

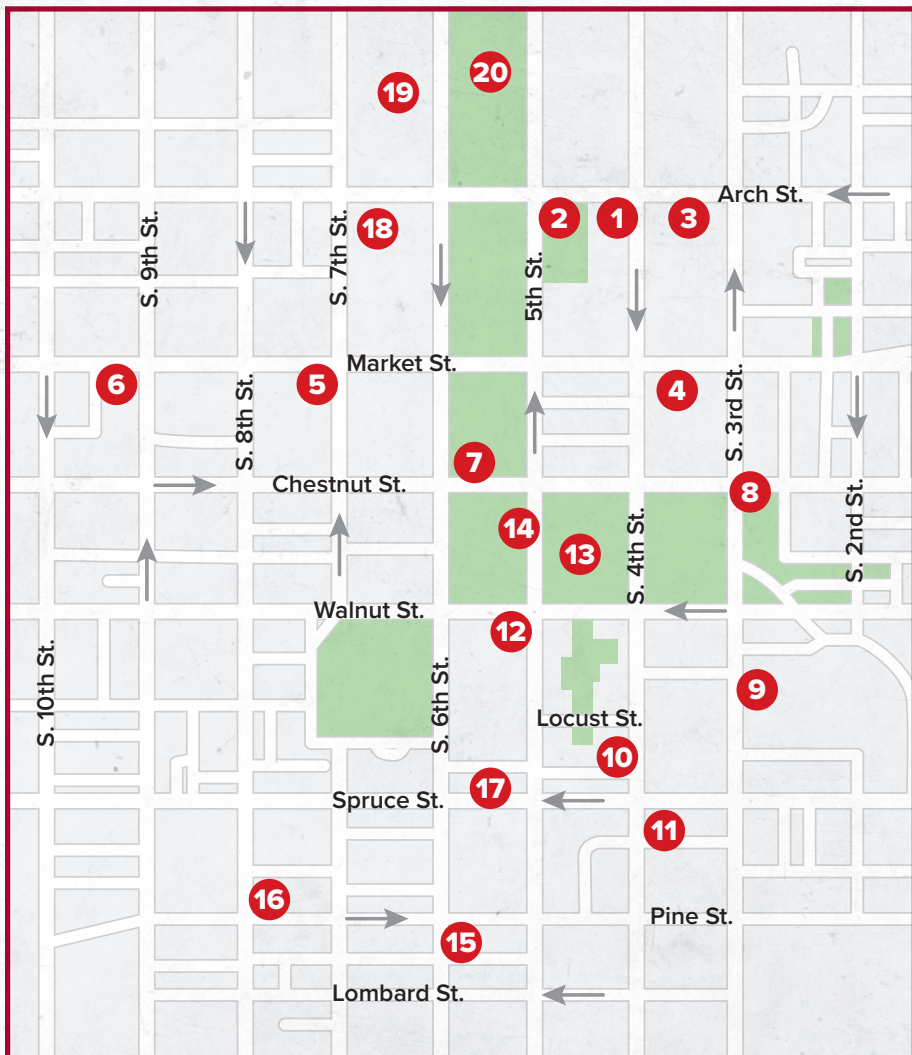
A faint, light-colored map of Philadelphia is visible in the background, showing the city's grid and waterfront. The map is centered behind the main title.

# Historic Philadelphia Tour

FOR PENN ALUMNI

Written by Constance Billé, College for Women 1968, with thanks to Penn classmates Hans Binnendijk, Michael Crow, Douglas Frenkel, Carol Greco, Elsie Howard and Peter Marvin for their review and encouragement.

# Historic Philadelphia



The map numbering suggests a driving route following the arrows that indicate one-way streets. A walking tour might follow a different order covering segments of the map as time and energy permit. The entire area is less than a half-mile square. Some locations are merely the sites of former structures, others are original structures or reconstructions, and some may be entered by the public.

# Map Locations

**1**

**4<sup>th</sup> & Arch Streets (SITE)**  
Penn's First Campus 1749 - 1801

**2**

**5<sup>th</sup> and Arch Street**  
Benjamin Franklin's Grave in Christ Church Burial Ground

**3**

**320 Arch Street**  
Arch Street Friends Meeting

**4**

**314 Market to Chestnut Street**  
Franklin Court

**5**

**7<sup>th</sup> and Market Street**  
Declaration House

**6**

**9<sup>th</sup> and Market Street (SITE)**  
Penn's Second Campus

**7**

**Chestnut Street at 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Independence Hall and Liberty Bell

**8**

**101 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
Museum of the American Revolution

**9**

**241 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
Powel House

**10**

**238 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
Home of Dr. Caspar Wistar

**11**

**321 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
Physick House

**12**

**5<sup>th</sup> Street near Walnut (SITE)**  
Surgeon's Hall, Penn's Medical School

**13**

**105 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
Library Hall

**14**

**104 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
American Philosophical Society

**15**

**419 S 6<sup>th</sup> Street (at Lombard)**  
Mother Bethel AME Church

**16**

**800 Spruce Street (8<sup>th</sup> & Pine)**  
Pennsylvania Hospital

**17**

**524 Pine Street**  
Home of Dr. Mary Elfreth Allen, M.D.

**18**

**627 Arch Street (SITE)**  
Women's Medical College

**19**

**190 N 6<sup>th</sup> Street (SITE)**  
Pennsylvania Hall of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society

**20**

**525 Arch Street**  
National Constitution Center

# PENN'S FIRST CAMPUS 1749 - 1801



1749-1801

*Publick Academy of Philadelphia. Source: Library Company of Philadelphia*

*Today: Ben's statue covered in 80,000 pennies from Philadelphia schoolchildren is across the street from the original site now occupied by a hotel.*



In 1749, the Publick Academy of Philadelphia opened under the guidance of Benjamin Franklin. Ben resurrected an unfinished Boys and Girls Charity School project started by an English evangelist in 1739 and combined it with his Academy, which expanded into the College for more advanced and mature students. During the Revolution, in 1779, the Pennsylvania state legislature granted the institution a new charter, which named it the “University of the State of Pennsylvania.”

Franklin aimed to prepare future leaders of a democratic nation in an affordable, non-sectarian academy. Unlike the academies in New England and Virginia, it would focus on education for business and commerce taught in English rather than Latin or Greek. Its Board of Trustees, reflecting Pennsylvania’s religious tolerance, was composed of mixed denominations – Quakers, Anglicans, Presbyterians and agnostics – unlike its peer institutions such as Harvard and Yale.

Most Trustees, formed by their own upbringing, tended to prefer a Classical more elitist education than the modern public-serving curriculum that Franklin and the legislature embraced. The differences were resolved in 1791 and the university campus remained at Fourth and Arch streets, except for the Medical School, which from its founding in 1765 had conducted classes in Surgeons’ Hall, on Fifth Street near Walnut. In 1801, the Medical School along with the university moved to Ninth Street. The Academy and Charity School continued at the Fourth Street site until 1877, and the University retained ownership of the property until after World War I.

## The Charity School

The Charity School of Philadelphia grew from the vision of Rev. George Whitefield who sought to improve the lot of the poor through education. In 1740 his followers in Philadelphia began building a huge church and school but could not raise the funds to complete the building. When the Trustees of the Academy purchased the Whitefield building, the deed stipulated that the Academy maintain a charity school.

The Charity School opened September 16, 1751 for elementary education of about 100 boys, ranging in age from eight to eighteen. The curriculum focused on reading, writing and arithmetic to prepare them for employment in business and the “mechanical arts.” It was a difficult learning environment dependent on private funding to determine enrollment and staff. A girls’ section of the Charity School opened in 1753 to teach reading, sewing and knitting to 30 girls. Not always happy

with females on campus, the Trustees moved their class on and off campus as classroom space and finances allowed.

In June 1877 after the University campus had moved to West Philadelphia, the Trustees closed the Charity School, stating that the public schools of Philadelphia had progressed to the point where they provided educational facilities and teaching comparable to that previously available to the poor only through charity schools. The Trustees re-directed the income of the Charity School trust to collegiate scholarships for young men and to instruction for “female students,” so far as the Provost “thought appropriate.”

## The Academy

The boys-only Academy of Philadelphia was founded to provide both a classical Latin and Greek education and a modern curriculum taught in English in writing, logic and rhetoric, mathematics, natural sciences, history, geography, French and German. The Academy had different “Schools”: English, Mathematics and Latin/Greek. Preparation for admission to the College started around age nine and continued for several years until a student was ready to take the College entrance exam.

Franklin himself designed the English School curriculum in six grades, which progressed from reading little stories to grammar, spelling, speaking, meaning of sentences, rhetoric, composition, letter writing, essays and verse, logic, moral and natural philosophy, critical examination of Milton, Locke, Pope, Swift and translations of Homer, Virgil and Horace. Over a hundred students were enrolled at any one time. Another thirty or so students from the Mathematics School were enrolled part-time in the English School.

The Mathematics School was influenced by practical needs and included arithmetic, merchants’ accounts, geometry, algebra, surveying, astronomy, and drawing in perspective. Many students wanted practical skills to prepare for careers as surveyors, navigators, clerks, mechanics, and bankers. After the establishment of the College, mathematics became an important part of the College curriculum taught by masters versed in natural philosophy (science), electricity, and applied mathematics.

The Latin and Greek School prepared boys for entrance into the College. Its four levels progressed from grammar, conjugation and vocabulary, to reading Aesop, Metamorphosis, Virgil, Horace and Homer. In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Latin and Greek disappeared as college entrance requirements, not just at Penn but generally at American institutions of higher education, and in the long run Franklin’s educational philosophy prevailed over that of the early Trustees.

## The College

The male-only College had a rigorous curriculum. Admission was determined after a demanding examination of applicants by the Trustees. After a three-year course, students were again examined before receiving their bachelor’s degrees at Commencement. The course of study included Latin and Greek, mathematics and natural science (then called “natural philosophy”), along with ethics, oratory,

logic, and history (grouped together as “moral philosophy”). More specifically, the course was designed to sharpen pupils’ acumen so at the end of the three years, they would be able to apply independent thought to whatever situations life might demand. From the vantage of the 21st Century, “moral philosophy” appears to be a long-neglected curriculum area ripe for resurrection.

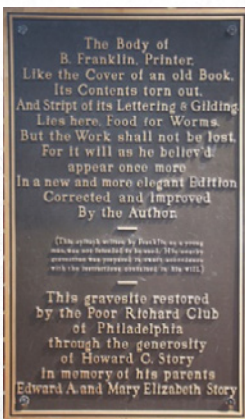
When the school was rechartered in 1779, a new curriculum allowed students to choose from four courses of study for four years in order to earn a Bachelor’s degree. Public lectures were also held at the College. George Washington recorded in his diary that on May 18, 1787, he attended a lecture by Eliza Harriot “at the College Hall.” In 1791 students could enroll in America’s first law course within the institutional umbrella of the “University of Pennsylvania,” which encompassed the Charity Schools, Academy, College and Medical School.

## #2 — 5th and Arch Street

# BENJAMIN FRANKLIN’S GRAVE IN CHRIST CHURCH BURIAL GROUND



Benjamin Franklin died on April 17, 1790, when he was 84 years old. Franklin’s health had gradually deteriorated from painful attacks of pleurisy and infection in the fluid surrounding his lungs. His last major public appearance was at the four-month-long Constitutional Convention from May 25 to September 17, 1787. At the conclusion, he was too weak to read his prepared speech and another representative read it for him.



Franklin lies beside his wife Deborah. Despite a harmonious marriage, he spent very few years with her before her death. While he was on crucial diplomatic missions in England and France for many years, she was left to manage household and business affairs at home. She passed away before his return. On the Continent, he was lionized as the greatest scientist of his time, and his presence was essential to securing French alliance. He and others converted the victory at Yorktown into the Treaty of Paris that ended the war and confirmed American independence. Beside his legacy of civic innovations like the post office, fire department, library, insurance company and university, Franklin also invented bifocals, the lightning rod, the “long-arm” grabber, the flexible catheter, the three-wheel clock, the glass armonica, a chair/ step ladder and the Franklin Stove. In his epitaph he refers to himself merely as “B. Franklin, Printer.”

### #3 — 320 Arch Street

## ARCH STREET FRIENDS MEETING



Penn athletes are called “Quakers.” We should appreciate why winning without murdering the opposition is a good model for success.

Philadelphia was the birthplace of the abolition movement led by members of the Society of Friends when on February 18, 1688, Quakers in Germantown protested human trafficking. In 1775, Quaker

activist, Anthony Benezet, convened the nation’s first anti-slavery organization. Benjamin Franklin and Benjamin Rush joined the group, the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery and the Relief of Free Negroes, and helped write its constitution. Franklin became its president and, in 1790, petitioned the U.S. Congress to ban slavery.

The Quaker Meeting House at 320 Arch Street sits on land that William Penn formally deeded to the Society of Friends in 1701. The existing meetinghouse was constructed over a decade starting in 1801 and is little changed since Franklin’s time. It has been in continual use.

Quakers endeavor to live in alignment with their convictions. The Society’s values of truth, simplicity, individual responsibility, and tolerance deeply influenced Ben Franklin and are embedded in the Declaration of Independence and Constitution. A key tenet of the Society of Friends holds that there is “that of God in Every Man,” and therefore ordinary people can educate and govern themselves with reason and create a just society. Built to reflect simplicity and equality, meeting houses seat everyone facing one another. Members sit in silence until moved to speak to the congregation. They have no clergy because each person is responsible for God’s work.

Both before and during the Civil War, this Meeting House was a pillar of support for the anti-slavery movement, the Underground Railroad and the movement for equal rights for women. Abolitionists and women’s rights advocates, Sarah and Angelina Grimké, worshipped here, as did painter Edward Hicks whose “Peaceable Kingdom” is a classic work of American art.

The meetinghouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been declared a National Historic Landmark.

## #4 — 314 Market to Chestnut Street

### FRANKLIN COURT



Franklin Court between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and between Chestnut and Market contains the outlined frame and site of the house and garden where Franklin lived at the beginning of the Revolution when he helped draft the Declaration of Independence, and later when he helped draft the Constitution. Deborah had supervised the building of the house under his direction while he was abroad as an ambassador for the colonies. The Franklins never lived there together. Deborah died before he returned from England to participate in the revolution. What can be seen today is a steel frame outlining his house over the original basement kitchen.

Sally Franklin Bache, her husband Richard Bache and their children lived in the house with her mother and then her father after his return to Philadelphia. Franklin made major improvements to the property in the five years before his death. He built a printing shop, bindery, and foundry for his grandson, Benjamin Franklin Bache, who also became a printer, publisher and journalist. He added a new wing and also built two substantial rental properties on Market Street flanking an arched carriageway into his court. The Post Office and Print Shop are recreations. In the print shop, visitors can see how printmaking was done with moveable type and a flatbed press.

Franklin was a printer by trade, and, famously, he was the author of *Poor Richard's Almanack*, still known for its wit and wisdom. Franklin was viewed as the most accomplished printer in Colonial America; his 1744 edition of Cicero's *Cato Major* is an exceptional example of early American printing. He also printed Colonial currency using a technique he devised to thwart counterfeiting.

## #5 — 7th and Market Street

### DECLARATION HOUSE



The brick building at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Market is a reconstruction of the site where Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence in his exquisite script. He incorporated ideas from Benjamin Franklin and other rebels expressing the determination of the colonies' representatives gathered at the Pennsylvania State House. The document was published by *the Pennsylvania Evening Post* on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1776



## #6 — 9th and Market Street

# PENN'S SECOND CAMPUS

## Phase 1 - President's House 1800 to 1829



**The President's House** was a mansion built from 1792 to 1797 by the government of Pennsylvania as an enticement to have the nation's capital remain in Philadelphia, even though Washington DC was in development. The first two U.S. presidents did indeed live in Philadelphia but neither ever occupied this building.

Both George Washington and John Adams resided instead in a mansion at the corner of 6th and Market Street once occupied by General Howe when his British troops occupied the city, and later by Benedict Arnold when his Patriot troops reclaimed the city. During the Revolutionary War years, the seat of Colonial government was never in place for long as its representatives raced from one city to another to avoid capture by the British. After the war, every state wanted to be the capital. The establishment of Washington D.C. as a "district" was a compromise.

In 1800, the President's House property was purchased at public auction by the University of Pennsylvania for use as a new, expanded campus. The University occupied the "President's House" from 1801 until 1829 when the building was demolished in preparation for the erection of a pair of new University buildings on the site.

## Phase 2 - Medical School and College 1829-1871



Penn Campus 1829-1871. Medical Department at left and Collegiate Department at right.

In 1829, Penn demolished the President's House on the Ninth Street campus and replaced it with twin marble-trimmed brick buildings designed in the Georgian style by William Strickland. The College and the Faculty of Medicine had separate buildings, identical in facade, but arranged internally for each department's specific needs. This served as Penn's campus until it relocated across the Schuylkill River to its present location.

## Today a Federal Building – Courts, Offices, Post Office

Note: Penn Students were among demonstrators arrested in March 1965 at the 9<sup>th</sup> and Market Street Federal building at a protest calling for Federal action to protect Civil Rights marchers in Selma, Alabama.



Today: View from 9<sup>th</sup> Street – Post Office

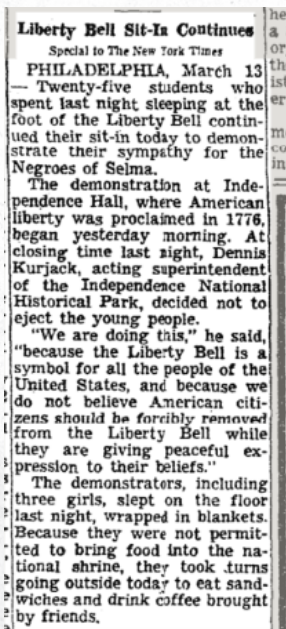


Today: View from Market St –  
Federal Courthouse

## #7 — Chestnut Street at 6<sup>th</sup>

### INDEPENDENCE HALL AND LIBERTY BELL

Presumably, Penn alumni do not need to know what happened of historic significance at Independence Hall on July 4, 1776, or on Sept 17, 1787. The Liberty Bell rested for many years on the first floor of the old Statehouse after many attempts to repair it failed. The bell now occupies its own pavilion across the street from the building where it once rang out from the belfry.



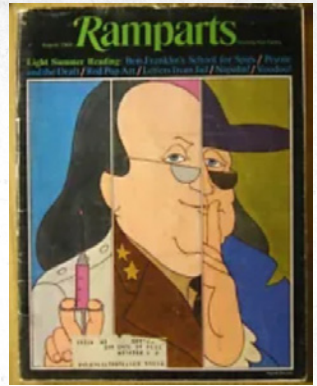
#### Liberty Bell

On March 12, 1965, twenty-five protesters, including Penn students, wrapped themselves in blankets and settled in for the night at the foot of the Liberty Bell, then located on the first floor of Independence Hall. In recognition of the bell's inscription to "Proclaim Liberty throughout the Land and to All the Inhabitants thereof," the students were demonstrating their solidarity with the Civil Rights marchers in Selma, Alabama, who had been beaten as they tried to cross the Edmund Pettis bridge (NY Times March 14, 1965).

#### Independence Hall

On March 31, 1968, after hearing President Lyndon Baines Johnson on TV declare "I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party for another term as your president," University of Pennsylvania students led by Seniors in the Class of 1968 marched from campus to Independence Hall where they danced in celebration, believing (naively)

that the War in Vietnam would soon be ended by a new administration and they would not be drafted to go die in Southeast Asia. Those hopes were dealt a blow when Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated on June 6. Penn students had discovered that “Project Spice Rack” secret germ warfare research had been conducted on campus (See *Ramparts* magazine, Aug 1966) and many believed the government was lying about the purpose and conduct of the war. They hoped Johnson’s successor would end it, but Richard Nixon became President instead of Bobby Kennedy or Gene McCarthy, and a rift, like the crack in the Liberty Bell, developed between the post-war generation and the generation that had served in WWII. Students of the Class of 1968 were the first of the post-WWII generation, called the Baby Boomers.



**#8 — 101 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**

## MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



The museum, which opened in 2017, owns a collection of several thousand objects including artwork and sculpture, textiles and weapons, manuscripts, and rare books. Permanent and special exhibition galleries, theaters and large-scale tableaux portray the individuals and events of the American Revolution and engage visitors in its history and continuing relevance.

Visitors follow a chronological journey - from the roots of conflict in the 1760s to the rise of armed resistance, and from the Declaration of Independence in 1776 through the final years of the war. Visitors see the diversity of revolutionary-era Americans and their opinions, for example, by viewing an Oneida Indian Council house, and the 1773 volume *Poems on Various Subjects* by Phillis Wheatley, America’s first published black female poet.

Several immersive gallery experiences include a full-scale replica of Boston’s Liberty Tree, the recreation of an Oneida Indian Council, the Battle of Brandywine, and a large model of an 18th-century privateer ship. A dedicated theater houses an iconic surviving artifact of the Revolution: General Washington’s Headquarters Tent, which served as both his office and sleeping quarters throughout much of the war.

Other highlights include documents and artifacts from the Revolutionary War period.

## POWEL HOUSE



Powel House was owned by Samuel Powel (October 28, 1738 – September 29, 1793), a graduate and Trustee of the College of Philadelphia, which became the University of Pennsylvania. Powel was the last colonial mayor of the city and the first to serve after the United States gained independence from Great Britain. West Philadelphia's Powelton Village was once his property. His wife, Elizabeth, was influential in the society of the early nation.

Samuel Powel was born in Philadelphia and graduated in 1759 from Penn's precursor College of Philadelphia. An early member of the American Philosophical Society, he served as mayor from 1775

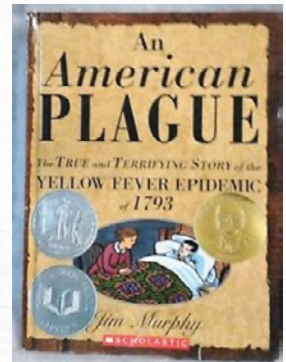
to 1776 and 1789 to 1790, the office having been abolished under the Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776. In 1790, he became a member of the Pennsylvania State Senate and remained in that office until his death in 1793.

Powel died in the yellow fever epidemic of 1793, when, like many other affluent residents of the city, he had fled the hot and congested Center City for cooler rural areas hoping to escape the miasmal humidity (not knowing that it was mosquitos that spread the infection). On September 29, 1793, he passed away in the bare little upper room of a tenant farmer on Powel's farm west of the city, now the site of Powelton Village, just north of today's Penn campus. He is interred at Christ Church Burial Ground in Center City.

Powel's wife, Elizabeth Willing Powel, didn't just entertain the political elite with lavish meals; she had a strong voice and became one of George Washington's closest confidants during his presidency, advising him on issues both personal and political.

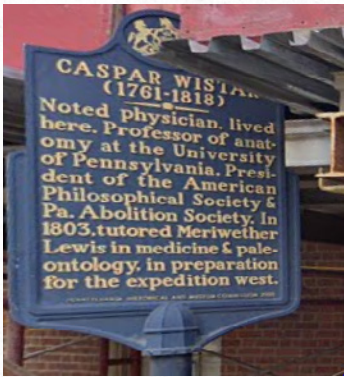
Famous visitors during the Powel residency included George & Martha Washington, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, the Marquis de Lafayette and John Adams, who wrote of his enjoyment of a "most sinful feast" after a particular visit.

One of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in the United States, the Powel House was built in 1765. Today it is rented out for special occasions.



#10 — 238 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street

## HOME OF DR. CASPAR WISTAR



The Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology was named for Dr. Caspar Wistar (1761-1818), a prominent physician, and chair of the anatomy department at the University. He wrote and published the first American textbook on anatomy—*A System of Anatomy: Volume 1* (1811), *Volume 2* (1814)

The Wistar Institute is an independent, nonprofit research institution in biomedical science, with special expertise in oncology, immunology, infectious disease, and vaccine research. Located on the Penn campus, the Wistar Institute was founded in 1892 as America's first nonprofit

institution solely focused on biomedical research and training. The institute has historic and contemporary ties with the University, reflected in research collaboration and shared access to facilities.

Since 1972, Wistar has been a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Cancer Center. It has received the highest rating of “exceptional” in two consecutive terms in 2013 and 2018 by the Cancer Center Support Grant.

Known worldwide for vaccine development, some of the Institute's accomplishments are its contributions to the creation of vaccines for rubella (German Measles), rotavirus (causing severe diarrhea) and rabies (fatal nervous system disease).

#11 — 321 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street

## PHYSICK HOUSE



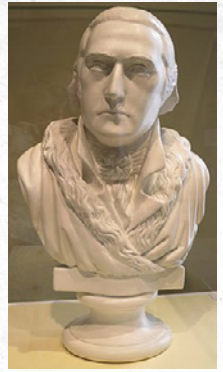
The home of Philip Syng Physick (July 7, 1768 – December 15, 1837), University of Pennsylvania graduate, prominent physician, surgeon and medical lecturer, is located on South 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Born in Philadelphia, Physick graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1785, then began the study of medicine under Adam Kuhn, and continued it in London under John Hunter, becoming, on January 1, 1790, house surgeon of St. George's hospital. In 1791 he received his license from the Royal College of Surgeons in London. After a few months as Dr. Hunter's assistant, he went to the University of Edinburgh, where he received his degree in medicine in 1792.

Physick then returned to Philadelphia to practice, taking a position at Pennsylvania Hospital. One of the foremost surgeons of the time, Physick was among the few

doctors who remained in the city to care for the sick during Philadelphia's decimating Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793. In 1795, Physick performed the first human blood transfusion, though he did not publish the information.

Physick pioneered the use of the stomach pump, used autopsy as a regular means of observation and discovery, excelled in cataract surgery, and was responsible for the design of a number of surgical instruments, such as the needle forceps, the guillotine/snare for performing tonsillectomies, and improved splints and traction devices for treatment of dislocations; he also innovated many operative techniques. In 1815, Physick was the first in Western medicine to introduce cataract extraction by aspiration of lens material by applying suction to a tube.



Physick was one of the most sought-after medical lecturers of the 19th century. His lectures prepared a generation of surgeons for service and he was dubbed the "Father of American Surgery." His many patients included James Madison's wife, Dolley Madison, Chief Justice John Marshall (from whom he removed more than 1,000 kidney stones, effecting a complete cure), and Benjamin Rush. When President Andrew Jackson consulted with Physick about his lung hemorrhages, he was told to stop smoking.

Physick died in Philadelphia and was interred at Christ Church Burial Ground.

## #12 — 5th Street near Walnut (SITE)

### SURGEON'S HALL, PENN'S MEDICAL SCHOOL



*Surgeons' Hall, 1799*



*"President's House," with 1817 cupola on the Medical Department wing*



*Penn's campus from 1829-1871, at 9th & Market Streets: Medical Hall and College Hall*

From its founding in 1765 until 1801, Department of Medicine classes were not conducted on Penn's original campus at Fourth and Arch Street but in Surgeons' Hall, on Fifth Street near Walnut Street. It was the first and only medical school in the American colonies when, in the fall of 1765, students enrolled for "anatomical lectures" and a course on "the theory and practice of physik." By organizing a medical faculty separate and distinct from the collegiate faculty, Penn's Trustees effectively created the first university in North America.

The founder of the School of Medicine was a young Philadelphian, John Morgan.

The early faculty, including Morgan, had earned medical degrees at the University of Edinburgh with further study in London with eminent preceptors at private schools for advanced training in anatomy and at the great city hospitals for clinical practice.

Due to their training abroad, the founding faculty introduced two important elements in American medical education. With the University of Edinburgh as their model, they built their medical school within an institution of higher learning. As in London, they chose to supplement medical lectures with bedside teaching, provided to apprentice physicians by practitioners at Pennsylvania Hospital located a few blocks from the College.

For more than a century, the pattern of medical education established in 1765 remained relatively unchanged. But, though often violated, the standards and procedures introduced by Pennsylvania remained the guiding force in medical education. During most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Pennsylvania was the leading institution of medical education on the continent. The School of Medicine's faculty was renowned — Benjamin Rush in medicine, Philip Syng Physick in surgery, Robert Hare in chemistry, and around the mid-century, William Pepper in medicine and Joseph Leidy in anatomy. In 1847, founders of the American Medical Association ensured the new organization's prestige by naming the Penn's Professor of Medicine, Nathaniel Chapman, as its first president.

Toward the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the scientific work of such men as Pasteur, Koch and Ehrlich inaugurated the era of modern medicine, though medical schools in America were still largely tied to 18<sup>th</sup> century teaching methods. The new era called for the introduction of the developing sciences of bacteriology, biochemistry and pharmacology with additional years of training and higher academic standards for admission and graduation. At Penn's Medical School in the 1870s and 1880s, William Osler — later of Johns Hopkins fame — established an exciting investigative approach to medicine that was adopted by progressive faculty members.

In the 1870s, when the University of Pennsylvania moved from Center City where it was close to the independent Pennsylvania Hospital, to its present campus west on the Schuylkill River, the medical faculty persuaded the trustees to build the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, the first teaching hospital built for a medical school. Not until 1910 did bedside teaching specifically conducted by appointed clinical faculty become one of the necessary ingredients of modern medical education.

## **#13 — 105 S 5th Street**

### **LIBRARY HALL**

The Library Hall building at 105 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street is a reconstruction of the original which occupied the site in Colonial times. A statue of Ben Franklin wearing a toga stands above the Hall's main entrance. The toga reminds us that Franklin advocated for the U.S to have a republican form of government as in ancient Rome.

The Library Company of Philadelphia, founded by Franklin in 1731, open to all by subscription, was housed on the site of Library Hall from 1790 to 1880; from 1774



to 1800, the Library Company served as the Library of Congress. In the 1880s, the Library Company moved to 1314 Locust Street, and the original Library Hall was then demolished. In the 1950s, a reproduction of Library Hall was constructed on its original site. Today, Library Hall houses some of the American Philosophical Society's collections, and the Library Company on Locust Street still functions as a research library. The Free Library of the City of Philadelphia was

inspired by Franklin's idea but has public rather than private oversight.

## #14 — 104 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street



## AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

The American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in the United States, was founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin for the purpose of "promoting useful knowledge."

The Society developed from the "Junto", an informal fraternity organized by Franklin in 1727. In his autobiography, Franklin acknowledged the moral and practical support he received from his friends as he proposed progressive ideas like a post office, a hospital, a charity school and academy, and a fire insurance organization. Now adjacent to Independence Hall with library and offices on 5th Street, it was originally located nearby at 431 Chestnut Street.

In the 21st century, the Society sustains its mission by honoring and engaging leading scholars, scientists, and professionals through elected membership and interdisciplinary, intellectual fellowship with semi-annual meetings. It also supports research and discovery through grants, lectures, publications, prizes, exhibitions, and public education, and it maintains a research library of manuscripts and collections of enduring historic value.

## #15 — 419 S 6th Street (at Lombard)

## MOTHER BETHEL AME CHURCH

In Colonial times, Philadelphia was a bustling port city with both an active slave trade as well as America's largest and wealthiest northern free Black community. Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal church served as a vital connection between the free Black community and their brethren attempting to attain freedom.



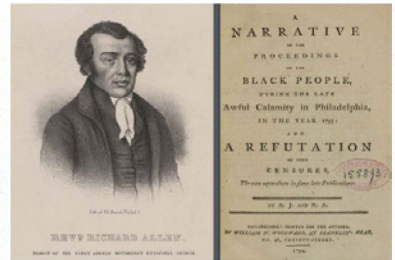


The church occupies the oldest parcel of land in the U.S. continuously owned by African Americans.

The congregation was formed in 1794 by Richard Allen, a former slave who had become a prominent preacher and founder of the Free African Society. Allen had been born a slave in Pennsylvania and sold to Maryland where he later bought his freedom from his master. In 1816, Rev. Richard Allen

brought together other black Methodist congregations from the region to organize the new African Methodist Episcopal Church denomination and he was elected bishop.

Slavery and indentured servitude were common in early America. Even Benjamin Franklin, who ran away from an indentured apprenticeship, had domestic slaves when he was young, yet he supported the good works of the Free African Society leaders. Over time, Franklin became increasingly opposed to slavery as inconsistent with American values. In 1787, he became President of the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery. After the ratification of the Constitution in 1789, his last public act in February 1790 was to send Congress a petition on behalf of the Society asking for the abolition of slavery and an end to the slave trade.



William Still

Responding to a plea for assistance from Dr. Benjamin Rush, who wrongly believed that Africans were immune to yellow fever, the Free African Society's members demonstrated their commitment to Christian values and civic duty by serving as emergency health workers when yellow fever overran Philadelphia in 1793. Pamphleteer Mathew Carey slanderously claimed they were doing it for unfair profit. Except for a dedicated few like Dr. Rush, white residents who were able to do so, like Carey, fled the city. George Washington moved to the Dresher-Morris house in Germantown with his domestic slaves. The FAS stayed and helped the sick and dying.

Mother Bethel Church was a vital component of the Underground Railroad. By the beginning of the Civil War, thousands of fugitive slaves had reached Philadelphia where they found refuge or assistance for a journey onward. They were aided by Black abolitionist William Still of the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society and white Quakers like Lucretia Mott. Mott, Still and Frederick Douglass were among those who spoke from the rostrum at Mother Bethel. Much of what historians know about these encounters comes from Still's meticulous records included in his book, *The Underground Railroad* published in 1872. According to his journal preserved at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania he helped 485 fugitives in the city between

1852 and 1857. Still's work and records illustrate the importance of the free Black community to the operation of the Underground Railroad and the interracial cooperation that was essential to its success. It took much courage to violate the Federal Fugitive Slave Laws of 1793 and 1850. The 1850 law made it especially difficult to help fugitives because it required federal authorities to hunt runaway slaves and citizen bystanders to participate in their capture. Those who aided fugitives faced severe criminal penalties of six months in jail and fines as well as the possibility of civil suits from slave owners. In the 1850s, Pennsylvanians were sometimes brought to court for helping and concealing fugitives from slavery, and accused fugitives faced hearings that could lead to a return to bondage.

In 1838, Mother Bethel was damaged during the riots that followed the destruction of Pennsylvania Hall of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society.

## #16 — 800 Spruce Street (8<sup>th</sup> & Pine)

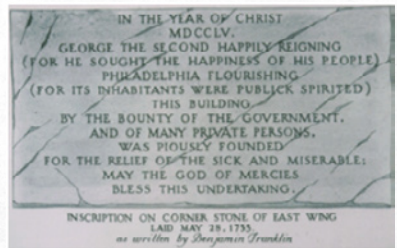
### PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL



Pennsylvania Hospital, the nation's first hospital, played a central role in the history of American medicine. Founded in 1751 by Benjamin Franklin and Dr. Thomas Bond, it merged with the University of Pennsylvania Health System in 1997. The idea for a hospital originated with Dr. Bond, a Quaker who went abroad to study medicine, returned to Philadelphia in 1739

and became Philadelphia Port Inspector for Contagious Diseases. At the time, the city with 15,000 inhabitants was "a melting pot for diseases." Bond was a member of Franklin's Library Company, Philosophical Society and Academy, and he brought the idea of a hospital, unknown on this side of the Atlantic, to his old friend who became a strong advocate.

Ben Franklin brought a petition to establish a hospital "to care for the sick poor of the Province and for the reception and care of lunatics" to the Pennsylvania Assembly on January 20, 1751. A hospital was an especially welcome idea for families coping with mental illness, which could not be comfortably managed at home like physical illness. The bill, however, was met with objections from rural Assemblymen who thought the hospital would only help city people. Franklin saved the day by challenging the Assembly that if he could prove popular support by raising £2000 from private citizens, the Assembly had to match the funds. Thinking that was impossible, the Assembly agreed, ready to receive the "credit of being charitable without the expense." When Franklin's fundraising brought in more than the required amount, the Assembly kept their end of the bargain, and the bill was signed into law on May 11, 1751. So pleased was Franklin that he later wrote: "I do not remember any of my political manoeuvres, the success of which gave me at the time more pleasure..."



From early 1752 until 1755, Pennsylvania Hospital was housed in the home of recently deceased Speaker of the Assembly, a Quaker, whose widow served as hospital matron. In 1755, the cornerstone written by Franklin, was laid at 8th and Pine, and patients were admitted in 1756. The property expanded and appointed its first medical resident, Jacob Ehrenzeller in 1773. Jacob was 16 years old and his indenture stipulated that he was forbidden to fornicate, play at cards, buy or sell goods or run away. His internship was unique, combining clinical training at Pennsylvania Hospital with a medical school education at the College of Philadelphia (later the University).

During the American Revolution, the hospital cared for both Continental and British soldiers using candles for light and fireplaces for heat. Staff physician Dr. Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, wrote a definitive treatise on military medicine. Rush was a medical teacher and social reformer, called “the father of American psychiatry” and known for the humane treatment of the mentally ill, with patients like Mary Girard, the “hysterical” young wife of the fabulously wealthy Steven Girard.



Dr. Phillip Syng Physick, appointed to the staff in 1794, became known as “the father of American surgery.” Medical students and locals paid to observe in the amphitheater where until 1868 surgeries were performed on sunny days between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. There was, of course, no electricity. Up to 300 people might attend to watch amputations: removal of internal and external tumors, bladder stones and cataracts; repair

of hernias; and the setting of fractures. The surgeons did not use anesthesia until 1846. Prior to anesthesia, patients were given large doses of alcohol, opium or a sharp tap on the head with a mallet. Until the 1890s, surgeons washed their hands after a procedure, not before. They wore coats to protect their clothing and hung the unwashed garments on hooks outside the Amphitheatre to be repeatedly reused(!)

By the early 1800s, mentally ill patients at Pennsylvania Hospital outnumbered those with a physical diagnosis by two to one. In 1841, the hospital purchased a large farm at what is now 44th and Market Streets and established the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane. Dr. Thomas Story Kirkbridge became its Superintendent. In 1844, he founded the Association that became the American Psychiatric Association.

The original 44<sup>th</sup> and Market campus was closed in 1950 by construction of the Market Street El train. The hospital expanded at 49<sup>th</sup> and Market but in the face of shrinking insurance revenues for mental health, later sold its West Philadelphia psychiatric facilities. In 1976, the hospital’s old Pine Building was restored. Pennsylvania Hospital remained independent until 1997 when its Board of Managers decided to merge with the University of Pennsylvania Health System, finally uniting two institutions founded by Benjamin Franklin.

## HOME OF DR. MARY ELFRETH ALLEN, M.D.

On September 14, 1877, Mary Elfreth Allen, M.D., an 1876 graduate of the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania, became the third woman to enroll at the University of Pennsylvania. She was a special student studying Chemistry in the Towne Scientific School (precursor of the School of Engineering). Dr. Allen was 27 years old and lived at 524 Pine Street, Philadelphia. As a “special student,” she, along with her two female classmates, were not eligible to receive degrees from Penn, but the women’s interest in chemistry was notable at a time when medical education was still primarily surgical, and the principal medications in use were alcohol and opium.



*Mary’s home still stands at 524 Pine Street*



*Mary’s Chemistry classmates, Gertrude Klein Peirce and Anna Lockhart Flanigen, had also attended Women’s Medical College of Pennsylvania before coming to Penn.*

The mid-19th Century was a seminal period in the development of pharmaceutical science and the refinement of drugs. To that point, diseases were identified by symptom, and it was the symptoms that were attacked. Bloodletting dominated the surgeon’s art, and dosing patients with powerful purgatives and cathartics attempted to match the power of the disease with the power of the drug. Bleeding could reduce a raging fever or pounding pulse when there was too little blood in the body, so the symptoms, if not the disease, seemed to vanish. Dosing patients with drugs like calomel was believed to expel toxins, cleansing both stomach and bowels violently to remove the poisons. Nineteenth century advancements in treatment came with chemical engineering when drugs were refined, like salicylic acid (aspirin) to reduce fever and pain. Chloroform was first used as an anesthetic in 1847, and, though potentially lethal, it was preferable to rendering surgical patients unconscious with alcohol or opium or a severe blow to the skull.

Shortly before Dr. Allen started at Penn, in June 1877, Penn’s Trustees had closed the University’s Charity School, stating that the public schools of Philadelphia were providing educational facilities and teaching comparable to what had been offered in charity schools. The Trustees re-directed the income of the Charity School trust to collegiate scholarships for young men and to instruction for female students “so far as the Provost thought appropriate at the University.” Though some monies were made available for female students, no diplomas were granted to them except in the new Department of Music. But in 1879, the Trustees announced that “persons of both sexes are now admitted” to certain classes in the College and School of Engineering, and to all classes in the Department of Music. By 1880, women began

to earn degrees but the undergraduate College with its dormitories was male-only and the College for Women was not established until the 20th Century. Gender mixing continued to be of concern. In the 1960s, students in the College for Women had a special directive for entertaining male visitors at Hill Hall called the “four-feet-on-the-floor rule.”

## #18 — 627 Arch Street

### WOMEN’S MEDICAL COLLEGE



*Women’s Medical  
College 1850*



*Students dissect a human body.*



*Dr Ann Preston, Dean*

The world’s first women’s medical school granting the MD degree stood at 627 Arch St. View its image on a plaque at 7<sup>th</sup> and Arch outside the Federal Reserve Building, which now occupies the site. Originally called the Female Medical School of Pennsylvania, it received its charter from the state in May 1850. Founded by philanthropists and abolitionists, it produced more Native American and Black practitioners than any other medical school.

Dr. Ellwood Harvey, one of the founders, taught full time at the college and helped sustain it while he also continued his medical practice. Harvey was sued for libel by Dr. Joseph S. Longshore, an instructor who was forced out. Longshore started a rival medical college “Penn Medical University”(not to be confused with the University of Pennsylvania Medical School), which taught both men and women, but it did not survive into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Ann Preston, MD, a graduate of its first class, became Dean. She was a dynamic Quaker activist, who served on the board of the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society and helped launch a woman’s hospital in North Philadelphia in 1861. In 1869, after several rejections, Preston was allowed to bring her students to Pennsylvania Hospital for clinical instruction. When they arrived in the surgical amphitheater, male students catcalled, spat upon, and assaulted the women with spitballs and tobacco juice. Philadelphia newspapers sided with the women— primarily because the male students’ behavior was “un-gentlemanly.” The incident and ensuing publicity encapsulated the social debates about gender roles, and the “Jeering Episode” became an essential element of the Woman’s Medical College’s identity for generations. During the 19th Century, the institution had a continuous stream of women deans for 100 years and was pivotal in the establishment of the Woman’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

The University of Pennsylvania began to accept women students over 25 years after the Women's Medical College was established, but the first three female students admitted to Penn to study Chemistry, including Dr. Mary Elfreth Allen, M.D., previously studied at the Female Medical College. The study of Chemistry was notable at a time when medical schools focused on surgery and the principal drugs in a physician's arsenal were alcohol and opium.

The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania later moved to East Falls, changed its name to Medical College of Pennsylvania, accepted male students in 1970, merged with Hahnemann Medical School and in 2002 became part of the Drexel University College of Medicine.

**#19 — 190 N 6th Street**

## PENNSYLVANIA HALL OF THE PHILADELPHIA FEMALE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY



*Pennsylvania Hall was a "Temple of Free Discussion," for antislavery, women's rights, and other reform ideas.*



DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF PENNSYLVANIA HALL, MAY 17, 1838  
Illustration by J. C. Witt, Courtesy Library of Congress (201464336)

*On May 17, 1838, white male mobs burned the new hall to the ground four days after it opened.*

In December 1833, Philadelphia women led by Quaker Lucretia Mott founded the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society (PFASS). Barred from membership in the American Anti-Slavery Society, 21 women formed their own interracial organization. Supported by women like Charlotte Forten, wife of a wealthy Black sailmaker, and her daughters, PFASS was a radical group that directly confronted American slavery. They opened schools for colored girls, organized boycotts of goods produced using slave labor, circulated political petitions, coordinated large fundraising efforts and "oiled the rails" of the Underground Railroad, which ran from the docks of Philadelphia, northwest to Germantown, east to New Jersey, south to Chester County and north to New York, Massachusetts and Canada.

The Society grew rapidly. In five years, PFASS erected one of the largest and most beautiful buildings in the city, Pennsylvania Hall between Mulberry (Arch) and Sassafraz (Race) streets. At a cost of \$40,000, it was magnificent, with rich walnut furnishings and chairs lined with blue silk velvet.

On Monday morning May 14, the Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women opened on the day the Hall was dedicated. It was an interracial convention of 203

delegates from northern towns and cities. By Tuesday, word flew around the city that the convention was promoting race mixing, which infuriated some white male Philadelphians. The worried mayor tried to defuse matters by asking that only white women attend, but the convention leaders refused.

Threats against the convention grew. By Wednesday, ruffians started shouting and smashing windows and assaulting Black delegates as they emerged. By Thursday, a raucous crowd of white men and boys surrounded the Hall. Alarmed, the building's managers asked Lucretia Mott to recommend that colored women not attend the evening meeting. Instead, Mott called off the evening session entirely, rather than exclude them. That night, the mob swelled to thousands. Despite police presence, men broke into the Hall, opened gas jets and lit fires. When flames roared through the building, the mob blocked the fire trucks and Pennsylvania Hall burned to the ground. It was the worst case of arson since the burning of the White House and Capitol by the British in 1812. What remains is a commemorative plaque at 190 North 6th Street opposite the National Constitution Center.

Undeterred, delegates met the next day in a schoolhouse and the Society remained intact for decades after the Civil War until after Congress passed the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Constitutional amendments. Lucretia Mott later helped establish Swarthmore College as a co-ed institution while Penn maintained separate colleges for men and women until 1972. A plaque (that oddly omits the word "Female") on 6<sup>th</sup> near Race, across from the Constitution Center, marks the site of PFASS' Pennsylvania Hall and a plaque at 5<sup>th</sup> and Arch St close to the site of Penn's first campus, marks the PFASS Headquarters site.

## #20 — 525 Arch Street

### NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER



The National Constitution Center is dedicated to the U.S. Constitution. It is an interactive museum, national town hall, and civic education headquarters featuring exhibitions, live performances, rare artifacts, and hands-on activities to bring the Constitution to life for all ages.

For example, visitors might hear an audio reenactment of the Founders, represented by statues, debating ideas in the formation of the Constitution. Or see a program on the issues currently debated regarding the Second Amendment and a citizen's right to bear arms. Or learn the history of the Equal Rights Amendment and the arguments that stalled its ratification.

**PENN 68**  
**NOT DONE YET!**