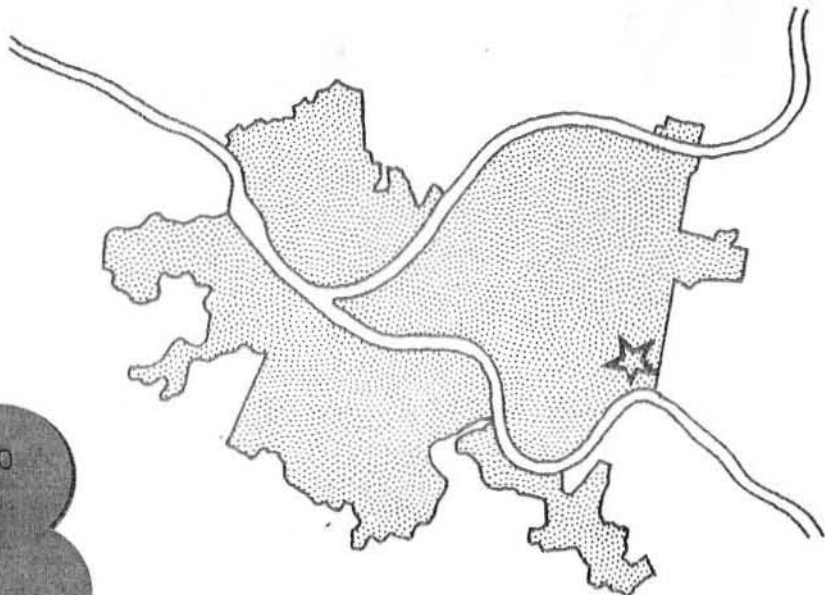


a community profile of *swisshelm* *park*



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

0600

UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR URBAN RESEARCH
 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
 249 NORTH CRAIG STREET
 PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15260

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PREFACE

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

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

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

SWISSHELM PARK

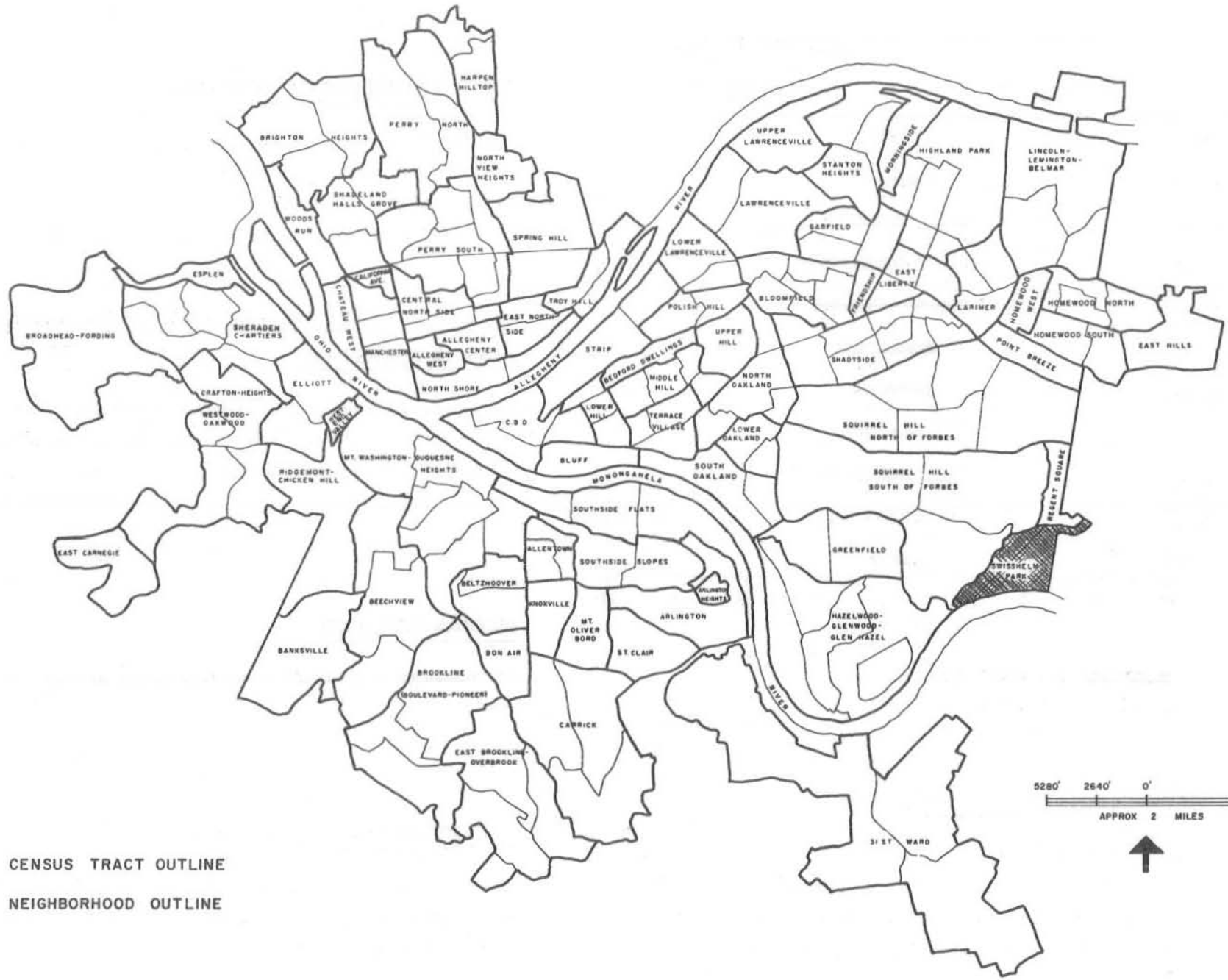
Census Tract 1411 is located in the extreme southeast corner of the city of Pittsburgh. Separated from the rest of the city by Frick Park and the Duquesne Slag Works, Swisshelm Park is contiguous, with suburban municipalities, and in fact, shares most of its streets with the adjacent suburbs.

Developed later than the rest of the city, Swisshelm Park is characterized by newer homes laid out on a land-extensive plat. Originally much of Swisshelm Park was owned by R. G. Jackson, who filed with the County a subdivision entitled "Ye Old Swissvale Farm Plan."

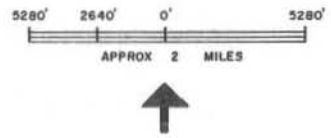
Access to this community from the city is generally restricted to Commercial Avenue emanating from Squirrel Hill on an extended Forward Avenue alignment.

A continuing concern of this neighborhood is the condition and reuse of the Duquesne Slag area. Hundreds of acres of barren land are involved. Reclamation and reuse depend on a number of factors, including the future of the Nine Mile Run, which divides the slag operation, and of course, ingress-egress opportunities.

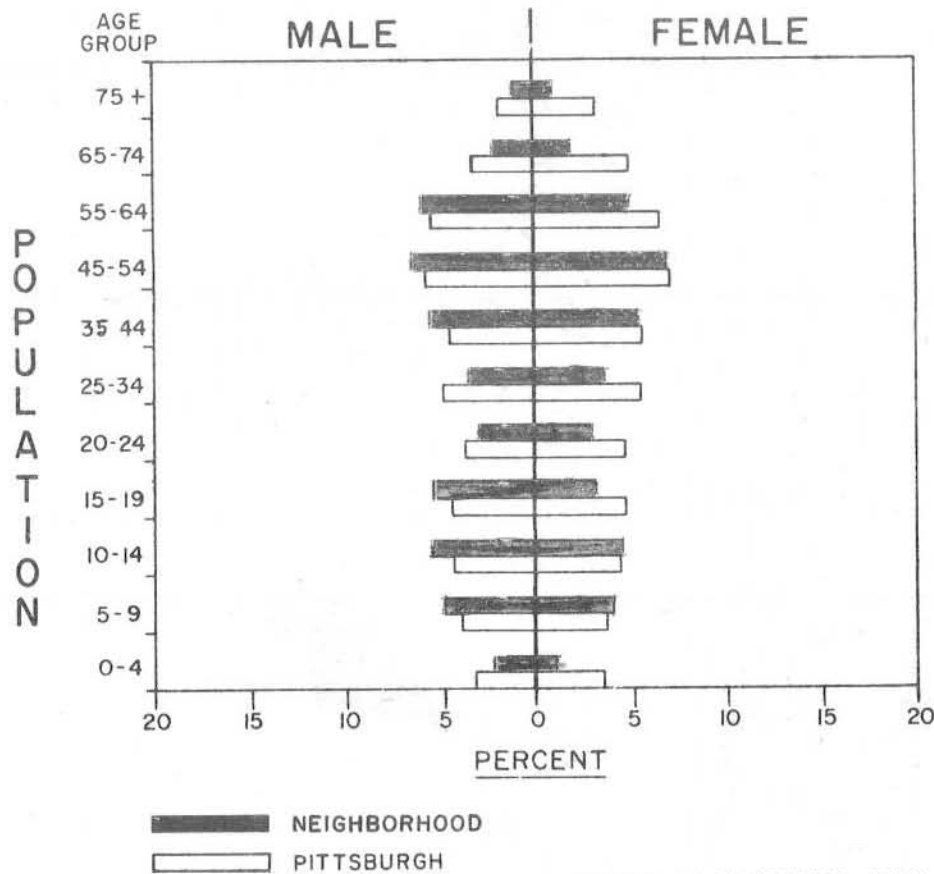
Insulated as it may be, Swisshelm Park boasts very active community groups including recreation, religious and civic organizations. One prime asset is the privately funded Sarah Jackson Black Community Center.



— CENSUS TRACT OUTLINE
— NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLINE



AGE - SEX COMPOSITION



Source: U. S. CENSUS 1970

AGE-SEX COMPOSITION, 1970

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

POPULATION CHANGE, 1960-1970

The population of Swisshelm Park has changed from 2,128 in 1960 to 2,041 in 1970, representing a -4.1% change. This compares to an average citywide change of -13.9%, where population declined from 604,332 in 1960 to 520,117 in 1970.

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

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

MEDIAN AGE, 1970

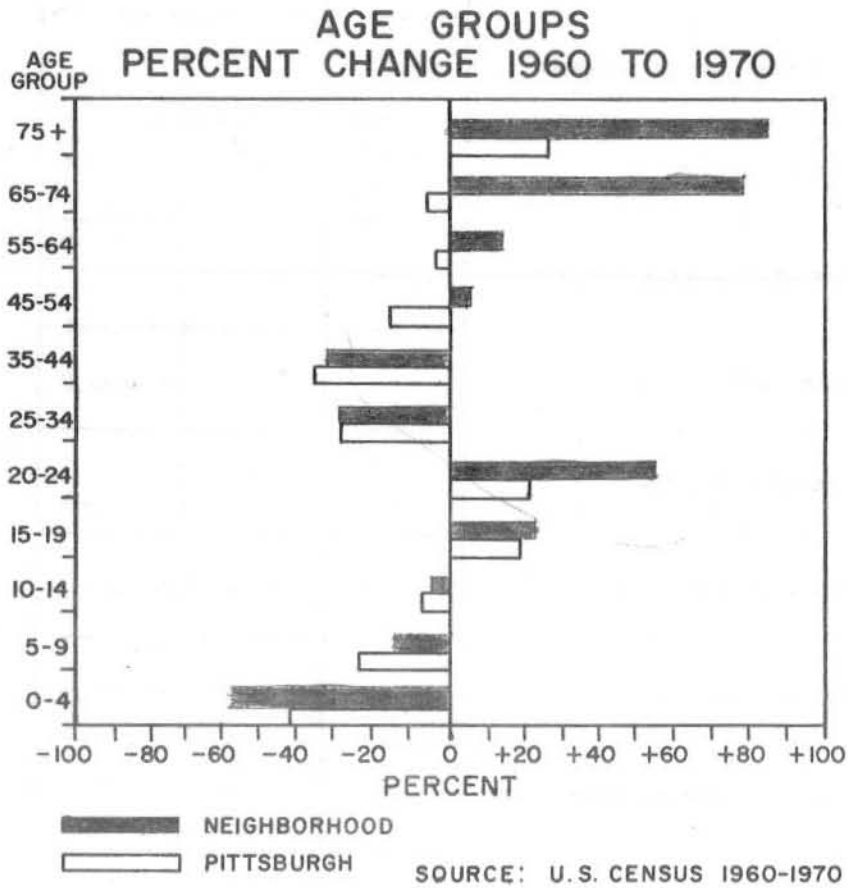
The median age for the neighborhood is 35.3 years; for the city it is 33.6 years.

AGE-GROUP CHANGE, 1960-1970

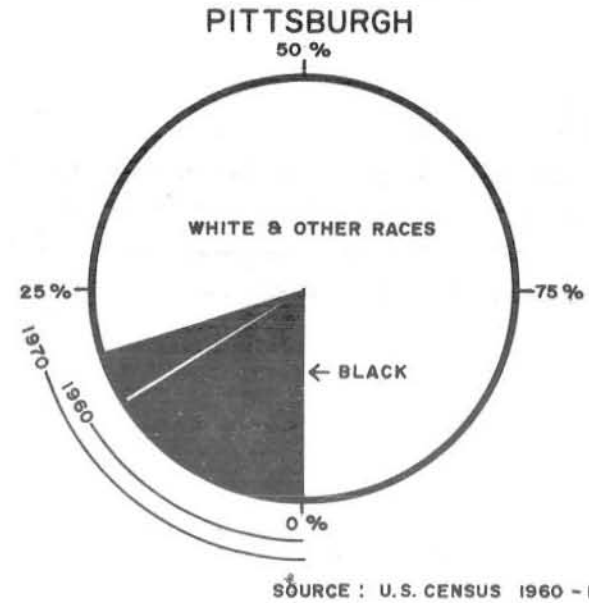
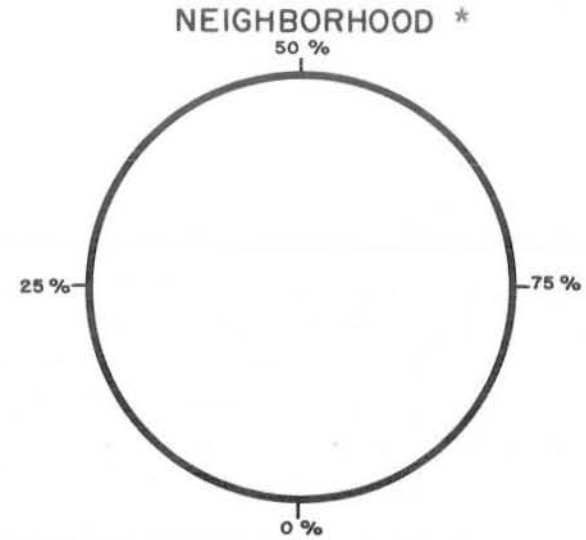
Six age brackets increased in population between 1960 and 1970 in the neighborhood. For the city, population in the 15-19, 20-24, and the 75 years and older age groups increased.

RACE

Black population in Swisshelm Park constituted 0.0% of its 1960 population, and 0.8% of its 1970 population. For Pittsburgh, the Black population increased from 16.7% in 1960, to 20.2% in 1970.



BLACK POPULATION, 1960 - 1970



POPULATION

* Black population less than 2% in 1960 and 1970

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

The largest percentage of people in this neighborhood work in craftsmen foremen positions. This group constitutes 40% of the employed population. The largest percentage of people in the city work in sales & clerical positions, which represents 28% of the total population.

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

| | PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, MANAGERIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE | SALES AND CLERICAL | CRAFTSMEN, OPERATIVES, FOREMEN | LABORERS, SERVICES, HOUSEHOLD WORKERS | TOTAL EMPLOYED |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------|
| MALE | 123 | 60 | 255 | 91 | 529 |
| FEMALE | 34 | 72 | 20 | 25 | 146 |
| TOTAL | 157 | 132 | 270 | 116 | 675 |
| PERCENT OF TOTAL | 23.25 | 19.55 | 39.99 | 17.18 | 100.00 |

SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

**PERSONS RECEIVING
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN 1972**

| ASSISTANCE TYPE | NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS | PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| OLD AGE | 2 | .09 |
| BLIND | 1 | .04 |
| AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN | 29 | 1.42 |
| GENERAL | 1 | .04 |
| AID TO DISABLED | 3 | .14 |
| TOTAL | 36 | 1.73 |

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

ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES IN 1972

| CRIME | NUMBER OF ARRESTS | CRIME RATE |
|----------|----------------------|------------|
| MURDER | 0 | .00 |
| RAPE | 1 | .05 |
| ROBBERY | 0 | .00 |
| ASSAULT | 4 | .20 |
| BURGLARY | 12 | .59 |
| LARCENY | 18 | .88 |
| TOTAL | 35 | 1.72 |

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 1972

Of the neighborhood's total population, 2% received public assistance in 1972. Citywide, 14% of the population received some kind of assistance in the same year.

ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES, 1972

The crime rate listed here represents the number of arrests that were made for major crimes in 1972 as a ratio of the total population of the area. Major crimes are defined as murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, and larceny. In 1972, the crime rate for this neighborhood was 1.72 ; for Pittsburgh, the rate was 4.71.

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

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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

Community facilities for this neighborhood include:

Swisshelm Park

Public Facilities

Police District No. 6

Fire Engine Company No. 61

Recreation

Onondago Tot Lot

Schools

Swisshelm Park Elementary

Taylor Allderdice High School

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Billie Bramhall, Deputy Director

Stephen Reichstein, Deputy Director

Nicholas A. Del Monte, Cartographer

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

Janice M. Coyne

Elisa L. Ventura

