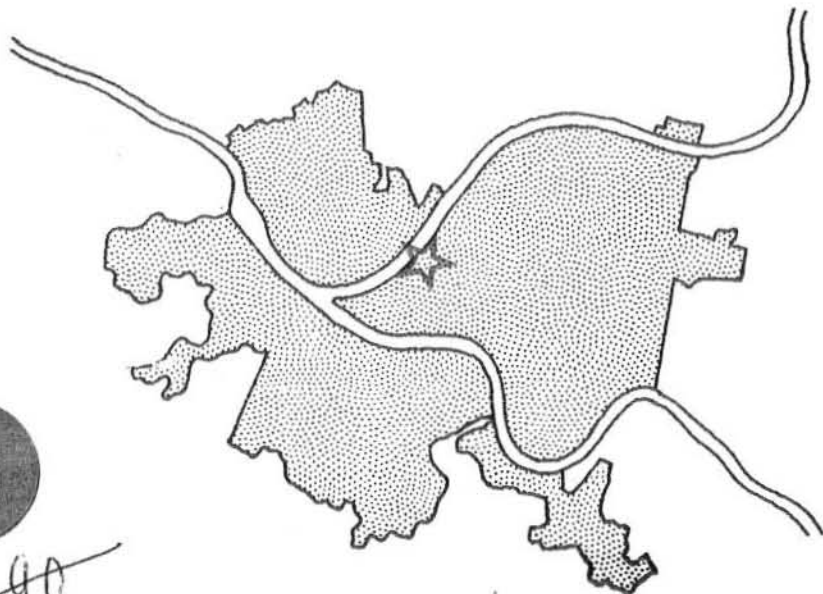


a community profile of

the strip



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

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

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.

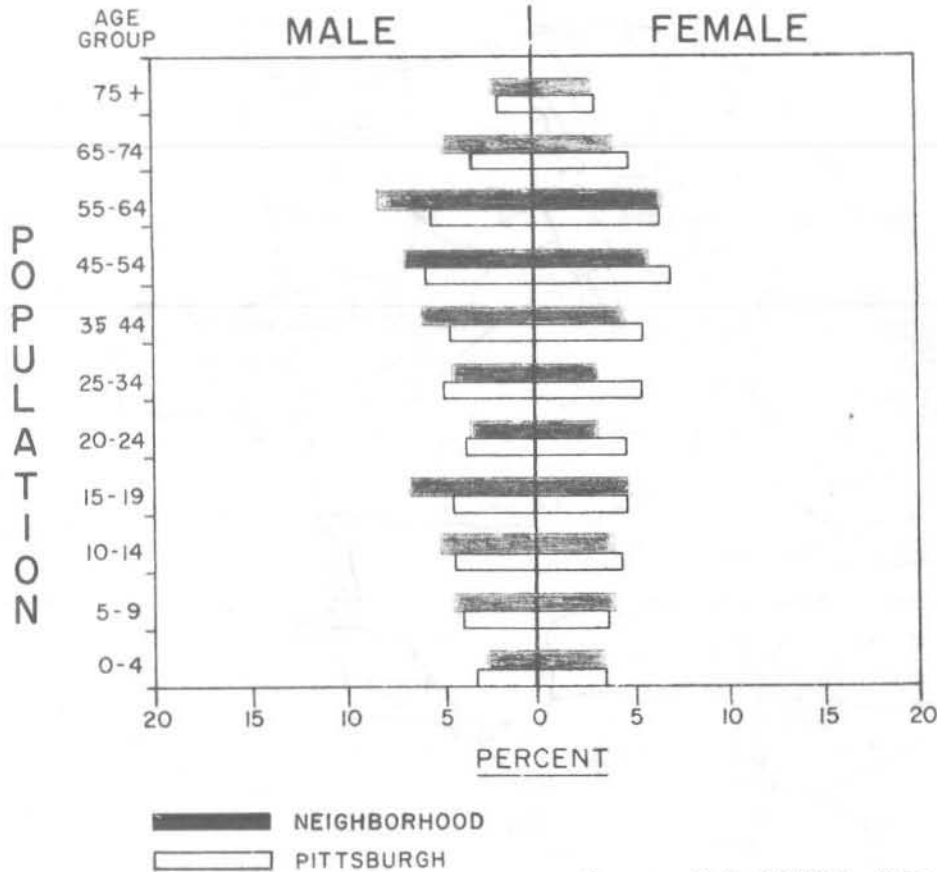
THE STRIP

The Strip community is generally considered to be the area between the railroad and the Allegheny River, from Eleventh Street to 33rd Street. For statistical purposes the Strip is composed of Census Tracts 202 and 601.

This narrow rectangular area stretching from Downtown to Lower Lawrenceville houses mostly warehouses and wholesale businesses which serve the region. These functions have been increasing while residential use of the Strip has declined sharply. Families which once found it necessary to be close to employment have sought more suitable living environments as transportation has enabled them to do so, and as the character of local employment has changed.

The remaining houses were built in the latter decades of the 1800's. These are predominantly small brick row structures. While a few convenience stores remain residents must go out of their neighborhood for most of their shopping needs.

AGE - SEX COMPOSITION



Source: U. S. CENSUS 1970

AGE-SEX COMPOSITION, 1970

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

POPULATION CHANGE, 1960-1970

The population of The Strip has changed from 1,637 in 1960 to 849 in 1970, representing a -48.2% change. This compares to an average citywide change of -13.9%, where population declined from 604,332 in 1960 to 520,117 in 1970.

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

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

MEDIAN AGE, 1970

The median age for the neighborhood is 37.4 years; for the city it is 33.6 years.

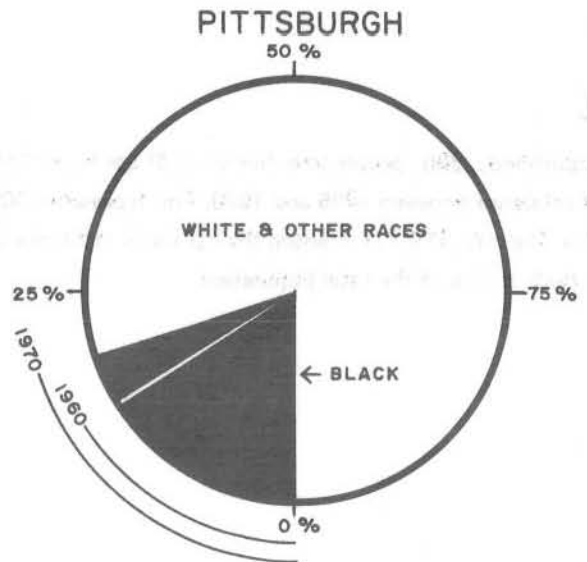
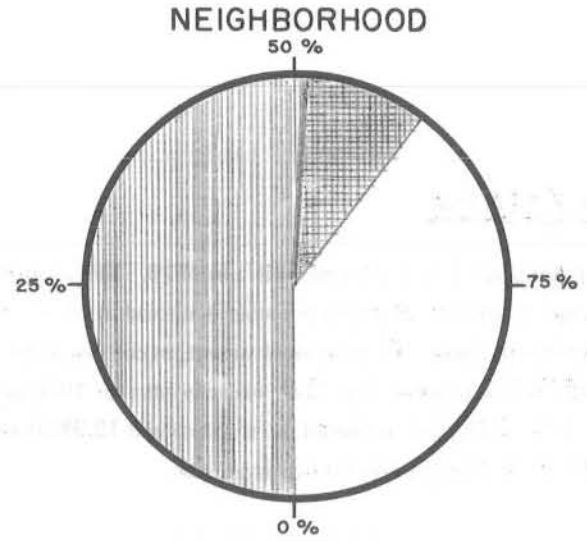
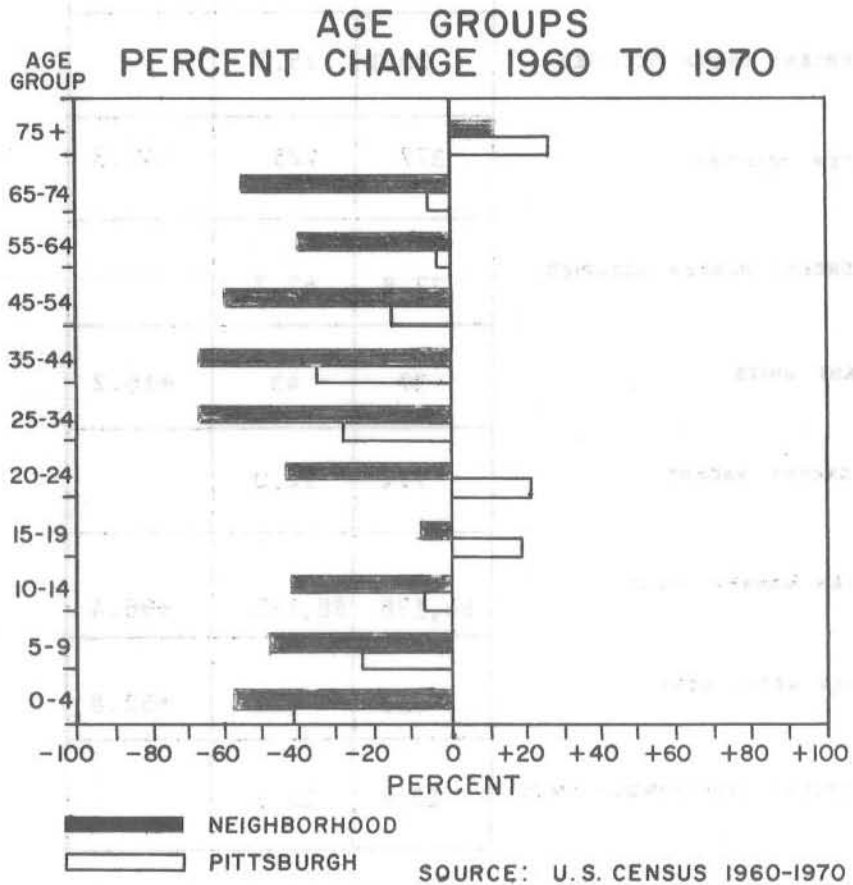
AGE-GROUP CHANGE, 1960-1970

One 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.

BLACK POPULATION, 1960 - 1970

RACE

Black population in The Strip constituted 52.5% of its 1960 population, and 61.1% of its 1970 population. For Pittsburgh, the Black population increased from 16.7% in 1960, to 20.2% in 1970.



POPULATION

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960 - 1970

OCCUPANCY STATUS

In 1960, total housing units numbered 518 ; in 1970, 359 , representing a -30.7% change. A total of 25.3% were owner-occupied in 1970, compared to 47.2% citywide. In 1960, 37 units were vacant, as compared to 43 vacancies in 1970. This represents a 12.0 vacancy rate for 1970 as compared to the city's 6.2%. Overcrowded units comprised 13.9% of the 1960, and 11.7% of the 1970 neighborhood housing stock.

MOBILITY

For the neighborhood, 250 people over five years of age have changed their place of residence between 1965 and 1970. This represents 30% of its population. For the city, 159,774 changed their place of residency during those years, which is 33% of the total population.

OCCUPANCY STATUS 1960 - 1970

	1960	1970	PERCENT CHANGE
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	518	359	-30.7
TOTAL OCCUPIED UNITS	481	316	-34.3
OWNER OCCUPIED	104	91	-12.5
PERCENT OWNER OCCUPIED	20.1	25.3	
RENTER OCCUPIED	377	225	-40.3
PERCENT RENTER OCCUPIED	72.8	62.7	
VACANT UNITS	37	43	+16.2
PERCENT VACANT	7.1	12.0	
MEDIAN MARKET VALUE	\$4,138	\$8,125	+96.4
MEDIAN GROSS RENT	\$53	\$81	+52.8
PERCENT OVERCROWDED UNITS	13.9	11.7	

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960 - 1970

BUILDING ACTIVITY, 1972

In 1972, there were 10 building permit applications in this neighborhood, at an estimated construction cost of \$449,341. For the entire city, 4,002 permits were issued, accounting for construction in excess of \$53 million.

Also in 1972, there were 0.00 new housing units constructed per 1,000 existing units, and 25.06 alterations per 1,000 units in the neighborhood. City-wide 3.6 new housing units and 16.2 alterations were undertaken per every 1,000 existing units.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN 1972

	NUMBER OF PERMITS	ESTIMATED COST
NEW HOUSING UNITS	0	0
OTHER NEW STRUCTURES	0	0
EXTENSIONS & ADDITIONS	1	\$5,000
ALTERATIONS	9	\$444,341
TOTAL	10	\$449,341

SOURCE : BUREAU OF BUILDING INSPECTION

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

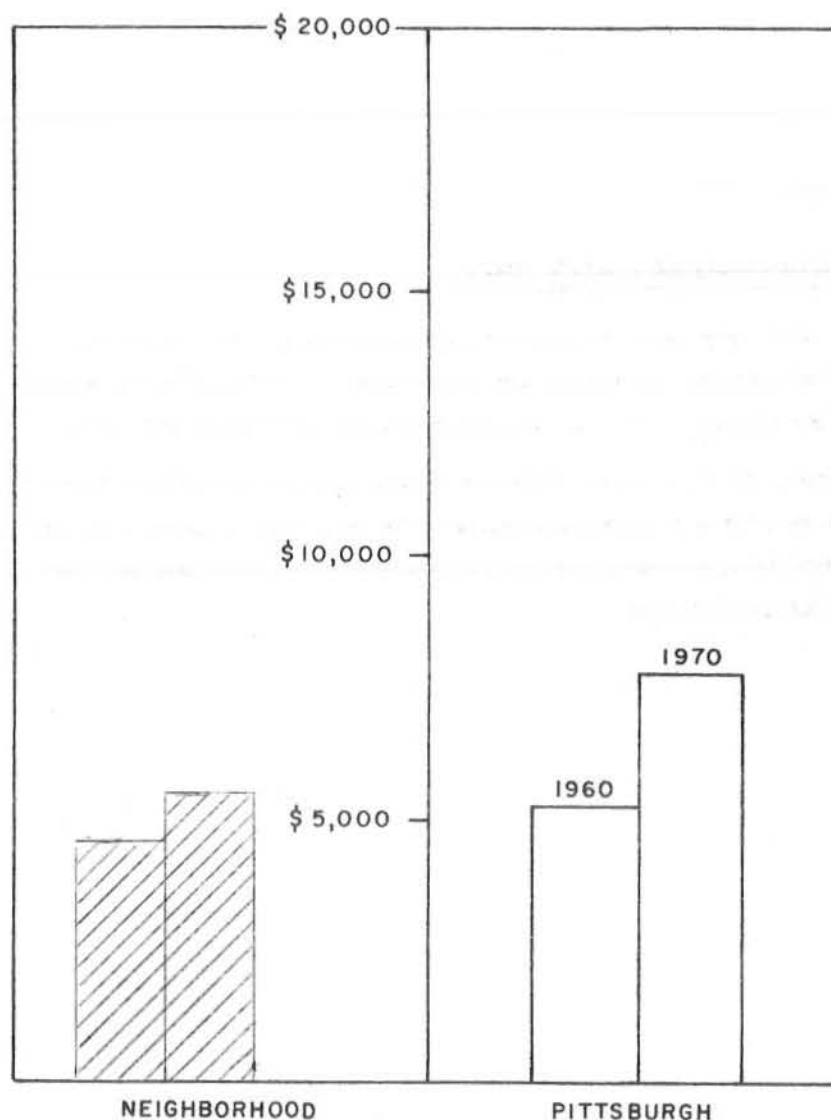
The 1970 Census indicates that, of those local residents, aged 25 and over, the largest percentage have attained a elementary education. In 1960, the largest percentage had attained a elementary education.

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

	1960	PERCENT OF TOTAL	1970	PERCENT OF TOTAL
NO SCHOOLING	25	2.3	35	6.9
ELEMENTARY (1-8 YRS.)	665	61.6	227	45.0
HIGH SCHOOL (1-3 YRS.)	253	23.4	153	30.4
HIGH SCHOOL (4 YRS.)	122	11.3	78	15.5
COLLEGE (1-3 YRS.)	9	.8	7	1.4
COLLEGE (4 YRS.)	6	.6	4	.8
TOTAL	1080	100.0	504	100.0

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960 - 1970

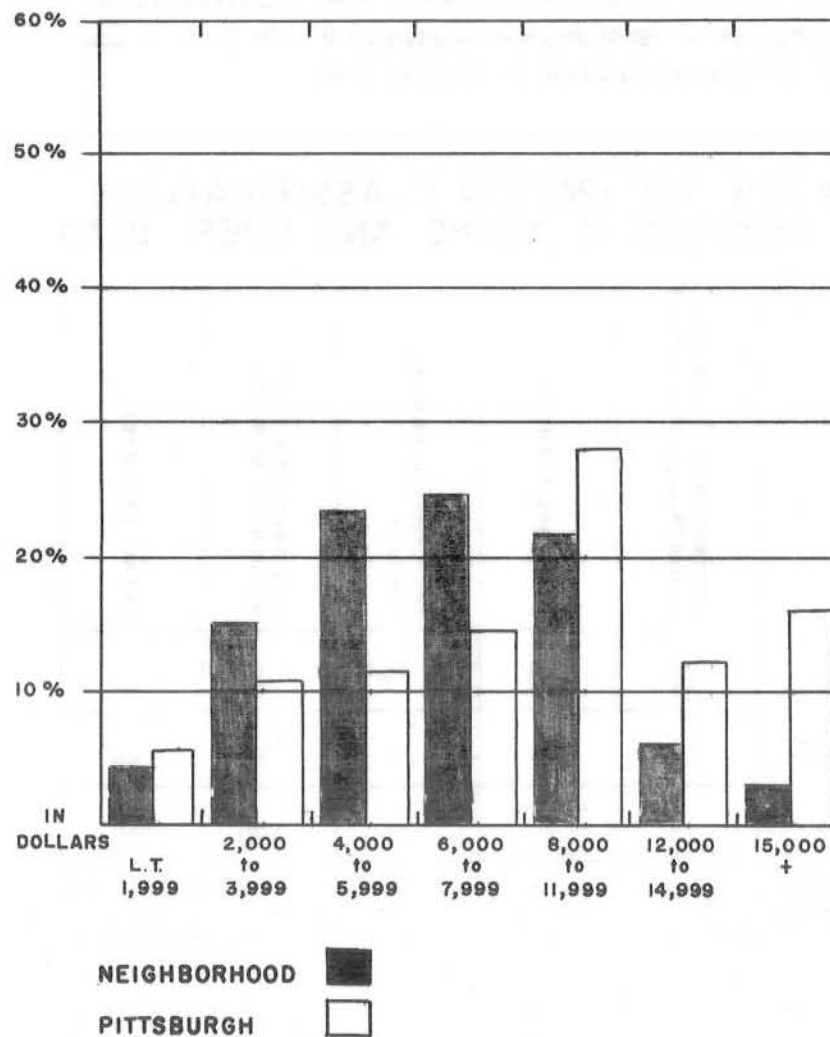


SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

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

INCOME, MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960-1970

The median income for The Strip families was \$4,770 in 1960. In 1970, the median family income was \$6,956, representing a ten year change of 45.8%. Citywide, the median family income rose from \$5,605 in 1960, to \$8,800 in 1970, a 57% change.



SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

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

The largest percentage of people in this neighborhood work in labor and service positions. This group constitutes 46% 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	12	20	78	74	184
FEMALE	11	27	4	56	98
TOTAL	23	47	82	130	282
PERCENT OF TOTAL	8.15	16.66	29.06	46.09	100.00

SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

**PERSONS RECEIVING
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN 1972**

ASSISTANCE TYPE	NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION
OLD AGE	32	3.76
BLIND	3	.35
AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN	157	18.49
GENERAL	71	8.36
AID TO DISABLED	26	3.06
TOTAL	289	34.02

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

ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES IN 1972

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 1972

Of the neighborhood's total population, 34% 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 35.56; for Pittsburgh, the rate was 4.71.

CRIME	NUMBER OF ARRESTS	CRIME RATE
MURDER	0	.00
RAPE	4	.47
ROBBERY	23	2.70
ASSAULT	45	5.30
BURGLARY	107	12.60
LARCENY	123	14.49
TOTAL	302	35.56

S O C I O - E C C O N O M I C

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

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities which serve The Strip are not limited to those located within the confines of The Strip. 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:

The Strip

Public Facilities

No. 3 Police Station

No. 7 Fire Station

Public Schools

Woolslayer Elementary

Arsenal Middle

Schenley High

Recreation

Denny Tot Lot

West Penn Recreation Center

Arsenal Playground

Leslie Playground and Pool

Sullivan Playground

Health

St. Francis Hospital

St. Margaret's Hospital

West Penn Hospital

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