

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Matthew Quay House

AND/OR COMMON Philadelphia Dance Academy

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1035-37 Spruce Street, also 277 South 11th St NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Philadelphia VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Pennsylvania CODE 42 COUNTY Philadelphia CODE 101

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Nicholas Nahumcks

STREET & NUMBER 269 S. Van Pelt Street

CITY, TOWN Philadelphia VICINITY OF STATE Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry Unit, Department of Records

STREET & NUMBER Philadelphia City Hall

CITY, TOWN Philadelphia STATE Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Philadelphia Historical Commission

DATE 27 May 1958 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Philadelphia Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN Philadelphia STATE Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building situate at 1035 Spruce Street is a four story brick dwelling with a two story brick addition at the North end. The original building measures 47' front by 51' deep. The front facade is ashlar brownstone and the west flank is stucco, scored and colored as brownstone. It was built prior to 1858 in the Romano-Tuscan mode of Renaissance Revival. The north end was extended at four different times: 1889, 1906, 1921, 1928. With additions, the building extends 150' in depth and maintains the width of 47'.

The original building has a basement, attic, and cupola in addition to four stories. It is of symmetrical plan. At the basement level there is a smooth brownstone watertable; originally the bottom course was rusticated. Three corners are quioned with smooth brownstone blocks. There is a string course above the first floor, on the south side. All windows have cambered arches. A projecting wood cornice crowns the building. At the south and west exposures it is ornamented with acanthus leaf motifs and medallions. The cornice consists of 20 brackets front and 22 on the west flank. There are 8 square attic windows spaced between the brackets, behind medallions. A low double pitched terneplate roof is hipped on the west side. At the apex of the hip and the ridge is a wooden observatory. Each side has a semi-circular window of 8 lights, flanked by 2 semi-circular windows of 4 lights each. The observatory is crowned by a wood cornice, with ten brackets to a side. The terneplate roof is pyramidal.

The front facade has 4 basement windows with the original cast iron guards outside. These windows were 12 light folding sash, but are now double hung 2 over 2 windows. There are 4 windows flanking the entrance on the first floor. The architraves are ornate, moulded brownstone. Above each window is a floral string motif with a scallop in the keystone position. The windows were 4 over 4, and each had a stone balcony with balustrade in front. The balconies were removed and the windows were changed to 2 over 1. Seven stairs rise to the entrance, originally with stone balusters, now with iron railings. The entrance is flanked by 2 brownstone columns on pedestals, with modified strapwork at the base and Corinthian capitals. They supported a curved, ornate, pediment which was removed c. 1960 and replaced with a plain pediment with a cyma recta curve. The moulding over the entrance is also ornamented, with a console in the keystone position. Two folding panel doors and a large transom are recessed. Five 2 over 2 second story windows use the string course as a sill. The architraves are simpler, a raised moulding reflects the first story ornamentation. A rusticated keystone detail replaces the scallop. The third and fourth story fenestration is similar but with individual sills and corbel brackets.

The west flank has 4 basement windows, 1 over 1. Originally three 2 over 2 windows were on this side. Two narrower windows were added which flanked the northern most window. In 1928 one was removed and a double panel folding door with transom was built. All of the windows have cast iron guards, which are not original. The windows on the west flank are three deep. The

(Continued)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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architraves are similar to those on the front. All windows were 2 over 2. Presently the first story windows are 1 over 2, 1 over 2, and 2 over 2. Above the door on the northern side, is a trabeated 3 over 3 window and above that a semi-circular 3 over 3 with fanlight of colored glass. These do not maintain the established story lines, and were added in 1928 with a stairwell.

The north flank of the original was brick. All windows had brownstone lintels. There was a back door with a wooden balcony extending the full wall. There were four 2 over 2 windows in each of the other floors. A one story building was added to the north end in 1889.

The east flank is a party wall with two chimneys.

The present 2 story brick addition at the north end was built in 1928. It measures approximately 100' by 45'. The west flank is scored and colored as brownstone, and is quoined at the northern end. A string course divides the 2 stories. There are 8 basement windows, 6 are 3 over 3 with leaded stained glass. There is a sunken stairway which leads to a basement door. At the first story are 6 trabeated 3 over 3 leaded, stained glass windows, 3 in a slight wall projection. At the northern end are 2 doors and an alley. Six small windows stretch between the doors at transom height. Above this area is a picture window flanked by 2 narrow 6 light windows, with stained glass fanlights. One window is converted to a door which leads to an exterior fire escape. A simple metal cornice of 26 brackets crowns the addition. The windows and roof of the earlier additions remain unchanged, within the present structure.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD .

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES before 1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original building was constructed before 1858 for Edward Roberts, a successful druggist. It is one of the few examples of a Renaissance Revival brownstone mansion in Philadelphia. It is executed in the Romano-Tuscan mode, but with Northern Italian influences in the ornamentation and detailing. This is apparent in the cornice, first story architraves, the cambered window arches, and the semi-circular windows in the cupola. The building serves to unify the streetscape. A fine series of brownstone row houses are across the street.

In 1879 Matthew S. Quay acquired the property, and resided there until 1881. Quay (1833-1904) played an important role in Pennsylvania politics. He was a master at organizing and using the political machine. In 1860 he was instrumental in securing the office of Governor for A. G. Curtin. With Curtin's influence, Quay held many positions of authority and responsibility during the Civil War. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his services. He was elected to the State House in Pennsylvania in 1865, and served one term. From 1872 to 1878 he was the Secretary of the Commonwealth. In 1878 the legislature created for him, the office of Recorder of Philadelphia, the most lucrative public office in the state. He also became the Chairman of the Republican State Committee. He moved to Philadelphia with aspirations of gaining power. After less than a year at his residence on North Broad Street, he removed to 1035 Spruce Street to change wards and gain political alliances. His efforts did not succeed and he resigned as Recorder in 1879, being unable to gain control of the Philadelphia political machine. He became Secretary of the Commonwealth once again, and remained such until 1882. In 1885 he won a controvertial election and became State Treasurer. At this point he effectively gained political control of Pennsylvania, and maintained it until his death. He served in the U.S. Senate from 1887 to 1904, except for 1889-1901 when the seat was vacant. As a member of the executive committee of the Republican National Committee, he was instrumental in electing Harrison and securing Roosevelt's nomination as vice president for the presidential race of 1900.

Quay symbolized the politics of bossism and the machine of the Gilded Age. A man of education and letters, he held conventional political ideals in contempt and became one of the nation's and state's most hated politicians.



Gaging Sta

BM 25

RIVER

20th St Sta

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Franklin Field

PHILADELPHIA

(291)

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

PENNSYLVANIA NEW JERSEY

FRANKLIN BRIDGE

PHILADELPHIA CO CAMDEN

CAMDEN

R Spruce

Pier 34 S

BMT

(30)

4 LANE

Franklin Square

Polide Sta

Independence Mall

State Park

Independence Hill

Custom House

Towe

Cem

Hospital

Playground

Meridith Sch

St Stanislaus Sch

Settlement Park Sch

St Phillip Sch

Playground

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