

Arts & Literature in Old Allegheny* 1830-1920

*Locations are approximate

Mary Roberts Rinehart

Born elsewhere in Allegheny City, Rinehart lived at 954 Beech Ave with her husband & three sons from 1903-1911. She wrote five novels & two plays in this house, including *The Circular Staircase* which sold 1.25 million copies.



Gertrude Stein

The youngest of five children, Stein was born at 850 Beech Ave in 1874 but left when she was six months old. A leading figure in Modernism at the turn of the 20C, she is known for her extensive art collection & her experimental writing.



Mary Cassatt

The American painter was born on Rebecca Street (now Reedsdale) in May 1844. She lived in Allegheny City until she was 3 years old before moving to Philadelphia and then, later, to Europe where she became one of the founding members of the Impressionist movement.



Martha Graham

An innovative choreographer & dancer, Graham was born in Allegheny City in 1894. She moved to Santa Barbara at age 14, where she developed a love of dance. She established the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance in 1926 and earned the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1976.



Robinson Jeffers

Known for his narrative & epic poetry, Jeffers was born in 1887 at 723 Ridge Ave, now part of the CCAC campus. Son of a Presbyterian minister, Jeffers left Pittsburgh as a young boy. At age 18, he graduated from Occidental College in California, where he lived for the remainder of his life.



Willa Cather

Cather lived in Allegheny City from 1896-1906, first as a journalist for the *Home Monthly* then later for the *Pittsburgh Leader*. She taught English and Latin at Allegheny High School from 1899-1906. Her first collection of short stories was written almost entirely while living in Pittsburgh.



Carnegie Library

The first Carnegie Library commissioned in the US (second to open) was completed in 1890 with both Andrew Carnegie & Pres. Benjamin Harrison present at the inaugural events. Carnegie commemorated his mentor, Col. James Anderson, with a nearby monument.



Stephen C. Foster

Born in Lawrenceville in 1826, Foster moved across the river as a young boy. Famous for parlor & minstrel songs, he composed "Camptown Races," "Oh! Susanna," and "My Old Kentucky Home," among others. His father, William Barclay Foster was mayor of Allegheny City from 1842-1843.

