OAKLAND WALKING TOUR

Oakland is at the heart of the East End and offers a chance for many people to sample the steps. If you find yourself in the vicinity of the Carnegie Library, walk behind the University of Pittsburgh's Frick Fine Arts building off Shenley Drive where you will encounter one of the most used set of steps in the city. These 136 steps provide a daily commuting route for many University of Pittsburgh students who park in the lower part of Oakland known as Panther Hollow. The steps (O1), built in 1949, descend to Joncaire Street. At the bottom turn left and then right on Boundary Street. Walk along Boundary Street and a short distance after it turns left you will notice Diulus Way on the right. These street steps (O2), starting between two houses, are comprised of 99 steps leading up to Bouquet Street. Enjoy the labyrinthine feel to the neighborhood houses along this street of steps. Turn right at the top and walk along Bouquet Street a short distance (about 150 feet). Just before, actually right next to, 379 Bouquet Street, the Saint Lorenzo DiGamberele Mutual Beneficial Association, there is a flight of steps that doesn't look like a city street but is (Isis Way). Walk down these 62 steps to Yarrow Way (O3), taking care as some are a little rough. Turn right at the bottom on Yarrow Way. There is a closed set of steps (O4) on your right that are walled off at the top and bottom—do not attempt to use them. At the end of Yarrow Way you will encounter 19 sidewalk steps (O5). These end at Boundary Street which you can follow back to Joncaire and the 136 step climb back up to the Frick Fine Arts Building on the University of Pittsburgh campus. It is worth a short drive to Bates Street near its intersection with Second Avenue to visit the Frazier Street steps. These start (or end depending on your direction of travel) at a bus stop across from the off ramp from the Parkway East.

The Frazier Street steps extend from this point up 117 steps to the end of the conventional Frazier Street. Their intersection, complete with street sign, with the Romeo Street steps make this an interesting site. The 94 Romeo Street steps extend from the Frazier Street steps to Cato Street.