems which these communities now face.

Regional Planning Association

The Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association — a privately financed organization that is, in effect, the technical planning arm of the Allegheny Conference — provides planning assistance to suburban communities and often aids them in preparing comprehensive guiding plans for their long-range development.

Public Housing

Like all other industrial communities, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County have their share of areas where slums and blight are concentrated. Through the instruments of public housing and redevelopment, these worn-out sections may now be reclaimed and renewed — in terms of social and physical values.

The housing authorities in the City and County have already made progress in the attack on slums and in rehousing low-income families in good public housing communities.

In 1954 the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh completed Bedford Dwellings Addition, replacing a slum area in the Hill with A private housing development showing wide setbacks and spacious yards in one of the growing suburbs.

Recreation is part of every public housing community — like this playground at St. Clair Village.

460 new low-rent family units. St. Clair Village on the South Side was dedicated in 1955 and provides homes for more than 1,000 families.

Together with the number of dwellings built from 1940-44, the City Authority now operates over 7,000 units.

Plans for North View Heights — a 1,000-unit community — have been approved by the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency and is now under way. A 160-unit extension to Terrace Village and a 500-unit project on Garfield Hill have been recently authorized, and development will begin in 1957.

Since 1933 the Allegheny County Housing Authority has constructed 800 low-rent units, bringing its total number of housing units to 2,050. Plans for 720 additional units have been projected. In McKeesport the public housing authority operates 700 dwelling units; 300 of which are post World War II.

Housing Code

In March, 1955 a comprehensive Housing Code became effective in Pittsburgh — establishing realistic and reasonable standards designed to raise and upgrade substandard dwellings, maintain good residential properties and prevent future slums.

One of the serious problems the City is encountering in the enforcement of this code is the lack of adequate relocation housing for families now living in dwellings that are substandard.

Housing Study

Broad community action on the local housing problem is required. The Conference is exploring the need for an action agency to concern itself with this field. To this end, the Conference has retained the Pennsylvania Economy League to make an over-all study and recommended a plan for an organization that could enlist the support of all segments in the housing field and achieve the community's objective — more housing.
Urban Renewal

Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are in action—rebuilding and restoring to new purpose and greater usefulness the blighted areas of the community where age and decay have made grim inroads. This ambitious and long-term program is being achieved through the efforts of the established agencies of government, the City and County and their departments, the housing and redevelopment authorities—working with the private civic organizations such as the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association, the Pennsylvania Economy League and the Allegheny Conference. The concept of urban redevelopment and urban renewal has been fully accepted in this industrial center as essential to the preservation of the enormous existing values, as well as to the realization of the community’s potentialities.

Redevelopment in Pittsburgh

A number of urban redevelopment projects have already been successfully carried out in the City by the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh—without Federal aid, and with the developers sharing all costs involved. In these projects the Authority has functioned as a land assembly agency and as a coordinator. One of the country’s first commercial redevelopment projects was Gateway Center, which replaced 23 acres of blight with a new multi-million dollar business district, with the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U. S. as a developer. This project is described in detail on page 7.

A $70,000,000 expansion of the facilities of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation on the South Side was made possible through the redevelopment process, with the Authority assembling slum housing properties and J and L acting as the redeveloper. This new industrial district has added 2,000,000 tons of steel to Pittsburgh’s annual output. The acquisition of 10 acres of substandard properties for the Health Center was effected through the Redevelopment Authority. In this instance, the University of Pittsburgh and the Children’s Hospital were the developers.

Another project with the University of Pittsburgh is also being executed, in which the Redevelopment Authority is assembling a 31-acre tract for the further development of Pitt’s athletic facilities. Plans for the expansion of Duquesne University’s campus through the redevelopment formula are under consideration.

Lower Hill

The redevelopment of the Lower Hill, covered on pages 12 and 13, is a colossal undertaking and will require the combined efforts of local government and private enterprise to complete this rebuilding of 25 blighted acres. Substantial Federal loans and grants, State aid and large expenditures by the City and County are committed to this project. Contributions from foundations, corporations and the public have also been made toward it.

Housing Act of 1954

The endeavor to bring an end to slums in the nation’s urban areas and prevent blight from ever developing again was given vital force by the U. S. Congress two years ago.

Under the Housing Act of 1954, a comprehensive national program of urban renewal was authorized. This new national program includes neighborhood conservation and rehabilitation, as well as slum clearance and redevelopment.

The elimination of slums is achieved through the correction of deficiencies in housing, not bad enough to require demolition and clearance. Conservation also entails action by the community—through its citizens, stimulated by the renewal process—to prevent deterioration of structures to the point where drastic rehabilitation or even clearance may be the only alternative.

In 1956 Federal aid was expanded to include advances to public agencies for surveys whether undertaking of urban renewal projects may be feasible. In Pennsylvania, the State Department of Housing and Urban Affairs is also providing financial assistance for the evaluation of slum areas and the preparation of urban renewal plans.

State Aid and Local Tools

The Commonwealth also passed legislation in 1956 and appropriated $5,000,000 to assist communities with redevelopment and renewal. In approved Federally approved projects, State and local aid will be matched by federal aid.

A new in-town shopping center will replace this slum in Duquesnes.

Scotch Bottoms is being razed for J and L expansion—more jobs and more steel.

View in McKees Rocks—scheduled for clearance and redevelopment.

Slums will give way to industrial growth—McKeesport’s first ward.

Lower Manchester. Now blighted—tomorrow new industry.

the City of Duquesne, paving the way for an integrated in-town shopping center, highway improvements and other changes. A similar project, covering 25 acres, has been developed for McKees Rocks and is being carried forward vigorously.

In McKeesport, the City’s Redevelopment agency is moving to rebuild 30 acres of blight in the first ward. The Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association has been working with McKeesport’s Redevelopment Authority to bring this project to reality.

The Rankin redevelopment will be largely residential and the Braddock project mainly light industrial.

Action in eliminating blight in the City and County and reclaiming these areas is moving ahead impressively.
The material might of Pittsburgh has long overshadowed its cultural life and its opportunities for pursuits in the arts. While the community’s cultural activities are extraordinarily varied and numerous, it is heartening to observe an inchoate striving here to usher in a genuine creative era that may yet bring to Pittsburgh an eminence and recognition in this area of human endeavor, as renowned as the City’s industrial fame.

Theater of the Stars

Sky shows in the Theater of the Stars are featured at the Buhl Planetarium and Institute of Popular Science—given to the City by The Buhl Foundation.

Cultural Programs

Operettas under the stars made their debut as part of summer entertainment for Pittsburghers in 1945.

Music and Drama

The Pittsburgh symphony orchestra, originally founded in 1896, was re-established in 1937 and has commanded distinguished conductors and increasing corporate and public support.

A grand opera series plays to full houses and the summer operettas await only the Auditorium in the Lower Hill for the full realization of their potential.

There are many excellent literary, musical and dramatic organizations and a host of nationality choirs in the Pittsburgh area.

An $875,000 expansion program has more than doubled the facilities of the Pittsburgh Playhouse. This non-profit community organization now has a second theater, a School of the Theater and the Playhouse, Jr.—dramatic productions for children.

Through the Pittsburgh Plan for Art—a circulation and exhibit center for the work of district artists—paintings may be borrowed, rented or purchased from this non-profit agency, formed to encourage creative artists and art appreciation.

Opened in 1945, the Arts and Crafts Center is the headquarters for Everyman’s Art Show and many others—featuring the works of the art for fun groups—are held at the Arts and Crafts Center.

Carnegie Institute

Many of the community’s cultural activities center around Carnegie Institute, which houses under one roof Carnegie Museum, the Department of Fine Arts, the Music Hall and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

A $3,250,000 building rehabilitation, to modernize this historic institution that has served the Tri-State area so well for so long, is under way. This improvement program has been made possible by a grant of $1,500,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and a total of $750,000 from the City and County and contributions of $1,000,000 from the public.

Carnegie Museum has been refurbished and its scientific collections, now numbering over 5,000,000 specimens, are constantly being augmented. Its fascinating exhibits keep the public abreast of the exciting world in which we live and make learning fun.

The Department of Fine Arts presents the works of great artists in special exhibitions throughout each year and has won wide acclaim for its Founder’s Day exhibitions and its Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting.

A diversified program for leisure-time activity in the arts, crafts, natural history, and a distinguished lecture series presented annually, is offered through the Carnegie Institute Society, founded in 1947.

Organ recitals, free to the public; concerts and many other cultural programs are given in the celebrated Carnegie Music Hall, scene of so many of the City’s great events.
The galleries of Carnegie Institute's Department of Fine Arts have been the showplace for many famous exhibitions—old masters and the contemporaries.

**Activities**

Art and handicraft groups and all who are in pursuit of wholesome diversion—ranging from weaving and puppetry to painting and the modern dance. It is the focal point for hobby activity.

Monthly exhibits, open free to the public, are a feature of the Center's galleries. Maintained by the City Department of Parks and Recreation, the Arts and Crafts Center is self-governing.

**Library Service**

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie and maintained and operated by the City, shares the Carnegie Institute building in Oakland, together with the museum, art galleries and music hall. It houses the main public library, a fine technological library, the reference and other departments.

Gifts exceeding $300,000 have enabled the library to add to its book collections and carry out many improvements in recent years.

In 1956 the Allegheny County Commissioners approved a plan to extend the services of Carnegie Library to all County residents outside the City, through free book borrowing privileges, inter-library loan service to all other libraries in the County, central purchasing and cataloging and bookmobile service to suburban areas without libraries. This is a forward step toward a county-wide library system.

There are groups for every type of musical interest. Sculpture Court in Carnegie Institute is often used for concerts and plays.

A library survey, made by the Allegheny Conference in 1951 under a grant from The Pittsburgh Foundation, recommended the establishment of such a system. A citizens' committee pressed successfully for action.

**WQED**

WQED has contributed conspicuously to the enrichment and broadening of the community's cultural life, as well as blazing new pathways in education.

The how-to-do-it productions, hobby and home-making shows, provocative panel discussions, music, opera and dramatic presentations, a heritage series glimpsing into the lives of America's contemporary great and many other telecasts are among the quality programs WQED has been broadcasting, since it went on the air in April, 1954.

Pittsburgh's community owned Station has also been producing educational and cultural programs for the Educational Television and Radio Center for distribution throughout the country.

WQED is also the nation's first ETU to convert to high power. With this increased strength, the Station has effectively extended its signal to all southwestern Pennsylvania and beyond.

**Cultural Booklet**

In 1953 the Allegheny Conference published an inventory vividly portraying the community's various cultural institutions, organizations and activities in a handbook titled, "Cultural Activities in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County." The 142-page booklet listed about 350 such cultural activities, and was the community's first such inventory of its kind in this field.

The lively interest and demand on the part of the general public for greater cultural opportunities is a most encouraging aspect of this community's renaissance.

The Pittsburgh Playhouse is a flourishing community theater enterprise. It plays host in its two theaters to thousands who enjoy the living theater.
Whitehall Junior High School—one of the County’s new schools in the fast-growing suburbs and part of a $90,000,000 school construction program.

Antonian Hall, Mount Mercy College, is now a familiar Pittsburgh landmark.

For teaching and research in the natural sciences—the University of Pittsburgh’s George Hubbard Clapp Hall.

Donner Hall—completed in 1955 on Carnegie Tech’s campus.

This new engineering wing at Carnegie Tech contains a research laboratory for basic studies in petroleum.

The majestic Cathedral of Learning symbolizes the University of Pittsburgh—everywhere.

Sunnyside School serves the developing Stanton Heights section in Pittsburgh’s convenient East End.

The nation’s first Graduate School of Industrial Administration was dedicated at Carnegie Tech in 1932.

Educational

As a force for democracy, for the expression of individuality and for civic betterment, funds spent on education represent the most constructive investment a community can make. During this era of rebirth, this community’s educational resources have been enormously enriched and enlarged—in terms of teaching and research personnel, curriculum development and physical plant.

Pittsburgh

Always a great regional institution, the University of Pittsburgh today aspires to a role of leadership as a world center for undergraduate and graduate education, professional studies and research.

Physically, the University has undergone an amazing change. In 1955 the Schenley Apartments were acquired for conversion into dormitories, and in early 1956 the purchase of the Schenley Hotel for a student activities center was announced.

A new $1,500,000 building for the Schools of Engineering and Mines has been completed, and students studying in the natural sciences will have classes in the George Hubbard Clapp Hall for the first time in the 1956-57 academic year. This building is on part of a three-acre tract across from the Cathedral of Learning, conveyed to the University by the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust in 1953.

On the Upper Campus, a Memorial Field House was opened in 1951. A 31-acre tract of blighted property near the Field House and Pitt Stadium is being acquired for the expansion of the athletic and physical educational program, through the Redevelopment Authority with the University as the developer.

A gift made it possible for the University to acquire a 173-acre suburban campus 12 miles north of Pittsburgh for recreational and educational purposes.

The development of the University’s Health Center is described on page 28.

Chatham College

On November 15, 1955 Pennsylvania College for Women was renamed Chatham College, in honor of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham for whom Pittsburgh was named by General John Forbes in 1758.

Chatham College, devoted to excellence in the higher education of women, has already expended more than $3,000,000 in recent years for new buildings on its beautiful Woodland Road campus. They are the Cora Goode Hall of Humanities, the Laura Falk Hall of Social Studies, the Arthur E. Braun Administration Building, a new Chapel, a physical education building and dormitory expansion. Chatham is engaged in a $12,000,000 fund-raising campaign for its long-term objectives.

A Catholic institution welcoming students of all faiths, Duquesne has a $13,500,000 building program in progress, which will bring about a complete transformation of its campus, high on The Bluff above the Golden Triangle.

Duquesne has recently constructed a faculty residence and a women’s dormitory, and its third new building of the nine planned is a 10-story Hall of Law and Business, fronting on Forbes Street and replacing a block of old tenement buildings.

Conversations have been held with the Redevelopment Authority, looking toward a redevelopment proposal whereby the Authority would borrow Federal funds, under Title I of the Housing Act of 1954, to purchase and clear the land on The Bluff for Duquesne’s campus development. The University would repay the loan over a period of years and absorb the full costs involved. In June, 1952 the City Planning Commission certified 65 acres in this area as subject to redevelopment.

Carnegie Tech

Carnegie Institute of Technology, a private institution, has made a sizable investment in new campus buildings since 1949. It is also a major center of nuclear research. In 1946 Morewood Gardens, a fashionable apartment, was purchased and renovated for a women’s dormitory, and in 1955 a men’s

Opened in September, 1955, this new seven-story addition to the Schools of Engineering and Mines between Thaw Hall and Old Mellon Institute houses a wind tunnel and provides classrooms and laboratories for Pitt students.
Resources

dormitory—Donner Hall—was opened.

Through the generosity of William Larimer Mellon, the Graduate School of Industrial Administration—unique in this field—was established in 1949, with a $6,000,000 grant.

Widely known for its Carnegie Plan for Professional Education, Carnegie Tech, like Pitt, is also in the Oakland Civic Center. It occupies a 75-acre campus adjoining scenic Schenley Park.

The institution’s ambitious plans for the future—for its faculty, physical improvements, and increased endowment—will require many millions of dollars.

Mount Mercy

A Catholic college for women, Mount Mercy dedicated Antonian Hall in 1948 and is constantly growing with Pittsburgh.

Five Colleges

As the seat of five colleges and universities, Pittsburgh is nationally important as an educational center. These institutions contribute richly to all phases of the intellectual and cultural life of the whole community. Many of the programs and activities at these institutions are available to the Pittsburgh public.

WQED

Through WQED this community is pioneering in educational television—the revolutionary teaching tool that has already caused in a relatively short time widespread innovations in instruction in progressive schools and colleges.

Community-owned, operated and financed, the Station has been on the air on Channel 13 since April 1, 1954—and was the nation’s first community-supported ETV.

In 1955 WQED began direct television teaching in fifth grade reading, arithmetic and French in a number of schools throughout its signal area. Plans include an expansion of this systematic teaching.

High school and college courses have also been offered—for credit and for the sheer adventure of learning—and more subjects, including instruction in high school science courses, will be televised into classrooms in the semesters ahead.

These and many other stimulating educational programs for the young, for youth and for adults are programmed over WQED and are scheduled at the times of day most inviting and convenient for the viewing audiences.

Schools

Rapid growth in the suburban areas during the past ten years has caused a severe shortage of classrooms and facilities in Allegheny County’s public schools. To keep pace with the rising school population, the public schools in the County—outside the City—have spent more than $60,000,000 on new school construction in the last ten years.

Because of legislative restrictions and inflation, Pittsburgh’s public schools have faced financial difficulties during the last decade and have had to delay a badly-needed capital improvement program. The 1955-56 Legislature permitted the Pittsburgh School District to raise its real estate millage 1¼ mills and granted increased State support for the 1955-56 school year.

In June, 1956 the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education approved a $5,000,000 capital improvement program. A further program is contemplated.

The Catholic schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh have expanded considerably in recent years, as have a number of private schools.

School Resource Books

A series of school resource books, designed to give the citizens of school age the vision of a great City while it is being planned and built and to foster greater civic pride, has been published jointly by the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education and the Allegheny Conference for use in Pittsburgh’s schools. This project has been financed by grants from the Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation.

There is every promise that the community’s educational resources will keep pace as the area progresses.
The Health Center. Located on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh in the Oakland Civic Center, it is about three miles from the Golden Triangle. The 42-story Cathedral of Learning and other University buildings are nearby. The University Stadium and the new Memorial Field House appear in the upper right hand corner.

**Health Center**

A community enterprise soundly conceived and broadly planned, emphasizing equally education, research and patient care.

The Health Center of the University of Pittsburgh—one of the foremost of its kind anywhere—consists of a group of 20 hospitals and clinics and schools and institutions in this field. These institutions are either operated directly by the University or integrated or affiliated with the University through the Medical School.

**Faculty**

Since 1953 when the Office of Vice Chancellor for the Schools of the Health Professions was established, the University has devoted its attention to building a strong, full-time faculty for these schools—a task made easier because of community improvements and Pittsburgh's progressive outlook.

**Building Program**

During the past four years alone, a construction program exceeding $45,000,000 has been undertaken by the University and the institutions associated with it in the health field. A $15,000,000 building to house four of the Schools of the Health Professions—the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Nursing—occupies a site north of the Presbyterian Hospital. A wing in the building will house the Child Guidance Center. Contributions from industry and foundations and individuals have made this integrated unit possible.

The new building for the Graduate School of Public Health cost $5,000,000. This School, organized in 1948, has received grants of more than $16,000,000 toward its development from the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust.

**Other Construction**

In May, 1953 a Residence for Nurses, accommodating 600, was opened. It cost $4,500,000, with the General State Authority contributing $850,000.

The $15,000,000 U. S. Veterans Administration Hospital, a general and surgical institution located on the Pitt campus, was completed in 1954.

Expenditures for new construction also cover $1,700,000 spent at the Elizabeth Steel Magee Hospital, in completing research laboratories at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinics and in improvements at Falk Clinic, including cleaning the building exterior.

**Redevelopment Process**

The Children's Hospital has finished its plans for a $4,500,000 addition, which will front on Fifth Avenue. Sites for the School of Public Health and the Children's Hospital were acquired by the Urban Redevelopment Authority, with the University and the Hospital acting as re-developers—financing land acquisition and demolition. Substandard housing and dilapidated commercial buildings occupied the 10 acres before redevelopment.

Under the redevelopment contract, property was ceded and transferred to the City for the widening of Fifth Avenue, DeSota Street and other streets in the immediate vicinity.

**Community Enterprise**

The Health Center's program has been advanced significantly by grants of $15,000,000, in equal subscription, to the endowment of the University's School of Medicine by the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust, the Richard King Mellon Foundation and the Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation; and by the generosity and support of many citizens, other foundations, corporations and organizations.

As a result of this notable development, the Health Center is now in a position to serve this community with the newest techniques of modern medicine.

The ultra-modern U. S. Veterans Administration General Medical and Surgical Hospital, completed in 1954.

The new addition—planned for the Children's Hospital. Existing Health Center buildings surround it.
St. Clair Memorial Hospital, a voluntary hospital serving the growing South Hills, was opened in 1954 in Mt. Lebanon.

The Administration and General Medical and Surgical building, U. S. Veterans Administration Neuropsychiatric Hospital.

A new concept of institutional care will be possible with the completion of the new County hospital. An architect’s drawing appears in the upper right corner.

The new Hutchinson Building, an admission and treatment unit at Dixmont State Hospital, was placed in service in February, 1954, making possible modern treatment for the mentally ill.

Maternal and child health services are an important phase of the public health program administered by the public health nurse.

This modernistic hospital is being built by the Allegheny County Institution District to care for the chronically ill aged. The old idea of the County “poorhouse” is a relic of the past.

**Health Services**

The safeguard of health through adequate and effective public health services is a community responsibility.

A County Board of Health was appointed and a Health Department created in March, 1956, as a function of County government by the Allegheny County Commissioners. This new Department will be in full operation by January 1, 1957.

It will provide such basic services as the analysis of vital statistics, control of communicable disease, environmental sanitation, laboratory services, maternal and child health services, health education and chronic disease prevention and control.

An Allegheny County Health Study Committee, appointed by the Commissioners in May, 1954, studied County health needs and recommended the establishment of a county-wide Department. The Pennsylvania Economy League served as the fact-finding agency.

**County Institution District**

A $21,000,000 County hospital is now under construction on a 125-acre site in Scott Township. This new facility includes a 2,200-bed hospital, rehabilitation services designed to return people to active life and many other conveniences for the chronically ill aged and indigent sick.

**State Program**

Three State hospitals, operated by the Commonwealth’s Department of Welfare, care for the mentally ill in Western Pennsylvania, with emphasis upon restoring them to useful, productive lives—Mayview serving residents of the City; Woodville, the County; and Dixmont, the residents of Beaver and Lawrence counties.

**U. S. Veterans Hospital**

On a commanding site overlooking the Allegheny river in the East End, the U. S. Veterans Administration built an $8,600,000 Neuropsychiatric Hospital. Opened in late 1952, the institution consists of 16 modern structures with a bed capacity of 1,000.

**Voluntary Hospitals**

There are more than thirty voluntary, non-profit hospitals in Allegheny County. Since 1946 many of these community institutions have completed major expansion programs.

The Hospital Council of Western Pennsylvania was formed as a non-profit organization to work on common problems and represent the interest of the hospitals as a whole.
Life in Western Pennsylvania is geared to a tempo rather faster than elsewhere. Consequently, the people here live energetic lives and have a compelling need for diverse recreational opportunities. They like the outdoors and make good use of their leisure time.

Action by government—City, County and State—and by private citizens and organizations has brought results—in many more parks, playgrounds and recreational resources.

City Department of Parks and Recreation

During the past decade, the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of Pittsburgh has spent almost $4,000,000 on expansion and modernization.

New recreation centers have been built in Bloomfield and Mt. Washington, and many other centers have been renovated and improved. Several new swimming pools have been completed, bringing the total now operated by the Department to 25.

Mellon Park in the East End has been fully developed for active sports and fun, and its facilities compare favorably with city parks anywhere. Special outdoor seasonal flower shows are held in its lovely gardens and are presented by the Pittsburgh Garden Center and the Department.

Zoos

Extensive improvements have been made to the Highland Park Zoo, including the construction of natural habitats and additions to its fine zoo collection.

A Children's Zoo near the main Zoo is one of Pittsburgh's appealing new attractions. Nursery rhymes and mother goose tales come to life in this wonderland for children. A chalet, a storybook Bavarian cottage, houses a snack bar, rest rooms and offices. A junior railroad with two miniature steamers are operated for the kiddies.

The Children's Zoo, opened in September, 1949, was built and has been frequently expanded through grants from the Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation, totaling more than $167,000; contributions from the Pittsburgh Zoological Society and substantial funds from the City. The Allegheny Conference has coordinated the construction work and acted for the Foundation.

Flower Shows

Spring and Fall Flower Shows are held annually in Phipps Conservatory and have continued to grow in popularity. They are co-sponsored by the Department and the Recreation Conservation and Park Council of the Conference.

Conservatory-Aviary

Pittsburgh's unusual Conservatory-Aviary on the North Side is a tropical forest where colorful, exotic birds fly about—unobstructed. Dedicated in August, 1922, this "birdhouse" recreates the natural environment for many rare species of birds.

Opened in 1951, Shawnee State Park in Bedford County attracts more than a million fun-seekers annually. The 3,000 acres include a 100-acre lake stocked with fish.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The State Department of Forests and Waters has created several new State parks in the region, as part of the Commonwealth's program for the western part of Pennsylvania.

Raccoon Creek State Park, only 30 miles from the Triangle, covers more than 6,400 acres and contains a 100-acre lake stocked with fish.

Shawnee State Park, completed in 1951, is in the broad mountain valley of Bedford County—an area of exceptional beauty. The 3,000-acre park is heavily wooded, and there is a large lake for boating and fishing, a beach and many scenic areas for picnics.
Point State Park at the forks of the Ohio in downtown Pittsburgh is being developed by the State as a center of historic and recreational interest.

In July, 1950, the transfer of approximately 1,000 acres in Slippery Rock Valley to the Commonwealth by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy was completed, and this natural wonderland with its rushing waters, towering rocks and picturesque views is now a State Park. Famous McConnell's Mill with its spectacular gorge is part of this State recreation-conservation area.

The State Department of Forests and Waters is now actively seeking to establish other State parks in areas where there is need.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

The Conservancy, formerly the Greater Pittsburgh Parks Association, was reorganized in 1951 to provide broader regional representation. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of significant conservation areas and the development of outdoor recreation sites. Its objective is to acquire—either by purchase or gift—land of unique value for conservation and recreational purposes.

To acquire several thousand acres comprising the Slippery Rock-Muddy Creek drainage area while the opportunity existed and to preserve it for posterity, the Conservancy raised more than $250,000 from corporations, foundations and the public, of which the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust was the major contributor. The acreage in Slippery Rock Valley was conveyed to the Commonwealth as a State Park in July, 1956.

The Conservancy owns 2,000 acres in Muddy Creek Valley, about half the area needed for a miniature Pymatuning.

Ferncliff Park, a tract of 100 acres in a loop of the Youghiogheny River at Ohioville was acquired in 1951. It is famous for its sylvan glens, historic falls and deep river gorge.

Recreation Conservation and Park Council

Created in 1949 as a citizens' action agency of the Allegheny Conference, the Council adds impetus to the program for furthering recreation, conservation and park development. It works closely with the City Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Department of Forests and Waters and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

In June, 1950 the Council sponsored the publication of a "Recreation Guide to the Pittsburgh Region"—an illustrated guidebook featuring the region’s play resources and historical and scenic attractions. More than 50,000 copies were sold. It was so warmly received that in response to a continuing public demand the Council in 1956, issued a second edition, revised to reflect the many additions to the area’s leisure-time opportunities.

The progressive urbanization of Western Pennsylvania emphasizes the need for developing the area’s recreational resources and facilities.

Spring Garden Parklet on the North Side—a gift of a generous Pittsburgher who initiated the idea locally.

There is fun for everybody at Mellon Park in the East End—a parklet for kiddies, a battery of game courts, a full-sized baseball field and park benches in restful surroundings for teen-agers and grown-ups.

A new neighbor at Highland Park's Zoo for youngsters— the Otter in his water home greets his visitors.

The Bavarian Chalet is set in miniature surroundings where children and animals make fast friendships.

Have you ever petted a tapir or ridden a turtle? These kiddies come to love their animal companions in this friendly mother goose wonderland built just for them.

Streamliners—the "Zeoper Chief" and the "Scream Liner"—carry youthful passengers on an enchanting ride around the wooded hillside at Highland Park.
Economic

The dynamic economy of Pittsburgh and the surrounding industrial region lies in basic strengths.

As the gateway to the Ohio Valley industrial corridor, Pittsburgh is close to raw materials—coal, and vast coal reserves, sand, gravel, limestone, clay and other quantities of natural resources.

An unlimited supply of good-quality water is available.

The region is strategically located—in the heart of the largest concentration of population and wealth in the nation.

Transportation

Pittsburgh has the advantage of a superb transportation system. It is the nation's largest inland port and its rivers connect with the far-flung Mississippi waterway, extending 12,000 miles in length. Five trunk-line railroads serve the area and, with other connecting lines, combine to furnish the region with excellent rail service for fast economical handling of raw materials and finished products. It has excellent rail-river-truck terminal facilities. The combined rail and waterborne tonnage are unsurpassed by any other industrial region.

The existing network of highways, the accessibility to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and the extensive highway building program under way are an important economic asset. Modern air transport facilities link Pittsburgh with all the major cities in the United States.

People

The people of the area are its greatest economic resource. As the headquarters of many national and world-wide concerns, Pittsburgh is outstanding as a center of management and research. The City has attracted the finest talents in the country—in the managerial, engineering and scientific fields. The region has a highly proficient and quality labor force of men and women experienced with today's production methods—a cross-section of skills that has forged this industrial region into the "workshop of the world."

The Steel Capital

Pittsburgh and steel have been synonymous since America's industrialization. Today this area still contains the greatest concentration of heavy industry in this country and possesses more than one-fifth of the nation's steel-making capacity.

During this decade of civic achievement, the steel industry has continued to expand and modernize here-increasing its output of steel ingots and pig iron substantially.

This area is also a production center for electrical goods, tin plate, aluminum and other non-ferrous metals, glass, food products, cement, paint, refractories, chemicals, machinery and a large variety of other manufactured goods.

Diversification

There is, moreover, a far wider diversification in the Pittsburgh district than is generally recognized, especially within the metals and metal products industry. An even greater degree of diversification is one of the principal objectives in the current program of economic development, directed toward encouraging light steel-consuming industries and fabricating plants to locate in this area, close to this great source of steel supply.

Automobile body parts are made at this new General Motors, Fisher Body Division plant in West Mifflin.

The world's first atomic energy electric power plant—under construction at Shippingport by Duquesne Light Company.

Land on the South Side for this $70,000,000 open-hearth plant of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation was acquired through the urban redevelopment process.

The first privately-financed atomic reactor parts plant was opened by Westinghouse Electric at Cheswick in 1955.

New pipelines—the three local gas utilities have invested $250,000,000 in expansion, more than doubling their capacity.

Steel joists, roof decks, and reinforcing steel are made by Ceco Steel Products at its new West Mifflin plant.

Bell Telephone Company investments of nearly $300,000,000 have increased metropolitan Pittsburgh telephones from 315,000 in 1945 to 581,000 in 1955.
Development

Atomic Industry

The atomic age has initiated a wholly new and promising field of economic development for this area, Regional Pittsburgh is already a leading center of the up-and-coming atomic industry.

America's first full-scale commercial atomic power plant is under construction in this district to generate electric energy. Being built at Shippingport by the Duquesne Light Company under an agreement with the Atomic Energy Commission, this revolutionary atomic power-house is expected to begin the delivery of electricity to homes and industry in Pittsburgh in 1957, or shortly thereafter, Westinghouse Electric Corporation is building the reactor for this plant under contract with AEC.

The first nuclear reactor to atom-propel a submarine was developed and built at the Bettis plant here which is operated by Westinghouse Electric Corporation for the Atomic Energy Commission, and the first atomic engine for a large surface vessel was designed and constructed by Westinghouse at this Bettis facility.

Westinghouse constructed in this district the first factory devoted exclusively to building parts for atomic power plants, and it is in full operation.

Atomic engines, nuclear reactors, atomic power equipment and other atomic items are now among the products that contribute to Pittsburgh's fame as an industrial titan.

Pittsburgh is at work to develop and advance this tremendous potential and maintain a position of undisputed leadership in the atomic field.

Economic Problems

Western Pennsylvania—like most highly industrialized and urbanized areas—has its share of perplexing economic problems. It knows, too, that any problem is half solved when its existence is acknowledged.

This area recognizes its economic problems—problems of the relationship between management and labor, taxation, industrial growth and diversification and the adequacy of industrial sites.

Regional Industrial Development

To cope with these problems and to promote economic development throughout southwestern Pennsylvania, the Regional Industrial Development Corporation was organized in 1955. As an over-all agency, the Corporation cooperates with the public utilities and railroads, industrial leaders and the numerous community-sponsored industrial development organizations that have been formed throughout Western Pennsylvania to encourage economic expansion. It works closely with local government and the redevelopment agencies.

Its purpose is to assist in the expansion of existing industry, to attract new industry and to stimulate regional industrial development.

The Corporation is a privately-financed, non-profit organization which acts as an industrial development clearing house for the region, as well as a fact-finding and study agency in the economic field. It is studying and surveying the industrial pattern, the matter of industrial sites and the economic potentialities here, with a view to strengthening the regional economy.

The basic strength that have made the Pittsburgh region of such importance as an industrial center point to still greater opportunities for the future development of its economy.

West Penn Power Company's new $30,000,000 Mitchell power station—a phase of the firm's big expansion program.

The Duquesne Light Company has spent $300,000-000 since 1946, which more than doubles its capacity. This is the new Eiram Station.

The Monongahela River Valley contains the greatest concentration of heavy industry in the USA. This is the Duquesne Works, United States Steel.

Crucible Steel Company of America has expanded extensively at its huge Midland Works, a $22,000,000 Pittsburgh area improvement program.
Research

Research begins with an idea—an idea that is transformed from the unknown into the stream of life by inquiring men and women with an intrepid faith in the ultimate victory of man over the fastness of nature. Ideas are best nurtured in an energetic environment, like Pittsburgh, where people are restless and impatient with things wholly as they are. In such an atmosphere, the spirit of adventure is strong and undaunted.

World Research Center

It is little wonder, then, that Pittsburgh has become a world center of research and technology and is constantly growing stronger in this field. Today there are more than 50 major laboratories and centers of research and development in Pittsburgh—exclusive of medical research. Expenditures for research and the support of research in the district are estimated at $100,000,000 annually.

These laboratories employ directly more than 6,000 scientists, technicians and research workers. Many of them have received their education in the colleges and universities here, which are a constant source for technically-trained manpower. They have come from almost every part of the country and from abroad.

Graduate studies leading to advanced degrees in the technical fields are offered at several of the universities in the City that maintain graduate schools. There is a large concentration of engineering and technical societies in Pittsburgh that contribute greatly to the City’s reputation as a leading center of technological advancement.

Pure and Applied Research

Research work of a wide scope and variety in both pure science and applied science is conducted throughout the area. There are many laboratories engaged in broad researches in the natural sciences.

Great progress is being made in research in metallurgy—iron and steel, aluminum and other non-ferrous metals, along with the newly-developed alloys. Research in electronics, glass, paint, coal and its by-products and petroleum is increasing Pittsburgh’s role in modern technology. Development centers are also maintained for specialized research—in foods, pharmaceuticals, detergents, safety

Mellon Institute—one of the world’s leading research centers.

A great new research center at Monroeville—United States Steel appliances, instruments and other specialties.

Mellon Institute is one of the great research centers in the world today. An endowed, non-profit organization, it is dedicated to the benefit of humanity through scientific research. Mellon Institute functions in three main areas—research in pure and applied sciences, training scientific personnel and the publication of technical data.

New Centers

In 1955 two entirely new centers of research were opened. The new research center of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation is launched on a broad investigative program, covering all phases of J and L’s operations.

Westinghouse Electric Corporation completed in 1955 in Churchill Borough the most modern research center in the electrical industry. Here scientists probe into the sciences fundamental to the creation of new products for better living.

The largest center ever built for steel technology was opened by the United States Steel Corporation in 1956 at Monroeville. Research is conducted on problems ranging from the new alloys that will withstand high temperatures for jet engines to chemicals derived from coal.

More Centers in Construction

Construction was started in 1955 on a new $3,000,000 center to house all the research activity of the H. J. Heinz Company. This facility will contain experimental kitchens and laboratories for the study of foods and nutrition.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company broke ground in 1956 for a new center for research in glass. Located on a 52-acre site in Harmar Township, the ultra-modern laboratories will centralize the work of PPG in glass research.

New and improved products—the goal of the Duco Corporation in building its new Neville Island laboratories.
Aluminum was born in a Pittsburgh laboratory and its further growth is assured through research—Alcoa’s laboratories at New Kensington.

Several years ago Pittsburgh Plate opened a new laboratory in Springdale for basic and applied studies in paint and related products.

The Koppers Company recently purchased a 176-acre tract in Monroeville for a future research center for its many products. Koppers now has laboratories at Kohuta and Verona. A centralized research operation is being built by the Dravo Corporation on Neville Island for advanced study and development.

Gulf Oil

One of the petroleum industry’s outstanding research centers is operated by the Gulf Oil Corporation at Harmarville. Employing about 1,500, the center has grown from three buildings in 1935 to 40 in 1936—and three more are being added. This is the highest integrated unit of its kind in the world.

Coal, Minerals and Safety

Research in coal gasification, carbonization and in new uses for coal is carried out by the Pittsburgh Consolidation Coal Company at its development center at Library.

The U. S. Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh, which is the regional headquarters for eastern United States, focuses its attention on coal and mineral research, methods to improve industrial health conditions and safety. Joy Manufacturing Company operates a mine at its research center for experiments with new machinery for coal and hard rock mining.

The John T. Ryan Memorial Laboratory, operated by the Mine Safety Appliances Company, is the world’s largest industrial safety research center.

Medical Research

Research is a basic function in a modern medical center, and increasing emphasis is being given to this vital activity at the University of Pittsburgh Health Center.

Tastier and more nutritious food—through this $3,000,000 H. J. Heinz research center in Pittsburgh.

New quality control laboratory, Babcock and Wilcox Company—opened in 1955 at Beaver Falls.

Stainless and electrical steels are studied at the Allegheny Ludlum Steel research center at Brackenridge, opened in 1952.

The world’s largest safety-appliance research center—the John T. Ryan Memorial laboratory, Mine Safety Appliances Co.

More and better products from steel—the laboratories of Jones and Laughlin Steel.

Heart and cancer studies, research in mental health and industrial health—along with a myriad of other projects—are under way. Dr. Jonas Salk developed the polio-mumps vaccine at the Health Center.

A cyclotron, indispensable to radioactive medicine and extensive research, is in operation at the University.

Medical research is also being carried on in the laboratories of certain of the community’s voluntary hospitals.

Atomic Research

A pioneer in the mysteries of the atom, Pittsburgh is today a leading center of research in atomic and nuclear science. Three atom-smashing machines are in operation in this area. Besides the cyclotron at the Health Center, Carnegie Institute of Technology operates a synchro-cyclotron at its research center at Saxonburg.

Westinghouse

Westinghouse Electric Corporation constructed the first industrial atom-smasher at its East Pittsburgh research center in 1937, and has been a leader in atomic research and development ever since.

The Bettis Field development center, operated by Westinghouse for the Atomic Energy Commission, employs more than 1,000. It was here that “Mark I” was designed, the experimental model for the world’s first atomic engine. It was at this Bettis facility, too, that the “Mark II” nuclear reactor was built for installation in the submarine—USS Nautilus. Work on other nuclear reactors for vessels and other uses is in progress.

Westinghouse is also constructing a nuclear test reactor for testing nuclear fuel elements under operating conditions.

The reactor for the nation’s first atomically powered plant, is being built by Westinghouse for the Duquesne Light Company at Shippingport.

Many other Pittsburgh concerns are entering the nuclear field to participate in the future industrial atomic age.

Research is contributing immensely to Pittsburgh’s growth, as the world of tomorrow is unlocked in the laboratories of today.

An effective polio vaccine resulted from years of painstaking study directed by Dr. Jonas Salk at the University of Pittsburgh Health Center.
The Significance of the Pittsburgh Story

If the story of Pittsburgh’s Renaissance in recent years has any significance outside of Western Pennsylvania, it is to be found not in the record of the physical accomplishments portrayed in the preceding pages, nor even in its strides in the realm of culture. The greatest significance of what has happened here lies in the possibility that at the municipal level we have forged a stronger type of democracy of consequence to the nation as a whole.

Returning from the last war to a City with a bleak industrial outlook and a lack of civic pride, Pittsburgh’s outstanding leaders in government, in business, in labor and in education—irrespective of political affiliation—banded together to form the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. Through the Conference, they sought to combine the talents and influence of leaders in the arts and entertainment, as well as public officials, for civic advancement.

It is the philosophy of the Conference that the enjoyment of our liberties in a democracy requires public service on the part of every citizen. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, “there is a debt of service due from every man to his country proportioned to the bounties which fortune and nature have measured to him.”

We believe that in these crucial times democracy in the Western World is on trial, and dependent for survival upon the leadership of America; and that if our democracy is to be strong in the nation, it must be strong in the cities, towns and hamlets that constitute the nation. We believe, too, that democracy cannot be strong in our older cities when we see their central business districts deteriorating and bordered by commercial slums and blighted residential areas, which are cancerous on the body politic of our communities—the breeding places for communism and the forces of crime and corruption.

Here is a task too big for municipal government to do alone, but a job which municipal government, implemented by the best leadership of the community, and fired with imagination and unselfish public spirit, can do much to solve over the years.

We in the Conference believe that in spite of America’s material progress and high standard of living she will have failed in the truest sense unless our advance in the art of government and in the realm of human and spiritual values keeps pace with our physical progress. Likewise the vast scientific advances of our age—our ability to hear a dropped pin around the world, to drive our dynamos with nuclear energy and all the other scientific discoveries of our time—will come to naught unless they are accompanied by a social and political evolution which subjects them to the higher service of mankind.

Finally, we in the Conference are conscious of the fact that however magnificent be their physical splendor, all of the buildings, parks and highways are nothing more than the shell of a community. Its true strength and stature can be measured only by the caliber of its people and by its growth in the fields of education, music, the arts and religion. From ancient Greece still comes to us the time-tested warning, “the security of the nation is the education of her youth.”

In future generations, our community’s citizens whose memory will be most honored will be the men and women who have contributed to its social and intellectual progress. Hence, a community’s planning and progress must embrace not only the elimination of commercial and residential slums and such redevelopment as may be incident to its material well-being, but must also include provision for the advancement and flourishing of the community’s culture. Guided by these precepts we cherish the hope that some day Pittsburgh may be as renowned in the fields of education and the arts as she is today in the fields of science and industry. We are convinced that these goals can be attained only if we continue to marshal our ablest leadership, both young and old, in and out of public life.

For we the people are America’s power, her peril and her hope, and her government is not something apart from us or above us, but rather is we ourselves organized in a grand cooperative effort to preserve and protect a way of life—the best way of life the world has ever seen.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
September, 1956