

## **BACKGROUND**

Date: Circa 1841 (see chronology at right).

Original Owner: Calvin Sackett (Baptist minister and teacher)

and family, 1841-78.

**Area:** 4,400 SF assignable; 6,200 SF gross

## **Historic Designations:**

- PHMC Historic Marker, 5/07
- City of Pittsburgh Historic Structure, 2/08
- Eligible for National Register of Historic Places, 11/08

## **Historic Significance:**

1727 Bedford Avenue is nationally significant in the field of theater/literature as the home and direct source of inspiration for Pulitzer prize-winning playwright August Wilson. Wilson was born in the first floor rear apartment and lived there almost thirteen years. His home had considerable formative impact and became the setting for his play *Seven Guitars*. The building, its residents and neighbors are featured in at least three other works. No other buildings as directly connected to Wilson's development as a writer are known to survive.

## Zoning:

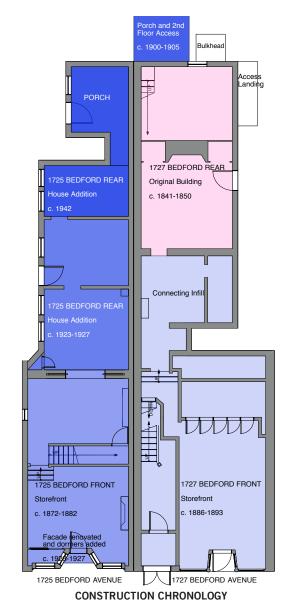
1725 and 1727 Bedford Avenue are zoned RM-M, Residential Multi-Unit, Moderate Density. Some proposed uses might require zoning exceptions. For example:

Conditional exception: Multi-Suite Residential (Limited): A building or portion thereof, containing eight or less rooms rented as sleeping or living quarters, without private kitchens and with or without private bathrooms, lodging or meals or both.

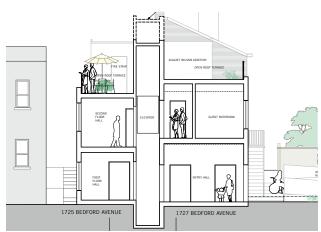
Special Exception: Community Center (Limited): A community center, which primarily serves the community in which it exists, and with a gross floor area of less than 5,000 feet, and for which fewer than ten off-street parking spaces are provided.



August Wison in November 1999, standing in front of the house he lived in until age twelve.



Portion of structure in which August WIIson lived



Section through 1725 and 1727 Bedford Avenue, showing the different floor heights to be overcome and how an elevator might be inserted.



1725 and 1727 Bedford - front elevation



1725 Bedford - Storefront interior



1725 Bedford - Livingroom mantel



1727 Bedford (Front) - Storefront interior



1727 Bedford (Front) - Stairwell



1727 Bedford (Front) - Typical bedroom



1727 Bedford (Rear) - Kitchen



1727 Bedford (Rear) - 2nd floor bedroom



1727 Bedford (Rear) - 2nd floor bedroom