

THE PITTSBURGH

# METROPOLITAN

FASHION | CULTURE | DINING | LIFESTYLE



\$3.95  
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LOVE STORY  
INTERIOR MOTIVES  
VALLEY OF THE DOGS  
TOPS AND BOTTOMS  
BEN MATTHEWS' PAINTINGS

# RETROPOLITAN LIVING

*by Dawnlyn Diehl*



THE ERA OF FIFTY-CENT SUPPERS AND SELF-PROPELLED CARRIAGES MAY BE LONG GONE, BUT MUCH OF ITS PROGRESSIVE, ENCHANTING AND ONE-OF-A-KIND URBAN ARCHITECTURE CAN STILL BE HOME TO TODAY'S COSMOPOLITAN PITTSBURGHER. WITH HISTORIES AS INTERESTING AS THEIR DESIGNS, A VARIETY OF MULTIPLE RESIDENCES ABOUND AND REMAIN SPECIAL DWELLINGS TO INDIVIDUALS ON CERTAIN SHADY CORNERS, SUNNY HILLTOPS, AND PRIVATE UTOPIAS. CHEERS TO TURN-OF THE CENTURY PAROCHIAL VISIONARIES LOOKING FAR AND WIDE FOR NEW IDEAS, DEPRESSION-ERA MASTER BUILDERS AT THE TOP OF THEIR GAME, AND DEDICATED PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ENSURING THEIR PRESERVATION. OUR PICTURESQUE SELECTION, RANGING FROM 1904 THROUGH 1937, ILLUSTRATES FRESH STYLES OF THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY THAT BROKE NEW GROUND FROM PITTSBURGH'S HERITAGE OF PALATIAL AND MODEST SINGLE FAMILY HOMES. THIS ECLECTIC GROUP IS AS CHIC AS EVER.



## HIGHLAND TOWERS



BEFORE MOVING TO PARK MANSIONS, PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS COMPANY PRESIDENT HARRY S. Wherrett enjoyed the style and comfort of Highland Towers, which — according to the original marketing brochure — were “as perfect in arrangement, construction, and equipment as modern art and science could make them.” The brochure artfully boasts superior quality, convenient location, and state-of-the-art conveniences, attracting notice of Pittsburgh’s earliest yuppies.

Besides burglar-proof safes built into a wall of each apartment, Frederick G. Scheibler’s 1913 design emanates beauty inside and out with its elegant U-shaped plan that wraps around three sides of an elevated open garden, abstract mosaic detailing, art glass solariums and interior glass partitions, and mahogany cabinetry.

Considered one of the finest examples of early American Modern architecture, the four-story walk-up at South Highland Avenue in Shadyside has been owned and managed by Franklin West Inc. since the early 1970s when Franklin West, Jr. bought the building. The Highland Towers were entered on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

“My dad always had a love affair with the building because of his architectural background, and he’s really put a lot of time and effort into it over the years,” says Caroline West, who took over management.

In addition to the service and personal attention the rental company prides itself on, such as 24-hour maintenance or annual resident cocktail parties where neighbors enjoy meeting one another, Franklin West Apartments takes excellent care of the buildings that add so much character to their neighborhoods. >>