Form No. 10-306 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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7 DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Description:

In June 1948, with passage of Public Law 795, Independence National Historical Park was established to preserve certain historic resources "of outstanding national significance associated with the American Revolution and the founding and growth of the United States." The Park's 39.53 acres of urban property lie in Philadelphia, the fourth largest city in the country. All but .73 acres of the park lie in downtown Philadelphia, within or near the Society Hill and Old City Historic Districts (National Register entries as of June 23, 1971, and May 5, 1972, respectively). As defined by the establishing legislation, eleven land parcels, mostly contiguous, define this downtown Park property:

- 1. Independence Square, 4.63 acres. The block bounded by Chestnut and Walnut, Fifth and Sixth Streets.
- Area A, 12.43 acres. The three-block tract bounded by Fifth and Second, Chestnut and Walnut Streets, excluding the U.S. Customs Building property at Second and Chestnut.
- 3. Area B, 2.27 acres. The irregular-shaped tract of 1.62 acres bordering both sides of Locust Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets, and running east from Locust to Walnut Street in mid-block, containing Park residdence in restored eighteenth century townhouses and landscaped open space. Also, the .65 acres in a roughly rectangular plot at Fifth and Manning Streets on which the maintenance facility is located.
- 4. Area C, .84 acres. The roughly rectangular property in the center of the block bounded by Market and Chestnut, Third and Fourth Streets, known as Franklin Court.
- 5. Area D, .14 acres. The rectangular lot at the Southwest corner of Seventh and Market Streets where stands the reconstructed Graff House.
- 6. Area F, 1.68 acres. The L-shaped tract in the center of the block bounded by Front and Second, Walnut and Chestnut Streets which contains Welcome Park, the parking garage and the Bond House. This block, Area F,

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PER I O 	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
1400-1499	XARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
<u>_1500-1599</u>	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<u>X</u> 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	-PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY _X_INVENTION	POLITICS/GÓVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIEV)

SPECIFIC DATES

1774-1824

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

NA

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

I. The Founding and Growth of the United States

The following historic structures, sites, objects, and historic reconstructions possess significance for their contributing association with the funding and growth of the United States from 1774 to 1824 and with the lives of persons significant in that period.

From September 5 to October 26, 1774, the First Continental Congress met in Carpenters Hall, #10, (National Historic Landmark, March 15, 1970) to consider the mounting crisis between Great Britain and her colonies in America. delegates first gathered at the newly finished (1773) City Tavern, the best known and most genteel tavern in Philadelphia, before walking to Carpenters' Hall for their initial inspection of its facilities. City Tavern was the scene of many notable gatherings of national leaders during the country's founding and growth--delegates to the First and Second Continental Congress during the Revolution; members of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Society of Cincinnatus (Revolutionary officers) after the Revolution; and delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1787, all met, dined, and discussed business in the tavern's rooms. The National Park Service's thoroughly-researched reconstruction of City Tavern on its original site restores this important eighteenth century landmark for a fuller appreciation of the historic setting in which the nation took form. The restoration and refurnishing of the first two floors of the tavern, where the significant gatherings took place, and the current use of these floors as a restaurant with eighteenth century tavern dress and culinary fare helps to recreate the atmosphere in which many critical issues were discussed during the historic period from 1774 to 1800.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet.

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is part of Old City Historic District (May 5, 1972). Besides the park property, the block contains privately-owned nineteenth and twentieth century buildings and parking lots in use for commercial purposes.

- 7. Independence Mall, 15.54 acres. The three landscaped blocks north of Independence Hall, between Chestnut and Race Streets and Fifth and Sixth Streets.
- 8. Mikveh Israel Cemetery, .19 acres. The rectangular plot at the northeast corner of Spruce and Darien Streets, between Eighth and Ninth Streets. As of June 24, 1971, the cemetery has been listed on the National Register.
- 9.,10.,11. Rectangular, landscaped lots adjoining St.
 George's Methodist, .10 acres; St. Joseph's Church,
 .30 acres; and Christ Church, .58 acres, at Fourth and
 New, Fourth and Walnut, and Second and Market Streets,
 respectively.

The one remaining Park parcel, the .73-acre Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst House complex, is located in the Philadelphia suburb of Germantown six miles to the northwest, and within the Germantown Avenue Historic District, a National Historic Landmark since June 23, 1965.

While under the administrative control of the National Park Service, the Park property includes land owned by the City, the State, and private organizations. Cooperative agreements between the Department of the Interior and the non-federal landowners govern the use of these properties within the Park boundaries and assure their continued preservation. Similar agreements protect the three churches adjoining the Park boundaries (St. George's, St. Joseph's, and Christ Church.).

When established the Park stood in a congested, heavily depressed neighborhood. Since 1950 the National Park Service has completed numerous demolitions, restorations, and reconstructions within the Park's authorized boundaries, based on extensive historical research, as well as architectural and archeological investigations. These physical changes not only stimulated one of the country's

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first and most effective urban renewals, they provided a protection against the very real danger of fire for the eighteenth and early-nineteenth century historic structures and sites featured within the Park. The Park's numerous open spaces thus created, however, do not represent Philadelphia's urban scene in the Revolutionary and early national period, when buildings were crowded together along narrow streets and alleys.

Most of the Park's historic structures are red brick Georgian or Federal-period buildings typical in Philadelphia during the late eighteenth century. The First and Second Banks (designated National Historic Landmarks in April 1987) and the Philadelphia Merchants' Exchange stand out as exceptions with their massive classical designs in marble which underscore the significance of these financial institutions in the early history of the nation and the city. Two other exceptions, the Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst houses in Germantown, are constructed in Wissahickon schist, the typical building material of their community in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Except for the Bond House, all the Park's historic structures have received, at the minimum, exterior restoration to the period of significance (1774-1800). The Park buildings are all maintained in good to excellent condition.

Landscaping of the numerous sites of former nineteenth and twentieth century buildings and parking lots has created lawns, gardens, walkways, alleyways, and outdoor museums within the Park. Wherever possible, through historical research, significant eighteenth century building sites have been marked on the ground with low brick walls to indicate the general foundation parameters, and with ivy within the walls to represent the building itself. All vegetation selected for the several open spaces represents plant material in use during the eighteenth century. The restoration of brick sidewalks, cobblestone streets and alleys and period street lamps, watch boxes, and water pumps has been completed according to findings in historical research.

The Park maintains a sizeable and significant museum collection, more than 22,000 artifacts, 2,000 architectural elements, and 500,000 archeological artifacts, all associated with the Park history. A portrait gallery of early American leaders by period artists such as Charles Willson Peale, James Sharples,

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Benjamin West, Gilbert Stuart, and Robert Edge Pine, makes up a large part of the collection. The Philip Syng inkstand used at the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the Rising Sun Chair in which General George Washington presided over the 1787 Federal Convention, and the invaluable Liberty Bell are among the most illustrious artifacts in the collection. Three major storage areas, fifty-four period rooms, and seventy exhibit areas in seventeen Park buildings house the collection.

The Park developed its archeological and architectural study collection from physical investigations of its historic structures and sites. In 1979-80 an archeological base map of the Park sites was completed. The architectural investigation of Independence Hall and the archeological excavations in Independence Square, around the Bishop White House, and on the sites of Franklin's House and New Hall, were among the most important projects. For the most part, however, the Park's excavations uncovered few traces of eighteenth century features because these archeological remains had been destroyed during the construction of nineteen and twentieth century buildings. The archeological collection, however, has few equals as a source of study for eighteenth and nineteenth century American urban material culture.

Four themes define the Park's historic resources:

- 1. The Founding and Growth of the United States.
- 2. Philadelphia the Capital City, 1774-1800.
- 3. Benjamin Franklin.
- Architectural Significance.

All the structures, sites, and objects described below either contribute in some positive way to the historic themes represented here, or they do not contribute, but are not intrusive to the historic character of the Park.

I. Founding and Growth of the United States, 1774-1800.

The historic structures, objects, sites and places, and the non-historic reconstructions that make up this theme all

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have links to the political establishment, growth, and stabilization of the nation. The theme also includes all structures associated with those individuals who served the early national government.

- A. Historic Structures, Objects, and Sites
 - 1. Independence Square

Independence Square, the landscaped grounds behind Independence Hall, was known as State House Garden or State House Yard from the mid-eighteenth century, when the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased the land for its new State House, until the 1820s when the building and the ground on which it stood gradually assumed the name Independence Hall and Independence Square. The four acres of flagstone walkways, lawns, and trees now in the Square represent landscaping designs of 1875-76 and 1915-1916. No attempt has been made by the National Park Service to restore Independence Square to its eighteenth century appearance.

Integral to the Square's interpretation, however, is its 250-year stated use as an open space. On February 20, 1736, the Pennsylvania Assembly provided that the land lying to the south of the State House "be enclosed and remain a public open green and walks forever." At that date only part of the block to Walnut Street had been purchased by the Commonwealth, but by 1769 the balance had been added to complete the Square.

Landscaping for the open green did not get under way until after the Revolution, but by 1770 a seven-foot wall had been built around the square with a tall pedimented gateway with wooden doors and fanlight midway on the Walnut Street side. Around 1784 Samuel Vaughan, a distinguished member of the American Philosophical Society and an active leader in planning for its new building on the northeast corner of the Square, was also supervising the Square's first major landscaping. Serpentine walks and a wide central gravel path were laid from the State House to the Walnut Street gate, and in the spring of 1785

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an assortment of 100 elm trees donated by Col. George Morgan of Princeton were planted, along with other trees and shrubs. In the following two springs Vaughan saw to the planting of more than sixty additional trees in the Square. Although the trees were small, they impressed one visitor as "judiciously arranged," and the variety of their patterns assured that no two parts of the grounds looked alike.

In 1811-12, when the State House wing buildings were removed to build modern office buildings, the yard's high brick walls were torn down and replaced with a three-foot wall to improve air circulation. Marble coping and an iron railing of plain palisades surmounted the wall.

The 1875-76 landscaping again altered the walls by lowering them and piercing them in several places with steps, the broadest of which stood at the Fifth and Sixth Street corners on Walnut Street. At the same time wide flagstone walks were laid across the Square in almost every direction, creating a wheel pattern only slightly modified in the major renovations of 1915-1916 which the Square now The 1915-16 alterations reduced the number of entrances to the Square from eleven to its current seven two on Fifth and two on Sixth Street, one at each south corner of the block, and one midway on Walnut Street. City also removed the wall surrounding the yard and replaced it with the existing low brick wall and coping; cobblestoned the driveway entrance directly south of Congress Hall; opened the northern section of the wheel landscaping by removing two path spokes; and replaced the circular path pattern around the John Barry Statue in the center of the Square with a cross pattern.

2. Independence Hall

Independence Hall (World Heritage Register, October 24 1979), a two-story brick Georgian building, 105 feet by 45 feet, with a central belltower and steeple which rises 167 feet 8 inches on its south facade, is located on Chestnut Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets. Since its construction as the colonial State House between 1732 and 1753, the structure's exterior, with the exception

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of its steeple and wing and arcade buildings, has remained predominantly intact. The interior, however, received numerous alterations during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The two notable nineteenth century features still a part of Independence Hall are its steeple designed by William Strickland in 1828 to simulate the original (thus creating a very early example of historic preservation in this country) and the Centennial Bell (see below).

With the establishment of Independence National Historical Park in 1948, intensive investigation of the building and its history provided the documentation for its complete restoration and refurnishing to its historic period, 1774-1800.

2a. Centennial Bell

On July 4, 1876, a Seth Thomas clock and a 13,000 pound replica of the Liberty Bell were presented to the City of Philadelphia for the Independence Hall tower, as gifts from Henry Henry Seybert, a Philadelphia native. Each 1,000 pounds of the bell represents one of the original thirteen states. Cannon from the Revolution, the War of 1812, the Seminole War, the Mexican War, and both sides of the Civil War went into the making of the bell. The bell still hangs in the bell tower of Independence Hall.

The inscription on one side of the bell reads:

Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace Goodwill toward Men. Luke, Chapter II, Verse 14.

Presented to the City of Philadelphia July 4, 1876 For the Liberty of Independence Hall By a Citizen

Meneeley & Kimberly Founders, Troy, New York 1876

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The reverse side of the bell has an eagle and scroll design with the date 1876 and the U.S. Coat of Arms. This side also carries the Liberty Bell's inscription, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof." (Leviticus, Chapter 25, Verse 10). Thirty-eight five-point stars circle the Bell's rim which is 22 feet 10 1/4 inches in circumference. The Bell's diameter is 7 feet 3/4 inches.

3. Congress Hall

Congress Hall, the two-story brick building at the southeast corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets, was originally intended to be Philadelphia's County Courthouse for the State House complex. During the building's construction (1787-89), however, it was selected and modified as the new federal government's Congress Hall. From December 1790 to May 1800 the House of Representatives met on the first floor, while the Senate held its sessions in the south room of the second. The second floor also provided rooms for the Senate library and committee meetings.

In 1793 Congress Hall was extended 27 feet 7 inches to the south to seat an increase of representatives from 68 to 106. Now instead of two rooms on each side of the hall, there were four, with the Senate Chamber in the new addition which reinstated the semi-octagonal bay.

At the same time a one-story brick addition, about 18 feet by 29 feet, referred to as the "Portico," was built along the east side of the House Chamber to provide its members with a more convenient entrance and vestibule.

In 1795 a gallery was built along the north wall of the Senate Chamber so that the public could attend its sessions. A gallery for 300 had been built for the House Chamber in 1789 in anticipation of a continued high public attendance at the legislative sessions. In addition to the gallery, the Senate received a new floor in 1796.

After the capital moved to Washington, D.C., in 1800, Congress Hall finally began service as a county court-

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house. In 1812 its portico entrance was demolished, along with the State House arcade and wing buildings, in preparation for the construction of the new fireproof office buildings.

The interior of Congress Hall itself was completely altered during the century to accommodate county courts, as well as federal courts for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. When Philadelphia's new city and county building on Broad Street reached completion in 1895, Congress Hall no longer had a use.

Soon thereafter the Society of Colonial Dames, in alliance with several other patriotic groups, launched a campaign to restore the Senate Chamber. Under the direction of architect George C. Mason this restoration was carried out in 1895-1896. In 1912-1913 the House Chamber was restored by the City of Philadelphia under the careful supervision of a committee formed for the project by the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, with Frank Miles Day its chairman. Finally, between 1959 and 1962 the National Park Service completed its own thorough evaluation and restoration of Congress Hall, including major structural rehabilitation, as well as mechanical and electrical work. Today Congress Hall is fully restored, refurnished, and open to the public.

Congress Hall is a two-and-a-half-story brick building with marble trim which makes a fine example of Federal-style public architecture. The building measures 50 feet along its Chestnut Street front and 98 feet in length. Its five-bay Flemish bond facade features a slightly projecting three-bay pedimented pavilion, a cantilevered wrought-iron balcony at the central window of the second floor, and a round-arch entrance with fanlight. The ground level windows are round-arched with marble key stones. Centered on the hipped roof is an open octagonal cupola. In the marble belt course above the front entrance is the inscription, "1787," the date construction began on Congress Hall.

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4. Old City Hall

Old City Hall, the two-and-a-half-story brick with marble trim building at the southwest corner of Fifth and Chestnut Streets, was constructed in 1790-91 as the last component of the State House complex which envisioned city, county, and state government buildings of similar architectural elements on the same block. From its completion early in 1791 until the national capital moved to Washington, D.C, in 1800, the City Hall building was diverted for the use of the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. District and Circuit Courts. The Supreme Court held its sessions in the large south room on the first floor.

City Hall's completed design in 1791 was an intended replica of Congress Hall's on the exterior, most noticeably the five-bay Flemish bond facade with a slightly projecting three-bay pedimented pavilion and fanlighted, round-arch entrance; a hipped roof surmounted by an open octagonal cupola; and Congress Hall's original measurements of 50 feet on Chestnut Street and 70 feet in length. David Evans was master carpenter and superintendent of the building's construction.

Except for the new roof and cupola put on in 1823 after a fire severely damaged the roof, City Hall's exterior has remained fundamentally the same. Its interior, however, has received numerous alterations over the years to accommodate the different municipal and private organizations that have made use of the building. 1916 the Committee on the Preservation of Historic Monuments of The Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects began a thorough architectural investigation of City Hall which resulted in the restoration drawings the City Architect used in 1921 to carry out the building's restoration. the 1960s the National Park Service found this 1921 restoration so accurate that few architectural changes were made. The National Park Service did, however, furnish extensive structural rehabilitation, as well as mechanical and electrical work for the building. Hall, which received its title as "Old" in 1895 when

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the existing City Hall building on Broad Street reached completion, is open to the public who come to see the restored interior floor plan and exhibits on the Supreme Court and Philadelphia history.

5. Liberty Bell

The Liberty Bell is housed at the Liberty Bell Pavilion on Market Street, between Fifth and Sixth Streets. It is owned by the City of Philadelphia but maintained and interpreted by the Park according to a 1950 cooperative agreement between the municipal and federal governments.

In 1751 the Assembly of Pennsylvania ordered a 2,000pound bell from White Chapel foundry in England for the new State House completed that year in Philadelphia. After its arrival in August 1752 the Bell cracked at the first testing. "Two ingenious workmen," John Pass and John Stow, recast the Bell, repeating the original, now famous, inscription, "Proclaim Liberty thro all the land to all the inhabitants thereof." Pass and Stow recast the Bell a second time in 1753 when its tone proved unsatisfactory. From that year until the capital moved to Lancaster in 1799 the Bell rang to announce official occasions at the State House one of which was to call together people for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8, 1776. During the Revolution the Bell was secreted away to Allentown and hidden there for almost a year, when it was returned to the State House in Philadelphia.

After the state capital moved, the Bell rang mostly at the deaths of national leaders--George Washington (1799) and Chief Justice John Marshall (1835) most notable among them--and at patriotic holidays. The famous crack in the Bell is said to have first appeared at the tolling for Marshall's death on July 8, 1835. In 1846 the crack was drilled and filed in an attempt to fix it before the Bell was tolled for George Washington's birthday. The repair did not work, however, and the Bell cracked again, resulting in two cracks, the original and a smaller one which extends from it. Since that tolling on February 22, 1846, the

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Bell has only been tapped on occasion to celebrate national holidays. Since 1972 it has been tapped each July 4 in accordance with a Congressional order calling for all bells to ring on that day.

The State House bell was first called Liberty Bell in an 1839 abolitionist pamphlet of that name produced by the Friends of Freedom, who took the Bell's Biblical inscription, "Proclaim Liberty" as their inspiration. By the Civil War years the State House Bell had become a well-known symbol of the anti-slavery movement. In the years prior to its removal to the Liberty Bell Pavilion at midnight December 31,1975, the Liberty Bell was relocated and its display system changed many times within Independence Hall. After 1781, when the original rotted steeple was torn down, the Bell was hung in the brick bell tower until 1828, when it was returned to the William Strickland steeple completed that year. From 1852 to 1876 the Bell was exhibited in the Assembly Room as a national symbol. Over a twenty-year span the Bell traveled around the country, the Panama Pacific Exposition of 1915 in San Francisco being its last tour stop. The Philadelphia City Council, owners of the Bell, returned it to Independence Hall for permanent exhibit there to protect it from further wear and damage, (such as the additional crack made in it during the 1893 trip to the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago).

The Liberty Bell has received various forms of protective maintenance since the late nineteenth century. For its removal to the Panama Pacific Exposition in 1915, a "spider" and the existing two bolts were placed in the bell's crack to stabilize it. In 1898 and 1929 the yoke was reinforced, the latter time with steel plates at the recommendation of the Franklin Institute. The yoke was strengthened again by the National Park Service in the 1960s in accordance with another Institute study of 1960-61.

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The Liberty Bell has the following measurements:

Circumference around lip
Circumference around crown
Distance from lip to crown
Height over crown
Thickness at lip
Thickness at crown
Clapper Length

12 feet
7 feet 6 inches
7 feet 3 inches
1 inches
1 1/4 inches
3 feet 2 inches

The Bell weighs 2080 pounds; its yoke 200 pounds; its clapper 44 1/2 pounds. The reinforced yoke is of slippery elm.

6. Free Quaker Meeting House

The Free Quaker Meeting House (National Register September 23, 1971) is a two-story brick structure, 48'X 30', built in 1783 at the southwest corner of Fifth and Arch Streets. During the 1960s the building was moved 33 feet west from its original site to allow for the widening of Fifth Street, and restored to its original appearance. The Meeting House is owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and operated by volunteer docents of the Philadelphia Junior League. The National Park Service maintains the exterior by cooperative agreement.

7. The First Bank of the United States

The First Bank of the United States (National Historic Landmark April 29, 1987)—originally called the Bank of the United States—operated from 1797-1811 on Third Street, midway between Chestnut and Walnut Streets. Samuel Blodgett, Jr., merchant, author, publicist, promotor, architect, and "Superintendent of Buildings" for the new capital in Washington, D.C., designed the building in 1794. At its completion in 1797, the bank won wide acclaim as an architectural masterpiece. By today's standards the building remains a notable early example of classical monumental design.

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The bank is a three-story brick structure with a marble front and trim. It measures 90 feet 11 inches across the front by 81 feet 9 inches. Its seven-bay marble facade, with the large 48 by 11-foot Corinthian hexastyle portico, is the work of Claudius F. LeGrand and Sons, stone workers, woodcarvers, and guilders. The remarkably intact portico typanum, restored in 1983, contains elaborate mahogany carvings of a fierce-eyed eagle grasping a shield of thirteen stripes and stars and standing on a globe festooned with an olive branch. The restored hipped roof is covered in copper--some of which, over the portico, is original-- and has a balustrade along its four sides.

When the first charter to the Bank of the United States lapsed in 1811, Stephen Girard purchased the building and opened his own bank, Girard Bank, in 1812. Although at Girard's death in 1832 the building was left in trust to the City of Philadelphia, the Girard Bank continued in operation there until 1929, covering a 114-year occupancy. In 1902 the Girard Bank hired James Windrim, architect, to remodel the interior. Windrim removed the original barrel vaulted ceiling and introduced a large skylight over a glass-paned dome to furnish more light for the first floor tellers. He altered the original hipped roof further with the introduction of a shaft tower on the west side of the building for an elevator. Between 1912 and 1916 Girard Bank also constructed a two-story addition on the west facade of the building.

When vacated in 1929, the bank building languished until the National Park Service purchased it in 1955 as part of Independence National Historical Park. Between 1974 and 1976 the park restored the building's eighteenth century exterior appearance and retained its 1902 interior remodeling, leaving an 86-by 67-foot banking room on the first floor and numerous smaller rooms -- used as park office and library space -- around its outer perimeter on the second and third floors. The central area is defined by a circular Corinthian columned rotunda on the first and second floors and an electrically lit glass dome at the third floor level. The cellar retains its 1795 stone walled and brick vaulted rooms, some still having their original sheet iron vault doors.

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The building was designated a National Historic Landmark on April 29, 1987, for its association with interpretation of the Constitution.

8. Second Bank of the United States

The Second Bank of the United States received National Historic Landmark status on April 29, 1987, for its association with the developing and interpretation of the Constitution, and for its architecture. The Second Bank of the United States, at 420 Chestnut Street, was designed by architect William Strickland and built between 1819 and 1824 at the cost of nearly half a million dollars. Modeled after the Parthenon in Athens this temple structure is one of the finest examples of Greek Revival architecture in the United States. huge building, measuring 86'X 140 feet with 16 X 10 feet porticoes at the north and south ends, contains 11,954 square feet of interior space. The main or north entrance is approached by a flight of marble stairs to a portico with eight large fluted Doric columns, four feet six inches in diameter, and a full Doric entablature. Coursed ashlar marble covers the three-storied walls and the gabled roof is copper.

Strickland's design elevated the main floor of the bank building nine feet above ground level and set the building off by a 14-foot-wide flagstone terrace three feet higher than street level. The central doorway at the main or Chestnut Street entrance opened to a vestibule with a paneled dome. On the right and left were large offices and directly ahead a central lobby or hallway leading to the banking room which occupied the center of the building. Beyond, on the south end of the building, was the stockholder's room, 23 feet by 50 feet, and on either end of it, committee rooms and marble stairways to the the second story which was reserved for various offices.

The banking room, the heart of the Second Bank of the United States, retains much of its original architectural elements. The large 48'X 81' space is divided by two rows of six fluted marble columns in the Ionic Order, which support three vaulted (arched) ceilings, the central

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of which is semi-cylindrical, 28 feet in diameter and 81 feet in length. Palladian windows give light to the room from the east and west.

The Second Bank of the United States first established itself in Carpenters' Hall in 1817, after Congress determined that a federal bank might spare the country a repeat of the financial crisis the country experienced during the War of When the magnificent marble temp1e was completed for the Bank's use in 1824, Nicholas Biddle was serving as its Under his dynanic leadership the bank achieved president. its greatest influence and its Greek Revival design provided a model for numerous branch banks throughout the states. But jealousy of the Bank's power led to its downfall in 1836, when, under the ardent leadership of President Andrew Jackson, Congress allowed the Bank's charter to ex-The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania granted a charter to Nicholas Biddle for a state bank in its stead; when the Bank of the United States of Pennsylvania failed in 1841, the Port of Philadelphia took over the building as the Custom House, in which use it continued until 1934, when a new Custom House reached completion on the next block. Subsequently a movement to preserve the Second Bank building resulted in its designation in June 1939 as a National Historic Site.

During the 1940s measured drawings and a partial restoration of the building were completed under the direction of the Historic American Buildings Survey and the National Park Service. Many of the window openings added to the building during the years after the bank closed were covered over and the original terracing at the front entranceway was reinstated. The interior restoration focused on the entrance lobby, as the main banking room and side offices fortunately survived in their original appearance. The building presently houses the Independence Park Portrait Collection.

9. The Bishop White House

The Bishop White House at 309 Walnut Street was entered in the National Register as part of Society Hill Historic District on June 23, 1971. The Rev. William White, (1748-1836), Bishop of the Episcopal Church in America,

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lived there with his family for nearly fifty years from its completion in 1787 until his death in 1836. The Bishop's heirs sold the house only months after he died, to a family friend, Charles Chauncey, who kept it as a private residence until 1857, after which the house began a long history of commercial use as office space. In 1955, in accordance with the enabling legislation for Independence NHP, the National Park Service purchased the property.

The Bishop White House typifies the large brick row houses of wealthy Philadelphians in the late eighteenth century. According to its 1795 insurance survey, the house had four parts: the front, 26'X 44', three stories high, with strikingly large window panes, 12 1/2" X 12 1/2"; a three-story piazza containing the staircase, 10'X 15'; a two-story kitchen, 25'9" X 16'; and a two-story necessary 10'X 9'. The house also had, as well, a spacious cellar and garret.

The house's commercial use over a century led to numerous structural changes. By 1880 the back building and part of the piazza had been removed and replaced with a larger back building. The main staircase to the second floor was also replaced, and the facade on the first level covered with an ashler of brownstone. Between 1910 and 1946 six city permits were issued to remodel both the exterior and interior for commercial use.

In 1962, after exhaustive research and architectural investigation, the park completed a restoration of the house to its appearance during the Bishop's residency. The first two floors have also been refurnished to interpret the family's life in a town house typical of Philadelphia's affluent society.

10. Carpenters' Hall

Carpenters' Hall (National Historic Landmark, April 15, 1970), the two-story cruciform-shaped brick building on Chestnut between Third and Fourth Streets, is a unit of Independence National Historic Park by cooperative agreement of May 10, 1950, between the

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Department of the Interior and the Hall's owner, the Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia. The Company maintains and operates the Carpenters' Hall building, while the Park provides technical assistance to the Company to assure the structure's preservation. Carpenters' Hall was constructed in 1770-1774 according to a design by Robert Smith, a Company member. It is a fine example of Georgian architecture.

11. Mikveh Israel Cemetery

The Mikveh Israel Cemetery (National Historic Site, July 13, 1956; National Register, June 24, 1971), on Spruce Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets, is a unit of Independence National Historical Park by cooperative agreement of August 6, 1956, between the Mikveh Israel Congregation and the Department of Interior. This eighteenth century cemetery, the oldest in Philadelphia and burial site of American patriots such as Haym Solomon, co-financier with Robert Morris of the Revolution, is not open to the public. The cemetery is maintained by the Mikveh Israel Congregation.

12. Deshler-Morris House and Privy

The Deshler-Morris House (National Register documentation, January 13, 1972. As part of Germantown Avenue Historic District, National Historic Landmark, June 23, 1965), the two and a half-story stuccoed stone house with rear wing at 5442 Germantown Avenue, was restored and furnished by the National Park Service between 1974 and 1976 to reflect its appearance in 1793-1794, when President George Washington briefly occupied the house. house was declared a historic site in 1948 and was added as a unit of Independence National Historical Park in 1950. By cooperative agreement of 1949 between the Department of Interior and the Germantown Historical Society, the house is operated by the Society's Women's Committee for the Deshler-Morris House. The National Park Service provides technical advice for the building's continued preservation, as well as ongoing maintenance of the property.

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The Deshler-Morris property includes a 10-foot 8 inches square privy built in 1884 by the Elliston Perot Morris family. This brick structure, along with the 19th century back wing additions to the house, have been retained by the National Park Service to interpret the continued use of this residential property until its 1948 inclusion in the National Park System.

13. Robert Morris Statue

The statue of Robert Morris stands about mid-block along the north side of Walnut Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets. This nine-foot bronze statue on a limestone base was sculpted in 1925 by Paul Wayland Bartlett as a commission from the Pennsylvania Bankers Association, the Fairmount Park Commission, and Commonwealth of Pennyslvania. After Limerick Brothers of Baltimore cast the statue of Robert Morris in 1926, it was placed on the Chestnut Street steps of the Second Bank of the United States where it remained until its removal to the current location in 1961.

The monument represents Robert Morris, dressed in great coat and Tricorn hat, struggling through the snow to raise money for Washington's troops at Valley Forge.

14. John Barry Monument

The John Barry Monument, a bronze statue on a medium gray granite base with a bronze plaque on its north side, is located in the center of Independence Square. The statue honors Commodore John Barry, USN, Irish-born patriot and one of the most celebrated naval heroes of the Revolution.

The statue was sculpted by Samuel Moore, a student of Thomas Eakins and a teacher at Philadelphia's Moore College of Art. After its casting in Philadelphia in 1907 the Society of Friends of St. Patrick presented the Barry Statue to the City of Philadelphia, which

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still owns it. The base of the statue is 12 feet square; the pedestal is 11 feet high; and the statue is 8 feet high. Barry wears the uniform of the Continental Navy and has one arm outstretched.

15. George Washington Monument

The George Washington Monument is a bronze statue mounted on a dressed white marble pedestal standing on the Chestnut Street sidewalk about 30 feet north of the front entrance to Independence Hall. This statue is a 1910 reproduction (Roman Bronze Works of New York) of the original marble statue of George Washington as Commander-in-Chief, sculpted in 1869 by Joseph A. Baily, which was moved in 1910 to City Hall. The name, "Washington" was added to the base of the park's monument in 1925.

The base of the statue is 6 feet square; the pedestal is 3 feet square and 7 feet high; and the statue stands 8 feet high. Washington is depicted with his left hand on his sword and his right one on a book.

16. Lincoln Plaque

The Lincoln Plaque is a 33-by 36-inch bronze tablet set into the brick sidewalk about 30 feet north of Independence Hall. The plaque commemorates the fact that Abraham Lincoln on February 22, 1861, raised the thirty-four star flag at Independence Hall to mark the admission of Kansas as a State. The Grand Army of the Republic, Post 2, of the Department of Pennsylvania, placed the plaque in the sidewalk in 1903.

B. Historic Sites

17. Executive Mansion (Site)

A marker now identifies the site of the three-story brick mansion house on the south side of Market Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets where Presidents George Washington and John Adams lived from 1790 to 1800,

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when Philadelphia was the nation's capital. The four-bay townhouse was torn down in 1832 and an office building of unknown date built on its site. When the State of Pennsylvania cleared the block of its many buildings for Independence Mall State Park during the 1950s, the later structure's foundations were destroyed, at which time, it is assumed, any evidence of the historic mansion was obliterated.

Third Street Treasury Offices:

- 18. Secretary of the Treasury
- 19. United States Auditor
- 20. United States Treasurer
- 21. United States Register
- 22. United States Commissioner of Revenue

During the decade 1790-1800, when Philadelphia was the national capital, a row of treasury offices lined Third Street between Walnut and Chestnut Streets. Offices for the Commissioner of Revenue, the Auditor, the Treasurer, the Register, and the Secretary of the Treasury were located in five brick buildings, two north of and three across Third Street from the First Bank building. These brick buildings subsequently were torn down, leaving only the First Bank of the United States as a reminder of Philadelphia's Treasury Row, and more modern buildings were erected in their place. As exploratory investigations by the National Park Service revealed, construction of these later buildings destroyed any existing archeological remains of the eighteenth century ones.

The Treasury office sites are now cleared and identified by wayside markers. For three sites—the office buildings for the Treasurer, Auditor, and Secretary of the Treasury—the outlines of the building foundations have been indicated by brick-bordered patches of ivy, generally following the building dimensions given in historical records.

Walnut Street Historic Sites:

Markers identify three historic sites on Walnut Street between Third and Fifth Streets: the homes of Dr.

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Benjamin Rush and Judge Richard Peters on the northside near Third Street, and the Navy Office on the north side midway in the next block. Archeological surveys were not made at any of these sites due to the destruction of remains by later construction. The Navy Office Site is also Identified by ivy-filled brick outlines suggesting the perimeter of the original building.

23. Dr. Benjamin Rush House

Dr. Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a leading physician and humanitarian in Philadelphia during the late eighteenth century, lived in a three-story brick row house, 20'X 40 with a one-story brick kitchen, 12 X 20, just to the east of Judge Peters house.

24. Judge Richard Peters House

Richard Peters served as Judge of the United States District Court of Pennsylvania from 1792-1828. His home near Third and Walnut was the neighboring three-story brick row house, 20'X 49', with a two-story brick kitchen and piazza, 12'X 40', to Dr. Rush's, and only two doors from Bishop William White's on the other side.

25. The Navy Office

The Navy Office opened in 1798, after Congress created a Department of the Navy in May of that year in response to an undeclared war with France.

During their two years in the three-story brick building, 22'X 40', Benjamin Stoddert first Secretary of the Navy, and his staff occupied the building. The office moved to Washington with the rest of the federal government in 1800.

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- C. Non-Historic Contributing Features
 - 26. Graff House, 700 Market Street

In 1976 the National Park Service reconstructed the three-story brick house on the southwest corner of Seventh and Market Streets where Thomas Jefferson in 1776, penned the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson, seeking relief from the summer heat by living on the outskirts of Philadelphia, rented from May 23 to September 3, 1776, the two second floor rooms of the Graff House as his bedroom and parlor, in the latter of which, by his own recollection, he "wrote habitually," including the Declaration. These two reconstructed rooms have been furnished to the period of his occupancy. Some furnishings represent items documented in Jefferson's own diary and account book entries during his three-month stay.

Young newly-wed Jacob Graff, a second-generation brick-layer in Philadelphia, purchased the lot at Seventh and Market Streets in 1775, and by May 1776 had completed his new house. It was a large well appointed brick structure with wood and stone trim typical of those constructed by the eighteenth century Philadelphia building trades. The house measured 16'6" wide by 51'1" deep and had an uncommon off-center entrance on its five-bay Seventh Street side. The Market and Seventh Street facades were in Flemish bond with glazed headers. Other facade refinements included a double moulded brick water-table, belt courses, gabled roof with pent return across the gable end, tooled stone window lintels, and a pedimented entrance door.

The first two floors of the house each had two rooms separated by a central stairhall. Jefferson's second floor parlor was the northern room, his bedroom the southern one.

The Graff House was much altered before its demolition in 1883. After nearly twenty-five years as a residence for Jacob Hiltzheimer, from 1777 to 1801, brothers Simon and Hyman Gratz purchased the structure for commercial use. Between 1802 and 1808 they raised the building to four

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stories, extended it south 40 feet, and removed the central stairhall and Seventh Street entrance, replacing the latter with an entrance on Market Street and on the south end of the Seventh Street extension. In this condition it was photographed in 1854-55, producing the only known photographs of the house in existence.

In 1882 the Pennsylvania National Bank purchased the "Declaration House," as some interested contemporaries labeled it, and tore it down the next year to build a new bank building. Philadelphian Thomas Donaldson, who had failed in his effort to activate a preservation effort for the building, salvaged what he thought valuable toward a reconstruction of the house as a museum site. The masonry and wood building materials were stored, but since Donaldson's efforts came to naught, the materials were never put to use and eventually were lost, except for a few items which survived in private owner-Mortar evidence on the two stone lintels from the Graff house which were passed onto the National Park Service gave the key to determining window and brick size, as well as mortar color in the 1976 reconstruction. These lintels have also been incorporated in the second floor windows facing Market Street.

Although his preservation efforts failed, Donaldson published a book (1898) which provided evidence for the house reconstruction. Recollections from the Gratz brothers who altered the house at the turn of the century, as well as testimony from John McAllister, one of Philadelphia's most noted antiquarians who personally remembered the house in the late eighteenth century, were among the important items of evidence in his book. information, along with structural comparisons with other typical corner brick houses of the period, the 1808-1849 insurance surveys of the property, and the 1845-55 photographs, provided enough information for the National Park Service to reconstruct the house in 1975 and restore on its interior the two rooms Jefferson rented for nearly 100 days during the summer of 1776 and the profile of the stairhall on the east wall of the second floor.

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The first, third, and garret floors, however, have been adapted for exhibit and staff use. A modern attached three-story interpretive wing along the west side of the Graff house which was built simultaneous to the reconstruction, provides interpretation and the only public access to the refurnished rooms on the second floor.

Prior to initiating a reconstruction, the National Park Service had to demolish a one-story hot dog stand--ironically called Tom's Thumb--which was built sometime after 1932, when the bank building of 1883 was torn down. Subsequent archeological investigations of the site provided no important evidence for the Graff House reconstruction.

27. City Tavern

In 1956 the National Park Service purchased the site of City Tavern near the southwest corner of Second and Walnut Streets, and in 1958 demolished the four-story Seaman's Institute building thereon to prepare for the reconstruction of the three-story brick tavern. Since its completion in 1975, City Tavern has been leased by the Park to a restaurant concessionaire who cooperates with the Service's plan to provide an eighteenth century tavern experience for visitors.

City Tavern was built in 1773, opened in 1774, and operated until its demolition in 1854. During this eightyyear span, it was given several other names: "New Tavern," "Smith's Tavern," and "Merchant's Coffee House," but City Tavern, its primarily 18th century name, best describes its original purpose as seen by the eminent Philadelphians who put forward the money for its construction. their plan to provide the City with a genteel tavern which reflected Phildelphia's status as the largest, most cosmopolitan urban center in British North America. City Tavern's substantial brick construction reflected the architectural balance of the current Georgian style. Its interior layout was fashioned after other notable taverns of the times, with two kitchens and storerooms in the cellar; large clubrooms for benevolent or social meetings, a bar, and a coffee room with current Engish

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and American newspapers on the first and second floors; and lodging rooms for travelers on the third and, probably, garret floors.

From 1774 to the close of the century City Tavern attracted the patronage of the nation's key leaders—delegates to the Second Continental Congress during the Revolution; members of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Society of Cincinnatus—Revolutionary officers after the War. Delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1787 met, dined, and discussed business in the tavern's rooms.

As the city moved west and newly introduced hotels began to take the business from taverns at the turn of the century, City Tavern served principally as a merchants' exchange until 1834, when the building suffered a fire and William Strickland's new exchange building on the next block reached completion. From that point the City Tavern deteriorated until its demolition in 1854.

The National Park Service's reconstruction, based on period sketches, deeds surveys, insurance policies, and contemporary written descriptions, included a two and a half-story side building (23'X 38'), with a two-story rear wing (18'X 28'), and a one-story privy (11'X 10 - 1/2'). The tavern itself measures 50 feet by 46 feet and its five-bay facade has a three-bay projecting pavilion under a pedimented gable. The pediment has a cornice with modillions and an occular window. The water table of the tavern building stands about 5°3" above ground level and marks the raised first floor. The central eight-panel door has a fanlight and pediment supported by trusses and open pilasters.

The gabled main roof runs parallel with the street and is marked by pairs of free standing end chimneys. Across the middle three bays of the building's rear or west facade is a porch on brick piers with a turned ballister railing. At the second floor level the porch deck is also enclosed with a railing.

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28. New Hall

In 1958 the National Park Service razed what was left of the New Hall building on Carpenters' Court because it was too structurally unsound to incorporate in a restoration. The next year the Park Service completed a careful reconstruction of New Hall and subsequently fitted the twostory brick building with its current exhibits on the history of the United States Marine Corps.

New Hall was built in 1791 by the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia as a sorely needed extra meeting and rental space. That year the Company was leasing Carpenters' Hall to the First Bank of the United States, so that New Hall, only a few yards north on the court, served as their regular place of meeting in the "long hall" on the second floor. The Company leased the first floor that year to General Henry Knox, the first Secretary of War. Numerous social, cultural, religious, and educational organizations followed the War Department on the first floor. The Carpenters' Company reserved the second floor as their meeting hall until 1857.

New Hall measures 60 X 20 feet and has seven bays on its long facade along the Court, four of which on the first floor are doorways. Its court facade is in Flemish bond with red stretchers and black headers; its two-bay end walls are also in Flemish bond, but only in red brick; while its west wall is in common bond. The building has both an attic and cellar, three chimneys, and half of a hipped roof.

29. John F. Kennedy Plaque

The John F. Kennedy Plaque is a 36-by 33-inch bronze tablet set in the sidewalk ten feet east of the Washington Monument in front of Independence Hall. This plaque commemorates a visit to the Hall by President Kennedy in 1962 to deliver the Fourth of July address. The City of Philadelphia placed the plaque in 1964.

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30. Bicentennial Bell

The modern bell tower of the Visitor Center contains the Bicentennial Bell, Great Britain's gift to the United States in 1976 in recognition of her 200th anniversary of independence. "Let Freedom Ring" is inscribed on the copper and tin alloy bell which was cast in 1976 by Whitechapel Foundry, London, the same company that produced the Liberty Bell in 1751. The bell weighs 12,446 pounds, is 6 feet 10 1/2 inches in diameter, and 5 feet 6 inches in height. As the nation's ceremonial bell, it rings twice daily, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., and on special occasions.

31. Welcome Park

Welcome Park is an interpretive exhibit honoring William Penn which the Friends of Independence donated to Independence National Historical Park in 1983. A rectangular plot 91' 4" by 150', the Park occupies the site of the Slate Roof House, Penn's home from 1699-1701, at the southeast corner of Sansom and Second Streets, between Walnut and Chestnut Streets. paving is laid out to simulate the plan of the city which William Penn commissioned Thomas Holme to prepare in 1683. The plan's gridwork of streets is represented by granite strips across the park; its four squares each with a planted tree; and where City Hall now fills the plan's Centre Square there stands a statue of William Penn, a replica of the huge Alexander Milne Calder statue surmounting City Hall. walls of the park serve as exhibit panels on the life and contributions of William Penn.

32. The Signer

"The Signer" is a 9 1/2-foot high bronze statue on a 6-foot granite base which stands in the middle of the garden now occupying the site of Norris Row, at Fifth and Chestnut Streets. EvAngelos Frudakis, a Philadelphia sculptor, created the statue over a five-year period as a commission from the Independence Hall Association which donated "The Signer" to the National Park Service in January 1982.

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The sculpture, inspired by George Clymer, a Pennsylvania signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, transcends any one person to commemorate, in the words of the statue's sign, "the courage of those who altered their lives, and ours, by affixing their names to these documents."

II. Philadelphia, Capital City, 1774-1800

This theme identifies the cultural features, within the park that contributed to making Philadelphia the choice as the nation's capital during the late eighteenth century. These features include intellectual and religious institutions, substantial brick residences, a tavern, and a garden.

A. Historic Structures and Places

33. Philosophical Hall:

The American Philosophical Society Hall, or Philosophical Hall, (National Historical Landmark, January 12, 1965) is privately owned by the Society, and not open to the public. Located on Independence Square, just south of Old City Hall on Fifth Street, this two-story brick building has been home to the American Philosophical Society since its completion in 1789. The Society itself was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743 and still is active as an internationally-famous learned society. In 1949, recognizing the building's historic significance, the Philosophical Society removed an 1887 third-story addition to the building and restored the exterior to its original appearance.

34. McIlvaine House, 315-317 Walnut Street

The McIlvaine house, the three-and-a-half-story brick row house on the north side of Walnut Street between Third and Fourth Streets, was built in 1791-93 by Dr. William McIlvaine. The house reached completion early in 1793, only months before Philadelphia's worst yellow fever epidemic of the eighteenth century. Dr. McIlvaine, a former patriot and husband to Mary Shippen, daughter of

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Pennsylvania Chief Justice Edward Shippen, chose to remain in the city to help the victims of the dread disease, and was living in his new townhouse when he fell victim himself. McIlvaine, however, survived the fever and moved a few months later to New Jersey, leaving his new house to a succession of prominent tenants--Jaspar Moylan, lawyer; Daniel William Coxe, merchant; and others, who kept the house a residence until 1818. By the mid-nineteenth century the house had been converted for commercial use, which use it continued until the National Park Service purchased the property in the 1950s.

The McIlvaine house represents a typical Philadelphia rowhouse for the prosperous. The main house, 24'X 44', connects with a two-story rear kitchen wing, 16'X 22', through a middle stairhall, 10'X 10'. Between 1812 and 1882 the house received numerous alterations. In 1963 the National Park Service restored the building's exterior to its 1793 appearance and adapted its interior for office space.

The three-bay house has common bond with projecting belt courses at the second and third levels; a pedimented front entrance with fanlight; and a heavy box cornice with modillions.

35. Todd House, 343 Walnut Street

The Todd House (National Register Society Hill Historic District, June 23, 1971), a three-story brick rowhouse 16 1/2 feet by 35 1/2 feet with a kitchen wing 11 feet by 9 feet, at the northeast corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets, was built in c.1775 as a speculative real estate venture. In 1961-1963 the National Park Service restored the house to its 1791-93 appearance, when it was the home of John Todd, Jr., his wife, Dorothy (Dolly) Payne Todd, and their son, John Payne Todd. Todd, a Quaker and Philadelphia lawyer, died in the 1793 yellow fever epidemic. The first two floors of the house have been refurnished to show the typical lifestyle of a middle class Philadelphia family during the decade when the city was the nation's capital under the Constitution.

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The Locust Street Houses:

Five brick townhouses on Locust Street (in the eighteenth century, Prune Street), between Fourth and Fifth Streets, have been adaptively restored for National Park Service housing. The exterior restoration returns the houses to their turn-of-the-century appearance, c.1800.

36. 408 Locust

Constructed in 1763, this two-and-a-half-story brick townhouse is the oldest residence within the Park. Hugh James, a Philadelphia merchant, purchased one of William Shippen's lots on the south side of Prune Street in 1761, on the condition he would build a house on the property within three years. As completed the house measures 19'X 15'and is two stories with a garret. 1770 James added two two-story rear wings 15'X 14' and 13'X 15'. The Flemish bond pattern on the facade is accented with very dark headers. The house contains features typical of the mid-18th century, such as the four-light transom over the entrance door and the 8X10-inch window panes. The house, restored on the exterior by the National Park Service in 1965, represents one of the less pretentious row house styles of the late eighteenth century.

37. 410 Locust

Adjoining 408 Locust to the west, 410 Locust was built in 1765 by John Bernard Rappon, a breeches maker. The 3 1/2-story brick house has little adornment, except for the fanlight over the simple arched front entrance.

The house measures 18 X 19 feet and has a three-story rear wing 13' 1/2 X 23' and a one-story rear wing, 13 X 16'. The three-bay facade is in Flemish bond and the sides have been stuccoed. The National Park Service restored its exterior and adapted the interior as a residence in 1960.

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38.,39 413-415 Locust

These two large 3 1/2-story brick townhouses on the north side of Locust Street were constructed between 1802 and 1804 by Peter L. Berry, a house carpenter, and contractor for Samuel Blair, owner, from 1804 to 1807. Tench Coxe, Former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and Commissioner of Revenue, and then Purveyor of Public Supplies for the United States, rented 413 Locust. In 1807 the house was sold to Joshua Edwards, a merchant and gentleman. Edwards lived at the house until 1811 when he sold it to another merchant. The house changed hands many more times before it passed into National Park Service ownership in the 1950s.

The Rev. Samuel Blair, husband of Susannah Shippen who inherited the land, held title to 415 Locust at its completion in 1804. His house, although quite similar to its companion, 413, has more elaborate embellishments, perhaps indicating his personal preferences. Blair, a Presbyterian minister, had served as a chaplain during the Revolution, and then as a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly.

Both buildings are typical of the large Philadelphia row house for the wealthy. They both have facades in Flemish bond with marble belt courses; both also have well detailed arched doorways with fanlights and classical motifs in the trim.

The 1960 restoration of the buildings altered the interior into four apartments for park housing. Each building measures 47'X 36'. At 413 Locust there is a three-story wing 18'X 24' with a 14' connecting section between. At the cellar level the houses have a two-foot stone ashlar foundation, and on the roof each has a dormer window in front.

40. 421 Locust

The small 2 1/2-story brick house with a Flemish bond facade at 421 Locust was built in 1785-1786 by Alexander Rodgers, a laborer, who had purchased the lot from

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William Shippen the year before construction began. The simplicity and size of this two-bay three-room house with winding stairs connecting them contrasts with the nearby houses built for prominent Philadelphians at 413-415 Locust. The house measures only 18'X 25', with a one-story back wing 12 X 15'. In 1955 the National Park Service completed a restoration of its exterior.

41. 423 Locust

Between 1803 and 1807 the William Shippen family had the house at 423 Locust constructed as an income property. The 3 1/2-story brick row house adjoins 421 Locust and shares an overall simplicity of design with its neighbor. The house measures 15'X 25' at front and the rear two-story wing measures 15'X 14'. The two-bay facade is in Flemish bond with a belt course. The National Park Service restored its exterior in 1960.

42. Bond House, 129 Second Street

The three-story brick house on the northeast corner of Second and Sansom Streets, is within the Old City Historic District entered in the National Register May 5, Its builder, Dr. Thomas Bond, Sr., (1717-1784) was one of colonial Philadelphia's most prominent men, who achieved his reputation in the field of medical science. Thomas Bond, Sr., built his new brick Georgian-style house in 1769 as a home for his son, Thomas Bond, Jr., who paid him rent for its use. When completed the house measured 21 1/2'X 43'and stood three-and-one-half stories high abutting the Thomas Bond, Sr.'s, house constructed in 1757 on the lot to the north. An Ionic modillion cornice was the most elaborate feature of the building. In 1824 the heirs of the second owner, James Cox, added a four-foot extension and a new facade to the front of the house. the 1830s-40s a three-story rear wing, 21 1/2 X 35', was added to the house, giving it its current appearance.

Since its addition to Independence National Historical Park in 1975, a study has been completed on its history and architecture, but no restoration has been accomplished. Currently the building is receiving

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stabilization and, after adaptive restoration, will be leased to a bed and breakfast proprietor.

B. Historic Sites:

43. Fawcitt House.

The brick outline containing ivy marks the site of a two-story frame house built 1706-10 by Nathan Fawcitt, a bodice maker, on Chestnut Street adjoining Carpenters' Court to the west. In 1768 the Carpenters' Company purchased the house and used it as a rental property until its demolition in 1810. The building represents one of numerous frame constructions in the predominantly brickbuilt city of Philadelphia during the eighteenth century. The Fawcitt house also formed an integral part of the architectural framework of the entrance to Carpenters' Court through which the delegates to the First Continental Congress passed when in September 1775 they met in Carpenters' Hall. In the mid-1950s the National Park Service demolished the building at 322 Chestnut Street on the site of the Fawcitt House, and completed an archeological study of the building's foundations. Based on the known measurements of the 18th century frame structure, it was determined that none of the foundations found in the archeological dig represented remains of the Fawcitt House.

44. Friends School

Having operated a school in Philadelphia since 1689, the Society of Friends in 1745 built a new school house on the south end of a large lot on the southeast corner of Fourth and Chestnut Streets which had been willed to the Friends in 1732 by William Forrest. The new two-story brick school house stood more than 200 feet from Chestnut Street, and had its long, 60-foot sides perpendicular to Fourth Street, and its ends, 35 feet wide, parallel to it. Entries to the school were on the north and south sides. The four large rooms, two on each floor, benefited from the seven windows down and eight up along the north and south sides, and three down and up on the east and west sides of the school. When, in 1763, the Friends

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decided to add a new meeting house on the Fourth Street property, they left 25 feet between the two buildings to protect the good light and air circulation provided for the school house, called by the Friends, the Academy. The school building was torn down in 1867.

45. Friends Meeting House

The new meeting house, completed in 1764, had its axis along Fourth Street. It was a large two-story brick structure, 76'X 42', designed to seat the large monthly meetings and the quarterly "Youths' Meetings." As of 1772, after Philadelphia Monthly Meeting had been divided in three parts, the building served for the Southern District monthly meetings. The meeting house also served as a school for girls and a primary school until its demolition in 1859.

The National Park Service cleared the east side of Fourth Street of structures in the 1950s. Any remains of the Friends buildings had been destroyed during the construction of these later structures along Fourth Street.

46. The Anvil and Cross Keys Tavern,

The Anvil and Cross Keys Tavern, otherwise known as the Crosskeys and Anvil Tavern, or the Cross Keys, was in operation on July 8, 1776, when some of Pennsylvania's Committee of Safety celebrated with Col. John Nixon, owner of the tavern, after he gave the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence in the State House yard, now Independence Square. The tavern had only a month earlier been acquired by Nixon, a prominent Philadelphia merchant who worked many years in the Revolutionary movement and in local politics. Nixon sold the tavern in November 1776, having owned it only five months.

The tavern not only spanned the Revolutionary years but was in operation well beyond the Federal Convention of 1787 which gave it a new name -- Sign of the Federal Convention. The tavern's construction probably dates to the 1690s when Charles Sober purchased the lot at Fourth

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and Chestnut "with the Houses there on." Nineteenth century chroniclers recalled it as a very old fashioned two-story brick double-hipped roof inn that lacked beauty and architectural unity. It was torn down early in the nineteenth century to make way for the Philadelphia Bank, demolished early in this century.

Today the National Park Service identifies the Anvil and Cross Keys site with a bed of ivy suggesting the size of the building, and with a wayside sign. No remains survived the construction of the bank building.

47. Norris Row

Norris Row is the site of five three-story brick row-houses constructed at the southeast corner of Fifth and Chestnut Streets early in the 1790s on the ground which had been part of the garden on Charles Norris' estate. Prominent tenants in the 1790s, when Philadelphia was the nation's capital, included the War Office and Gilbert Stuart, the noted painter. In the mid-nineteenth century these row houses were converted into elegant shops.

In the late-nineteenth century the houses were torn down to make way for the multi-story Drexel building which in turn was demolished by the National Park Service in 1955-56. An archeological survey on the site in 1960 provided no substantial evidence of the Norris Row structures. The site is now identified with a wayside sign.

48. Surgeons' Hall

In 1785 the University of Pennsylvania adapted a modest two-story frame building on the east side of Fifth Street between Chestnut and Walnut Streets for its medical school, the first in America, founded twenty years earlier by Drs. William Shippen, Jr., and John Morgan. The building, though limited in space, contained a chemical laboratory and classroom on the first floor and an anatomical lecture room illuminated by an octagonal sky-light on the second floor. Surgeons Hall--sometimes called Anatomical Hall or the Laboratory--was torn down in 1840 and replaced by a

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house at 131 South Fifth Street. The site is marked by an ivy bed suggesting its ground size and by a wayside sign.

- C. Non-Historic Contributing Features
 - 49. Pemberton House

In 1968 the National Park Service completed the reconstruction of the Pemberton House at the entrance to Carpenters' Court, on Chestnut Street between Third and Fourth Streets. The building was opened that year as a museum commemorating the United States Army and Navy contributions to the making of a nation from 1775-1800.

The three-story brick townhouse was built in 1775 by Joseph Pemberton, a wealthy Philadelphia merchant. During the mid-1840s the house was torn down and replaced by a five-story office building which in turn was razed in 1875 to make room for the Guaranty Trust and Safe Deposit Company building designed by noted Philadelphia architect, Frank Furness. In the 1960s the Guaranty Trust was demolished and the Pemberton house reconstructed on the site. The intervening construction obliterated any remains of the Pemberton house.

The Pemberton house represents an exterior reconstruction only, as the interior is designed for exhibit use. The house front, 26'X 48', is connected to a three-story piazza, 11'X 19', followed by a two-story kitchen, 16'X 32'. Pemberton built the house to reflect his affluent lifestyle. The three-bay facade is in Flemish bond with red stretchers and black leaders. Belt courses cross the facade at the second and third levels. The pedimented frontispiece has an arched fanlight and pilaster-style trim. The main house roof is gable and the two rear wings are shed, with wood shingles. The reconstruction was based on period insurance surveys, drawings, deeds, and other descriptive material on the property.

50. Library Hall

In 1957-8 the American Philosophical Society, by permit from the National Park Service, constructed a building on

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the northeast corner of Library Street and Fifth Street, opposite their headquarters at Fifth and Chestnut, to house the society's expanding library and archives. The front section of the building reproduces the 1790 structure called Library Hall which the Library Company of Philadelphia—the oldest subscription library in the country, founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin—erected on approximately the same site to hold their growing collection. The original Library Hall was torn down around 1884, after the Library Company completed its relocation to new buildings closer to center city. The Drexel building, an early high—rise ten—story office building, replaced Library Hall at the corner of Fifth and Chest—nut. In 1956 the National Park Service demolished the Drexel Building.

Library Hall has been accurately reproduced from an 1800 engraving of the building by William Birch, as well as from nineteenth century photographs. The two-story brick building has a Palladian design containing a five-bay facade with a central entrance and a pedimented bay of four pilasters. Surrounding its hipped roof is a balustrade surmounted with urns. Two rectangular windows on the second floor flank a central niche containing a statue of Benjamin Franklin draped in a toga (Library Hall reached completion in the year of Franklin's death.). The original Library Hall building was designed by Dr. William Thornton, who later won the competition for the nation's capital in Washington.

51., & 52. Hibbard-Griffitts-Marshall Houses, 339-341 Walnut

In 1963 the National Park Service reconstructed two eighteenth century three-story brick townhouses at 339-341 Walnut Street to structurally stabilize the Todd House on the northeast corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets and to partially restore the rowhouse city scape of the historic period. The original houses had been altered beyond recognition during the nineteenth century and were torn down in 1957 by the National Park Service.

In the mid-1770s all three corner rowhouses were built as investment properties by a merchant, carpenter, and

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bricklayer--Jonathan Dilworth, Hezekiah Hibbard and John Marshall--respectively. Hibbard and Dilworth jointley purchased the land in 1769 and divided it into equal lots, the two eastern of which went to Hibbard. In 1774 Hibbard sold the eastern lot to Marshall and by 1779 all three 16-foot-wide lots had three-story brick rowhouses which likely represented a joint construction effort displaying similar facades and roof lines along Walnut Street.

The middle townhouse, 341 Walnut, has been called the Hibbard-Griffitts house in honor of both its builder and its most prominent tenant, Dr. Samuel Powell Griffitts, who rented the house from 1789 to 1800 when Philadelphia was the national capital. During this decade Griffitts was a distinguished Philadelphia physician and philanthropist, a professor of materia medica at the University of Pennsylvania, founder of the Philadelphia Dispensary (1789), and Secretary of the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting Agriculture.

The adjoining house, 339 Walnut, had no prominent residents during the late eighteenth century. While Griffitts rented 341 Walnut, his neighbors at 339 were Quakers---as were Griffitts and the Todds on the corner -- making the occupants as compatible socially as the buildings were architecturally.

Existing insurance surveys--one in 1784 for 339 Walnut and an 1848 one for 341 Walnut--reveal that the two adjoining houses owned by Hibbard and Marshall had a distinctly similar structural design suggesting that they probably were built simultaneously. Their exterior dimensions, used in the reconstruction differ only slighty: 339 Walnut measured 16'X 31' on the main, three-story house; 10'X 8' on the three-story staircase or piazza; and 8'X 12' on the two-story kitchen wing. 341 Walnut measured 16'X 33' on the main, three-story house; 10'X 8' on the piazza, and 11'1/2 X 17' on the two-story rear wing. The Hibbard-Griffitts and Marshall houses were reconstructed with identical facades patterned after the Todd house based on the premise that they all were built together as real estate

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speculation. Their facades are in Flemish bond with black glazed headers, belt courses at the second and third floor levels, and side and rear walls in common bond. In addition the two houses have three bays on the first level, two bays on the second and third floors, and one pedimented dormer window in the gable roof. They share two chimneys, one on the front and one on the back roof of the main section, and a chimney on each shed-roofed rear wing. They each have pedimented front entrances on the street level, and the six facade windows of each house have paneled shutters.

The interiors of these houses serve as the principal office for Eastern National Park and Monument Association. No attempt has been made to restore the eighteenth century room arrangements.

53. Eighteenth Century Garden

The Eighteenth Century Garden fills two lots between Walnut Street and Harmony Court and Third and Fourth Streets, where a garden of larger size stood from 1750 to 1783. The garden, planned and maintained by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, illustrates a formal gardening style of the late eighteenth century. Its main features include graveled walks through geometrically-patterned flower beds, a small orchard, and a gazebo. The species planted all are typical of garden varieties grown in Philadelphia prior to 1800.

54.,55. Kidd Houses, 323-325 Walnut Street

The Kidd houses, 323-325 Walnut Street, are three-story brick row houses built between 1810 and 1812 by Robert Kidd, a Philadelphia copper merchant. Kidd lived in 325 Walnut from 1812 to 1819, and in 1826 he sold 325 Walnut to Dr. Philip S. Physick, one of Philadelphia's most distinguished nineteenth century physicians. Kidd leased 323 Walnut during its first three years, and then in 1815 sold it to Dr. William P. Chandler, another noted physician in the city. Neither Kidd house, however, has significance in relation to the themes of Independence National Historical Park.

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When the National Park Service acquired the Kidd houses as part of Independence National Historical Park in 1951, they had been extensively altered and, as of 1865, joined on their interior. The park restored the house exteriors to their 1810-11 appearance to provide a consistent architectural landscape for Walnut Street and Harmony Court to the rear. The two interiors were adapted as office space for the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture.

The eastern Kidd House, 323 Walnut, measures 21'X 42' on the main building and has a three-bay early Federal facade with one dormer window. The adjoining house measures 18'1/2 X 42' on the main building and has a two-bay Federal facade with a dormer window. The two houses have typical period piazzas which the National Park Service preserved in the 1960s. The exterior restoration is based on surviving fabric and early nineteenth century insurance surveys of the Kidd houses.

56. Fling House

Sometime after 1825 and before 1840 William B. Fling, cabinetmaker, constructed a 3 1/2-story brick townhouse at 319-321 Walnut Street which occupied all of the 20-by 45-foot lot. As of 1826 Fling was a resident of the neighboring McIlvaine house, where he remained until 1855, and was therefore close at hand during the construction of the new townhouse adjoining his home. house received numerous nineteenth and twentieth century alterations which the National Park Service removed on its exterior in 1963 to restore the block of townhouses to their original late eighteenth-early nineteenth The interior of the Fling house is century appearance. jointly occupied by the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture (founded 1785) and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (founded 1827), by cooperative agreement with the National Park Service.

The Fling house complements the earlier, historic period row houses on the block and thus contributes to the historic urban setting. It has a three-bay facade which

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is noticeably plainer than its eighteenth century neighbors and its corbelled brick cornice singles it out as a post-1815 construction.

57. 311-313 Walnut Street --Park Headquarters

In 1951 the National Park Service acquired the five-story concrete Yoh Building at 311-313 Walnut Street and in 1965 completed a structural alteration which lowered the building to three stories and restored the early nine-teenth century facade of the preceding building on the site as well as a typical and rear wing configuration. This alteration contributed to the restoration of the period setting for the historic houses on its either side--the McIlvaine and Bishop White houses--on the north side of the block. The park headquarters building, therefore, does not intrude on the historic scene.

58. Cobblestone Streets and Brick Sidewalks

Independence Park restored the brick sidewalks, six streets, and alleys to the decade Philadelphia served as the national capital in the 1790s: Dock, Harmony, Orianna, Moravian, and Library Streets, and Carpenters' Court reflect the new style of paving described in a Pennsylvania Gazette in 1795. This description, along with other written and pictorial sources, enabled the restoration process:

In the improved part of the city they are paved with pebble stones in the middle, which generally comprehends three-fifths of the whole breadth; and on each side with brick for the foot-ways. Between the streets and foot-ways are gutters, paved with brick, for carrying off the water, and filth of the city; to the river and common sewers. The foot-ways are defended from the approach of carriages, by rows of posts placed on the outside of the gutters, at the distance of 10 or 12 feet from each other. But in those streets which have been lately new paved, the posts have been removed, the side ways raised, and in front, towards the street, is a range of hewn stone, on a common level with the foot-ways. The streets,

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though raised in the middle, lie much lower than formerly. From the top of the street to each side, is a gradual descent, so that the foot-ways are 8 or 10 inches elevated above the adjoining part of the street; which renders gutters no longer necessary.

III. Benjamin Franklin

This theme identifies the structures and sites associated with Benjamin Franklin's home in Franklin Court from 1765 to his death in 1790.

A. Historic Structures and Archeological Resources.

Market Street Houses

Five pre-1804 three-story brick rowhouses on the south side of Market Street midway between Third and Fourth Streets received extensive architectural and archeological research during the 1960s before the National Park Service restored their exterior appearance in 1974-76 to recreate the typical setting of the neighborhood where Benjamin Franklin kept a home from his arrival in Philadelphia in 1723 to his death in 1790. Three of these houses and an arched carriage way separating the first floors of two of them, were built by Franklin late in his life as rental properties, and as access to his home in Franklin Court.

59. 314 Market Street

When the National Park Service acquired 314 Market Street in the 1950s the building was a five-story brick commercial property of c. 1853 construction which bore no resemblance to the three-story brick row house built on the lot in 1797 by James Poultney, an ironmonger. Subsequent research and architectural investigation, however, revealed that the party walls of the original building still stood. In 1975 the National Park Service restored its 18th century exterior, and adapted the interior for a bookstore and office space.

The restored three-story brick structure is typical of the 18th century Philadelphia rowhouse, with two rooms per floor

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and a two-story stairhall and kitchen to the rear. The front house measures only 17'X 42', the piazza 9'X 14', and the back building 13' X 19'.

Benjamin Franklin never owned this property but he and his heirs until the mid-nineteenth century must have been acquainted with the printers, saddler, carpenter, and confectioner who lived and worked in the house at different times until its major alteration of c.1853 which enlarged the building.

60.,61. 316 and 318 Market Streets

Because 316 and 318 Market Street were constructed simutaneously in 1786-87 as tenant houses for Benjamin Franklin and were designed on identical but reversed plans, they are being treated as one in this description.

In 1785, with the news that the market stalls on High or Market Street were being extended to the block where he owned property, Franklin decide to invest in new houses to accommodate the anticipated business. Consequently he tore down his three small houses—one frame and two brick—on the Market Street lots in front of his own house, and made plans for 316-318 Market, as well as for a ten-foot wide entranceway to his mansion between the structures.

Franklin closely supervised the 1786-87 construction to make sure his houses were properly completed. The two houses interlocked over the arched 44-foot-long entrance driveway; 316 Market had rooms over the north moiety, while 318 had them over the south moiety. The basements had alternating storage areas which projected under the driveway. These vaults are still in place and currently on exhibit at 318 Market.

Each house measures 18' 9" across the first floor and, above the level of the ten-foot-wide driveway, the upper two floors and garret measure 24 feet across. Both houses extend north-south 45 feet. The exterior restoration returned the stone foundations, Flemish bond facades,

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balconies at the second floor front, and corniced wood shingled roofs, replete with battlements (to curb the spread of fire), described in early insurance surveys.

Both houses were enlarged by new owners in the 1850s making five-level stores. As a result they were gutted to the party walls and given new interiors, new facades, and extended to the rear approximately 150 ft. These alterations were removed in the 1974-75 National Park Service exterior restorations. The houses always retained the arched driveway between them.

The interior of 316 Market now houses the B. Free Franklin Post Office, in commemoration of Franklin's contributions to the postal service, as well as a postal museum and park offices. The interior of 318 Market contains a structural exhibit which explains the architectural evidence of the original interior as designed by Franklin, found during the investigation of the building's fabric during the 1970s.

62. 320 Market Street

Adjoining Franklin's new tenant houses at 316-318 Market was a gabled two-story house with a garret, 17'X 37', with two rooms per floor and a one-story kitchen, 8'X 16', to the rear, which had been built in 1720 by Henry Frogley, a joiner. Before Franklin began the demolition of his original building adjoining 320 to make room for 318 Market, he brought suit to settle the property line. In 1786, after he won a judgment that 14 1/2" of 320 Market encroached on his lot, he ordered that the party wall be torn down and rebuilt about half a foot to the west. Subsequently 320 Market measured only 16 1/2'across.

In 1804 Seth Craig, a saddler and long-time tenant of the house, purchased the property and rebuilt the structure as a three-story row-house. The new structure measured 16 1/2 X 45 feet, followed by a three-story piazza, 14 by 8 feet, and a low four-story back building 11 by 40 feet. By 1845 the building had been enlarged again to a four-

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story front structure with one room per floor, a twostory middle section, and one-story rear addition, totaling 114 feet in depth. By 1851 the building stood four stories in entirety and thus remained until the National Park Service purchased the property in 1955. In 1974-76, after extensive architectural and historical research, the National Park Service restored the building to its 1804 three-story exterior appearance, reserving its interior for adaptive use.

63. 322 Market

This 3 1/2-story brick rowhouse was one of the three tenant houses on Market Street Benjamin Franklin built in 1787-88 to profit from the extension of the market stalls in front of his property. The lot had served for twenty years as a driveway to Franklin's mansion set back in the court behind the Market Street houses. To stretch the commercial use of his land, however, Franklin designed a new access--an arched driveway between his new tenant houses at 316-318 Market--and proceeded to build on his empty lot. The new gabled three-story with garret rowhouse, 17'X 45', at 322 Market closely resembled Franklin's other two new houses at 316 and 318 Market when completed in 1788.

The house was the home and office for Benjamin Franklin Bache, Franklin's grandson, who kept his office for the anti-Federalist paper, Aurora, there until his death in 1798. William Duane, his assistant, maintained the Aurora office at 322 Market until 1800, the year he married Bache's widow, and moved to a new location. The house was used as commercial property thereafter. By 1868 the structure had been extended southward 45 feet and raised to five stories, and its interior gutted to make one room per floor. An archeological-architectural study of the building by the National Park Service a century later uncovered the original party walls of the 1788 rowhouse, and sufficient evidence to restore the building on its exterior. The interior has a recreation of Bache's Aurora office on the first floor and park offices on the upper floors.

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Franklin Court Archeology:

Franklin Court, in the center of the block bounded by Market and Chestnut, Third and Fourth Streets, is the site of Benjamin Franklin's Philadelphia house from 1763 to his death in 1790, and the Print Shop he built for his grandson, Benjamin Franklin Bache. The National Park Service acquired the property during the 1950s as Orianna Street, a narrow mid-block alleyway lined with various nineteenth and twentieth century buildings which were subsequently demolished to allow for archeological investigations that continued over a twenty-year period. When the archeology was complete the Park Service contracted with Venturi and Rauch of Philadelphia to design exhibits for Franklin Court. The resulting plan featured the few archeological remains of Franklin's house, rather than a reconstruction of it, and designed innovative space frames to represent the outlines of the house and print shop. (See Non-historic, Contributing section for frames.) Archeological remains of an ice pit, privy, and several well sites were also identified with round slate slabs in the Court pavement.

64. Franklin's House

Benjamin Franklin's house in the Court was built in 1763-65, most of which time he was representing Pennsylvania in London. In fact, except for one year in 1775, Franklin did not live in his new house until his final return to America in 1785, when he moved in with his daughter and son-in-law and their four Franklin found the 34-foot square, threechildren. story brick house too crowded and in 1786 enlarged it on all floors with a 16 1/2'X 33'-foot addition on the east side of the house, which blended well with the original structure. Now in his old age and suffering pain from several ailments, Franklin made his last house addition in 1787 -- a bathing room where he could recline for extended periods in warm water. Three years later Franklin died, at the age of eightytwo. Franklin's heirs tore down his house in 1812 and replaced it with small rental properties along the narrow street which began on Market Street and was exNPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

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tended that year through to Chestnut Street. This construction and later buildings on the street destroyed most of the archeological remains of Franklin's house.

In 1950 the National Park Service began to purchase the properties along Orianna Street on the site of Franklin Court. When the first archeological digs of 1953 and 1955 were carried out the buildings were still standing, limiting the results of the field work. Full scale digs in 1960-61, when the Court was cleared of structures, focused on defining structural remains from Franklin's period. In 1969-70 yet more extensive archeology was completed at the site to answer architectural questions about Franklin's house, as well as his Market Street houses.

Most of the archeological evidence of Franklin's house was found under Orianna Street and its sidewalks, areas never disturbed by excavations for house basements. Four areas have been carefully preserved for public display, viewed through protective glass shafts to the cellar-level of the house. These reveal: 1) A circular brick privy pit with a four-foot inside diameter, built circa 1786 as an adjunct of the house addition, and, a foot north of it, a small segment of the south wall stone foundation; 2) a small patch of brick flooring in herringbone pattern in the kitchen, the southeast basement room, and another small section of the stone south wall foundation; 3) a section of the north wall's stone foundation; and 4) remnants of a stone foundation for a brick interior partition.

To supplement these limited archeological remains on exhibit, there is a circular slate slab marking the site of Franklin's stone-lined ice pit which was uncovered during the 1960-61 excavations. An inscription on the slab tells visitors that the mortared stone pit was 11.5 feet deep and 10 feet in diameter.

B. Historic Sites

65. Print Shop

Historical rather than archeological evidence indicates the approximate location of the two-story print shop Franklin built in 1787 for his grandson, Benjamin

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Franklin Bache, who had returned to Philadelphia after an apprenticeship with master printers in France. While the archeological investigations in the Court turned up no conclusive evidence of the shop, insurance surveys revealed that the print shop straddled the same alleyway Franklin had just opened between his new 316-318 Market Street houses, and measured 48 feet by 20 feet. The structure was probably razed in 1812 along with Franklin's house.

In the tradition of his famous grandfather, Bache published a newspaper from this print shop-the General Advertiser which in 1794 became known as the Aurora-as well as a selection of books and articles. Bache used his newspaper to voice his strong advocacy of civil liberties and his vehement stand against the Federalists, led by Presidents George Washington and John Adams.

- C. Non-Historic, Contributing
- 66.,67. Space Frames and Paving

The two Venturi and Rauch space frames of structural steel tubing which represent Franklin's house and print shop stand on the approximate site of the original buildings and dilineate their measured outlines as given in insurance surveys. The Franklin house frame measures 49 feet 6 inches by 33 feet and 50 feet 6 inches high to the roof ridge, while the print shop is 48 feet by 20 feet and 48 feet to the roof ridge. The arched carriageway through the middle of the print shop is marked by a frame 10 feet wide and 13 feet 6 inches high. In the case of the print shop frame the roof line and height had to be estimated from comparative sources, as no pictorial evidence of the shop has been found.

These Venturi and Rauch space frames have been identified by a National Park Service landmark theme study (see Harrison "Architecture in the Parks", 1986) as structures to evaluate for architectural significance as they approach fifty years of age.

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The pavement beneath the space frames also helps to clarify the construction of Franklin's house and print shop. White marble stones laid in slate paving mark the house plan-- its foundations, partitions, window, and door location--while quotations from Franklin family papers and correspondence etched in the slate floor shed light on the interior room use and design.

IV. Architecture

This theme identifies the nineteenth century structure within the Park which is significant for its architecture.

68. Philadelphia Exchange

When completed in 1834 the Philadelphia Merchants' Exchange at the northwest corner of Dock and Walnut Streets presented a memorable sight with its massive marble faced construction in the Classical Revival Style. Its architect, William Strickland, had already achieved local fame for his recent design of the Independence Hall steeple in 1832, and for the Second Bank of the United States, completed in 1824. Strickland's design for the Exchange was boldly innovative with its placement of one structure—a lantern—shaped copy of Athens' Choragic Monument to Lysicrates—on top of a three—story rectangular building with semi—circular portico at one end.

Until the Civil War the Exchange served its original purpose as a center for commerce and a home for the Philadelphia Post Office. During this initial period the building was admired as one of the finest in the city, but as the century waned, the Exchange suffered increasing neglect as commerce moved west, away from the Delaware River, and the Greek Revival architecture fell out of fashion. In 1900 all but the exterior walls were removed in preparation for a rebuilding of the Exchange under the supervision of Architect Louis C. Hickman, in expectation of the return of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange the next year. In 1922, after the Hallowell

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estate purchased the building for the Produce Exchange, the west facade was altered to make Third Street the main entrance, and several fine appointments on the east facade entrance were removed to build market stalls.

In this altered state the building was acquired by the National Park Service in 1952. By the close of the 1960s the National Park Service had completed a partial exterior restoration and a remodeling of the interior for offices. Based largely on photographic evidence, the semicircular portico of the east facade and the roof with its lantern have been restored to the building, while the west facade retains the 1922 alterations which made it the front entrance.

The building measures 95 feet on Third Street and is 115 feet to the semicircular portico which has a 37-foot radius.

During construction 30,811 cubic feet of marble were delivered from Montgomery County for John Struthers and his Italian masons hired to put up the marble facade on the building's thick brick walls, and to carve embellishments at the cornice, the water belt, the portico, and west facade. In 1839 the portico received marble lions imported from Italy--copies of Canova's at St. Peter's in Rome--to flank the staircases at its either end. The portico's eight Corinthian capitals, also carved in Italy, visually harmonized with those supporting the portico of the First Bank of the United States a short way up Dock Street. These key features of the Merchants Exchange were restored by the National Park Service to return the architectural emphasis of the building to its east or portico end, while for practical purposes retaining the entrance on Third Street.

Non-Contributing Features

69. Liberty Bell Pavilion

On July 20, 1974, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Act 187 transferred Independence Mall State Park,

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between Fifth and Sixth Streets and Chestnut and Race Streets, to Independence National Historical Park. The three city blocks, however, will remain in State ownership until the bonds are paid off in the last decade of this century. As an exception, the central lawn area of 2.11 acres on the first block between Chestnut and Market Streets was deeded to the federal government in 1974 so that the National Park Service could build the Liberty Bell Pavilion for the bicentennial celebration.

The Liberty Bell Pavilion reached completion in 1975, a product of Mitchell Giurgola Associates, architects, and T.J. White, Inc., general contractors. Its 4,280 square feet provided one floor of 3,200 square feet for visitor use, the remaining space being in the basement. The pavilion was built in concrete block with granite exterior facing and with a wall in glass looking out toward Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell's original home. The Bell Pavilion was conceived and built to handle the anticipated crush of visitors during the bicentennial, and was planned not to intrude on the historic setting. A 1986 National Park Service study by Laura Soulliere Harrison, "Architecture in the Parks, National Historic Landmark Theme Study" identifies the Pavilion as one to consider for landmark status in architectural significance as it nears fifty years of age.

70. Franklin Court Museum

As part of their 1974 plan for Franklin Court Venturi and Rauch of Philadelphia designed an underground museum to interpret the achievements and contributions of Benjamin Franklin. The Museum has one story above ground along the western perimeter of the Court, containing stairs at the south end and the beginning of broad entrance ramps which lead down to the exhibit area and theater on the south end. The museum is a large, irregularly-shaped structure which measures 115 feet 8 inches by 225 feet 10 1/8 inches from farthest corner to corner. Underground the structure extends across the Court, around the archeological remains of Franklin's house.

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71. Visitor Center

In 1975 Independence National Historical Park saw the completion of a new visitor center at the southeast corner of Third and Chestnut Streets. The 37,105 square foot, two-story brick building with a modern bell tower (which houses the Bicentennial Bell, #30) was designed by Cambridge Seven Associates of Boston. The structure contains twenty-four rooms including two amphitheaters, two large open exhibit and visitor contact rooms, restrooms, and offices. The Visitor Center replaces a block of nineteenth century commercial buildings.

72. Parking Garage

In 1980, after salvage archeology was completed, the Philadelphia Parking Authority built a 550-car multi-level parking garage on approximately one acre of park ground between Front and Second Streets, just north of Sansom Street. The Authority built the garage and gained exclusive rights to operate and maintain it by a thirty-year lease signed with the National Park Service on March 1, 1979. The garage, constructed to serve a pressing need to make the park more accessible, replaced a nineteenth century warehouse which the National Park Service demolished in the late 1970s, after having made architectural studies and photographic records.

73. Workshed and Greenhouse

In 1965 the park built a 965-square foot, two-story workshed and greenhouse for the use of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, whose members maintain the adjoining eighteenth century garden. The frame, brick and glass structure stands along Harmony Court behind 323-325 Walnut Street.

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74. Maintenance Shop, Marshall's Court

The maintenance shop on Fifth Street at Marshall's Court, between Locust and Spruce Streets, designed by Philadelphia architects Mitchell and Giurgola, was completed in November 1981. The maintenance facility is an irregularly-shaped two-story brick structure which measures 67 feet 8 3/4 inches along Fifth Street and extends back 247 feet 2 inches from it.

75. Graff House Interpretive Wing

When the Park reconstructed the Graff House in 1976, it also built a modern interpretive wing along the building's western side designed by Philadelphia architects Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson. The three-story wing, measuring 23 feet by 63 feet, provides visitors with a small theater on the first floor; the only public access stairs to the restored second floor rooms Jefferson rented in 1776; and to an exhibit room on Declaration of Independence celebrations. The third floor of the wing is reserved for Park offices.

The wing is built of concrete and glass to contrast with the Graff House, making a clear delineation between historic and contemporary fabric. The wing building facilitates the interpretation of the Graff house.

76. Rose Garden

The Rose Garden, in the center of a landscaped area in the middle of the block bounded by Locust, Walnut, Fourth, and Fifth Streets, was donated in 1971 to Independence National Historical Park by the Daughters of the American Revolution, in honor of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The rose garden contains ninety-six varieties of roses and some 250 bushes.

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77. Magnolia Tribute Garden

The Magnolia Tribute Garden, on the south side of Locust between Fourth and Fifth Streets, was donated in 1959 to Independence National Historical Park by the Garden Club of America in honor of the nation's founders. The rectangular grounds, enclosed by a wrought iron fence, feature thirteen Saucer Magnolias, azaleas, a circular fountain, and lawn space.

Properties adjoining Churches: 78. Christ, 79. St. Joseph's, 80. St. George's

For the protection, aesthetic and physical, of three historic churches contiguous or nearby the park, the National Park Service has purchased, cleared, and landscaped small, rectangular plots of ground adjoining Christ Episcopal Church, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic, and St. George's Methodist Churches. Cooperative agreements between the churches and the Park also have been made to secure the maintenance and protection of the churches.

The three adjoining properties stand mostly in lawn, with brick paths, ground cover, and trees that break the expanse. Brick and ironwork fences surround each property.

81. Independence Mall

Independence Mall--the three landscaped blocks north of Independence Square between Chestnut and Race Streets--was constructed during the 1950s and 1960s by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in conjunction with the City of Philadelphia. The Philadelphia architectural firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson designed the space as an appropriate approach to Independence Hall. The project got underway in 1950 and took seventeen years to complete with state and federal funding. The State let contracts to demolish the numerous buildings crowding each block; to design the Mall's landscaping and parking garage; and to construct the existing features standing within the three-block area.

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Block one, between Chestnut and Market, reached completion first, in 1954, with a central lawn and flanking landscaped terraces on the east and west. At the north end of the east and west terraces there are one-story brick restroom buildings (81-a, 81-b), each 30 feet by 17 feet.

Block Two, between Market and Arch, took the longest to complete, because of conflicting opinions on whether its parking garage would be above or below ground. When completed in 1967, this block represented the greatest concentration of effort, construction, and funding within the Mall. The southern section of the block was designed with a central fountain in a 75foot-square pool, flanked on east and west with terraced gardens. The northern portion contains a three-level underground parking garage (81-c) 300 feet long by 200 feet wide, with a capacity for 650 cars, which the State leases to the Philadelphia Parking authority. Over the garage is a central marble plaza (81-c) framed by two brick arcades with thirteen sections each to symbolize the original colonies. Finally, on the northeast corner of the block the Free Quaker Meeting House was restored and opened to the public. (See No. 6 above)

So much support and backing for the Mall project came from the Independence Hall Association, led by Judge Edwin O. Lewis, that the south end of the second block, as well as the fountain on it, were named after him. The Judge Lewis Quadrangle (81-d) and the Edwin O. Lewis Fountain (81-e) have retained their names since the National Park Service took over the Mall in 1975.

Block three, between Arch and Race Streets, reached completion in 1965. It has a brick central plaza with small fountains regularly spaced throughout the block, under a canopy of honey locust trees.

82. Bringhurst House

The Bringhurst house at 5448 Germantown Avenue is part of the Germantown Avenue Historic District. It

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adjoins the historically significant Deshler-Morris house and was accepted by the park as a visitor contact building for that structure. The two-story stone house (approximately 40' x 63') possibly incorporates the two small stone houses which stood on the lot in 1793-4 when President George Washington leased the neighboring house. Although the current basement dimensions strongly suggest that the existing front building incorporates one of the houses with a 27'X 19' addition on the south side, and that the back wing incorporates the other one, with a bridge addition between the two early structures, no architectural investigation of the house has been completed to confirm this conjecture.

George Bringhurst built the original two small houses early in the eighteenth century. He and his family were modest German settlers in the saddle and coachmaking trades. No information has yet been uncovered to clarify the appearance of the eighteenth century homes nor the process by which the property changed early in the nineteenth century from two small to one large stone house.

The National Park Service received the Bringhurst house as a gift from the Germantown Savings Fund Society in 1976. The structure has a stone facade and stuccoed sides. It currently houses law offices by cooperative agreement.

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The focus of the park, however, is, of course, <u>Independence</u> Hall, #2, (World Heritage Register, October 24, 1979) where in the Assembly Room the Second Continental Congress signed the Declaration of Independence (1776), and adopted (1777) and received ratification (1781) for the Articles of Confederation, the nation's first comprehensive frame of government; and where, from May 25 to September 17, 1787, delegates to the Constitutional Convention debated and signed the United States Constitution, a document of such enduring relevance that in nearly 200 years it has been amended only twenty-six times, ten of which constituted the Bill of Rights, (1791). Known as the State House from its construction (1732-53) until the 1850s, when a renewed reverence for the building's role in American history established its current name, Independence Hall has survived remarkably intact, with the help of conscientious nineteenth and twentieth-century preservationists, culminating in the National Park Service's complete restoration of the building during the 1960s and 1970s.

Independence Square, #1, (known as the State House Yard in the eighteenth century) reflects the landscaping of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but continues in use as a public garden, a use it has retained for more than 250 years. In this capacity the Square was the location for the American Philosophical Society's 1769 viewing of the transit of Venus across the sun, and for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8, 1776. As well, the first two Presidents of the United States, Congressmen, Supreme Court, and District Judges were among the countless political leaders who made use of the landscaped grounds during the decade when Philadelphia was the nation's capital.

The Graff House, #26, another Revolutionary period building, reconstructed on its original site by the National Park Service because of its significance in the events leading to the founding of the nation, is where Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence. From May 23 to September 3, 1776, Jefferson leased the two second floor rooms of the Jacob Graff House as his bedroom and parlor, in the latter of which, by his own recollection, he "wrote habitually," including the Declaration. These two reconstructed rooms have been refurnished to the period

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of his occupancy. Some of the furnishings represent items documented in Jefferson's own diary and account book entries. Although now physically isolated a block west of the park core, in a modern twentieth century setting, the Graff House in its historic period was also relatively isolated on the outskirts of the city, where Jefferson hoped to get relief from the oppressive summer heat. With the exhibits on the first floor and the restored rooms and a Fourth of July exhibit on the second floor, the Graff House serves as an important link in interpreting the Declaration of Independence —the document which symbolizes the creation of the United States—as well its principal author, Thomas Jefferson.

Two other significant reminders of the American Revolution within the park boundaries include: the Mikveh Israel Cemetery, #11, (National Register, June 24, 1971), where Haym Solomon, a major financier of the war, and twenty-eight Jewish Revolutionary soldiers are buried, and the Free Quaker Meeting House, #6, (National Register, September 22, 1971), a landmark of the schism created among the Society of Friends in Philadelphia over the issues of political dissension and bearing arms. The meeting house, completed in 1783, was the place of worship for several Revolutionary officers, among them Colonels Clement Biddle and Samuel Wetherill, who served in key positions during the war years.

Three Revolutionary War heroes have been commemorated by outdoor statuary in the park. The Robert Morris statue, (1926), #13, memorializes the signer of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution of the United States, and the principal financier of the American Revolution. The George Washington Monument, #15, stands in front of Independence Hall where he was appointed Commander in Chief of the Army and elected President of the Constitutional Convention before he served two terms (1789-1797) as the first President of the United States. The John Barry Monument (1907), #14, in Independence Square, remembers one of the nation's most celebrated naval heroes of the Revolutionary War.

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The American Revolution and the Declaration of Independence which announced it to the world, assumed immediate national significance in the United States. The State House bell, now known as the Liberty Bell, #5, was typical of all the nation's town bells that rang each Fourth of July to celebrate the signing of the Declaration. It also had tolled on July 8,1776, to call together Philadelphians for the first public reading of the Declaration. But the State House bell received no recognition of its historical associations until 1839, when a group of Boston Abolistionists placed its inscription, "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants thereof," with an illustration of the bell, on a pamphlet they entitled, "Liberty Bell." Other literature followed using the same bell theme until Lossing's Field Book of 1848 considered the bell as an historic object by reviewing its role in the American Revolution. Factual accuracy about the Bell's history has never been of primary concern to the American public. They quickly became enamored of the symbolism as the essence of American freedom and ideals, and as a durable and tangible relic of the nation's struggle for the highest principles of government. The Liberty Bell remains the object of greatest public interest within the park, and continues to be a meaningful and touchable American icon within close proximity and in full view of Independence Hall where the significant events of its history took place.

The <u>Centennial Bell</u>, #2a, in the steeple of Independence Hall since 1876, perpetuates the symbolism of the bell in American political history. The Centennial bell was patterned after its predecessor, the Liberty Bell, to commemorate the American Revolution.

After the ratification of the Constitution, Philadelphia served for a decade (1790-1800) as the nation's capital, during which time the buildings on Independence Square enjoyed the unique experience in American history to house the federal, state, and local governments simultaneously. The new Philadelphia county courthouse was fitted up for Congress, while the City Hall was adapted to accommodate the United States Supreme Court. City, county, and state officials occupied Independence Hall.

Congress Hall, #3, (1787-89), the name given Philadelphia's county courthouse during the decade it accommodated Congress, was the scene of numerous landmark decisions by the

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legislative branch of the new federal government. Strengthened by the Constitution, Congress moved to stabilize the country and its economy with an act to tax whiskey (1791), to establish the United States Mint (1792), to regulate naturalization (1795), to levy a federal property tax (1798), and to create a Department of the Navy (1798). During its occupancy of Congress Hall, the legislature also received the ratification of the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments, in 1791; admitted three states Vermont (1791), Kentucky (1792), and Tennessee (1796) into the union on an equal footing, thus assuring the Northwest Ordinance's (1787) intent for an orderly and democratic process of national growth; and witnessed in the House Chamber the first peaceful transfer of power from one President to the next--from George Washington to John Adams in 1797 -- thereby confirming for the nation and the skeptical monarchies abroad that the democratic experiment in America was still viable and effective.

In 1789, when still seated in New York, Congress passed the Judiciary Act which authorized President Washington to appoint six justices to the first United States Supreme Court. The next year the Supreme Court relocated to Philadelphia, where they held sessions in Independence Hall until August 1791, when they could move into the just completed City Hall building. Chief Justice John Jay and the Supreme Court made two decisions of enduring significance during their occupancy of what is now called, Old City Hall:, #4, that the Supreme Court justices could not advise the President or members of the Executive Branch (1793), and that, by the Chisholm v. Georgia decision (1793), individuals could sue a state, a decision which led to the ratification of the Eleventh Amendment (1798). Both decisions represented precedent setting actualizations of the balance of power principle built into the United States Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution also enabled Congress to take significant measures to strengthen the nation's economy. In 1791 Congress chartered the <u>First Bank of the United States</u>, #7, and in 1819, to stem another financial crisis, chartered the <u>Second Bank of the United States</u>, #8 (1818). Both bank buildings became National Historic Landmarks on April 29,

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1987, for their association with the growth and interpretation of the Constitution, as well as for their architectural significance.

The <u>Lincoln Plaque</u> (1903), #16, in the sidewalk before Independence Hall commemorates Abraham Lincoln's ceremony on February 22, 1861, to mark the admission of Kansas as a state. Lincoln's tribute fell on George Washington's birthday and at the site of the writing of the Constitution, a document that sanctioned the entrance of new states into the union. The Lincoln plaque thus perpetuates the theme of the nation's founding and growth as a union of equal states.

When the new federal government moved to Philadelphia in December 1790, it leased several buildings to house executive department offices, the sites of seven of which have been identified within the Park boundaries. Five of the buildings composed a "Treasury Row" along Third Street between Chestnut and Walnut Streets, where the Department of the Treasury managed the fiscal program passed by Congress and master-minded by the department's Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, which rescued the nation from its crisis over the public debt and established a secure economy for the country. The offices after 1797 clustered near the greatest symbol of this national resurgence -- the First Bank of the United Today, only the bank building remains, but the Park's brick and ivy markers indicating the sites of the Secretary of the Treasury, #18, the United States Auditor, #19, and the United States Treasurer, #20, office buildings, along with a wayside exhibit mapping all five building sites, (including U.S. Register Office, #21, and U.S. Commissioner of Revenue, #22,) help to restore the sense of focus the Treasury Department established on Third Street.

Another building, on Walnut midway between Fourth and Fifth Streets, served as headquarters for the Department of the Navy, #25, established by Congress on May 3, 1798, during national preparations for war against France. The creation of the naval department indicated the determination of this country to fight if the undeclared war with the French over the XYZ affair further escalated.

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Finally, the War Department, the parent branch of the armed forces, had offices in both Carpenters' Hall and New Hall, #28, on Carpenters' Court during the 1790s, and in the westernmost townhouse of Norris Row, #47, at the corner of Fifth and Chestnut Streets, from 1792 to 1796. This department, authorized by the Constitution and established on August 7, 1789, by President Washington, marked the emergence of the military for the national defense in times of peace.

The Executive Office of the United States has always been in the President's home since the inauguration of George Washington in 1789. The site of the Executive Mansion, #17, for both Washington and Adams during their residency in Philadelphia is near the corner of Sixth and Market Streets, in the first block of Independence Mall, and is identified with a wayside marker. Being only one block from where Congress was in session, the President could readily be apprised of ongoing issues. During 1791 and 1792 Washington called his department heads together several times to consider foreign and military matters at the Robert Morris house where he lived, and so began the practice of cabinet meetings. From November 16 to 30, 1793, near the end of the worst yellow fever epidemic to strike Philadelphia, the cabinet met at the President's emergency residence in Germantown, the home of Isaac Franks, now known as the Deshler-Morris House, #12. Here the Executive Branch continued its consideration of the grave crisis posed by the former French Minister, Edward Genet, who had earlier in the year commissioned privateers in American ports to prey on British ships along the United States coast, thus endangering American relations with Great Britain and risking war with that country again. Washington's brief occupancy in Germantown in 1793 must have been appealing, for he leased the house the following summer (July 30-September 20) so that he and his family could be near the seat of government but out of danger from yellow fever. Thus the house earned the modern title of "the Summer White House." The Deshler-Morris House and adjoining Bringhurst House, #82, are part of the Germantown Avenue Historic District, National Historic Landmark June 23, 1965.

Three distinguished Philadelphians who were patriots and participants in the growth of the new nation lived within

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the park boundaries -- Bishop William White, Dr. Benjamin Rush, and Judge Richard Peters. William White (1748-1836) had graduated from the College of Philadelphia (University of Pennsylvania), been ordained an Episcopal minister in London, and had assumed the assistant rectorship of Christ Church before the Continental Congress first gathered in Philadelphia to consider grievances against Great Britain. White strongly supported the Revolutionary cause from the pulpit of his influential church once its rector fled with the British in 1777, and from his position as chaplain to the Continental Congress. After the war he led the movement to establish the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and in 1786 was named its Bishop for Pennsylvania. Α few years later, while serving his new country again as chaplain to the United States Senate during its decade in Philadelphia, White became the presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in America.

From 1787 to 1836 the Bishop lived in the townhouse on Walnut Street now known as the Bishop White House, #9, where he entertained many of the nation's patriots and leaders, among them George Washington, John Adams, John Marshall, and Benjamin Rush. While living there he pursued broad humanitarian interests which strengthened his reputation and popularity in the city and nation. His house was first recognized for its historic significance in the authorizing legislation for Independence National Historical Park, and then in the Society Hill Historic District nomination entered in the National Register June 23, 1971. As restored by the National Park Service, the Bishop White House again communicates his financial standing in the community, and gives, with the aid of many original family furnishings, especially in his library where he received distinguished visitors and worked on his numerous church and humanitarian projects, an idea of the cultured and affluent life style among many national leaders of the late eighteenth century.

Only the house sites remain at the corner of Third and Walnut Streets where the Bishop's contemporaries and eastern neighbors lived--Richard Peters (1744-1828), #24, and Benjamin Rush (1745-1813), #23,. Rush, signer of the Declaration, patriot in the war, and treasurer of the United States Mint (1797-

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1813), was best known in his day as a distinguished and controversial doctor and an active humanitarian. Peters was elected by Congress in 1776 to be secretary of the board of war where he served until 1781. He again served his country from 1792 until his death in 1828 as judge of the United States District Court of Pennsylvania. The proximity of these marked house sites to the Bishop White house reinforces the awareness that Philadelphia was the home of prominent people in the early growth of the nation.

II. Philadelphia, Capital City, 1774-1800

The following historic structures, sites, objects, and historic reconstructions possess significance for their contributing association with Philadelphia as a Capital City, 1774-1800, and with the lives of persons significant to that period.

Why did the First and Second Continental Congresses, the Constitutional Convention, and the administrations under Presidents Washington and Adams all sit in Philadelphia during the formation and early growth of the United States? Because Philadelphia in the late eighteenth century made a logical and appealing gathering place, one easily adapted as a national capital. It was the largest, richest, and most cultivated city in North America where residents had the benefit of superior medical and commercial facilities. Moreover, it was the largest port on the coast and conveniently located about midway between the northern and southernmost boundaries of the thirteen colonies that became the United States of America.

Philadelphia with several interregnums served for two periods as the nation's capital. First from July 4, 1776, at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, to 1783, when Congress fled the city to escape the Pennsylvania militia who marched on the State House to demand their backpay. In 1789 Congress voted to return to Philadelphia for the decade 1790-1800 while the new federal capital on the Potomac River was under construction. During these two periods Philadelphia provided the members of Congress and the government bureaucracy a wide array of cultural resources, several of which are represented within the Park's

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boundaries either by restored eighteenth century buildings; by wayside markers; by building sites; or by reconstructed buildings of the historic period.

During the eighteenth century three important institutions lined Fifth Street between Walnut and Chestnut Streets. American Philosophical Society -- the oldest learned society in the country and one which boasts many members among the Founding Fathers--built its headquarters on the east side of State House Square in 1789. Philosophical Hall, #33, (National Historic Landmark) was followed the next year by a large brick structure built directly across Fifth Street, and known as Library Hall. The Library Company of Philadelphia, now the oldest subscription library in the country, founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin, occupied their library on Fifth Street from 1790 until c.1884, after which In 1955 the American the building was torn down. Philosophical Society received permission to build a library for its collection on the same site, so long as the structure complemented the Georgian architecture within the Park and reproduced Library Hall according to existing graphic The building's facade restores a significant feature of the historic scene, for the Founding Fathers received blanket permission from the Library Company to use the extensive collection at the facility. Congress' use of the Library Company's library throughout the formative years of the country set the precedent for the Library of Congress.

The third important institution fronting Fifth Street was the University of Pennsylvania's, Medical School, the first in America, founded in 1765 by Doctors William Shippen, Jr., and John Morgan. The University moved its medical school to a frame building known as Surgeons Hall, #48, at this Fifth Street location in 1785, where it served as a visible reminder to Congress of the pioneering medical facilities in Philadelphia. The building was torn down in 1840 and replaced by another structure. Because of this later construction, the National Park Service did not attempt archeological surveys at the site but has marked the Hall's presence with a brick and ivy outline.

In the same block but on Chestnut Street the Park has identified the sites of two features which served Congress

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during the early national period. Norris Row, five large brick row houses from the early 1790s, not only provided space for the War Department (see above section) but served as residences for various prominent people, such as portraitist Gilbert Stuart, who painted President Washington during this period. Down Chestnut Street at Fourth stood The Anvil and Cross Keys Tavern, #46, where John Nixon, its owner, and his colleagues retired after he made the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Square on July 8, 1776.

The block of restored Walnut Street houses and gardens provides another perspective on Philadelphia's assets. within walking distance of the capital, lived some of the nation's most distinguished citizens -- Benjamin Rush, Richard Peters, and Bishop William White (see section above) as well as a cross-section of the city's solid middle class. three rowhouses at the corner of Fourth Street (339-341, 343 Walnut) were built as real estate investments during the mid-1770s, in a style popular among this prosperous group of people. During the 1790s three Quaker families leased the houses--John Todd, lawyer, husband to the future First Lady, Dolly Madison, and tenant in the house on the corner: Samuel Powell Griffitts, prominent doctor and tenant in the middle house; and Margaret Hill Morris, widow-mother and tenant in the eastern of the three houses--all of these residents typified the social makeup of the middle class which predominated in the surrounding blocks in what is now identified as Society Hill and Old City Historic Districts (National Register, June 23, 1971 and May 5, 1972.)

Beginning at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, the Park's complete restoration of the Todd House, #35, and its yard, including a small period garden, has been interpretively applied to illustrate the middle class life-style during the decade 1790-1800, when Philadelphia was the capital. Next door the Park was obliged to reconstruct the two adjoining rowhouses after their demolition had proved critically injurious to the Todd house's structural security. On the following lots the Park, with the expertise of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, landscaped a typical eighteenth century garden, #53, to reproduce the one originally on the site. The Park also completed an exterior

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restoration of the Kidd and Fling houses to the east of the garden, and beyond them, of the McIlvaine house, built in 1793 by William McIlvaine, a prominent Philadelphia physician. Between the McIlvaine House and the Bishop White House the park retained a modern office building, restructuring it with an early nineteenth century facade and outline to maintain for the block a sense of the urban landscape during the historic period.

The restored eighteenth century garden which stands on the site of one that was maintained from 1750 to 1783, typifies the many open spaces in the city reserved for formal, vegetable, and herb gardens. The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, by cooperative agreement with the Park, maintains the garden with its historically accurate design and seasonal plantings. By so doing the Society not only helps the restoration of the historic setting on Walnut Street, it also demonstrates specific horticultural practices pursued widely throughout the city during the eighteenth century.

Although constructed in the early nineteenth century, later than the park's primary historic period, 1775-1800, the two Kidd Houses (323-325 Walnut) and the Fling House (319-321 Walnut), #54, #55, #56 have been retained to avoid the predicted damage that their demolition would bring to the historically relevant McIlvaine House (1793) adjoining Moreover, the Kidd and Fling houses are sufficiently similar architecturally to the eighteenth century rowhouses on Walnut Street so they blend into the overall restoration of the streetscape on that block. Likewise, modification of the five-story concrete Yoh building at 311-313 Walnut Street helps prevent damage to the historic Bishop White House. Demolition of post-1800 structures on the Chestnut Street side of the same block during the 1950s left Carpenters' Hall in such a non-historic state of physical isolation that the National Park Service reconstructed two of the eighteenth century buildings which lined Carpenters' Court--New Hall, #28, (see above) and the Pemberton House, #49, -- to restore a sense of the Hall's setting during the 1790-1800 period, when Philadelphia was the nation's capital for a second time. The Pemberton House, built in 1775 by wealthy merchant, Joseph Pemberton, again illustrates the substantial middle and upper class population that resided near the State House, making the

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neighborhood appealing to the nation's political leaders who largely shared the same economic and social status. Also, by marking with ivy-filled brick outlines the sites of the Fawcitt House, (1706-10), #43, a small frame home that stood at the western entrance to Carpenters' Court, and the Friends School House (1745), #44, and Meeting House (1764), #45, near Carpenters' Hall's west side, the Park has both reduced the inaccurate sense of open space created by the demolition of nineteenth and twentieth century structures, and broadened the interpretation of the historic setting and cultural resources present in Philadelphia during the late eighteenth century.

Like the Walnut Street houses, the <u>Bond House</u>, #42, built on Second Street in 1769 by Thomas Bond, Sr., a prominent Philadelphia physician, exemplifies the popular brick townhouse design for the middle and upper classes of the second half of the eighteenth century. A future exterior restoration of the Bond house is programmed, with the proposal to retain its 1824 facade and its later rear additions to illustrate the architectural adaptation of eighteenth century homes in Philadelphia for commercial use as the city grew during the nineteenth century.

Finally, the six restored brick townhouses lining Locust Street (408, 410, 413, 415, 421, 423 Locust), #36-41, enlarge the Park's examples of eighteenth century residential neighborhoods in the nation's capital. These homes on Prune Street, as Locust then was known, reflect the trend of the period for families of more modest means, often tradesmen, to live on the city's narrower streets in homes plainer and smaller than those found on such main routes as Walnut, Chestnut, or the numbered streets.

This extensive restoration work on houses within the Park has produced a significantly consistent representation of the urban domestic architecture in Philadelphia during its period as the nation's capital. The two National Register historic districts which overlap and adjoin the park boundaries—Society Hill and Old City—include individual structures that serve the same purpose, but they also contain rows of buildings that demonstrate an array of decorative features from as many as three centuries, making it comparatively difficult to recognize Philadelphia's architectural styles during the early national period.

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III.Benjamin Franklin

The following historic structures and sites are significant for their association with Benjamin Franklin, one of the principal historic figures in American history. The archeological materials yield important information on Franklin's residency in Franklin Court.

Benjamin Franklin (January 17, 1706-April 17, 1790) left this country a rich legacy. During his life he became an accomplished printer, author, publisher, inventor, statesman, diplomat, and scientist. He was, as well, one of Philadelphia's most creative philanthropists. His experiments on electricity, beginning in the 1740s, launched him into world fame, while his fifty-two years in public service (1736-1788) made significant contributions to the national development. No other American, besides President George Washington, surpassed Franklin's popular esteem in the national and international community of the late eighteenth century.

Franklin's best known contributions to Philadelphia stem from his founding of the city's first subscription library (the Library Company, 1731), learned society (American Philosophical Society, 1743), fire fighting company (Union Fire Company, 1736), and fire insurance company, (Contributionship, 1752). From his inventive mind came such practical improvements as the Franklin stove (1740), the lightning rod (1751), the Franklin lamp (1757), and bifocals (1784). work with electricity, begun in 1747, won him awards and honors on both sides of the Atlantic. From his ingenious experiments, the scientific world gained the electric storage battery (1749) and such subject-related terms as battery, armature, conductor, electrical shock, electrify, and electrician. At the same time his love of self-improvement endeared him to the reading public with his Poor Richard's Almanac.

As a public servant Franklin reshaped and improved the postal system throughout the colonies over a thirty-seven-year career in the postal service. During the turbulent years prior to the outbreak of the Revolution, Franklin officially represented Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Georgia before

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the Crown, as well as all the colonies unofficially. After the outbreak of war Franklin helped to create and signed the major documents that mark our national development—the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Paris of 1783, and the Constitution of the United States.

Because of the urgency of his missions abroad during the formation of the United States, Franklin lived only four of twenty-eight consecutive years (1757-1785) in Philadelphia, where he kept his home in Franklin Court. Nevertheless, Franklin supervised the construction of his house by mail (1764-1765), and retired there in 1785 at his return from France for the last time. His last five years of life were marked with the same involvement and dedication to improvement that typified his earlier experience. He served as Pennsylvania's Chief Executive (1785-88), as a Pennsylvania delegate to the Constitutional Convention (1787), and as President of the American Philosophical Society, the Society for Political Enquiry, and the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery (1788). He entertained endless distinguished visitors, worked on his autobiography, and supervised the construction of three rowhouses on Market Street (316, 318, 322), a printshop for his grandson Benjamin Franklin Bache, a carriage driveway, and an addition to his house at Franklin Court. All this while suffering the severe pain of kidney-stones and gout, to which he succumbed finally and serenely on April 17, 1790, in his eighty-fourth year. Franklin Court is the only landmark in Philadelphia which explores Franklin's extensive contributions to national and world affairs on a site where he lived and worked. With the exterior restoration of the Market Street houses (314,-316, 318, 320, 322), #59-63, three of which he designed (316, 318, 322), Franklin Court again has its historic setting on its north side. Extensive archeological work in the Court has made possible the identification of the Print Shop, #65, Franklin built for his young grandson, Benjamin Franklin Bache, the approximate site and form of which the park has been able to mark. The shop's construction in Franklin's intimate courtyard late in his life (1787) strongly indicates his continued identification with the printing trade, the livelihood which made it possible for him to retire from business at mid-life to pursue his interests in the intellectual and scientific world.

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Similarly, the archeological exhibits and the steel frame that marks the dimensions of his house on its original site give substance to the setting in which the internationally famous Franklin passed his retiring years. The underground original brick flooring and stone wall foundations visible through the viewing wells in the court are the last vestiges of the home where Franklin entertained some of the most illustrious persons in American history--George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, David Rittenhouse, and Thomas Paine, to name The slate paving representing the house plan is engraved with excerpts from Franklin's family correspondence which reveal Franklin's keen interest in his house and its accommodations, thus giving the Court greater significance in relation to his life story. Laura Soulliere Harrison identified considerable architectural merit in the Venturi and Rauch design for Franklin Court and recommended in her report "Architectural in the Parks, National Historic Landmark Theme Study", (NPS, 1986) that it be evaluated for landmark status as it nears fifty years of age.

Franklin Court also depicts a section of Franklin's cobblestoned driveway constructed in 1787 in conjunction with his Market Street tenant houses. As originally designed by Franklin, the drive cuts between 316 and 318 Market under a forty-foot archway and continues with another arched passage through the first floor of the print shop. After the demolition of the Franklin Court structures, in 1812, the drive was extended to Chestnut Street and designated as Orianna Street, which in turn was closed by the park when archeology in Franklin Court got underway. The forty-foot arched entranceway readily brings to focus the pathways of Benjamin Franklin in his twilight years, when illness forced him to travel increasingly by sedan or carriage. It is the one feature Franklin designed for his residence which avoided major alterations or demolition, and it thus stands out as the only historic feature in Franklin Court with near perfect architectural integrity.

IV Architecture

Three Park structures have been identified as having architectural significance—the <u>First Bank of the United States</u>, the <u>Second Bank of the United States</u>, and the <u>Philadelphia Merchants Exchange</u>

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The first two of these structures have been identified as National Historic Landmarks (April 29, 1987) where their architectural significance has been established.

William Strickland's Merchants Exchange Building, #68, completed in 1834, reflected his continued but evolving enthusiasm for Greek Revival architecture. Strickland exercised his masterful draftsmanship to design a building which made the most of its unusual, irregularly-shaped corner lot and took advantage of the vistas which the three streets bordering it provided. The elements which define Strickland's genius in the design for the Merchants Exchange are simplicity and unity. According to Talbot Hamlin in Greek Revival Architecture in America,:

in every detail of the design the quality of each part is stressed, and yet the whole is brought into the most perfect unity. The windows of the rectangular part are wide, the motion horizontal, the wall surfaces simple; and this, the simpler part of the design, is by itself one of the most charming examples of that true aesthetic functionalism which underlies so much of the best Greek Revival work. But this alone is not enough; in addition horizontal lines lead inevitably to the climax of the building, the superb curved colonnade of the front, with its conical roof and its delicate lamtern founded on the Choragic Monument of Lysicrates.

The harmony created by this architectural composition Hamlin sees as nearly above criticism. Concluding, he marvels that "not only as a building, but also as a piece of city decoration, the Philadelphia Exchange takes its place as one of the great creations of American architecture."

Hamlin is not alone in his high estimation of Strickland's Exchange. Joseph Jackson found it "one of the best examples of the period when American architecture had released itself from British tradition." Strickland's most original feature, his placement of one structure upon another with the copy of the Choragic Monument to Lysicrates on the basically flatsurfaced structure, was, as Jackson saw it, "a daring in-

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novation." Such distinctive and graceful work helped to make the Exchange Strickland's Philadelphia masterpiece, and to perpetuate in America the imaginative outpouring of Greek Revival architecture which held sway until a Gothic Revival architecture took hold in the second-half of the century.

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Bibliography

Most of the source material for this form comes from scores of unpublished research reports prepared for the Park by National Park Service historians, historic architects, archeologists, planners, and administrators. These reports, which document the history of specific structures and sites within and contiguous to the Park boundaries, are variously known as Historic Structure, Historic Ground, Historic Furnishings, and Historic Resource studies. They are based on extensive documentary evidence collected by teams of staff historians who visited major repositories, both national and international, during the 1950s and 1960s. Supplementing these reports in the Park Library are the note card file containing the original product of this extensive research effort; the photograph collection, containing historical and modern views of the Park area; the retired files of the Park's architects, engineers, and historians; the newspaper clip file on Park-related topics; administrative reports, such as the Master Plan (1971), the Statement for Management (1978), and the Resource Management Plan (1981), and, a set of half-size reproductions of every map (including an annotated 1800 historic base map) or drawing ever completed for the Park. These records, combined with the Park's building forms (10-768) and the completed forms for the List of Classified Structures (National Park Service record of its historic structures), as well as for the National and World Registers, provided the bulk of documentation.

Secondary sources included classic histories of Philadelphia: Thompson Westcott's, The Historic Mansions-and Buildings of Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1877); J. Thomas Scharf and Thompson Westcott; History of Philadelphia 3 vols. (Philadelphia, 1884); and American Philosophical Society, Historic Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1953); Richard B. Morris, ed. Encylopedia of American History (New York, 1953), and the Dictionary of American Biography were useful general aids, while Talbot Hamlin's Greek Revival Architecture in America (New York 19); and Richard J. Webster's Philadelphia Preserved (Philadelphia, 1976) specifically addressed the architecturally significant features within the Park. Charles Michael Boland's Ring in the Jubilee (Riverside, Conn., 1973), and John Paige's recent research report The Liberty Bell of Independence National Historical Park, A Special History Study (Denver Service Center, 1986) provided the available information on the Liberty Bell.

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UTM REFERENCES

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- T'. 18/487480/4422000
- 18/487440/4422840 U.

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18/487550/4422560

Christ Church, adjoining property

- Α. 18/487700/4422040
- 18/487680/4421980
- С. 18/487600/4421990
- D. 18/487610/4422050

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- H. 18/487700/4421680
- I. 18/487640/4421680
- J. 18/487650/4421760

Maintenance Facility

- K. 18/487240/4421500
- L. 18/487230/4421490
- M. 18/487140/4421470
- N. 18/487150/4421510

Mikveh Israel cemetery

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Graff House

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Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses

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FOR CONFIRMATION

Keeper Ludah Clellard 3/5/88

County and State

8. St	atement of Significance	
(Mark	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property ional Register listing.)	'Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
101 110	, chart togeth terming.)	Ethnic Heritage: Black
₹	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Social History
₽В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	Law
X□ c	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance
□ X D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	
	ria Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates 1776, 1787, 1793, 1844, 1850, 1861
Prope	erty is:	
₹ A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
₿В	removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) Frederick Douglass
□xc	a birthplace or grave.	
□XD	a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation
\square_X E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	•
□ F	a commemorative property.	
⊠ G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder
Narra (Expla	tive Statement of Significance in the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	
9. M	ajor Bibliographical References	
	ography ne books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one	e or more continuation sheets.)
Previ	ous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
(X) (X) (X)	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # PA-1430	☐ State Historic Preservation Office ☐ Other State agency ☐ Federal agency ☐ Local government ☐ University ☐ Other Name of repository:
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Independence National Historical Park Philadelphia Co., PA

National Register Amendment
Independence National Historical Park
Underground Railroad and Anti-Slavery Movement
September 2000
Prepared by Anna Coxe Toogood, Historian, INDE

Explanation of the Amendment

Congress passed legislation (H.R. 1635) in 1997 to "establish within the United States National Park Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes." This act proposes to identify Underground Railroad sites both in and out of the National Park System. It maintains "there are many important sites which have high potential for preservation and visitor use in 29 States, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands." Each park will identify its own sites that help to tell the dramatic story of fugitives from slavery and those who assisted them in their flight to freedom.

Statement of Significance for Underground Railroad Theme

The spirit of freedom that inspired the creation of the Underground Railroad in the 19th century had deep roots in Philadelphia. Quakers like Anthony Benezet and John Woolman came forward early in the 18th century as outspoken leaders in the international anti-slavery movement. The Revolutionary era inspired a new and broader anti-slavery effort in the city. While Philadelphia provided the central stage for the founding and growth of the nation following the war, it also led the development of a national abolitionist movement that eventually swept the country into civil war.

From the Revolution through the Civil War, the issues and problems of race and slavery manifested themselves at the local, state and federal levels of government in Philadelphia. National and state legislatures seated in today's Independence Hall grappled with the rights and freedoms promised by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, but denied to those enslaved. Pennsylvania's Assembly passed the nation's first abolition act in 1780, reflecting the spirit of the American Revolution, but then in 1837 passed a law withdrawing free blacks' right to vote. Mayors at times turned to the free black community for assistance and tried to protect fugitives from slavery.

During the Revolution some local civic leaders embraced the concept of freedom for all peoples. The white religious community, at first largely Quaker, joined forces with leaders like Benjamin Franklin, to establish and promote the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, the first such society in the nation and the leader in

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mobilizing other societies in the north. As race relations polarized in the early 19th century, white leaders willing to stand up against slavery and the fugitive slave legislation that supported it, took ever-greater personal risks to extend freedom to all peoples in the United States.

Philadelphia's free black community played a strategic part in the Underground Railroad. Their leaders served in the several anti-slavery societies that were founded in the city and established their own local black churches and institutions that offered a model of progress and improvement, while building an internal framework to help fugitives make their escape on the Underground Railroad. Philadelphia's black leaders petitioned the national and state governments to end slavery and to reinstate their dignity and rights as American citizens. While their repeated public protest against slavery and racist legislation made no immediate impact in government circles, it did make its mark in the expanding abolitionist press. The black self-help institutions in Philadelphia provided a network and fellowship for fugitives seeking refuge on their way to the North, and moral support for captives on trial in the U.S. District Court on Independence Square. Finally, by their adoption of the great icons of the American Revolution -- the Declaration of Independence and the Liberty Bell – the nation's abolitionists, both white and African American, gained a powerful tool in the struggle to secure freedom and full citizenship for all peoples of the United States.

Underground Railroad Theme at Independence NHP

The Underground Railroad emerged in the 1830s as a term to define a secret network of people/shelters strategically located to assist fugitive slaves in their escape to freedom. At Independence National Historical Park, liberty is a central interpretive theme, but to date largely related to the struggle to free the colonies from Great Britain. A study of the park's historic resources, however, readily reveals that the Underground Railroad has roots in Philadelphia's diverse religious community and the Revolution's Enlightenment concept that man's natural rights include life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The First and Second Continental Congresses adopted resolutions against the slave trade while seated at Carpenters Hall and then at the Pennsylvania State House on today's Independence Square. In 1776, the Second Continental Congress offered the world the inspired Declaration of Independence, but at the same time edited out Thomas Jefferson's scathing passage that accused King George III of waging a cruel war against human nature by perpetuating the slave trade.

Individual colonists, religious groups and states took up the Revolution's spirited calls for liberty to address the problem of slavery. In Philadelphia just prior to the war, the popular sentiment against slavery gained strength when Benjamin Rush, a rising Philadelphia physician, published two widely distributed antislavery essays, and Quakers required that their members free their slaves and cease any

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activity in the slave trade. But illegal kidnappings soon threatened the freedom for some newly emancipated slaves. To assist them a group of Philadelphia artisans, many of them Quaker, formed in 1775 "The Society for the Relief of Free Negroes Unlawfully Held in Bondage," but this initiative dissolved during the Revolution. In response to the war's slogans and broadsides, slaves throughout the colonies fled bondage. In Virginia alone Thomas Jefferson estimated that 30,000 slaves escaped. In Philadelphia some local slaves fled their masters and joined the British or American sides in hopes of gaining personal freedom. The Pennsylvania Assembly on today's Independence Square hotly debated and passed the first Gradual Emancipation Act (1780) in the new nation, a landmark piece of legislation that served as a model for similar laws throughout the North.

The preamble of the United States Constitution claims "to secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity," but this did not apply to the nation's slave population. The fifty-five delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1787, who met in the Pennsylvania State House, today's Independence Hall, compromised on the issue of slavery to save the union. Although some urged an end to the slave trade and the introduction of controls over slavery, the Deep South, with the most at stake, stonewalled any reform efforts. The census of 1790 soon made obvious the reason for their resistance. The United States population included 694,280 slaves, most of whom (over 680,000) lived south of the Mason-Dixon Line. The North-South compromise in the final Constitution gave the southern states the right to count each slave as 3/5ths of a person for the federal census, which in turn determined the number of representatives they could send to Congress. The Constitution also postponed the end of the international slave trade until 1808, a full 21 years into the future, and provided for the return of fugitive slaves to their owners.

The year 1787 also witnessed the creation of several reform organizations in Philadelphia, among them the renewed Abolition Society, retitled "The Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery and the Relief of Free Negroes Unlawfully held in Bondage, and for Improving the Condition of the Colored Race." This society took the national and international lead in promoting the end of slavery in the United States. Benjamin Franklin was elected president and Benjamin Rush and Tench Coxe, secretaries, all three among the nation's top intellectual elite. The Society led the way for the national convention of abolition societies that met in Philadelphia after the turn of the century.

In 1793, however, the U.S. Congress while seated in Congress Hall passed the Fugitive Slave Act. This federal legislation reflected the nation's reactionary mood, in part due to the French Revolution's violence and bloodshed, the introduction of the cotton gin, and the news of a slave uprising in Haiti. Congress imposed a fine of \$500 on anyone assisting a fugitive or interfering with his capture.

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Independence National Historical Park Philadelphia Co., PA

(Some southern states reinforced this act by adding even heavier fines, as well as hard labor for any abettor of a fugitive slave.) The act also specified that fugitive blacks were not entitled to legal defense or a jury trial and they could be returned into slavery simply by an oral claim from the supposed owner. This law led to more persistent hunting of escaped slaves as well as the ruthless and illegal capture of free blacks who, if not rescued, were sent South into slavery. The fear, pain, and suffering resulting from the act intensified the anti-slavery cause.

African Americans of the post-Revolution era took an active role in developing the Underground Railroad in Philadelphia, at first by organizing themselves to fight against racism and slavery. The two most prominent leaders, Richard Allen and Absalom Jones, both had been born into slavery and had purchased their own freedom. In 1787 Richard Allen, a popular minister affiliated with St. George's Methodist Church on Fourth Street, joined with Absalom Jones in the establishment of a self-help group, the Free African Society. In the following decade Jones and Allen spearheaded the movement for separate black churches. The need for the separate churches arose when black worshipers at St. George's Methodist Church left the congregation after being mistreated during a Sunday service. Seeking dignity and self-determination, Allen and Jones appealed to the white community for financial support and approval for the church project. Resisted at first, the campaign eventually gained ground through the good works of the Free African Society during the terrible yellow fever epidemic in 1793. The society answered the mayor's call for help by supplying nurses and gravediggers in a city crippled with fear of contagion and death. Public appreciation opened the way for the black community to build two separate churches in 1794. Richard Allen led Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and Absalom Jones became deacon at St. Thomas African Episcopal Church on Fifth Street. These churches may have been the first in the nation to be solely black-owned and operated. The church congregations organized black Masonic groups, schools, literary and musical societies and other self-help opportunities. The leaders published newspapers and pamphlets to fight slavery and presented petitions to Congress and the state assembly. Both churches stood a few city blocks south of the State House, today's Independence Hall. Bethel, a known Underground Railroad station, remains at its original site, Sixth and Lombard streets, in its fourth structure, a National Historic Landmark.

The expanding free black community, the city's convenient location and anti-slavery advocates combined to make Philadelphia a likely destination for fugitives from slavery. So many fugitives arrived in 1810 that even the prominent abolitionist friend, Dr. Benjamin Rush, voiced his concern. By 1820 Philadelphia no longer had a slave population, while the free black community had nearly climbed to 11,000, a steep rise from its 1775 count of 200, but representing only some 10 percent of the city's total population of more than 100,000. The waves of black refugees that poured into the city coincided with a large white, predominantly poor Irish influx. Both groups competed for work and housing during a severe depression that struck

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Philadelphia after the War of 1812 and continued to suppress work and divide the working classes until 1826. With such economic hardships, racial tensions grew more violent and opportunities for African Americans in Philadelphia plummeted.

In the face of rising racism, nine state and local abolition societies met in Philadelphia for the first time in 1804 to form the American Convention for Promoting Abolition of Slavery and Improving the Condition of the African Race. Philadelphia hosted this convention annually for many years. In 1831 Nat Turner in Virginia led a failed slave revolt which left numerous dead and the nation in fear. Two years later Great Britain abolished slavery in the British Empire, making Canada a safe destination for American fugitives. That year white and black abolitionists convened in Philadelphia to found the American Anti-Slavery Society. The daughter of James Forten, one of its founders, the same year helped organize the Female Anti-Slavery Society. That decade vigilance committees began to form in Philadelphia and other northern cities, to prevent the return of fugitive slaves to the South. While antislavery lecture circuits and abolitionist newspapers spread the cause across the country, race prejudice in Philadelphia intensified. Whites locked African Americans out of skilled jobs, leaving the city's 14,000-odd free blacks to seek a living in the lowliest paid service. In 1837 the Pennsylvania legislature passed a disenfranchising African Americans, a law that remained in force for 33 years. James Forten, Robert Purvis and other Philadelphia black leaders petitioned against the bill, but their effort to retain the vote was to no avail. The following year local antislavery advocates built Pennsylvania Hall on Sixth Street, opposite today's Independence Mall. At its first meeting, attended by such nationally-known figures as Frederick Douglass and Lucretia Mott, a mob set the Hall on fire and it burned to the ground. During this and the next decade, Nativist mobs rallied to assault or intimidate African Americans in public places.

The local racism reflected a mounting national crisis. The U.S. Congress galvanized the anti-slavery movement when it passed the Compromise of 1850 that reinforced the 1793 Fugitive Slave law. Only a small percentage of the nation's enslaved population of about three million, or more than four times the count in 1790, ran away seeking their freedom, but those who did risked their lives and the well being of their families. In Philadelphia William Still, a free-born black, chaired the local vigilance committee that raised the funds to house and care for the fugitives and arranged their passage via the Underground Railroad to the North. Still also managed the committee's finances, which paid for Harriet Tubman's several daring raids to the south to lead people to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Fugitives captured in Pennsylvania near Philadelphia faced a hearing before the U.S. District Court on the second floor of Independence Hall. Most runaways who appeared before the court were sent back into slavery. The 1850 compromise facilitated bounty hunters' efforts to deliver up slaves and made it nearly impossible for free blacks to defend themselves when illegally captured. The local black

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community realized that their own safety and freedom were at risk, but many among them continued to defy the law and serve as conductors on the Underground Railroad.

No record of the actual number of fugitive slaves remains to document the Underground Railroad traffic through Philadelphia, but it is certain that this city served as a key stopover -- perhaps the most active station -- on the coastal escape route from slavery. Between 1830 and 1860 an estimated 9,000 fugitives passed through Philadelphia, aided by the local vigilance committee. Refugees found relative anonymity within the city's substantial free black population while they awaited their next leg on the journey north. In 1872 William Still published *The Underground Railroad* based on his careful accounts kept while he served the local vigilance committee. In it he brought to light the individuals who risked their own freedom to assist in daring rescues (perhaps most notable, the case of Henry "Box" Brown), as well as the individuals who escaped to freedom by way of Philadelphia on the Underground Railroad.

Structures and Sites within Independence National Historical Park identified with the Underground Railroad Theme: Carpenters' Hall, Independence Square, Independence Hall, Congress Hall, Old City Hall, Franklin Court, Christ Church, St. George's Methodist Church, Quaker Schoolhouse site, The Liberty Bell, and Independence National Historical Park Portrait Collection

During most of the critical years when Philadelphia served as the nation's Capital, from the American Revolution to the close of the 18th century, the Founding Fathers dealt with the burning issues of freedom and slavery. Throughout the half-century before the Civil War, abolitionist groups from the north planned annual meetings in Philadelphia, helping to make it a communication hub for the anti-slavery movement. Philadelphia's vigilance committee, primarily manned by free blacks, escorted thousands of fugitives to freedom. Philadelphia thus retains many sites or stories that assist in the understanding and appreciation of the Underground Railroad. The following buildings and sites stand within the legal boundaries of Independence National Historical Park.

<u>Carpenters' Hall</u> (National Historic Landmark, 4-15-70)

The First Continental Congress met in Carpenters' Hall, and there resolved to ban further imports of slaves and the continuation of the slave trade within the colonies, a step toward phasing out slavery in British North America.

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Independence Square

Independence Square (originally called the State House Square), traditionally served as an outdoor meeting place for large public gatherings called together before the Revolution to debate liberty and freedom for the colonies. Local black Americans soon found after the Revolution that the square did not serve them equally. They were banned from attending the Fourth of July ceremonies on the square in 1812 and at least for the subsequent year.

Free African Americans in Philadelphia fought their own battle for freedom within the white dominated city. During the 1793 yellow fever epidemic, black volunteers organized by the Free African Society leaders, picked up coffins left on the Chestnut Street curb before the Mayor's Office at Fifth Street, to bury the dead at the nearby Stranger's Burial Ground, today's Washington Square. Their service won the black community enough white cooperation and financial support to complete the first African American churches in the city. The churches fostered racial pride and leadership and often served as a sanctuary for fugitives riding the Underground Railroad.

As race relations worsened early in the 19th century, the free African American community continued to struggle to find a place of respect in Philadelphia. During the War of 1812 James Forten responded to the city's appeal to the black community for help to prepare coastal fortifications by organizing volunteers in the State House Yard and marching with them to the Schuylkill River to build a redoubt. The city engineer praised their work, but little more remains on the record to suggest its positive impact on local white attitudes towards abolition and the Fugitive Slave Act.

Frederick Douglass, the acclaimed abolitionist and orator, himself a fugitive slave, came to Independence Square in 1844 to speak out against slavery. The Square had accumulated great meaning as the place where crowds had rallied for freedom before the Revolution and had first heard read the nation's founding document, the Declaration of Independence. Douglass exploited the significance of place to underscore the disparity in the meaning of freedom for whites and blacks under the weight of slavery. As he spoke, Douglass remained a fugitive from slavery yet to purchase his freedom. His personal risk appearing in such a public and historic space as Independence Square, combined with his eloquent, fiery message that insisted on freedom for the oppressed, raised awareness and hope in the black community, as well as throughout the larger society.

Frederick Douglass became an outspoken critic of the status quo. The Bill of Rights he called the "bill of wrongs" and the Constitution, "a compromise with manstealers and a cunningly devised complication of falsehoods." At the same time, his message sharpened the growing anxiety about race and slavery in the city's

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white society. In 1862 Douglass concluded that perhaps no other place could compare with Philadelphia for its rampant "prejudice against color."

The Fugitive Slave law in the Compromise of 1850 prompted several gatherings on Independence Square. Blacks congregated outside the government buildings to hear the fate of escaped runaways on trial in the District Court. In 1851 the District Court trial of the Christiana defendants accused of murdering a slave owner excited a large mass meeting of whites on the square. They rallied "to prevent the recurrence of so terrible a scene upon the soil of Pennsylvania, to ferret out and punish the murderers." Such a demonstration laid bare the heightened feelings over the problems of slavery for the citizens of Philadelphia and the nation.

In 1861, on the eve of the Civil War, President-elect Abraham Lincoln drew a crowd when he spoke at Independence Square on Washington's Birthday observance, the occasion for raising a new U.S. flag with the 34th star for the state of Kansas. As one local paper sarcastically reported, "negroes were delighted and turned out in unusual numbers" to hear him speak. His solemn words, which drew cheers and applause, underscored the legacy of freedom and liberty associated with Independence Square:

I have often inquired of myself, what great principle or idea it was that kept this confederacy so long together... It was not the mere matter of the separation of the colonies from the mother land; but something in that Declaration giving liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but hope to the world for all future time. It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights should be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that *all* men should have an equal chance.

Lincoln also made a prophetic and tragic statement that day at Independence Hall, that rather than preserve the Union by sacrificing the principles of the Declaration of Independence, he would prefer to be assassinated on the spot. Conscious of the rumored plot on his life, Lincoln announced to the nation that he was willing to die for the principles laid down by the Founders in the Declaration.

Independence Hall

The Second Continental Congress sat in the Assembly Room of the Pennsylvania State House during most of the American Revolution and from that building sent out the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The inspiring words of that lofty document, that all men are created equal and have inalienable rights, fueled the desire of some slaves to fight for their freedom. The movement to abolish slavery and the impulse to escape from slavery hit its peak for the century during the Revolution. Seated in the State House (Independence Hall), the Pennsylvania

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Assembly enacted the nation's first Gradual Emancipation Act in 1780. While it freed no persons in the 18th century or for years into the 19th century, the act did provide the Pennsylvania Abolition Society with legal tools to defend the rights of African Americans. The spirit of the Declaration also left its mark on national abolitionist efforts. When the American Anti-Slavery Society organized in Philadelphia in 1833, they capitalized on the Declaration of Independence as a voice to end slavery.

The Pennsylvania State House also was the scene for the drafting of the U.S. Constitution that recognized slaves as 3/5th a person as a means to give southern states more representation in Congress. The Constitution also sanctioned the international slave trade by postponing its end for 20 years, to the year 1808. With an ever-increasing slave population, the need for the Underground Railroad intensified.

The Constitution of the United States suggested the nation's changing attitudes in little over a decade after the Declaration. The clauses dealing with slaves and the slave trade reflected a mounting political conservatism and resistance to abolition. These prejudices grew out of an expanding slave investment in the South and the implied threat from a growing number of poor refugees and free black in the North. Despite a steady decline in opportunity for enslaved and free blacks, the truths embodied in the Declaration of Independence continued to offer African Americans and beleaguered abolitionists some hope and inspiration in the increasingly violent decades prior to the Civil War. On the other hand, radical abolitionists, including Philadelphia's William Still, James and Lucretia Mott, and Robert Purvis, officers in the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society, denounced the United States Constitution as a document that upheld slavery.

When the U.S. Congress passed the Compromise of 1850, which strengthened the fugitive slave law, the U.S. District Court responsible for the law's enforcement sat on the second floor of Independence Hall. The Philadelphia Nativist Party during the decade also adopted Independence Hall as a museum and icon of liberty, posing a drear irony when the nation's slave population stood at nearly three million. During the decade, Philadelphia received a surge of refugees from slavery. As captured fugitive slaves were brought to trial at the U.S. District Court, prominent local abolitionist attorneys rushed to the courtroom to argue for their release, while antislavery advocates covered the story for the abolitionist press.

In 1851 the U.S. District Court decided a case that won national attention. Judge John K. Kane and a jury considered the fate of the Christiana, Pennsylvania, rioters accused of killing Edward Gorsuch, a Maryland slave owner as he chased runaways across the border. Some thirty men, both black and white, stood on trial at Independence Hall for murder and treason. Thaddeus Stevens of Lancaster (the future Radical Republican leader of the U.S. Senate during the Civil War), and former U.S. District Attorney and Pennsylvania Attorney General John M. Read of

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Philadelphia, prominent civic leaders, provided their defense and orchestrated their acquittal. The U.S. Attorney, John M. Ashmead, maintained that the defendants broke federal law and thus committed treason, but the judge and jury did not uphold his argument. The dramatic jury decision in the defendants' favor set yet another precedent for the advocates of abolition, and gave reason to hope that the travelers on the Underground Railroad were gaining the nation's sympathy.

In 1855 another noteworthy case came before Judge Kane in the District Court when Passmore Williamson, a Quaker Abolition Society leader and Vigilance Committee member, stood trial for refusing to hand over three fugitive slaves. The fugitives, Jane Johnson with her two young children, had fled their master at Williamson's instigation while traveling through Philadelphia. Passmore, notified by a messenger from Jane Johnson that she wanted her freedom, rushed with William Still, chair of the vigilance committee, and five other free blacks to inform the master and his slaves that Pennsylvania law did not allow slaves to be transported through the state. A tussle ensued, when Johnson and her children escaped to the Underground Railroad network in Philadelphia. At the trial Jane Johnson testified in her own behalf. Lucretia Mott, a stalwart Quaker abolitionist leader, and several other anti-slavery ladies accompanied her to the court room. Two of the free blacks who assisted her escape were convicted of riot, but only served one week, but Judge Kane sent Passmore Williamson to jail for contempt of court. William Still in his history of the Underground Railroad (1872; 1886), claimed that Williamson's imprisonment brought "floods of sympathy from the ablest and best minds throughout the North."

Judge Kane's action against Williamson "aroused much hostile feeling." At the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery meeting in Philadelphia that December, William Lloyd Garrison and Lucretia Mott publicly denounced him. Judge Kane had served many years in Philadelphia law, as city solicitor, as a local attorney who assisted President Andrew Jackson in his crusade against the Second Bank of the United States, and as Attorney General of Pennsylvania, before accepting in 1846 a place on the United States District Court. Judge Kane died in office two years after his decision to imprison Williamson, having escaped a local effort to impeach him over the case.

The fugitive trials in Philadelphia heightened the African American awareness of the contradictions in the nation's founding principles and government. The irony of witnessing the reenslavement of their fellow blacks within Independence Hall, the landmark of freedom and justice for white Americans, was not lost on the leaders of the local community. William H. Johnson voiced this bitter awareness at a Fourth of July celebration sponsored by the African-American Banneker Institute in 1859. "There are tories today, and their business is to hunt down the poor fugitive negro, and to handcuff and drag him hundreds of miles from his home to be tried as a slave, and to be remanded...under the sound of the old State House bell, and within sight of the hall where independence was declared." That day the crowd adopted a

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declaration that stated, "...we do hold it to be a self-evident truth...that all men, irrespective of colour or condition, by virtue of their constitution, have a natural indefeasible right to life, liberty, and the possession of property."

The Declaration of Independence came to serve as "the touchstone, the sacred scripture" (Berlin and Hoffman) for American and international abolitionist movements. The Underground Railroad fits well into Independence Hall's World Heritage designation, because the people who risked their lives to fight slavery shared the spirit of those people who fought in the American Revolution and other revolutions around the world, to achieve their political and individual freedom.

Congress Hall

The U. S. Congress, seated at Sixth and Chestnut Streets, in the building known today as Congress Hall, passed the 1793 Fugitive Slave Act which gave sanction to the practice of tracking down fugitives from slavery and returning them to their owners. This act gave public awareness of the early stream of refugees crossing into the northern states and escaping to freedom. The abuses under this law led to the false arrest of free blacks who were sold into slavery in the South.

The U.S. Congress while in Philadelphia (1790-1800), received numerous petitions to ban the slave trade and abolish slavery. In 1797 Richard Allen and Absalom Jones led the first African American petition against slavery, which received only brief debate. In 1799 Absalom Jones and seventy others signed (mostly with their marks) another petition to revise the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 to protect free and enslaved African Americans against illegal kidnapping and resale in the South. Their petition presented a precedent-setting argument that the U.S. Constitution made no mention of black people or slaves and as fellow men they wished to "partake of the Liberties and unalienable Rights" suggested by the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence. This defense became a common point for 19th century abolitionists. Despite a mounting number of petitions against slavery or the slave trade, Congress considered the subject a divisive one that "created disquiet & jealousy." The petitions regularly were referred to committees and tabled.

Old City Hall

At Philadelphia's City Hall on Independence Square two mayors publicly demonstrated their support of the anti-slavery mission. According to an account left by Lydia Maria Child, Robert Wharton, several times Mayor of Philadelphia between 1798 and 1824, never once gave up a fugitive slave to his claimant, although frequently called on to do so. A Friend or Quaker, Wharton, Child records, confided to Friend Hopper "that he could not conscientiously do it." Another Philadelphia mayor, R.T. Conard, advocated for a Louisiana white man who had been arrested while trying to escort his black slave wife to freedom through Philadelphia. The mayor's

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letter, published in March 1855 by the anti-slavery press, simply told the chief of police that if he cooperated with the southern agent to return the man to Louisiana, he would consider it his duty to fire him. By Conard's firm stand the husband was saved, but his wife, despite efforts to save her, was secreted away back to slavery.

Franklin Court

As a printer Benjamin Franklin had owned and sold slaves, but through his work in the 1750s with the Bray Associates sponsored by Christ Church, he had grown to appreciate the innate talents of African Americans. At age 81 in 1787 he accepted the office of President of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society. As an old but renowned figure, his leadership gave real import to the regenerated Abolition Society. In poor health, Franklin often ran meetings in his home, where strategies were laid to assist free and enslaved blacks illegally kidnapped and provide other humanitarian assistance. In 1789 he signed a society publication, Address to the Public, which appealed for support and funds, and likely wrote the society's petition against the slave trade submitted on February 12, 1790, to the First Federal Congress then seated in New York City. A month before his death, Franklin as his last public act wrote and published On the Slave Trade, a satirical letter that compared American slavery with the practice of the much despised Algerine pirates who were taking Christians on the seas captive and making them slaves. This clever polemic may not have won new activists for the cause, but Franklin's international prestige and the philanthropic work done by the Abolition Society while he served as president likely encouraged more fugitives to pass through Philadelphia on their escape to freedom.

Christ Church (National Historic Landmark, 4-15-70)

Christ Church sponsored the Bray Associates' Philadelphia school for African Americans, both free and enslaved, during the mid-18th century. This school not only offered education to blacks in otherwise bleak circumstances, but it enlightened Franklin about their capabilities. Franklin monitored the school for the Bray Associates (who were based in England), reporting on the school's effectiveness and the intelligence of the pupils. Christ Church's support of the school, as well as its record of marrying African American couples, again free or enslaved, provided another positive record in Philadelphia to draw refugees from slavery.

St. George's Methodist Church (NRHP, 5-27-71)

The Methodist evangelism of the Revolutionary War era embraced the concept of freedom as a natural right for all mankind. For a brief time, Richard Allen became an itinerant preacher with the famous Methodist minister, Francis Asbury. The two journeyed together on religious tours of the South. Allen's life example may have influenced some enslaved people to seek their freedom as runaways to the north.

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Richard Allen and other blacks in St. George's Methodist congregation together rose and left a Sunday service after they were publicly humiliated when ordered to move from their seating during prayer. This demeaning treatment reinforced Allen's efforts to create a separate black church. Preferring to remain Methodist, Allen in 1794 organized the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church on Lombard Street, later a known sanctuary for runaways on the Underground Railroad.

Absalom Jones, another free black at St. George's Methodist Church, accepted the call to assume leadership at St. Thomas African Episcopal Church, also founded in 1794. Both these congregations offered hope and example for the local community, as well as for those living in slavery elsewhere who heard about the progress of Philadelphia free blacks.

Quaker Schoolhouse Site, Fourth and Chestnut Streets

John Todd, Sr., reflected his Quaker background as an active member of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society. In 1787 and 1788 he served the electing committee and called Society meetings at his schoolhouse at Fourth and Chestnut streets. Todd and his son, John, Jr., (who purchased what today is known as the Todd House at Fourth and Walnut streets), both died during the yellow fever epidemic of 1793. The active early years of the Abolition Society influenced other states to form their own abolition societies, helping the cause of those fleeing injustice and persecution. From these modest beginnings, the network of contacts within the black and white communities across the country cemented and strengthened to form the Underground Railroad.

The Liberty Bell

Today the Liberty Bell reminds the international community of man's quest for freedom. Originally this bell served at the Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall) to call people to meetings on the square and to celebrate special occasions. In the 1830s the bell's inscription from Leviticus in the Bible -- "Proclaim Liberty thro' all the Land and to all the Inhabitants thereof Levit. XXV, 10" -- led abolitionists to adopt the name Liberty Bell by mid-century. Such a powerful symbol that all Americans could relate to as an icon of both Revolution and personal freedom helped to bring new sympathizers to the abolitionist cause, some of whom may have served the Underground Railroad.

In Philadelphia, black leaders saw in the Liberty Bell a beacon of hope. In 1862 William Douglass effectively wrote:

A moral earthquake had awakened the slumber of ages. The spirit-stirring notes that pealed out from Independence Hall, proclaiming "LIBERTY

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THROUGHOUT THE LAND TO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF," and causing the most humble to lift up his head with higher hopes and nobler aspirations, were yet echoing through every nook and corner of the land. The revolutionary struggle, in which was involved the great principles of human rights, was still fresh in the minds of all from the least unto the greatest...

As with Douglass, the Biblical theme on the Liberty Bell inspired a now famous African American active on the Underground Railroad, Sojourner Truth, who believed God had chosen her to lead her people to freedom. Sojourner Truth became a "powerful, eloquent and persuasive" orator, ranked only behind Frederick Douglass as an effective anti-slavery speaker. When seated on public platforms, she wore a satin banner across her chest emblazoned with the words, "Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto the inhabitants thereof." Even after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Philadelphia's Banneker Institute returned to the bell's quote for inspiration as their slogan. Now the Liberty Bell serves as an international icon for personal and political freedom, but it took many years of demonstrations and committed illegal acts on the Underground Railroad before the Bell came to symbolize freedom for the African American in the United States.

Independence National Historical Park Portrait Collection

The park's portrait collection of early national leaders in the Continental Army, the United States government and the arts provides an excellent opportunity to discuss the complexity and inconsistencies inherent in the problem of slavery in the American culture. The American Revolution inspired rhetoric from some leading citizens that called for the end of slavery, but a few of these same individuals later revisited the issue with a more conservative, racist attitude.

Some of the key abolitionists in the park's collection include Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, David Rittenhouse, Charles Willson Peale, John Jay, Alexander Hamilton, Theodore Sedgwick, Francis Hopkinson, Gouverneur Morris, Thomas Paine, Noah Webster, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason and James Madison. Some of the northern members of this group (Rush and Peale) owned slaves even while publicly condemning slavery. All the southern anti-slavery men owned slaves, but disliked the institution and hoped to find an acceptable or affordable way to grant their freedom. President Washington freed all his slaves by his will, but his heirs failed to execute his wishes. Jefferson went bankrupt and sold many of his slaves, after writing and debating for many years on how to resolve the issue of slavery in America.

Thomas Jefferson's portrait also presents the conundrum raised by the ideals of human freedom set out in the Declaration of Independence coexisting with the continuation of human bondage. The King George III portrait allows for the telling of the Revolution's principles of human rights and freedom coupled with Jefferson's

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condemnation of the king for perpetuating slavery in the colonies in his first draft of the Declaration. Joseph Reed, governor of Pennsylvania during the Revolution (1778-1781), affords the story of the state's precedent-setting Gradual Abolition Act of 1780. Richard Allen's life can be reinforced at the portrait of Benjamin Chew, Allen's master as a boy. Chief Justice Chew sold young Allen to a farmer in Delaware, where Allen converted to Methodism. Allen remembered the strength and hope his faith gave him. Allen's strong religious convictions helped him to raise the money to buy his own freedom, when he moved to Philadelphia, became a preacher and community leader, and eventually the founder and preacher at his own church, now called Mother Bethel, known to have been an Underground Railroad station.

The portrait of the Polish patriot and freedom fighter, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, features a dual story. His passionate belief in the rights of man extended to those in slavery. Kosciuszko entrusted his friend Thomas Jefferson with the responsibility to carry out the terms of his will, which left money to buy slaves and set them up as farmers on the land. Kosciuszko's will also specified that his estate should pay to educate them in the responsibilities of citizenship in a free government, including the duty to defend the Constitution and the country against foreign and internal enemies. Thomas Jefferson refused to execute the terms of the will.

Other anti-slavery stories can be compiled from the lives of the more than one hundred fifty early national leaders whose portraits are on display at the Second Bank gallery.

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NOTES:

The following report was not reviewed for this Amendment, but is closely related to it, providing the draft statewide contexts which are addressed on a site-specific basis in the Amendment:

Pinsker, Matthew. Vigilance in Pennsylvania: Underground Railroad Activities in the Keystone State, 1837-1861. Draft Context Study Presented at Black History Conference, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, April 27, 2000. Lancaster, PA: 2000. Prepared for Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Division of History.

The following article was prepared simultaneously with the Amendment, and was revised with the knowledge that Independence National Historical Park was in the process of updating its NRHP documentation to address the Underground Railroad context:

Mires, Charlene. "Slavery, Nativisim, and the Forgotten History of Independence Hall," revised version of article published in *Pennsylvania History* (Fall 2000), revised December 2000.









