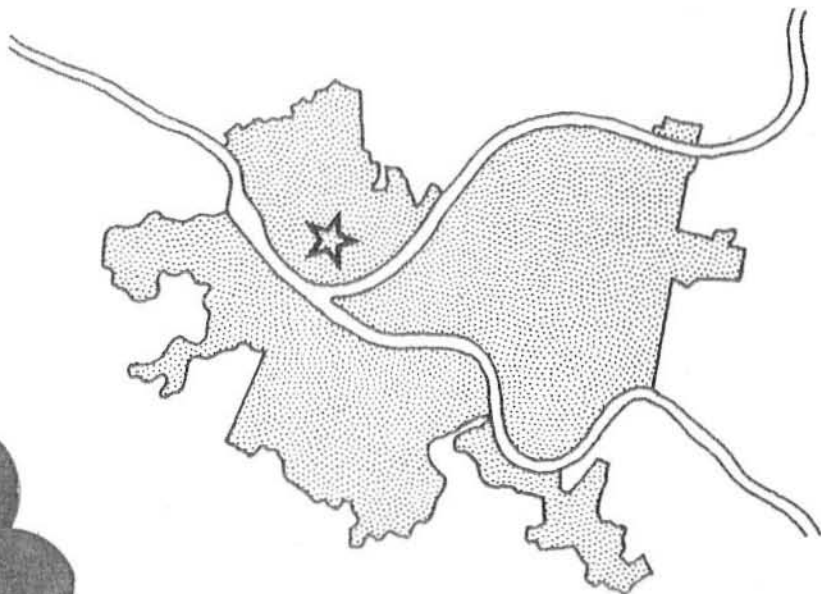


**a community profile of**

*central*

*north side*



prepared by ....  
the department of city planning  
pittsburgh, pa.      august 1974

0600



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## PREFACE

One thing that citizens need if they are to take part in planning for their neighborhoods is up-to-date information about their neighborhoods. This booklet is an attempt by the Pittsburgh Department of City Planning to present information, primarily from the United States Census of Population and Housing, for use by citizens and community groups. Unfortunately, census material is not perfect; it may not have all the information that you need and it may not be in the most useful form for your purposes. It is, however, the best that is available.

Where possible, comparisons have been made between 1960 and 1970 characteristics, and between neighborhood and city-wide values, in order to better understand present neighborhood conditions.

The material has been divided into four sections, Population, Housing, Socio-Economic characteristics and Community Facilities. Although most of the information comes from the 1970 Census of Population and Housing, the statistics on building permits (new, and alterations) come from the city's Bureau of Building Inspection; the crime data was compiled by the Bureau of Police; and the welfare data was provided by the Allegheny County Board of Public Assistance. The summary tapes from which much of the census information was extracted were provided by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Regional Planning Commission.

## CENTRAL NORTH SIDE

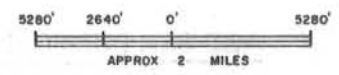
Central North Side is a predominantly residential neighborhood lying just above Allegheny Commons along North Avenue and extending to the base of the hillside where Perrysville Avenue begins. Its boundary to the east is Allegheny General Hospital and to the west the Old Allegheny Railroad shops. Within it falls census tracts 2202, 2203, 2502 and 2503.

Population decline combined with the deterioration of older housing stock were two reasons that made the Central North Side become the first major combined City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Building Inspection - County Health Department Code Enforcement program. Now in its fifth year and nearing completion, a vitalizing effect is seen in the neighborhood from special restoration in the Historical Mexican War Street area to general improvement throughout.

The Central North Side in addition to its convenient location has many assets within or adjacent to it such as Allegheny General Hospital, Allegheny Center Mall, a regional shopping center, and many cultural facilities within the Allegheny Commons across North Avenue.

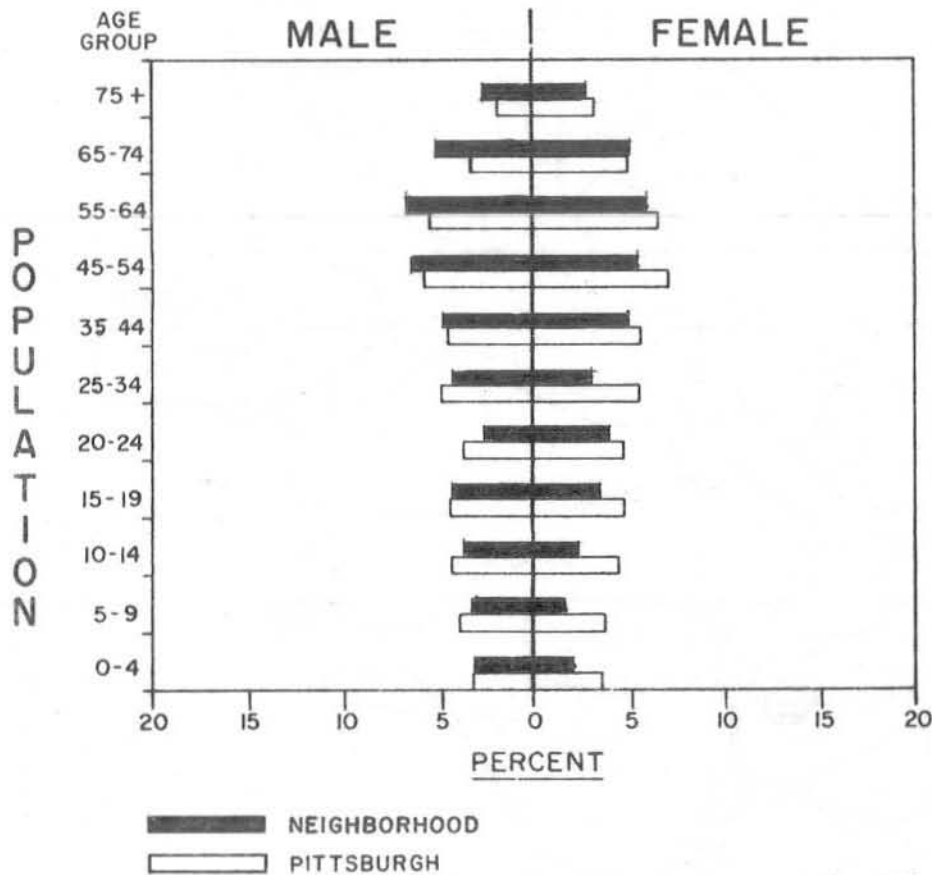


— CENSUS TRACT OUTLINE  
 — NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLINE



31 ST WARD

## AGE - SEX COMPOSITION



Source: U. S. CENSUS 1970

### AGE-SEX COMPOSITION, 1970

According to the 1970 Census, the greatest portion of Central North Side's population falls in the age 55-64 category, the smallest being the 75 & over age group. Citywide, more people are found in the age 45-54 group than in any other; the age 75 and older category is the smallest.

### POPULATION CHANGE, 1960-1970

The population of Cen. North Side has changed from 11,963 in 1960 to 7,872 in 1970, representing a -34.2% change. This compares to an average citywide change of -13.9%, where population declined from 604,332 in 1960 to 520,117 in 1970.

### FAMILIES BY TYPE AND PRESENCE OF CHILDREN LESS THAN 18 YEARS OLD

The predominant family-type in this neighborhood is the husband-wife-family — no children less than 18 category. The highest portion of families with incomes below poverty level is the female head — children less than 18 group.

### MEDIAN AGE, 1970

The median age for the neighborhood is 38.9 years; for the city it is 33.6 years.

### AGE-GROUP CHANGE, 1960-1970

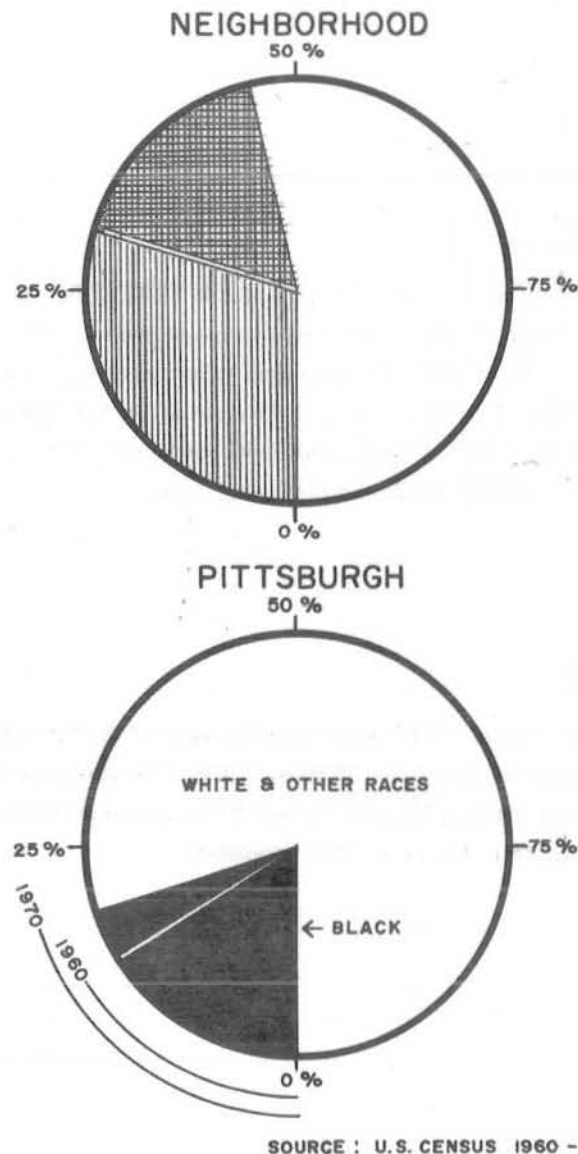
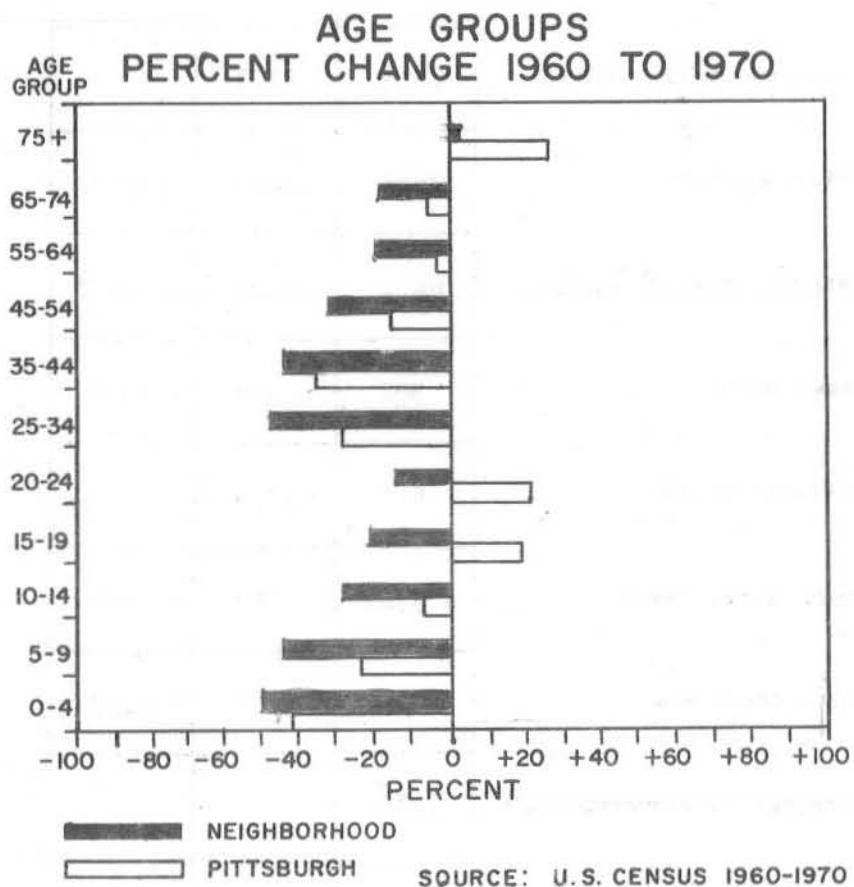
One age bracket increased in population between 1960 and 1970 in the neighborhood. For the city, population in the 15-19, 20-24, and the 75 years and older age groups increased.



## BLACK POPULATION, 1960 - 1970

### RACE

Black population in Cen. North Side constituted 30.0% of its 1960 population, and 46.5% of its 1970 population. For Pittsburgh, the Black population increased from 16.7% in 1960, to 20.2% in 1970.



POPULATION

## OCCUPANCY STATUS 1960 - 1970

### OCCUPANCY STATUS

In 1960, total housing units numbered 4,464; in 1970, 3,808, representing a -14.7% change. A total of 23.3% were owner-occupied in 1970, compared to 47.2% citywide. In 1960, 302 units were vacant, as compared to 470 vacancies in 1970. This represents a 12.3% vacancy rate for 1970 as compared to the city's 6.2%. Overcrowded units comprised 14.9% of the 1960, and 7.4% of the 1970 neighborhood housing stock.

### MOBILITY

For the neighborhood, 2,669 people over five years of age have changed their place of residence between 1965 and 1970. This represents 37% of its population. For the city, 159,774 changed their place of residency during those years, which is 33% of the total population.

	1960	1970	PERCENT CHANGE
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	4464	3808	- 14.7
TOTAL OCCUPIED UNITS	4162	3338	- 19.8
OWNER OCCUPIED	1293	891	- 31.1
PERCENT OWNER OCCUPIED	28.9	23.3	
RENTER OCCUPIED	2869	2447	- 14.7
PERCENT RENTER OCCUPIED	64.2	64.2	
VACANT UNITS	302	470	+ 55.6
PERCENT VACANT	6.7	12.3	
MEDIAN MARKET VALUE	\$ 5707	\$ 7072	+ 23.9
MEDIAN GROSS RENT	\$ 58	\$ 76	+ 31.0
PERCENT OVERCROWDED UNITS	14.9	7.4	

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960 - 1970

BUILDING ACTIVITY, 1972

In 1972, there were 58 building permit applications in this neighborhood, at an estimated construction cost of \$104,290 . For the entire city, 4,002 permits were issued, accounting for construction in excess of \$53 million.

Also in 1972, there were 0.00 new housing units constructed per 1,000 existing units, and 14.96 alterations per 1,000 units in the neighborhood. City-wide 3.6 new housing units and 16.2 alterations were undertaken per every 1,000 existing units.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN 1972

	NUMBER OF PERMITS	ESTIMATED COST
NEW HOUSING UNITS		
OTHER NEW STRUCTURES		
EXTENSIONS & ADDITIONS	1	\$ 2,960
ALTERATIONS	57	101,330
TOTAL	58	\$ 104,290

SOURCE : BUREAU OF BUILDING INSPECTION

**EDUCATION: YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY PERSONS  
25 YEARS AND OVER, 1960-1970**

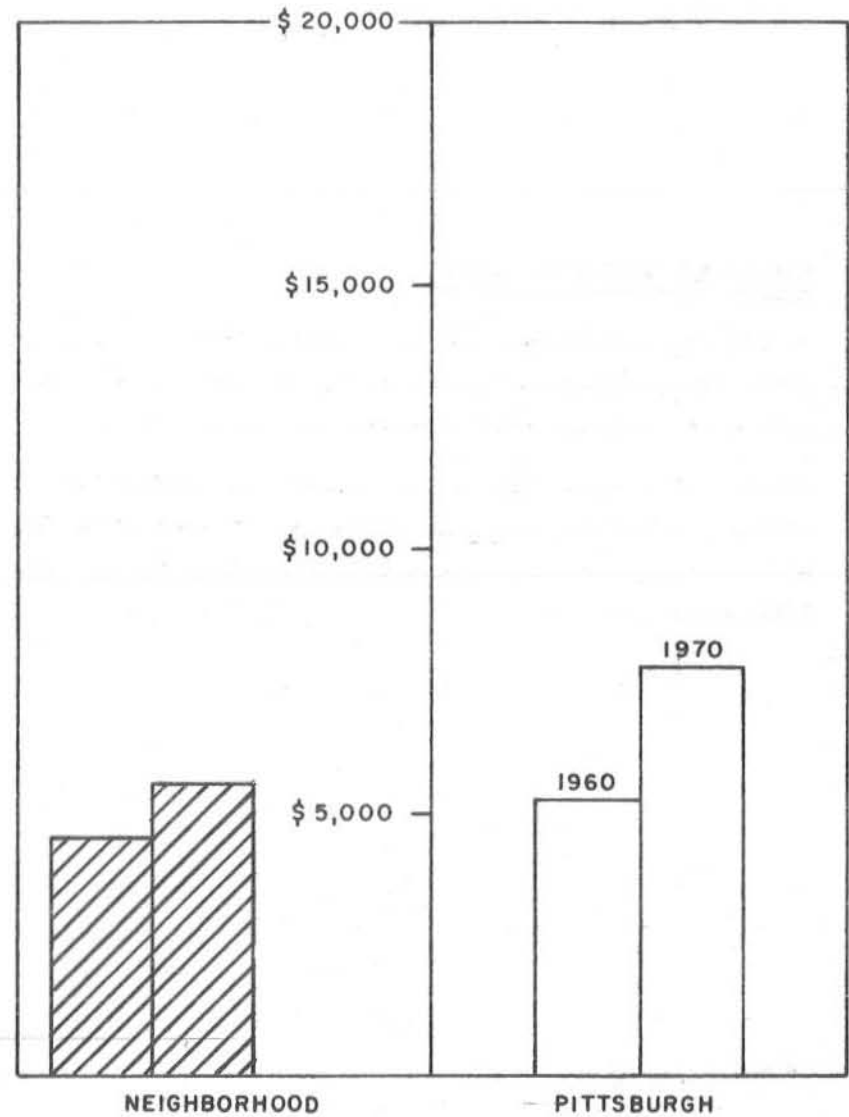
The 1970 Census indicates that, of those local residents, aged 25 and over, the largest percentage have attained a elementary education. In 1960, the largest percentage had attained a elementary education.

**SCHOOL YEARS  
COMPLETED BY PERSONS  
25 YEARS & OVER  
1960-1970**

	1960	PERCENT OF TOTAL	1970	PERCENT OF TOTAL
NO SCHOOLING	212	2.9	102	2.1
ELEMENTARY (1-8 YRS.)	3817	52.3	1836	37.4
HIGH SCHOOL (1-3 YRS.)	1757	24.1	1390	28.3
HIGH SCHOOL (4 YRS.)	1127	15.4	1170	23.9
COLLEGE (1-3 YRS.)	204	2.8	242	4.9
COLLEGE (4 YRS.)	182	2.5	164	3.3
TOTAL	7299	100.0	4904	100.0

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

**MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960 - 1970**



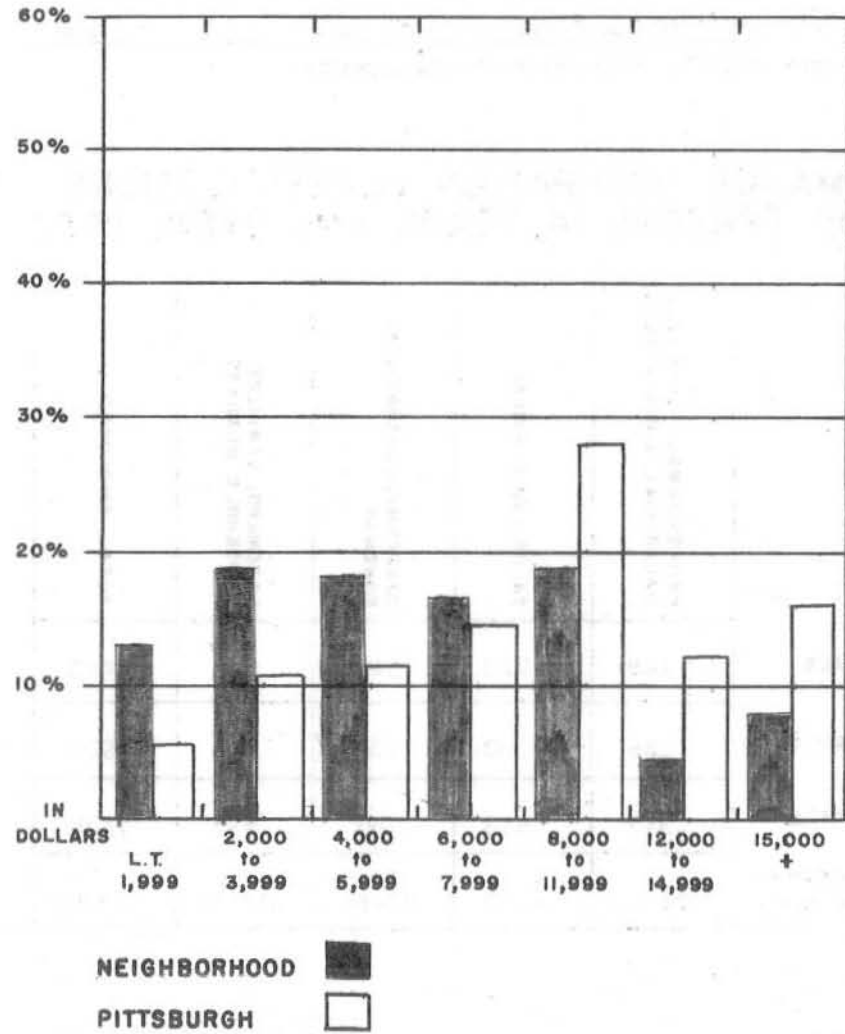
SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

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**INCOME, MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960-1970**

The median income for Cen. North Side families was \$4,153 in 1960. In 1970, the median family income was \$5,844, representing a ten year change of 40.7%. Citywide, the median family income rose from \$5,605 in 1960, to \$8,800 in 1970, a 57% change.

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION  
OF FAMILY INCOME  
BY INCOME RANGES  
( IN DOLLARS )**



SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

**OCCUPATION: MAJOR OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATIONS  
OF PERSONS 14 YEARS AND OVER, 1970**

The largest percentage of people in this neighborhood work in labor and service positions. This group constitutes 37% of the employed population. The largest percentage of people in the city work in sales & clerical positions, which represents 28% of the total population.

**MAJOR OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATIONS  
OF PERSONS 14 YEARS AND OVER, 1970**

	PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, MANAGERIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE	SALES AND CLERICAL	CRAFTSMEN, OPERATIVES, FOREMEN	LABORERS, SERVICES, HOUSEHOLD WORKERS	TOTAL EMPLOYED
MALE	149	223	547	574	1493
FEMALE	166	330	136	345	977
TOTAL	315	553	683	919	2470
PERCENT OF TOTAL	12.74	22.38	27.64	37.18	100.00

SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

**PERSONS RECEIVING  
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN 1972**

ASSISTANCE TYPE	NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION
OLD AGE	196	2.48
BLIND	9	.11
AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN	1790	22.73
GENERAL	746	9.47
AID TO DISABLED	122	1.54
TOTAL	2863	36.33

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
BOARD OF ASSISTANCE  
MARCH 2, 1973

## ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES IN 1972

CRIME	NUMBER OF ARRESTS	CRIME RATE
MURDER	1	.01
RAPE	4	.05
ROBBERY	115	1.46
ASSAULT	208	2.64
BURGLARY	183	2.32
LARCENY	217	2.76
TOTAL	728	9.24

### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 1972

Of the neighborhood's total population, 36% received public assistance in 1972. Citywide, 14% of the population received some kind of assistance in the same year.

### ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES, 1972

The crime rate listed here represents the number of arrests that were made for major crimes in 1972 as a ratio of the total population of the area. Major crimes are defined as murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, and larceny. In 1972, the crime rate for this neighborhood was 9.24 ; for Pittsburgh, the rate was 4.71.

SOURCE: ANNUAL REPORT OF MAJOR CRIMES  
CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
POLICE DEPARTMENT, 1972

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities which serve Cen. North Side are not limited to those located within the confines of Cen. North Side. Although there are many community facilities in the general vicinity, this list is limited to police and fire stations, public libraries, public schools, City of Pittsburgh recreational facilities (indoor and outdoor), major hospitals, and major colleges and universities.

Community facilities for this neighborhood include:

Central North Side

Public Facilities

- No. 43, 46 and 47 Fire Stations
- No. 9 Police Station
- Carnegie Library - North Side Branch

Recreation

- Allegheny Commons
- Allegheny High School Ballfield and court games
- Martin Luther King Elementary Ballfields, courts and playground
- Jefferson Playground
- Arch Street Parklet
- Carrington Street Parklet

Schools

- Martin Luther King Elementary
- Columbus Middle School
- Latimer Middle School
- Allegheny High School

Health

- Allegheny General Hospital
- Divine Providence Hospital
- St. Johns Hospital



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Stephen Reichstein, Deputy Director

Nicholas A. Del Monte, Cartographer

This Document was prepared with the invaluable assistance  
of Planning Aides:

Janice M. Coyne

Elisa L. Ventura

