

Luna Park was inspired by the 1893 Chicago World's Fair (aka the White City) and other exposition-style parks of the late 19th century.

LoC 4a06942, 4a12743, & 4a06941 merged.



LOCATING LUNA

By Brian Butko



News stories in July 1904 gave the first inkling that a “Wonder Park” was coming to Pittsburgh from the minds of Thompson and Dundy, creators of Luna Park at Coney Island.¹ When the splashiest feature ran in local papers, the spotlight was on Frederick Ingersoll, a local inventor, ride builder, and all-around booster of the amusement industry. His father and brothers were also in the business of building Figure Eight roller coasters and, lately, entire parks.



Ingersoll was front and center at the end of July 1904 when it was announced that Pittsburgh would be getting its own Luna Park.

All author's collection unless noted.



The Ingersoll men, c. 1900, from left, Le Forest (Bob), Louis, Le Grand, Audley, and Frederick.

Jim Abbate.

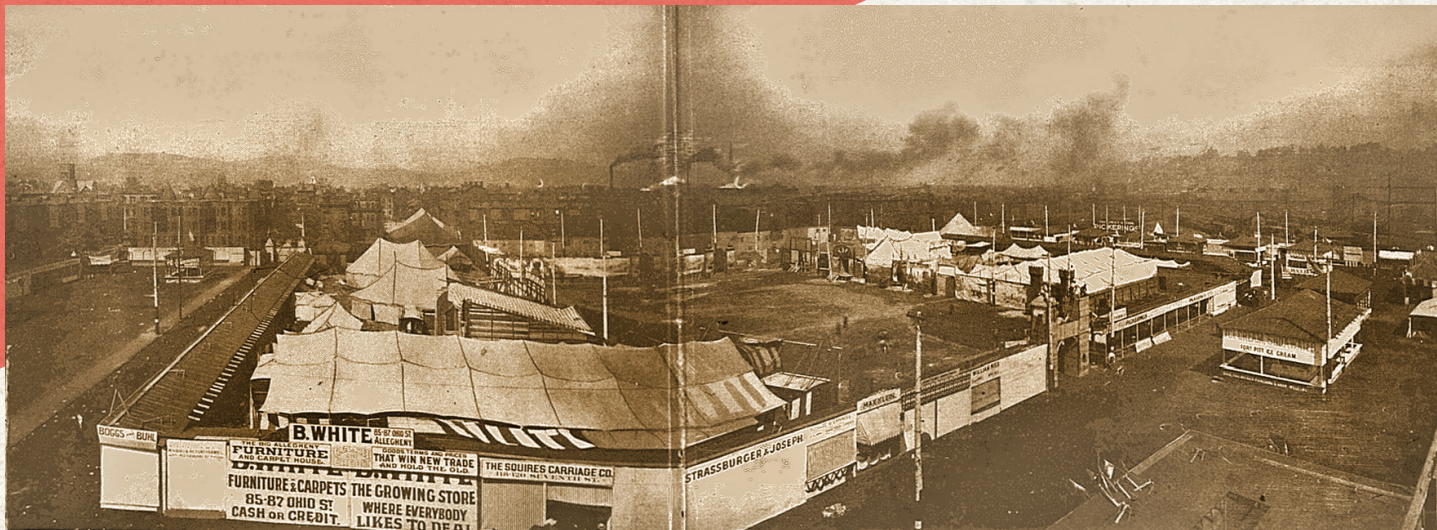
WHERE COULD HE BUILD A PARK IN PITTSBURGH AS GRAND AS THE LUNA ON CONEY ISLAND?

It is likely that Frederick first had the idea to build a Luna in Pittsburgh and took it to Thompson and Dundy, who were always looking to expand their seashore park. One article claimed it was Ingersoll who had “conceived the idea of establishing a national circuit of amusement parks to bring high priced attractions within reach of the great masses of people [and] ultimately have six great parks stringing together the centers of populous areas in this country.”² The question was, where could he build a park in Pittsburgh as grand as the Luna on Coney Island?

By the turn of the 20th century, Pittsburghers could choose from several parks within a half hour’s trolley ride of downtown,

so perhaps the announcement that the city would be getting another venue was no big news. But it must have been a triumph for Ingersoll, whom newspapers were calling “the Pittsburgh amusement park magnate.”³

At first, Thompson and Dundy were after the “Schenley plot in Oakland” — likely Schenley Farms near today’s Cathedral of Learning — but settled for Recreation Park in Allegheny City, about 10 blocks north of today’s Heinz Field.⁴ Recreation had hosted everything from P.T. Barnum’s Circus to Buffalo Bill’s Wild West show. The park had been the site of the first officially recognized game of the Pirates baseball franchise (in 1887) and site of the first “professional” football



Recreation Park had hosted many sporting events but was struggling by time Ingersoll came looking in 1904.

Donald Roessler.

game (i.e. using a paid player, in 1892).⁵ It was perfect for expanding into an amusement park.⁶

A full-page story on July 31, 1904, proclaimed that “the most successful and widely renowned showman the world has ever known, Frederick Ingersoll, of Pittsburg, who is also well known throughout the amusement world, and who gained wonderful popularity as the former owner of the amusements at Kennywood Park, is to be the president of the company” — the “Pittsburg Thompson, Dundy Amusement Company.” Plans called for “a dozen theaters, three large circus rings, 64 elephants, 40 camels, Japanese and Babylonian hanging gardens, and thousands of employees of all colors and almost all races” plus a Shoot the Chutes, switchback railway, and new Whirl the Whirl airships.⁷

But within two weeks, the partnership had unraveled; it was never explained why

but it’s likely the strong personalities clashed.⁸ Frederick would go it alone and began calling his project Ingersoll’s Luna Park, still intending to open in the spring.⁹

Ingersoll was also planning a Luna Park in Cleveland. Work started there first, in October 1904, but it would always be considered his second Luna. That Luna was in Woodland

the George Singer estate: where Fifth met Penn in Point Breeze.¹¹ Today it’s catty-corner from Bakery Square but back then that land was home to the massive Union Stock Yards, which had just relocated to Herr’s Island, a relief to the surrounding “aristocratic residents.”¹²

Ingersoll paid \$240,000 for Singer’s 4.5 acres. He planned to keep the house but move it to the back, and save some of the old trees too per the wishes of Mrs. Singer.

Albert Robinson, architect for the St. Louis Exposition, was hired to draw up plans in styles ranging from Byzantine to Arabic to Gothic. Amusements would range from a Japanese tea garden to Day and Night in the Alps to Animated Automats, all around a lake with a

circus ring above it and boats splashing from a 90-foot-high Shoot the Chutes. “The secret of amusing people,” said Ingersoll, “is to transport them to an entirely different place.”¹³

It was not a good sign, however, that just a few months earlier, the Singer estate had

L. F. INGERSOLL ATTRACTION COMPANY BUILDERS AND OPERATORS OF **THE FIGURE EIGHT ROLLER TOBOGGAN**



4003 SOUTH ATLANTIC AVENUE.

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Le Forest Ingersoll had his own business building Figure Eights.

Donald Roessler.

Hills, an upper-class suburb about five miles east of downtown.¹⁰

Work in Pittsburgh though was delayed when the location had to change. Ingersoll could not get land adjacent to Recreation Park that he needed, so he went looking and found

An ad in *Billboard* from early 1905
advertises both Luna openings in
Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

been turned down as the site for a new hospital when neighbors loudly objected.¹⁴ Sure enough, by December, the deal was off over complaints that Luna would ruin property values.¹⁵ Ingersoll saw this coming and had already found another forlorn estate for sale in North Oakland.¹⁶

The neighborhood stretching from Schenley Park to Bellefield was evolving into the city's cultural mecca, a bustling gateway between downtown and the palatial estates of Homewood and Point Breeze.¹⁷ The few remaining estates were being subdivided into rows of single-family homes bought by middle- and upper-class professionals, served by trolley lines springing up on Centre and Forbes Avenues. The Carnegie Institute and Library opened in 1895 at the entrance to the Schenley Park, which itself had a new golf course, racing oval, and Phipps Conservatory.¹⁸ The Schenley Hotel, now Pitt's Student Union, was the city's first large, steel-framed hotel when it opened in 1898. A couple blocks north on Craig Street was the car barn-turned-Duquesne Garden arena, hosting both hockey and opera, and at the corner of Craig and Fifth Avenue, St. Paul Cathedral was rising as a Mother Church for the Diocese — its twin stone spires still tower over Oakland.¹⁹

Ingersoll's new location, Luna's ultimate home, was the Aspinwall estate, a wooded hill below the Herron Hill Reservoir. The land sloped from Craig Street down to Neville Street (now the Busway) and the B&O/Pittsburgh Junction Railroad. Denver Street ran along its northern edge. The southern border was an orphaned block of Atlantic Avenue, which technically ran all the way to East Liberty (where it became Baum) but it lacked bridges at the Junction Railroad and at another ravine.²⁰

Two Great Half Million Dollar Parks.

NOT ON PAPER BUT ON THE GROUNDS

PITTSBURG

Luna Park

PITTSBURG, PA.

OPENS MAY 25



INGERSOLL'S

Luna Park

CLEVELAND, O.

OPENS MAY 11

Will consider propositions from Marionette Shows and from Japanese who can furnish Geisha Girls. Have a few Small Concessions. Address all communications to

FREDERICK INGERSOLL, - - 307 Fourth Ave., PITTSBURG, PA.

INGERSOLL'S NEW LOCATION, LUNA'S ULTIMATE HOME, WAS THE ASPINWALL ESTATE, A WOODED HILL BELOW THE HERRON HILL RESERVOIR.

While Centre and Forbes were clogged day and night with streetcars, Atlantic/Baum had none. On its western end that meant open land (like the Aspinwall estate) tended to last a bit longer, while to the east, Baum attracted the slower-paced horse and saddle trade. That evolved into servicing horseless carriages, and within a decade, Baum was the city's Automobile Row, which only increased after the coast-to-coast Lincoln Highway was routed along it in 1913.

The Aspinwall estate was the spooky house of the neighborhood, hidden by an

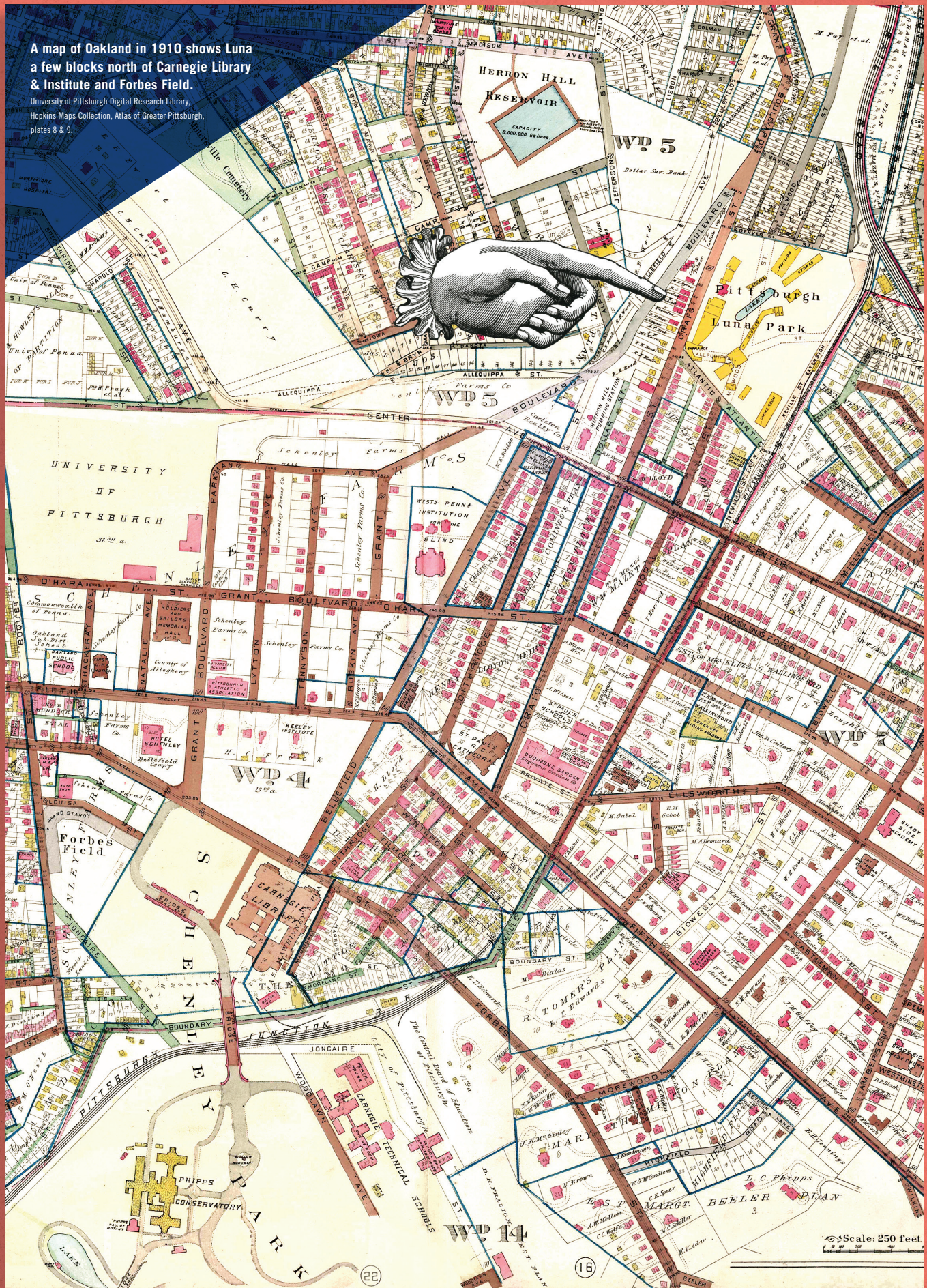
untended orchard and tall board fence. People whispered about the eccentric widow Aspinwall, but she had every reason to be reclusive.

Annie Aspinwall, born Anne Ross in 1818, was a granddaughter of James Ross, a senator, lawyer, and friend of pioneer settler James O'Hara. Ross bought 3,000 acres from O'Hara, which passed to Annie and her niece Mary Delafield.

Annie grew up in eastern Pennsylvania. Her mother died when Annie was six. At 19, Annie married George Aspinwall, owner of

A map of Oakland in 1910 shows Luna a few blocks north of Carnegie Library & Institute and Forbes Field.

University of Pittsburgh Digital Research Library,
Hopkins Maps Collection, Atlas of Greater Pittsburgh,
plates 8 & 9.



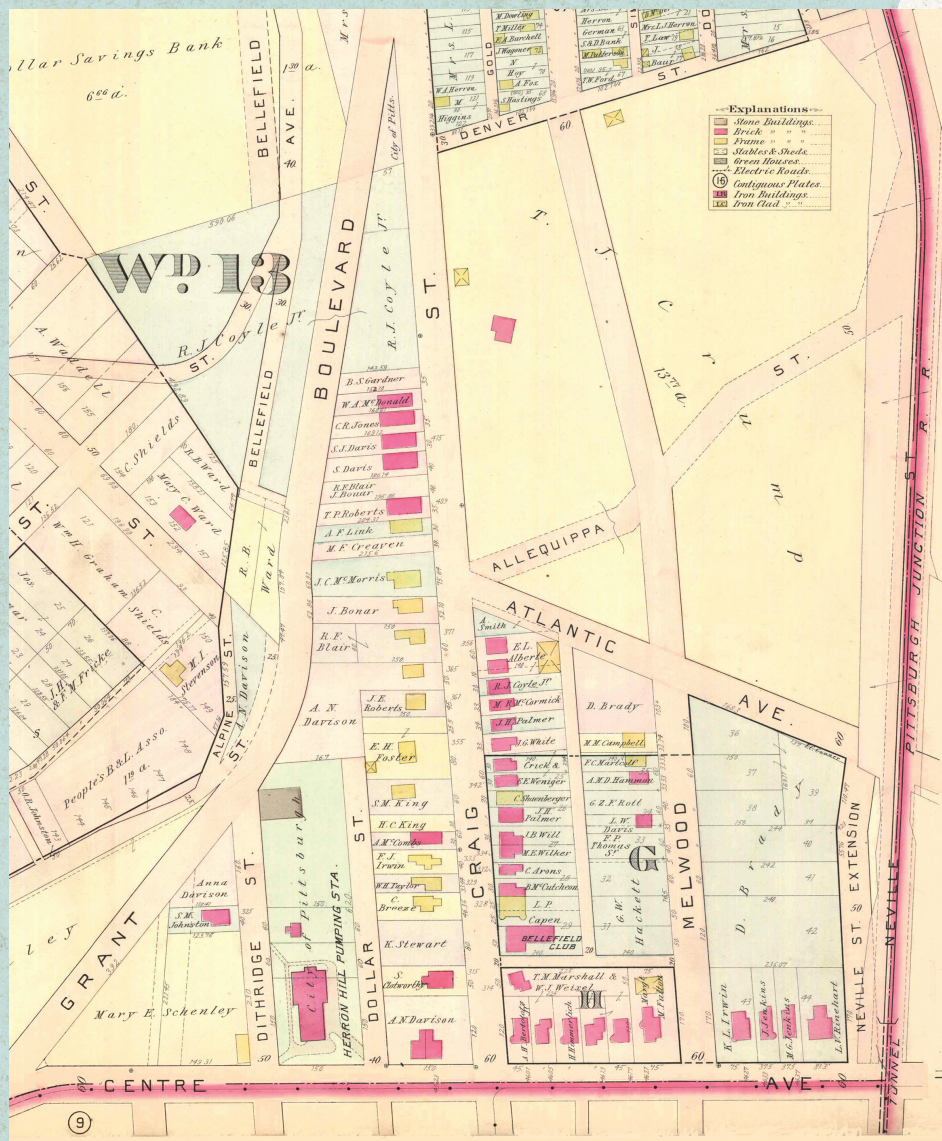


BELOW: By 1900, T.J. Crump had purchased Annie Aspinwall's estate (upper right) in North Oakland. He sold it to Frederick Ingersoll, who would build Luna there in 1905.

University of Pittsburgh, Digital Research Library, Hopkins Maps Collection, Atlas of Greater Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, plate 6.

OLD ASPINWALL RESIDENCE

To be Remodeled to Accommodate the Infant Incubators at Luna Park



Aspinwall steamship lines, and they had three children who each died when a year old, leaving them one daughter. Annie's father died, then her younger sister, then her husband at age 40 — the same year a son was born.²¹ The next year, 1855, Annie moved to Pittsburgh and built this house. Then her son died at 15, in France. Her daughter died at 28, in Scotland. Only her niece Mary Delafield remained, but they were not close. Annie was alone in the big, brick house; her few servants stayed in a separate dwelling.²²

Most of Annie's land holdings were a few miles up the Allegheny River at the north end of today's Highland Park Bridge.²³ O'Hara descendants, the Darlings, owned adjacent land that is now Boy Scout Camp Guyasuta. In 1890, Annie sold 155 acres to developers for what became the borough of Aspinwall.²⁴

It was said Annie's front door didn't open for a quarter century, and she took no callers except for neighbor and prominent banker William Herron, who took care of her rents and accounts. Even the *San Francisco Call* commented that her "strict seclusion shut out all intercourse with the public so that she was not known to a great many, even by reputation."²⁵ Her most infamous habit was allowing no man to see her face: "when out shopping with her carriage, [she] caused a great curiosity to passersby from the manner in which she dressed. Her face was always heavily veiled and accompanied by a coachwoman driver."²⁶

Thus, Annie was surely mortified in 1895 when she found herself in the spotlight. She had donated a small triangle of her property that crossed Craig Street. The \$30,000 gift (today about \$800,000) went to West Penn Hospital, whose vice president was not coincidentally William Herron. Society columns across the country spread the story of the eccentric millionaire's gift, quickly followed by news that she was "dismantling her residence,

preparatory to an extended stay in Europe. Mrs. Aspinwall will leave in June, and proceed directly to Scotland, among whose banks and braes a number of her kinsmen reside.”²⁷

But once aboard the White Star liner, she fell when the ship lurched in bad weather. Annie made it to Edinburgh, where she stayed at the Darlings Hotel, a tony hostelry of temperance and Christian worship, but she died from her injuries on December 2, 1895.

Even in death Annie could not escape the spotlight. Her investments totaled a half million dollars plus land holdings of another \$3 million — today equal to more than \$100

open land, and snapped up Annie’s estate for \$115,000 (today about \$3 million).³³

The mansion itself was “a relic of the days when the houses of the rich were built to last for generations”: brick exterior, 16 rooms, most with 14-foot-high ceilings, imported English tile, a skylight, windows 9 x 14 feet, doors of solid walnut, and the entire house finished in sterling silver hardware. Ingersoll planned to move it near the entrance for an office — it did remain but with a stranger use.

Temperatures on February 10, 1905, plunged into single digits but Ingersoll was terribly behind schedule, so work began

INGERSOLL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
307 Fourth Avenue Pittsburgh, Pa.
ORIGINATORS, BUILDERS and OPERATORS of
HIGH GRADE PARK AMUSEMENTS
OUR “FIGURE 8” ROLLER COASTER A WORLD BEATER
“LAUGHING GALLERY” MIRRORS THAT REALLY MAKE YOU LAUGH
WRITE FOR BOOKLET

A 1904 ad for Ingersoll Construction shows that in addition to Figure Eight coasters, the company’s next most-popular attraction was a Laughing Gallery funhouse.

PSU Libraries, Jacques Collection.

million.²⁸ She left her estate to the Protestant Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia to build and maintain a ward for poor, ill, orphaned white girls.²⁹ That left nothing to her niece, Mary Delafield, who challenged the will, saying that Annie had been of unsound mind.³⁰ But Mary got nothing and by 1900, the Philadelphia hospital had sold some of Annie’s holdings at Aspinwall for a filtration plant (today the site of Waterworks Mall).

Then in 1901, the hospital sold Annie’s abandoned estate to Thomas Crump, who saw it as prime real estate.³¹ Subway advocates wanted the 16.5 acres as the eastern end of their tunnel to downtown.³² Land brokers coveted it for housing. In fact, a deal was underway in December 1904 when the broker got sick for two days; along came Ingersoll, desperate for

clearing and leveling the estate. With the ground frozen solid, dynamite was used along Craig Street to blast down 35 feet then push the loose earth toward the ravine. Booth & Flynn, Pittsburgh’s leading constructors, charged \$80,000.³⁴

Five days later — the ground white with eight inches of snow and overnight temps below zero — the first load of lumber arrived at the PRR’s Shadyside station. Horse-drawn wagons, outfitted with skis, carted 5 million feet of wood over the frigid mile-long route to the estate. There, wagons were sinking into the slushy mud so workers carried in boards on their backs and laid them down to solidify the road. Twenty thousand dollars of wooden planks were left where they sank and the park built right over them.



**ALONG CAME
INGERSOLL,
DESPERATE
FOR OPEN
LAND, AND
SNAPPED
UP ANNIE’S
ESTATE FOR
\$115,000
(TODAY ABOUT
\$3 MILLION).**

Down in the railroad cut, passengers on the B&O crowded the windows daily, marveling at each fantastical building.³⁵ They rose quickly — Luna's buildings, like those at temporary World's Fairs, were built with lumber and covered with stucco, a mix of plaster, cement, and jute fiber. A good day's effort could make a building look like carved stone or marble, though they aged just as quickly.

In March 1905, the stockholders of the Luna Park Company met in its offices in the Peoples Bank Building and chose officers, making Ingersoll the president and general manager. Foremen gave assurances that the park would be complete two weeks before opening day of May 25. The board then voted to forbid alcohol on the grounds, and, in a decision that would haunt them, voted to close

the park on Sundays to align with blue laws.³⁶

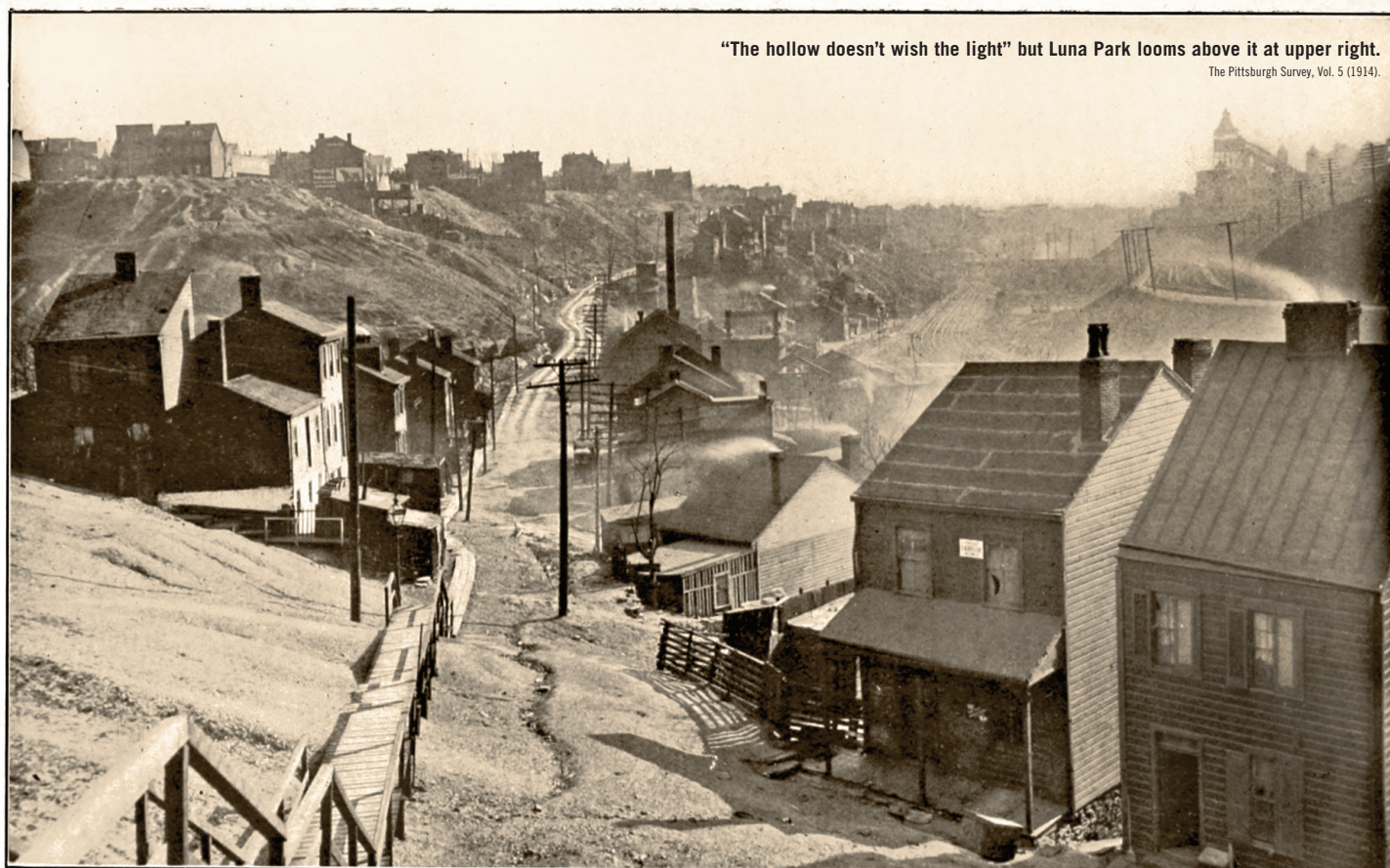
Grading continued even as buildings were being finished. A 20-foot ladder was needed to enter the Japanese Village, and the drop in front of the Scenic Railway station was still 40 feet. The Japanese Village had another problem too: with the Russo-Japanese War underway, the artists decorating the pavilion had returned home to fight.³⁷ The 18 Japanese society girls still came but they sent their earnings back to a relief fund for wounded soldiers and their families.³⁸

Steam shovels dug the lagoon six feet deep, then it was filled with three feet of concrete, leaving three feet for water. Water mains and fire plugs were connected, then came sockets, wires, and screwing in 62,000 light bulbs — this at a time when most homes

were still lit by oil lamps.³⁹

When April arrived, an article crowed that one couldn't help but be impressed with Ingersoll's aggressiveness: "Towering into the air like fairy palaces and dotting the sky line with their many minarets, domes and towers, are the beautiful buildings that are to make up the expensive pleasure park." However, that's what made parks like Luna riskier than trolley parks, which were evolving slowly from picnic groves to rides. Lots had to be spent at Luna, quickly, to build dozens of World's Fair-scale attractions, all before knowing if the public would come.⁴⁰

Though Pittsburgh was Ingersoll's hometown and where he first envisioned his great inland Luna, Cleveland's Luna opened first, on May 11, touted as the 34th amusement



"The hollow doesn't wish the light" but Luna Park looms above it at upper right.

The Pittsburgh Survey, Vol. 5 (1914).

LOOKING DOWN ON SKUNK HOLLOW
Luna Park is seen on sky-line at the right



resort in the Ingersoll circuit.⁴¹ The streetcar lines in Cleveland actually looped into the park and to a station, while in Pittsburgh, streetcars dropped off visitors a block away on Centre (where people remember the Luna Bar). Passengers were rarely the city's immigrants but rather the clerical workers and professionals who had the time and money to take a trolley to Luna, where it cost just to enter, then cost even more to see each attraction.⁴²


Across the valley, it was a different world, where German immigrants built tightly-packed homes and businesses on the narrow streets of Bloomfield.⁴³ An even bigger contrast lay between them: Skunk Hollow, rife with unemployment, disease, drunkenness, violence, and vice. The Pittsburgh Survey, an ambitious effort to chronicle the city's downtrodden, commented,

The hollow, found by sewage through winding crevices in rubbish, and by goats and dogs over hills of tin cans and refuse, is reached by the people themselves down flights of decaying steps.... No visitor can tell, without inquiry, whether the shacks on Ewing Street are for cows, horses, or human beings.⁴⁴

To those in Skunk Hollow, Luna Park looming over them must have seemed as unreachable as the moon. The Survey described nighttime there:

As you climb back up the stairs in the late afternoon, you meet the lamplighter going down with his ladder. Early? Yes, but it is not well to go into the hollow after dusk. There are only 16 lamps there—soon lighted, but people have their own reasons for turning them off and few of them burn till morning. The hollow doesn't wish the light.⁴⁵

Soon, whether they wanted it or not, light and

merriment would echo through the hollow nightly from Pittsburgh's Luna Park. 

Brian Butko is Director of Publications and author of *Luna: Pittsburgh's Original Lost Kennywood*, the second book in his Kennywood Trilogy.

¹ "Wonder Park for this City," *Pittsburgh Press*, July 25, 1904, p. 2; "The City's New Amusement," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, July 26, 1904, p. 2.

² "Ground Soon to be Broken for Luna Park," *Sandusky Evening Star*, September 20, 1904, p. 3.

³ *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, July 29, 1904, p. 4.

⁴ "Recreation Park has been Sold," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, July 29, 1904, p. 10; "Secure Recreation Park," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, July 29, 1904, p. 2; "Site Secured for New Park," *Pittsburgh Press*, July 29, 1904, p. 2.

⁵ "Recreation Park Has Been Sold," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, July 29, 1904, p. 4. The team then was called the Alleghenys.

⁶ Craig Britcher, "At Long Last, a Recreation Park Photo Comes to Light," *Western Pennsylvania History*, Spring 2016), p. 6-7.

⁷ "Thompson and Dundy to Reproduce Their Coney

Annie's house became home to the park's Infant Incubators, giving care to premature babies. From left: the Entrance & Staircase, Automatic Vaudeville (out of sight), Electric Theatre, Rifle Range, Scenictorium, Infant Incubators, Chateau Alphonse, Ziz, and concessions under the patio.

LoC 4a06941a.



Island Luna Park in Pittsburgh," *Pittsburgh Press*, July 31, 1904, p. 27. The park site is now home to the defunct warehouses of Williams & Company, "The House of Metals."

⁸ "Combination Not Formed," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, August 9, 1904, p. 9.

⁹ "Ingersoll to Go Alone," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, August 9, 1904, p. 8.

¹⁰ "Ingersoll's Luna Park, Cleveland," *Street Railway Review*, March 15, 1905, p. 179-180; "Ground Broken Monday for Luna Park at Cleveland," *Sandusky Star Journal*, October 11, 1904, p. 2. The 35 acre site was bounded by Woodland Ave., Woodhill Road, E. 110th (then Ferncliff) St., and Mt. Carmel (formerly Ingersoll) Road. For general park history, see David W. Francis and Diane DeMali Francis, *Luna Park: Cleveland's Fairyland of Pleasure* (Fairview Park, Ohio: Amusement Park Books, 1996).

¹¹ "Northside Moose Holding Carnival," *Pittsburgh Press*, July 22, 1914, p. 7.

¹² "Pittsburgh is to Have Big Show at Point Breeze," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, October 28, 1904, p. 11; David S. Rotenstein, "Model for the Nation: Sale, Slaughter, and Processing at the East Liberty Stockyards," *Western Pennsylvania History* 93-4, Winter 2010, pp. 36-47. The industry picked up and moved again in 1903 when larger stockyards were opened on Herr's Island in the Allegheny River. Fifteen years later National Biscuit built a massive bakery on the site now home to Google's Pittsburgh offices.

¹³ "Plans Completed for Great Pleasure Park,"

Pittsburgh Press, October 30, 1904, p. 13; "Luna Plans are Outlined to Public," *Pittsburgh Gazette*, October 30, 1904, p. 11.

¹⁴ "Site for Park in the East End," *Pittsburgh Press*, October 28, 1904, p. 7; "Plans Pleasure Park," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, October 28, 1904, p. 2. Details would come from architects Neal and Rowlands of Pittsburgh.

¹⁵ "Religious and Charitable," *Pittsburgh Press*, November 4, 1904, p. 9; "Another Site for Park," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, December 14, 1904, p. 3.

¹⁶ "Whims of a Rich Woman. The Eccentricities of Mrs. Aspinwall, Who Willed a Fortune to a Hospital. From the Philadelphia Record," *New York Sun*, February 2, 1896, p. 4. This area became the Bellefield section of North Oakland

¹⁷ The area is described in Joel Tarr, *Transportation Innovation and Changing Spatial Patterns in Pittsburgh, 1850-1934* (Chicago: Public Works Historical Society, 1978). Also see Sue Ann Beahan, *Shadyside: An Elite Residential Area of Pittsburgh, 1898-1904* (research report, 1975, in Joel Tarr Papers, Carnegie Mellon University Archives).

¹⁸ Carnegie Institute included a museum of natural history, art gallery, and a music hall; these plus the library covered 5 acres.

¹⁹ James D. Van Trump, *Life and Architecture in Pittsburgh* (Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, 1983), 102. Bellefield Dwellings was designed by Carlton Strong.

²⁰ The area is North Oakland but is also the northern edge of Bellefield, an old name for the rectangular

area reaching south four blocks to Carnegie Institute. Atlantic was one of three disconnected pieces that in East Liberty became Baum Boulevard. When the city renamed streets in 1908, Atlantic was briefly Atherton; after it was bridged in 1911 and 1913, the road was renamed Baum Boulevard, and it became the main route into town (via Bigelow) for drivers from the wealthy East End

²¹ www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=126331554, which included the following info:

Anna Ross Coleman Aspinwall

Birth: Nov. 8, 1818

Death: Dec. 2, 1895

Buried north of Philadelphia at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Section G Lot 99 W 1/2, Burial Date 12/30/1895.

Father: Edward Coleman b: 4 JUL 1792 in Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, d: June 6, 1841

Mother: Mary Jane Ross b: 28 JUN 1797 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA

Anne's Sister, b July 5, 1820, died May 6, 1848.

Married: George Woolsey Aspinwall b: 10 JAN 1814, d: June 19, 1854

Married: 12 DEC 1837

Children:

a. Mary Jane Aspinwall b: 22 SEP 1840, d Feb 1842.

b. Emily Aspinwall b: 15 MAR 1843, d Aug 10, 1844.

c. Georgina Aspinwall b: 1 MAY 1845

d. Harriet Coleman Aspinwall b: 1 JAN 1849, Feb 28, 1850.

e. Edward Aspinwall b: 1855.

Also used was an unnamed printed source via John

Schalkosky, which included:

Anne Ross Coleman was born Nov 7, 1818. Married December 12, 1837 to George Woolsey Aspinwall, a well-known Philadelphia owner of Aspinwall ship lines that connected New York to Liverpool. They had five children:

- a. Mary Jane Aspinwall b: 22 Sep 1840, d Feb 28, 1842.
- b. Emily Aspinwall b: 15 March 1843, d Aug 10, 1844.
- c. Georgina Aspinwall b: 1 May 1845, d July 21, 1873
- d. Harriet Coleman Aspinwall b: 1 Jan 1849, Feb 28, 1850.
- e. Edward Aspinwall b: 1855, d June 30, 1869.

²² For genealogy, also see Algernon Aiken Aspinwall, *The Aspinwall Genealogy* (Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle Co., 1901), p. 113, which says George died at Germantown, Pa., June 19, 1854. Georgina, b. 1845; d. July 31, 1873, in Edinburgh, Scotland, unmarried. Edward B., b. 1854; d. June 30, 1869, in France. Annie and family are buried at Greenwood Cemetery. Brooklyn.

²³ Ross is buried at Allegheny Cemetery, per *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=R000448>; "James and Ann [Woods] Ross had three children: James, Mary Jane and George W. Ross. The two sons died unmarried. The daughter, Mary Jane, born at Pittsburgh June 28, 1797, was married on October 7, 1816, to Edward Coleman of Lancaster and Philadelphia, who served in the assembly and also in the senate of Pennsylvania. She died at Lancaster on September 27, 1825, leaving three children—Anne Ross, Harriet, and Mary Jane. The only one of these who left descendants was Harriet, Mary Jane having died unmarried, and the children of Anne (who married George W. Aspinwall) having all died in youth."—p. 50. Ross had become a resident of Pittsburgh less than a year after its incorporation as a borough in 1794, per James Irwin Brownson, *The Life and Times of Senator James Ross* (Washington: Washington County Historical Society, 1910).

²⁴ Historical Subcommittee of the Aspinwall Centennial Committee and Terry Nelson Taylor, ed. *Aspinwall: the Town that Pride Built* (Aspinwall: Historical Subcommittee of the Aspinwall Centennial Committee, 1992), pp. 10–12; Jack Shortlidge, *Steel Industry Corporation Ethnographic Survey: Selected Boroughs Along the Allegheny River* (Homestead: Steel Industry Heritage Corporation, 1993). Also see Rachel L. Cook, *Aspinwall, 1892–1967* (Aspinwall: Diamond Jubilee Committee, 1967).

²⁵ "Rivaled Hetty Green, Death of Mrs. Anna Aspinwall, the Eccentric Pittsburg Woman. She Had Sailed for Europe to Escape Being Besieged by Callers," *San Francisco Call*, Vol. 79-5, December 5, 1895, p. 2. Hetty Green, notoriously eccentric and called "the Witch of Wall Street," died with an estimated fortune worth today \$17 billion, per www.nps.gov/nebe/historyculture/upload/Hetty%20Green.pdf.

²⁶ "The Death of Mrs. Mary R. Aspinwall," *The Sharpsburg and Etna Herald*, December 6, 1895; by far the best profile is in "Whims of a Rich Woman, The Eccentricities of Mrs. Aspinwall, Who Willed a Fortune to a Hospital. From the Philadelphia Record," *New York Sun*, February 2, 1896, p. 4.

²⁷ "Purloined Personals" column, *The Wichita Daily*

Eagle, June 14, 1895, p. 4.

²⁸ "Mrs. Aspinwall's Estate, The Real Estate and Personal Property Valued at \$3,000,000, Special Telegram to The Times," [*Philadelphia Times*, January 22, 1896, p. 6; "Anna Aspinwall Dead," *Lebanon Daily News*, December 5, 1895, p. 1; she grew up in Lebanon, Pa., and lived there until her husband died. Also see "Rivaled Hetty Green, Death of Mrs. Anna Aspinwall, the Eccentric Pittsburg Woman. She Had Sailed for Europe to Escape Being Besieged by Callers," *San Francisco Call*, Vol. 79-5, December 5, 1895, p. 2, which said her eccentricity likely exceeded Hetty Green, notoriously eccentric and called "the Witch of Wall Street," died with an estimated fortune worth today \$17 billion, per www.nps.gov/nebe/historyculture/upload/Hetty%20Green.pdf.

²⁹ "American News and Notes," *The Philadelphia Medical Journal*, November 3, 1900, p. 811; [*Bloomsburg*] *Columbian*, February 6, 1896, p. 2.

³⁰ "Will be Contested, Of Course," *Logansport Pharos-Tribune*, January 21, 1896, p. 17; "Aspinwall Will Contest. Mrs. Maturin Delafield of This City Begins Proceedings in Pittsburgh," *The [New York] Sun*, October 4, 1896, which says the estate was willed to "hospital in Philadelphia and the Fine Arts Academy"; "Tersely Told" column, *The Manning [S.C.] Times*, February 5, 1896, p. 2. A case makes clear it was Delafield v. Hospital of Prot. Ep. Church, which is mentioned as Philadelphia, her husband's hometown. The name is cited in "Table of Cases Cited," in B.C. Moon, *The Removal of Causes from the Courts of the Several States to the Circuit Courts of the United States* (New York: Banks Law Publishing, 1901), p. xxvi; "Will Name the Price," *Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette*, September 27, 1900.

³¹ "Being the same premises which the Hospital of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Philadelphia by its deed dated September 12, 1901, recorded November 13, 1901, in Deed Book 1160, page 104 ... conveyed to T.J. Crump, per Indenture, January 18, 1905, Allegheny County Deed Book vol. 1409, p. 66. Crump was a director of at least four firms: Pittsburgh Silver Peak Mining Company; Oliver Iron and Steel; Pittsburgh and Northern Railway; and Central Light, Heat, and Power. He is listed as being nominated as a notary public by the state senate (among hundreds) for four years in *Journal of the Senate* (Harrisburg: Wm. Stanlet Ray, 1901), p. 576; the mining company is found in "Senator Oliver Indicted: Prominent Men Are Accused of Defrauding Nevada of Taxes," *The New York Times*, June 05, 1909, p. 1; and the director positions are in *History of Pittsburgh and Environs*, Vol. 3 (New York: American Historical Society, 1922), p. 530.

³² "No Luna Park at Point Breeze," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, December 14, 1904, p. 14.

³³ Indenture, January 18, 1905, Deed Book vol. 1409, p. 66; "Another Site for Park," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, December 14, 1904, p. 3; "Luna Park Instead of Lot Plan," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, February 21, 1905, p. 13; "Three Choice Sites Bought," *Pittsburgh Press*, December 14, 1904, p. 7; "Mrs. George Aspinwall on Neville near Center" in 1887 *Pittsburgh Directory*; "Annie, wid Geo B, Craig, n Centre av" in 1891 *Pittsburgh Directory*; "Aspinwall Anna, wid G W, Craig, n Allequippa" in 1895 *Pittsburgh Directory*; also see Sanborn maps from

the period. Addresses were not as firm while roads and property kept changing shape. Also, the Luna tract was smaller than the original, notably that the original plot extended west to a point that crossed both Craig and Bellefield Street (roughly now Bigelow Blvd) at today's Zarra's Restaurant, the old Electric Banana.

³⁴ Information on the excavation and early building is from "Pittsburg Luna Park," *Street Railway Review*, May 15, 1905, p. 311; and "His Dynamite Cost Him \$2,000," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, July 19, 1905, p. 3. A mention in *Pittsburgh Press*, January 28, 1905, p. 7, seems to contradict and exaggerate the pace of work.

³⁵ www.pghbridges.com/pittsburghE/0589-4478/pghjctr_tun.htm; the Pittsburgh Junction Railroad tracks entered a long tunnel, the Schenley Tunnel or Neville Street Tunnel just under Centre Avenue, which led to Junction Hollow (between today's Carnegie Library/Museum and CMU) Built in 1883 for the Pittsburgh Junction Railroad, the tunnel and tracks are still used by CSX, the Allegheny Valley Railroad for regional services, and most notably, Amtrak's Capitol Limited, some 70 feet below Neville St. The Junction RR was merged with others in 1893 to form the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, serving the northern mainline to Chicago.

³⁶ "Elected Officers," *Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette*, March 9, 1905, p. 6. Officers were D.L. Gillespie, lumber company owner (Vice President); A.S. Beymer, cashier of Keystone National Bank (Secretary and Treasurer); W.W. Jimison, banker in Charleroi and a director of Eldora Park (Manager). Other board members were W.H. Nimick, v-p of Keystone National Bank; William Witherow, proprietor of Duquesne Hotel; George S. Davidson of the Mellon interests; W.M. Henderson of Henderson Coal and Coke Company; R.C. Hall, broker; R.H. Boggs of Boggs and Buhl store; and R.C. Gregg.

³⁷ "Luna Park," *Pittsburgh Bulletin*, April 1, 1905.

³⁸ "Jap Maidens are Patriotic," *Pittsburgh Press*, April 2, 1905, p. 40.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ "Luna Opens on May 25," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, April 9, 1905, p. 11.

⁴¹ "Ingersoll's Luna Park, Cleveland," *Street Railway Review*, March 15, 1905, p. 180.

⁴² "Location of Luna Park," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, March 12, 1905, p. 11; "Pittsburg Luna Park," *Street Railway Review*, May 15, 1905, p. 312.

⁴³ Perry Bush, "A Neighborhood, a Hollow, and the Bloomfield Bridge: The Relationship Between Community and Infrastructure," *Pittsburgh History*, Winter 1991, p. 162-163.

⁴⁴ Florence Larrabee Lattimore, "Skunk Hollow," *The Pittsburgh District: Civic Frontage*, volume 5 of Paul Underwood Kellogg, ed., *The Pittsburgh Survey* (New York: Survey Associates/Russell Sage Foundation, 1914), p. 124-130.

⁴⁵ Lattimore, "Skunk Hollow," *The Pittsburgh Survey*, p. 129.