



**Sal's Barber Shop
(712 Brookline Boulevard)**

City of Pittsburgh Historic Landmark Nomination

Prepared by Preservation Pittsburgh



412.256.8755
1501 Reedsdale St., Suite 5003
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
www.preservationpgh.org

October, 2023.



HISTORIC NOMINATION FORM

**Historic Preservation Staff
Signature:**

S. Blinn

****Nomination is incomplete without historic
preservation staff signature**

Fee Schedule

Individual Landmark Nomination: \$100.00 District
 Nomination: To be
 determined

1. HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Sal's Barber Shop
2. CURRENT NAME OF PROPERTY: Sal's Barber Shop
3. LOCATION
 - a. Street: 712 Brookline Boulevard
 - b. City, State, Zip Code: Pittsburgh, PA 15226
 - c. Neighborhood: Brookline
4. OWNERSHIP
 - d. Owner(s): Sal & Lvnn Bondi
 - e. Street: 712 Brookline Boulevard
 - f. City, State, Zip Code: Pittsburgh, PA 15226
 - g. Phone: (412) 341-4313
5. CLASSIFICATION AND USE – Check all that apply

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Type</u> | <u>Ownership</u> | <u>Current Use:</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Private – home | <u>Commercial & Residential</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private – other | _____ |
| Site | Public – government | _____ |
| Object | Public - other | _____ |
| | Place of religious worship | _____ |

6. NOMINATED BY:

- a. Name: Matthew Falcone & Sal + Lynn Bondi
- b. Street: 1501 Reedsdale Street, Suite 5003
- c. City, State, Zip: Pittsburgh, PA 15233
- d. Phone: (412) 417-5910 Email: mfalcone@preservationpgh.org

7. DESCRIPTION

Provide a narrative description of the structure, district, site, or object. If it has been altered over time, indicate the date(s) and nature of the alteration(s). (Attach additional pages as needed)

If Known:

- a. Year Built: 1928
- b. Architectural Style: Minimal Traditional
- c. Architect/Builder: Unknown

Narrative: See attached.

8. HISTORY

Provide a history of the structure, district, site, or object. Include a bibliography of sources consulted. (Attach additional pages as needed.) Include copies of relevant source materials with the nomination form (see Number 11).

Narrative: See attached.

9. SIGNIFICANCE

The *Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances, Title 11, Historic Preservation, Chapter 1: Historic Structures, Districts, Sites and Objects* lists ten criteria, at least one of which must be met for Historic Designation. Describe how the structure, district, site, or object meets one or more of these criteria and complete a narrative discussing in detail each area of significance. (Attach additional pages as needed)

The structure, building, site, district, object is significant because of (check all that apply):

- 1. Its location as a site of a significant historic or prehistoric event or activity;
- 2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
- 3. Its exemplification of an architectural type, style or design distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship;
- 4. Its identification as the work of an architect, designer, engineer, or builder whose individual work is significant in the history or development of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
- 5. Its exemplification of important planning and urban design techniques distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design or detail;

-
6. Its location as a site of an important archaeological resource;
 7. Its association with important cultural or social aspects or events in the history of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;
 8. Its exemplification of a pattern of neighborhood development or settlement significant to the cultural history or traditions of the City, whose components may lack individual distinction;
 9. Its representation of a cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related theme expressed through distinctive areas, properties, sites, structures, or objects that may or may not be contiguous; or
 10. Its unique location and distinctive physical appearance or presence representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community, or the City of Pittsburgh.

Narrative: See attached.

10. INTEGRITY

In addition, the ordinance specifies that "Any area, property, site, structure or object that meets any one or more of the criteria listed above shall also have sufficient integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship to make it worthy of preservation or restoration". (Attach additional pages as needed)

Narrative: See attached.

11. NOTIFICATION/CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNER(S)

1.3(a)(2) Community information process.

Preceding submission of a nomination form for a District, the Historic Review Commission shall conduct at least one (1) public information meeting within or near the boundaries of the proposed district, which shall include at least one (1) member of the Department of City Planning and one (1) Commission member, to discuss the possible effects of designation. Notice shall be given to the owners of property in the proposed district in accordance with Section 1.3(b) below. The final public information meeting shall be held no more than six months before the nomination form is submitted.

1.3(a)(1)(a) Subsection F.

In the case of a nomination as a Historic District, by community-based organizations or by any individual, but in either event the nomination shall be accompanied by a petition signed by the owners of record of twenty-five (25) percent of the properties within the boundaries of the proposed District.

- Please attach documentation of your efforts to gain property owner's consent.-

** The nomination of any religious property shall be accompanied by a signed letter of consent from the property's owner.

12. PHOTO LOGS: *Please Attach*

13. BIBLIOGRAPHY: *Please Attach*

14. NOMINATION FORM PREPARED BY:

a. Name: Preservation Pittsburgh

b. Street: 1501 Reedsdale Street, Suite 5003

c. City, State, Zip: Pittsburgh, PA 15232

d. Phone: (412) 417-5910 Email: mfalcone@preservationpgh.org

e. Signature: _____

CHECKLIST: Sal's Barber Shop

- #1-6 Nomination Form:** Address, Ownership, Classification, Nominator Info.
- #7: Description
- #8: History
- #9: Significance
- #10 Integrity**
- #11 Consent of Property Owners**
- #12 Photographs of Property:** numbered and labeled
- #13 List of Supporting Documents**

- Fee**
- Hard-Copy nomination**
- Electronic nomination (Word Format for text).**

**Nomination form is incomplete without the signature of
Historic Preservation Staff.**

**Please email HistoricReview@pittsburghpa.gov
to schedule a meeting.**



Photo. 1. *Primary Façade, 712 Brookline Boulevard (Sal's Barber Shop).* Matthew Falcone. September 2023.

7. Description

712 Brookline Boulevard (Photo. 1) is a brick, two story, Minimal Traditional building that currently serves as commercial and domestic space. 712 Brookline Boulevard sits in a light, urban, and largely residential and commercial street in Pittsburgher's Brookline neighborhood, which was part of the larger South Hills, an area of largely residential and light commercial developed in the early 20th century. Today the neighborhood is still largely comprised of residential and small commercial buildings.

North (Primary) Elevation



Photo. 2. *Primary Façade, 712 Brookline Boulevard (Sal's Barber Shop).* M. Falcone. September 2023.

The north elevation of 712 Brookline Boulevard is the building's primary façade. The building rises two stories high off a basement delineated by a course of concrete and darker colored bricks. The façade is symmetric and divided into two bays that are defined by deep recesses and prominent awnings. The left bay (Alterations by Rina) has a central door recessed into two glass display windows that rest atop a knee wall of glass blocks and are crowned by transom windows. Framing and trim of these windows appears to be ornate wood. The recess on right (Sal's Barber Shop) houses the entrance and like the recess on left, the entryway door is recessed by a store window that sits atop a knee wall of glass block. Here too wood trim frames the windows and doors. The second floor holds two sets of two double hung windows, whose openings are accentuated by darker color brick. The roofline is capped with concrete coping.



Photo. 3. *Primary Façade, Detail, 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. September 2023.

South (Secondary) Elevation



Photo. 4. *Secondary Façade, 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.

The southern eastern façade is visibility accessible from Trelona Way, which is approximately a story lower than ground level of Brookline Boulevard. Here there is a small, concrete parking pad off Trelona Way, which a cinderblock and brick garage with a white metal garage door. A railing of red brick crowned with a concrete cope crowns the garage. A wooden and metal staircase to the right of the garage provides access to the second and third floor wooden balcony. The building façade is red brick and punctuated by two sets of double hung windows on the second and third floors. To the left of the garage, a small extension with a corrugated metal roof provides additional access.

East (Tertiary) Elevation

The southeastern façade (Photo. 5) of 712 Boulevard of the Allies is partially visible from Brookline Boulevard. Comprised primarily of Flemish bonded red brick, this façade is interpreted by two casement windows that flank the chimney in the forward third section of the building. A stepped parapet wall is capped with terra cotta copping.

West (Tertiary) Elevation

The northwestern elevation of the building is not visibly accessible from a public right-of-way because it abuts the neighboring Carnegie Library Building.



Photos. 5&6. *Stained Glass Transom Window Detail (exterior on left, interior on right), 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.



Photo. 7. Entryway Detail, 712 Brookline Boulevard. M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.

8. History

Summary Overview

John S. Holden built 712 Brookline Boulevard in 1928 after purchasing the lot where it would be constructed in 1923 and built a small metal fabrication shop at the back of the lot, out of which he ran his roofing business. After 712 Brookline Boulevard was completed, Holden moved his business into a storefront and his family into an upstairs apartment. The Holden family lived and worked at 712 Brookline Boulevard until losing it at sheriff's sale in 1940. At that time the building was purchased by the Garofalo family who would become the longest owners of the property. Joseph Garofalo operated a fruit stand and shoe repair shop in the storefront, and after his daughter Josephine married Salvatore Biondi in 1947, the fruit stand was replaced by Sal's Barber Shop, which is still in operation today.

Site History – Pre-Construction

The land where Sal's Barber Shop would later stand was originally connected to several Native American tribes that changed over time. The Adena Tribe, the Hopewell Tribe, the Monongahela People were the original inhabitants of the land and, post-European contact, were later joined by refugees from other tribes, such as the Delaware, Shawnee, and Iroquois. Ultimately European colonists would settle this land, which became known as "West Liberty", which was part of Lower St. Clair Township. Though the exact origin of the name "Brookline" is unknown, this portion of West Liberty was incorporated into the City of Pittsburgh in 1908 through annexation.

Despite the annexation, it would be roughly 20 more years before this parcel was developed. We see this in the Allegheny County deed book:

August 13, 1907 (Allegheny County Deed Book 1605: 124): West Liberty Improvement Company conveyed two lots including the lot where 712 Brookline Boulevard would be built to Andrew Lanz for \$2,350.

The lot where 712 Brookline Boulevard is located was described as 'Lot Number 584' in the West Liberty Improvement Company's Plan of Lots called "Brookline" as recorded in Plan Book volume 23, pages 4 and 5. This deed was subject to the restriction that no building would be built at a cost of less than \$2,000. This restriction would be in place until May 1, 1928.

October 15, 1923 (Deed Book 2176: 646): Andrew Lanz conveyed 712 Brookline Boulevard to John S. and Goldie Holden for \$1 (tax stamps indicate a value of \$1,400).

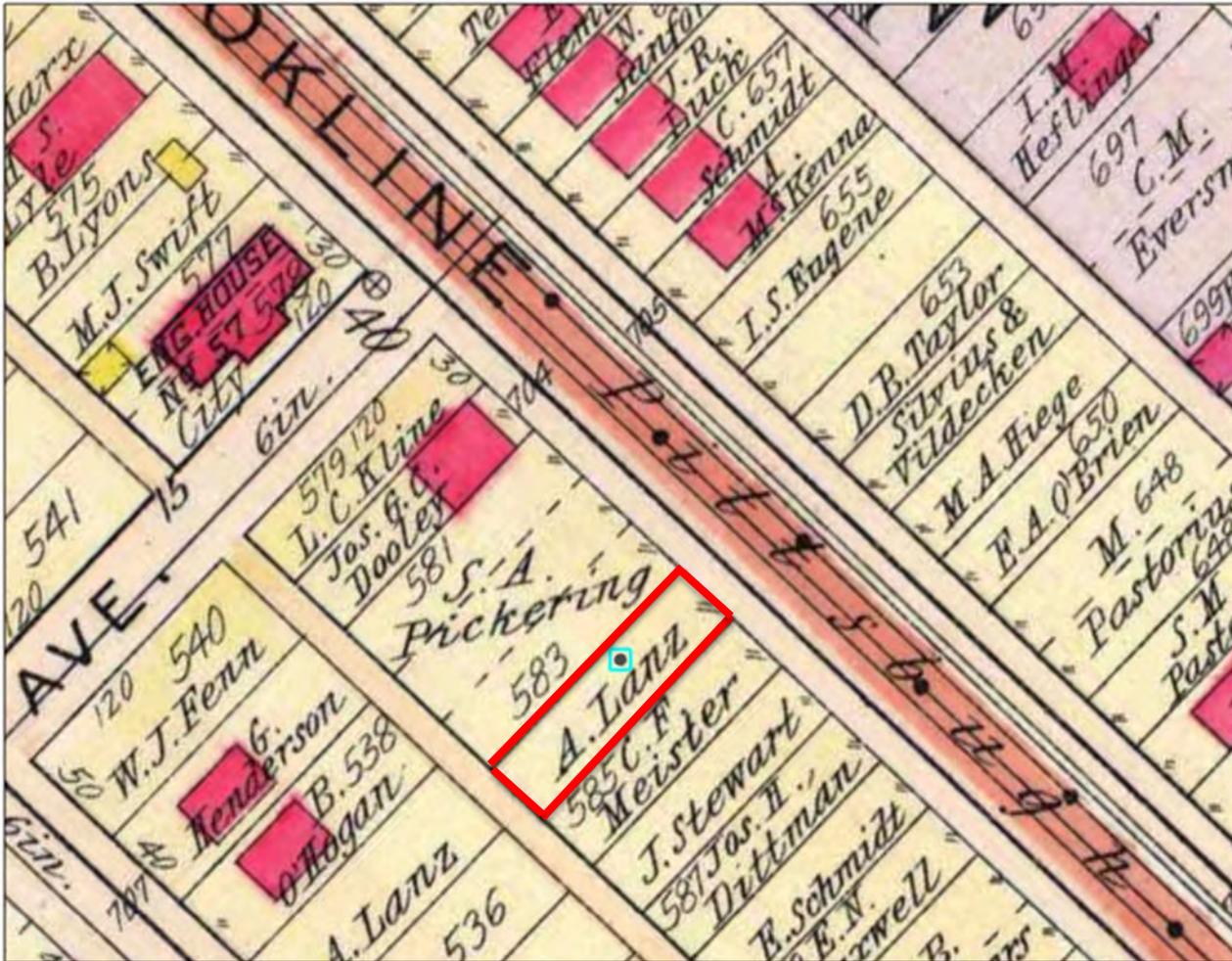


Fig. 1, G.M. Hopkins & Co. Brookline, Bon Air. 1923. Future site of 712 highlighted in red. Accessed: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=63f24d1466f24695bf9dfc5bf6828126>

It was the Holden family who constructed and became the first occupants of 712 Brookline Boulevard.

Site History – Construction

In 1928, the Holdens built 712 Brookline Boulevard and moved in, along with John's roofing business, which had been operating out of the small fabricating building at the rear of the property. The 1930 census was the first to show the Holden family living at 712 Brookline Boulevard, which was estimated to have a value of \$20,000.

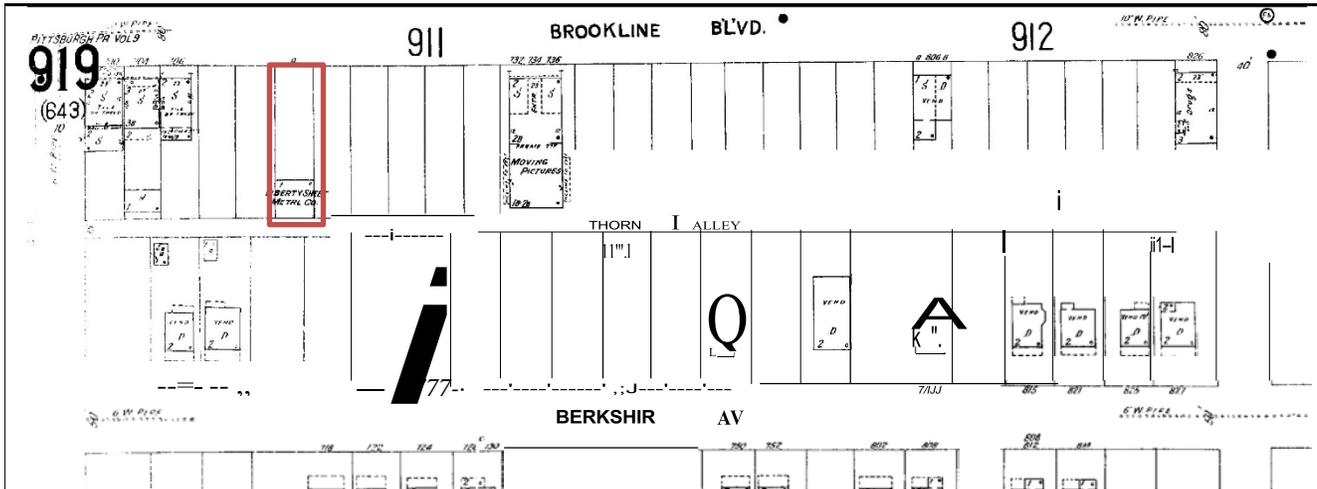


Fig 2. Fire Insurance Map, Detail: Area Surrounding 712 Brookline Boulevard, 1925. Future site of 712 highlighted in red.



Fig. 3. John S. Holden. Pittsburgh Daily Post, June 30, 1918.

John S. Holden was born in Pennsylvania on June 22, 1894 shortly after his parents and two older siblings immigrated to the United States from England. On December 15, 1917, Holden enlisted in the Navy and served overseas, working as a coppersmith from January to November of 1918. He was honorably discharged on March 12, 1919. Holden married Goldie D Linepensel in 1923. Goldie Dorothy Linepensel was born in Pittsburgh on April 10, 1905. She was the youngest of twelve children born to Charles Linepensel, a furniture salesman and his wife, Emma. When the 1940 census was enumerated, 712 Brookline Boulevard was rented to tenants, as the Holdens had lost the building to sheriff's sale earlier that year. City directories list John Holden's roofing shop as a tenant in the storefront. This transfer of ownership is recorded in the Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds:

May 18, 1940 (Deed Book 2569: 544): John Heinz, Sheriff of Allegheny County conveyed 712 Brookline Boulevard and another parcel located at 1123 Tennessee Avenue in Dormont to Keystone State Building and Loan Association for \$258.44.

December 30, 1940 (Deed Book 2682: 80): Keystone State Building and Loan Association conveyed 712 Brookline Boulevard to Joseph and Mary Garofalo for \$11,000.

JOHN S. HOLDEN CO.—Roofing, sheet metal contractors; asphalt, composition roofing specialty. 712 Brookline. Lehigh 8518.

Fig. 4. Advertisement, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, April 8, 1935

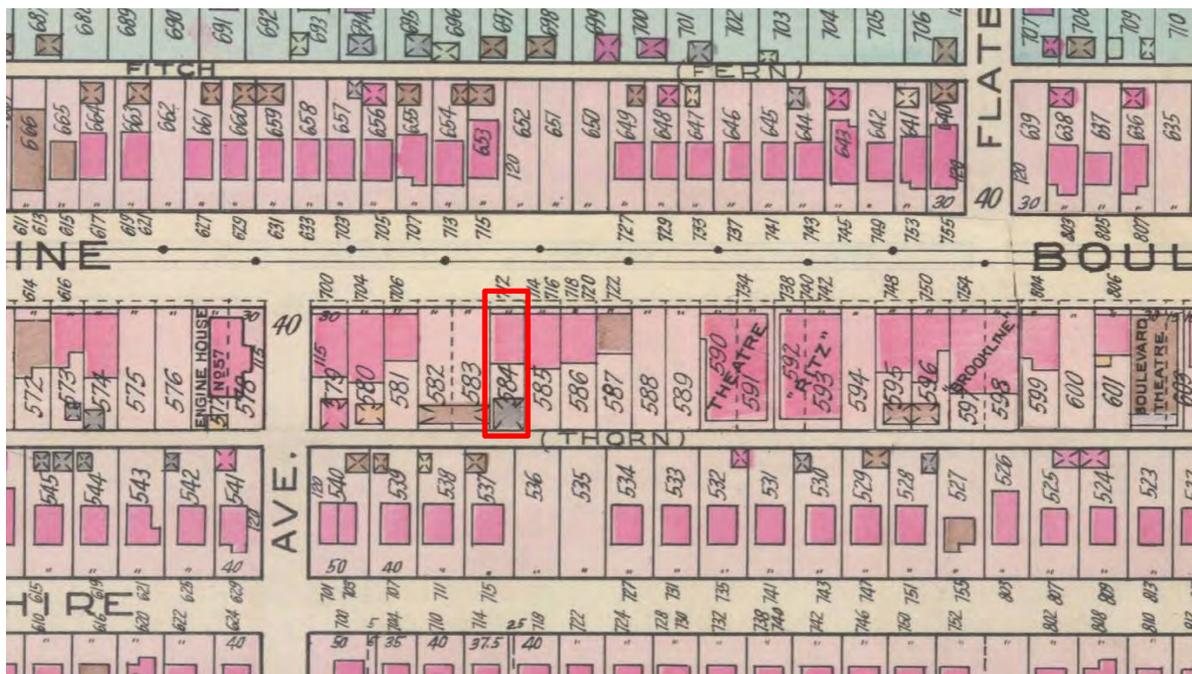


Fig. 5. G.M. Hopkins & Co. Brookline. Plate 14. 712 highlighted in red. 1939. Accessed: <https://historicpittsburgh.org/islandora/object/pitt%3A34v09p14/viewer>

At the end of 1940, Joseph and Mary Garofalo purchased 712 Brookline Boulevard. Joseph Garofalo had been born on October 11, 1898 in Pennsylvania and worked as a shoe repairman. His wife, Mary Galluze Garofalo had also been born in Pennsylvania on December 13, 1902. The Garofalos lived nearby in a building they had built at 928 Brookline Boulevard with their daughter, Josephine, and son Frank. Sadly, on February 19, 1945 Mary Garofalo passed away at the young age of 42, due to complications of diabetes. She was laid to rest in St. Michael's Cemetery.

After the death of his wife, Joseph moved into 712 Brookline Boulevard. City directories show him living there for the first time in 1946. Later that year his daughter, Josephine announced her engagement to Salvatore Biondi, and the two were married on February 18, 1947.

By 1948 all the previous tenants had moved from 712 Brookline Boulevard and the building was fully occupied by members of the Garofalo family. Joseph ran Garofalo's Fruit Market and also helped his son Frank with Star Shoe Service, and Salvatore opened a barber shop.

At the time of the 1950 census, Joseph Garofalo was listed as head of household. He was 51 and told the enumerator he was unable to work. He shared his apartment with his son, Frank, 21, who worked 48 hours per week as a shoe repairman for Star Shoe Service. Later that year, on August 15, 1950, Frank would marry Grace Tonzo.



Fig. 6. Brookline Boulevard Wide Open for New Ideas, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, September 1, 2000.

Josephine, now 25, also lived in the home with her husband and daughter. Salvatore, now 27, worked 48 hours per week as a barber. Josephine did not work outside of the home, but cared for her daughter, Agnes, 2. Salvatore was selected to answer some additional questions on the census and reported that he had not finished school past the eighth grade. He had not earned a paycheck the previous year, but members of his household had earned \$2,000 working for someone else, \$3,000 operating a business, and he had collected \$800 in rent, pension, or other income.

The second apartment at 712 Brookline Boulevard in 1950 was occupied by the Wuycheck family. Frank Wuycheck, 31, worked 44 hours per week as a baker. His wife Mary, 32, was a homemaker who cared for the couple's daughter, Maryann, 2. The following year in 1951, *The Pittsburgh Press* reported in their Stork Club column that the Wuychecks welcomed a second child, a son they named John, while living at 712 Brookline Boulevard.

The 1950 census is the last census that provides information on occupants of 712 Brookline Boulevard. Sometime in the early 1950s, Joseph married Laverna Young. However, that marriage would not last long as Joseph passed away from an intestinal obstruction on October 22, 1956. He was 58 years old. He was buried in St. Michael's Cemetery with his first wife. Members of the Biondi family own 712 Brookline Boulevard to this day, and Sal's Barber Shop is still open for business.



Fig. 7. Family Photo (note storefront of 712 Brookline Boulevard on right). From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. April, 1955.

9. Criteria / Significance Statement

As such it is recommended eligible for listing on the City Register under the following Criterion:

- (1) *Its location as a site of a significant historic or prehistoric event or activity;*

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

- (2) *Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States;*

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

- (3) *Its exemplification of an architectural type, style, or design distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship;*

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

- (4) *Its identification as the work of an architect, designer, engineer, or builder whose individual work is significant in the history of development of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid- Atlantic region, or the United States;*

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

- (5) *Its exemplification of important planning and urban design techniques distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design or detail;*

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

- (6) *Its location as a site of an important archaeological resource;*

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

(7) *Its association with important cultural or social aspects or events in the history of the City of Pittsburgh, the State of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States*

This Criterion corresponds with Criterion A of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). 712 Brookline Boulevard is associated with the important, though incredibly complex, historical narrative of Italian immigration to Pittsburgh and assimilation into American society. The building's unique connection to the Bondi and Garafalo families, whose histories illustrate part of this larger immigration narrative, should be viewed through its cultural relevance.

Key to understanding the significance of this building is contextualizing it with some of the contributions of Italian Americans to Pittsburgh's past and present. Pittsburgh has long been the center of Italian American immigration in Western Pennsylvania

By 1930, just a few years after the Bondi's purchased 712 Brookline Boulevard, the Italian population of Pittsburgh reached 34,000, roughly three times what it was in the previous census of 1920. This was roughly 15% of the overall Italian population in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And while many Italian immigrants came to Pittsburgh as laborers, working in the mines, steel mills, and other industries. In fact, in 1900 over 40% of all Italian immigrants listed their profession as laborers.

Many others chose to open small stores, like groceries, retail, wholesale produce shops and other family-owned businesses to make a living. It is through this lens that the Bondi's and Garafalo's stories hold significance. In fact, in 1948 when the building was entirely occupied by members of the Garafalo family it housed several small family-owned businesses: Garafalo's Fruit Market (run by Joseph), Star Shoe Service (run by Frank), and the Barber Shop (opened and operated by Salvatore).



Fig. 8. Family Photo depicting the Garafalo Grocery Store (interior and exterior) and Shoe Repair Shop. From the collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Date Unknown.



Fig. 9. Family Photo depicting the Garafalo Shoe Repair Shop. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Date Unknown.

Sal's also stands out within this overarching narrative as it connects a neighborhood not typically associated with Italian-American immigration, like Bloomfield or Panther Hollow, with this larger history. The Garafalo-Bondi family history highlights the diversity of the Italian-American community and how its history can be traced throughout Pittsburgh's many neighborhoods and beyond. The story of the Garafalo and Bondi families is widely known in Brookline, where their family has been an integral part of the community for decades and fortunately it will soon be added to the Heinz History Center's Italian Department's Oral History project.



Figs. 10 & 11. Family Photo depicting the 712 Brookline Boulevard exterior changes over time. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Dates Unknown.

(8) Its exemplification of a pattern of neighborhood development or settlement significant to the cultural history or traditions of the City, whose components may lack individual distinction

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

(9) Its representation of a cultural, historic, architectural, archeological, or related theme expressed through distinctive areas, properties, sites, structures, or objects that may or may not be contiguous

This resource does not meet this Criterion.

- (10) Its unique location and distinctive physical appearance or presence representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community, or the City of Pittsburgh

Sal's Barber Shop is a well-established, familiar, and beloved visual feature of Brookline Neighborhood. Although this can be a difficult criterion to illustrate, the overwhelming support from the neighbors and patrons, the strong support of community organizations, and the prominence of Sal (and Sal's) in local media over the years are excellent indicators of the special place that Sal's Barber Shop occupies in Brookline.

As an attestation to the significance and support landmarking Sal's Barber Shop, attached you will find a petition of over 250 members of the community, a letter of support from Brookline's community organization, Brookline Together, as well as from Councilperson Anthony Coghill, long-time customer of Sal. It is worth noting that though Sal's is a barber shop, it is often open to the public and has been a staple of neighborhood tours, food tours, and events and has a profile far beyond that of a simple business.

Sal's Barber Shop is now Sals'

BARBERS, FROM PAGE C-1

and "Little Sal."

The two Sals reopened in July.

Both say it's going great.

"I don't bother him and he don't bother me," is how Big Sal says it, but there's a smile in his shrug.

Little Sal says, "It's a dream come true."

Most mornings, Little Sal walks from home to open the shop around 9. He brings his Dad the newspaper and they read it together, talking about the sports pages and whatever — "How'd you sleep?" "How'd you sleep?"

As customers come in, they take turns cutting, unless one of the older regulars wants to stick with the original Sal. He keeps a eye on his son's work, sometimes telling him with a wink or a whisper, *For this guy, cut it shorter.*

Big Sal, who's been cutting hair here for 61 years now, still is steady with the electric clippers and with remembering his customer's names and cuts. But he'll turn 85 in February. and so he



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette.

"Little Sal" Bondi takes care of a customer while chatting with his dad, "Big Sal," who says, "I was real happy he was coming back" from California so they could work together.

Fig. 13. Bob Batz Jr. "A Barbershop Duet: Father & Son Work Side by Side in Brookline", *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. October 24, 2006.



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

Above: "Little Sal" and "Big Sal" Bondi in their Brookline barbershop. "Little Sal" moved to California in 1973 and returned to Pittsburgh last year so he could work with his father.

Below right: This picture of father and son that hangs in the shop was snapped during a vacation in Ohio years ago.

A barbershop duet

FATHER AND SON
WORK SIDE BY SIDE
IN BROOKLINE

By Bob Batz Jr.
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburghers, they're like salmon. They're born here, then they may swim, or life sweeps them, to distant and deeper waters. But a lot of them find their way back.

That's the story with Little Sal.

Salvatore Bondi, now 54, was "Little Sal" growing up in the city's Brookline neighborhood, because his father was "Big Sal" — Salvatore Bondi of Sal's Barber Shop on Brookline Boulevard.

Big Sal opened the shop in his father-in-law's former fruit market in 1945. This after serving in the Army during World War II, when he was one of Gen. George S. Patton's drivers. Was until the Germans captured him and imprisoned him at Nuremberg for 4½ months. Patton returned and got him out.

Sal came back home, got married, opened the shop, had a daughter and a son, and the whole extended family lived in an apartment upstairs. As a boy, Little

ON THE WEB:

To see an audio slide show on Big Sal and Little Sal, go to www.post-gazette.com.

He wanted to work with his Dad.

His wife, Lynn, didn't mind. She's an Army brat who's lived everywhere, but she has Pittsburgh Italian roots in the Beltzhoover neighborhood.

The couple wanted to buy a house — something they never could afford to do in L.A. — in Brookline, but they decided on one in Dormont and moved in in May.

His Dad and Mom, as well as



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gene collier

Shaving Private Ryan in Brookline

Walked into Sal's the other day, that time-warp barbershop on Brookline Boulevard, the little hometown business squished into the busy 700 block for who knows how long.

Sal, how long?

"Fifty-seven years," he says.

Fifty seven yeearrs.

How much was a haircut in 1945?

"Shave and a haircut, two bits."

No, seriously.

"Shave and a haircut, two bits!"

That'd be \$15 today. Still a bargain. It's hard to tell what to like best about Sal's — the pictures on the walls, the music pouring out of the cassette player, or the stories pouring out of Sal. Best thing is probably Salvatore Bondi himself — proprietor, philosopher, octogenarian and great American.

Fig. 13. Bob Batz Jr. "A Barbershop Duet: Father & Son Work Side by Side in Brookline", *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. October 24, 2006.

Fig. 14. Gene Collier. "Shaving Private Ryan in Brookline", *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. September 1, 2002.

While Sal's Barbershop is a beloved institution, Sal is, unsurprisingly, synonymously associated with the shop and is widely recognized throughout the community. So much so that in 2019 St. Clair Hospital posted a billboard in the South Hills featuring Sal in the barber shop cutting hair.



Fig. 15. St. Clair Hospital Billboard. "Brookline Connection," Facebook. Posted May 18, 2019. Accessed: <https://www.facebook.com/BrooklineConnection/photos/a-st-clair-hospital-billboard-advertisement-featuring-brooklines-own-sal-bondi-k/2612470672100577/>

Sal's is also tied into the community in that he – and the Barber Shop – have repeatedly sponsored Brookline's Little League Association, whose players sport shirt with Sal's logo and whose 'thank you' plaques hang prominently in the salon.



Figs. 16, 17, 18. Brookline Little League Association. Sal's Barber Shop Plaques. M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.

Finally, it is important to note that Sal's has repeatedly been the subject of artistic endeavors, many of which hang in Sal's and while these are not photographic representations, they do provide insight and clues about the small changes to the primary façade of Sal's over time.



Figs. 19, 20. *Sal's Barber Shop*. Artists Unknown. Undated. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Photo taken October 2023.

10. Integrity

- Location: the location of 712 Brookline Boulevard remains the same as when first constructed.
- Design: The original design of 712 Brookline Boulevard remains relatively unaltered from the date of the original construction. Though the architectural style employed is modest, the design of the first-floor commercial storefronts, whose glass construction emphasizes transparency and product display, is a character-defining feature of early 20th century commercial space. It is also worth noting that the modifications that have happened over time are a result of the improvements and changes made by Sal and his family over their ownership of 712 Brookline Boulevard.
- Materials: Brick and glass are the materials that overwhelmingly define the primary 712 Brookline Boulevard appear to date from the period of construction.
- Workmanship: Physical evidence of craftsmanship is resplendent throughout 712 Brookline Boulevard. The modest brickwork in the primary façade of the building, particularly in framing openings around windows, doors, and the parapet is indicative of Minimal Traditional architectural style.



Figs. 21. *Sal's Barber Shop Interior*. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Date Unknown.

Sal's Barber Shop
Historic Nomination Form
Bibliography

Bibliography

"Husky Blacksmith Got Ducking," *The Pittsburgh Press*, March 20, 1905.

"Brookline Boulevard wide open for new ideas," *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, September 1, 2000.

"Shaving Private Ryan in Brookline," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, September 1, 2002.

"A Barbershop Duet," *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, October 24, 2006.

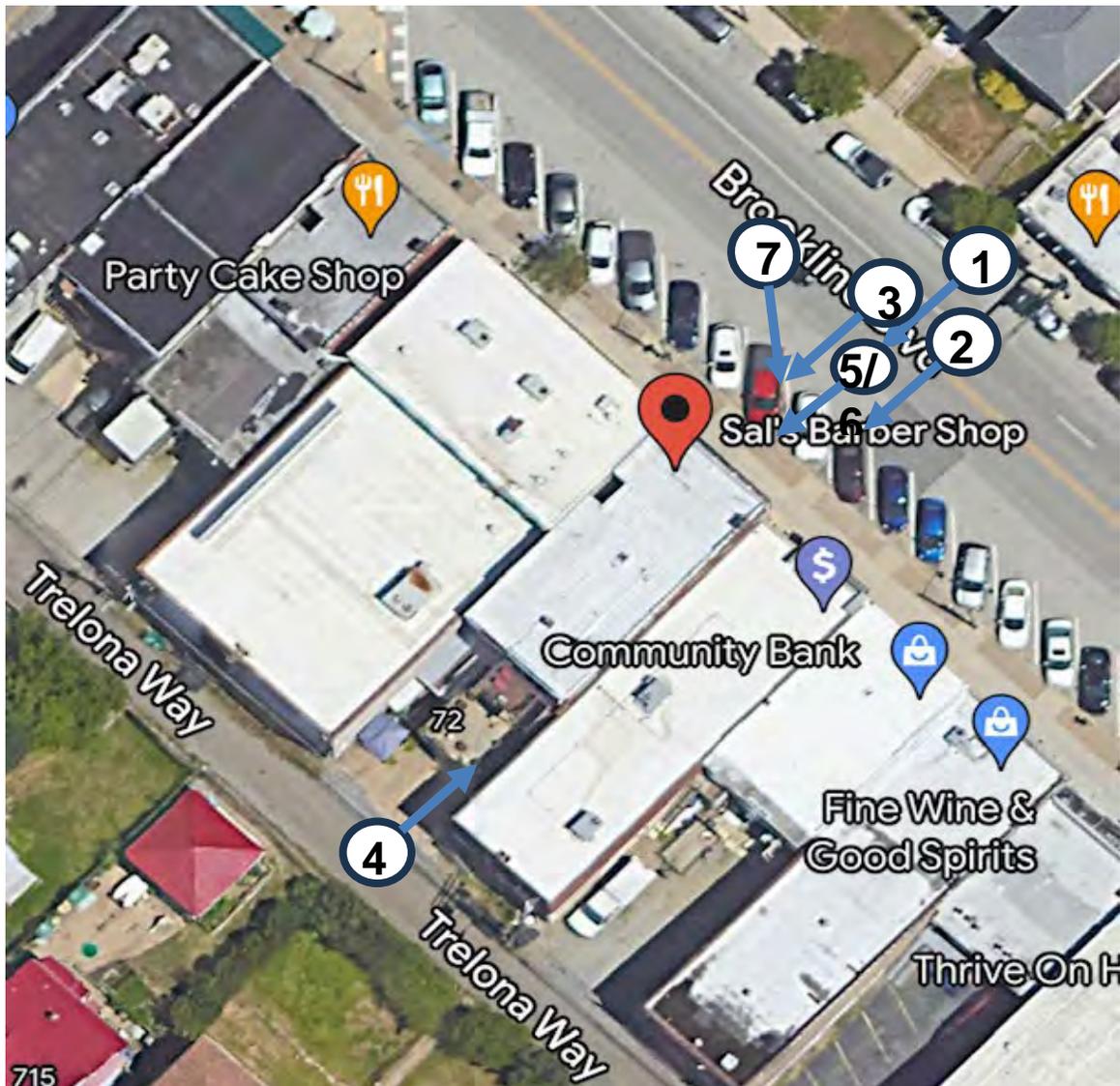
"Frank V. Garofalo Obituary", *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, February 27, 1994.

"Grace L. Garofalo Obituary", *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, November 23, 2002.

"Josephine M. Garofalo Bondi Obituary", *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, August 29, 2011.

"Salvadore J. Bondi Obituary", *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, February 23, 2014.

Sal's Barber Shop
Historic Nomination Form
Photo Logs



712 Brookline Boulevard, Areal View with Photo Key

- Photo. 1. *Primary Façade, 712 Brookline Boulevard (Sal's Barber Shop).* Matthew Falcone. September 2023.
- Photo. 2. *Primary Façade, 712 Brookline Boulevard (Sal's Barber Shop).* M. Falcone. September 2023.
- Photo. 3. *Primary Façade, Detail, 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. September 2023.
- Photo. 4. *Secondary Façade, 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.
- Photos. 5&6. *Stained Glass Transom Window Detail (exterior on left, interior on right), 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.
- Photo. 7. *Entryway Detail, 712 Brookline Boulevard.* M. Falcone. Sept. 2023.

Sal's Barber Shop
Historic Nomination Form
Supporting Documents

- Fig. 1, G.M. Hopkins & Co. Brookline, Bon Air. 1923. Future site of 712 highlighted in red. Accessed: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=63f24d1466f24695bf9dfc5bf6828126>
- Fig 2. Fire Insurance Map, Detail: Area Surrounding 712 Brookline Boulevard, 1925. Future site of 712 highlighted in red.
- Fig. 3. John S. Holden. *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, June 30, 1918.
- Fig. 4. Advertisement, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, April 8, 1935
- Fig. 5. G.M. Hopkins & Co. Brookline. Plate 14. 712 highlighted in red. 1939. Accessed: <https://historicpittsburgh.org/islandora/object/pitt%3A34v09p14/viewer>
- Fig. 6. Brookline Boulevard Wide Open for New Ideas, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, September 1, 2000.
- Fig. 7. Family Photo (note storefront of 712 Brookline Boulevard on right). From the collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. April 1955.
- Fig. 8. Family Photo depicting the Garafolo Grocery Store and Shoe Repair Shop on right. From the collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Date Unknown.
- Fig. 9. Family Photo depicting the Garafolo Shoe Repair Shop. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Date Unknown..
- Figs. 10 & 11. Family Photo depicting the 712 Brookline Boulevard exterior changes over time. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Dates Unknown.
- Fig. 13. Bob Batz Jr. “A Barbershop Duet: Father & Son Work Side by Side in Brookline”, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. October 24, 2006.
- Fig. 14. Gene Collier. “Shaving Private Ryan in Brookline”, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. September 1, 2002.
- Fig. 15. St. Clair Hospital Billboard. “Brookline Connection,” *Facebook*. Posted May 18, 2019. Accessed: <https://www.facebook.com/BrooklineConnection/photos/a-st-clair-hospital-billboard-advertisement-featuring-brooklines-own-sal-bondi-k/2612470672100577/>
- Figs. 16, 17, 18. Brookline Little League Association. Sal’s Barber Shop Plaques. Sept. 2023.
- Figs. 19, 20. Sal’s Barber Shop. Artist Unknown. Undated. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Phot taken October 2023.
- Figs. 21. Sal’s Barber Shop Interior. From the Collection of Sal & Lynn Bondi. Date Unknown.