is for

Bridges

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Calling Pittsburgh the City of Bridges brings to mind the three rivers that flow through the city and the array of bridges that cross them. But this title can also be applied to our inland bridges, those that don't cross over any water, and which outnumber river bridges 10 to 1. Navigating around the city is made easier by scores of these inland bridges which pass over ravines, railroads, streets, or entire valley neighborhoods.

The Bloomfield Bridge connecting Liberty Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard is the second bridge to span the valley. As the first bridge was prepared for its 1914 opening, life below in Skunk Hollow continued as usual: Dean's Field, directly under the bridge, was home to the Bloomfield Rams, a semi-pro football team. It's also said that Gene Kelly danced for nickels as a boy along the streets that ran under the bridge. The first bridge closed in 1978, leaving Bloomfield without its connection until the new span opened in 1987.

Junction Hollow Bridge opened in 1953 as part of the Penn Lincoln Parkway, or Parkway East. The new highway provided an alternative to the heavily traveled routes to Pittsburgh's eastern suburbs such as the Boulevard of the Allies, seen in the distance.

Tufa is a kind of limestone uniquely formed in water that is rich in both calcium and carbonates, creating a rough, porous stone. These unusual Tufa rocks were used in the construction and facing of two bridges in Schenley Park. The bridges were part of the bridle path between Bartlett Street and Serpentine Drive.
Baum Boulevard Bridge (formerly the Atherton Avenue Bridge), built in 1911-1912 and demolished in 1973, towered above the Pittsburgh Junction Railroad. The bridge relieved traffic congestion in North Oakland and opened an alternate route to the expanding East End suburbs. Baum Boulevard had no streetcar lines, but instead catered to automobile traffic, a luxury enjoyed by few in 1911. Luna Park is seen at left.

The High Bridge crossing New Brighton Road on the North Side connected Pittsburgh to Bellevue.