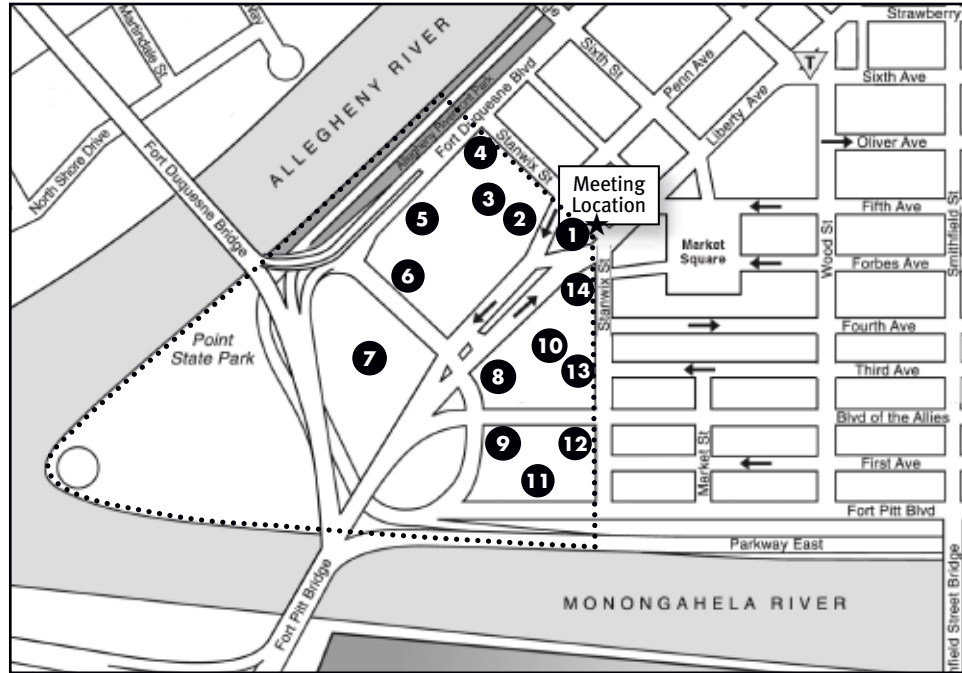


Gateway Center, Downtown Pittsburgh

1. Gateway Station
2. One, Two, Three Gateway Center
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7. Point State Park
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The Pittsburgh Renaissance Historic District (indicated by the dotted line) includes Gateway Center. It is one of five National Register Historic Districts in Downtown Pittsburgh. This prestigious federal designation does not place any restrictions or obligations on a property owner. It does provide opportunities for federal preservation tax incentives, and requires government agencies (if there is a federal undertaking) to evaluate alternatives to mitigate adverse impacts on historic properties.

12 United Steelworkers

Curtis & Davis (New Orleans), architects, 1961-63

Originally the IBM Building (or Five Gateway Center), the 13-story structure is constructed like a bridge and rests on eight concrete piers, which is quite a balancing act. There are no exterior columns, no corner columns, and no interior columns. Three different steels were used in the trusses to resist the increasing loads from the top down. The trusses were then clad with uniform stainless-steel covers, and diamond-shaped windows were set into the openings. Go inside the lobby to find the metal radiator grates punctured with patterns derived from IBM computer punch cards.

13 201 Stanwix Street Place

Dowler & Dowler, architects, 1955-58

Originally the Western Pennsylvania Headquarters of Bell Telephone, this 12-story aluminum-faced building is framed in Minnesota granite and has distinctive, embossed aluminum

panels. It now houses 158 luxury apartments, and City High Charter School occupies the first four floors. Within the colonnade is the Bell Telephone map, with reliefs of state landmarks, and a clock and globe denoting Bell's worldwide coverage. You can still read the words: "Anywhere, any time by telephone."

14 Four Gateway Center

Harrison & Abramovitz (New York), architects, 1958-60

A curtain wall of glass supported by stainless-steel mullions hangs from the 22-story steel frame. The interior floor plan is open and columnless, since the elevators and mechanical equipment are contained in a separate, windowless, ribbed-stainless-steel tower. Albert Tannler writes in *Pittsburgh Architecture in the Twentieth Century*: "Gateway Four is the most elegant of Harrison & Abramovitz's Pittsburgh buildings, and with U.S. Steel Tower, it represents the firm's best work here."

There's nothing like walking to get you in touch with a place. You see, hear, notice, explore, and discover.

—Laurence A. Glasco, author, historian, and PHLF Trustee

FREE TOURS & EVENTS

Old Allegheny County Jail Museum

Open Mondays through October (11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) (except for court holidays)

Downtown Pittsburgh and Oakland: Guided Walking Tours

Every Friday, May through October

- Two different *free* walking tours are offered each month: one from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and another from Noon to 1 p.m. Join us for one, or both.
- *Advance reservations are appreciated (see below).*

DOWNTOWN'S BEST

Special Places and Spaces in a 2 1/2-Hour Walk

Not free. Advance paid reservations are required (see below).

June through August: every Thursday, 9:45 a.m. to Noon.
Other dates by appointment for groups of 10 people.

SPECIAL TOURS & MEMBERSHIP

Visit www.phlf.org and click on **Tours & Events** to find out about neighborhood walking tours in the Pittsburgh region, April through October.

Members of PHLF receive discounts on tours and free admission to workshops and presentations at the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center (see below), among other benefits. To join, visit www.phlf.org and click on **Take Action/Membership**.

WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS

Landmarks Preservation Resource Center

744 Rebecca Avenue, Wilkesburg, PA 15221

Visit www.phlf.org and click on **Tours & Events** for programs on selected Tuesdays and Thursdays.

FOR DETAILS & RESERVATIONS

412-471-5808, ext. 527 or marylu@phlf.org



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DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH WALKING TOUR GATEWAY CENTER



A self-guided walking tour, compliments of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

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STARTING LOCATION

Gateway "T" Station, on Stanwix Street near Liberty Avenue

For more information, purchase *Pittsburgh Architecture in the Twentieth Century: Notable Modern Buildings and Their Architects*, by Albert M. Tannler (PHLF, 2013). Visit www.phlf.org and click on "Store" or call 412-471-5808, ext. 525.

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GATEWAY CENTER WALKING TOUR

The Pittsburgh Renaissance was an extraordinary episode in American urban development. It had no precedent in terms of mobilization of civic resources at the elite level and wholesale environmental intervention. The achievement, however, was administrative and political in character Architecture and design were always secondary considerations Pittsburgh's natural endowments were not exploited fully

—Roy Lubove, *Twentieth-Century Pittsburgh, Government, Business, and Environmental Change* (University of Pittsburgh, 1969)

Pittsburgh's Renaissance (1946–1974) was born from a partnership between Republican financier Richard King Mellon and Democratic Mayor David L. Lawrence. It involved the nonprofit Allegheny Conference on Community Development (founded in 1944), the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (incorporated in 1946), the New York-based Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) was formed in 1964 as a “Counter-Renaissance,” by a group of citizens who believed that historic preservation, rather than massive demolition, could be the underlying basis for renewing communities, building pride among residents, and creating sustainable economic development.

Historically, the area between Stanwix Street and the tip of Point State Park, known as the Point, was the birthplace of Pittsburgh, founded in 1758 and incorporated as a city in 1816. In the 1784 street grid, Penn and Liberty avenues continued all the way to the Point. However, the historic street grid was sponged away in this area in the 1950s with the demolition of more than 90 buildings to make way for an urban renewal effort that resulted in the creation of the 36-acre Point State Park and 23-acre Gateway Center commercial district.

The effort was met with protest from some property owners displaced by eminent domain. However, the result was “the nation's first comprehensive downtown redevelopment accomplished without federal aid.” Shining modern office and apartment towers were set in landscaped parks on a new system of streets.

Gateway Center and Point State Park now compose the Pittsburgh Renaissance Historic District, nominated by PHLF and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2013. On most days of the year, a walk through the Renaissance Historic District is a peaceful and exhilarating

experience. Buildings made of steel, glass, and aluminum—materials Pittsburgh was world-famous for producing—are set within mature landscapes of trees, walkways, and fountains. During major city events, such as the Three Rivers Arts Festival and Three Rivers Regatta, the area is filled with people, exhibitors, art, music, food carts, and activity.

Walter C. Kidney summarized the need for the Renaissance and for the Counter-Renaissance in *Pittsburgh's Landmark Architecture: The Historic Buildings of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County* (PHLF, 1997):

Historic preservation has been a sort of Counter-Renaissance, ... because the progressives of the Renaissance too often ignored what was good about the city's past. They failed to see, certainly, that to break the continuity of a neighborhood's visible history, to sponge away whole streets of buildings, risks diminishing the inhabitants' sense of—their right, even, of sensing—who they are and what they are part of. ... Renaissance brought order, and a prosperity demonstrated in a way that attracted more prosperity, but it was not the most sensitive way of reshaping a city. It had to work fast, and there were penalties inherent in such speed.

1 Gateway Station

A collaboration between Pfaffmann + Associates with EDGE Studio, architects, 2012

This eye-catching and engaging glass-and-steel structure is one of four Downtown Pittsburgh transit stations. John Conti, architecture columnist for the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, described this Port Authority “T” (subway) station as “inventive, daring, and decisively world-class.” Descend into the station to see a 60-foot-long ceramic-tile mural, “Pittsburgh Recollections” (1984), by Romare Bearden, an African-American artist with Pittsburgh roots, or to ride the “T” to points north and south of the Golden Triangle.

2 One, Two, Three Gateway Center

Eggers & Higgins with Irwin Clavan (New York), architects, 1950-53

Three polished, stainless-steel office buildings stand as sisters in a landscaped setting. The cruciform plan allows for each office to be graced with natural light. The curtain walls are patterned with continuous verticals, suggesting modern abstractions of fluted pilasters (grooved, flattened columns), and ribbed spandrels between the windows.

3 Gateway Plaza

Clarke & Rapuano (New York), landscape architects, 1950-53

This formal garden brings nature into the city with trees for shade and colorful plantings. The focal point is the bronze

“Fountain of the Three Rivers,” dedicated on June 6, 1956. It celebrates the significance of the three rivers to Pittsburgh's founding in 1758, development, and culture.

4 625 Stanwix Tower Apartments

Tasso Katselas, architect, 1967

Originally Allegheny Towers Penthouse Apartments, this 24-story concrete-frame building houses commercial services, a parking garage, and 12 stories of apartments. It was created to house those who worked in the Renaissance buildings and has maintained its purpose over time.

5 Gateway Towers

Emery Roth & Sons (New York), architects, 1964

This 27-story residential highrise is the tallest building in the Pittsburgh Renaissance Historic District. It originally housed 314 luxury apartments and now houses 270 condominiums. On the sides of the building, notice how pre-cast striated concrete vertical bands with recessed steel spandrels are grouped near the center to allow the windows to wrap around corners.

6 Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown

William B. Tabler (New York), architect, 1957-59
Addition on front façade: Stephen Berry/Architectural Design, Inc. (Youngstown, OH), 2007-14

Opened by Hilton Hotels and designed by their corporate architect William Tabler, this building was distinctive for its gold-colored anodized aluminum skin, which has been painted. (Anodizing is a process of fusing a surface color onto aluminum.) With 712 rooms, the Wyndham is Pittsburgh's largest hotel, and the floor-to-ceiling windows provide spectacular views of Point State Park and the three rivers.

7 Point State Park

Ralph E. Griswold, landscape architect, and Charles Morse Stotz, architect, 1945-74
Renovations: Pressley Associates, Inc. (Cambridge, MA), landscape architects, 2001-13

The 36-acre State park contains the Fort Pitt Museum (1969), located in a reconstructed bastion of Fort Pitt; the Fort Pitt Block House (1764); the Portal Bridge (1961-63); the 150-foot-high fountain; and The Forks of the Ohio National Historic Landmark, designated in 1960. The original shoreline and outlines of the French Fort Duquesne (constructed in 1754) and the British Fort Pitt (constructed from 1759-61) are marked with stone pavers in the ground.

The low, long, almost flat-arched Portal Bridge is one of the most innovative in Pittsburgh. Conceived by New York architect Gordon Bunshaft of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, the three-hinged, post-tensioned concrete arch was designed and built to support an eight-lane highway that connects the Fort Duquesne Bridge (north over the Allegheny River) and

the Fort Pitt Bridge (south over the Monongahela River), and provides pedestrian and vehicular access to Point State Park.

8 River Vue Apartments

Altenhof & Bown, architects, 1957
Renovations: Jim Smith/Design4Studio, 2010-12

Originally constructed as the State Office Building serving Western Pennsylvania, River Vue now contains 218 luxury apartments. The original curtain wall of blue-anodized aluminum has been replaced, thus diminishing the architectural integrity of the building. Therefore, this building is a noncontributing resource in the Pittsburgh Renaissance Historic District.

9 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Building

Howell & Thomas (Cleveland), architects, 1927
Renovations: Hunting, Larsen & Dummells, 1962

Originally constructed for The Pittsburgh Press, this landmark newspaper building survived the St. Patrick's Day Flood (March 17, 1936) and a remodeling in 1962: the Romanesque Revival brick building was entirely refaced with aluminum panels to be in harmony with its modern neighbors. It became the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Building in 1993 after the Post-Gazette bought The Pittsburgh Press. In August 2015, the Post-Gazette moved to new facilities on Pittsburgh's North Shore. Block Communications, Inc., owner of the Post-Gazette, is working with Continental Real Estate Services to sell the building.

10 Plaza at Gateway Center

Schell & Deeter, architects; Collins, Simonds & Simonds, landscape architects, 1961-62

Originally known as Equitable Plaza, the two-acre asymmetrical park sits atop a 750-car garage and is connected to Five and Six Gateway Center by a pedestrian bridge spanning the Boulevard of the Allies. John Simonds wrote: “Here the street bends, the giant building forms shift from cruciform to slab, Still under the shadow of giants, the pedestrian is partially set free from the heavy ‘project’ environment of much of the Gateway Center.”

11 Eleven Stanwix Street

Harrison & Abramovitz (New York), architects, 1967-69

Key Bank is a major tenant in what was originally Six Gateway Center and the headquarters of Westinghouse Electric Corporation. The steel-frame building is plated with dark-gray-anodized aluminum. Piers and recessed spandrels emphasize the verticality of the structure. Harrison & Abramovitz, the firm of choice for corporate America, designed seven buildings in Pittsburgh between 1950 and 1974.

(continued)