

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Philadelphia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.6.42.0043	DATE 6/23/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Society Hill *Historic District*

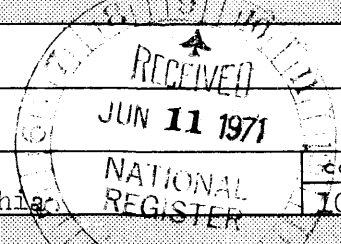
AND/OR HISTORIC: Society Hill (Washington Square East Redevelopment Area)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
(see Continuation Sheet)

CITY OR TOWN:
Philadelphia

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Philadelphia CODE: 101



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Various Owners

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
City Hall, Records Office,

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broad and Market Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1935, 1941, 1957. Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 19th Street N. W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pa.
COUNTY: Phila.
ENTRY NUMBER: 71.6.42.0043
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Typically, the early houses of Society Hill are of red brick, laid in Flemish bond, often with glazed headers. Trim is usually of wood with water tables and belt courses of either marble or moulded brick. Pent eaves are not uncommon. Although the period facades of most early houses have been preserved, and several retain their original interiors, many houses have interiors of contemporary design and bear witness to the ease with which historic buildings can be adapted to a modern life style without sacrificing the quality of the surrounding streetscape.

Among the historically important structures in Society Hill are several National Historic Landmarks and several buildings which are already listed on the National Register. Some of the Major buildings and important areas are listed below.

see, for details page 1745

1. Head House and New Market, Located on Second Street between Pine and Lombard. The Head House, built in 1804, as a fire-house, is recognized as an outstanding example of Georgian architecture. The market, comprised of brick arched market sheds adjoining the Head House, was begun in 1745, and originally occupied the entire two blocks between Pine and South Streets. However, in 1957 the stalls between South and Lombard were demolished and in 1962 the remainder of the market was rehabilitated and restored.
2. Head House Square consists of both sides of Second Street between Pine and Stamper Streets, since the eighteenth century a market area for the city. These buildings facing the New Market have always served a dual residential-commercial purpose, with ground level shops and living quarters above. The area was rehabilitated in 1965-66 and is an outstanding example of a viable commercial-residential mixture in which a pleasant streetscape has not been sacrificed.
3. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3rd and Pine Streets, was designed by Robert Smith in 1763. St. Peter's has its original wine-glass pulpit in its original location at the west end of the nave, opposite the altar. George and Martha Washington attended services here when they were in Philadelphia, and Benjamin Franklin was known to have been a frequent visitor. Many notable Philadelphians are buried in the quiet churchyard, among them Benjamin Chew, Nicholas Biddle, Stephen Decatur and Charles Willson Peale.
4. Third, and Scots Presbyterian, better known as "Old Pine Street Church," at 4th and Pine, is the only surviving



HAB5

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area known as Society Hill comprises the original and oldest portion of the city as laid out in 1682 by Thomas Holme, surveyor for the proprietor, William Penn. The name is derived from the Free Society of Traders, who bought 20,000 acres from Penn. Within the district are over 575 historically certified eighteenth century and nineteenth century commercial, residential, and religious structures, nearly all of which have been restored or rehabilitated as part of the Washington Square East Redevelopment Project.

As the first large-scale urban renewal project to plan for historic preservation and certainly one of the most successful, Washington Square East has received national acclaim. It involved the removal of a wholesale produce market from the area, the construction of three apartment towers (designed by I. M. Pei) and numerous two- and three-story contemporary town houses, and the rehabilitation and restoration of the existing eighteenth and early nineteenth century houses. Society Hill's major contribution to urban planning has been the success with which the new work was related to the old, and the preservation of the ambience of the neighborhood.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary:

Philadelphia Historical Commission files, containing briefs of title, insurance surveys, early and present photographs, and other pertinent data on each historically certified building in Philadelphia.

Secondary:

See Continuation Sheet.

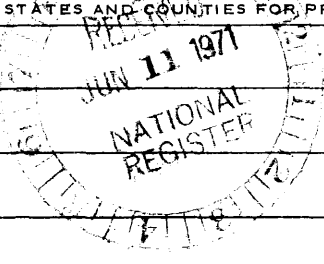
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39° 56' 53"	75° 09' 16"		0	0	
NE	39° 56' 49"	75° 08' 50"				
SE	39° 56' 31"	75° 08' 33"				
SW	39° 56' 36"	75° 09' 19"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 150 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary C. Means, for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
William Penn Memorial Museum

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg

STATE: Pennsylvania

CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: S. K. Stern
State Liaison Officer

Title: Executive Director
Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

Date: June 3/71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Edward A. Casper
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: JUN 23 1971

ATTEST:

William B. Stewart
Keeper of The National Register

Date: JUN 14 1971

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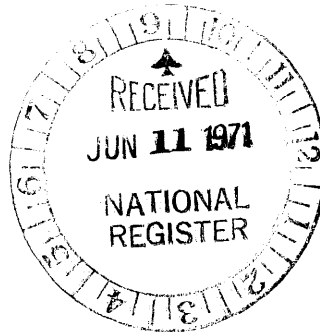
STATE Pennsylvania	
COUNTY Philadelphia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.6.42.6043	DATE 6/23/71

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2. Location

Boundaries:

North boundary line of properties fronting on the north side of Walnut Street, to and including the south boundary line of the properties fronting on the north side of Lombard Street. And from the pier line of the Delaware River to the western property lines of the buildings on the west side of Eighth Street.



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6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Old Philadelphia Survey

Date: 1931 Local

Location of Records: Free Library of Philadelphia, Logan Circle
Philadelphia, Penn

Philadelphia Historical Commission Survey

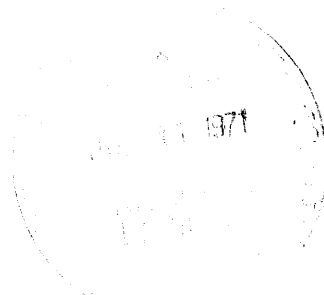
Date: 1955, constant revision Local

Location of Records: Philadelphia Historical Commission
1313 City Hall Annex, Philadelphia, Penn

Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Washington Square Redevelopment Area Plan

Date: 1961 Local

Location of Records: Philadelphia City Planning Commission
13th and 14th Floor, City Hall Annex
Philadelphia, Penn



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7. Continued

colonial Philadelphia Presbyterian church. The building was begun in 1766, but numerous alterations and additions have completely changed its character. Because of the patriot activities of its first pastor, the Rev. George Duffield, the British burned the pews for fuel and converted the church itself into a hospital during their occupation of Philadelphia. Both Benjamin Rush and John Adams were faithful members of the congregation.

5. Old St. Joseph's in Willings Alley is the oldest Roman Catholic parish in Philadelphia, founded in 1734. The present church building dates from 1838-39 and is very unusual in that it was designed to fit an interior lot between Willing's Alley and Walnut Street. Until recent demolition of several buildings on Walnut Street, entrance to the church was through an iron gate and along a secluded passageway to a door on the church's courtyard, and was symbolic of the difficulties encountered, even in officially tolerant Philadelphia, by 19th century Catholics.

6. Old St. Mary's at 244 S. 4th Street, is the city's oldest Catholic church in continuous service. It was built in 1765 but has been extensively remodelled. In 1779, St. Mary's was the scene of the first public religious service commemorating the Declaration of Independence. In 1781, George Washington joined the Continental Congress here for a thanksgiving service following the American victory at Yorktown. Commodore John Barry is buried in the churchyard.

7. Holy Trinity, located at 6th and Spruce, was built in 1789 by German Catholics from neighboring St. Joseph's and St. Mary's. Until the 1920's, its services and sermons were still in German.

8. Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church at 6th and Lombard, is the oldest parcel of real estate owned continuously by Negroes in the United States. The church was founded in 1793 by Richard Allen, a former slave who had bought his freedom. Here in 1816, the African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded as a national organization, with Allen as its first Bishop. The present building dates from 1890.

9. St. George's Greek Orthodox Cathedral at 250 S. 8th Street, was originally built for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in 1822. The architect was John Haviland and this is certainly one of his finest designs, an outstanding example of his ability to use historical sources. Haviland was a member of St. Andrew's and is buried beneath the church. Since 1922, the building has housed St. George's.

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10. *KABS* The Powel House, 244 S. 3rd Street, is one of the major domestic buildings in Philadelphia and is well-known among architectural historians for its superb interior details. The house was built in 1765 and owned by Samuel Powel, last colonial mayor of Philadelphia and its first mayor under the United States flag. George Washington was a close friend of Powel's and visited here often. The house is owned and maintained by the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks. Two rooms have been removed to the Metropolitan Museum and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and have been replaced with reproductions. (Prior to acquisition by PSPL)

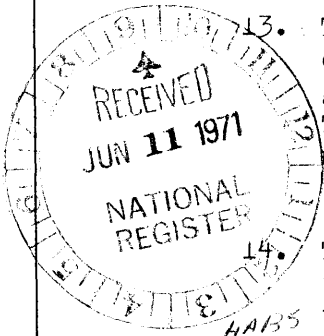
11. The Luke Morris House, 255 South 8th Street, is considered by many architectural historians to be an outstanding of its period and style. Built in 1787, it was the home of Luke Morris, a prominent brewer. The house was a center of Philadelphia's early social and cultural life. Few alterations have been made, as it was owned and occupied by seven generations of Morrises.

12. The Hill-Physick House, 321 S. 4th Street, was built ca. 1786 by Henry Hill, a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly and Executive Council 1784-1788. From 1790 to 1837, it was the home of Dr. Philip Syng Physick, the "Father of American Surgery." With its superb Federal fanlight doorway, it is the only remaining example of the large Philadelphia residence of the Federal era. It is owned and maintained by the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks.

13. The Todd House, 343 Walnut Street, was built in 1775, and is an example of a typical colonial corner house, with entry on the gable end. From 1791 to 1793, it was the home of Dolley Payne Todd, later the wife of James Madison. The house is owned and maintained by Independence National Historical Park and is furnished and open to the public.

14. *KABS* The Bishop White House, 309 Walnut Street, is a brick Federal townhouse with fine interior details. From 1783 to 1836, it was the home of the Rt. Rev. William White, first Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania. It is open to the public and is owned by Independence National Historical Park.

15. The Thomas Sully House, 530 Spruce Street, is a National Historical Landmark and is on the National Register. It is a fairly typical Federal townhouse which was in 1828-29 occupied by the noted portraitist, Thomas Sully.



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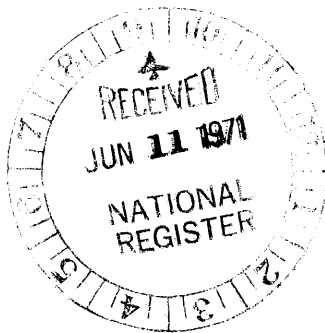
STATE Pennsylvania	
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7. Continued

16. The Rhoads-Barclay House, 217 Delancey Street was built in 1758 by Samuel Rhoads, the house carpenter, who built Benjamin Franklin's house and earlier the East Wing of the Pennsylvania Hospital. Rhoads was also mayor of Philadelphia in 1774. The house was originally built for Alexander Barclay Comptroller of the Port of Philadelphia. The Rhoads-Barclay House is an excellent example of a small colonial town house and its interiors are almost completely intact. It is privately owned.

17. 241 Pine Street and Drinker's Court at 236-38 Delancey Street, together constitute an outstanding example of early land use. Because of high real estate values in the colonial city, it was common to develop inner courtyards behind larger houses facing onto the street. 241 Pine was built ca. 1763 by John Drinker, who also built the adjoining Drinker's Court, which consists of two small gambrel roofed pent-eaved houses, each with three "bandbox" houses adjoining on the rear and facing onto a small courtyard. Both Drinker's Court and 241 Pine Street have been beautifully restored. Drinker's Court is the only surviving group of bandbox houses in the Society Hill area.



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9. Bibliographical References

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(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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