Cover Image

Langley High School Home Economics Class circa 1947

The goal of Home Economics education was to develop and guide the pupil in assimilating fundamental academics and skilled knowledge which will enable them to be confident in making family and life decisions for the present and the future. Home economics education encompassed a vast and diversified area of learning. Some of the courses included You and Your Home, Child Development, Your relationship with Family and Friends, Learning about Food, and Principles of Clothing.

Langley High School

The original Langley structure designed by architects MacClure and Spahr, opened on April 9, 1923, and was modeled after Warwick Castle in England, consisted of an L-shaped building along Sheraden and Chartiers Avenues. It was the first Pittsburgh public school to have a modern Home Economics Kitchen (pictured here), a new Science Department, and a Public Address System. Originally proposed in 1916, construction on the \$850,000 building was delayed until well after World War I. Langley received its name before construction even began. A committee decided against the use of any local reference and settled on Samuel Pierpont Langley, the astronomer, scientist, inventor and early aviator, who at one time had been a Pittsburgher but as yet had received no national recognition. Langley invented an instrument to measure the light and heat of the sun and was among the first to build an airplane and attempt flight. Langley lived on the Northside for twenty-five years and ran the Allegheny Observatory from 1867 to 1887.



View of Langley High School - Pittsburgh Public Schools Photographs, 1880-1982, MSP 117, Library and Archives Division, Senator John Heinz History Center

Other Interesting Things Along the Route



Congregation Poale Zedeck Cemetery

Congregation Poale Zedeck is a modern Orthodox Jewish synagogue. Although the congregation is based at a synagogue in Squirrel Hill, it has active cemeteries in Sheraden and Gibsonia.



Brunot Island

a 129-acre (0.52 km2) island in the Ohio River at the west end of Pittsburgh. It was named for Dr. Felix Brunot who settled the island with his extended family in the late 1700s. The family entertained the Lewis & Clark expedition on the island in August 1803. The island is home to the Brunot Island Generating Station, a 315 MW fossil fuel power plant.

The Ohio Connecting Railroad Bridge crosses the Ohio River at the island. The island does not otherwise connect to the land, and all vehicular traffic must use a ferry to access the island. The employees of the power plant use a pedestrian walkway on the railroad bridge to go to work.

From 1903 to 1914, the island was the home of Brunots Island Race Track.





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