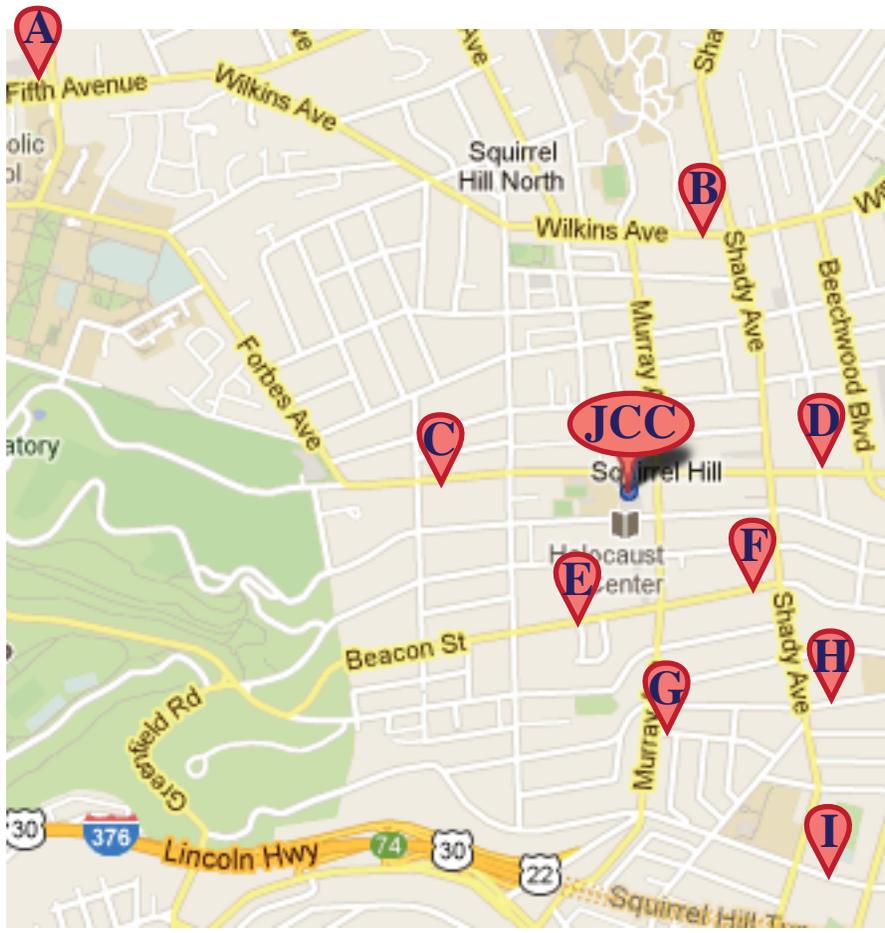


Tour Map & Scavenger Hunt

- A** Rodef Shalom Congregation
4905 Fifth Ave.
- B** Tree of Life-Or L'Simcha
5898 Wilkins Ave
- C** Temple Sinai
5505 Forbes Ave.
- D** Young People's Synagogue
6404 Forbes Ave.
- E** Hillel Academy
5685 Beacon Street
- F** Congregation Beth Shalom
5915 Beacon St.



- G** Shaare Torah Congregation
2319 Murray Ave.
 - H** Congregation Poale Zedeck
6318 Phillips Ave.
 - I** Community Day School
6424 Forward Ave.
- Other Buildings in Area**
Outside viewing only
- Young Israel
5831 Bartlett St.
 - Kether Torah
5706 Bartlett St.
 - B'nai Emunah
4315 Murray Ave.
 - Yeshiva Schools/Chabad
2100 Wightman St.
 - New Light Congregation
1700 Beechwood Blvd.

Find pictures of prominent Jerusalem buildings in a stained glass window at Beth Shalom.

At what synagogue can you find a pond with fish in it?

Find the cornerstone at Poale Zedeck. What two events are commemorated by years?

What do the gardens outside Tree of Life have to do with the Pittsburgh Steelers Terry Bradshaw and "Mean Joe" Greene? You may have to ask your parents for help or Google this one.

What are the one and a half synagogue buildings designated as landmarks by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation?



A Tour of Jewish Squirrel Hill

*****Please refer to bold times for building availability.**

Rodef Shalom Congregation | 4905 Fifth Ave.

Meet at Fifth Avenue doors at 11:15 for a tour of the sanctuary. Otherwise, building only available for outside viewing.

Founded in 1856, the congregation has roots in a burial society formed in the 1840s and is the oldest in Pittsburgh. Originally Orthodox, the congregation adopted the Reform prayer book in 1863.

Building:

- A competition was held to determine who would design the building. Henry Hornbostel, the architect behind Carnegie Mellon University, emerged the winner.
- He retained in his design four representational stained glass windows from the 1901 Temple.
- The 1907 Kimball organ is the largest of its kind still in use.

Interesting Fact:

- President Taft visited in 1909, marking the first time that a sitting United States president spoke from the bimah of a Jewish congregation during regular Sabbath services.

Congregation Beth Shalom | 5915 Beacon St.

The Conservative congregation began with 35 Jewish families holding religious services above the Orpheum Theater in 1917. They soon formed a women's auxiliary and Hebrew School before building a synagogue in 1922.

Building:

- Although a fire destroyed part of the original building in 1996, the current synagogue still stands at the congregation's original location.
- The sanctuary's many stained glass windows depict different themes including the Life Cycle, Shabbat, Jerusalem, Tisha B'Av, the Holocaust, and Israel.

Interesting Fact:

- The current synagogue is a massive 88,000 square foot building.

Shaare Torah Congregation | 2319 Murray Ave.

Available for outside viewing only.

The congregation formed in 1880 when flocks of Jews began arriving in Pittsburgh from Eastern Europe in order to escape persecution. They met on the 2nd floor of a house for several years and occupied several buildings before finding a permanent home in the Hill District in 1895.

Building:

- They worshipped in the Irene Kaufmann Settlement Complex until 1948 when the current building was completed.

Interesting Fact:

- The Congregation's first rabbi, Rabbi Moses Sivitz, was a founder of Montefiore Hospital.

Community Day School | 6424 Forward Ave.

Enter from 9:30-10:30 to tour. Otherwise, building only available for outside viewing.

CDS was founded in 1972 as a non-denominational Jewish day school located in the old Hebrew Institute building. At the time it only taught grades K to 3, but added a grade a year and now serves to 8th grade.

Building:

- Built in 1922, the building housed the St. Philomena Church and School until 1993 when it was deconsecrated and the Jewish Education Institute moved in.

Interesting Fact:

- CDS is the only Conservative Jewish day school in the city.

Hillel Academy | 5685 Beacon St.

In 1947, local Orthodox Jews founded an all-day Jewish kindergarten. Hillel Academy grew from there, adding another grade each year and graduating its first 8th grade in 1955.

Building:

- The school originally rented space in the Morrowfield Apartments before purchasing the former Ellis School.
- They built and moved to the current location in 1958.

Interesting Fact:

- The boys' high school and girls' high school were not open until the 1990s.

Tree of Life- Or L'Simcha 5898 Wilkins Ave.

After breaking away from Rodef Shalom in 1856, the congregation began meeting in temporary spaces until purchasing a former Lutheran church in downtown Pittsburgh. In 2007, the congregation started to rent a room to a group that had formed an independent minyan. The two officially merged in 2010, forming Tree of Life-Or L'Simcha.

Building:

- In 1946, Tree of Life President, Charles Rosenbloom, donated the land for the synagogue and supplied the cornerstone--made of limestone from Palestine.

Interesting Facts:

- Before moving to its current location, they sold their old synagogue to a theater company--now the Pittsburgh Playhouse.
- It is one of five remaining Conservative congregations that was originally affiliated with the Jewish Theological Seminary more than a century ago and is still in use today.

Young People's Synagogue 6404 Forbes Ave.

Available for outside viewing only.

Young People's Synagogue was founded in 1946 as a havurah, or religious fellowship. They continue to conduct member-led services today.

Building:

- In 1996, the congregation moved into an old Edwardian mansion shared with B'Nai Zion Congregation. The congregations have now merged.

Interesting Facts:

- The founders of Young People's Synagogue were Zionists and Zionism still plays a central role in the congregation.
- The congregation's Hebrew name is Bohnai Yisrael (Builders of Israel).

Congregation Poale Zedeck 6318 Phillips Ave.

The Orthodox congregation was established in 1881 by Hungarian Jews renting a small room downtown. As more immigrants came to Pittsburgh, they moved into a larger synagogue in the Hill District before settling in Squirrel Hill.

Building:

- First constructed in 1922, the building still houses the congregation today.
- The adjacent Friendship Academy was once the Rabbi Joseph Shapiro Education Center and a part of the congregation.

Interesting Facts:

- It is the oldest Orthodox synagogue in Squirrel Hill.
- Beginning in 1975, the Shapiro Education Center was also used for special education programs supporting Jewish children with physical disabilities.

Temple Sinai | 5505 Forbes Ave.

Enter from 11:00-12:00 to tour. Otherwise, building only available for outside viewing.

In 1946, 40 families met at the Schenley Hotel to ratify the motion that would create Temple Sinai. The first Rabbi, Dr. Burton Levinson faced the challenge of molding a new Reform congregation from a group of unaffiliated families.

Building:

- The building was once the Worthington Mansion.
- The Barnett Chapel was originally the dining room.
- By 1955, they had already outgrown the space. To compensate, they bought the property next door and built a chapel big enough to house the congregation.
- The complex includes a chapel, school rooms, offices, an auditorium, and sanctuary.

Interesting Fact:

- The Bodek Rose Garden contains over 75 species of roses and other flowering plants.

**Thank you to all of the participating buildings,
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