



# Pittsburgh Wash House & Public Baths

Historic Landmark Nomination Application

January, 2018.



## INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY HISTORIC NOMINATION FORM

**HRC Staff Use Only**

Date Received:.....  
 Parcel No.: .....  
 Ward: .....  
 Zoning Classification: .....  
 Bldg. Inspector: .....  
 Council District: .....

**Fee Schedule**

Please make check payable to *Treasurer, City of Pittsburgh*  
 Individual Landmark Nomination: \$100.00  
 District Nomination: \$250.00

**1. HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY:**  
Pittsburgh Wash House and Public Baths (later  
Lawrenceville Neighborhood House)

**2. CURRENT NAME OF PROPERTY:**  
Lawrenceville Associates

**3. LOCATION**

- a. Street: 3495 Butler St
- b. City, State, Zip Code: Pittsburgh, PA 15201
- c. Neighborhood: Lawrenceville

**4. OWNERSHIP**

- d. Owner(s): Lawrenceville Associates, LLC
- e. Street: 3400 Butler St
- f. City, State, Zip Code: Pittsburgh, PA 15201-1300 Phone: (412) 683-4681

**5. CLASSIFICATION AND USE – Check all that apply**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Current Use:</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private – home	<u>Office Space</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private – other	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Public – government	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public - other	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Place of religious worship	_____

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6. NOMINATED BY:

a. Name: Matthew W.C. Falcone

b. Street: 1501 Reedsdale St., Suite 5003

c. City, State, Zip: Pittsburgh, PA 15233

d. Phone: (412) 256-8755 Email: mfalcone@preservationpgh.org

7. DESCRIPTION

Provide a narrative description of the structure, district, site, or object. If it has been altered over time, indicate the date(s) and nature of the alteration(s). (Attach additional pages as needed)

*If Known:*

a. Year Built: 1904

b. Architectural Style: Romanesque Revival

c. Architect/Builder: Architect: Rutan & Russell, Builder: Cochrane & Company, Plumber: McFadden & Craig

Narrative: See Attached

8. HISTORY

Provide a history of the structure, district, site, or object. Include a bibliography of sources consulted. (Attach additional pages as needed.) Include copies of relevant source materials with the nomination form (see Number 11).

Narrative: See Attached

9. SIGNIFICANCE

The *Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances, Title 11, Historic Preservation, Chapter 1: Historic Structures, Districts, Sites and Objects* lists ten criteria, at least one of which must be met for Historic Designation. Describe how the structure, district, site, or object meets one or more of these criteria and complete a narrative discussing in detail each area of significance. (Attach additional pages as needed)

The structure, building, site, district, object is significant because of (check all that apply):

1.  Its location as a site of a significant historic or prehistoric event or activity;
2.  Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
3.  Its exemplification of an architectural type, style or design distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship;
4.  Its identification as the work of an architect, designer, engineer, or builder whose individual work is significant in the history or development of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
5.  Its exemplification of important planning and urban design techniques distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design or detail;

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6.  Its location as a site of an important archaeological resource;
  7.  Its association with important cultural or social aspects or events in the history of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
  8.  Its exemplification of a pattern of neighborhood development or settlement significant to the cultural history or traditions of the City, whose components may lack individual distinction;
  9.  Its representation of a cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related theme expressed through distinctive areas, properties, sites, structures, or objects that may or may not be contiguous; or
  10.  Its unique location and distinctive physical appearance or presence representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community, or the City of Pittsburgh.

Narrative: See Attached

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#### 10. INTEGRITY

In addition, the ordinance specifies that “Any area, property, site, structure or object that meets any one or more of the criteria listed above shall also have sufficient integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship to make it worthy of preservation or restoration”. (Attach additional pages as needed)

Narrative: See Attached

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#### 11. NOTIFICATION/CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNER(S)

##### *1.3(a)(2) Community information process.*

*Preceding submission of a nomination form for a District, the Historic Review Commission shall conduct at least one (1) public information meeting within or near the boundaries of the proposed district, which shall include at least one (1) member of the Department of City Planning and one (1) Commission member, to discuss the possible effects of designation. Notice shall be given to the owners of property in the proposed district in accordance with Section 1.3(b) below. The final public information meeting shall be held no more than six months before the nomination form is submitted.*

##### *1.3(a)(1)(a) Subsection F.*

*In the case of a nomination as a Historic District, by community-based organizations or by any individual, but in either event the nomination shall be accompanied by a petition signed by the owners of record of twenty-five (25) percent of the properties within the boundaries of the proposed District.*

- Please attach documentation of your efforts to gain property owner’s consent.-

\*\* The nomination of any religious property shall be accompanied by a signed letter of consent from the property’s owner.



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12. PHOTO LOGS: *Please Attach*

13. BIBLIOGRAPHY: *Please Attach*

14. NOMINATION FORM PREPARED BY:

a. Name: Matthew L. Conboy for Preservation Pittsburgh

b. Street: 422 N Taylor Ave

c. City, State, Zip: Pittsburgh, PA 15212

d. Phone: (412) 417-7275 Email: matthew@startwithartpgh.org

e. Signature: Matthew L. Conboy



# HISTORIC NOMINATION – INSTRUCTIONS

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE NOMINATION FORM

1. Indicate the original name of the property if it is currently known by a different name; e.g. Union Station.
2. Indicate the current name of the property
3. Indicate the street address for the property. For districts, attach a separate sheet listing the street address of each property included in the nomination and a clear street map of the area showing the boundaries of the proposed district.
4. Indicate the owner of the property and his or her mailing address. For districts, attach a separate sheet listing the owner of each property and his or her mailing address.
5. Check the classification as indicated.
  - a. **“Historic Structure”** means anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires directly or indirectly, a permanent location on the land, including walks, fences, signs, steps and sidewalks at which events that made a significant contribution to national, state or local history occurred or which involved a close association with the lives of people of nations, state or local significance; or an outstanding example of a period, style, architectural movement, or method of construction; or one of the last surviving works of a pioneer architect, builder or designer; or one of the last survivors of a particular style or period of construction.
  - b. **“Historic District”** means a defined territorial division of land which shall include more than one (1) contiguous or related parcels of property, specifically identified by separate resolution, at which events occurred that made a significant contribution to national, state, or local history, or which contains more than one historic structure or historic landmarks, or which contains groups, rows or sets of structures or landmarks, or which contains an aggregate example of a period, style, architectural movements or method of construction, providing distinguishing characteristics of the architectural type or architectural period it represents.
  - c. **“Historic Site”** means the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure whether standing, ruined or vanished, where the location itself maintains historical or archaeological value regardless of the value of any existing structures.
  - d. **“Historic Object”** means a material thing of historic significance for functional, aesthetic cultural or scientific reasons that may be, by nature or design, moveable yet related to a specific setting or environment.
6. Indicate the person(s) responsible for the nomination. Please note: According to the Historic Preservation Ordinance:

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*“Nomination of an area, property, site, or object for consideration and designation as a Historic Structure, Historic District, Historic Site, or Historic Object may be submitted to the Historic Review Commission by any of the following:*

- a. The Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh
  - b. A Member of the Historic Review Commission
  - c. A Member of the City Planning Commission
  - d. A Member of the Pittsburgh City Council
  - e. The Owner of Record or any person residing in the City of Pittsburgh for at least one year (for the nomination of a Historic Structure, Site or Object)
  - f. A signed petition of 25% of the owners of record (for the nomination of a Historic District)
7. Write a physical description of the nominated property or district. Include the following information as applicable:
- architectural style(s)
  - arrangement of architectural elements
  - building materials
  - method(s) of construction
  - visual character
  - street pattern
  - density
  - type and arrangement of buildings
  - topography
  - history of the development of the area
8. Provide a narrative history of the structure, district, site, or object. Include the following information when available:
- History of the development of the area;
  - Circumstances which brought the structure, district, site, or object into being;
  - Biographical information on architects, builders, developers, artisans, planners, or others who created or contributed to the structure, district, site, or object;
  - Contextual background on building type(s) and/or style(s);
  - Importance of the structure, district, site, or object in the larger community over the course of its existence.
  - Include a bibliography of all sources consulted at the end. Where historical information is uncertain or disputed, reference sources in the text.
9. Listed below are the categories and criteria for historic designation as set forth in the Pittsburgh Historic Preservation Ordinance. Describe in detail how the structure, district, site, or object meets one or more of the criteria. According to that legislation in Section 1.4 of the Pittsburgh Historic Preservation Ordinance, *Criteria for Designation*, a building must meet at least one of the following criteria in order to be designated:
1. Its location as a site of a significant historic or prehistoric event or activity;
  2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
  3. Its exemplification of an architectural type, style or design distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship;
  4. Its identification as the work of an architect, designer, engineer, or builder whose individual work is significant in the history or development of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;

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5. Its exemplification of important planning and urban design techniques distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design or detail;
  6. Its location as a site of an important archaeological resource;
  7. Its association with important cultural or social aspects or events in the history of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
  8. Its exemplification of a pattern of neighborhood development or settlement significant to the cultural history or traditions of the City, whose components may lack individual distinction;
  9. Its representation of a cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related theme expressed through distinctive areas, properties, sites, structures, or objects that may or may not be contiguous; or
  10. Its unique location and distinctive physical appearance or presence representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community, or the City of Pittsburgh.
- 10.** In addition, the ordinance specifies that “Any area, property, site, structure or object that meets any one or more of the criteria listed above shall also have sufficient integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship to make it worthy of preservation or restoration.”
- 11.** The nomination must be accompanied by evidence that the nominator has made a good-faith effort to communicate his or her interest in the historic designation of this landmark or district to the owner(s) of these properties. Describe how this was done, and attach evidence that the owner(s) of the nominated landmark or of the properties within the nominated district have been informed of the nomination. This may include a copy of a notification letter with a mailing list, a letter confirming phone calls, or a petition signed by affected property owners.
- 12.** Clear photographs of the nominated buildings or districts should accompany the nomination form. The applicant shall include photographs of all elevations of an individual building and its setting, or the front elevation of each building in a district. In the case of closely spaced buildings or rowhouses, several buildings may be included in one photograph. Each photograph must be labeled with the street address of the building(s) and the month and year the photograph was taken.
- 13.** Copies of major supporting documents should accompany the nomination form. Such documents may include, but are not limited to:
- historic photographs;
  - historic and contemporary maps;
  - historic or contemporary texts describing the subject property or district;
  - historic or contemporary texts describing people, places, or events that comprise the historic context of the subject property or district.
  - Oversized materials (such as architectural drawings) and materials too fragile to copy may be accepted.

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the nominator to provide the Historic Review Commission and its Staff with information sufficient to fairly evaluate the nomination. **Incomplete nomination forms will not be accepted. Fee must be included. Nominations must be submitted in both electronic and hard-copy format.**

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**CHECKLIST: INSERT NAME OF PROPERTY HERE**

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- #1-6 Nomination Form:** Address, Ownership, Classification, Nominator Info.
- #7: Description
- #8: History
- #9: Significance
- #10 Integrity**
- #11 Consent of Property Owners**
- #12 Photographs of Property:** numbered and labeled
- #13 List of Supporting Documents**
  
- Fee**
- Hard-Copy nomination**
- Electronic nomination (Word Format for text).**

## Public Wash and Bath House Addendum

### 7. Description

*Provide a narrative description of the structure, district, site, or object. If it has been altered over time, indicate the date(s) and nature of the alteration(s).*

The Public Wash and Bath House (Wash House) which also included the Clothing and Home Furnishing Bureau at 3495 Butler Street (**Photographs 1, 2 and 3**) sits on the southwest corner of Butler Street and 35th Street in Lower Lawrenceville and occupies its full lot.<sup>1</sup> Although it is not currently situated in a historic district as defined by the National Register of Historic Places, there is a nomination currently being prepared by the City of Pittsburgh and its Planning Department in conjunction with the Urban Redevelopment Authority.<sup>2</sup>

The building is three stories with a full basement and has three bays on the Butler Street facade. The bays along the ground floor are wider than those above it. Due to a change in grade, the building is three stories tall on Butler and extends to four stories on Mulberry Way (formerly Lafayette Alley) where the basement level is fully exposed (**Photograph 4**). The main entrance is along Butler Street (**Photographs 5 and 6**) along with a side entrance on 35th Street (**Photograph 7**) that enabled its patrons to access the Clothing and Home Furnishing Bureau without having to enter the bath house.

The exterior walls feature running bond brick (**Photograph 8**). Stonework trimming is used along the windows on the second and third floors, as keystones on the first floor, and as a continuous course on the first floor (**Photographs 9 and 10**). Romanesque elements include the arches above the windows on the first and third floor as well as an arched corbel table above the third floor windows. Relieving arches of brick with keystones are featured above the first floor windows. The second floor windows rest upon a sill course while the third floor windows are joined by a decorative springing course. The second floor windows also feature segmental (or scheme) arches as opposed to the arches on the first and third floors. The Wash House has a flat roof that previously housed a garden and outdoor space for a children's nursery.

Inside, the building has been extensively renovated, particularly after 1961 when the building ceased operations as a wash and bath house and social hall. The Wash House

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<sup>1</sup> Later in its life, as its social functions outpaced its need as a bathing and washing facility, it became known as the Lawrenceville Neighborhood House. All photographs taken by the author have been adjusted for perspective. In addition, **Photograph 3** is composed of five photographs that have been merged to form a panorama.

<sup>2</sup> There is also a comprehensive survey of Lawrenceville District and its buildings that was commissioned by Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in 1979 (**Supporting Document A**).

was most recently renovated in 2001 by the Quad3 Architecture firm that also currently leases space in this building. **Supporting Document B**, a design portfolio by Jane Hallinan, a former intern at Quad3, includes images (both exterior and interior) immediately prior to the renovation. At this point in time the building had been vacant for several years after hosting an automotive radiator repair shop as a tenant. Currently, there are no interior remnants of its history as a wash or bath house.

The only notable additions to the exterior are the fire escapes. Although not part of the original design, a roof garden was constructed during the summer of 1914 and opened to the public on August 14th, 1914 although it has since been removed.<sup>3</sup> Otherwise, there have not been any substantive updates, additions, or renovations to the exterior.

## 8. History

*Provide a history of the structure, district, site, or object.*

The Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau was founded in 1895 and organized by parishioners at several area churches including St. James Episcopal Church located on Penn Avenue and 16th Street in the Strip District.<sup>4</sup> After several years of providing clothing at reasonable prices to working class families, this group realized that proper and regular bathing was often difficult considering that several or more families often occupied single-family homes and that they were also outgrowing their present location. The plot of land for the Wash House was purchased on in 1901 and ground was broken on April 1st, 1903.

At this time, the area between the Public Wash House and the Allegheny River would have been filled with mills and foundries including Carnegie Steel Company, Crucible Steel Company of America, American Steel Foundries, and Upper Union Mills. It is important to note that these various companies only represent those situated between 33rd and 36th Streets, a testament to the density of industry and manufacturing within Pittsburgh.

Following the opening of the People's Bath at the intersection of Penn Avenue and 16th Street in 1897 and the Peacock Public Baths in the Hill District, the Public Wash House was the third such institution located in Pittsburgh proper. It is important to note that in addition to the many civic and social functions that occurred in this building, the Public Wash House originally served three incredibly diverse but complementary

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<sup>3</sup> "Relief for Babies: Roof Garden at Bath House for Their Benefit," *The Pittsburgh Press*, 18 July 1914, Pg. 2. "Roof Garden of Lawrenceville Bath House," *Pittsburgh Sun*, 15 Aug 1914. A photograph from cover of the 1921 Annual Report in **Supporting Document C** is included here to illustrate what the garden looked like from street level.

<sup>4</sup> A more comprehensive history of the Wash House can be found in the Annual Reports found in **Supporting Document C** at the end of this addendum.



purposes; it provided the means to wash clothes in a space outside of living quarters, it had bathing facilities for both men and women, and it offered a clothing exchange and sewing facility for the creation and repair of clothes. This is unlike every other bath house in Pittsburgh (and the vast majority of the rest of the country) that only had a swimming pool and showers and bath tubs for their customers.

After having their bid selected by the Building and Advisory Committees, the architectural firm of Rutan & Russell began construction of the Public Wash House on April 1st, 1903.<sup>5</sup> Construction continued until 1904 with a private reception being held on May 31st, 1904 and a public opening on June 1st, 1904.

As included in **Supporting Document C**, a series of Annual Reports from the Public Wash House and Baths Association, the laundry facilities were composed of:

fourteen porcelain lined, cast iron laundry tubs with hot and cold water connections; one large washing machine, one centrifugal extractor (or wringer), both operated by electricity; one steam boiler used for sterilizing bath, nursery and Dispensary laundry; three dryers, containing twelve drying racks, and heated with natural gas.<sup>6</sup>

In addition to the wash facilities and baths, an assembly room, clubrooms for men and boys, and a day kindergarten were also included in the building.<sup>7</sup> As additional needs were identified, the Public Wash House and Baths Association added new initiatives including a medical clinic and dispensary that provided very basic medical care and referrals.<sup>8</sup>

According to Eliza Smith, a local historian and historic preservationist, “After World War I, the number of patrons dropped to 600 on a peak day.”<sup>9</sup> By 1928, the Public Wash House along with its plumbing and heating systems were reportedly “badly run down” when its board of directors appeared before the city council to ask for \$2,000 in repairs.<sup>10</sup> At this point in time, approximately 50,000 baths were given each year and the Public Wash House was given the money. With the reduced use of the bathing and laundry facilities, it was renamed the Lawrenceville Neighborhood House later in 1928 and continued to provide resources and classes for local families for three more

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<sup>5</sup> The building committee consisted of Mrs. George C. Clapp (President), Mrs. John B. Herron (Chairwoman), Mrs. H. B. Birch, Mrs. Wenman A. Lewis, and Mrs. J.H. McIlvaine. “New Wash and Bath House.” *The Pittsburgh Gazette*. 2 Apr 1903. Pg. 9.

<sup>6</sup> Annual Report of the Public Wash House and Baths Association, pg 4.

<sup>7</sup> “Public Baths to be Erected.” *Pittsburg Daily Post*. 1 Feb. 1903. Pg. 27.

<sup>8</sup> “Annual Business Meetings End Successful Women’s Club Season.” *The Pittsburgh Gazette Times*. 23 May 1915. Pg. 13.

<sup>9</sup> Eliza Smith, Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey Form.

<sup>10</sup> “Repairs asked from Council.” *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. 1 March 1928. Pg. 15.

decades.<sup>11</sup> A year later, The Pittsburgh Press published a brief history of the neighborhood house and calculated that “almost 1,500,000 baths have been taken there, and that many others have used the institution for other purposes.”<sup>12</sup>

By 1954, there were no longer lines around the block to gain entry to the bathing and laundry facilities, and the cost of a bath (along with soap and a towel) had risen to 20 cents.<sup>13</sup> By the late-1950’s, Pittsburgh’s City Council made indoor plumbing and bathing facilities mandatory in every house and attendance dropped rapidly. Following its closure on December 7th, 1961, it remained empty for several decades and at one point hosted an automotive radiator repair shop and garage (an expansion of the Arena Automotive Radiator Company that was located next door in a building originally constructed as horse stables) before laying vacant for 3-4 more years.<sup>14</sup> At this point, in 2001, it was extensively renovated in order for it to house new commercial and office space.

## 9. Significance

The Public Wash House and Baths meet six of the ten Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances criteria for Historic Designation.

### **2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States.**

The Public Wash House was made possible and is predominantly linked with Henry W. Phipps Jr., but another industrialist, George Westinghouse also played an important role in its existence and success.

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<sup>11</sup> Joseph A. Borkowski, *Historical Highlights and Sites of Lawrenceville Area*, 1969, 35.

<sup>12</sup> “Monday’s Wash—Saturday’s Bath Possible by Community House.” *The Pittsburgh Press*. 15 March 1929. Pg. 33.

<sup>13</sup> “Waiting for a Bath.” *The Pittsburgh Press*. 16 May 1954. Pg. 104.

<sup>14</sup> “Bath House Stops Steaming as Another Era Passes Here,” *The Pittsburgh Press*, 24 December 1961, pg. 7. One notable story regarding the wash house’s closing concerned a Sharpsburg man who used the bathtubs for bathing from 1904 until a little more than a week after the Bath House officially closed. The article notes that he was allowed to take this one last bath when he appeared at the wash house.

After reading about the proposed wash and bath house in a Pittsburgh newspaper in 1901, and despite the fact that he was now living in New York City, Henry Phipps offered the group \$1000 for their building fund. Upon “further investigation into plans and conditions, he became more interested and volunteered to contribute one-half the cost of the building, [along] with one-half of the first year’s running expenses.”<sup>15</sup> This amount came to \$28,502.47, which would amount to more than \$750,000 today.

In addition to the Public Wash House, Phipps also commissioned the Phipps Gymnasium and Bath House for the North Side neighborhood where he grew up that opened in 1903, the Pittsburgh (or Phipps) Natatorium that opened in 1907 at 540 Duquesne Way (near the Sixth Street Bridge), and the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens (1893) in Oakland.

Having grown up with Andrew Carnegie as a neighbor in Allegheny City (now Pittsburgh’s North Side), Phipps became partners with him in 1865 in Union Iron Mills. His main focus in these companies was on the financial side. This partnership lasted until 1901 when Carnegie Steel Company was sold to the United States Steel Corporation. Contrary to Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and Pierpont Morgan, Phipps avoided publicizing his philanthropic efforts. According to Carnegie, when asked about the Phipps Conservatory:

I think Mr. Phipps put his money to better use in giving the working-men of Allegheny conservatories filled with beautiful flowers, orchids, and aquatic plants, which they, with their wives and children, can enjoy in their spare hours, and upon which they can feed their love for the beautiful, than if he had given his surplus money to furnish them with bread.<sup>16</sup>

Phipps focused much of his charitable giving on improving health care for the poor and targeted tuberculosis and psychiatry in particular. Despite his vast and varied philanthropy, it is impossible to gauge the true extent of his charitable giving because, according to his granddaughter, “unlike Carnegie, Harry shunned all publicity about his personal life and philanthropies.”<sup>17</sup> However, even today, almost 90 years after he died, Phipps’ family continues to build affordable housing for low and moderate income families in New York City through the Phipps Houses foundation that he founded in 1905.

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<sup>15</sup> First Report of Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh, 5.

<sup>16</sup> Henry Phipps Jr. Philanthropy Roundtable.

[http://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/almanac/hall\\_of\\_fame/henry\\_phipps\\_jr](http://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/almanac/hall_of_fame/henry_phipps_jr)

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

Finally, George Westinghouse donated the dynamo (electric generator) and related equipment required to turn steam power into electricity.<sup>18</sup> According to biographer I.E. Levine, quite contrary to Phipps, Westinghouse “was convinced that charity was damaging to the giver and the receiver and should be resorted to only when there was no other alternative.”<sup>19</sup> From another biographer, Henry Prout, Westinghouse focused much of his attention on the welfare of his employees and their families, but in terms of affordable and safe housing, he sought “its solution along business lines, and yet in the spirit of the highest and most practical philanthropy.”<sup>20</sup> While Westinghouse’s belief was that the best philanthropy was a well-paying job, much of his charitable giving was related to the YMCA, which would have had a mission closely related to the social concerns of the Wash House. In terms of the ability of Westinghouse’s generator to alleviate time-consuming laundry, his gift was just as significant as Phipps’ monetary gift.

### **3. Its exemplification of an architectural type, style or design distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship.**

The Wash House is an example of the Romanesque Revival style with its massing, springing arches, and recessed entrance. Although this building joined several other bath houses in Pittsburgh, it was the first of its kind to offer laundry facilities in Pittsburgh, and in fact was only the third public wash house in the United States.<sup>21</sup> For perspective, New York City opened their first public wash facility (the People’s Washing and Bathing Association at 141-143 Mott Street) in 1852 while it wasn’t until 1918 that Chicago constructed a bath house with laundry facilities.

In modern times, the first public wash houses or laundries can be traced to the Frederick Street Baths and Washhouse that opened in 1842 in Liverpool, England and the Whitechapel Baths that opened in London, England in 1847. As noted by Marilyn Williams, the inclusion of laundry facilities in public baths then became the norm in England.<sup>22</sup> In the United States, the first public bath that included laundry facilities was constructed by the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor in 1852 (although it closed due to a lack of

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<sup>18</sup> This information was found in an unlabeled newspaper clipping found in the archives at the Carnegie Library main branch in Oakland.

<sup>19</sup> I.E. Levine, *Inventive Wizard: George Westinghouse*, New York: Julian Messner, 1962, pg. 136.

<sup>20</sup> Henry G. Prout, *A Biography of George Westinghouse*, pg. 295. From [www.rodneyohebsion.com/george-westinghouse](http://www.rodneyohebsion.com/george-westinghouse).

<sup>21</sup> “Need of Public Baths,” *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, 9 June, 1905, pg 19.

<sup>22</sup> Marilyn T. Williams, *Washing “The Great Unwashed”*: Public Baths in Urban America, 1840-1920. Ohio State U P: 1991, 8.

funding just a few short years later). More than four decades later in 1893, “J.H. Williams and Company, an ironworks located in Brooklyn, modeled its bath, consisting of 12 showers, after the People’s Baths [New York City], and also provided laundry facilities where the workers could wash and dry their clothes.”<sup>23</sup>

The need for facilities such as this can be traced back to housing conditions, particularly as they existed in industrial cities like Pittsburgh that attracted large numbers of immigrants.<sup>24</sup> These people often lived in tenements with multiple generations and families living in the same one or two-room apartment. The burden of doing laundry under these circumstances meant that clothes would need to be laid all around the apartment to dry and proved to be particularly difficult during the winter months when drying clothes could take days at a time. The possibility of washing and drying clothes within the space of just two or three hours thus led to greatly improved living conditions within these cramped living quarters.

#### **4. Its identification as the work of an architect, designer, engineer, or builder whose individual work is significant in the history or development of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States.**

Following recommendations from the Building Committee and the Advisory Committee of the Public Wash House and Baths Association in 1903, the architecture firm of [Frank E.] Rutan & [Frederick A.] Russell was chosen to design the Wash House.

Rutan was originally sent from Boston to Pittsburgh in 1886 by H.H. Richardson to assist in the completion of the Allegheny County Courthouse. A year later, he became the supervising architect for the courthouse. Similarly, Russell was also assigned to the courthouse. Following the death of Richardson in 1886 and the completion of the courthouse in 1888, both Rutan and Russell joined the Pittsburgh office of Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge.<sup>25</sup> In 1896, Russell then formed

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<sup>23</sup> Ibid, 34.

<sup>24</sup> The construction of London’s Whitechapel Baths actually led to the passage of the Baths and Washhouses Act of 1846 in Parliament. This legislation mandated the funding and construction of baths for the “laboring” class. “The Wash Houses, London Metropolitan University, former Whitechapel Baths,” *Survey of London*.  
[www.surveyoflondon.org/map/feature/1447/detail/](http://www.surveyoflondon.org/map/feature/1447/detail/)

<sup>25</sup> To clear up any potential confusion, the office of Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge was made up of George Foster Shepley, Charles Hercules Rutan, and Charles Allerton Coolidge. Charles was the older brother of Frank. Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge are most well known for their planning of Stanford’s campus, the Art Institute of Chicago, and locally with the Coraopolis Railroad Station.

an independent partnership with Rutan. Their architecture firm was seen by many as successors to H.H. Richardson. Of particular importance is that just one year after establishing their firm, they designed and planned Pittsburgh's first bath house located at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Penn avenue which was donated by Mrs. William Thaw Jr.<sup>26</sup>

Their partnership continued until 1911 when Rutan died. Russell continued working under the name Rutan, Russell & Wood from 1911 until his death in 1921, exactly 10 years to the day after Rutan died.<sup>27</sup>

Writing in 1911, architecture critic Montgomery Schuyler recognized Rutan & Russell along with Alden & Harlow, and McClure & Spahr as having the most to do with continuing the Richardsonian Romanesque style in Pittsburgh.<sup>28</sup> Other significant buildings in Pittsburgh attributed to Rutan & Russell include the Schenley Park Visitor Center, the Phipps Conservatory, the Schenley Hotel, which is now the University of Pittsburgh's William Pitt Student Union (1898); the Allegheny Post Office (1897); the "Century Building" at 130 7<sup>th</sup> Street (1906); St. Augustine's Church that is now Our Lady of the Angels Parish at 225 37<sup>th</sup> Street (1899); the Schenley Quadrangle Residences for the University of Pittsburgh, in collaboration with Henry Hornbostel (1922-23); and the B.F. Jones Jr. House at 808 Ridge Avenue (1908).

The general contractor and builder was Manchester-based George A. Cochrane. In addition to the Wash House, he was also responsible for the construction of "residences, office buildings, churches, mills and stores."<sup>29</sup> Notable examples that still survive include the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children (201 N Bellefield Avenue), the Conestoga Building (1 Wood Street), and the Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church (971 Beech Avenue). He was also elected as the first President of the Pittsburgh Builders' Exchange in 1886.

Lastly, the firm of McFadden & Craig were hired as plumbing contractors. Working with both residential and commercial jobs, they were considered one of the best plumbing firms in Pittsburgh and installed the plumbing at the Terrace Courts Apartments which still stand today at the intersection of Shady Avenue and Douglas Street in Squirrel Hill.

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<sup>26</sup> "Citizens After Public Bathers." *The Pittsburg Post*. 4 Aug. 1897. p. 3.

<sup>27</sup> Architects in Allegheny Tour Program, 11.

<sup>28</sup> Margaret Henderson Floyd, *Architecture After Richardson: Regionalism Before Modernism—Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow in Boston and Pittsburgh*. U of Chicago P, 1994, 242.

<sup>29</sup> George Thornton Fleming, *History of Pittsburgh and Environs*, American Historical Society, 1922, 276.

## **7. Its association with important cultural or social aspects or events in the history of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States.**

With its location near several large mills and factories as well as within a tenement district with a large percentage of foreigners, the Wash House would have been a welcome addition to the Lawrenceville neighborhood.<sup>30</sup> At the beginning of the 20th Century, fewer than 100 public bathing facilities existed in the entire United States with more than 85% of those being built between 1895 and 1904.<sup>31</sup> Even more remarkably, there were only two wash houses with laundry facilities in the United States before Pittsburgh's was constructed and Pittsburgh's was the first built west of Baltimore.<sup>32</sup> To give a sense of progress, it would take more than 50 years before Pittsburgh's housing and health codes mandated bathrooms in every dwelling.

The history of Pittsburgh's public baths can actually be traced back to 1890 with the founding of the Women's Health Protective Association (renamed the Civic Club of Allegheny County in 1895). Tasked with improving "education and organized effort, a higher public spirit, and a better social order," the Civic Club made it their mission to improve living conditions and quality of life for all of Pittsburgh's residents.<sup>33</sup> Specific projects included the construction of playgrounds, installation of trash cans and uniform garbage collection across the city, the formation of a juvenile court system, and legislation concerning child labor, clean drinking water, and smoke abatement. These projects were not different than those of other cities during the progressive reform movement of the early 20th century.

By 1897, the first bath in Pittsburgh, the People's Bath (located at 16th Street and Penn Avenue) was completed with 32 showers and two bathtubs. This would have been on the same block as the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau (the precursor to the Public Wash House and Baths Association) was located. The People's Bath was moved in 1907 to a larger building offering 43 showers and four bathtubs (located at 19th

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<sup>30</sup> An unlabelled newspaper clipping found in the archives at the Carnegie Library main branch in Oakland states: "When the property was purchased for the erection of the present building the site was occupied by a ramshackle old house filled with over twenty families of foreigners and negroes. While the association was not ready to commence building operations, the old building was at once torn down, for it was deemed an injury to the entire neighborhood."

<sup>31</sup> David Glassberg, "The Design of Reform: The Public Bath Movement in America." 5.

<sup>32</sup> "Work Starts on Washhouse." *The Pittsburg Post*. 3 Apr. 1903. Pg. 2. "Future Events." *The Pittsburg Press*. 15 May 1904. Pg. 10.

<sup>33</sup> Lauren M. Churilla, "Women & The Civic Club of Allegheny County." *Western Pennsylvania History*. Summer 2014. 48-60.



Street and Penn Avenue) that still stands today. That same year, the Soho bathhouse was completed in Oakland.

A curious facet of the growth of the public bathing movement in the United States is that the very technology that enabled public baths contributed to their need. As VanTrump explains in his brief history of public baths in Pittsburgh (**Supporting Document D**):

The cult of bathing that developed in America in the late 19th century did not really begin until the Industrial Revolution could produce a fairly sophisticated plumbing system. The same phenomenon also produced, as a by-product of mill and factory, much smoke, pollution and dirt, which certainly made those who manned the mills grimmer than ever before.<sup>34</sup>

**9. Its representation of a cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related theme expressed through distinctive areas, properties, sites, structures, or objects that may or may not be contiguous.**

The Wash House provided a unique service (clothes washing) and was only the third of its kind in the entire country when it was constructed in 1904. While there is a long history of public bathing facilities in the United States and Pittsburgh, this particular Wash House freed local women from having to do laundry in cramped apartment rooms and living quarters.

With its close proximity to several steel works and industrial and manufacturing facilities, the Wash House provided a central node for Lawrenceville's residents both during its time as a wash house and once it became the Lawrenceville Neighborhood House. Resources such as its laundry, baths, daycare, medical dispensary, and social event spaces for men, women, and children were not available at any other singular location in Pittsburgh.

Today, though, it is inextricably linked with Pittsburgh's other remaining bath houses which include the Oliver Bath House, Soho Bath House, People's Bath House, and Sarah Heinz House.<sup>35</sup> Despite Pittsburgh being in its third "renaissance," the fact that these five buildings still stand is noteworthy and they are a unique typology that should be preserved and celebrated. When compared to Chicago, a city that was also known for their public bath houses, Pittsburgh's preservation efforts easily exceeds it. Chicago was once home to

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<sup>34</sup> Mammon and the Great Unwashed. 1-2.

<sup>35</sup> Although all of these building remain standing, only the Oliver Bath House and Sarah Heinz House still function as swimming pools.

19 public baths with the last one closing in 1979. However, only four of them remain and all have since been repurposed as private homes.<sup>36</sup>

With the recent nomination and naming of the Oliver Bath House as an historic structure, it appropriate to protect the Wash House in order to preserve structures that are emblematic of this Progressive Era.

**10. Its unique location and distinctive physical appearance or presence representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community, or the City of Pittsburgh.**

As noted earlier, Lawrenceville’s commercial properties are predominately brick and built in a range of architectural styles including Italianate, Second Empire, Neoclassical, and Beaux Arts. The Wash House is among the few Romanesque buildings and as one of the last buildings constructed along Butler Street during its initial heyday, exemplified one of the current styles of the day. According to a 1979 neighborhood survey (**Supporting Document A**), “Butler Street features three buildings of particular note. They are the old undertaker’s building at 3341, a massive brick and stone garage dating to 1888; [and] the red brick Lawrenceville Neighborhood House next door, which served as a public bath house until the 1950’s [...]”<sup>37</sup> With the sheer number of people that were served by the Public Wash House and Baths Association (more than 1.5 million by 1928), this particular building provided resources like no other in Lawrenceville.

In addition, the Wash House is located on the same block as the Pennsylvania National Bank Building (1902) and the Doughboy Statue (1921) that mark the beginning of Butler Street. With the exception of the Public Wash House, the Garage next door, and one other building, the entirety of the block is filled with new construction and development.<sup>38</sup>

**10. Integrity**

The Public Wash House and Baths building meets the criteria for integrity as it applies to location, design, materials, and workmanship.

Although the interior has been extensively renovated, the exterior has remained essentially unchanged over the past 113 years with the exception of a fire escape

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<sup>36</sup> Jacob Kaplan, “Public Bath Houses,” *Forgotten Chicago*.  
[www.forgottenchicago.com/articles/public-bath-houses/](http://www.forgottenchicago.com/articles/public-bath-houses/)

<sup>37</sup> Eliza Smith, Allegheny County Survey Form, 003-P-11.

<sup>38</sup> This new construction is what encouraged the City of Pittsburgh to hire a consultant in 2015 to research the history of Lawrenceville in the hopes of applying for status on the National Register of Historic Places.

installed along its 35th Street façade. **Photographs 11** and **12** are included to compare a vintage and contemporary view of the Wash House. Its exterior retains its full original character in the form of Romanesque elements rendered in brick along with stone trimmings.









Photograph 2. Front Elevation (Butler Street).





Photograph 3. Side Elevation (35<sup>th</sup> Street).



Photograph 4. Side and Rear Elevations. (From Mulberry Way).



Photograph 5. Main Entrance.





Photograph 6. Main Entrance (Side View).





Photograph 7. 35<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance.



Photograph 8. Brick Work with Stone Trimmings.





Photograph 9. Ground Floor Window.



Photograph 10. Front Elevation looking up.





Photograph 11. Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century View.



Photograph 12. Contemporary View.

### **13. List of Supporting Documents**

- A. Allegheny County Survey Zone Form, prepared by Eliza Smith, 1979.
- B. Jane Hallinan Interior Design Portfolio.
- C. Annual Reports of Public Wash House and Baths Association.
- D. *Mammon and the Great Unwashed: The Career of the Public Bath House in Pittsburgh*. Unpublished Manuscript by Dr. VanTrump.
- E. Historic Photographs from the Collection of George Clark.



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# ALLEGHENY COUNTY SURVEY ZONE FORM

1. ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
 2. MUNICIPALITY  
 3. LOCATION Lower Lawrenceville, Lawrenceville & Upper Lawrenceville  
 Pittsburgh

4. SURVEY CODE 003-P-11, 1 and 11

No. OF INDIVIDUAL SITES  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED SITES  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE SITES

PHOTO REFERENCES:

MAPS:

**DESCRIPTION:**

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

"William B. Foster, father of Stephen C. Foster, bought in 1814 a tract of land comprising one hundred and twenty-three acres on the Allegheny River about two and a half miles from Pittsburgh. In April of that year he sold thirty acres to the Federal Government, which established there the Allegheny Arsenal (q.v.). The rest he laid out as a community, named in honor of the naval hero of the War of 1812, Captain James Lawrence of the frigate Chesapeake, whose dying words "Don't give up the ship!" later formed part of the seal of the borough of Lawrenceville.

"In its early days most of the community life centered around the Arsenal, which stood between Penn Avenue and the Allegheny River, and 39th and 40th Streets, and many of the male residents were employed in government work. In 1834 Lawrenceville was incorporated into a borough. Industry, aside from the Arsenal, had begun to enter the area and the population was increasing. Churches as well were beginning to be established.

"Until the later nineteenth century, some prominent Pittsburgh businessmen maintained summer homes at Lawrenceville.

"Since Lawrenceville was developing into part of the metropolitan area, it became part of the City of Pittsburgh in 1868. After the Civil War the Arsenal gradually ceased to be of any importance but many new industries had located in the region between Butler Street and the Allegheny River. In 1907 the upper portion of the Arsenal grounds became a city park but even in 1844 the park-like Allegheny Cemetery had been established on a large hillside tract between Penn Avenue and Butler Street. Later St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery was laid out on a neighboring plot of land.

"Two hospitals were founded in the area--St. Francis in 1866 and St. Margaret's in the 1890's; they are still functioning on their original sites.

"The last decades of the nineteenth century found Lawrenceville not only a flourishing industrial quarter but a prosperous middle class residential area as well. The early half-rural aspect of Foster's "community" had long since vanished and the long ascending hillside streets between Butler Street and Penn Avenue had been gradually built up with later Victorian houses of two and three stories, sometimes in rows, sometimes double and semi-detached, sometimes single and standing in their own yards. Stylistically these houses were for the most part in the Second Empire-Italianate manner or less frequently the Richardsonian Romanesque.

"After the middle of the nineteenth century there was a marked influx of Germans into the area, similar to that which occurred in parts of the North Side and the South Side and some of these red brick hill streets have a curiously Germanic quality--solid, gemütlich, and, occasionally, rather crudely ornate.

"Butler Street, the main business and commercial thoroughfare, divided the area in half. There was considerable housing mixed in with the industrial installations below Butler, some of it quite solid, but in Victorian times when most people preferred to live close to their work, the hillside streets were the most desirable as they were

PREPARED BY:

Eliza Smith

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

DATE(S)

8/79



## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (contd.)

removed to some degree from the bustle and smoke of the river valley.

"There is little Edwardian architecture in Lawrenceville because the area had been largely built up by 1900 and most later building took place farther out in the East End, very notably and effulgently in such districts as the not too distant Baum Grove. Also toward the end of the century and later, immigrants from central and eastern Europe, including many Slavic groups, began to come into Lawrenceville and many of their descendants now live there.

"There is another smaller area on the up-river side of Allegheny Cemetery, a district bounded by Stanton Avenue, 54th, Butler, and Carnegie Streets, which is filled with neat two story workers' housing that is worthy of note and which could well be retained and rehabilitated to advantage.

"Throughout Lawrenceville there are a number of survivals from the pre-1850 town, notably some Greek Revival houses, including those dwellings noted separately in the Register as of the Arsenal type. There are also several Romantic, picturesque "cottages" in the "Gothic" manner.

"It is, however, for its character as a solid Victorian neighborhood of the period between 1860-1900 that we wish to designate Lawrenceville as a preservation district. Every effort should be made to retain its essential character as an evidence of the past life of the city. Although some unfortunate remodelling has occurred, many of the houses in the area have been well maintained and kept in repair so it should not be too difficult to keep these streets at their present level of maintenance--provided the character of the neighborhood does not change too radically."

SOURCE

James D. Van Trump & Arthur P. Ziegler, Landmark Architecture of Allegheny County. Pittsburgh: PHLF, 1967, pp. 74-77.

See Also:

Joseph A. Borkowski, "Historical Highlights and Sites of the Lawrenceville Area." Nathan Hale History Club, Lawrenceville Catholic High School, 1969.

John Fulton Stewart Collins, Jr., Stringtown on the Pike. Ann Arbor, Michigan: Edwards Bros.

## EVALUATION



# ALLEGHENY COUNTY SURVEY ZONE FORM

No. OF INDIVIDUAL SITES 17  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED SITES 0  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE SITES 4

PHOTO REFERENCES:  
 003-P-R53-F9-36      003-P-R59-F10  
 003-P-R55-F1-13  
 003-P-R77-F13-15

MAPS: 80  
 81  
 119  
 120

**DESCRIPTION:**

Lawrenceville is a wedge-shaped area of approximately 1,350.4 acres extending to the northeast from the Strip District about 2.9 miles east of downtown. It is bounded by the Allegheny River to the northwest, 33rd St. to the southwest; a line along Neville St. to 40th St. to Penn Avenue to Mossfield St. on the southeast; and a line through Allegheny Cemetery to Stanton Avenue to 57th St. and along Butler to 62nd St. on the northeast.

The neighborhood has been divided into Lower, Central, and Upper Lawrenceville, as indicated on the Department of City Planning Census Tract and Neighborhood Map. Lower Lawrenceville lies below 40th St., Central between 40th and 51st Streets, and upper between 51st and 57th Streets, extending up Butler to 62nd St.

The neighborhood is predominately residential, with three major commercial streets- Butler St., Penn Ave., and Liberty Ave.-running through it. The other exception to the residential character of Lawrenceville is the area to the west of Charlotte St. in lower Lawrenceville, and the areas close to the railroad tracks in central and upper Lawrenceville, which are actually extensions of the Strip warehouse and industrial district.

Three notable areas of open space are also located in the neighborhood. Arsenal Park, bounded by Butler St., 39th St., Penn Ave., and 40th St., contains the Allegheny County Health Department Buildings, formerly part of the military hospital which developed around the Arsenal (003-P-11-49K-62; R48-F22-31). Foster Park on Main St. surrounds the Stephen C. Foster Community Center. (003-P-12-49F-165; R50-F24-25). Allegheny Cemetery and St. Mary's Cemetery occupy over 300 acres of ground between 46th and 51st Streets, southeast of Butler St. (003-P-13).

UPPER LAWRENCEVILLE

Upper Lawrenceville, between 51st and 62nd Streets, is also divided by Butler St. Northwest of Butler may be found the continuation of the commercial exploitation of the riverfront. To the east is a well-kept, working class residential neighborhood.

Butler Street is a treeless commercial district between 51st & 55th Streets. All the buildings are of brick and most date from the late 19th century. The facades, tall and narrow, are tightly packed together, although they are dusty and tired looking they house many still thriving businesses.

The styles are predominately Victorian versions of the Italianate with fanciful brackets supporting box cornices, hood moldings over elongated windows, and the Second Empire false mansard roofing. Few and intermittent Romanesque examples occur along the commercial thoroughfare.

PREPARED BY:

Eliza Smith/Steve Kilbert

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

DATE(S) 8/79

3. LOCATION Upper Lawrenceville

1. ALLEGHENY COUNTY

2. MUNICIPALITY

Pittsburgh

4. SURVEY CODE

003-P-11



DESCRIPTION (contd.)

As Butler St. makes its way out toward the 62nd Street bridge the structures become less congested. 55th Street can be pinpointed as the true end of the retail commercial row structures. At 5500 Butler St. stands the dark institutional structure-The Holmes House (003-P-ul-120N-120; R53-F17-18). It sits far back from the road and is surrounded by a parky in Lawrenceville-a rolling green lawn dotted with pleasant shade trees. Across the street from the Holmes House is a block long factory. The river at this point is closer to Butler St. and on the opposite side the mountain encroaches & becomes steep, leaving little room for building. At this point what little housing there is is free standing and constructed of wood. Of note on Butler Street are the No. 9 Fire Company (003-P-ul-80d-1; R53-F16) at Mc Candless St., built in 1889 of wood; and the Hunter Saw and Machine Co. (003-P-ul-120J-180; R53-F28), a classic Victorian factory with a clerestory roof.

In the flatlands between the Allegheny River and Butler St. in upper Lawrenceville, many semi-heavy industries such as foundries, valve manufactories, and fabricating shops took advantage of the topographical regularity and established concerns early in the century. The only residences that occur behind Butler St. are those on the treeless and noisy Harrison Avenue. The rowhouses are mainly of brick and defiantly well-maintained with small modern porch additions. The street is very wide, but the houses are set close to it.

Good housing stock characterizes the area between Butler St. and Stanton Heights. Here the land rises gradually and then begins a very steep climb at Wickliff St. In the streets closest to Butler St.--Carnegie St., Holmes St.--the housing is older, with the Italianate and Second Empire styles well represented in predominately brick row houses. Moving further from Butler St., more modern examples appear, including utilitarian flat-roofed row houses and bungalows. Brick is not the exclusive building material, and free-standing houses are in the majority. On the extremely steep streets, Mc Candless and Camelia, stand modified versions of the standard Pittsburgh hill house.

EVALUATION



# ALLEGHENY COUNTY SURVEY ZONE FORM

1. ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
 2. MUNICIPALITY  
 3. LOCATION  
 4. SURVEY CODE

No. OF INDIVIDUAL SITES : 62  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED SITES : 0  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE SITES : 3 + district

PHOTO REFERENCES: 003-P-R44-F21-36      003-P-R51-F2-9      003-P-R48 003-P-R46              003-P-R77-F10-12      003-P-R49 003-P-R47              003-P-R300-F24-25	MAPS: 49 48 25 24
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**DESCRIPTION:**  
GENERAL

Lawrenceville is a wedge-shaped area of approximately 1,350.4 acres extending to the northeast from the Strip District about 2.9 miles east of downtown. It is bounded by the Allegheny River to the northwest, 33rd St. to the southwest; a line along Neville St. to 40th St. to Penn Avenue to Mossfield St. on the southeast; and a line through Allegheny Cemetery to Stanton Avenue to 57th St. and along Butler to 62nd St. on the northeast.

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The neighborhood is predominantly residential, with three major commercial streets- Butler St., Penn Ave., and Liberty Ave.-running through it. The other exception to the residential character of Lawrenceville is the area to the west of Charlotte St. in Lower Lawrenceville, and the areas close to the railroad tracks in Central and Upper Lawrenceville, which are actually extensions of the Strip warehouse and industrial district.

Three notable areas of open space are also located in the neighborhood. Arsenal Park, bounded by Butler St, 39th St., Penn Ave., and 40th St. contains remnants of the Arsenal as well as Allegheny County Health Department Buildings, formerly part of the military hospital which developed around the Arsenal (003-P-11-49K-62; R48-F22-31). Foster Park on Main St. surrounds the Stephen C. Foster Community Center. (003-P-12-49F-165; R50-F24-26). Allegheny Cemetery and St. Mary's Cemetery occupy over 300 acres of ground between 46th and 51st Streets, southeast of Butler St (003-P-13).

LOWER LAWRENCEVILLE

Lower Lawrenceville is divided into three sections by Butler St. and Penn Ave, which meet in an acute angle at Doughboy Square. The focal point here is the recently restored World War I memorial statue of the Doughboy (003-P-11-485-268; R46-F2, R44-F31-34). The slouching figure, cast in bronze and now oxidizing to a rich green, greets visitors to Lawrenceville with a weary defiance.

Butler St. (R46) is predominantly commercial in character, lined with a rather homogeneous, though slightly decaying mixture of mid to late nineteenth century row buildings. Penn Ave. (R44, R48-F1-21), too, shows some signs of decay and a few abandoned structures and vacant lots, but generally its 50/50 mix of commercial and residential row and semi-detached buildings is in good repair.

PREPARED BY: Eliza Smith
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
DATE(S) 8/79



The housing stock in Lower Lawrenceville (R47-R49) consists of modest row and semi-detached houses, with about 25% of the structures being free-standing. Brick construction with stone foundations predominates, although some frame structures may be found. This mid-to late nineteenth century collection of 2 to 3 bay, 2 to 3 story housing represents the late Greek Revival Vernacular, Italianate, and Second Empire styles. The areas to the northwest, toward the railroad tracks and the river, appear to be slightly older. Many of the rowhouses have two story, shed-roofed rear wings (R49-F32). A few early twentieth century apartment buildings are located on Liberty Ave. (R49-F14-15). In a few areas, groups of identical houses may be found, such as the 3600 blocks of Liberty and Mintwood (R49-F16-17), the 300 block of 37th St. (R49-F18), or the 3600 block of Smallman (R47-F19).

Several more prominent sites in Lower Lawrenceville are scattered among the areas of homogeneous housing. The complex on 37th St. which comprises the buildings of St. Augustine Parish might be considered to be the heart of the neighborhood. Included in the complex are the massive brick school (R51-F2) and monastery (003-P-11-49J-159; R51-F3) St. Francis Convent (003-P-11-49J-207; R51-F4); and the church of St. Augustine (003-P-11-49J-153; R48-F34-36). This huge Romanesque structure hulks over the smaller scale buildings which surround it, a situation reminiscent of a medieval cathedral village. The bleak dusty red brick facades of these larger buildings lend a sombre urban atmosphere to the neighborhood. A small Romanesque Lutheran Church at the corner of 37th and Bandera Streets (003-P-11-49J-196; R51-F5) is obscured by the pomposity of the St. Augustine complex. Among buildings of note on Penn Ave. in Lower Lawrenceville are the Romanesque red brick firehouse (003-P-11-48S-202; R44-F25), the classical Revival Pennsylvania National Bank (003-P-11-48S-268; R44-F34-35), and the large Second Empire house at 3600 Penn Ave. on the site where Stephen Collins Foster was born.

On Liberty Ave, the Pittsburgh Brewing Co. complex (003-P-11-26A-140; R49-F6-10) and St. John the Baptist buildings (003-P-11-26A-53; R49-F11-13) dominate the streetscape.

Butler Street features three buildings of particular note. They are the old undertaker's building at 3341 (003-P-11-48S-232; R46-F10,12), a massive brick and stone garage dating to 1888; the red brick Lawrenceville Neighborhood House next door (003-P-11-48S-235; R46-F11), which served as a public bath house until the 1950's, and the school located between 39th and 40th Streets (003-P-11-49E-245; R46-F26-27), a sprawling example of fascist school architecture.

Another prominent school building is located at 3701 Charlotte St. (003-P-11-49J-27; R47-F13-14). This massive brick block of 1871 is now part of the industrial commercial development of Lower Lawrenceville.

Three other church buildings stand in the zone: Fourth Regular Baptist (003-P-11-49J63; R47-F15), St. Mark's AME Zion (003-P-11-49P-193; R49-F23), & the Religious Center (003-P-11-26A-7; R47-F35).

## EVALUATION



# ALLEGHENY COUNTY SURVEY ZONE FORM

No. OF INDIVIDUAL SITES 62  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED SITES 0  
 No. OF NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE SITES 3 & district

PHOTO REFERENCES:

MAPS:

## INVENTORY OF INDIVIDUAL FORMS

<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CODE #</u>
1) Allegheny Valley RR & Wash- ington Crossing Bridge		48D(48H-200)
2) Arsenal Park	Allegheny County Health Department Complex	49K-62
3) Arsenal Park	Allegheny County Health Department Garage	49K-62
4) 3901 Arsenal Park	Allegheny County Health Department	49K-62
5) Butler St. between 39th & 40th Sts.	Arsenal School	49E-245
6) Butler St. & 40th St. (W. Corner)		49E-170
7) Butler & Penn Ave.	The Doughboy	48S-268A
8) 3441 Butler St.	Arena Automotive Radiator Co.	48S-232
9) 3445 Butler St.		48S-235
10) 3401-3423, 3501-3623, 3703- 3715, 3820-3814, 3538-3520 Butler St.	Commercial Buildings on Butler St.	48S
11) 3700 Butler St.		49J-211
12) 3701 Butler St.		49J-101
13) 3710 Butler St.		49J-216
14) 3718-3720 Butler St.		49J-219
15) 3939 Butler St.	Deaktor-Brothers Provisions	49E-170

1. ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
 3. LOCATION Lower Lawrenceville

2. MUNICIPALITY Pittsburgh  
 Inventory Form

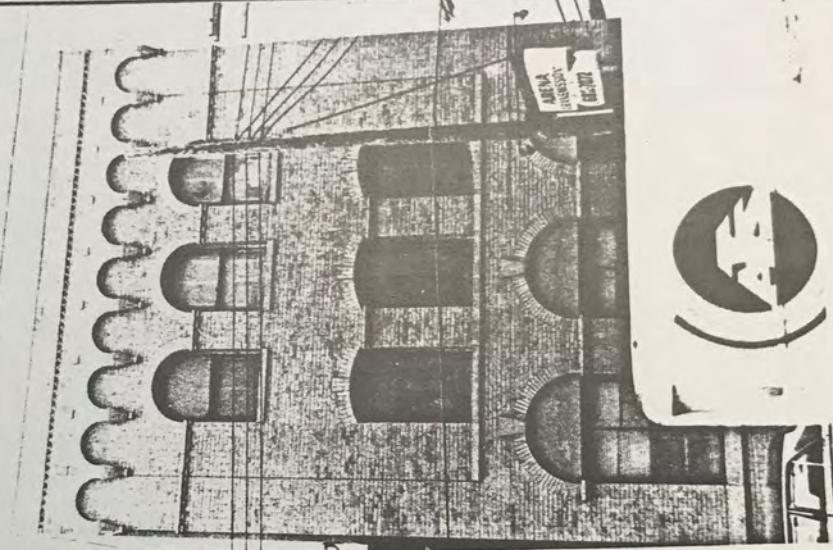
4. SURVEY CODE 003-P-11

PITTSBURGH HISTORY &  
 LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

PREPARED BY: Scott Emerick

DATE(S) 1/9/81



PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization <b>Pittsburgh History &amp; Landmarks Foundation</b>		1. County <b>Allegheny</b>
8. Property owners name and address		9. tax parcel number / other number	10. U.T.M. zone <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> easting <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> northing <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
12. classification site ( ) structure ( ) object ( ) building (x) in N.R. district yes ( ) no ( )		11. status (other surveys, lists etc.)	19. original use <b>Bathhouse</b> 20. present use <b>Garage</b>	
16. architect or engineer	13. date(s) (how determined) 14. period <b>C. 1900-1919</b>	15. style, design or folk type <b>Brick</b>	21. condition <b>Average</b> 22. integrity <b>Average</b>	
17. contractor or builder		18. primary building mat./construction <b>Brick</b>		2. municipality <b>Pittsburgh</b> 3. street address or specific location <b>3445 Butler St.</b> 6. other name (historic name if any) <b>Lawrenceville Neighborhood House</b>
23. site plan with north arrow				
24. photo notation <b>003-P-R46-F11</b>				
25. file/location				
26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings) 3 story, 3 bay, flat-roofed structure w/planar facade crowned by arched corbel table. 3rd story windows are arched d/s joined by decorative springing course. 2nd story windows are segmental arched resting on sill course. Wider bays on 1st story contain arched windows and doorway with relieving arches in brick and keystones.				
(continue on back if necessary)				
27. history, significance and/or background In 1895, Mrs. Gertrude Thompson, wife of the rector of St. James Episcopal Church, conceived of the idea of a public bathhouse for Lawrenceville. Henry Phipps contributed \$1,000; he later offered to contribute 1 1/2 times the cost and pay for the 1st year's operating expenses. A charter was obtained in 1901, and in 1904 the building was opened to the public by the City. The building contained 18 showers on the 1st story, 10 tubs on the 2nd, and a				
(continue on back if necessary)				
28. sources of information <u>Pittsburgh Press, Dec. 24, 1961. Owner.</u>			29. prepared by: <b>Eliza Smith</b>	
(continue on back if necessary)			30. date <b>7/27/79</b>	revision(s)

4. survey code  
**003-P-11-485-235**

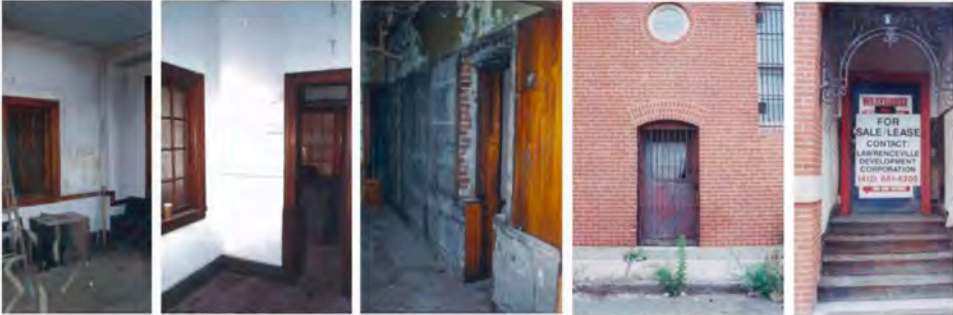




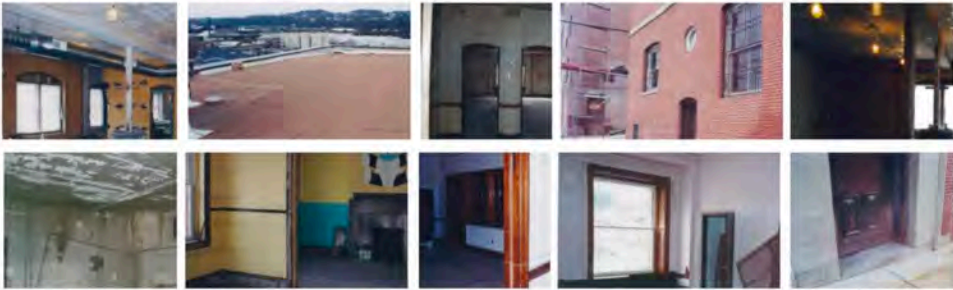




**Thousands Once Used It** - The water has stopped flowing and the door to the Lawrenceville Neighborhood House has been locked. The Day of the public bath is over and the City has washed its hands of another vestige of pre-Renaissance days.



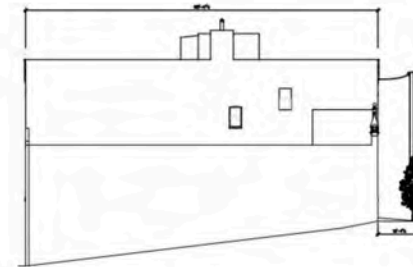
City Council has shut off the water for the public tubs and showers at the Lawrenceville Neighborhood House to save approximately \$35,000 in the tight 1962 budget. **But bath water is not all the City Council has discontinued at the neighborhood institution which began in 1904 at 3445 Butler Street.**



Lawrenceville housewives, for example, can no longer use the automatic washers and clothes dryers which were furnished there. Mothers can no longer take their children, ranging from two to eight years old, to the day nursery at low cost. Young boys who took advantage of the recreation program...



The Lawrenceville Bathhouse / Community Development



**A** "MODERN ENLIGHTENMENT" is happening now. It is in our homes, at our offices and surrounding our neighborhoods. During the Age of Enlightenment in the 18th century, Enlightenment thinkers advocated for their beliefs, and with the help of leading developments of the time, were able to make them possible. Particularly associated with interior design is one's personal design philosophy which describes how they believe design should be, what it should include or accomplish, the process that should be followed, etc. Advances such as LEED, Revit Architecture, and even independent business allow for 21st century designers to participate within the competitive industry today.

Evidence of past developments are still present in our communities. The bath movement at the turn of the century sought to reform both the individual's habit and environment at once. Indoor public bathhouses seemed, in mid-nineteenth century America, to be an expensive, unnecessary service which the poor probably would not use anyway. However, reformers believed that cleanliness encouraged morality, while a dirty environment bred moral decline. Public baths, by promoting both the habit of cleanliness and a clean environment, could reverse the spiral of moral decline.

Obviously no longer needed, the architectural structure of previous bathhouses has been renovated into various tenant spaces. In 1962, the Bathhouse at 3445 Butler Street in the Lawrenceville neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania closed its doors to the public. Upholding the building's progressive mission, the new tenants of Bike Pittsburgh and Espresso A Mano seek to further advocate and support the blooming society in which they reside.

The Lawrenceville Bathhouse / Community Development



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FIRST REPORT

—OF—

Public Wash House

AND

BATHS ASSOCIATION

OF PITTSBURGH.

Thirty-Fifth and Butler Sts.

Y 613.47  
P98  
V.1,7-8,19



REPORT  
—OF—  
Public Wash House  
AND  
BATHS ASSOCIATION  
OF PITTSBURGH.

Thirty-Fifth and Butler Sts.

5613.47

P98

v. 1, 7-8, 15



## OFFICERS.

President.....Mrs. D. C. Clapp  
Vice President.....Mrs. Wenman A. Lewis  
First Vice President.....Mrs. Lewis Rott  
Second Vice President.....Mrs. Theodore Tonelé  
Third Vice President.....Mrs. J. H. McIlvaine  
Corresponding Secretary.....Mrs. H. B. Birch  
Recording Secretary.....Miss E. R. Edsall  
Treasurer.....Mrs. Frank R. Rowand  
Treasurer of Clothing Bureau.....Mrs. S. B. Douglas

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## BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Mrs. A. W. Arundel,	Mrs. John McClurg,
Mrs. W. J. Askin,	Miss E. M. McCleary,
Mrs. S. A. Burns,	Mrs. J. H. McIlvaine,
Mrs. H. B. Birch,	Mrs. B. C. Moise,
Mrs. H. M. Doubleday,	Mrs. Geo. W. Price,
Mrs. S. B. Douglas,	Mrs. Lewis Rott,
Miss E. R. Edsall,	Mrs. Frank P. Rowand,
Mrs. W. L. Fickes,	Miss Catharine Smith,
Mrs. John B. Heron,	Mrs. William Thompson,
Mrs. Richard Hirsch,	Mrs. Theodore Tonnelé,
Mrs. Wenman A. Lewis,	Mrs. A. W. Wall,
Mrs. Reese Lindsay,	Mrs. Columbus Wilson.

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## ADVISORY BOARD.

C. B. Connelley,	Judge J. J. Miller,
George H. Clapp,	Theodore Tonnelé.
Charles A. Edsall,	Mr. Theodore Tonnele.

Central - Adult  
117-8-19000.1

cat



## COMMITTEES.

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### Finance.

Mrs. T. Tonnele, Mrs. H. B. Birch and Mrs. L. Rott.

### House Committee.

Mrs. Lewis Rott, Mrs. Richard Hirsch and Mrs. J. H. McIlvaine.

### Clothing Bureau.

Mrs. S. B. Douglas, Mrs. S. A. Burns and Mrs. F. P. Rowand.

### Men's Club Room.

Mrs. Reese Lindsay and Miss E. M. McCleary.

### Women's Club Room.

Mrs. A. W. Wall, Mrs. W. A. Lewis, Miss C. Smith and Miss E. R. Edsall.

### Entertainment.

Mrs. W. L. Fickes, Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. T. Tonnele.

### Printing.

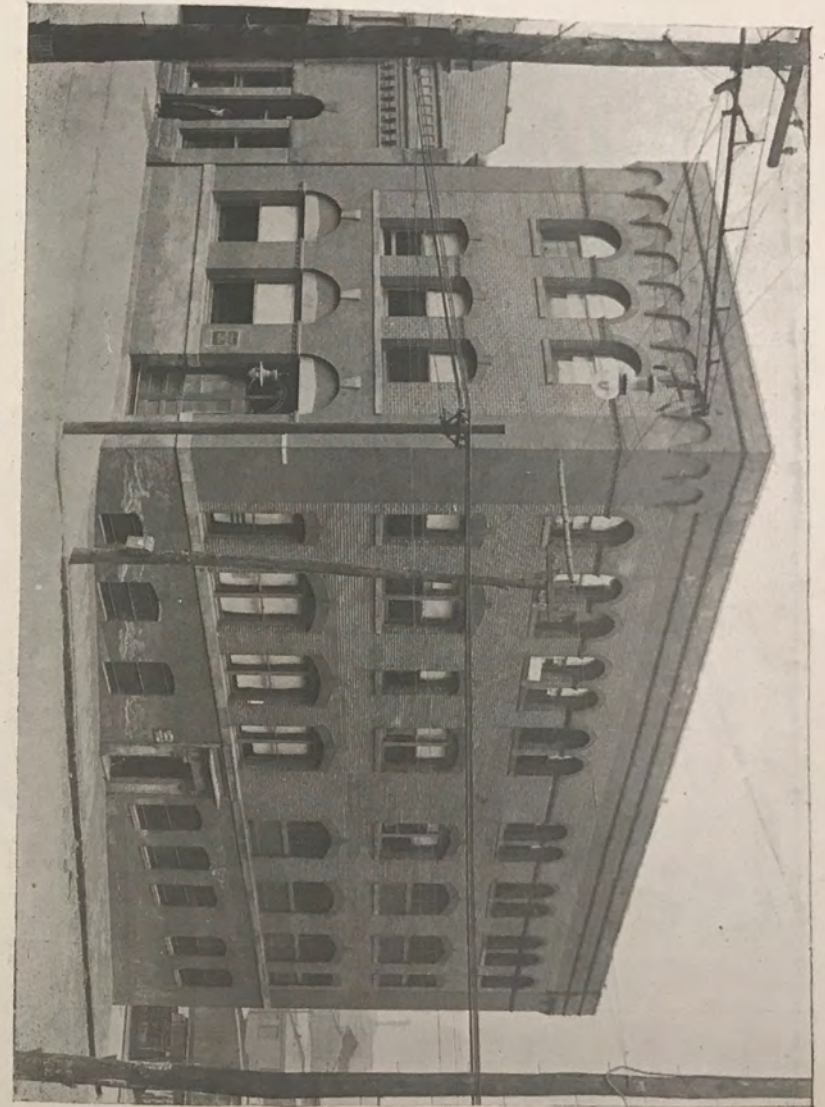
Mrs. H. B. Birch and Miss E. R. Edsall.

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## HISTORY.

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In 1897, a number of women, connected with the several Episcopal churches of Pittsburgh, wishing to alleviate the conditions brought about by the business depression of that time, organized what they termed a Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau for the sale of partly worn articles of clothing and furniture to the self-respecting poor. Those interested, believing that indiscriminate giving tended to pauperize rather than to help, preferred putting a small price on the article needed, rather than to give it away, thereby saving the independence and self-respect of the buyer, and keeping him from being in any way an object of charity, the motto of the organization



PUBLIC WASH HOUSE AND BATHS OF PITTSBURGH, PA.

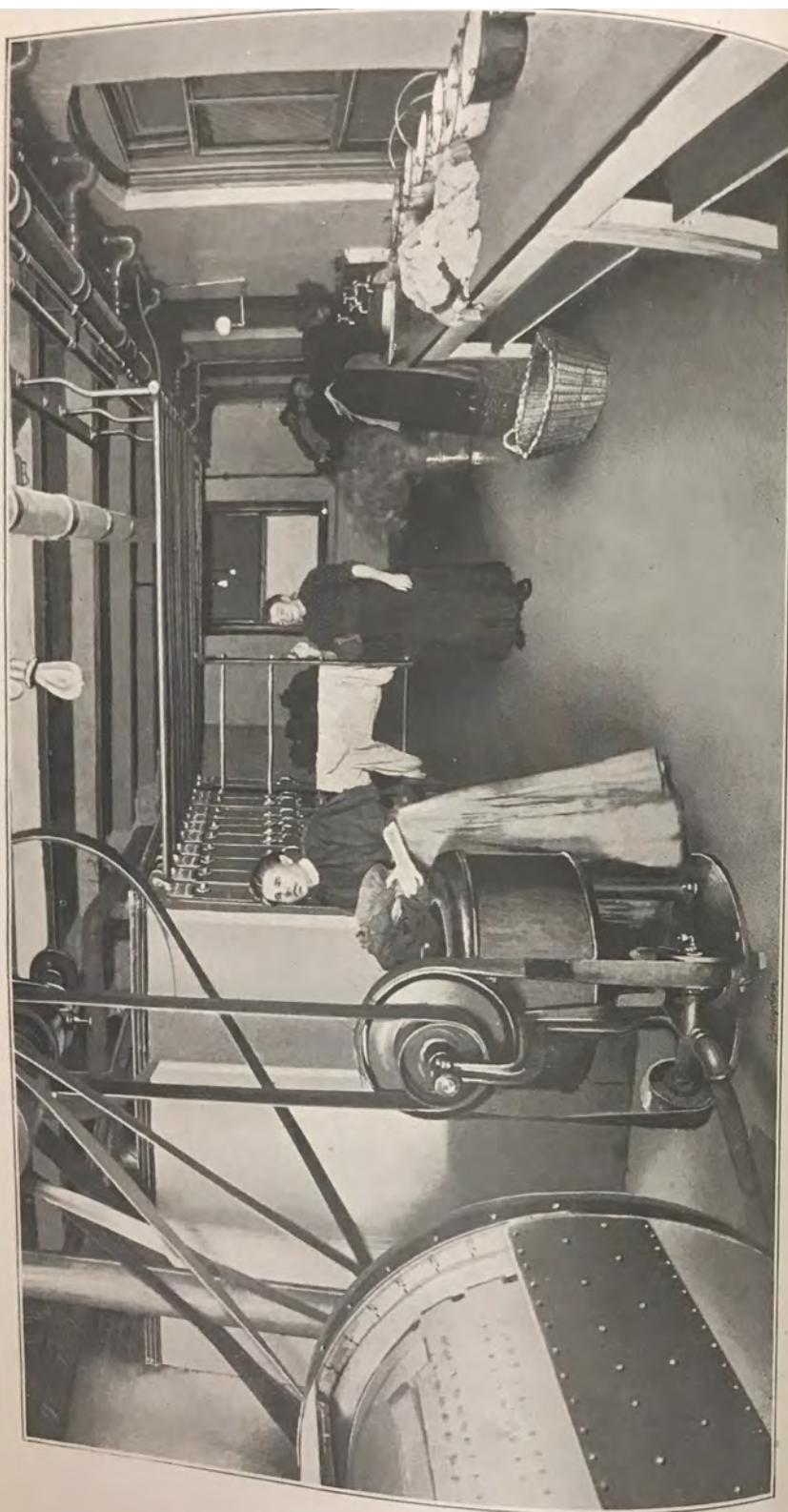


being "Help Others to Help Themselves." For many years this work was carried on in the parish house of St. James Church, at the corner of Penn Avenue and Sixteenth Street. Coming in this way into close touch with many whose lives were lived in narrow quarters and barren surroundings, these women grew to know the difficulties encountered. They knew that to those whose homes consisted of only one or two rooms, wash-day meant wretched discomfort, and that privacy in bathing was an utter impossibility. This problem, how to make living under these conditions decent and comfortable, determined the managers of the Clothing and House furnishing Bureau to erect a building, in which these various conveniences of civilized living might be brought within the reach of the poorest people.

To obtain the money necessary for such a building seemed rather a formidable undertaking, but, at the very outset, when plans were first made public, encouragement came in a most substantial manner from Mr. Henry Phipps. Seeing the project discussed in a Pittsburgh paper, and being always interested in the welfare of his home city, he wrote offering one thousand dollars for the building fund. Later, on further investigation into plans and conditions, he became more interested and volunteered to contribute one-half the cost of the building, with one-half of the first year's running expenses, provided the other half was raised by the management. This most generous offer was immediately accepted. Strenuous efforts were at once made to raise the necessary funds, Mr. D. C. Clapp becoming the treasurer. Generous friends responded, so that within one year from the first appeal to the public, the building became a fact.

A charter was then obtained; the name became The Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh and the Board of Management broadened, all religious affiliations being eliminated.

As the business centre of the city was fast reaching out to the location then occupied, thus crowding out the tenement homes, a new site was sought. A lot was finally bought at the corner of Butler and Thirty-fifth streets, in the Lawrenceville mill district at a cost of six thousand five hundred dollars, of



LAUNDRY



which amount Mr. Phipps paid half. Plans for the building drawn by Rutan & Russell, were accepted and the general contract let to George A. Cochrane.

The building committee consisted of the following women: Mrs. John B. Heron, Mrs. Henry B. Birch, Mrs. Theodore Tonnele, Mrs. James Hall McIlvaine and Mrs. Wenman A. Lewis. These were assisted in their work by the Advisory Board, the members of which were: C. B. Connelley, the Hon. J. J. Miller, Charles A. Edsall, George H. Clapp and Theodore Tonnelé. These, with D. C. Clapp as treasurer of the building fund, and Mrs. Clapp, president of the board, did faithful and arduous service during the construction of the building.

The building, which cost with its equipment, fifty thousand four hundred dollars, is of red pressed brick with stone trimmings. On the main floor are: Men's club room, Superintendent's office and shower baths for men. On the second floor is the women's department, consisting of fifteen shower and two tub baths. A Day Nursery with bath room for children adjoining and a women's club room are also on this floor. All the shower baths are in white marble. On the third floor is a large assembly hall for public entertainments with the private apartments of the Superintendent. In the basement is the public wash-house where, by the payment of five cents per hour for the use of tubs, dryers, etc., a woman can do her family washing, taking the clothes home dry.

The store room of the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau is also in the basement with a separate entrance from the street. Here are sold the partly worn garments and second-hand furniture contributed to the work.

All water used in the building, both for washing and bathing, is filtered.

All rooms are light, those in the basement being as light as those on the main or top floors.

The last week of May, 1904, the building was finished, equipped with all the latest improvements and opened to the public.

This public wash-house being the first of its kind in the city of Pittsburgh.

### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS.

In making this, the first published report of the Public Wash House and Baths Association, a review of the work of three years is necessary. The building was opened with a reception and donation day on May 31st, 1904, at which, notwithstanding unusually stormy weather many friends encouraged the managers by their presence and generous gifts. The next day the Baths and Wash House were thrown open for the use of the public. Since then, nothing but encouragement has marked the way.

It was with some misgiving that the lot on which the building stands was bought, for it meant the change of location for a work already well established. But it was not long until all doubts regarding the wisdom of the new location vanished. From the first, the patronage of the several departments has demonstrated the usefulness of the Bath House to the community in which it is located. Especially is this true of the public baths for men. The building stands within easy reach of several of the large mills, and many men returning from work, either in the early morning or the late afternoon, stop for their baths on their way to their homes. The side-streets and alleys of the neighborhood are made up of the tenement houses, and from these come the women with their family washing on each and every day in the week.

During the first month, after the building was opened for business (June, 1904) 4,228 persons used the baths, of which 4,068 were men. One woman, only, however, availed herself of the privileges of the wash-house. While at first this might have seemed discouraging the history of similar institutions both in this country and Europe had prepared the managers for slow growth in this department of the work.

A public wash house was too new an institution to be patronized by conservative women. Nowhere more so than in the tenements is one governed by her neighbors' opinions, so it was undoubtedly a woman of independent character who was the first patron of the wash-house. However that one woman of June, 1904, had been joined by 101 others in the same month one year later, and the record shows a steady growth since.



The experience of the two and a half years regarding the patronage of these two departments, Wash-house and Baths, has been that in summer the baths are more in demand, while it is in winter that the wash-house is most used. This is easily understood. The luxury of a shower bath for five cents is more appreciated when the thermometer is in the eighties, than it is when it is around the freezing point. And to the women who use the wash-house, summer weather enables them to dry their clothes out of doors. It is in winter that the drying of wet clothes over head in the one living room brings the most discomfort.

In October, 1904, the Clothing Bureau was opened in the store-room in the basement. The entrance in Thirty-fifth street opens to the store without going into any other part of the building. Here, second-hand clothing and furniture are sold at very low prices. As all of the articles are contributed by friends of the work, they are usually of good quality and superior in every way to new goods which could be bought for the price charged for these partly worn garments. Low priced goods are generally shoddy, lasting only a short time, being worth often, not even the price paid. The patrons of the Clothing Bureau know well the value of the goods they purchase there. The difficulty is to supply the demand. Children's garments of every kind, are constantly called for, as are also women's dresses and coats. In winter, warm underwear is always much in demand. The store-room is opened once a week, Saturdays, from two to five in the afternoon.

The receipts from the store-room make possible the employment of the women by the Sewing Bureau. Here, once a week, several women meet to sew under a competent director on work prepared for them, for which they are paid ten cents per hour. The work is sometimes garments which they themselves want, and for which they are charged just the cost price, and at other times articles for hospitals and other charitable institutions. These weekly meetings are much enjoyed. They generally mean the one little social event of the week to lives that are otherwise hopelessly dull, and are doubtless anticipated with more pleasure than many of the fashionable functions of the East End. Except that a price is paid for the

work, these meetings differ very little from the mothers' meetings of the social settlement.

The desire of the Board to make this institution of use along social settlement lines, was the reason for the large assembly hall on the third floor. This, it was designed should be a place of wholesome entertainment for the neighborhood, where lectures, concerts and socials could bring together the people for a pleasant hour. There has been a number of such entertainments but not as frequently as was hoped, owing to different causes. One of these has been the difficulty of giving entertainments of a musical nature with only an organ for accompaniment. The cost of hiring a piano and the difficulty of getting it to the third floor, has had the effect of eliminating the concerts. It is hoped that some friend will give a piano for the assembly hall. Has not some one, who reads this report, a square or grand piano they would be willing to give to help along this work? Such a gift would enable the entertainment committee to plan for many pleasant and profitable evenings during the winter.

In October, 1905, Miss Chesnut was given use of one of the club rooms for her classes of working girls. These, while primarily begun, as Bible classes, have much other instruction of a practical character. Physical culture exercises are given at each meeting.

Subjects such as: Sanitary conditions in the home; Food: its preparation and cooking; What to do in emergencies, etc., are to form the basis of talks this winter. As these classes are composed of working girls, and are largely attended, one can readily see the value, of such instruction, for their mental and physical development.

Socials are held in connection with these classes, to which parents and friends are invited. Entertainments are also given, the programmes being prepared by the class members. The attendance at the Bible classes for one month (May, 1906) was 593. This was no unusual month. A club in connection with the Carnegie Home Library has been meeting the last two winters in the Woman's Club room under the direction of one of the staff of Carnegie Library. This is a boys' club, and aims to direct the reading of the members, teaches



the simple parliamentary rules in conducting their own meetings, and helps them to see the value of time profitably spent.

Another work, which though not under the management of this Board is carried on in the building is that for the foreign people: Slavs, Croations, Hungarians, etc., by the Baptist Missionary Society. Clubs for these people and industrial classes for their children, are held each week, with a Sunday School in the assembly hall on Sunday. This association, while not responsible for this work, is glad to co-operate with those who have it in charge, by placing its rooms at a nominal rental, and helping in this way the moral uplift of these future Americans.

In concluding, it may be well to answer the question which must naturally be in the minds of those who read this report as to whether or not this work is self supporting. It is not. During the first year, half of the running expenses were contributed by Mr. Phipps, to whose generosity towards erection of the building, we owe so much, the other half by various friends interested in the success of the work. The proceeds from the Baths and Wash House can, of course in no way, meet the expense of maintaining them. The city last year made an appropriation of three thousand dollars, which greatly relieved the financial pressure. We need, however, annual contributions from those who will not only give their money, but their interest as well. It is not asked that these annual subscriptions be large. It is better to have the interest of one hundred people, who will pledge five dollars each year, than one person who would send a cheque for five hundred dollars. For this work, in its various departments the board asks your help and interest. Will you not make an annual pledge of five dollars, and so help in bettering the condition of those in this city not so fortunately placed as yourself?

Emily Rose Edsall, Secretary.

### Report of the Building Fund.

Cost of lot .....	\$ 6,596 00
Cost of building and equipment.....	50,408 95

\$57,004 95

#### Paid by

Henry Phipps, Esq.....	\$28,502.47
Subscriptions .....	28,502.48

\$57,004.95

D. C. Clapp, Treasurer of Building Fund.

### Treasurer's Report.

#### Receipts.

From Subscriptions .....	\$28,502 48
“ Henry Phipps, Esq.....	28,502 47
“ Opening Day .....	280 70
“ Euchre benefit .....	116 50
“ Reception at Bath House.....	10 00
“ Rummage Sales .....	170 92
“ Entertainment by Sisterhood of St. Peter's Church.....	47 00
“ Musicale and Miniature Exhibition at Conservatory of Music...	167 00
“ Ladies' Auxiliary to the Law- renceville Lyceum .....	50 00
“ Bath house .....	7,377 32
“ Appropriation City of Pittsburgh	5,000 00

\$70,224 39

Less Disbursements .....	69,097 36
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Balance on hand .....	\$ 1,127 03
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## PUBLIC WASH HOUSE

## Disbursements.

For General Expenses .....	\$ 2,169 90
" Furniture and fixtures.....	1,209 56
" Insurance .....	472 44
" Light and heat .....	2,127 79
" Repairs .....	445 60
" Soap .....	387 16
" Tools .....	21 90
" Wages .....	5,257 68
" Cost of Lot.....	6,596 00
" " " Building and Equipment...	50,408 95
Balance due City Appropriation.....	38
	\$69,097 36

Anna B. Rowand, Treasurer.

## Assets.

Real Estate, being cost of Lot, Building and Equipment .....	\$57,004 95
Furniture and Fixtures .....	1,209 56
Cash in Bank .....	1,127 03
" " Superintendent's hands .....	10 00
" " due from City of Pittsburgh.....	38
	\$59,351 92

## Liabilities.

Bishop & Ports, hauling.....	6 00
Atlantic Paint Co.....	7 72
W. & H. Walkers Sons .....	17 00
Atlantic Refining Co. ....	1 70
W. & H. Walker .....	11 52
Edw. Kenngott .....	25 25
Ruud Manfg. Co.....	229 00
Wm. Klemm & Son .....	9 37
Philadelphia Co. ....	61 60
Consolidated Gas Co. ....	65 53
Allegheny Co. Light Co.....	17 25
	451 94
Assets over Liabilities .....	\$58,899 98

## AND BATHS ASSOCIATION.

Clothing Bureau Treasurer's Report of Receipts and Expenditures from May, 1905, to December 31st, 1906.

## Receipts.

To cash received from sales of clothing, etc.....\$526 58

## Expenditures.

By Salaries .....	\$197 73
" Groceries .....	245 15
" Sewing Machine .....	12 00
" Stencil .....	1 85
" Paint .....	8 25
" Liberty Express Co.....	2 00
" Thread .....	2 50
" Balance .....	57 10
	\$526 58

Anna B. Rowand, Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report of Clothing Bureau Receipts and Expenditures from May, 1905, to December 31, 1906.

## Receipts.

To Cash .....	\$526 58
Total .....	\$526 58

## Expenditures.

By Salaries .....	\$197 73
" Groceries .....	245 15
" Sewing Machine .....	12 00
" Stencil .....	1 85
" Paint .....	8 25
" Liberty Express Co.....	2 00
" Thread .....	2 50
" Balance .....	57 10
	\$526 58

Anna B. Rowand, Treasurer.

These accounts have been audited and found correct.

Sam'l B. Douglas, } Auditors.  
Geo. M. T. Taylor, } 54



## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The following figures show the business from the opening June, 1904, to October, 1906:

The first four months, June to October, 1904.

Men's Shower baths..... 13,629

Men's Tub baths..... 421

Women's Shower baths..... 231

Women's Tub baths..... 129

Laundry used by 70 women 158 hours.

Total number using laundry and baths 14,470.

Total receipts \$755.90.

From October 1st, 1904, to September 30, 1905.

Men's Shower baths..... 28,967

Men's Tub baths..... 1,431

Women's Shower baths.... 229

Women's Tub baths..... 228

Laundry used by 1,638 women 3,667 hours.

Total number using laundry and bath 32,568.

Total receipts, \$2,137.06.

From October 1st, 1905, to September 30th, 1906.

Men's Shower bath ..... 51,394

Men's Tub baths ..... .. 2,614

Women's Shower baths.... 124

Women's Tub baths..... 302

Laundry used by 1,558 women 6,172 hours.

Total number using laundry and baths 55,992.

Total receipts \$3,526.23.

E. McDonald, Superintendent.

## THE CLOTHING AND HOUSE FURNISHING BUREAU.

This department of work, of which this entire organization is the outgrowth, was opened in the basement of the new building in October, 1904. Contributions of partly worn clothing of all kinds, as well as any article that will be useful in a home, are solicited and are sold at such small sums, as they may be worth, to needy and worthy people who are not

willing to be pauperized. **The design in this work is to help people to help themselves.**

The patrons of the Clothing Bureau are from a self-respecting, hard-working class of people generally, who have large families; and widows and orphan children.

In two years almost two thousand articles have been donated and the amount which has been earned from the sales made is about \$427, which sum was principally used to pay, by money orders on a grocer, coal dealers, etc., the women who attend the Sewing Bureau conducted by this organization, being paid for their work in orders on grocers and others as their need requires. The sale room is open every Saturday afternoon from two until four o'clock, except during the month of August.

Ellen M. Douglas, Chairman.

## The Sewing Class.

This class which met for a number of years in St. James Episcopal Church Parish House, Penn avenue and Sixteenth street, was reorganized in the new building the first of May, 1905, with an enrollment of twenty women. Since then two have become incapacitated for work, two have withdrawn and one died, leaving fifteen on the roll at the present time with an average attendance of ten. The women meet one afternoon each week throughout the year and are paid ten cents an hour for sewing which is solicited from the various hospitals and other charitable institutions of the city.

None are admitted to this class but those who are industrious and in needy circumstances and all who attend are grateful for the employment and an opportunity to enjoy an afternoon in a comfortable well-lighted room. Since the opening of this class from May 1st, 1905, up to October, 1st, 1906, there have been made three thousand articles for the Homeopathic Hospital, West Penn Hospital, Home for the Friendless, Passavant Hospital, Mercy Hospital, The Episcopal Church Home, Allegheny General Hospital and Calvary Episcopal Church Women's Exchange and Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau. All the towels for the Bath House are made by the Sewing Class. Ellen M. Douglas, Chairman.



### CHARTER.

March 27, 1903.

In Re Charter of the  
Public Wash House and Baths  
Association of Pittsburgh.

In the Court of Common Pleas No. 2 of  
Allegheny County, Pa.

October term 1901.

To the Honorable, the Judges of said Court.

In compliance with requirements of an act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled, "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain Corporations" approved the 29th day of April, A. D. 1874, and several supplements thereto, the undersigned, all of whom are citizens of Pennsylvania, having associated themselves together for the purpose hereinafter specified, pray that they may be incorporated, and that a charter may be granted to them, their associates and successors, according to law and they do set forth and certify as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is "Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh."

2. The said corporation is formed for the support of an undertaking, the purpose of which is to establish and maintain a public house or public wash house with baths, and affording facilities to the poor and worthy for doing their washings, with facilities to them for bathing, and the promotion thereby of health and cleanliness, with the necessary room for a day nursery and other accommodations to help the poor and worthy.

The work of the Association is to be maintained and supported by gifts, donations, legacies and by small charges for the uses afforded.

3. The business of the said corporation is to be transacted at the corner of Butler Street and Thirty-fifth Street, in the City of Pittsburgh, in the County of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania. The said corporation to exist permanently.

### AND BATHS ASSOCIATION.

The names and residences of the petitioners are as follows:

Names.	Residences.
Mrs. Delia D. Clapp.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Gertrude A. M. Thompson.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Anna B. D. Rowand.....	Allegheny
Mrs. Emily S. Herron.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Eleanor H. Birch.....	Pittsburgh

The number of Trustees is fixed at seven. The names and residences of those chosen for the first year are as follows:

Names.	Residences.
Mrs. Delia D. Clapp.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Eleanor H. Birch.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Mary A. Doubleday.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Isabell P. Tonnele.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Roxana O'Donnel.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Emily S. Herron.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Ellen M. Douglas.....	Pittsburgh

6. There is no capital stock.

Signed and sealed in the presence of  
J. J. Miller.

Delia D. Clapp. [SEAL]  
Gertrude A. M. Thompson. [SEAL]  
Anna B. Rowand. [SEAL]  
Emily S. Herron. [SEAL]  
Eleanor H. Birch. [SEAL]

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
County of Allegheny.

Before me, the Recorder of Deeds in and for the County aforesaid, personally came the above named Delia D. Clapp, Gertrude A. M. Thompson, Anna B. Rowand, Emily S. Herron and Eleanor H. Birch, who in due form of law acknowledging the foregoing instrument to be their title and deed for the purpose therein specified. With my hand and seal of office this 23rd day of September, A. D. 1901.

George M. von Bounhorst,  
Recorder.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
County of Allegheny.

Personally appeared before me this 23rd of September, A. D., 1901, Delia D. Clapp, Gertrude A. M. Thompson, An<sup>561</sup>



B. Rowand, Emily S. Herron and Eleanor H. Birch, who being duly sworn according to law, depose and say that, the statements contained in the forgoing instrument are true.

Sworn and Subscribed to  
before me.  
George M. von Bounhorst,  
Recorder.

Delia D. Clapp,  
Gertrude A. M. Thompson,  
Anna B. Rowand,  
Emily S. Herron,  
Eleanor H. Birch.

—○—  
ORDER OF COURT.

And now, to wit, October 28, 1901, the within application for a Charter for the Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh presented in open Court to the undersigned, a Law Judge, in the said County, with the proofs and publication of the notices of said application as required by an act of assembly in such case made and provided.

I certify that I have examined and perused the said writing, and have found the same in proper form and within the purposes named in the first class specified in Section 2 of the act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, etc.," and the subscribers thereto, and the same appearing to be lawful and not injurious to the community.

I do now order and direct that the said Charter of the Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh aforesaid be and the same is hereby approved and that upon the recording of the same and of this order, the Subscribers thereto and their Associates shall be a corporation by the name of "Public Wash House and Baths Association", for the purposes and upon the terms therein stated.

**John D. Shafer,**

Judge of Common Please Court No. 2.

[COURT SEAL]

From the record, A. J. McQuilty,  
Prothonotary.

Recorder November 6, 1901.

Charter Book Volume 28, Page 465.

CONTRIBUTORS.

Adams S. Jarvis	Douglas Miss N. W.
Adams Mrs. S. Jarvis	Duff, Mrs. Geo. J.
Aikens J. K.	Doubleday, H. M.
Allen Elizabeth R.	Dunn T. A.
Arundel, Mrs. A. W.	Dangerfield Benjamin
Arrott Wm.	English H. D. W.
Armstrong Miss Eliza D.	Eichenlaub W. F.
Bailey Mrs. J. H.	Frey Ernest A.
Balken Mrs. Henry	Felton Mrs. Jas.
Bigelow Edward M.	Frick Henry C.
Bissell Mrs. Frank	Flocker John
Brackenridge H. M.	Fairbanks Soap Co., Chicago
Brown Jas. W.	Fickes Dr. W. L.
Brown The Misses	Gilmore Mrs. Harriet A.
Buchanan James I.	Gillespie D. L.
Buchanan Mrs. James I.	Gillespie Mrs. D. L.
Burchfield A. P.	Graff Miss Mary K.
Burns Mrs. Sarah	Gray James G.
Barrett G. B.	Griffith Mrs. S. B.
Black & Barker	Guthrie Miss M. H.
Brown Mrs. Jas. W.	Guthrie Mrs. Geo. W.
Carrier Mrs. E. K.	Graff Miss Mary K.
Cassell Mrs. Sara	Hartley S. D.
*Childs Mrs. Mary H.	Hartzell O. M.
Clapp Mr. D. C.	Hartzell Mrs. O. M.
Clapp Mrs. D. C.	Hicks Captain Alfred
Clemson Mrs. D. M.	Hilliard Mrs. W. H. R.
Collord Mrs. James	Heron Mrs. Jno. B.
Collins Mrs. H. C.	Horne Durbin
Carrier Mrs. S. S.	Horne Mrs. Durbin
Clemson Alice G.	Howe Mrs. Thos. M.
Carpenter Mrs.	Hunnicutt Mrs. B. B.
Clapp Geo. H.	Hussey Mrs. C. C.
Darlington Mrs. H.	Hunter David.
*Darlington Miss Eliza	Irish Mrs. D. C.
Darragh Jas. R.	Jackson Miss M. L.
Decker Mrs. O. S.	Jackson John B.
Dickson Mrs.	Jones Mrs. Susan
Douglas Mrs. S. B.	Kaufman Bros.



Kelly Mrs. M. B. P.  
 Kelly Sarah A.  
 Kirkpatrick Mrs. F. J.  
 Kitzmiller E. A.  
 Lewis Wenman A.  
 Lincoln Mrs. Mary P.  
 \*Lockhart Charles  
 Lovejoy Mrs. F. J. F.  
 Lewis Mrs. Wenman A.  
 Macbeth Mrs. Geo. A.  
 Maits Mrs. Sarah Buckley  
 Miller The Hon. J. J.  
 Miller John F.  
 Morgan P. C.  
 Mays P.  
 McCune Mrs. Mary H.  
 McGinley John R.  
 McLean Clara C.  
 McLean Geo. A.  
 McKee Mrs. Geo.  
 \*Nimick Eleanor H.  
 Oliver Mrs. D. B.  
 O'Donnel Simon  
 O'Donnel R. S.  
 Phipps Henry  
 Park Mrs. Sarah G.  
 Park Miss Eleanor G.  
 Park David E.  
 Park James H.  
 Perchment M. E.  
 Perchment Mrs. M. E.  
 Pickering Mrs. M. H.  
 Pitcairn Robert  
 Pitcairn Mrs. Robert  
 Park Miss Nellie  
 Pressing W. G.  
 Pressing Mrs. W. G.  
 Quincy Mrs. Walter  
 Queen Susan M.

\*Deceased.

Robbins William  
 Reed Kate I.  
 Rogers Miss E. A.  
 Rosenbaum & Co.  
 Randolph & McClements  
 Sheldon H. E.  
 Sheldon Mrs. H. E.  
 Saulsbury M. K.  
 Stewart Jennie L.  
 Smith Miss Tillie  
 \*Samson H.  
 Singer Mrs. Harriet  
 Smith Mrs. Persifor  
 Smith Miss Jennie  
 Smith Mrs. Harper H.  
 Smith Miss Catherine  
 Snyder C. E.  
 Steiren Wm. M.  
 Stewart Mrs. D. G.  
 Sisterhood of St. Peter's  
     P. E. Church  
 The Kirk Soap Co., Chicago  
 Townsend Mrs. R. B.  
 Tonnelle Mrs. Theo.  
 Thompson The Rev. Wm.  
 Vandergrift F. E.  
 Van Kirk E. D.  
 Wallace D. H.  
 Watson Miss Jane  
 White Miss F. M.  
 Wade Mrs E. H.  
 Wood Mrs. Jos.  
 Wall Mrs. A. W.  
 Wilson Mrs. Columbus  
 Wade Mrs. Wm.  
 Woman's Auxiliary to Law-  
     renceville Lyceum  
 Woodwell Mrs. Jno.  
 Woodwell Mrs. Wm.  
 W. & H. Walker Soap Co.



CLUB ROOM





MEN'S BATHS

AND BATHS ASSOCIATION. 21  
 CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CLOTHING AND HOUSE  
 FURNISHING BUREAU.

- |                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Edsall Miss Rose                   | Hillman Miss Bessie         |
| Martin Mrs. Wm.                    | Hillman Mrs. J. H.          |
| Doubleday Mrs. H. M.               | Cassel Mrs. Sara            |
| Clapp Mrs. D. C.                   | Rowand Mrs. F. P.           |
| Reed Mrs. Jas. H.                  | Edsall Mr. Ernest J.        |
| Wurts Mrs. A. J.                   | McCleary Mrs.               |
| Clark Miss Sarah                   | Heron Mrs. J. B.            |
| Nash Miss Margaret                 | Lindsay Mrs. Reese          |
| Thompson Mrs. Wm.                  | Stewart Mrs. D. G.          |
| Ammon Mrs. S. A.                   | Robinson Mrs. James         |
| Brown Mrs.                         | Reed The Misses             |
| Jilson Miss N. W.                  | Loomis Elizabeth            |
| Douglas Miss N. W.                 | McClay Mrs. Samuel          |
| Douglas Miss Jessie                | Menager Miss                |
| Douglas Miss K. N.                 | Fisher Mrs. H.              |
| Fleming Mrs. R. K.                 | Buchanan Mrs. Douglas       |
| Porter Miss Laura                  | McClue Miss Mary            |
| Richards Mrs.                      | Lange Miss Annie            |
| Northrop Mrs. Albert               | Ballou Mr. Stanley          |
| Van Gorder Mrs.                    | Jones Mrs. Ellen            |
| Beddoe Mrs.                        | Leeger Mrs. A. M.           |
| Patterson The Misses               | White Miss F. M.            |
| Seip The Misses                    | Burns Mrs. S. A.            |
| Smith Mrs Harper                   | Hutchinson Mrs.             |
| Woman's Exchange Calvary<br>Church | Hussey Mrs. C. C.           |
| Sisterhood Calvary Church          | Miss Chestnut's Bible Class |
| Hamilton Miss Agnes                | Miss Bowles's Bible Class   |
| Kibler Mrs. Jas. R.                | Ehrenfeld Mrs.              |
| Home for Incurables                | Watkins Miss Lucy R.        |
| Collins Mrs. H. E.                 | Roberts Mrs. J. C.          |
|                                    | McCombs Miss                |

Many packages came unmarked and proper credit cannot therefore be given.



### SOME FACTS AND FIGURES.

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A shower bath costs five cents and a tub bath for men fifteen cents.

A woman's tub bath costs ten cents.

Time allowed for bathing, half an hour.

The largest record of baths in any one month was in June, 1906, when the bathers numbered 7,319 men and 53 women.

The smallest number using the baths was in February, 1906, when the bathers numbered only 2,640 men and 19 women.

On one Saturday in June, 1906, 1,035 people used the baths.

The Clothing Bureau is in constant need of children's clothes of all kinds, and of women's garments, skirts especially.

Any discarded piece of furniture can find a purchaser in the Clothing Bureau. A wagon will call for any such gift if notification be sent to Mrs. S. B. Douglas, 342 Lehigh Avenue, Pittsburgh.



Report of the  
Public Wash House and  
Baths Association  
of Pittsburgh

---

1910

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Thirty-fifth and Butler Streets  
Pittsburgh, Pa.



## BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR 1910

### *President*

MRS. LOUIS ROTT

### *Vice-Presidents*

MRS. J. H. MCLVAINE

MRS. W. H. MCCLEARY

MRS. W. L. FICKES

MRS. S. B. DOUGLAS

MISS CATHERINE SMITH

### *Recording Secretary*

MISS E. ROSE EDSALL

### *Corresponding Secretary*

MRS. RICHARD HIRSCH

### *Treasurer*

MRS. F. P. ROWAND

### *Board of Managers*

Mrs. A. W. Arundel

Miss Louise Menager

Mrs. W. J. Askin

Miss E. M. McCleary

Mrs. F. N. Blakeslee

\*Mrs. B. C. Moise

\*Mrs. S. A. Burns

Mrs. William Thompson

Mrs. B. K. Elliott

Mrs. Gertrude Timm

Mrs. W. P. Flint

Miss Julia Wattles

\*Deceased.

### *Advisory Board*

C. B. Connelley

Charles A. Edsall

George H. Clapp

Hon. J. J. Miller

D. C. Clapp

Richard Hirsch

Rev. Wm. Thompson, D. D.

## Seventh Annual Report of the

# Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh

In making this annual report of the Public Wash House and Baths Association, we review the seventh year of the history of the work in its present building.

In June 1904, this building was thrown open to the public. At that time, the field was untried, though we had every reason to believe the location was a good one for the work contemplated. The experience of the years has shown that no place could have been selected where the need for such a building was greater. The various mills and manufactories cloud the atmosphere with smoke, making this, possibly, one of the most undesirable parts of the city in which to live. In former days, many people in comfortable circumstances lived in the homes in this vicinity, but these smoky conditions have driven them farther out.

What were formerly houses in which only one family lived, are now, each, the abiding place (we cannot call them homes) of several families. Instead of Americans we have the foreigners, and, to some of these people, one or two rooms serve as a home, for husband, wife, children and half a dozen or more boarders. Living under these conditions, what opportunities are there for cleanliness? What, for decent, respectable living of any kind?

This Association, by its many activities housed in this building, aims to do what it can to better these conditions. With its public baths it enables the tenement dweller to be as clean of body as his more affluent neighbor who has one or more bathrooms in his own home.

The wash house gives as good a place for the washing and drying of the family laundry as any woman could desire. The children are taught to sew in its classes. In some of its clubs health of body and mind are made the subject of supreme importance. To the sick, the Bath House is a Free Dispensary, and to those too ill to leave their homes the nurse goes with her



welcome ministrations and comfort. This, in outline, is some of the work which has this building for its center of operation.

Let us review, briefly, what the past year has accomplished:

✓ First, in the Men's Baths, 57,988 men have used the shower baths, and 2,987 the tub baths, during the year. The difference between five and fifteen cents (five being the price of the shower and fifteen of the tub baths) may, in some measure, somewhat account for the difference in the use of these baths. The shower is decidedly the most popular with the men. These figures show an increase of 8,335 bathers over last year.

✓ The Women's Baths are still not so well patronized as we could desire, though in this department also, there has been an increase, 647 women using the baths against 481 last year. These numbers are altogether too small. They should be patronized in nearer proportion to the men's baths. We do not feel that the explanation is in the charge, for that is less than in the men's department, but rather in the general disinclination of women to go to a public bath house. We need to do some house to house visiting, some real missionary work, to make the women see and understand the value of these facilities for their comfort, which they are at present ignoring.

The Laundry, or Wash House, has been used by 1,515 women 5,834 hours. The records for last year show 1,575 women 5,886 hours; a decrease of 60 women and 52 hours. The price charged is five cents per hour, which includes the use of washboards, wringers, boilers and dryers, making it cheaper for the women to do their laundry work at the Wash House than at home.

✓ The total number of men and women using the Laundry and Baths from October 1st, 1909, to September 30th, 1910, is 63,137, an increase of 8,841 over the same months of last year. August, of this year, was the banner month since the work began, 8,669 persons using the Laundry and Baths in that month. Since the opening of the building in 1904, 333,108 persons have used these two departments alone, the Laundry and Baths.

The Clothing Bureau has been open, with a few exceptions, for its weekly sales, each Saturday throughout the year. There have been received and sold 601 articles of clothing and household goods, with a cash return of \$63.25.

As in the past, we have never enough clothing to supply the demand. If we could keep our needs as constantly before the public as our friends of the Salvation Army and the Volunteers do theirs, we might have our storeroom adequately supplied. Their wagons call each month, sometimes oftener, at the houses from which formerly we received all the discarded garments. To give to them we know is easier than saving packages for us, as their wagon stands at the door ready to take away immediately, what may be disposed of, while a postal or telephone call must be sent to us. Our friends also feel they are helping equally as good a work as ours. They are doing a splendid work, and as we all know, they help many who have sunk to the lowest depths, to rise and make a new start in life. But, through this Clothing Bureau, we are endeavoring to help a self-respecting class who will pay for what they receive. A price, in proportion to value, is placed on all goods. All the clothing finds ready purchasers. So many mothers know so little about making garments for their children, and have little time and few facilities even if they did know, that the partly worn, well-made garments discarded from the well to do home is most acceptable and the price set as its value gladly paid. As we said before, the demand is always greater than the supply, and we constantly need all kinds of clothing, especially that for women and children.

The Sewing Bureau gives sewing one day each week to a limited number of needy women, who are enabled in this way to add a little to their slender incomes. The payment is made in grocery orders.

The work done is in most part for the hospitals, which supply the material. This work is very much enjoyed by the women. It gives them a social hour or two each week, which helps to brighten the dull monotony of their lives. This year they have made: 101 Gowns for Passavant's Hospital; 74 Gowns for South Side Hospital; 38 Men's Wrappers for Allegheny General Hospital; 42 Surgical Gowns for Mercy Hospital; 887 Towels for the Bath House, for which 453 orders on grocery or other stores were given.

In the Children's Sewing Class, the number enrolled is 50. They are taught all kinds of sewing. In connection with the class is a branch of the Carnegie Home Library, and the



Penny Provident Savings Fund. The children are given a Christmas treat of a box of candy and some other gift, and at Easter, ice cream and cake.

The class closed for the Summer with a picnic in Highland Park. Thanks are due to Miss Askin, Miss Deike, Miss Patterson and Miss Danner, for faithful service in teaching the classes.

The Clubs under Miss Chestnut meet on two evenings each week and have an enrollment of 147 members. They are composed of working girls, or of those who when a little older will be, who are employed in the laundries and factories of this part of the city. The Clubs mean much to these girls. They have small homes with a very limited social life and these weekly meetings bring an element for good into their lives, the value of which it is impossible to estimate.

The Clubs embrace religious, literary and gymnasium classes. About once a month through the winter, entertainments are given, at which time the hall is invariably crowded, showing how much they are appreciated.

In July a graduate nurse was engaged to do district nursing. She has gone in and out of the neighborhood looking after the sick and suffering, attending them in their homes and often placing in the hospital those who needed special care and attention. Many distressing cases have come to her attention and her work has been very beneficial to the neighborhood.

During the summer months a station of the City's Milk and Ice Department was established here, with Dr. Naylor and two nurses in charge. Unless one visited the Bath House between the hours of nine and twelve on the mornings the clinics were held, they could have no conception of the value of this branch of work; and to get a true idea these visits should have been repeated. To see sickly, miserable specimens of humanity changed into healthy, happy babies, under the guidance of the doctor and nurses, with the help of good milk, was indeed worth frequent visits, and many babies were thus transformed, and many mothers helped to a better knowledge of how to care for their children.

A Free Dispensary has been established with special clin-

ics for women and children. It is in time of sickness that poverty is most felt. Doctors' visits are a luxury few can afford. Often the sick one goes too long without advice, because of the lack of money, and the doctor is called when it is too late.

The Free Dispensary here meets the need and help is given; or the patient is sent to the hospital when the doctor in charge sees the necessity of the case.

Last year, at our annual meeting a tablet was dedicated to the memory of our honored president, Mrs. D. C. Clapp. She, as well as one other member of our Board of Managers, had been called away by death the previous year.

This year we again have to record the deaths of two others who were with us at that meeting, and who helped in honoring those who had gone.

In March, Mrs. Sarah A. Burns, who had long been a member of the Board, passed away. She had been especially active in the work of the Clothing Bureau, and her place in it has been difficult to fill. Quiet and unassuming, she was always present at the meetings and ready to do what she could to further the work.

Three weeks ago, after months of suffering, occurred the death of Mrs. Bolton Caldwell Moise, who had been a member of the Board for some years and also for a time the Corresponding Secretary. Owing to her ill health she was often kept away from the meetings, where her sound judgment and clearness of vision made her very helpful. During her illness she talked much of this work, and kept in touch with the plans for the future.

They will both be missed and our work cannot help but be seriously affected by this thinning of our ranks.

Emily Rose Edsall,  
*Secretary.*



## PUBLIC WASH HOUSE

The following reports were presented at the annual meeting of the Board of Managers:

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash House and Baths Association:

The following is a statement of the business done in the Laundry and Baths for the year ending September 30, 1910, during which time 63,137 persons used the Laundry and Baths.

## MEN'S DEPARTMENT

57,988 Shower Baths at 5c. ....	\$2,899.40
2,987 Tub Baths at 15c. ....	448.05

## WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

65 Shower Baths at 5c. ....	\$ 3.25
582 Tub Baths at 10c. ....	58.20
1515 Women, 5834 Hours at 5c. ....	\$291.70
Rent of Auditorium .....	178.50
Clothing Bureau .....	63.25
Commission on Scales .....	6.70
From sale of waste soap .....	12.28
Total Receipts .....	\$3,961.33

Respectfully submitted,

Edward McDonald,  
Superintendent.

## REPORT OF CLOTHING AND HOUSE FURNISHING BUREAU.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash House and Baths Association:

The report for this branch of the work, of which this entire organization is the outgrowth, for the year ending October 1st, 1910 is not very encouraging.

Owing to the very few desirable articles that have been donated and the necessity of selling quite a number of small

## AND BATHS ASSOCIATION.

things at a low price, the sum total of receipts in the Clothing Bureau is greatly reduced as compared with other years. However, we are helping some very needy and worthy people to get over the hard places that come to them.

The donations for the year are as follows:

Articles of clothing .....	379
Shoes .....	59
Stockings and socks .....	74
Gloves .....	14
Hats and caps .....	33
Miscellaneous (including household articles and furniture) .....	39
Penny bundles .....	6
Total donations .....	604
Total sales .....	\$63.35

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen M. Douglas,  
Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE SEWING BUREAU.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash House and Baths Association:

The Sewing Bureau partakes largely of the character of Mothers' Meetings as carried on in many churches. The women are paid at the rate of ten cents per ~~hour~~ <sup>day</sup> for their time, payments being made in orders on grocery or other stores in the neighborhood. Some of the women have attended these meetings regularly since the establishment of the work, about fifteen years ago, and find in them their one social relaxation. The work done is principally for hospitals which supply the materials used, this Association paying for the work of making the garments.

The following articles were made during the past year:

- 101 Gowns for Passavant Hospital.
- 74 Gowns for South Side Hospital.
- 38 Men's Wrappers for Allegheny General Hospital.



## PUBLIC WASH HOUSE

42 Surgical Gowns for Mercy Hospital.  
 887 Towels for the Bath House.  
 Orders given to pay for work, 453.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate N. Douglas,  
 Directress.

## REPORT OF DISPENSARY DEPARTMENT.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash House and Baths Association:

The actual work of this department began in the early part of July, at which time a graduate nurse, Miss Ella Daubenspeck, was engaged to do district nursing.

The following report shows the work accomplished up to September 30th:

Visits made .....	153
Persons visited .....	105
Taken to Tuberculosis Dispensary .....	2
Taken to Hospitals .....	11
Taken to Specialists .....	8
Reported for relief .....	6
Obstetric cases attended .....	1

During this period there were three deaths among the cases attended.

This first clinic for women and children was held in the Board rooms on July 22nd by Dr. Mary A. Naylor. Owing to the many demands on Dr. Naylor's time from other sources Dr. Mary L. Jones kindly volunteered to assist in the work. In September, at a joint meeting of the Clinic Committee and a Committee from the Woman's Medical Society, it was decided that the members of that organization constitute the active staff. Since that time a total of 381 treatments were given to 112 persons.

It is the duty of the nurse to follow the cases treated at the clinic into their homes and to teach the people the necessity of sanitary living and much has been accomplished in this direction.

The committee is much indebted to the physicians who

## AND BATHS ASSOCIATION.

have so kindly consented to give their services as members of the active and consulting staffs, which are as follows:

## Active Staff

Dr. Elizabeth J. Anderson  
 Dr. Caroline M. Baldwin  
 Dr. Catharine Cook  
 Dr. Bertha E. Dornbush  
 Dr. Luba R. Goldsmith  
 Dr. Nan Latimer  
 Dr. Laura Shrom  
 Dr. Edith T. Waldie  
 Dr. Ada M. Watson  
 Dr. Elizabeth Martin

## Consulting Staff

Dr. George L. Hays  
 Dr. John R. Brown  
 Dr. W. H. Kirk  
 Dr. Frederick A. Rhodes  
 Dr. J. A. Lichty  
 Dr. J. E. Rigg  
 Dr. M. Delmar Ritchie  
 Dr. Milton Goldsmith  
 Dr. A. J. Hopkins  
 Dr. Margaret A. Gould  
 Dr. Markley C. Cameron  
 Dr. Walter F. Donaldson  
 Dr. K. I. Sanes  
 Dr. Frank L. Todd  
 Dr. L. W. Smith  
 Dr. S. K. Fenollosa  
 Dr. R. T. Price  
 Dr. J. Clyde Markel  
 Dr. Edith T. Waldie  
 Dr. Luba R. Goldsmith  
 Dr. Ada M. Watson

Clinics for children are held regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 A. M. to 12:00 M., and for women on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the same hours, a fee of ten cents being charged each person.

The committee desires to thank the following firms for their contributions of medicines:

Parke, Davis & Company  
 Zimmer & Company  
 Shipley-Massingham & Company  
 Horlick's Food Company  
 Mellin's Food Company  
 Borden's Milk Company

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Agnes Heaps Hirsch,  
 Chairman.



## STANDING COMMITTEES

*Clothing and Sewing Bureaus.*Mrs. S. B. Douglas, *Chairman*Mrs. J. H. McIlvaine  
Miss Catherine SmithMrs. Louis Rott  
Mrs. B. K. Elliott*Entertainment.*Mrs. W. L. Fickes, *Chairman*Mrs. F. N. Blakeslee  
Mrs. W. H. McClearyMrs. Richard Hirsch  
Mrs. Harper Smith*House.*Mrs. F. P. Rowand, *Chairman*

Miss M. E. McCleary

Miss Catherine Smith

Mrs. Louis Rott

*Settlement Work.*Miss E. Rose Edsall, *Chairman*

Mrs. W. P. Flint

Mrs. W. J. Askin

Mrs. Gertrude Timms

*Clinic.*Mrs. Richard Hirsch, *Chairman*Miss Julia Wattles  
Mrs. W. P. FlintMiss M. E. McCleary  
Mrs. Louis Rott*Flowers.*

Miss E. Rose Edsall

Miss Catherine Smith

*Press.*

Mrs. Richard Hirsch

## HISTORY

In 1895, there was formed an organization called the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau, the object of which was to furnish articles of partly worn clothing and furniture to the poor. Those interested in the project believed that indiscriminate giving tended to pauperize rather than help. Accordingly, a price somewhat in proportion to the value was placed on every article, thereby saving the independence and self-respect of the buyer and keeping him from being in any way an object of charity.

For many years this work was carried on at the corner of Penn Avenue and Sixteenth Street in a room loaned for the purpose in the Parish House of St. James Church. The women of this organization came, in this way, into close touch with many whose lives were lived in narrow quarters and barren surroundings and thus grew to know the difficulties encountered.

They learned that to those whose home consisted of only one or two rooms, wash day meant wretched discomfort and that privacy in bathing was an impossibility. The problem,—how to make living under these conditions more decent and comfortable,—determined the managers of the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau to erect a building in which the various conveniences of civilized living might be brought within the reach of the poorest people.

To obtain the money necessary for such a building seemed a formidable undertaking, but at the very outset when plans were made public, encouragement came in a most substantial manner from Mr. Henry Phipps. He volunteered to contribute one-half the cost of the building with one-half the first year's running expenses, provided the other half was raised by the management.

This most generous offer was immediately accepted and strenuous efforts made to raise the necessary funds. Other friends responded so liberally that within one year from the first appeal to the public, the building became an assured fact.

A charter was then obtained; the name became the Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh; the Board of Management was broadened, all religious affiliations being eliminated.

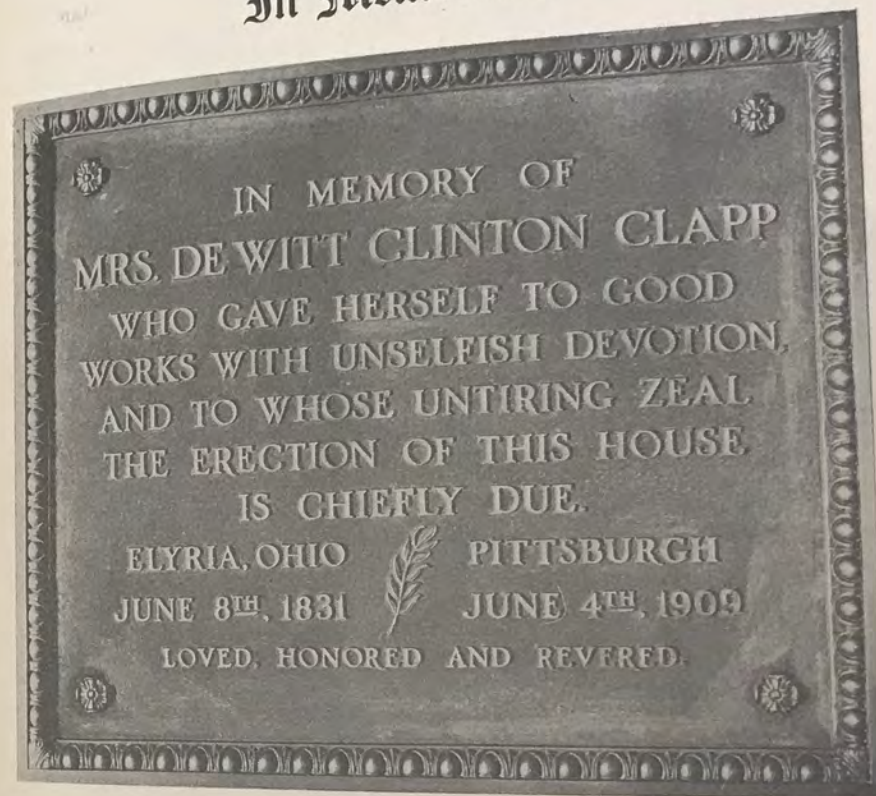


As the business center of the city was fast reaching out to the location then occupied, thus crowding out the tenement houses, a new site was sought. A lot was bought at the corner of Butler and Thirty-fifth Streets in the Lawrenceville mill district at a cost of six thousand five hundred dollars, of which amount Mr. Phipps again contributed the half. Plans for the building drawn by Rutan and Russell were accepted and the general contract let to George A. Cochran Company.

The Building Committee consisted of the following women: Mrs. John B. Heron, Mrs. Henry B. Birch, Mrs. Theodore Tonnelle, Mrs. James Hall Melvaine, Mrs. Wenman A. Lewis. This Committee was assisted in its work by the Advisory Board, the members of which were: C. B. Connelley, Hon. J. J. Miller, Charles A. Edsall, George H. Clapp and Theodore Tonnelle. These with Mr. D. C. Clapp as Treasurer of the Building Fund and Mrs. Clapp, President of the Board, did faithful and arduous service during the construction of the building.

The building with its equipment cost fifty thousand, four hundred dollars. On the main floor are the Men's Club rooms, Superintendent's office and shower baths for men. On the second floor is the women's department, consisting of fifteen shower and two tub-baths. A day nursery with bath-room for children adjoining and a women's club room are also on this floor. All the shower baths are in white marble. On the third floor is a large assembly hall for public entertainments with living apartments for the Superintendent. In the basement is the public wash-house and also the store-room of the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau. The last week of May, 1904, the building was finished, equipped with all the latest improvements and opened to the public. **THIS PUBLIC WASH-HOUSE WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH.**

## In Memoriam



In June, 1909, Mrs. D. C. Clapp, who had been president of the Board of Managers of the Public Wash House and Baths Association from its organization, after months of weakness and suffering, passed away.

In October of the same year the above bronze tablet to her memory was placed in the reading room on the first floor of the building and unveiled with appropriate ceremony at the annual meeting, the address being made by the Rev. J. H. Melvaine, D. D., rector of Calvary Church.



CHARTER

March 27, 1903.  
In Re Charter of the  
Public Wash House and Baths  
Association of Pittsburgh.

In the Court of Common Pleas No. 2 of  
Allegheny County, Pa.  
October term 1901.

To the Honorable, the Judges of said Court.

In compliance with requirements of an act of General Assembly  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled, "An act to provide  
for the incorporation and regulation of certain Corporations" ap-  
proved the 29th day of April, A. D. 1874, and several supplements  
thereto, the undersigned, all of whom are citizens of Pennsylvania,  
having associated themselves together for the purpose hereinafter  
specified, pray that they may be incorporated, and that a charter  
may be granted to them, their associates and successors, according to  
law and they do set forth and certify as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is "Public Wash House and  
Baths Association of Pittsburgh."

2. The said corporation is formed for the support of an under-  
taking, the purpose of which is to establish and maintain a public  
house or public wash house with baths, and affording facilities to  
the poor and worthy for doing their washings, with facilities to them  
for bathing, and the promotion thereby of health and cleanliness,  
with the necessary room for a day nursery and other accommodations  
to help the poor and worthy.

The work of the Association is to be maintained and supported  
by gifts, donations, legacies and by small charges for the uses  
afforded.

3. The business of the said corporation is to be transacted at  
the corner of Butler Street and Thirty-fifth Street, in the City of  
Pittsburgh, in the County of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania.  
The said corporation to exist permanently.

4. The names and residences of the petitioners are as follows:

Names.	Residences.
Mrs. Delia D. Clapp.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Gertrude A. M. Thompson.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Anna B. D. Rowand.....	Allegheny
Mrs. Emily S. Herron.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Eleanor H. Birch.....	Pittsburgh

5. The number of Trustees is fixed at seven. The names and resi-  
dences of those chosen for the first year are as follows:

Names.	Residences.
Mrs. Delia D. Clapp.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Eleanor H. Birch.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Mary A. Doubleday.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Isabell P. Tonnele.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Roxana O'Donnel .....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Emily S. Herron.....	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Ellen M. Douglas.....	Pittsburgh

6. There is no capital stock.

Delia D. Clapp. [SEAL]  
Signed and sealed in the  
presence of  
J. J. Miller.

Gertrude A. M. Thompson. [SEAL]  
Anna B. Rowand. [SEAL]  
Emily S. Herron. [SEAL]  
Eleanor H. Birch. [SEAL]

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
County of Allegheny.

Before me, the Recorder of Deeds in and for the County afore-  
said, personally came the above named Delia D. Clapp, Gertrude A.  
M. Thompson, Anna B. Rowand, Emily S. Herron and Eleanor H.  
Birch, who in due form of law acknowledging the foregoing instru-  
ment to be their title and deed for the purpose therein specified.  
With my hand and seal of office this 23rd day of September, A. D.  
1901.

George M. von Bounhorst,  
Recorder.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
County of Allegheny.

Personally appeared before me this 23rd of September,  
A. D., 1901, Delia D. Clapp, Gertrude A. M. Thompson, Anna  
B. Rowand, Emily S. Herron and Eleanor H. Birch, who being duly  
sworn according to law, depose and say that, the statements con-  
tained in the foregoing instrument are true.

Delia D. Clapp,  
Gertrude A. M. Thompson,  
Anna B. Rowand,  
Emily S. Herron,  
Eleanor H. Birch.

Sworn and Subscribed to  
before me. 69  
George M. von Bounhorst,  
Recorder.



## ORDER OF COURT

And now, to wit, October 28, 1901, the within application for a Charter for the Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh presented in open Court to the undersigned, a Law Judge, in the said County, with the proofs and publication of the notices of said application as required by an act of Assembly in such case made and provided.

I certify that I have examined and perused the said writing, and have found the same in proper form and within the purposes named in the first class specified in Section 2 of the act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, etc.," and the subscribers thereto, and the same appearing to be lawful and not injurious to the community.

I do now order and direct that the said Charter of the Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh aforesaid be and the same is hereby approved and that upon the recording of the same and of this order, the Subscribers thereto and their Associates shall be a corporation by the name of "Public Wash House and Baths Association," for the purposes and upon the terms therein stated.

John D. Shafer,

*Judge of Common Pleas Court No. 2.*

[COURT SEAL]

From the record, A. J. McQuilty,

*Prothonotary.*

Recorded, November 6, 1901.

Charter Book Volume 28, Page 465.

## SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

A shower bath for men costs five cents and a tub bath fifteen cents.

A woman's tub bath costs ten cents.

The largest number of bathers in one day was in June 1907, when 1,114 persons used the baths.

In June, 1910, in one week 2,170 persons used the laundry and baths.

The largest record of baths in any one month was in August 1910 when the bathers numbered 8669 men and women.

Since the opening of the building in 1904, until September 30, 1910, 333,108 persons have used the laundry and baths.

The Clothing Bureau is in constant need of children's clothing of all kinds; also women's garments.

A wagon will call if you have any article to dispose of, if notification be sent by card to Mrs. S. B. Douglas, 328 Lehigh Avenue.

The nurse is ready at all times to attend any patient in her district.

Clinics for women are held Mondays and Fridays, 11 to 12 M.

Clinics for children are held Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11 to 12 M.

A fee of ten cents is charged those patients who are able to pay.

Appointments are made for consultation with specialists in cases demanding special attention.



B. 07

Report of the  
Public Wash House and  
Bath Association  
of Pittsburgh

—  
1911  
—

Thirty-fifth and Butler Streets  
Pittsburgh, Pa.



## Board of Managers for 1911

### *President*

MRS. LOUIS ROTT

### *Vice-Presidents*

MRS. W. L. FICKES  
MRS. S. B. DOUGLAS

MRS. W. H. McCLEARY  
MRS. W. J. ASKIN

### *Recording Secretary*

MISS E. ROSE EDSALL

### *Corresponding Secretary*

MRS. RICHARD HIRSCH

### *Treasurer*

MRS. F. P. ROWAND

### *Board of Managers*

MRS. A. W. ARUNDEL  
MRS. F. N. BLAKESLEE  
MISS DEBORAH BROWN  
MRS. ARTHUR BURGOYNE  
MRS. B. K. ELLIOTT  
MRS. WM. P. FLINT  
MRS. RICHARD R. HARRIS  
MISS E. M. McCLEARY  
MRS. J. H. McILVAINE  
MISS LOUISE MENAGER  
MRS. HARPER H. SMITH  
MRS. GERTRUDE TIMMS  
MISS JULIA WATTLES

### *Advisory Board*

D. C. CLAPP  
GEORGE H. CLAPP  
C. B. CONNELLEY  
CHARLES A. EDSALL  
RICHARD HIRSCH  
HON. J. J. MILLER  
FRANK P. ROWAND  
REV. WM. THOMPSON, D. D.

## Eighth Annual Report

of the

## Public Wash House and Bath Association of Pittsburgh

In recording the work of the past year we cannot but feel that it has been one of unusual activity.

Much of the work has been broadened out; new classes have been formed; the clubs have kept up in numbers and enthusiasm, and the Free Dispensary has brought help and relief to many women and children.

In planning this building the auditorium on the third floor was intended to be used occasionally for lectures, concerts, etc. It is now used four nights and two afternoons each week besides Sunday, when it is occupied by the Swedish Baptist Mission.

On Monday it is used by the class in dress making; Tuesday, by two of Miss Chesnut's clubs; Wednesday, in the afternoon, the children's sewing class under Miss Douglas meets here; Thursday, the Swedish Mission uses it for a prayer meeting; on Friday, in the afternoon, the woman's sewing class holds its weekly meeting, and in the evening another of Miss Chesnut's clubs. This leaves only two evenings out of seven when the Assembly Hall is unoccupied.

The rooms on the second floor are occupied by the Free Dispensary, the growing work of this department being responsible for crowding out all other activities, necessitating the use of the Assembly Hall.

In the basement, the store room has been utilized by the City for one of its milk and ice stations during the hot months and has been one of the busiest parts of the building throughout the summer.

The baths are on the first and second floors and are open from seven o'clock in the morning to nine in the evening every day. These are in constant use, as is also the wash-house in the



basement. Consequently throughout the entire week the whole building is a center of activity.

In reviewing the work in the several departments, we find that the patronage of the men's baths has been seriously affected by the fact that so many men in this section of the city have been out of work. Last year was the banner year in this department, when 60,975 persons used the men's baths. This year the number has fallen to 56,029. Last year, however, the increase was 8,835 baths over the previous year, so that though there has been a falling off from the high record of 1910, there is still an increase of 3,489 over that of 1909.

In the Women's Department there has also been a decrease, but not so serious; 608 this year against 647 last year, a decrease of 39. It seems impossible to get the women in any numbers to use a public bath-house. The Free Dispensary has brought numbers of women to the bath-house every day, so that they know of its conveniences, but they do not avail themselves of them.

The Wash-House, or laundry, has been used by 1,181 women 4,456 hours; again a falling off from last year of 334 women. The laundry could accommodate many more women. It is a clean, bright room with every facility to make work easy and with every advantage over the cramped quarters for the work in the ordinary home. The lack of work with the men has been without doubt the only cause for the decrease in patronage of these various departments. It has also compelled many women to seek work who otherwise would remain at home. Many of them have obtained work through applying to the nurse, who has conducted quite an employment bureau in addition to her other duties. This should be developed into a part of our work. Our motto, "Helping others to help themselves", could not be put into practice in any better way than by finding employment for those who are anxious to work.

The Sewing Bureau has a membership of twenty women, who are paid ten cents an hour for their work. They meet weekly and sew for the different hospitals and public institutions under the direction of Miss Douglas. The social side of these

meetings is much enjoyed by the members, who seldom allow anything to prevent their attendance. This year they have made 550 garments, for which they have received 362 orders on grocery or other stores.

The Clothing Bureau, as always, has more demand for clothing than it can possibly supply. We are sure if our friends only knew the demand there is for second hand clothing they would always send us their discarded garments. Few of these people can sew well enough to make clothes for themselves, or their children, or, if they can, they have neither the time nor the facilities. Consequently, partly worn clothing, ready to wear, finds eager purchasers at the Clothing Bureau. The difficulty we always find is in supplying their wants. This year 675 articles have been sold for the sum of \$102.42.

The Children's Sewing Class has an enrollment of sixty members. The children are taught plain sewing up to the making of under garments and aprons. There is also a class in embroidery. Prizes were given at the close of the year for plain sewing and embroidery. In connection with the Sewing Class is a Carnegie Home Library, from which the children take books from week to week. This class is under the care of Miss Douglas, who is aided in her work by Miss Askin, Miss Patterson and Miss Deike, who are most faithful in their attendance.

The clubs, or classes, under Miss Chesnut have a total membership of 366. The majority of the young women composing these classes are employed during the day in laundries, bakeries and factories. The classes on Tuesday evening meet as follows: 7:45 to 8:30, Bible study; 8:30 to 9:30, reading and literature classes. In this connection also the Carnegie Library assists with books, which are loaned to the girls at the close of the evening. On Friday night there is a story hour for the younger girls from 7:00 to 7:30; another reading club from 7:30 to 8:00, and a gymnasium class from 8:00 to 9:00. Miss Chesnut, who conducts these clubs, gives herself and her time unreservedly to this work, and her influence for good with these girls is unlimited. Her classes are always marked by enthusiasm.



and regular attendance. During the winter at various times entertainments of a musical and literary character are given in the Assembly Hall for the girls of these clubs, and they are a source of great pleasure.

A Dressmaking Class has recently been organized to meet on Monday evenings, which is under the direction of a competent teacher. It began with an enrollment of fourteen members, and the instruction includes the cutting out, making and fitting of dresses and shirt waists. The price is a very nominal one—ten cents a lesson, or a course of twelve lessons for one dollar.

During the summer the City was given the use of the store room in the basement for one of its stations for the distribution of milk and ice. Dr. Mary Naylor and two nurses have been in charge of this work. It is not in any way officially connected with the Free Dispensary, but each supplements the other. Dr. Naylor has looked after the babies under two years of age, and many grateful mothers testify to the benefit that has come to their little ones through her skill and advice. As we all know, the past summer has been one of unusual heat, consequently there have been many sick babies, and never was the milk and ice station more needed, or more appreciated. Many babies' lives have been saved this summer through this agency.

The work of the Free Dispensary has grown to such an extent that it has required all the available space on the second floor. In one room a bed has been fitted up, which was used during the summer for sick babies. Some mothers remained here all day with their babies, finding comfort and relief from the closeness and heat of their homes. Some of us would not choose the Bath-House for comfort on a hot day, but to many who come to the Dispensary it is a cool and refreshing place in contrast with their own homes.

Clinics are held for children on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and for women on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

During the past year 3,034 treatments have been given to 705 different persons. The nurse has made 724 visits; 41 persons have been sent to the hospitals and five sent for treatment to the

tuberculosis hospital. These are the figures, but they tell only part of the story. The ministrations of the doctors and nurses mean much more, they mean help and sympathy in sore need. Sickness and suffering are hard to endure in the homes of comfort and luxury, but when poverty is added also, life seems very hard indeed. The Dispensary is bringing sympathetic help to many sick and worn out women, and the nurse in her visits to their homes brings comfort and relief by her wise ministrations.

In closing this report we again have to record the death of another member of our Board of Managers. On the morning of July 17th Mrs. Gertrude A. M. Thompson passed away. She had endured months of suffering with beautiful patience, which was an inspiration to all who visited her. To her the work of this Association owes its inception. She it was who began the work of the Clothing Bureau at Sixteenth Street and Penn Avenue, out of which this larger work has grown. She was thoroughly familiar with the neighborhood and the people. She knew the limitations of their homes and what poverty and suffering meant. She also knew that indiscriminate giving tended rather to pauperize than help, so she used all her influence to cultivate sturdy self-respect by helping people to help themselves. In the work of the Clothing Bureau she would never allow anything to be given away—a price must always be put on an article to insure the maintenance of the buyer's self respect. But one thing she gave freely, and that was herself. No work was too much for her spirit, though often she was limited by her bodily weakness. Her belief in the work undertaken by this Association and her enthusiasm strengthened and encouraged all of her associates. She would never consent to hold any office herself, but she helped and sustained by her wise counsel those who did undertake them.

During her months of suffering to the very last week of her life, she was still keenly interested in the organizations with which she was connected, thinking and planning to the very end for the good and happiness of others. She has gone from our midst, but we shall ever remember the lessons her life has taught.

EMILY ROSE Edsall,

Secretary.



PUBLIC WASH HOUSE AND BATH ASSOCIATION.

The following reports were presented at the annual meeting of the Board of Managers:

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash-house and Bath Association:

The following is a statement of business done in the various departments during the year ending September 30th, 1911:

Men's Department

53,615 Shower baths at 5c.....	\$2,680.75
2,414 Tub Baths at 15c.....	362.10

Women's Department

34 Shower Baths at 5c.....	1.70
574 Tub Baths at 10c.....	57.40

Laundry

1,181 Women	
4,456 Hours at 5c.....	
Rents .....	222.80
Clothing Bureau .....	178.00
Commission on Scales .....	98.45
Dispensary .....	5.80
	103.65

Total Receipts ..... \$3,710.65

57,818 persons used the Baths and Laundry during the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
EDWARD McDONALD,  
Superintendent.

REPORT OF CLOTHING AND HOUSE FURNISHING BUREAU.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash-house and Bath Association:

The report of this branch of the work for the year ending September 30th, 1911, is somewhat better than that for the preceding year, consequently an encouragement to continue to help the worthy and oft times very needy people of this Lawrenceville district to help themselves and keep them self respecting.

Although many of those who came to purchase were out of work during the summer months, and the articles which were donated were sold at very low figures, the sum total of the re-

PUBLIC WASH HOUSE AND BATH ASSOCIATION.

ceipts has exceeded those of last year, as also the number of articles donated.

The donations for the year are as follows:

Articles of clothing .....	516
Shoes .....	85
Stockings and socks .....	68
Gloves .....	26
Neckties and collars .....	44
Hats and caps .....	40
Penny bundles .....	16
Miscellaneous, including furniture and household articles .....	181

Total donations .....	976
Received from sales .....	\$102.42

Respectfully submitted,  
ELLEN M. DOUGLAS,  
Chairman.

REPORT OF THE SEWING BUREAU.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash-house and Bath Association:

The Sewing Bureau partakes largely of the character of Mothers' Meetings as carried on in many churches. The women are paid at the rate of ten cents per hour for their time, payments being made in orders on grocery or other stores in the neighborhood. Some of the women have attended these meetings regularly since the establishment of the work, about fifteen years ago, and find in them their one social relaxation. The work done is principally for hospitals which supply the materials used, this Association paying for the work of making the garments.

The following articles were made during the past year:

- 73 men's wrappers for Allegheny General Hospital.
- 55 surgical gowns for Passavant Hospital.
- 15 children's night gowns for South Side Hospital.
- 18 surgical gowns for South Side Hospital.
- 120 towels for South Side Hospital.
- 2 table cloths, 25 napkins, 6 pillow slips and 320 towels for the Bath House.

Respectfully submitted,  
KATE N. DOUGLAS,  
Directress.



REPORT OF DISPENSARY DEPARTMENT.

To the Board of Managers, Public Wash-house and Bath Association:

Your Committee begs to submit the following report of the work done in the Dispensary for the year ending September 30th, 1911:

Treatments given at Dispensary .....	3,034
New patients during year .....	547
Persons treated .....	705
Visits made .....	724
Taken to hospitals .....	41
Taken to specialists .....	12
Referred to Tuberculosis Dispensary.....	5

During the year there were four deaths among the cases attended.

Clinics for the treatment of women's diseases were held Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, from 9:30 to 12:00.

The services of the physicians are as follows:

Dr. Mary Lois Jones .....	October, 1910
Dr. Amelia Dranga .....	November, 1910
Dr. Laura Shrom .....	December, 1910
Dr. Johanna Baltrusaitis .....	January, 1911
Dr. Fannie Davis .....	February, 1911
Dr. Myrtle Feltwell .....	March, 1911
Dr. Myrtle Feltwell .....	April, 1911
Dr. Allison .....	May, 1911
Dr. Luba R. Goldsmith .....	June, 1911
Dr. Mary A. Naylor .....	July, 1911
Dr. Allison .....	July, 1911
Dr. Mary A. Naylor .....	August, 1911
Dr. Allison .....	August, 1911
Dr. Amelia Dranga .....	September, 1911
Dr. Myrtle Jack .....	September, 1911

Clinics for the treatment of children's diseases were held Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, physicians serving as follows:

Dr. Anna Stanton .....	October, 1910
Dr. Margaret A. Gould .....	November, 1910
" " " " .....	December, 1910
Dr. Anna Stanton .....	January, 1911
" " " " .....	February, 1911
Dr. Myrtle Feltwell .....	March, 1911
" " " " .....	April, 1911
" " " " .....	May, 1911
" " " " .....	June, 1911
Dr. Robinson .....	July, 1911
Dr. Allison .....	August, 1911
Dr. Margaret A. Gould .....	September, 1911
Dr. Robinson .....	September, 1911

The Committee is much indebted to the physicians who have so kindly consented to give their services, and to the following surgeons for work done in the various hospitals:

Dr. Fred. Blume, Dr. Lewis W. Smith, Dr. Evan Meridith, Dr. Sydney Chalfant, Dr. Edith T. Waldie, Dr. Ellen Patterson and Dr. J. Clyde Markel.

Respectfully submitted,

SARAH AGNES HEAPS HIRSCH,  
Chairman.



## Standing Committees

### *Clothing and Sewing Bureaus.*

MRS. S. B. DOUGLAS, *Chairman*  
 MISS CATHERINE SMITH  
 MRS. GERTRUDE TIMMS  
 MRS. B. K. ELLIOTT  
 MISS MENAGER

### *Entertainment.*

MRS. W. L. FICKES, *Chairman*  
 MRS. F. N. BLAKESLEE  
 MRS. W. H. McCLEARY  
 MRS. RICHARD HIRSCH  
 MRS. HARPER SMITH  
 MRS. BURGOYNE

### *House.*

MRS. F. P. ROWAND, *Chairman*  
 MISS M. E. McCLEARY  
 MRS. LOUIS ROTT  
 MISS CATHERINE SMITH

### *Settlement Work.*

MISS E. ROSE EDSALL, *Chairman*  
 MRS. W. P. FLINT  
 MRS. GERTRUDE TIMMS  
 MRS. W. J. ASKIN  
 MISS DEBORAH BROWN

### *Dispensary.*

MRS. RICHARD HIRSCH, *Chairman*  
 MISS JULIA WATTLES  
 MRS. W. P. FLINT  
 MISS M. E. McCLEARY  
 MRS. LOUIS ROTT

### *Flowers.*

MISS E. ROSE EDSALL  
 MISS CATHERINE SMITH

### *Press.*

MRS. RICHARD HIRSCH

## History

In 1895, there was formed an organization called the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau, the object of which was to furnish articles of partly worn clothing and furniture to the poor. Those interested in the project believed that indiscriminate giving tended to pauperize rather than help. Accordingly, a price somewhat in proportion to the value was placed on every article, thereby saving the independence and self-respect of the buyer and keeping him from being in any way an object of charity.

For many years this work was carried on at the corner of Penn avenue and Sixteenth Street in a room loaned for the purpose in the Parish House of St. James Church. The women of this organization came, in this way, into close touch with many whose lives were lived in narrow quarters and barren surroundings and thus grew to know the difficulties encountered.

They learned that to those whose home consisted of only one or two rooms, wash day meant wretched discomfort and that privacy in bathing was an impossibility. The problem,—how to make living under these conditions more decent and comfortable,—determined the managers of the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau to erect a building in which the various conveniences of civilized living might be brought within the reach of the poorest people.

To obtain the money necessary for such a building seemed a formidable undertaking, but at the very outset when plans were made public, encouragement came in a most substantial manner from Mr. Henry Phipps. He volunteered to contribute one-half of the cost of the building with one-half the first year's running expenses, provided the other half was raised by the management.

This most generous offer was immediately accepted and strenuous efforts made to raise the necessary funds. Other friends responded so liberally that within one year from the first appeal to the public, the building became an assured fact.

A charter was then obtained; the name became the Public Wash House and Bath Association of Pittsburgh; the Board of Management was broadened, all religious affiliations being eliminated.

As the business center of the city was fast reaching out to



the location then occupied, thus crowding out the tenement houses, a new site was sought. A lot was bought at the corner of Butler and Thirty-fifth Streets in the Lawrenceville mill district at a cost of six thousand five hundred dollars, of which amount Mr. Phipps again contributed the half. Plans for the building drawn by Rutan and Russell were accepted and the general contract let to George A. Cochrane Company.

The Building Committee consisted of the following women: Mrs. John B. Heron, Mrs. Henry B. Birch, Mrs. Theodore Tonnelle, Mrs. James Hall McIlvaine, Mrs. Wenman A. Lewis. This Committee was assisted in its work by the Advisory Board, the members of which were: C. B. Connelley, Hon. J. J. Miller, Charles A. Edsall, George H. Clapp and Theodore Tonnelle. These with Mr. D. C. Clapp as Treasurer of the Building Fund and Mrs. Clapp, President of the Board, did faithful and arduous service during the construction of the building.

The building with its equipment cost fifty thousand, four hundred dollars. On the main floor are the Men's Club rooms, Superintendent's office and shower baths for men. On the second floor is the women's department, consisting of fifteen shower and two tub-baths. A day nursery with bath-room for children adjoining and a women's club room are also on this floor. All the shower baths are in white marble. On the third floor is a large assembly hall for public entertainments with living apartments for the Superintendent. In the basement is the public wash-house and also the store-room of the Clothing and House Furnishing Bureau. The last week of May, 1904, the building was finished, equipped with all the latest improvements and opened to the public. **THIS PUBLIC WASH-HOUSE WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH.**

### Charter

March 27, 1903.  
 In Re Charter of the  
 Public Wash House and Bath  
 Association of Pittsburgh.

In the Court of Common Pleas No. 2 of  
 Allegheny County, Pa.  
 October term 1901.

To the Honorable, the Judges of said Court.  
 In compliance with requirements of an act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled, "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain Corporations" approved the 29th day of April, A. D. 1874, and several supplements thereto, the undersigned, all of whom are citizens of Pennsylvania, having associated themselves together for the purpose hereinafter specified, pray that they may be incorporated, and that a charter may be granted to them, their associates and successors, according to law and they do set forth and certify as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is "Public Wash House and Bath Association of Pittsburgh."
2. The said corporation is formed for the support of an undertaking, the purpose of which is to establish and maintain a public house or public wash house with baths, and affording facilities to the poor and worthy for doing their washings, with facilities to them for bathing, and the promotion thereby of health and cleanliness, with the necessary room for a day nursery and other accommodations to help the poor and worthy.  
 The work of the Association is to be maintained and supported by gifts, donations, legacies and by small charges for the uses afforded.
3. The business of said corporation is to be transacted at the corner of Butler Street and Thirty-fifth Street, in the City of Pittsburgh, in the County of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania. The said corporation to exist permanently.

4. The names and residences of the petitioners are as follows:

Names	Residences.
Mrs. Delia D. Clapp	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Gertrude A. M. Thompson	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Anna B. D. Rowand	Allegheny
Mrs. Emily S. Herron	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Eleanor H. Birch	Pittsburgh

5. The number of Trustees is fixed at seven. The names and residences of those chosen for the first year are as follows:

Names	Residences.
Mrs. Delia D. Clapp	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Eleanor H. Birch	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Mary A. Doubleday	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Isabel P. Tonnele	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Roxana O'Donnel	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Emily S. Herron	Pittsburgh
Mrs. Ellen M. Douglas	Pittsburgh

6. There is no capital stock.  
 Delia D. Clapp, [Seal]  
 Signed and sealed in the  
 presence of  
 J. J. Miller.

Gertrude A. M. Thompson. [Seal]  
 Anna B. Rowand. [Seal] 78  
 Emily S. Herron. [Seal]  
 Eleanor H. Birch. [Seal]



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
County of Allegheny.

Before me, the Recorder of Deeds in and for the County aforesaid, personally came the above named Della D. Clapp, Gertrude A. M. Thompson, Anna B. Rowand, Emily S. Herron and Eleanor H. Birch, who in due form of law acknowledging the foregoing instrument to be their title and deed for the purpose therein specified. With my hand and seal of office this 23rd day of September, A. D. 1901.

George M. von Bounhorst,  
Recorder.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
County of Allegheny.

Personally appeared before me this 23rd of September, A. D. 1901, Della D. Clapp, Gertrude A. M. Thompson, Anna B. Rowand, Emily S. Herron and Eleanor H. Birch, who being duly sworn according to law, depose and say that, the statements contained in the foregoing instrument are true.

Della D. Clapp,  
Gertrude A. M. Thompson,  
Anna B. Rowand,  
Emily S. Herron,  
Eleanor H. Birch.

Sworn and Subscribed to  
before me,  
George M. von Bounhorst,  
Recorder.

### Order of Court

And now, to wit, October 28, 1901, the within application for a Charter for the Public Wash House and Baths Association of Pittsburgh presented in open Court to the undersigned, a Law Judge, in the said County, with the proofs and publication of the notices of said application as required by an act of Assembly in such case made and provided.

I certify that I have examined and perused the said writing, and have found the same in proper form and within the purposes named in the first class specified in Section 2 of the act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, etc.", and the subscribers thereto, and the same appearing to be lawful and not injurious to the community.

I do now order and direct that said Charter of the Public Wash House and Bath Association of Pittsburgh aforesaid be and the same is hereby approved and that upon the recording of the same and of this order, the subscribers thereto and their Associates shall be a corporation by the name of "Public Wash House and Baths Association," for the purposes and upon the terms therein stated.

John D. Shafer,  
Judge of Common Pleas Court No. 2.  
[Court Seal]

From the record, A. J. McQuilty,  
Phonotary.

Recorded, November 6, 1901.  
Charter Book Volume 28, Page 465.

### Contributors

The following persons have donated either money or articles to the Clothing Bureau:

MR. JOHN ALDRED	MRS. RICHARD HIRSCH
MRS. JOHN ALDRED	MRS. A. O. HOLDER
MRS. WM. J. ASKIN	MISS NELLIE JILLSON
MISS ETHEL ASKIN	MRS. A. H. KEITH
MR. LIVA E. BARNES	MISS ANNA LEWIS
MRS. EDWIN W. BRYCE	MRS. ORRIN LYNCH
MRS. LINDSEY CRAWFORD	MRS. WESLEY LOONEY
MRS. ELIZA K. CARRIER	MRS. SARAH A. B. MAITS
MISS EMMA DUNLEVY	MRS. WM. J. MARTIN
MISS AMY DEIKE	MRS. SAMUEL McCLAY
MISS JESSIE DOUGLAS	MISS LILLIE McCOUMBS
MISS KATE DOUGLAS	MISS ELIZABETH McCOUMBS
MRS. S. B. DOUGLAS	MISS MARY McCLURE
MISS E. R. EDSALL	MRS. J. H. McILVAINE
MR. CHARLES A. EDSALL	MISS LOUISE MENAGER
MR. ERNEST J. EDSALL	MRS. THOMAS REED
MRS. H. D. W. ENGLISH	MRS. J. CAMPBELL ROBERTS
MRS. JAMES FELTON	MRS. KATE RICHARDSON
MRS. RICHARD FLEMING	MRS. FRANK ROWAND
MRS. W. L. FICKES	MRS. HARPER H. SMITH
DR. MARGARET GOULD	MISS KATE SMITH
MRS. B. B. HUNNICUTT	SISTERHOOD OF CALVARY CHURCH
MR. ELMER K. HILES	MRS. GERTRUDE TIMMS
	MRS. CHARLES WEST



## Some Facts and Figures

A shower bath for men costs five cents and a tub bath fifteen cents.

A woman's tub bath costs ten cents.

The largest number of bathers in one day was in June, 1907, when 1,114 persons used the baths.

In June, 1910, in one week 2,170 persons used the laundry and baths.

The largest record of baths in any one month was in August, 1910, when the bathers numbered 8,669 men and women.

Since the opening of the building in 1904, until September 30, 1911, 390,926 persons have used the laundry and baths.

The Clothing Bureau is in constant need of children's clothing of all kinds; also women's garments.

A wagon will call if you have any article to dispose of, if notification be sent by card to Mrs. S. B. Douglas, 328 Lehigh Avenue.

The nurse is ready at all times to attend any patient in her district.

Clinics for women are held Mondays and Fridays, 11 to 12 M.

Clinics for children are held Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11 to 12 M.

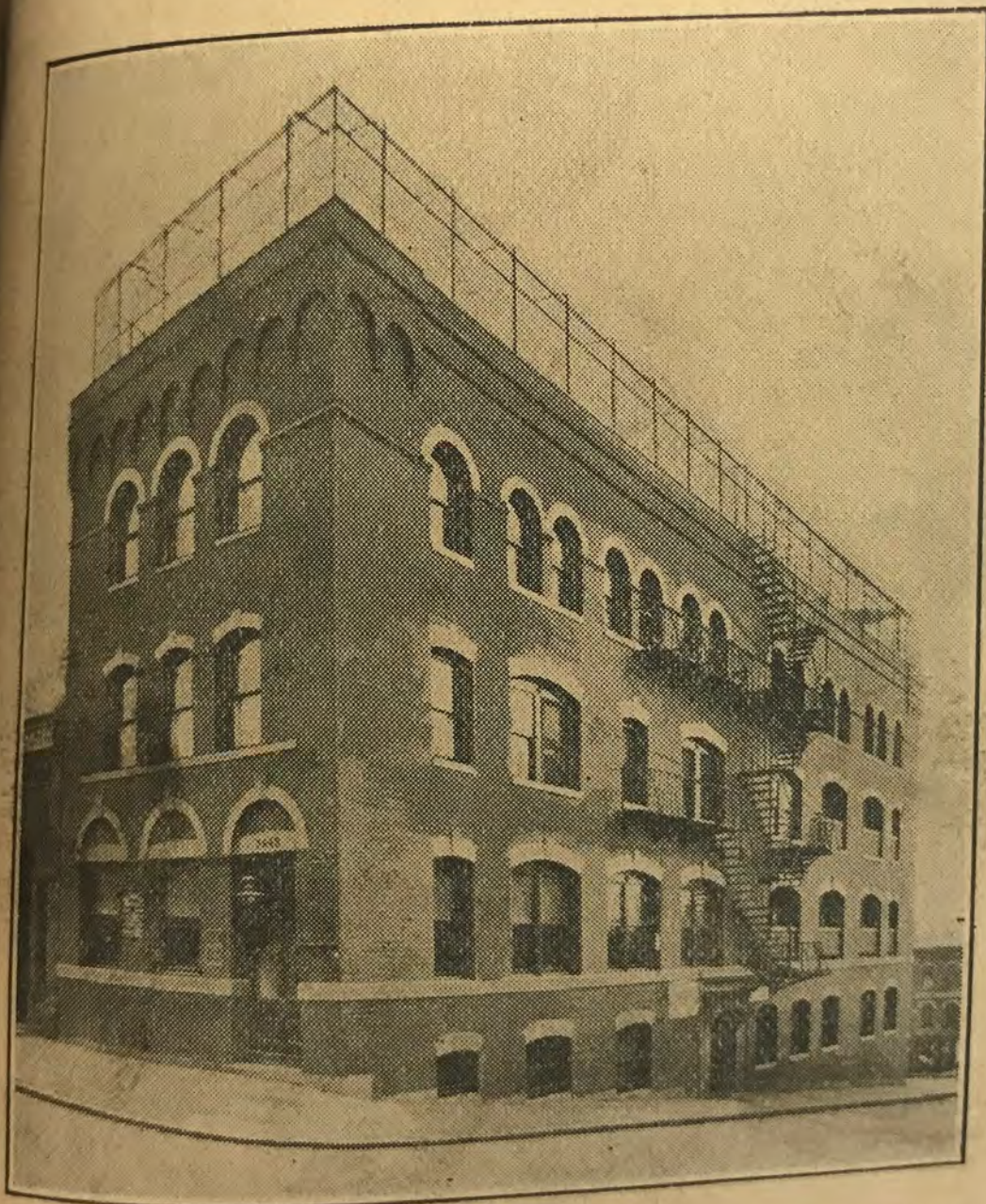
A fee of ten cents is charged those patients who are able to pay.

Appointments are made for consultation with specialists in cases demanding special attention.



PUBLIC WASH HOUSE  
*and*  
BATH ASSOCIATION  
*of*  
PITTSBURGH

135



BUTLER *and* THIRTY-FIFTH STREETS  
PITTSBURGH, PA.  
1921



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

*Public Wash House*  
*and*

*Bath Association*

BUTLER AND THIRTY-FIFTH STREETS



MR. CHARLES J. BECKER

*Superintendent*

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TELEPHONE, FISK 1294

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## OFFICERS

AND

## BOARD OF MANAGERS

Mrs LOUIS ROTT, President  
Mrs. WILLIAM L. FICKES, 1st Vice President  
Mrs. FRANK P. ROWAND, 2nd Vice President  
Miss JULIA WATTLES, 3rd Vice President  
Mrs. A. W. RINEHART, 4th Vice President  
Mrs. GEORGE A. MACGREGOR, Treasurer  
Miss LENA CRAIG WESTERVELT, Secretary  
Mrs. H. B. BURNS  
Mrs. S. M. BAUERSMITH  
Mrs. S. B. DOUGLAS  
Mrs. JOHN ELK  
Mrs. JOSEPH J. FERNER  
Mrs. RICHARD HIRSCH  
Mrs. FRANK P. HAID  
Mrs. T. G. JENNY  
Miss MARGARET LINDSAY  
Mrs. CHRISTINE LANG  
Mrs. CHAUNCEY LOBINGIER  
Mrs. JOSEPH H. LINDSAY  
Mrs. JOHN MELLOR  
Miss JANE MILLER  
Mrs. W. H. McCLEARY  
Miss GERTRUDE McCARGO  
Mrs. JAMES C. PATCH  
Mrs. ARTHUR STROYD  
Mrs. GERTRUDE TIMMS

## BATHS

THE BATHS are open from 7 A. M. to 7:30 P. M. Saturday from 7 A. M. to 8:30 P. M. Not open on Sundays and holidays

The shower and tub baths are on the first and second floors, consisting of thirty-seven showers and four tubs. The baths on the second floor are for women and girls, except on Saturday when both floors are used by men and boys. The charge for a shower bath is: men, ten (10) cents; women, five (.05) cents. Tub baths for men, twenty (20) cents; women, ten (10) cents. This includes towel and soap. No one is ever refused a bath because unable to pay. Free baths are given to boys each Tuesday afternoon and to girls each Thursday afternoon.

During the year 1921, 62,530 persons used the baths.



## LAUNDRY

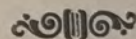
THE LAUNDRY is open to the public four days each week, from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. The public laundry is on the ground floor in the rear of the building. It is a large room, well lighted and ventilated. The equipment consists of fourteen porcelain lined, cast iron laundry tubs with hot and cold water connections; one large washing machine, one centrifugal extractor (or wringer), both operated by electricity; one steam boiler used for sterilizing bath, nursery and Dispensary laundry; three dryers, containing twelve drying racks, and heated with natural gas.

Women using the laundry are supplied with washboards, wash boilers and pans, also curtain stretchers.

During the year 1921, 1459 women used the laundry. The time consumed in washing totals 7304 hours, for which five cents an hour was paid.

## MEDICAL DISPENSARY

THE DISPENSARY is on the ground floor in the front part of the building. It is reached by the 35th Street entrance direct, and consists of three compartments; reception rooms, consulting room and dressing room. The work in this department is in charge of a resident graduate nurse, under the direction of a staff of women physicians, and is for women and children only.

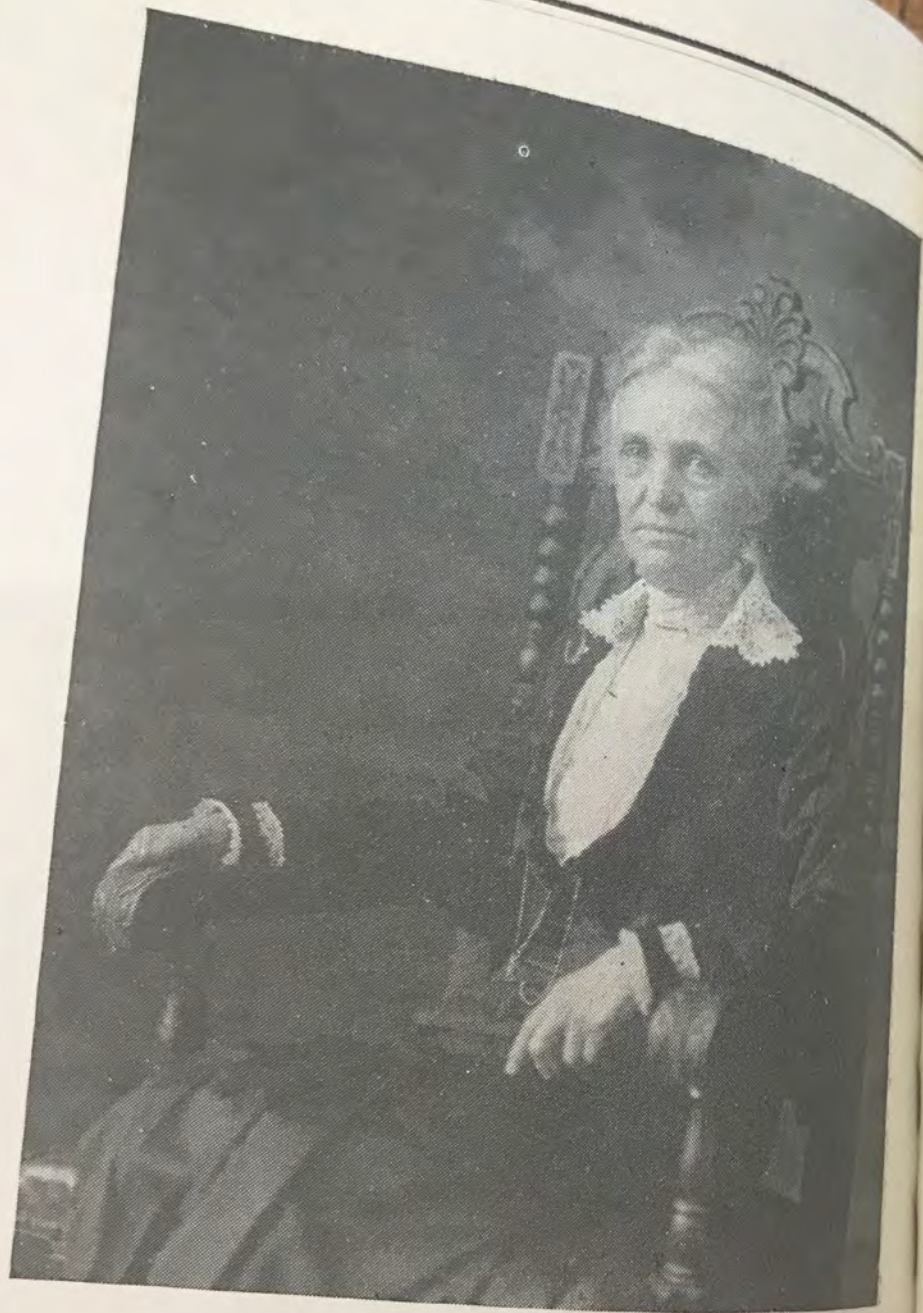


## MEDICAL STAFF

- \*DR. LAURA G. SHROM
- DR. AMELIA A. DRANGA
- DR. BESSIE GREENBERGER
- DR. ANNA L. SCHUYLER
- DR. ELEANOR BALPH
- DR. JULIA C. LOOS

\*Deceased





DR. LAURA GARDENER SHROM

**Whereas:** Early in the morning of May 16th, 1922, God called out of this life into Life Eternal DR. LAURA GARDENER SHROM, and in her death her family, the community and the women and children of this district have sustained a great loss—

**Resolved,** that we, the Board of Managers of the Public Wash House and Bath Association, in whose interest she labored with such untiring zeal and skill, cherish her memory with loving thoughts and deeply mourn the irreparable loss, which we, as an organization have suffered.

**Resolved,** that we tender to her bereaved family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, and be it also

**Resolved,** that a copy of these Resolutions be tendered to her children, entered upon the minutes of the Association and be published in the Annual Report of the Bath House.

MRS. LOUIS ROTT

LENA CRAIG WESTERVELT



## LAURA GARDENER SHROM

### *A Personal Appreciation*

IT is granted to but a few to live out, and to work out, in any noticeable fashion more than one "career" within the allotted span of human life. A host of friends know that "Doctor" Shrom was one of the few. Inspired by a life-long ambition for the profession of medicine she faithfully and cheerfully performed her first duties first, and only when conscientiously free of other responsibilities did she take up, with joy, the finishing work of her course which, with noble fortitude, she had laid aside years before for the faithful discharge of more urgent duties. She had long been known as a womanly woman, a faithful wife, a devoted and sacrificing mother, before she took her place in the community as one of the most devoted and self sacrificing of professions, honestly striving to serve her generation and her God. It was in the days of her early struggle, in beginning practice, that the writer first knew Dr. Shrom as a fellow practitioner, in the days when it was a real struggle for any doctor to win a practice, much more a "woman doctor." She was always seeking the truth; always ready and willing to learn, and never "weary in well doing." Her devotion to her patients, and her care of them, was as simple and sincere as had been her devotion to her children, and with much the same self-sacrificing quality, so that she was soon overwhelmed with a volume of work far beyond her

slender strength, and with but little return of this world's goods. Her charity was boundless and she gave lavishly of her energy and skill and time. At the Lawrenceville Bath House Dispensary alone (of which service she was one of the organizers), she served for over fifteen years, and often would personally examine and treat as many as thirty-five to forty patients in a single day. This was but one of her activities; What more may be said?

VERILY—

Sick, and she visited them. Many, indeed, will rise up in this day and call her blessed. The community has lost an ensample of good works—she hath entered into the joy of her Lord.

*"I heard a voice from heaven saying—'Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.'"*

H. C. W.



## REPORT

DURING THE YEAR 1921

- 3 745 patients were treated
- 601 new patients were received
- 480 calls were made
- 143 patients were sent to Hospitals
- 34 patients were sent to T-B Clinic
- 21 patients were sent to Dental Clinic
- 70 patients were sent to District Doctor
- 64 women were sent to Maternity Clinic
- 62 were referred for relief
- 51 deaths
  - 4 women fitted for glasses—free
  - 3 patients dental work—free
- 48 women received hospital care—free
- 62 children received hospital care—free
- 16 women received hospital care—part pay
- 10 children received hospital care—part pay
- 48 babies turned over to Milk & Ice Ass'n.
- 100 persons sent to Lillian Farm
  - 4 boys sent to Fresh Air Home, Oakmont
- 19 children sent to Children's Service Bureau
  - 6 children to Juvenile Court
  - 3 girls to Morals Court
  - 2 boys to St. Barnabas Home
  - 2 girls to Salvation Army Home
  - 1 girl to Zoar Home
  - 1 foreign girl to International Institute

- 1 girl to Humane Society
- 1 girl to Allegheny County Children's Aid Society
- 1 man and young girl turned over to Federal Court
- 15 families to Associated Charities
- 8 families to Catholic Charities
- 2 girls to New Future Home
- 5 women to Desertion and Non-Support Court
- 5 families to Red Cross, Civilian Relief
- 2 women to Mothers' Assistance
- 1 mother and baby to Providence Mission
- 2 families to Urban League
- 5 families to Improvement of the Poor
- 47 women were gotten work
- 33 families were sent coal
  - 1 pregnant T-B woman was given 1 quart of milk a day for five weeks
- 14 persons were given shoes
- 32 persons were given stockings
- 26 donations of men's, women's and children's underwear, coats, dresses and shoes and infants' wear sent me, and distributed the same to
- 96 persons
  - 8 Thanksgiving Baskets given
  - 9 grocery orders for needy families
  - 16 Christmas Baskets given
  - 15 children shared in the candy and cakes given by Mrs. Rott and Mrs. Patch for the Christmas Party for the Day Nursery children.



Our Dispensary work during the year has been splendid. In looking over the file, I find about two-thirds of our list is entirely changed, showing that most of them have gotten well under our care, and our new list is larger than last year's.

Our Dispensary is the Headquarters for the Penn and Butler District Social Workers of all Organizations doing work in this district.

During the year I had  
474 conferences  
112 personal service cases  
89 family problems

### THE MATERNITY SEWING CLASS

Reports for the eight months' work:

Total attendance 283.

Average attendance at each class 9 women

378 small pads were made

49 mattresses

389 diapers

20 basket covers

37 sheets

342 petticoats

82 women received outfits

ANNA M. DAVIS,  
Graduate Nurse.

## DAY NURSERY

THE DAY NURSERY has become a very important department of our Institution. It occupies the entire front part of the building, on the second floor. Children are cared for from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. each day except Sundays and holidays. They are given three full meals a day and lunches when hungry, also medical attention. Children who are old enough are sent to school and kindergarten. During the year 1921,

157 children received 1660 days' care giving

88 mothers opportunity to do 1140 days' work.

## THE MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

THIS IS one of the most effective and far reaching movements of the organization, being not only of an eminently practical nature as to work and training, etc., but distinctly social in character as well. The Club is divided into Senior and Junior Departments. The Senior Department is in charge of Mrs. A. W. Rinehart, Chair-



man of the Settlement Committee, and Mrs. Anna M. Davis. The Juniors are in charge of Miss Mary Rae. During 1921 this Club had a total attendance of 2598. During the war there were made by the sewing classes:

- 920 knitted articles
- 2 knitted blankets
- 1390 towels
- 120 cotton pads
- 18304 dressing pads
- 64 hospital shirts

Also contributed \$2,343.15.

#### MONDAY NIGHT CLUB REPORT, 1921

For the year, this club had an attendance of 2485, an average of 85 at each meeting.

- 3 quilts were made on order
- 1,009 towels were made for Baths

#### Made for Day Nursery:

- 5 pair curtains
  - 1 mattress cover
  - 3 table cloths
  - 16 hospital gowns for Passavant Hospital
  - 60 collars made by girls for themselves.
- Some of the members bring their own work.

#### We had:

- 9 parties
- 1 hike
- 1 Christmas Treat

#### We donated:

- \$10.00 to St. Barnabas Home also 5 lb. box of candy for its lawn fete
- 2.00 to Salvation Army
- 3.00 to Urban League
- 5.00 to Milk and Ice Association
- 5.50 to Passavant Hospital

### THE ROOF GARDEN

THIS is the "breathing place" of the community. A space 28 feet by 90 feet, the whole roof of the building, is devoted to this use. Awnings, hammocks, easy chairs, couches, swings, flower-boxes, plants, vines, running, bubbling water, a sanitary toilet—all make a grand total for comfort, refreshment and enjoyment, not surpassed anywhere in a like institution.

It is hoped that plans now under discussion may materialize during the next few months for utilizing this part of the equipment during the winter for tubercular children.



## COMMUNITY USE OF THE BUILDING

THE ASSEMBLY HALL on the third floor is used as a sub-station by the Public Health Nursing Association. During the year 1921, 2518 trained nurses radiated from this point through the Lawrenceville district to the various homes to which they had been assigned.

Meetings of the Arsenal Board of Trade are held monthly in the Assembly Hall.

Entertainments and "plays" are given in the Assembly Hall.

The Reading Room is occupied fully, at all hours, averaging over 100 a day.



1st draft.  
MS. to Township on 16 Aug.

Mammon and the Great Unwashed:  
the Career of the Public Bath House in Pgh.

Americans are the most bathed and "showered" people in the world. They have made a cult out of cleanliness, in fact it has become almost a religion. If only you do not smell, you are saved. No matter what social errors you may have committed, the ritual shower will absolve you. Our civilization, if it be nothing else is, above all, clean.

Almost within living memory, it was not always so. The Romans indulged a passion for bathing, but it is uncertain to what degree a desire for physical cleanliness informed their ablutions. Christians were always suspicious of <sup>the</sup> Romans and through long centuries decried bathing as an undue concern <sup>for</sup> of our earthly state, if not a downright invitation to sensuality. Treasure in heaven was preferable to a tub of hot water that might prove a flesh pot.

Bathing in America, tended to follow the prevailing customs current in the emigrating European nations, but at best it was a sketchy and catch as catch can business. In summer there were always rivers, lakes, and ponds (the "old swimming hole" that is a fixture of <sup>American</sup> legend) and in winter the weekly tub in the kitchen. As a boy, I remember making do with a basin and ever in a summer hotel.

The cult of bathing that developed in America in the late 19th century did not <sup>really begin</sup> ~~develop~~ until the Industrial Revolution could produce a fairly



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sophisticated plumbing system. The same phenomena also, produced, as a by-product of mill and factory, much smoke, pollution and dirt, which certainly made those who manned the mills  ~~dirtier~~ <sup>grimier</sup> than ever before. Of course the great clouds of smoke descended on rich and poor alike, showering both mansion and tenement with soot. It was no longer just a question of smelling bad, but everybody began to look besmirched.

Particularly did the smoke descend at Pittsburgh where the Bessemer converter about 1870 had been responsible for making the city into one of the great steel centers of the Western World. As the burgeoning industry demanded an increasing number of workers, hordes of immigrants began pouring in from central, southern, and eastern Europe, mostly <sup>Italians and Slavs</sup>. These people had not been used to extensive bathing in their native habitats. I remember my father, who was employed by a company who used immigrant labor, <sup>talking me</sup> that when you entered the cars of one of the trains that brought ~~workers~~ <sup>workers</sup> to Pittsburgh, the smell was enough to knock you down. When they arrived here, they were paid very little for long hours of work. Soon they began to look as grimy as the mill walls in the river valleys.

Since the middle 19th century, the new technology had evolved a highly efficient system of plumbing with hot and cold running water, sinks, bathtubs and even that great icon of present day cleanliness the shower.



had begun to appear in the bathrooms of the rich. By the end of the century even the middle class could afford most of the amenities of modern plumbing, but the "lower orders", as they were once known, were total strangers to the new order of cleanliness.

In the early part of this century, one used to hear, <sup>in intellectual circles</sup> an expression "the great unwashed", which <sup>was</sup> originally applied to the "great unbathed", <sup>by extension</sup> came to signify those who lacked any appreciation of art or the higher culture. The phrase is now quite unused, but I have resurrected it in its original sense.

The middle class, having achieved the bath rooms, were disinclined to look just below them, but the rich, at the turn of the century, who had so much money that they hardly knew what to do with it, were unquestionably conscious of the bequinned and bebrightened "lower orders", which seemingly so far from them and yet so near, aroused uneasy feelings of guilt and fear. Mammon reigned supreme, but that amorphous entity was not completely heartless.

Christianity in those days was a much stronger force than it is now. Christian <sup>charity</sup> ~~principles~~, although much eroded by 19th century materialism, <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ still operative. In those days, before social concerns had become institutionalized in either the governmental or the private sectors of society, charity was almost entirely a personal matter. There were those among the new industrial millionaires who were



moved to ameliorate the conditions among which the new immigrants lived.

We do not have space here to speak of the wider aspects of philanthropy in turn of the century Pittsburgh, but it is interesting to note how prominently cleanliness figured in charitable activities of the time. The early library benefactions of Andrew Carnegie (1839-1919) were concerned not only with books but baths within his paternalistic desire to help the workers in his own mills. Braddock, the first of his libraries, <sup>opened in 1889,</sup> was also a kind of clubhouse with a gymnasium and bathing facilities. In Homestead (1898) and Duquesne (1904), Carnegie opened the same type of facility. Of these buildings, Braddock is now little more than a ruin, Duquesne has been razed, and only Homestead still survives. When the mill workers got more money and developed their own social lives these outmoded benefactions seemed less than princely.

Henry Phipps (1839-1930), the trusted second in command of the Carnegie Steel Company was also indefatigably philanthropic. Just after the turn of the century he built <sup>the Phipps Gymnasium</sup> ~~a bath house~~ <sup>and Bath</sup> in the first ward of Allegheny <sup>where he had lived as a small boy.</sup> It was a stylish Tudor structure which was featured in a photographic exhibition of bath houses held at the St. Louis Exposition of 1904. Even more stylishly a bathing establishment of Roman splendor was the Natatorium, a <sup>structure</sup> ~~bathhouse~~ establishment of almost imperial dimensions, in a four story building on



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Duquesne Way near the Sixth Street Bridge. This was definitely not a charitable ~~venture~~ <sup>gesture</sup>, but a commercial venture open to any one who had the price. You could get a tub bath there for twenty-five cents, but the place was chiefly ~~famous~~ <sup>famous</sup> as the first great swimming pool in Pittsburgh. It was opened in 1909 and demolished in 1935. By that time, swimming pools were a dime a dozen in the city and in the suburbs. It did serve to prove that if the great unwashed were now getting washed, ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> upper classes had to bathe three times as much.

The first really dedicated proponent of washing "the lower orders" was Mrs. William Thaw, Jr. (1854-1948) a truly remarkable woman who for fifty years, was involved in almost every possible ~~city~~ <sup>kind</sup> and charitable ~~venture~~ <sup>venture</sup> in Pittsburgh. She was one of the founders of the Civic Club of Allegheny County in 1895 and for much of her life she was its treasurer. One of the first projects of the Club was the Peoples' Baths on Lower Penn Avenue at 15th Street. <sup>the first such institution in the 1897</sup> She donated the building as a memorial to her husband William Thaw, Jr., ~~It had~~ but it was maintained by the Club. It had two tubs and thirty two showers. A charge of five cents for a bath, soap and towels, made any appropriation from the city unnecessary. In 1906, the Bath was moved to 19th and Penn when the ~~city~~ <sup>site</sup> was required for a new post office. Again Mrs. Thaw provided the building. About the same time she helped to raise money for the Soho Bath



House; <sup>on Fifth Avenue</sup> 6. although the City gave some assistance, the Club built and managed the building.

The Peacock Memorial Bath House on Centre Avenue was donated by A. R. Peacock (1861-1928) another of the Carnegie partners; this rather elegant little pavilion was built about 1902 in the same style <sup>as</sup> Peacock's great mansion in the East End. All these ~~rather small~~ buildings had a certain architectural distinction. From the outside they looked like <sup>small</sup> polite clubs. The Peacock Baths were administered by the Columbian Council of Jewish Women and the Irene Kaufmann Settlement.

Another important building was that of the Public Wash House and Baths Association, <sup>of B'nai</sup> which was located from 1904 to 1961 at Butler Street and 34th Street. It had its beginning in <sup>1906 at</sup> the St. James Episcopal Church ~~then~~ located at Penn Avenue and 16th Street. Henry Phipps also contributed a thousand dollars toward the construction of this building. The Strip and Lawrenceville districts in those days were especially smoke-shrouded and grimy so ~~the demand~~ for showers and tub baths for both men and women were constantly in demand. In the Wash House, patrons could also do their laundry. There was even, <sup>about 1914</sup> ~~for a time~~, a roof garden <sup>furnished with wicker furniture & palms</sup> where ~~patrons~~ mothers could take their children to escape the heat and grit of the city streets. Again, the "lower orders" were "catching up" with the rich.

The ~~final~~ ultimate bath house continued this process even further - this was the ~~Henry W. Jones~~ <sup>South Side</sup>



Bath House at South 10th and Bingham Street, erected under the provisions of the will of Henry W. Oliver (1840-1904). Echoing the earlier Phipps Gymnasium and Bath House the Oliver building is almost aggressively Tudor, although rather more archaeological. Designed by the prominent local firm of McCleve & Spahr, it cost \$100,000 but a sum of \$100,000 was set up as an endowment, so that the maintenance would be no charge to the city. It was presented to the city at dedication services on 18 June 1915.

This is not only the last bath house of the public type to be erected in <sup>the</sup> Pittsburgh area, but it ~~was~~ <sup>also</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>also</sup> the most elaborate and modern. Since it still exists and performs its original function it can still be studied as a representative example of its kind. There is still a large shower room but the ~~wood~~ <sup>brick</sup> walls enclose a large swimming pool 40 x 80 feet. <sup>in such public instructions</sup> indicated that the emphasis was shifting from baths to swimming pools, and at Oliver, which still functionally exists, the core of the structure is the 40 x 80 feet ~~pool~~ <sup>pool</sup>. The <sup>Oliver</sup> Bath House is now under the care of the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of Pittsburgh. Architectural surveys of the building have been made recently with a view to renovation, but nothing has been done so far. Unlike many of the city pools it can be used in the winter. Many of the mills that once surrounded it are gone, as well as much of the workers' housing. ~~But it still could be useful~~ <sup>if it were</sup> ~~as it is~~ <sup>now</sup>.

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It should be reported,  
~~looks increasingly~~ lonely and forlorn.

Most of the baths discussed here were still operative in the 1920's, but gradually they began to disappear, either demolished or adapted to other uses. The status of the ~~immigrant~~ <sup>immigrant</sup> workers ~~has~~ <sup>has</sup> changed radically, and the "great unwashed" ~~were~~ <sup>are</sup> now well bathed in their houses in the suburbs. In Pittsburgh, ~~proper~~ <sup>proper</sup>, the City Fathers, in the late 1950s, passed a new ~~building~~ <sup>plumbing</sup> code making bathing facilities mandatory in every dwelling.

The day of the public bathhouse ~~was done~~ <sup>was passed</sup>. The last to close, in 1961, was the Public Wash House and Baths which had kept itself alive by becoming a kind of social club known <sup>as</sup> the Lawrenceville Neighborhood House.

Mammon is perennial, but the "great unwashed" have vanished. The phrase itself is ~~disused~~ <sup>lingering</sup>, only ~~in~~ <sup>like</sup> a faint whiff downwind, <sup>of</sup> the memory of ~~old~~ <sup>the</sup> elders of the city.





Exterior, Pittsburgh Wash House & Public Baths Building. Date Unknown. From the Private Collection of George Clark.





Interior, Public Reading Room, Pittsburgh Wash House & Public Baths Building. Date Unknown. From the Private Collection of George Clark.