NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 5/31/2012)

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Smithfield Street, Third Avenue, Market Square Place, and Fifth Avenue. N/A not for publication

city or town Pittsburgh City N/A vicinity

state Pennsylvania code PA county Allegheny code 003 zip code 15222

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide _X_ local

Andrea MacDonald — March 20, 2013
Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

PA Historical and Museum Commission
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official — Date

Title — State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) _____

Patrick Andrus — 5/2/2013
Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [X] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [ ] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
16	3	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
16	3	**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
31

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE / business
COMMERCE/TRADE / restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE / specialty store

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE / business
COMMERCE/TRADE / restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE / specialty store
EDUCATION / college

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN / Italianate
LATE VICTORIAN / Renaissance
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS / Beaux Arts
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS / Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE / Sandstone
walls: BRICK
STONE / Limestone
roof: ASPHALT
other: TERRA COTTA
METAL / Iron

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

See Continuation Sheet.

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheet.

Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) | Allegheny County, PA
Name of Property | County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [X] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Economics
Commerce
Architecture

Period of Significance
1871-1935

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Schwan, George H.
Rowland, George W.
Mellon, A.W.

Period of Significance (justification)
Based on the earlier nomination (Aurand 1985), the period of significance began in 1871 with the earliest resource in the district, and it appears to have ended in 1934, 50 years prior to the date the nomination was prepared. All contributing resources within the Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Information) were built within this period.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)
N/A

Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) Allegheny County, PA
Name of Property County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

See Continuation Sheet.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

See Continuation Sheet.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)
N/A

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

See Continuation Sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
__X__previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

__X__State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.8 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	584629	4477186
2	17	584886	4477133
3	17	584852	4476865
4	17	584604	4476982

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
See Continuation Sheet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
See Continuation Sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura C. Ricketts/Architectural Historian (Skelly and Loy, Inc.) with Anne Nelson, Albert Tannler, and Frank Stroker (Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation)

organization Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation date September 19, 2012

street & number 100 West Station Square Drive, Suite 450 telephone 412-471-5808

city or town Pittsburgh state PA zip code 15219-1134

e-mail lricketts@skellyloy.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

See Continuation Sheet.

Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) Allegheny County, PA
Name of Property County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Narrative Description Summary Paragraph

The Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) is located in the south-central part of Downtown Pittsburgh. It amends the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District, which centers on the intersection of Fourth Avenue and Wood Street and extends to include parts of the northwest, northeast, and all of the southeast quadrants (city blocks) of the crossing. The dense streetscape of the listed district is composed of early skyscrapers (clustered at the intersection but also interspersed with low-rise buildings along the narrow Third and Fourth Avenues), banking houses (primarily located within the 300 block of Fourth Avenue), and various three- to eight-story buildings (scattered throughout the district). A few of the buildings have shallow covered porticoes and the previously-listed Dollar Savings Bank building has a shallow setback to accommodate recumbent lion sculptures and a monumental façade; overall, however, the buildings are tightly arranged, filling their lots from the sidewalk to shared party walls. The listed district includes examples of Italianate, Richardsonian Romanesque, Beaux Arts, Neo-Classical, and Renaissance Revival style buildings generally built from stone (including granite, sandstone, limestone, and marble), often with upper stories of brick and/or terra cotta. The period of development for the listed district ranges from 1871 to 1934. The previous nomination included 31 resources: one NRHP-listed building, 24 contributing buildings, two noncontributing buildings, and four noncontributing sites (vacant lots) (Aurand 1985:2-4). The boundary increase consists of 19 resources: 16 contributing buildings and three noncontributing buildings. The L-shaped boundary increase area features architecturally-distinguished commercial and office buildings, which are densely sited along Wood Street and Forbes Avenue. Like the low-rise and mid-rise buildings of the listed district, these buildings range from two to six stories in height with facades predominantly constructed of stone, brick, and terra cotta but also including cast iron and wood exterior surfaces. Two of the non-contributing buildings are located next to each other near the center of the 400 block of Wood Street (west side), and the remaining non-contributing building is located at 312 Forbes Avenue. All of the buildings abut each other with no setback from the sidewalk, creating the same "richly textured, cohesive, and intense historic environment" from the "vigorous close-set facades" of the listed district (Aurand 1985:5). The Classical styles predominate among the contributing resources, including Italianate, Classical Revival, and Beaux Arts. The period of development for the boundary increase ranges from c. 1871 to 1934. The district outlined in the

boundary increase remains an active part of Downtown Pittsburgh and, as such, its buildings—and in particular their first floor storefronts—have been altered to some degree after the period of significance. Overall, however, the historic sense of a late nineteenth and early twentieth century financial, commercial, and office district is conveyed admirably by its buildings, which retain integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association. The upper stories of the contributing buildings demonstrate integrity of materials and workmanship sufficient to convey their historic appearance.

Narrative Description

The Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) extends the original boundary of the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District with an L-shaped area, beginning in the northwest corner at 256 Fifth Avenue and continuing south along the west side of Wood Street beyond the intersection with Forbes to meet the original boundary. The boundary increase area then continues to the east along the south side of Forbes Avenue to its eastern edge at the vacant lot at the far edge of 330 Forbes Avenue.

The setting for the boundary increase is a dense urban area with streets laid out on a grid. There are narrow sidewalks (under 10 feet wide) with no open areas, parks, or green spaces within the boundary increase. The building facades all meet the edge of the sidewalk, and their two- to six-story facades rise up from the street level without setbacks. Surrounding blocks contain skyscrapers, but this section of Wood Street and Forbes Avenue maintains a low- to mid-rise profile that continues northerly along Wood Street from the Fourth Avenue Historic District. The contributing buildings in the boundary increase were originally built for commercial uses, primarily as office space but also for restaurants and specialty stores. Most of the buildings in the boundary increase have altered, street-level, commercial storefronts, including six sportswear stores, three restaurants, two jewelers, two convenience stores, and two beauty salons. The building storefronts at 320, 322, and 330 Forbes Avenue are currently being renovated for use by Point Park University. The upper stories of the buildings house office space, apartments, club rooms, future classrooms, and vacant space.

The west side of the 400 block of Wood Street features eight buildings with two adjacent non-contributing buildings near the middle of the block (Photographs 1-3). A narrow alley, Book Way, runs behind the buildings. The contributing resources in this block are Classical Revival and Beaux Arts style buildings from the early twentieth century that range from three- to six-stories tall. The block is

anchored at the north end by the tallest building in the boundary increase area, the six-story Fifth Wood building. The Fifth Wood building is a Classical Revival office building built in 1922 by the Pittsburgh architect George H. Schwan. Its design balances a straightforward steel-frame structure expressed by continuous vertical piers, recessed spandrels, and regular window groupings with an elegant handling of Neo-Classical decorative elements including a continuous frieze of draped swags under a modest projecting cornice, recessed spandrel panels ornamented by bundled fasces, and carved roundels between the fifth and sixth stories. The block is anchored near the south end by the monumental five-story Beaux Arts façade of the 1925 Roberts Building, though the southernmost building on the block is actually the approximately six-foot wide "Skinny Building" at 241 Forbes Avenue. Like many of the bank buildings in the listed district, the Roberts Building achieves a sense of monumentality by grouping its upper stories and treating them as one large space with an *in antis* composition of fluted Doric columns supporting an entablature with a frieze of triglyphs and metopes. Between the Roberts Building and the Fifth Wood building, there are two noncontributing later infill buildings (near the middle of the block at 435-437 and 433 Wood Street) and three early twentieth century Classical Revival buildings (at 439, 443, and 445 Wood Street). The three Classical Revival buildings, which are all four-story tall structures though they vary in height, occupy similar narrow lots, but they employ different materials (wood, limestone, and terra cotta) and varying degrees of ornament (from restrained to decorative). Like the other contributing buildings in this block, their first floor storefronts have been altered after the period of significance.

The Italian Sons & Daughters of America building at the southwest corner of the Forbes Avenue and Wood Street intersection connects to the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District (Photograph 4). The three-story Art Deco corner building at 419-423 Wood Street was originally built in 1929-1930 as office space with a first floor restaurant by local Pittsburgh architects Hunting, Davis & Dunnells. Its severe limestone walls have recessed window panels, stylized pilasters, and sculpted panels with eagles, shields, sunbursts, and olive branches. The upper floors were formerly covered by a corrugated metal siding that has recently (March 2012) been removed. The siding brackets, which are still visible in the photographs, will be removed as well.

Three related office buildings with cast-iron facades are joined under a continuous bracketed cornice on the opposite side of the street at 418, 420, and 422 Wood Street (Photograph 5). They abut the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District to the south where the monumental Grecian Ionic façade of the former Colonial Trust Company building stands. The four-story, Italianate office buildings with

round arch windows on the fourth floors and depressed arch windows on the second and third floors were built sometime between 1875 and 1881.

The west half of the south side of the 300 block of Forbes Avenue is included within the boundary increase area (Photographs 6-7). At its center, the monumental temple-front of the former Colonial Trust Company Building (its T-shaped plan has entrances on Wood Street and Forbes and Fourth Avenues) is the only part of the listed district with frontage on Forbes Avenue. The third non-contributing building of the boundary increase area—a small two-story structure at 312 Forbes Avenue that has lost its integrity with substantial alterations to its design, material, and workmanship in the 1970s—is located immediately to the west of the former Colonial Trust Company Building. The remainder of the block to the west of the Colonial Trust Company Building (302-310 Forbes Avenue) features an eclectic mix of small commercial and office buildings, including a two-story, red brick, Renaissance Revival building from 1910-1911, a three-story, brick Italianate building from the late nineteenth century, and a two-story, Tudor Revival building from the 1920s. To the east of the Colonial Trust Company Building, three similar classically-inspired buildings complete the boundary increase area (320-330 Forbes Avenue). The two-story Beaux Arts Royal Building, which was constructed as a restaurant in c. 1910, has layers of classical ornament (scrolled brackets, swags, wreaths) decorating its second-floor arcade. A restrained two-story Classical Revival building next door features three broad bays with large areas of glass on the second floor. The easternmost building in the historic district boundary increase area is a three-story Beaux Arts building with colossal fluted Corinthian pilasters and round arch openings, capped by a projecting cornice with urn finials.

The Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase) retains integrity. The essential physical components of the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District are also demonstrated here: densely sited buildings that meet the sidewalk; shared side walls of abutting properties; variance of height from two to six stories with maintenance of overall low- to mid-rise scale; architectural variety and texture within a predominantly Classical Revival idiom; and retention of a wealth of character-defining ornamental features including molded cornices. As part of an active urban area with varied business and commercial concerns, the boundary increase area does witness alterations to its first floor storefronts. Fortunately, the alterations are generally contained to the first story allowing several architecturally-distinguished stories to rise above and determine the overall feeling and association of the area as a late nineteenth and early twentieth century financial, commercial, and office district. These upper stories visually dominate the area, while representing integrity of design, materials, and

workmanship.

The boundary increase area retains the integrity of the overall design that was established during the period of significance from 1871 to 1934. Only two small infill buildings (433 and 435-437 Wood Street) were built after this period, and only one building (312 Forbes Avenue) has been so altered that its original design is obscured; these three buildings are noncontributing resources. The remaining buildings (contributing resources) in the boundary increase area retain integrity of design. They retain the massing, scale, and arrangement of their original designs. Their upper stories retain original classically-inspired details, including projecting cornices, friezes, swags, roundels, and sculptural panels. Their first floor storefronts have been altered (some multiple times) after the period of significance, beginning in the mid-1950s. The original door and window openings have generally been enlarged or completely replaced. Original clerestory windows and/or trim have been replaced by prominent signage and non-historic awnings.

The contributing resources of the boundary increase area retain the integrity of their materials. The original materials of the upper stories of the contributing buildings are preserved, including limestone, brick, terra cotta, cast iron, and wood. The materials of the first floor storefronts, in most cases, have been obscured or replaced. Beginning in the mid-1950s, replacement materials were used on the first floors including polished marble and granite, panels of metal sheeting, synthetic materials (faux brick, faux stone, vinyl siding), and wood. In addition, large plate glass windows were added and prominent metal or vinyl signs were affixed to clerestory space and awnings.

Like the design and materials, the integrity of the workmanship for the contributing buildings is retained. The workmanship is aptly demonstrated on the upper stories with intact ornamentation (all) and detailed brickwork (256 Fifth Avenue and 302-310 Forbes Avenue).

The location of the boundary increase area immediately north of the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District in Pittsburgh's downtown remains unchanged and retains its integrity. The setting within the boundary increase area is little changed. With the exception of the three noncontributing buildings, the boundary increase area's buildings maintain the dense streetscape setting they had historically. The setting provided by its relationship to the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District to the south fully conveys the historical significance of the area. To the north and east of the boundary increase area, there are several large buildings that have been built after the period of development (1871 to 1934) as well as heavily altered buildings from the historic period that have lost their integrity. These distinctions help to justify the district boundary.

The Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) also retains integrity of feeling and association. The historic feeling of a late nineteenth and early twentieth century financial and commercial district in downtown Pittsburgh is still conveyed by the upper floors of the contributing buildings as individual contributing resources and, more importantly, as convincing streetscapes. The association of the buildings to the area's significant history is clear in the retention of the area's historic appearance.

The boundary increase area consists of 19 resources: 16 contributing buildings and three noncontributing buildings. Two of the non-contributing resources 433 and 435-437 Wood Street are later infill buildings built in c. 1965 and c. 1980. One building—312 Forbes Avenue—is a historic building that has been substantially altered and has lost its integrity. The sidewalks and street fixtures do not appear to be historic or character-defining elements of the boundary increase area.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) is significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with economics and commerce in Pittsburgh and under NRHP Criterion C as a cohesive concentration of buildings reflecting late nineteenth and early twentieth century architectural styles. The 1985 nomination for the Fourth Avenue Historic District characterizes the area as "the historic core of Pittsburgh's downtown financial district...[which]...was one of the nation's most important turn-of-the-century financial markets" (Aurand 1985:6). The earlier nomination did not, however, capture the true scope and scale of commerce in the district. It briefly described office buildings, investment properties, and speculative building ventures, though they were emphasized less than their bank building counterparts. This amendment seeks to explain how the boundary increase is in keeping with the previously-listed district's economic and architectural significance. It also seeks to expand and clarify the earlier nomination's discussion of commercial significance to focus on all commerce in the district, not just finance. The buildings in the boundary increase area reflect this commercial significance with five properties that were acquired for banking offices, a speculative building for investment brokers, and a variety of offices, stores, and restaurants that served the local financial, business, and retail communities during the period of significance. The architectural significance of the district is demonstrated by the architectural richness of the predominantly Classical Revival buildings that were built in the boundary increase area within the Period of Significance. The period of significance (1871 to 1934) for the listed district and the boundary increase area was established in the original nomination and begins in 1871 with the completion of the initial building phase of the Dollar Savings Bank Building, which is the oldest extant building in the combined district. It ends in 1934, fifty years before the preparation of the original nomination. This range is appropriate for the boundary increase area as well, because all of the extant significant historical development in the increase area dates to this time period.

Summary History

The importance of Fourth Avenue as Pittsburgh's "Wall Street" and the heart of a thriving financial district was outlined in the original Fourth Avenue Historic District nomination (Aurand 1985). The first bank to open along Fourth Avenue was the Bank of Pittsburgh (not extant), which was built there in 1832, but it was the construction of the monumental Dollar Savings Bank at 340 Fourth

Avenue (completed in 1871 and enlarged in 1906) that marked the beginning of Fourth Avenue's heyday in finance and banking. After the panic of 1873, money flowed into the city from regional oil producers and steel manufacturers. "The 1900-01 reorganization of Carnegie Steel and creation of U.S. Steel as the largest corporation in the country (with total capital of $320,000,000) signaled Pittsburgh's complete emergence as a major industrial and financial center" (Aurand 1985:6).

The original nomination reports that between 1890 and 1905, at least forty-nine new banks were established in Pittsburgh, with the majority of banking houses located within the traditional limits of Pittsburgh's influential Wall Street—the 200 and 300 blocks of Fourth Avenue between Market Street and Smithfield Street including part of Wood Street (Aurand 1985:7; Kidney 1997:215). However, "as early as 1903, when the Colonial Trust Company was formed from six other banks, consolidation began to impact the multi-faceted financial marketplace, and at length, consolidation led to a degree of decline on Fourth Avenue" (Aurand 1985:8). The banks outgrew their facilities or merged with other banks located elsewhere in downtown Pittsburgh. In 1985, two major bank headquarters remained on Fourth Avenue—Dollar Savings Bank and Union National Bank—as well as many "public banking offices and other finance-related tenants" (Aurand 1985:8). In 2007, the Union National Bank Building at the southeast corner of Fourth Avenue and Wood Street was converted into The Carlyle condominiums. (The bank itself was bought in 1995 by National City Bank, which was subsequently acquired by PNC, currently Pittsburgh's biggest bank, in 2008) (Toker 2009:61). Dollar Savings Bank, now Dollar Bank, is the only remaining bank from Fourth Avenue's era as "Pittsburgh's Wall Street".

The period of significance (1871 to 1934) marks the end of significant building within the boundary increase area, but in surrounding Downtown Pittsburgh building continued. Two notable periods of intensive development have occurred in the intervening years. Renaissance I was an important urban renewal and city planning endeavor beginning c. 1945 that completely reshaped the Point and adjacent land west of Stanwix Street with gleaming Modern skyscrapers of steel and glass set in landscaped parks. Renaissance II resulted in dozens of building projects dotted over the city, including PPG Place (1979-84) and One Oxford Centre (1983). While these and even more recent building campaigns have been undertaken just blocks away from the boundary increase area, it is significant to note that (with the two minor exceptions at 433 and 435-437 Wood Street) there has been no new construction within the boundary increase area after 1934. The main changes of the intervening years are the alterations that have been made to the first floor storefronts in the area.

Criterion A Significance for Economics

The original Fourth Avenue Historic District is significant under NRHP Criterion A for economics. By 1910, twenty individual banks and trust companies as well as the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange were located within the boundary of the original Fourth Avenue Historic District (Aurand 1985:7). An appraisal of the area written in 1907 dubiously claimed that "there are one hundred and seventy-four banks and trust companies in this smoky Klondike [Pittsburgh]. You will find thirty of them wedged together in two blocks of Fourth Avenue—the Wall Street of Pittsburgh" (Casson 1907:265). The author is referring to the traditional limits of Pittsburgh's influential Wall Street and establishing the historical perception of the area as a primary financial center.

The Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for economics. Several of the buildings in the boundary increase area can be directly linked to banking and finance. The three-story fireproof building at 419-423 Wood Street was designed by local architects Hunting, Davis and Dunnells for the Boulevard Improvement Company in 1929 to replace the former Germania Savings Bank (The Pittsburgh Press 1929:11). Even before the demolition of the old bank was completed, J.H. Holmes & Company, investment brokers, signed a long-term lease for the entire second and third floors of the building (The Pittsburgh Press 1929:11). The two-story building at 322 Forbes Avenue was built as a restaurant by owner and builder A.W. Mellon for Mellon Bank (The Construction Record 1910b).

Five pre-existing buildings in the southeast quadrant of the Forbes Avenue and Wood Street intersection (302, 308, 310 and 312 Forbes Avenue and 418, 420, and 422 Wood Street) were acquired by the Union Trust Company for the expansion of their offices by 1914. The buildings, which date from c. 1875 and after, had already been purchased by Henry Clay Frick, one of the original founders of the Union Trust Company, by 1902-1903 (Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation 2011). They later (between 1923 and 1929) came under the control of the Colonial Trust Company (a central resource of the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District), which by that time occupied a T-shaped building with entrances on Forbes Avenue, Wood Street, and Fourth Avenue. The acquired buildings were framed by the Colonial Trust Company property.

Historically, Pittsburgh's commercial banking district had additional banking concerns in skyscraper buildings in the northern quadrants of Fifth Avenue and Wood Street, adjacent to the northern terminus of the boundary increase area; however, these have since been demolished. The 24-story Farmers Deposit National Bank by architects Alden & Harlow (1902) occupied the northeast

end quadrant of the intersection, and the 22-story First National Bank of Pittsburgh by D. H. Burnham & Company (1912) occupied the northwest. The Farmers Deposit National Bank was slip-covered in aluminum panels around 1966 and then demolished in 1997. The First National Bank of Pittsburgh tower was deconstructed in 1969 and was eventually replaced by a modern skyscraper now occupied by the bank's successor, PNC Bank.

Criterion A Significance for Commerce

The nomination did ably demonstrate the predominantly financial character of the district and its significance as a banking center; however, it did not capture the true scope and scale of commerce in the district. For example, while Wood Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues contained the dominant collection of banking towers, other commercial concerns were located between the anchoring towers. In 1914, when the listed Fourth Avenue Historic District was home to at least eighteen dedicated bank, trust, or stock exchange buildings, it was also home to more than a dozen office buildings that accommodated a wide variety of commercial interests (G.M. Hopkins & Company 1914). The district's skyscrapers and low- and mid-rise office buildings housed a range of businesses in addition to the financial services, insurance agencies, real estate agencies, and stockbrokerages that tended to settle in the neighborhood. For instance, the Machesney Building of 1905 at 221-225 Fourth Avenue by architect Thomas H. Scott was a favorite address for stockbrokers but also provided offices for its architect, the Vacuum Cleaner Company, the J.L. Mott Iron Works, the Moorhead Publishing Company, and the Lewis Findlay Coal Company (Kidney 1997:217). The Magee Building at 336 Fourth Avenue was originally built for the *Pittsburgh Times* newspaper in 1892 with office space on upper floors; at least five architects—Frederick J. Osterling c. 1898 (the building's architect); Elise Mercur c. 1898-1900; Press C. Dowler c. 1926; William Henry Sims c. 1913; and Liff and Justh, engineers and architects, c. 1949—and the Pittsburgh Chess Club (c. 1913) had offices there. The Ferguson Block at 319 Third Avenue provided a reading room and library for the Allegheny County Chess Association as well as offices for two lumber companies, a coal company, several manufacturers of building supplies, an architect (Robert Maurice Trimble), a public works official, and "Ebon C. Chamberlain, Sanitarian (Sterilizing, Deodorizing and Disinfecting Specialized)" among others (Fleming 1904:245). The Hostetter Building (not extant) on Fourth Avenue included among its many tenants the Pittsburgh Conservatory of Music in the spacious rooms of the Mozart Club, a mining engineer and surveyor, and a professional photographer. In addition to the dozens of real estate and

insurance agencies that claimed offices in the 1901 Arrott Building at the northwest corner of Fourth Avenue and Wood Street, the eighteen-story skyscraper housed offices and showrooms for manufacturers of a wide variety of building materials, including lumber, steel, brick, sanitary fixtures, and rustless screens. Arrott Building tenants included an advertising agency, construction engineers, a detective agency, distillers, engravers, a language school, opticians, the Pittsburgh Flood Commission, and the Allegheny County headquarters of the Girl Scouts. Other district buildings housed storefronts, showrooms, and offices that benefitted from the upscale reputation of the financial district.

The remaining buildings in the boundary increase area are significant for commerce. They generally were designed with several upper floors of offices to serve the surrounding financial and business community and with first floor retail space to take advantage of prime real estate. The speculative building at 419-423 Wood Street, which housed investment brokerage offices on its upper floors, had Stouffer's Restaurant as its first floor tenant, when it opened in 1930 (R.L. Polk & Company 1930:2114). The Royal Building at 320 Forbes Avenue, which dates from c. 1910, was purpose-built as The Royal Restaurant. Its neighbor at 322 Forbes Avenue was also built as a restaurant. The building at 330 Forbes, which was formerly adjacent to the Harris Theatre (not extant, now a parking lot outside the revised boundary), was built by 1923 for the Harris Amusement Company and most likely housed offices and storage space for the theater owners (G.M. Hopkins 1923). The Roberts Building at 429-431 Wood Street was built as a jewelry store for John M. Roberts & Son Company in 1924-25.

The combined Fourth Avenue Historic District (listed district and boundary increase area) is distinct from surrounding commercial areas of downtown Pittsburgh. It differs from the Monongahela River-focused development of warehouses, offices, and manufactories that characterize the Firstside Historic District located one block to the south. Firstside historically relied on river trade and the wharf for its livelihood, and its generally utilitarian warehouse buildings—for instance, the late nineteenth and early twentieth century brick buildings on the 100 block of Market Street that were built in restrained versions of Greek Revival, Classical Revival, and Commercial styles—share little of the monumentality and architectural elaboration common to the contemporary Fourth Avenue Historic District. Commercially, Firstside was defined by industries, manufactories, wholesalers, and commission merchants (distributors of goods) not by banks, well-appointed offices, stores, and restaurants like the Fourth Avenue Historic District. The combined Fourth Avenue Historic District is related to, but sufficiently distinguishable from, the Pittsburgh Central Downtown Historic District with its concentration of institutional, commercial, and skyscraper buildings (including many important structures that

postdate 1934) located immediately to the northeast of the Fourth Avenue Historic District. The Pittsburgh Central Downtown District includes several churches, clubhouses, hotels, theaters, department stores, and skyscrapers housing company headquarters. Its scale is taller, broader, and slightly less compact than Fourth Avenue as exemplified by its centerpiece grouping of modern Renaissance I era projects: the 30-story Alcoa Company headquarters at 425 Sixth Avenue (1950-1952), the 41-story Mellon Bank Building/United States Steel Company headquarters at 525 William Penn Place (1950-1951), and the landscaped plaza/parking garage known as Mellon Square (1954-1955) located between the two towers. The combined Fourth Avenue Historic District is also distinct from the Market Square area to the west (at the intersection of Forbes Avenue and Market Street), which once served as Pittsburgh's central public market. Market Square, historically known as the Diamond, was first laid out in 1784, and was traditionally a retail center for the city with food stalls, small specialty stores, and an abundance of restaurants (Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation 2008:55).

Criterion C Significance for Architecture

According to the original nomination, "Pittsburgh's richest grouping of banking buildings and most important early skyscrapers are located [in the district]" (Aurand 1985:6). Highlighted architectural examples from the listed district include the "utterly Victorian and rather eccentric" Dollar Savings Bank Building as well as buildings designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque, Classical Revival, and Beaux Arts styles. The contributing resources of the boundary increase area are also significant under NRHP Criterion C for their architecture. The earliest surviving buildings in the district date from the late nineteenth century beginning c. 1875. Three Italianate office buildings with cast iron facades (418, 420, and 422 Wood Street) represent the scale and style of the early buildings of the Fourth Avenue Historic District. The remaining contributing buildings date from the first three decades of the twentieth century and demonstrate a wide variety of Classical expressions from modest (445 Wood Street) to self-aggrandized (the Roberts building at 429-431 Wood Street) and from Neo-Classical revival (Fifth Wood Building at 256 Fifth Avenue) to Beaux Arts Classicism (the Royal Building at 320 Forbes Avenue).

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)
Name of Property Allegheny County, PA
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary corresponds to the dashed line shown in the "Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) Site Map with Photo Key" at a scale of 1"=115'.

Boundary Justification

The boundary comprises a dense streetscape of late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings that are related thematically to the neighboring NRHP-listed Fourth Avenue Historic District. It shares the same emphasis on finance and commerce that the Fourth Avenue Historic District has in a way that is distinct from surrounding areas. It is distinct from the Monongahela River-focused development of warehouses, offices, and manufactories that characterize the Firstside Historic District to the south. It is related to, but sufficiently distinguishable from, the Pittsburgh Central Downtown District with its concentration of institutional, commercial, and skyscraper buildings, including many important structures that postdate 1934. It is distinct from the Market Square area to the west, which once served as Pittsburgh's central public market, and the retail buildings that surround it. The boundary also relies on physical separations (streets, an alley, and vacant lots); temporal distinctions (several large buildings to the north and northeast of the boundary were constructed decades after the period of significance); and integrity of resources (buildings on the east side of Wood Street have been demolished) to delineate a cohesive boundary increase area that complements the listed district.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)
Name of Property Allegheny County, PA
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photos Page 1

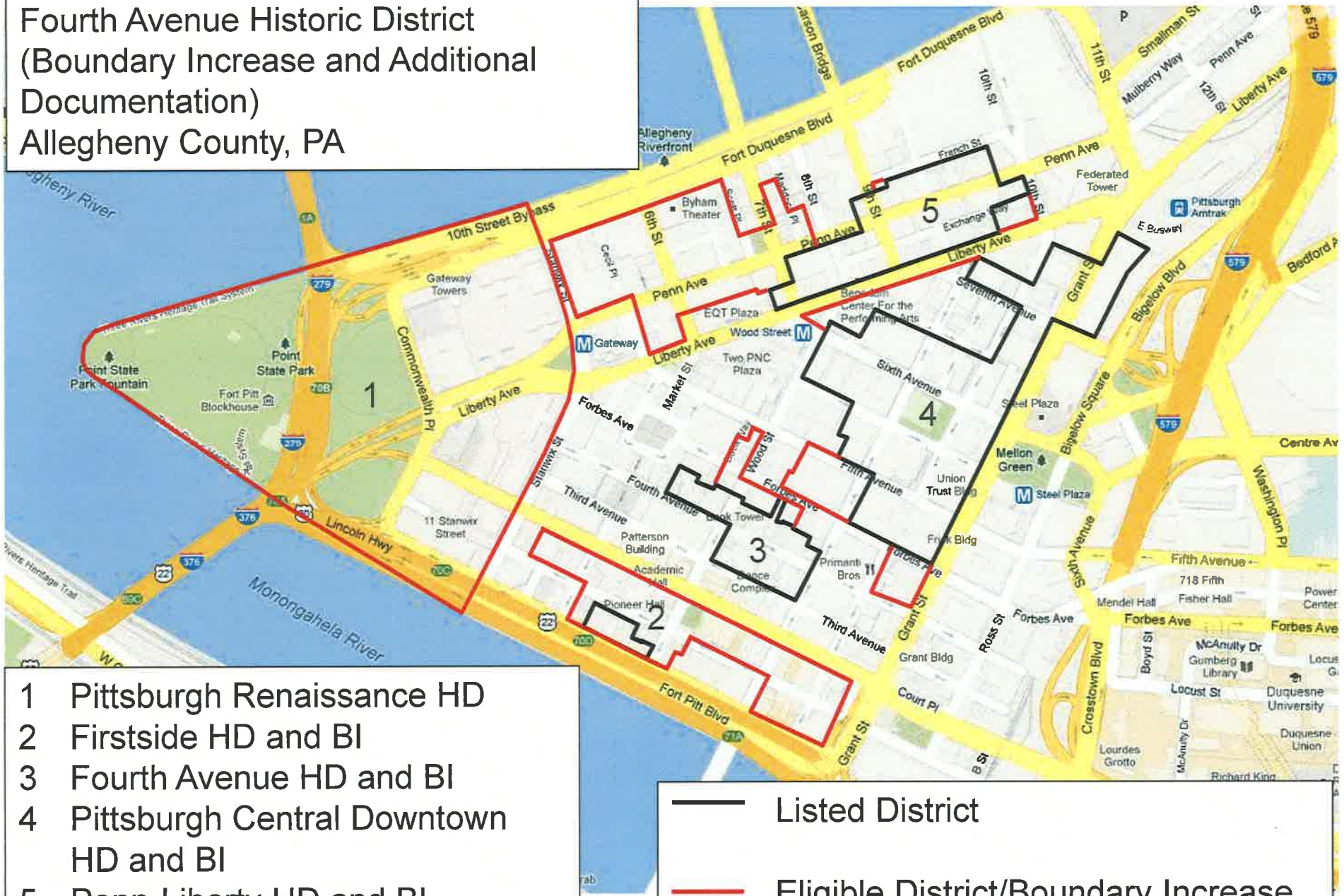
Photograph technical information
Printer: Epson Stylus Pro 9600
Paper: Fuji Crystal Archive
Ink: Epson UltraChrome

Common to all photographs:
Name of Property: Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)
City or Vicinity: Pittsburgh City
County: Allegheny
State: PA
Photographer: Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation (Frank Stroker)
Date Photographed: February 2012 (photos 1-3 and 5-7) and June 2012 photo 4)
Location of files: Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
100 W. Station Square, Suite 450, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Number of Photos: 7

Photograph Caption List

Photograph number	Description of view	Direction of camera
1	Southwest corner of Fifth Avenue looking southwest along 400 block of Wood Street, showing 256 Fifth Avenue.	SW
2	View north from 435-37 to 445 Wood Street, 439 Wood Street centered.	NW
3	View north along the 400 block of Wood Street from 241 Forbes Avenue to 256 Fifth Avenue.	N
4	Southwest corner of Wood Street and Forbes Avenue intersection, showing 419-423 Wood Street.	SW
5	Southeast corner of the Wood Street and Forbes Avenue intersection, showing 302 Forbes Avenue and 418, 420 and 422 Wood Street with the NRHP-listed Fourth Avenue Historic District at the far right.	SE
6	View of 320 to 302 Forbes Avenue, including the former Colonial Trust Company Building (Forbes Avenue entrance) in the NRHP-listed Fourth Avenue Historic District at center.	SW
7	View along Forbes Avenue from 330 Forbes Avenue to Wood Street.	SW

Downtown Pittsburgh Historic Districts
Fourth Avenue Historic District
(Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)
Allegheny County, PA

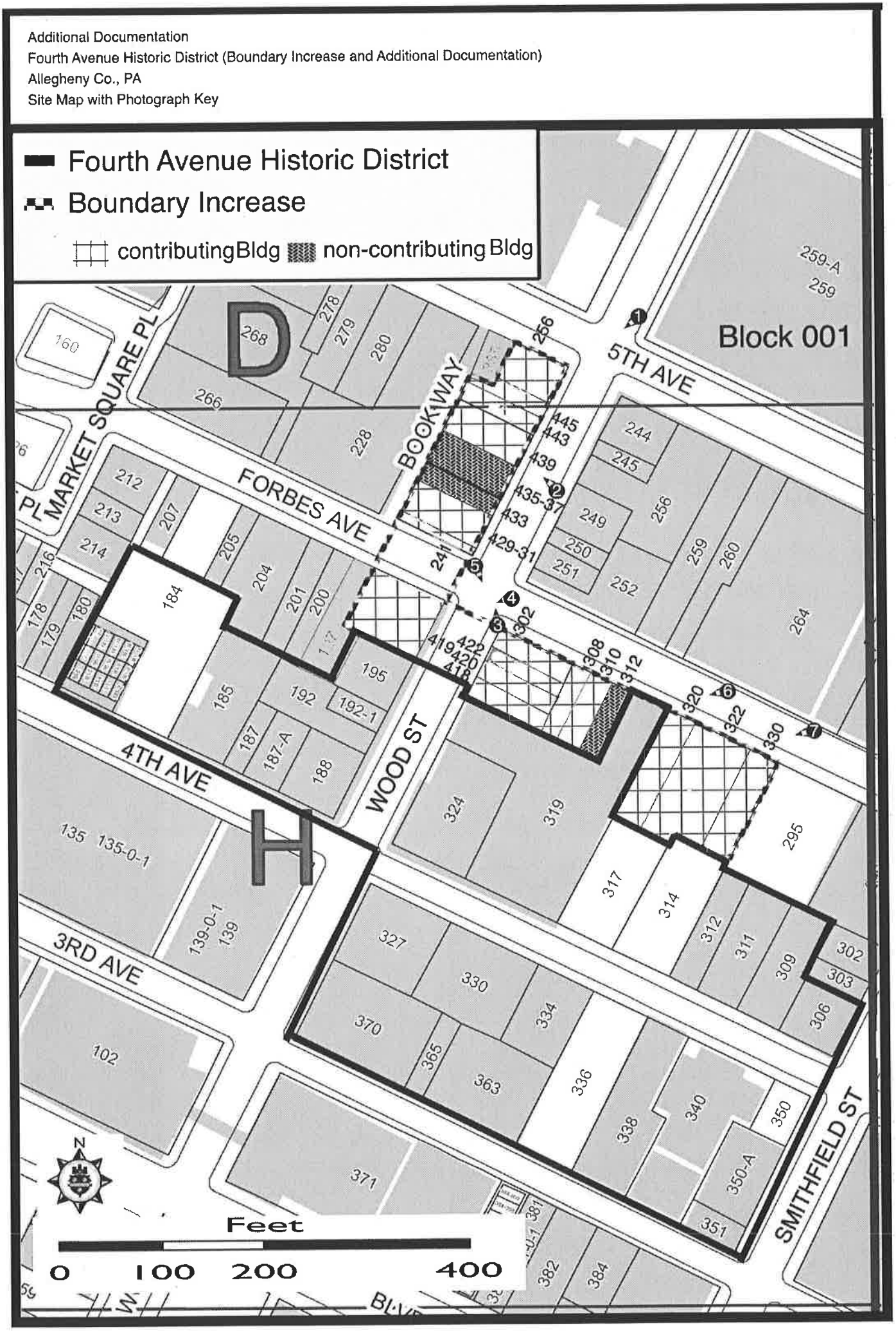


1 Pittsburgh Renaissance HD
2 Firstside HD and BI
3 Fourth Avenue HD and BI
4 Pittsburgh Central Downtown HD and BI
5 Penn-Liberty HD and BI

Listed District

Eligible District/Boundary Increase

Additional Documentation
Fourth Avenue Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)
Allegheny Co., PA
Site Map with Photograph Key



Fourth Avenue Historic District
(Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)
Allegheny County, PA
RESOURCE INVENTORY

Address	Tax Parcel	Historic Name of Property	Current Name of Property	Date	Style	Architect/(Builder)	Number of Stories	Material	Type of Resource	Historic Function	Contributing	Photo
256 Fifth Avenue	1-D-287	Fifth Wood Building	Kashi Jewelers	1922	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Classical Revival	George H. Schwan (Pittsburgh)	6	Brick and stone	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE /business	Yes	1
241 Forbes Avenue	1-H-234	N/A	"Skinny Building"	c. 1901	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Classical Revival	Unknown	3	Wood, brick and marble	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	3
302 Forbes Avenue	1-H-280	N/A	N/A	1910-1911	LATE VICTORIAN/ Renaissance Revival	W. F. Struthers (Pittsburgh)	2	Brick	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE /financial institution	Yes	5
308 Forbes Avenue	1-H-286	N/A	N/A	1880 - 1899	LATE VICTORIAN/ Italianate	Unknown	3	Brick and stone with metal trim	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	5, 6
310 Forbes Avenue	1-H-287	N/A	N/A	c. 1920s	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Tudor Revival	Unknown	2	Brick, stone and wood trim	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	6
312 Forbes Avenue	1-H-288	N/A	N/A	1900 - 1919; remodeled in 1970s	MODERN MOVEMENT/ Modern	Unknown	2	Wood weatherboard	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	No	6
320 Forbes Avenue	1-H-291	Royal Restaurant	Royal Building	c. 1910	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Beaux Arts	Unknown	2	White terra cotta	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE /restaurant	Yes	7
322 Forbes Avenue	1-H-292	N/A	N/A	1911	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Classical Revival	A. W. Mellon (Builder, Pittsburgh)	2	White terra cotta	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	7
330 Forbes Avenue	1-H-294	Harris Amusement Company	N/A	c. 1915	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Beaux Arts	Unknown	3	Brick and terra cotta façade	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	7
418 Wood Street	1-H-283	N/A	N/A	c. 1875-1881	LATE VICTORIAN/ Italianate	Unknown	4	Cast iron, stone veneer	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	5
419-423 Wood Street	1-H-196	J.H. Holmes & Company and Stouffer's Restaurant	Italian Sons & Daughters of America building	1929-1930	MODERN MOVEMENT/ Art Deco	Hunting, Davis & Dunnells (Pittsburgh)	3	Stone	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE /restaurant	Yes	4
420 Wood Street	1-H-282	N/A	N/A	c. 1875-1881	LATE VICTORIAN/ Italianate	Unknown	4	Cast iron	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	5
422 Wood Street	1-H-281	N/A	N/A	c. 1875-1881	LATE VICTORIAN/ Italianate	Unknown	4	Cast iron, mosaic tile	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	5
429-431 Wood Street	1-H-235	John M. Roberts & Son Co. (Jewelry Store)	N/A	1925	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Beaux Arts	George W. Rowland (Pittsburgh)	5	Terra cotta	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE /specialty store	Yes	3
433 Wood Street	1-H-237	N/A	N/A	c. 1965	MODERN MOVEMENT/ Modern	Unknown	3	Brick	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	No	3
435-437 Wood Street	1-H-238	N/A	N/A	c. 1980	MODERN MOVEMENT/ Modern	Unknown	2	Glass	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	No	3
439 Wood Street	1-H-240	N/A	N/A	c. 1910	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Classical Revival	Unknown	4	Brick and terra cotta	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	1. 2
443 Wood Street	1-H-242	N/A	N/A	c. 1925	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Classical Revival	Unknown	4	Stone, stucco and limestone façade	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	1, 2
445 Wood Street	1-D-286	N/A	N/A	c. 1900	LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Classical Revival	Unknown	4	Wood and brick	Building	COMMERCE/TRADE	Yes	1, 2

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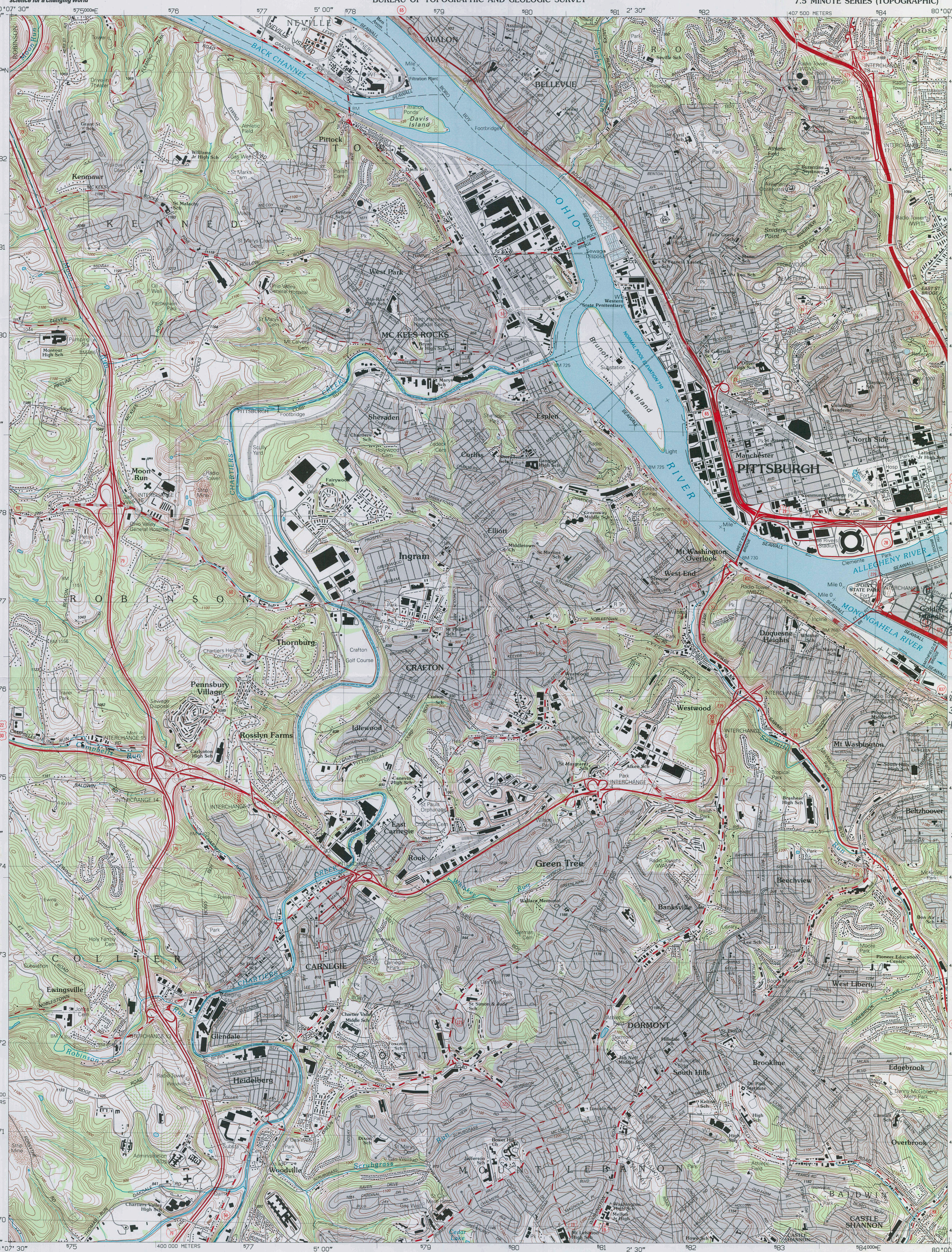
PENNSYLVANIA–ALLEGHENY CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey

Derived from imagery taken 1991 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery taken 1997; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1992
Boundaries, other than corporate, revised 1998

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 17
2 500-meter ticks: Pennsylvania Coordinate System of 1983, south zone

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

MN GN
9° 160 MILS
0°36′ 11 MILS
UTM GRID AND 1998 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24 000

KILOMETERS 1 .5 0 1 2
METERS 1000 0 1000 2000
MILES 1 .5 0 1
FEET 1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 8000 9000 10 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
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PENNSYLVANIA
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1	2	3
4		5
6	7	8

1 Ambridge
2 Emsworth
3 Glenshaw
4 Oakdale
5 Pittsburgh East
6 Canonsburg
7 Bridgeville
8 Glassport

ADJOINING 7.5′ QUADRANGLE NAMES

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1998

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface . . . . . .
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface . . .
Secondary highway, hard surface . . . . . .
Unimproved road . . .
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

PITTSBURGH WEST, PA.
1997

NIMA 4964 I NE-SERIES V831

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STUDIOS
COIFFURE CREATION ACADEMY
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Caesars Palace
KASHI JEWELERS
RIGHT LANE MUST TURN RIGHT
Fifth Ave
LIANG'S HUNAN EXPRESS
51 TO BRENTWOOD LOOP

Denim Xpress
Denim Xpress

ROBERTS
Wood St
END
ROAD WORK
OVER
45 FEET
7-ELEVEN
HOT
DOGS
Stop In Today

WESTERN UNION
SHUMAN MARKET
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