

~~NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC~~

# APIAN GENERATION



PUBLIC HEALTH OR HUMAN RIGHTS?



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This image shows a Heinz Ketchup bottle converted into a bee trap.



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#### Contentious Festivities

With the redevelopment of the infrastructure of Pittsburgh, came various social changes. Some events, like Picklesburgh, were slightly modified to accommodate for the new elements. Some events spawned out of the changes in societal behavior. Although many have seen these events as light-hearted, there are various unseen political motives and ideas behind them.  
BY MICHAEL R. GLASS

By MARANTHA DAWKINS

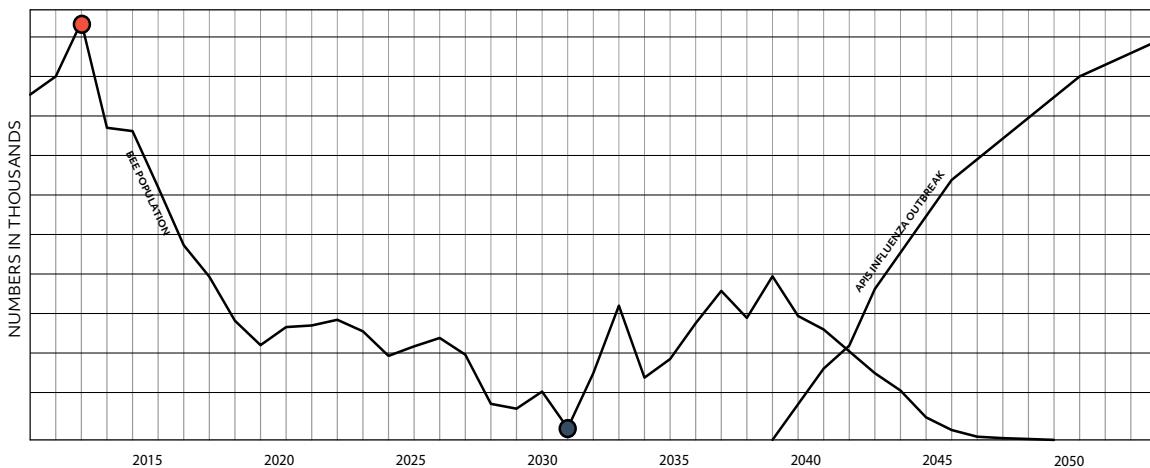
# THE NEXT 1918

You might have to be an avid reader of medical journals—or a beekeeper—to notice that the United States is in the midst of a high-speed disease disaster. The disease is Apis Influenza. It is caused by an Influenza A virus and affects honeybees year-round. The disease is able to jump to humans when a strain develops that is a mixture of animal and human versions of the virus. It is usually spread by people who are in close contact with bees, such as apiarists. As of August 2047, almost 26 billion honey bees have died, or been killed to keep the disease from spreading. Three states—Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia—have declared states of

emergency. Layoffs have begun at apiaries, and the industry is warning that there may not be enough surviving bees. The federal government has released \$330 million in emergency funds, and in Pennsylvania, the National Guard has been called out.

Apis Influenza, which is not fatal to humans, causes dramatic physical mutations in infected persons, ranging from trypic disfigurements to insectoid vestigial structures. However the most striking of these alterations, are the neurological changes experienced by apis flu patients, rendering them susceptible to honey bee-like behavior.

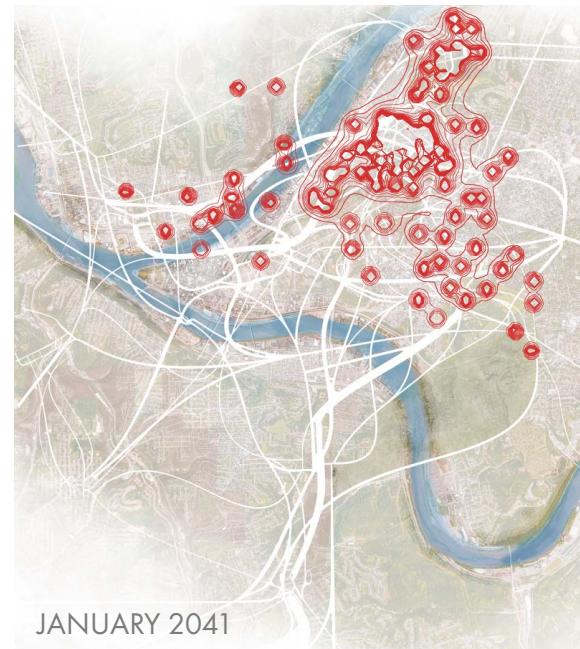
THE EFFECTS OF THE APIS INFLUENZA IN PITTSBURGH  
THE POPULATION OF BEES AND HOMO APIANS IN THE CITY



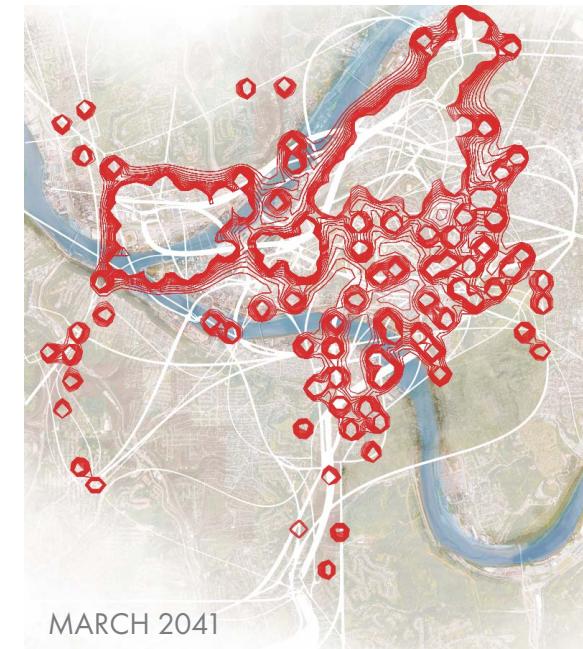
## THE SPREAD OF THE APIS INFLUENZA



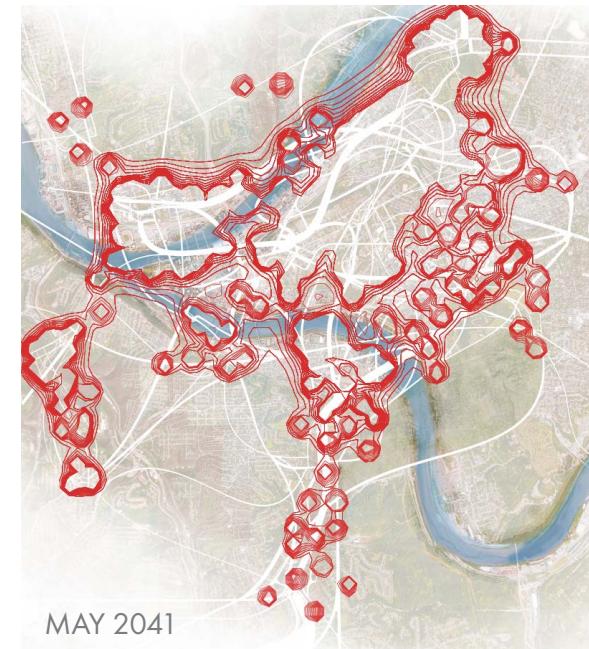
NOVEMBER 2040



JANUARY 2041



MARCH 2041



MAY 2041

# The Post-Bee Urban Fabric

By FRANCESCA TORELLO

The name Pittsburgh typically conjures up images of confusing roads and traffic jams that simply don't make sense. It may seem impossible for the infrastructure to become even more frustrating to drivers and pedestrians but that is exactly what happened here.

One of the most significant ramifications of the Apis Influenza in Pittsburgh was the change of the urban fabric. It may be surprising to hear, but the notorious, new road system emerged merely 5 years after the infliction of the bee centric disease. It has been researched and speculated upon that it was possible only through the social structure that exists in the apis community. The roads also reflect flower visitation networks of bees, as previously researched on actual bees. The pathways connect different hubs where the homo apians can pollinate and/or socialize. It is uncertain what the next steps for the city of Pittsburgh in its urban infrastructure.

The new apis afflicted road system has sparked many disagreements on what the next steps are in Pittsburgh's urban renewal movement. The Heinz Corporation has developed a master plan aiming to diminish the effects of apis influenza on the urban fabric. This scheme, which resembles Haussmann's renovation to Paris in the 19th century, focuses on constructing wide boulevards. This is as an attempt to create a more hygienic city, through the modifications of the underlying infrastructure.

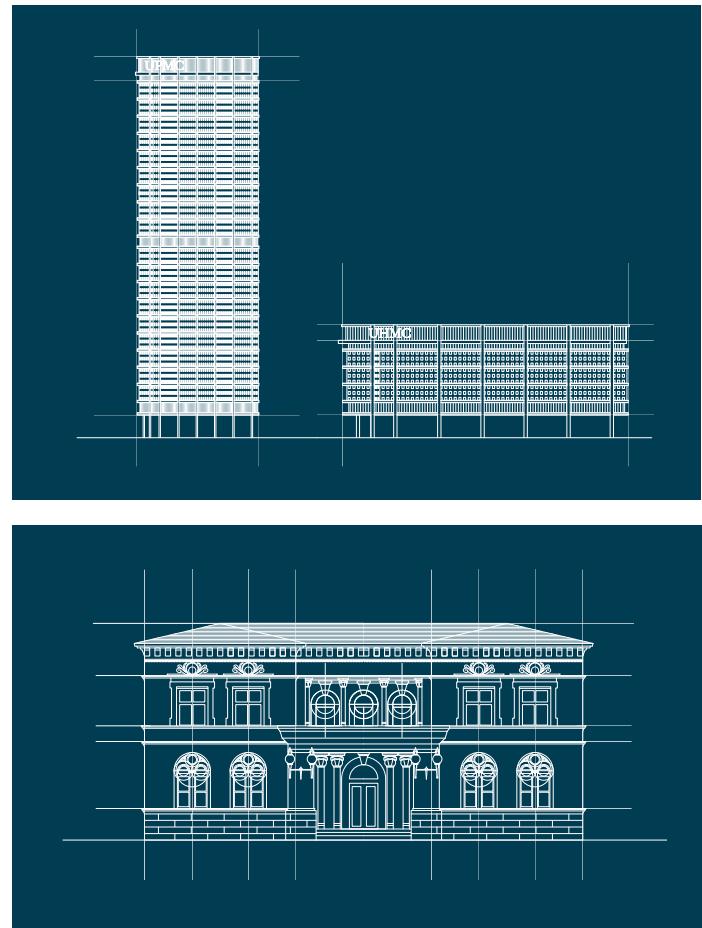


NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CARTOGRAPHER DANIEL NOH



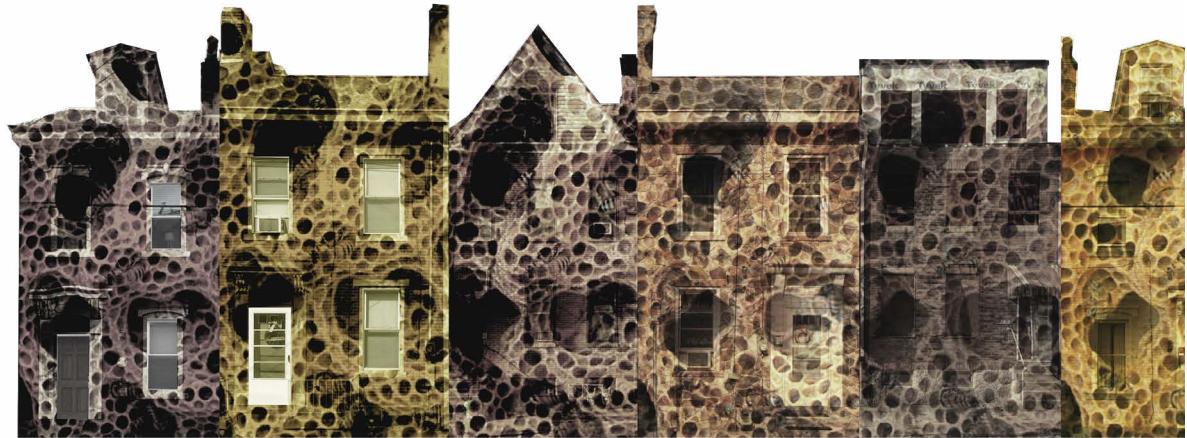
The proposed master plan of Pittsburgh, post-apis influenza includes massive boulevards that bisect the city. The renovation requires the removal and displacement of many neighborhoods.

**Heinz**  
MASTERPLAN



In recent years, the Heinz Cooperation found skyscrapers to be problematic structures, because their vertically derived forms proved as successful harbingers of Apis Influenza. To counter this, the Heinz Masterplan also included modifying existing structures to become more sprawled out, as a means to slow virus' spread. This is best illustrated in their renovation of the iconic Steel Tower, pictured left.

**Heinz**  
MASTERPLAN



The Apis Influenza epidemic brought more than a new apian community to Pittsburgh. Twelve years after the initial Apis Flu outbreak in 2040 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the virus mutated to infect microbes living inside building assemblies. Due to the row house typology prevalent in much of Pittsburgh, the infection spread quickly amongst houses in Lower Lawrenceville, Polish Hill, and Mount Oliver.



"When you think about it, it's really messed up, but that's just not how we see it. We're bees, and that's just how we do things. It's part of our culture. What criminal and perverse to everyone else, is just nature to us."

-Randy Robinson

# THE HOMELESS “BEE” MEN OF PITTSBURGH

BY  
**DAVID KORMAN**

Artist John Henry created busts of many of the homeless men who were expelled from their homes during the winter season. As depicted, some had clear deformities as shown by the bee heads, while some merely portrayed bee-like psychological changes.



Early one gray December morning, a team of specialized paramedics was dispatched in Lower Lawrenceville, a Pittsburgh neighborhood severely devastated by the Apis Influenza. Their mission—to administer medical treatment to hundreds of homeless men.

Winters in Pittsburgh are perhaps best known for freezing rain, poor road conditions, and random days seemingly belonging to the spring season. On top of all these, another annual phenomenon has crepted into the steel city. Every winter, hundreds of men are left homeless in Western Pennsylvania. This occurs in the apian communities throughout the Greater Pittsburgh Area, where adult males are expelled from their communes during the winter months when the family unit's primary focus is warmth and food conservation.

While physical mutations are unable to be treated without amputation, anti-psychotic medications have been found to diminish patients' delusions about belonging to the honey bee species. The paramedics use a gaseous version of the medication to initially subdue their patients, much like smoke calming bees. Randy Robinson, an Apis Influenza patient whom the paramedic team successfully treated, spoke about his experience of the hive eviction “When you think about it, it’s really messed up, but that’s just not how we see it. We’re bees, and that’s just how we do things. It’s part of our culture. What criminal and perverse to everyone else, is just nature to us.”

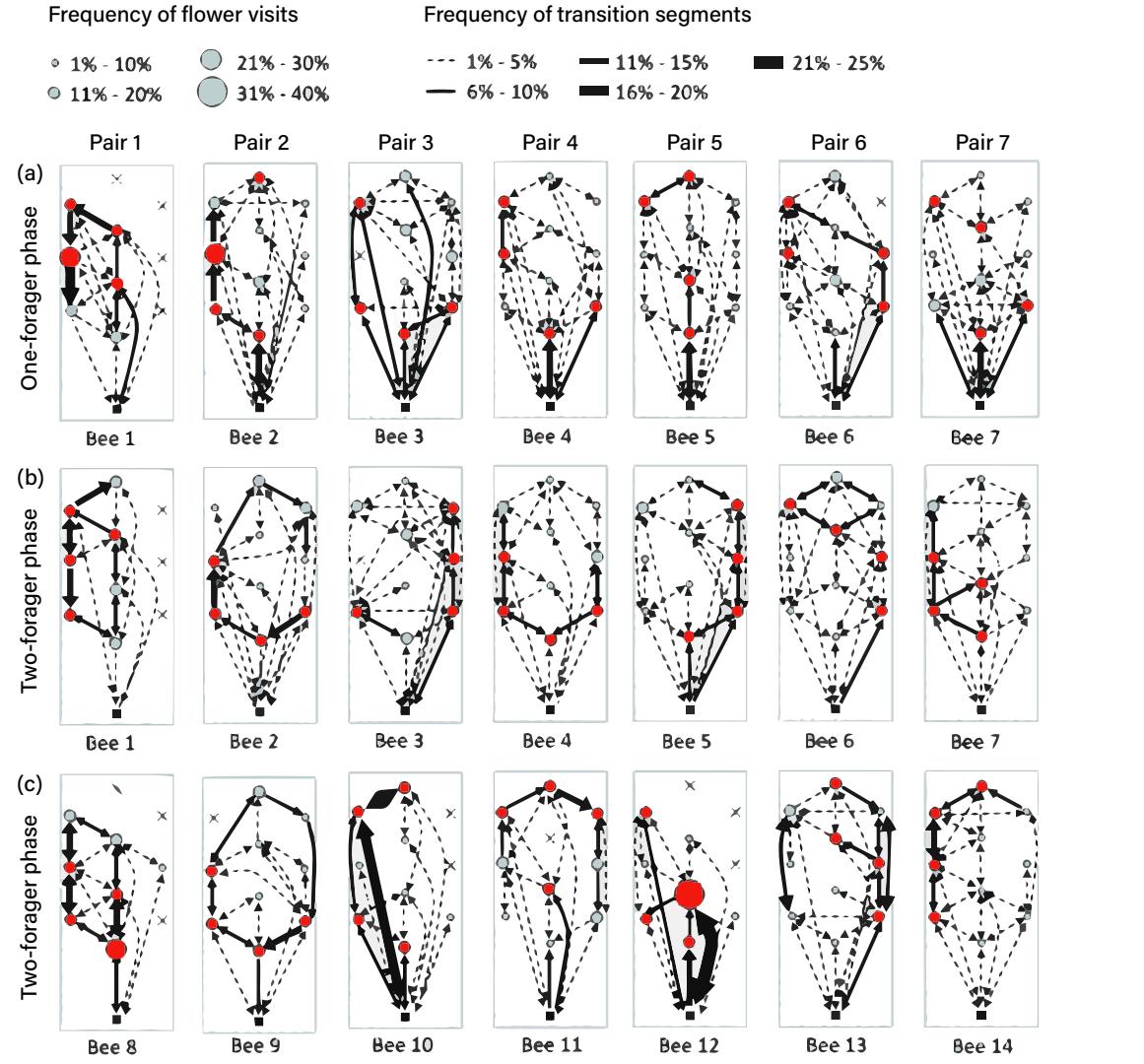
These wintertime drone evictions have increased dramatically over the past ten years, surpassing both unemployment and poverty as the leading cause of homelessness in the United States. Homeless shelters in Pittsburgh’s North Shore, East Liberty, and are overflowing with flu victims, to the point that several stadiums are now being used as impromptu refugee camps.

A close-up photograph of a brown snake's head and upper body as it pollinates a yellow flower. The snake's scales are clearly visible, and its mouth is open, showing its tongue and fangs. It is positioned over a yellow flower with green leaves, with its body coiled around the stem. The background is dark and out of focus.

# AN UNLIKELY POLINATOR

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BY TIA-LYNN ASHMAN  
PHOTOGRAPH BY  
AARON HUEY



Monitoring Flower Visitation Networks and Interactions between Pairs of Bumble Bees in a Large Outdoor Flight Cage  
Lihoreau M, Chittka L, Raine NE (University of Northampton 2016)

**IF YOU VISIT PITTSBURGH** between April and September, you are almost guaranteed to see thousands of women hand-pollinating flora in the city parks and gardens. These “worker bees” are victims of the *Apis Influenza*. To them, this activity typically reserved for select arthropods, is simply a daily routine, but for the rest of Pittsburgh it is an environmental necessity.

The dramatic decline of natural pollinators due to the *Apis Influenza* epidemic in North America has contributed to widespread ecological panic in recent years. But not all hope is lost for botanical

reproductive success. Strangely enough, it might be the very disease that has ravaged American ecosystems that can restore balance. Neurological mutations caused by the human version of the virus alters victims’ behavior, making them predisposed to bee-like habits.

This occurrence has sparked controversy amongst researchers at UHMC who have been working to eradicate the *Apis Influenza* virus. In doing so, could potentially lead to an irreversible environmental crisis leading to the extinction of thousands of species of flowering plants.



# CONTENTIOUS FESTIVITIES



AT THE INTERSECTIONS  
OF THE APIAN ROADS  
LIE VARIOUS FESTIVE  
EVENTS, MANY BIRTHED  
BY THE APIS INFLUENZA.

BY  
**MICHAEL R. GLASS**

SEP 18 | **PUMPKYINZ DAY**

After the development of the Homo Apian colonies, certain apian hubs began to sprout a plethora of single crops during certain seasons, due to rapid pollination. The first patch discovered by Heinz was the pumpkin patches of Schenley Park. This annual event introduced a way to celebrate the growth, as well as clean up the zones.

SCHENLEY PARK



JUL 26 | **PICKLESBURGH**

The Picklesburgh Festival is a culinary celebration that goes beyond the dill pickle to include international dishes, prepared foods and artisan cocktails that feature pickled ingredients. As the new Apian roads began to emerge, the event site shifted from the Roberto Clemente Bridge to Grand Intersection on Polish Hill.

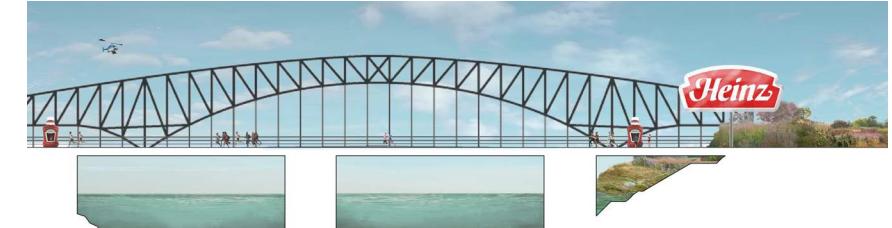
POLISH HILL



APR 26 | **KETCHUP DASH**

When the Apis Influenza struck Pittsburgh, researchers of University of Heinz Medical Center quickly sought for a cure. This lead to the formation of the annual Ketchup Dash Fundraiser for Apis Influenza Research. The event is the primal test of the participant's ability to chug ketchup, run, and do good.

MONONGAHELA RIVER



OCT 2 | **THE PLAYOFFS**

The annual Pittsburgh Baseball League playoffs occur at the Heinz Stadium, which was renovated in 2051. Groups can sign up to participate in the league for a 350 dollar entry fee. Due to the Apis Influenza, a segment of the stands is partitioned off to allow for an undiscriminated audience.

NORTH SHORE



JUN 5 | **BEE FESTIVAL**

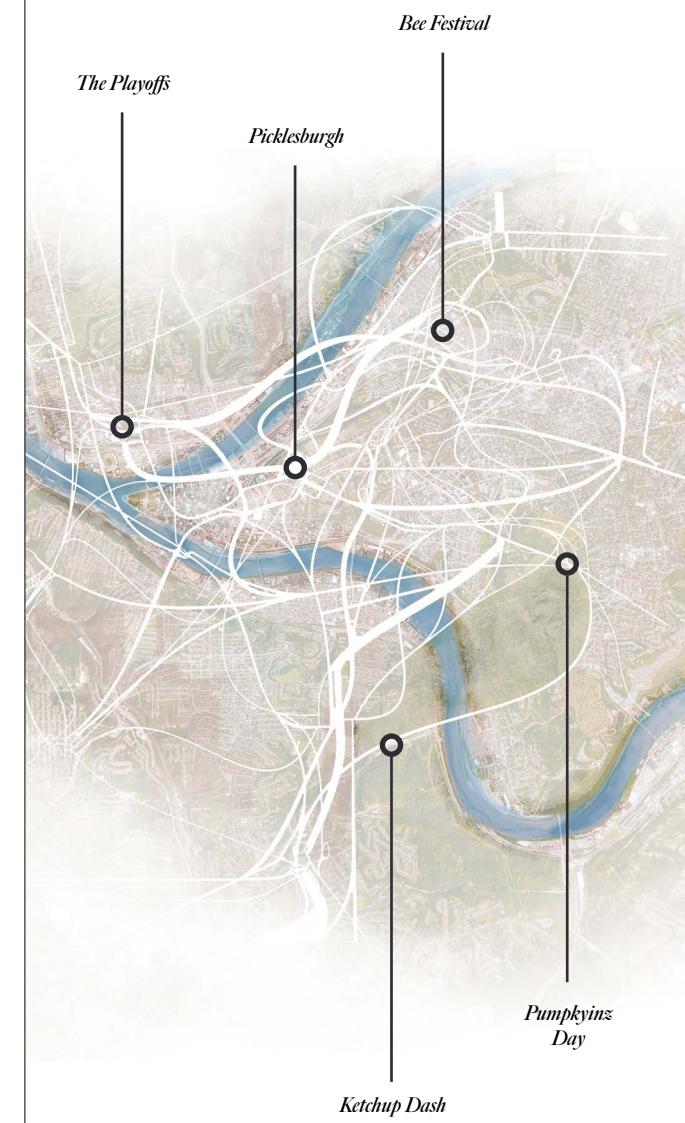
Every year the Apian community celebrates its heritage by hosting a Bee Festival at ground zero of the Apis Influenza. Several neighborhood streets and intersections are filled with the remaining honeycombs they have stored over winter. For the Apians, the Bee Festival signifies a new beginning and the start of a new year.

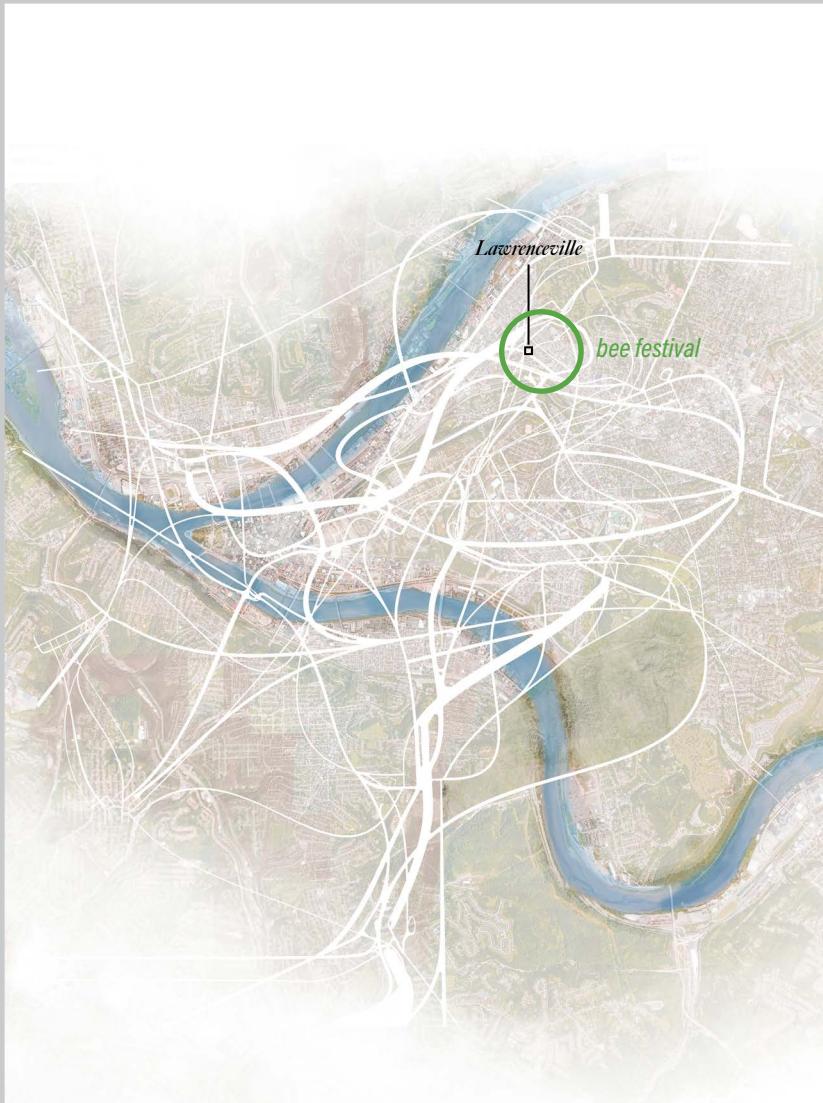
LAWRENCEVILLE





The collaged sectional drawings highlight the contrast between each of the 'contentious events' that occur in Pittsburgh. The collage supposes the notion that the Apis Influenza has truly introduced disparate communities in between the different neighborhoods of Pittsburgh.





**IN THE SUMMER OF 2054**, my husband and I traveled to Pittsburgh to attend oft-spoken of annual Bee Festival, where members of the apian community join together to celebrate its heritage by hosting a Bee Festival at ground zero of the Apis Influenza. Several neighborhood streets and intersections are filled with the remaining honeycombs they have stored over winter. For the Apians, the Bee Festival signifies a new



Apis Influenza 'victims' join together every year on August 5th to celebrate the Bee Festival. This festival often attracts bees from nearby states, which is speculated to be an occurrence based on the hive-mind mentality shared by bees and Homo Apians.

beginning and the start of a new year. Even though we were both vaccinated against the apis flu, I would be lying if I said we weren't nervous about the experience.

Every spring these males, also known as drones, fly out to congregation areas, mid-air ballrooms where thousands of young bees gather from miles around to show their stuff. Each seeks to mate with a virgin queen, a week-old female destined

from birth to found her own hive. During these females' "nuptial flights" at these events, the queens gather the genetic material they'll use to inseminate eggs for the rest of their lives. Queens can lay 2,000 eggs on a good day. Each queen will mate with about twelve of her suitors, fewer than one percent of the males in attendance. Eager males hurtle through the sky behind a virgin queen like a comet's trail, jockeying for

position. When a lucky drone reaches one of the queens, he mounts her and flexes his abs to extend his endophallus, the bee equivalent of a penis, into the queen's sting chamber. He releases his semen with such speed and force that there's said to be an audible pop.

Over the next couple of years, we returned to Pittsburgh four more times to explore the steel city's other events and festivals. We were hoping to discover how a post apian society might integrate into and change the Pittsburgh's culture. What we ended up discovering was contentious relationship between the apian community and the rest of Pittsburgh.

Hundreds of people line up at the Monongahela River to embark on a thirteen mile run. These men, women, children, and elderly are all gathered for one cause—to support research or a cure for Apis Influenza. The race is called the

Ketchup Dash. It is a half marathon held annually each summer. The fundraiser is sponsored by the medical research group at UHMC, who also provide free Heinz Ketchup to fuel the weary athletes. Having already attended Pittsburgh's Bee Festival the previous year, I couldn't help but recall the apian community's unique culture. If apian culture is considered legitimized, then it is natural for its members to seek expansion and permanence for their society through the spread of the virus, making vaccination against the disease a form of hidden genocide.

The following autumn we returned again to Pittsburgh to attend the baseball playoffs and Pumpkyinz Day. These two highly contrasting events, present both outlooks and of hope and despair for the apian community. Pumpkyinz day grew, quite literally, out of the shifting apian pollination patterns.



The Ketchup Dash is quite the unique phenomenon. This half-marathon, where the marathoners have to eat ketchup and run, helps raise money for Apis Influenza research.

The Bee Festival is held annually to celebrate the end of hibernation and nesting season. The old honeycombs come out as the community starts to prepare for the upcoming winter season.





