

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Philadelphia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAP 16 1972	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Nathaniel Irish House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
704 S. Front Street

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
704 S. Front St.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Philadelphia

STATE: Pennsylvania

CODE 42	COUNTY: Philadelphia	CODE 101
------------	-------------------------	-------------

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

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

Comments: 706-708 S. Front St. purchased by Pa. Dept. of Highways for I-95.

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mrs. Earle R. Kirkbride

STREET AND NUMBER:  
704 S. Front St.

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia

STATE: Pennsylvania

CODE: 42

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
City Hall Dept. of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Broad and Market Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia

STATE: Pennsylvania

CODE: 42

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Building Survey, 1957 and others (see last page)

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Philadelphia Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1313 City Hall Annex

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia

STATE: Pennsylvania

CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

USE THIS COPY FOR DUPLICATING

STATE: Pennsylvania

COUNTY: Philadelphia

ENTRY NUMBER: MAP 16 1972

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior:

Three-and-one-half story town house with two story attached building at rear; Flemish bond front facade; steep gable roof; dormer front and rear; three-flue chimney front and rear; frame modillion cornice; double belt course at third floor; single belt course at second floor; scar of pent eave between first and second stories; high moulded brick watershed; original window frames and mouldings second and third stories; some original sash; brick arch alleyway under second story; rear attached building (kitchen); common bond (five stretcher courses to one header course); a solid diamond shape of glazed headers on plain rear wall; shed roof; high two-flue chimney frame boulding cornice; belt course at second story; original window frames and sash second story, original shutters first story.

Interior:

Seven fireplaces intact; one has frame mantel with half round beam and dog-eared moulding with Wall of Troy trim which matches the wide cornice moulding. This fireplace has some 18th century blue Dutch tiles intact, also a castiron fireback, cited by Henry C. Mercer. "The Bible in Iron," p. 101 (plate 166) as "The Conqueror;" eight panelled chimney walls with breasted closets, panelled doors, some original L&H hinges; one room panelled dado; original spiral stairs from second to fourth floors.

PRESENT APPEARANCE:

Present owners are in process of restoring the house. It is in excellent condition with all of the previously described features intact. See the accompanying photographs for further details.

Measured drawings are available in Philadelphia Historical Commission.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1763-69

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

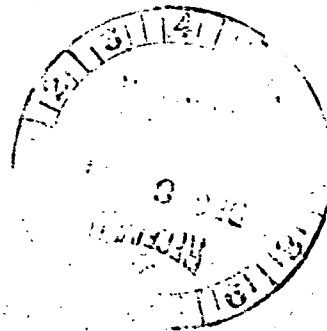
This house is located on Front Street, Southwark, an important residential and commercial area in the eighteenth century. This and adjoining houses were built by Nathaniel Irish. These and many other houses of the same period remain along Front Street. House-carpenter-builder Nathaniel Irish was a member of the Carpenters Company of Philadelphia 1762-1769; owner or co-owner of the Union's Furnace, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; and Captain of an Artillery Company of Artificers. The house is typical of its period.

SURVEYS

Historic American Building Survey, 1957 information forms filed by PHC records deposited in library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
 Philadelphia Contributionship survey for insurance policy nos. 1604 (1772), 13971 (1893).  
 copies in Philadelphia Historical Commission  
 1313 City Hall Annex  
 Philadelphia, Pa.

Local survey by Philadelphia Historical Commission; and by APS - PHC project.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mercer, Henry C. "Decorated Stove Plates," Contributions to American History by the Bucks County Historical Society, No. 6. Doylestown, Pa., 1899, p.19.

\_\_\_\_\_, "The Bible in Iron," Contrib. to Am. Hist. by Bucks Co. Hist. Soc. 1914, p. 101, plate 166.

Kirkbride, Beatrice H., "The Nathaniel Irish House: Report to the Philadelphia Historical Commission," September, 1959. (in file for 704 S. Front St. at Phila. Hist. Comm.).

Measured drawings and Inventory, January, 1957, George A. Robbins, AIA, Reg. Architect (copies in Philadelphia Historical Commission, City Hall Annex, Phila.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	39 °	56' 26.5"	75 ° 08' 41 "
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 20' front x 34' deep

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
By: Mary C. Means Student Aide

ORGANIZATION: For: Pa. Historical and Museum Commission DATE: 6/21/70

STREET AND NUMBER:  
William Penn Memorial Museum

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

National  State  Local

Name G. K. Stork

Title Executive Director

Date September 16, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

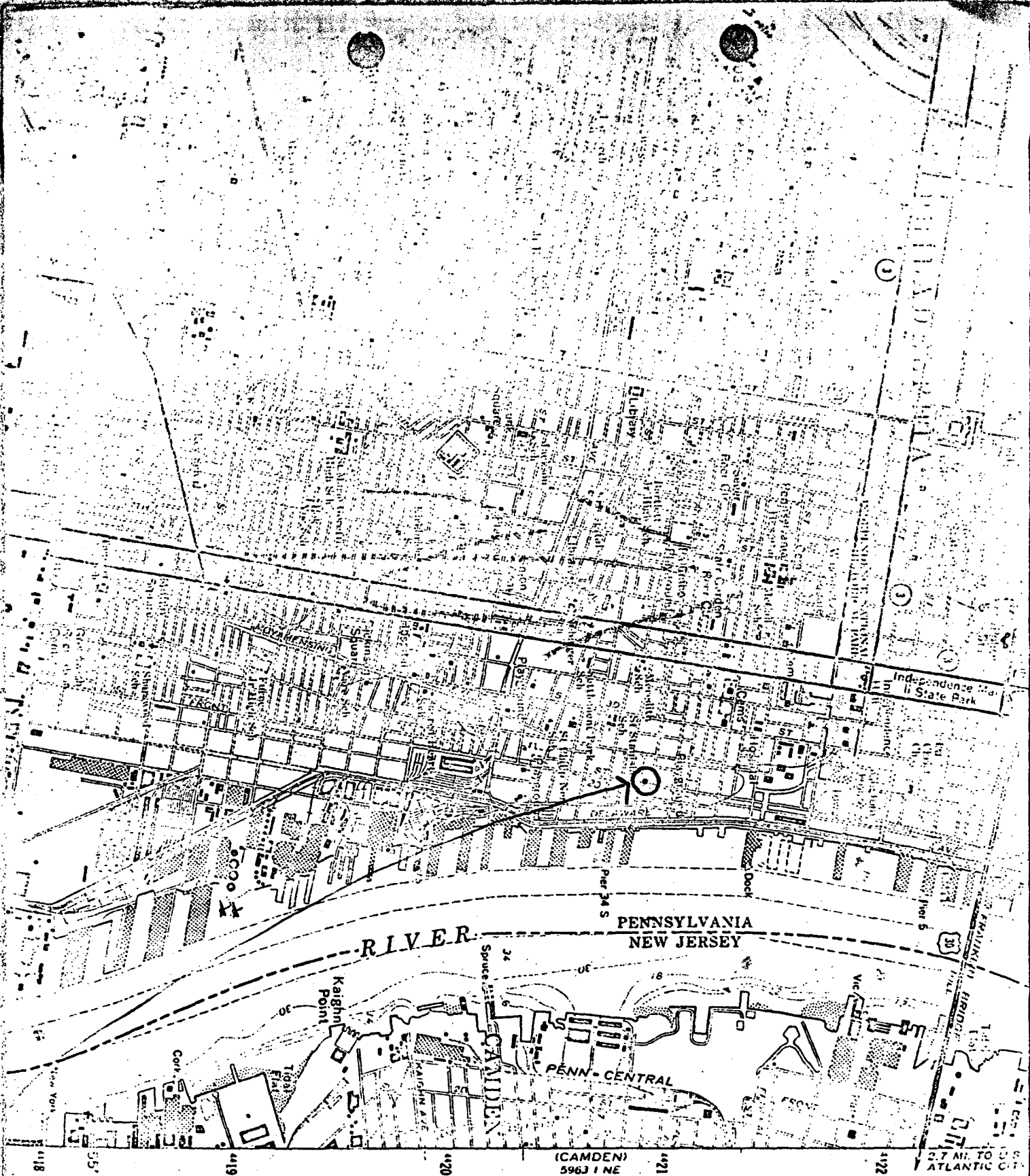
Ernest R. Connolly  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date MAR 16 1972

ATTEST: William J. Muehlebach  
Keeper of The National Register

Date FEB 11 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



704 S. FRONT ST.

— PHILADELPHIA QUADRANGLE —

USCGS MAP