

Here dwell the Leni-lenape, Real Men  
of the Algonquian Group. They were  
divided into three great Tribes, the Unami,  
Furtile, the Unalachtigo, Turkey, and...

The Mansee Wolf... Their Government  
which they called Jachema, was by Kings,  
Jachemakers, and these came into power  
by Succession, but always on the Mother's side.



The Fruits that I find in the Woods  
are the White and Black Nourberries,  
the Chestnuts, the Walnuts, the  
Plums, and Strawberries, and Cranberries.

The Grapes some of drivers forts  
are also Peaches, and very  
good in great quantities, not in  
English Plantation without them.

or the convenience of the Deer, Duck, Spruce,  
the Bony, and Governor, and other  
to suffer, because they are  
to be very good, and the most

good Providence of God, that of all the many, I have  
seen in the world, of remember not one better  
located, so that it seems to me, to have been  
created for a Virgin, whether we regard the Region.

I say little of its own itself, because a Part, from  
will be seen to you by my self, in which  
those who are here, have found their  
Names, and Interests. But this I will say for the

The Kingdom of Virginia are Head of Park of  
of the King of the Moon...  
of King's Secretary, John Spaul, the Over, about

Great, because of Rabbit, Squirrel, Wolf, Deer, Panther, Otter,  
Wolf, Fox, Hawk, Turkey, and other  
birds, and other... The deer, Goose, Duck, and etc. etc.

They cleared large Tracts for Cultivation near  
their Villages... The original produce of the  
Country is Wheat, Rye, Indian Corn, Beans,  
Squash, Pumpkins, Water Melons, Peas, etc.

**PHILADELPHIA COUNTY POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS**



DETAIL, THOMAS HOLME MAP  
of  
PENNSYLVANIA, circa 1687

# **GENEALOGY**

## **OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY SUBDIVISIONS**

PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY LEAGUE  
LIBRARY  
PHILADELPHIA, PA

BY

**JOHN DALY**  
*Archival Examiner*

AND

**ALLEN WEINBERG**  
*City Archivist*

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
**DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS**

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COMMISSIONER

**J. R. SILLS**  
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**OCTOBER, 1966**

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of the City and County of Philadelphia"*

**TYPOGRAPHY AND CHARTS**

**RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS**

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## P R E F A C E

This publication has grown out of what was originally conceived as a staff reference. Early in the identification and cataloging work of the Philadelphia City Archives it became necessary to have in readily accessible form information concerning the boundaries of political subdivisions of the County. The decision to publish this work is a result of our realization that the data would have much wider applications than those of the staff and users of the Archives alone. We present this with the hope that it will serve as a finding aid to our records, give a picture of the political sub-divisions of the City and County of Philadelphia at all stages of their history, and be of some value in illustrating an aspect of the evolution of the American City.

The earliest English settlers of Pennsylvania brought with them, along with their other political institutions, the idea of townships, boroughs and districts as the basic political and administrative divisions of county organization, and the ward as that of the more populous of them, particularly the City. The earliest northwestwardly boundaries of Philadelphia County extended far beyond their present limits, as did those of the other two original counties, Bucks and Chester. The area within the projected limits of Philadelphia, except for present Montgomery County, was never part of the County in a meaningful way and for this reason the areas no longer part of Philadelphia County have been left out of consideration here. Because of this, maps of the County herein included prior to 1784, the date of the erection of Montgomery County, fail to show the full extent of Moreland township. When Montgomery County was erected out of Philadelphia, the new County line was run along already existing township boundaries with the sole exception of that of Moreland, which was roughly halved by a line continuing the northwestern boundaries of Lower Dublin and Byberry townships.

The first sub-division of the original Counties was into townships. The twelve shown on the map (p. 10) were, to the best of our knowledge, those originally marked off within what is at present Philadelphia County. These were all definitely in existence by 1712. While we cannot document the earliest date for the entirety of this plan, there is a clear evidence that some of these townships, at least Germantown, Moreland, Moyamensing, Passyunk and the Northern Liberties were organized by the time of William Penn's arrival here in 1682. The existence of others prior to 1712 can also be proven but the question is complicated by the fact that the organization of a township did not require the official sanction of incorporation by the Provincial Assembly and thus a legal basis for precise dating simply does not exist. To add to the uncertainty in this matter, many areas were known by their later township names long

before their bounds were set and their existence recognized in official records. Kingsessing, for example, which we can document as a township no earlier than 1712, was known to the Swedish settlers here by that name at least as early as 1653. The Chronology (p. 6) presents in order our sources for, and dates of, the earliest official evidences of the existence of these County sub-divisions.

The later divisions of these townships into other townships, boroughs, districts and wards was the direct result of population growth and the consequent need for more highly developed governmental forms to accommodate it. Together with the Population Table (p. 92), the map series illustrates the technical steps in this growth of the Philadelphia area which, interestingly, was a quite different style of expansion from that which Penn had envisioned. The heavily built and populated area grew in a great arc centered on the Delaware river at the City instead of by a neat progression westward across the grid laid out by Thomas Holme at the Proprietary's direction. With the exception of Germantown's early incorporation as a borough (which status it soon lost) this almost smooth natural sweep is reflected in the early incorporations, by the Provincial and State Assemblies, of the Districts of Southwark and the Northern Liberties and the township of Moyamensing.

The incorporation of townships, an apparent inconsistency with what was said above, seems to have been due to several centuries' growth of confusion concerning their civil nature. While a township has always been capable of achieving corporate status, it was normally an unnecessary step, as townships in both England and America were in almost all cases simply rural areas obliged to perform police functions only. Incorporation into the more sophisticated body of a borough or district was necessary to enable an area to perform a full complement of civil functions. As townships in America began to exercise some of these functions a feeling seems to have grown on the part of the officials performing them that without incorporation such activities had a doubtful basis in law. The granting of corporate status provided assurance in such cases.

The attainment of more developed political status is a convenient standard by which to trace an area's growth. Each step from township to borough to district reflects the more complex level of organization necessary to deal with problems resulting from increases in population, commerce, and social activities: providing paving, lighting, sanitation services and a water supply; organizing election and tax districts; and achieving the legal status required to make the financial arrangements necessary for all these. The further sub-divisions of these

bodies, including the City, into wards is part of this pattern. The ward always has been, and still is, the indivisible unit for tax and election purposes and thus represents the greatest degree of organization for governmental functions. While a more orderly picture of ward development may be traced by their growth in the City, the division of the boroughs and districts of the County presents better evidence of more "natural" growth. It is, again, the areas along the Delaware and those closest to the City that are earliest divided into wards.

The first official division of the City into wards, primarily for police purposes, took place in 1705, and so ingrained was this practice in City government that it was done almost informally. The City Council, recognizing the need to sub-divide the City, simply appointed a committee and established the wards on the basis of its report. Since the City did not have the power to enact ordinances until 1710, there was, of course, no ordinance. The next official change did not come about until 1785, accomplished this time by an Act of the State Legislature though informal changes apparently were made before that time. In 1785 and 1786, by statute, Dock and Mulberry wards respectively were sub-divided and their east-west boundaries extended from river to river, the first official action extending the western boundaries of any ward beyond Seventh Street. These wards were officially divided apparently as they had been informally divided for tax purposes at least ten years earlier. We assume the other wards did not retain Seventh Street as their western boundary but that at some time between 1705 and 1784 there was an extension of the area of each of them westward to the Schuylkill River, while their north-south bounds remained the same. However, there is no mention of any action of this kind in either the Council Minutes or the State Statutes.

An increasing number of re-organizations in both the City and County were made in the years 1840-1850, which mark an especially accelerated growth in the population of the entire County. The County area outside the City had surpassed it in total population between 1810 and 1820, and by 1853 consisted of twenty-eight separate jurisdictions, eight of which were further sub-divided into wards. There had been, by then, many years of increasing agitation for the consolidation of these units into one City. Again, the need for police protection was one of the chief reasons. The old system of division into further autonomous units simply could no longer meet this and other demands. The movement culminated in the consolidation of 1854 by which the City and County became co-extensive. The Consolidation Act (P.L. 21, February 2, 1854) set up an entirely new ward structure. The City wards had always been named but the other jurisdictions had numbered theirs and the consolidated City adopted the number system when its twenty-four wards were established. The pre-consolidation seventeen wards of the old City became Wards 5 through 10 in this new division.



The Consolidation Act, however, did not change the method of dividing wards, which still required a legislative enactment. Our present method came about with the adoption of the State Constitution of 1873. This requires a citizens' petition to the Quarter Sessions Court and appointment of a study commission upon whose favorable report an election is decreed by the Court. If the election results favor sub-division, it is so ordered by the Court in a final decree establishing the existence and boundaries of the new wards.

During this century a new factor has become foremost in ward sub-division. Until the first quarter of this century, the erection of new wards could be taken as an indication of the increase of the City's population, and by 1958 some of the twenty-four wards of 1854 had become eight or nine separate wards. But since 1930 the number of Philadelphia's residents has remained relatively stable and the establishment of new ward boundaries since then reflects population shifts *within* the City rather than its growth. This is best exemplified in the case of the 35th ward as established in 1890. The post World War II influx into that area resulted in its division in 1957 into seven wards. The other side of this coin is that while certain areas have grown, others have lost population. Movement for the creation of a new ward normally followed shortly after its need was felt; steps to change the boundaries of a ward shrunken in population were rarely even considered. Wards five through ten of the 1854 alignment retained the same boundaries until 1965 despite their steady loss of population for over 100 years. The effects of urban redevelopment programs, the continuing rehabilitation of the midtown area and the "flight from the suburbs" into such areas as Society Hill have introduced factors of population shift very different from the relatively simple ones on which ward alignments were based traditionally.

The movement to solve these problems in a comprehensive and effective manner coincided with the recent "one man, one vote" decisions of the United States Supreme Court, since the ward boundaries were also those of election districts for State and Federal offices. In March, 1963, Philadelphia's Court of Quarter Sessions appointed a five-man commission instructed to submit a report and plan for realignment of all the City's wards. Thus for the first time in more than a century, the City's ward plan was considered and revised as a whole in order to make allowance for the many and novel factors of the present day City's growth and change. The most noticeable aspect of the committee's 66 ward plan is the scrapping of standard division lines that seem to have been unconsciously accepted as convenient ever since the first ward bounds were drawn. For example, 7th Street, from Vine to South Streets, had been used as a ward line almost continually since 1705. These new lines in many cases depart widely from the "traditional" ones in the attempt to secure as equal as possible a population division among

the wards. It may seem strange that this is often regarded as a radical change since population distribution has, after all, always been the basic consideration in ward planning. The goal aimed at was a ward population of approximately 30,000 and a review of the figures cited for each ward in the committee's report indicates how well this was achieved. This report was accepted and a final order issued by the Court of Quarter Sessions on August 2, 1965. The ward alignment this authorized is illustrated in the last map of this volume.

We could not conclude this volume without thanking Mr. Albert Toizer of our City Planning Commission whose aid was not only invaluable but indispensable in the preparation of the portion of the publication dealing with the County sub-divisions.

This entire publication was planned and the basic work completed during the tenure as City Archivist of Mr. Charles E. Hughes, who encouraged and forwarded all our labors.

## CHRONOLOGY OF THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE PRESENT CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA

The first twelve entries list the sources and dates of the earliest mentions in official local records of the existence of Philadelphia County's initial township divisions.

Blockley	QS Road Docket, II, 22. June, 1705
Bristol	QS Road Docket, I, 28. October, 1696.
Byberry	QS Road Docket, II, 12. June, 1703
Germantown	Holme's Map, 1687 ( <i>see frontispiece</i> )
Kingsessing	QS Road Docket, II, 43. March, 1712
Lower Dublin	QS Road Docket, I, 25. August, 1693 ( <i>reference to "Second Dublin" Township</i> )
Moreland	Holme's Map, 1687
Moyamensing	Holme's Map, 1687
Northern Liberties ( <i>Unincorporated</i> )	Holme's Map, 1687
Oxford	QS Road Docket, I, 25. August, 1693
Passyunk	Holme's Map, 1687
Roxborough	QS Road Docket, II, 31. June, 1706

TACONY, while indicated as a possible township on some early maps, is not mentioned in court records, or those of the Assembly after 1700.

POLITICAL DIVISIONS	AUTHORITY
1691 PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH	Erected by Penn charter of May 20, 1691
GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP erected BOROUGH	Royal approval, May 30, 1691, of Penn charter of August 12, 1689
1701 CITY OF PHILADELPHIA	Established by Penn charter of October 25, 1701
1707 GERMANTOWN lost Borough status	General Court ordered closed by Queen's Attorney Lowther, January 11, 1707
1762 SOUTHWARK erected District out of Moyamensing Twp.	Stats. at Large, Chap. CCCCLXXXI, March 26, 1762
1791 NORTHERN LIBERTIES; part of the township recognized for certain governmental functions, but not incorporated	Stats. at Large, Chap. MDXLI, March 30, 1791
1794 SOUTHWARK re-incorporated District	Stats. at Large, Chap. MDCCXLII, April 18, 1794
1800 FRANKFORD, erected Borough, out of Oxford Twp.	Stats. at Large, Chap. MMCXXIII, March 7, 1800

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS

## AUTHORITY

1803	NORTHERN LIBERTIES, partially incorporated as District, out of Northern Liberties Twp.	Laws of Penna., Chap. CLII, March 28, 1803
1808	PENN TWP. established out of Northern Liberties Twp.	Q.S. decree, October 13, 1808
1812	MOYAMENSING incorporated as Twp.	Laws of Penna., Chap. CIV, March 24, 1812
1813	SPRING GARDEN erected District out of Penn Twp.	Laws of Penna., Chap. CVIII, March 22, 1813
1818	NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT divided into 7 wards	Laws of Penna., Chap. LXII, February 20, 1818
1819	NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT final incorporation	Laws of Penna., Chap. XC, March 16, 1819
1820	KENSINGTON erected as District out of Northern Liberties Twp.	Laws of Penna., Chap. LII, March 6, 1820
1827	SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT enlarged out of Penn Twp.	P.L. 65, March 2, 1827
1831	FRANKFORD BOROUGH enlarged out of Oxford Twp.	P.L. 470, April 4, 1831
1831	SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT divided into 3 wards	P.L. 480, April 4, 1831
1833	SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT, 1st ward divided into wards 1 & 4	P.L. 457, April 9, 1833
1834	KENSINGTON DISTRICT divided into 5 wards	P.L. 475, April 15, 1834
1836	SOUTHWARK DISTRICT divided into 5 wards	P.L. 308, March 31, 1836
1840	MOYAMENSING TWP. divided into 4 wards	P.L. 41, February 13, 1840
1840	GERMANTOWN TWP. divided into 2 wards	P.L. 66, February 27, 1840
1840	MANAYUNK erected as borough in Roxborough Twp.	Q.S. decree, June 11, 1840
1844	WEST PHILADELPHIA erected borough out of Blockley Twp.	P.L. 44, February 17, 1844
	<i>While the officially accepted act of incorporation of the Borough of West Philadelphia is P.L. 44, February 17, 1844, there is evidence that the borough existed as early as 1837. P.L. 57, March 13, 1837, refers to the Borough of West Philadelphia, the City Archives holds records of its Treasurer dating from that year, and the Act of 1844 refers to an earlier incorporation that was "adjudged defective". There is, of course, no record of an Act of Assembly establishing the borough prior to 1844. By virtue of P.L. 163, April 1, 1834 the Court of Quarter Sessions was empowered to establish boroughs. Unfortunately, that court's relevant records for the years prior to 1844 are not extant.</i>	
1844	PENN DISTRICT erected out of Penn Twp.	P.L. 52, February 26, 1844
1844	GERMANTOWN BOROUGH erected out of Germantown Twp.	Q.S. decree, Aug. 27, 1844
1846	SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT divided into 7 wards	P.L. 41, February 13, 1846
1846	KENSINGTON DISTRICT realigned into 7 wards	P.L. 47, February 18, 1846
1846	GERMANTOWN BOROUGH boundaries reduced in favor of Germantown Twp.	P.L. 86, March 7, 1846

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS

## AUTHORITY

	POLITICAL DIVISIONS	AUTHORITY
1846	MOYAMENSING TWP, 5th ward erected out of 4th ward	P.L. 86, March 7, 1846
1847	PENN TWP. enlarged out of Penn District	P.L. 114, February 17, 1847
1847	RICHMOND ( <i>District</i> ) erected out of Northern Liberties Twp. ( <i>formally designated District, P.L. 303, March 14, 1850</i> )	P.L. 181, February 27, 1847
1847	MANAYUNK BOROUGH separated from Roxborough Twp.	P.L. 214, March 31, 1847
1848	RICHMOND ( <i>District</i> ) enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.	P.L. 250, March 25, 1848
1848	BRIDESBURG BOROUGH erected out of Northern Liberties Twp.	P.L. 720, April 1, 1848
1848	MOYAMENSING & PASSYUNK TWPS. 1) boundaries changed 2) Moyamensing erected District 3) Moyamensing 4th & 5th ward boundaries changed	P.L. 339, April 5, 1848
1848	KENSINGTON DISTRICT enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp., additional area becomes 8th ward	P.L. 357, April 16, 1848
1849	RICHMOND ( <i>District</i> ) enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.	P.L. 73, February 19, 1849
1849	SOUTHWARK DISTRICT, 5th ward divided into wards 5 & 6	P.L. 75, February 19, 1849
1849	WHITEHALL BOROUGH erected out of Oxford Twp.	P.L. 541, April 9, 1849
1850	WEST PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH enlarged out of Blockley Twp. and divided into 3 wards	P.L. 215, March 14, 1850
1850	KENSINGTON DISTRICT 7th ward increased out of 8th ward	P.L. 303, March 14, 1850
1850	KENSINGTON DISTRICT enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp., additional area to 8th Ward	P.L. 396, April 6, 1850
1850	ARAMINGO BOROUGH erected out of Northern Liberties Twp.	P.L. 448, April 11, 1850
1850	BRIDESBURG BOROUGH enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.	P.L. 649, April 30, 1850
1850	SOUTHWARK & MOYAMENSING DISTRICTS, boundary adjusted, Southwark decreased	P.L. 762, May 15, 1850

POLITICAL DIVISIONS

AUTHORITY

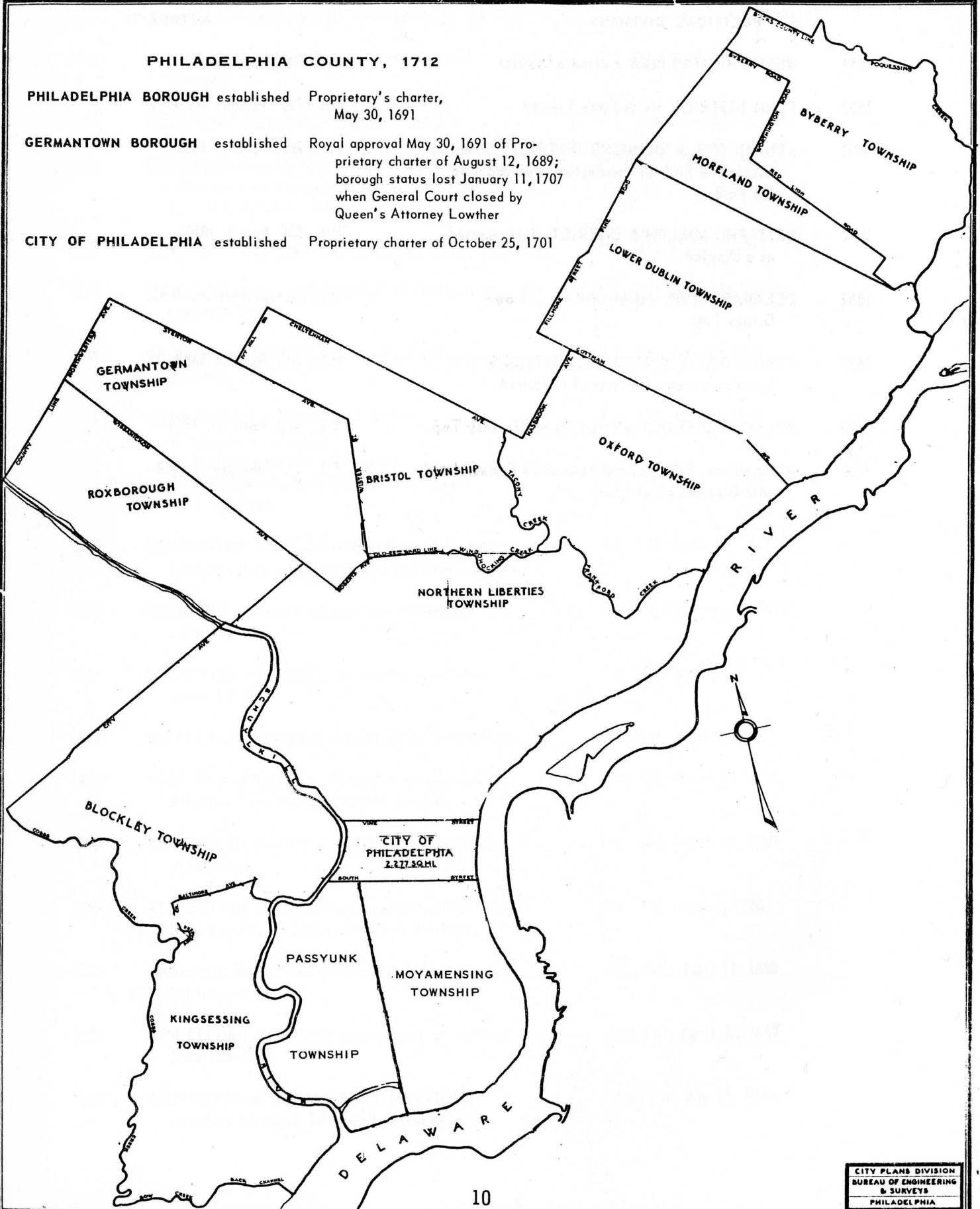
1851	WEST PHILADELPHIA created a District	P.L. 302, April 3, 1851
1852	PENN DISTRICT divided into 3 wards	P.L. 75, February 20, 1852
1852	KENSINGTON & RICHMOND DISTRICTS boundary changed in favor of Kensington, area added to 5th Ward.	P.L. 268, April 6, 1852
1852	WEST PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT, incorporated as a District	P.L. 508, May 1, 1852
1852	DELAWARE TWP. established out of Lower Dublin Twp.	Q.S. decree, June 26, 1852
1853	FRANKFORD & WHITEHALL BOROUGHS boundary changed in favor of Frankford	P.L. 302, April 5, 1853
1853	BELMONT DISTRICT erected out of Blockley Twp.	P.L. 422, April 14, 1853
1854	All Districts, Boroughs and Townships Consolidated with City of Philadelphia	P.L. 21, February 2, 1854

**PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, 1712**

**PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH** established Proprietary's charter, May 30, 1691

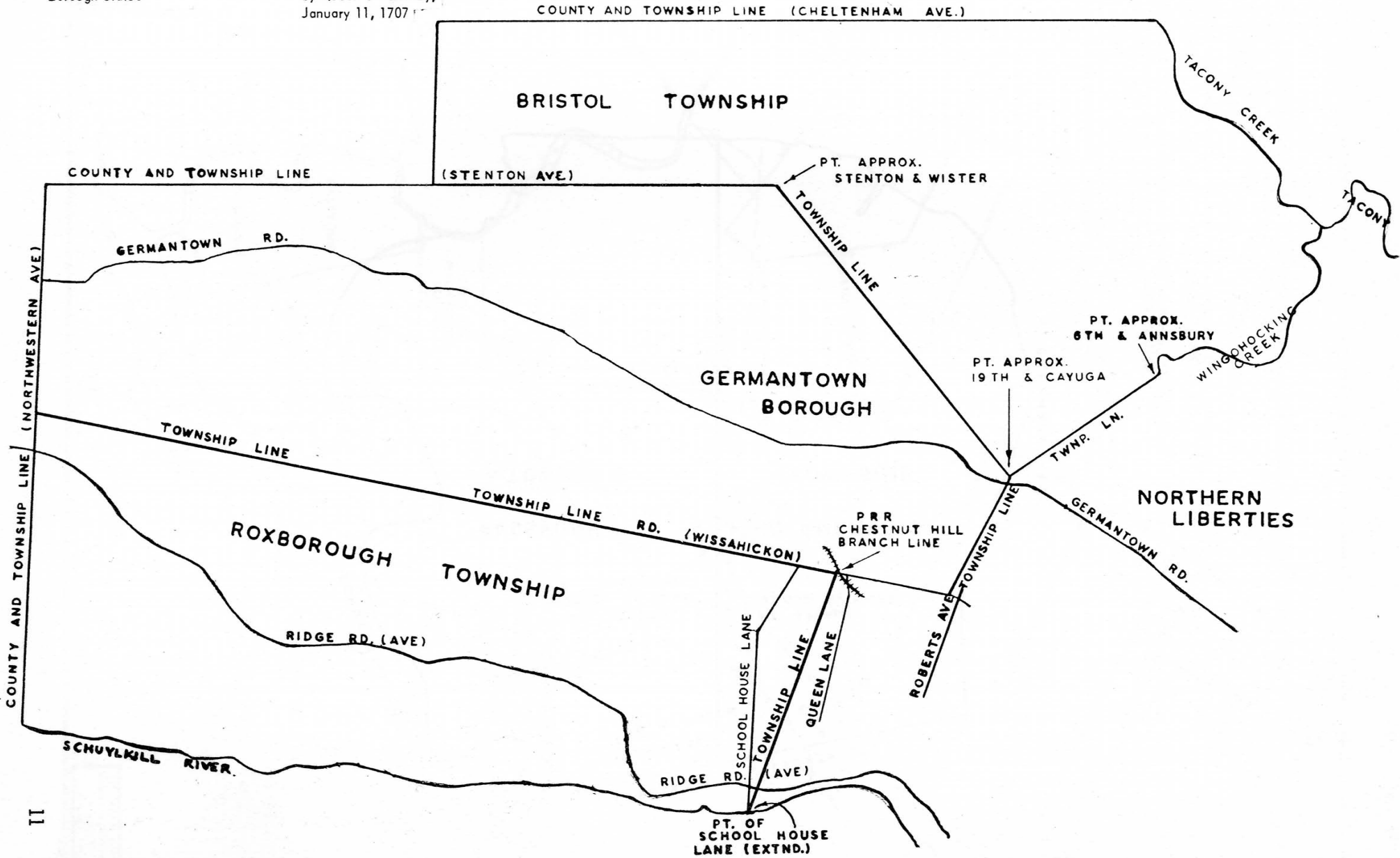
**GERMANTOWN BOROUGH** established Royal approval May 30, 1691 of Proprietary charter of August 12, 1689; borough status lost January 11, 1707 when General Court closed by Queen's Attorney Lowther

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA** established Proprietary charter of October 25, 1701

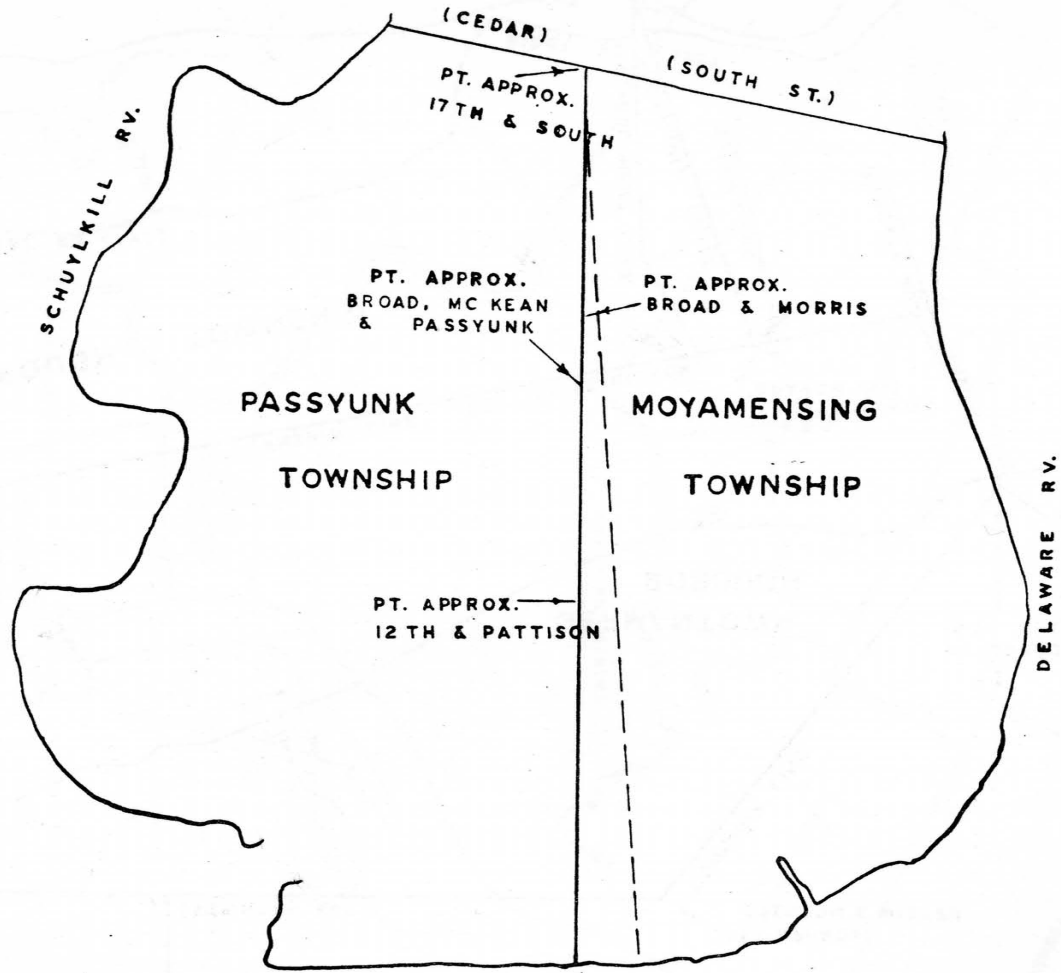


GERMANTOWN BOROUGH erected; Royal approval May 30, 1691,  
same bounds, Germantown Twp. of Penn charter of August  
12, 1689

GERMANTOWN BOROUGH lost Borough General Court closed  
Borough status by Queen's Attorney,  
January 11, 1707







MOYAMENSING AND PASSYUNK TOWNSHIPS, Most early maps indicate township original boundary limits at solid line shown here; others, generally later, place it at the broken line.

**SOUTHWARK DISTRICT** erected out of Moyamensing Twp. (reincorporated, Stats. at Large, Chap. MDCCXLII, April 18, 1794).

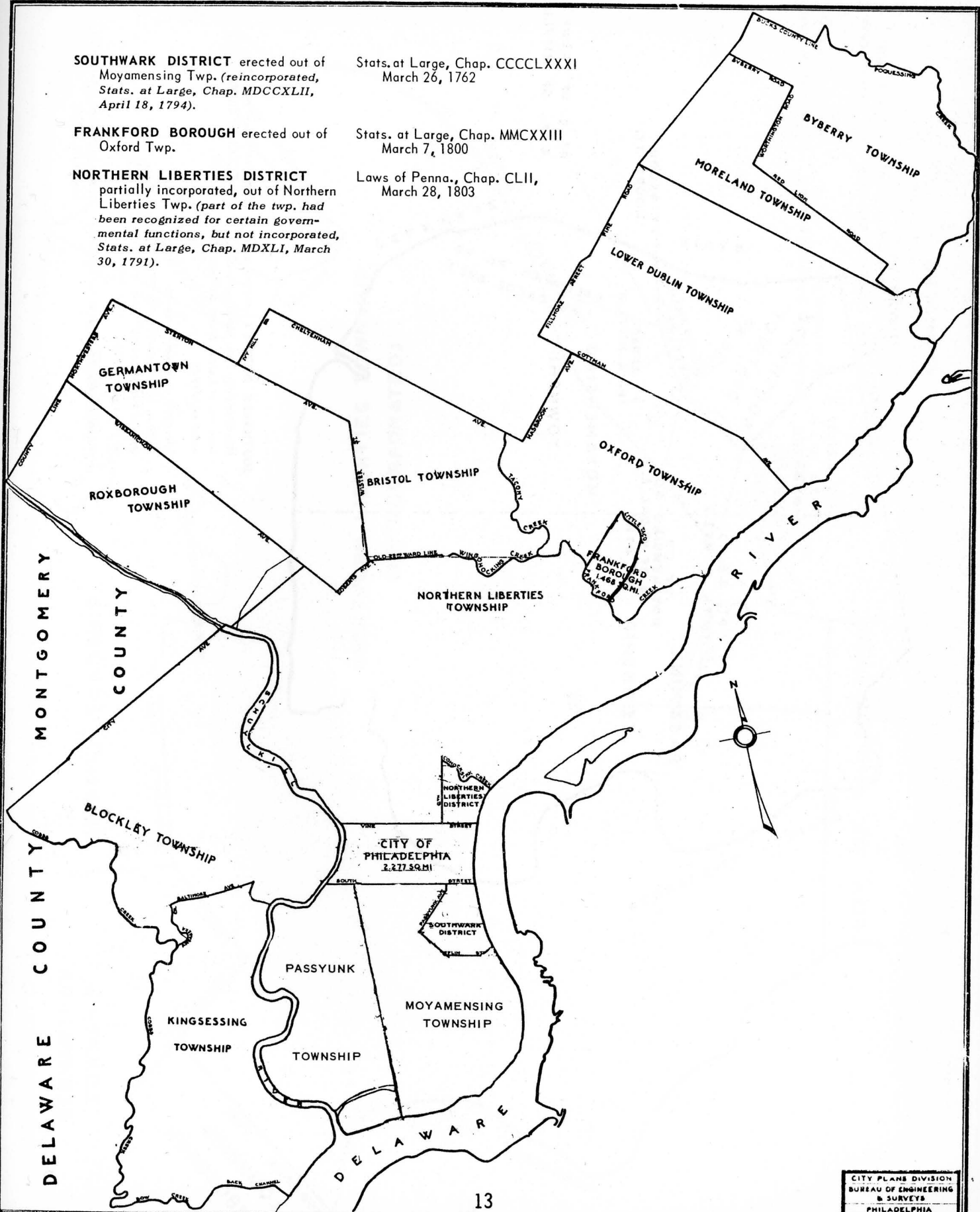
Stats. at Large, Chap. CCCCLXXXI  
March 26, 1762

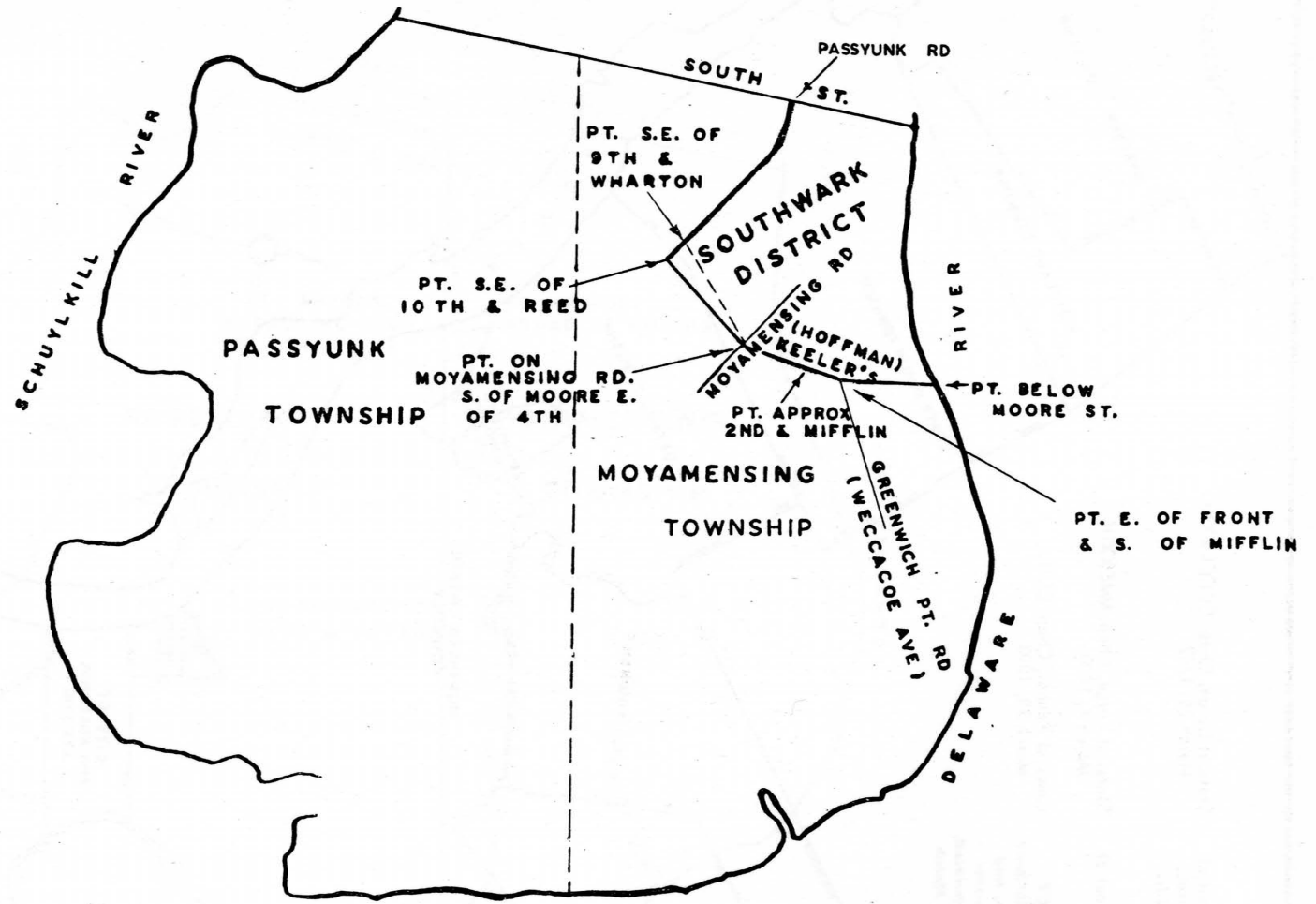
**FRANKFORD BOROUGH** erected out of Oxford Twp.

Stats. at Large, Chap. MMCXXIII  
March 7, 1800

**NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT** partially incorporated, out of Northern Liberties Twp. (part of the twp. had been recognized for certain governmental functions, but not incorporated, Stats. at Large, Chap. MDXLI, March 30, 1791).

Laws of Penna., Chap. CLII,  
March 28, 1803





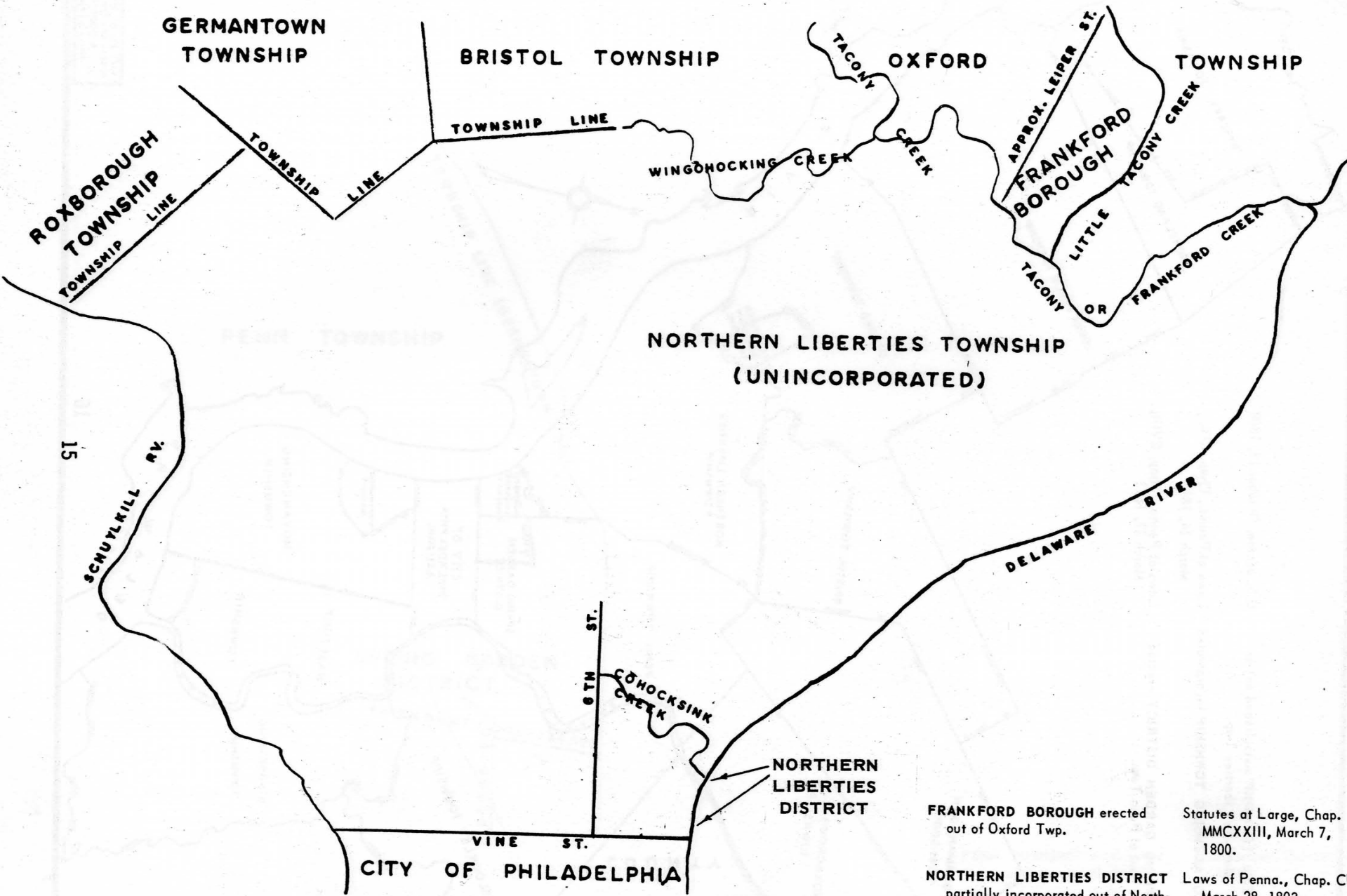
**SOUTHWARK DISTRICT** erected out of Moyamensing Twp. (*reincorporated*, Statutes at Large, Chap. MDCCXLII, April 18, 1794).

Statutes at Large, Chap. CCCCLXXXI, March 26, 1762.

Surveyed southwest boundary is uncertain, but is usually run from near gate of Moyamensing Prison at 90° to Passyunk Road.

**MOYAMENSING TOWNSHIP** incorporated

Laws of Penna., Chap. CIV, March 24, 1812.



NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT

FRANKFORD BOROUGH erected out of Oxford Twp.

Statutes at Large, Chap. MMCXXIII, March 7, 1800.

NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT partially incorporated out of Northern Liberties Twp. Final incorporation, Laws of Penna., Chap. XC, March 16, 1819.

Laws of Penna., Chap. CLII, March 28, 1803.

**PENN TOWNSHIP** established out of Northern Liberties Twp.

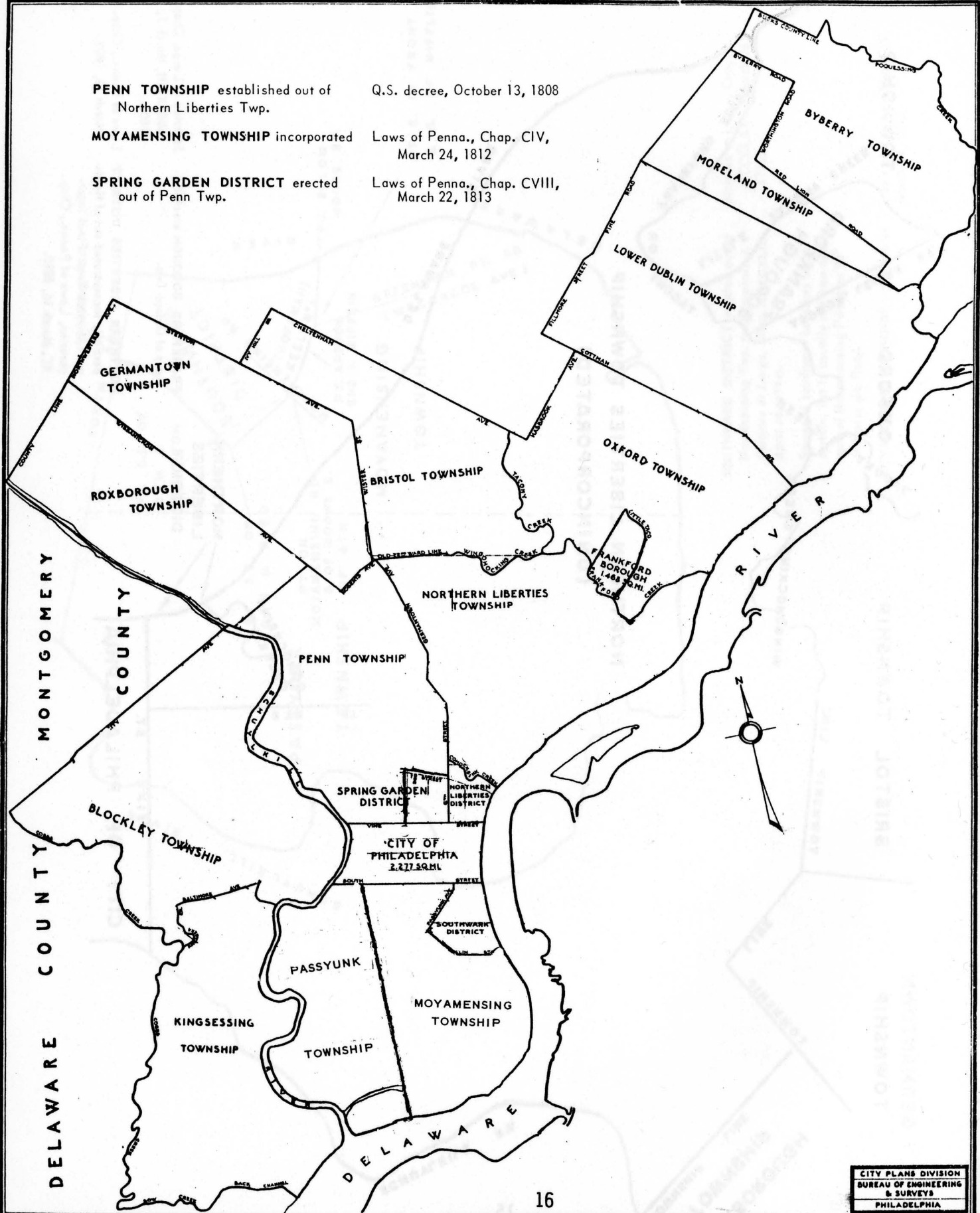
Q.S. decree, October 13, 1808

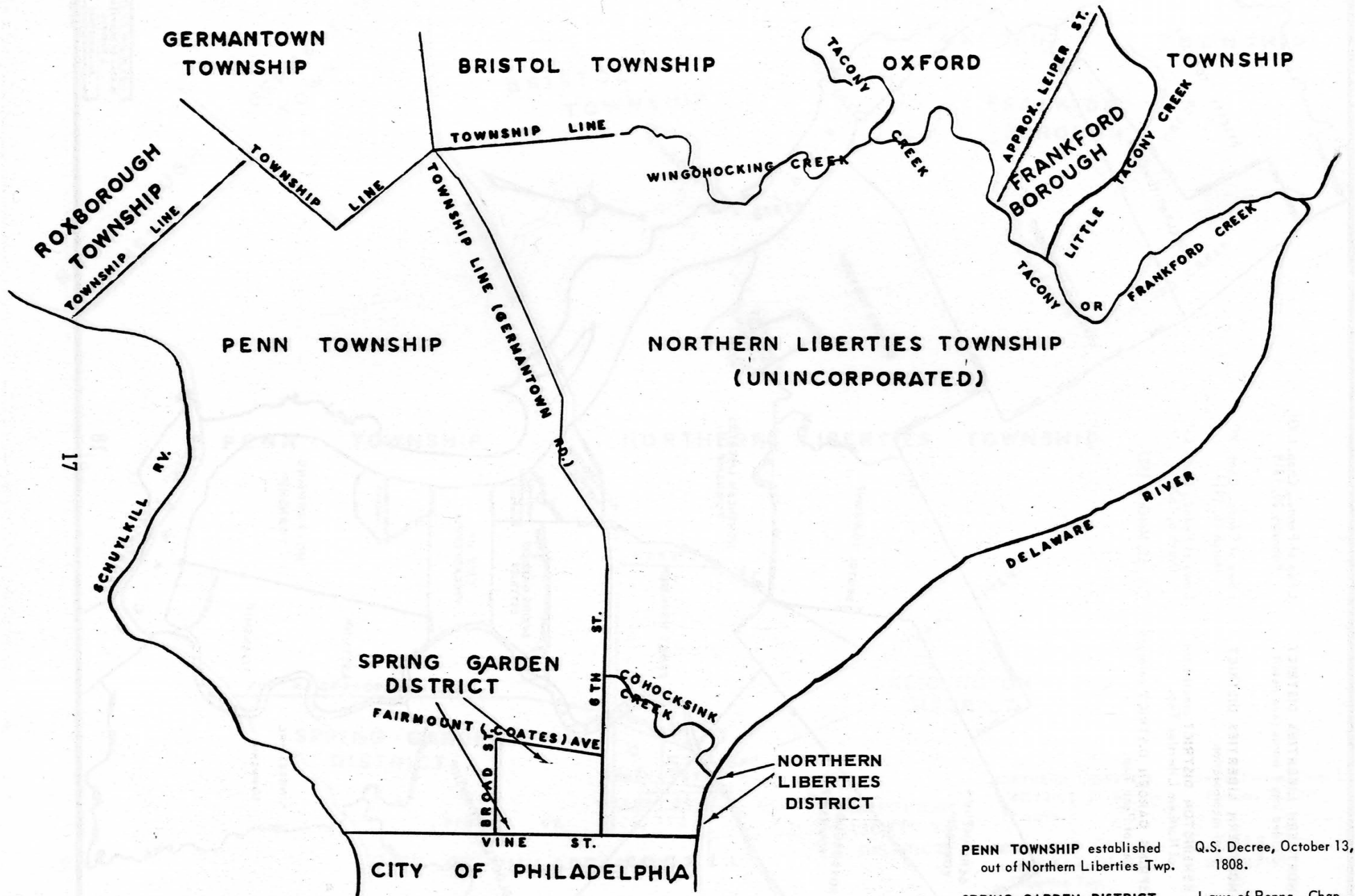
**MOYAMENSING TOWNSHIP** incorporated

Laws of Penna., Chap. CIV, March 24, 1812

**SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT** erected out of Penn Twp.

Laws of Penna., Chap. CVIII, March 22, 1813





17

PENN TOWNSHIP established out of Northern Liberties Twp.

Q.S. Decree, October 13, 1808.

SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT erected out of Penn Twp.

Laws of Penna., Chap. CVIII, March 22, 1813.

**NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT**  
divided into 7 wards (see detail map)

Laws of Penna., Chap. LXII,  
February 20, 1818

**NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT**  
final incorporation

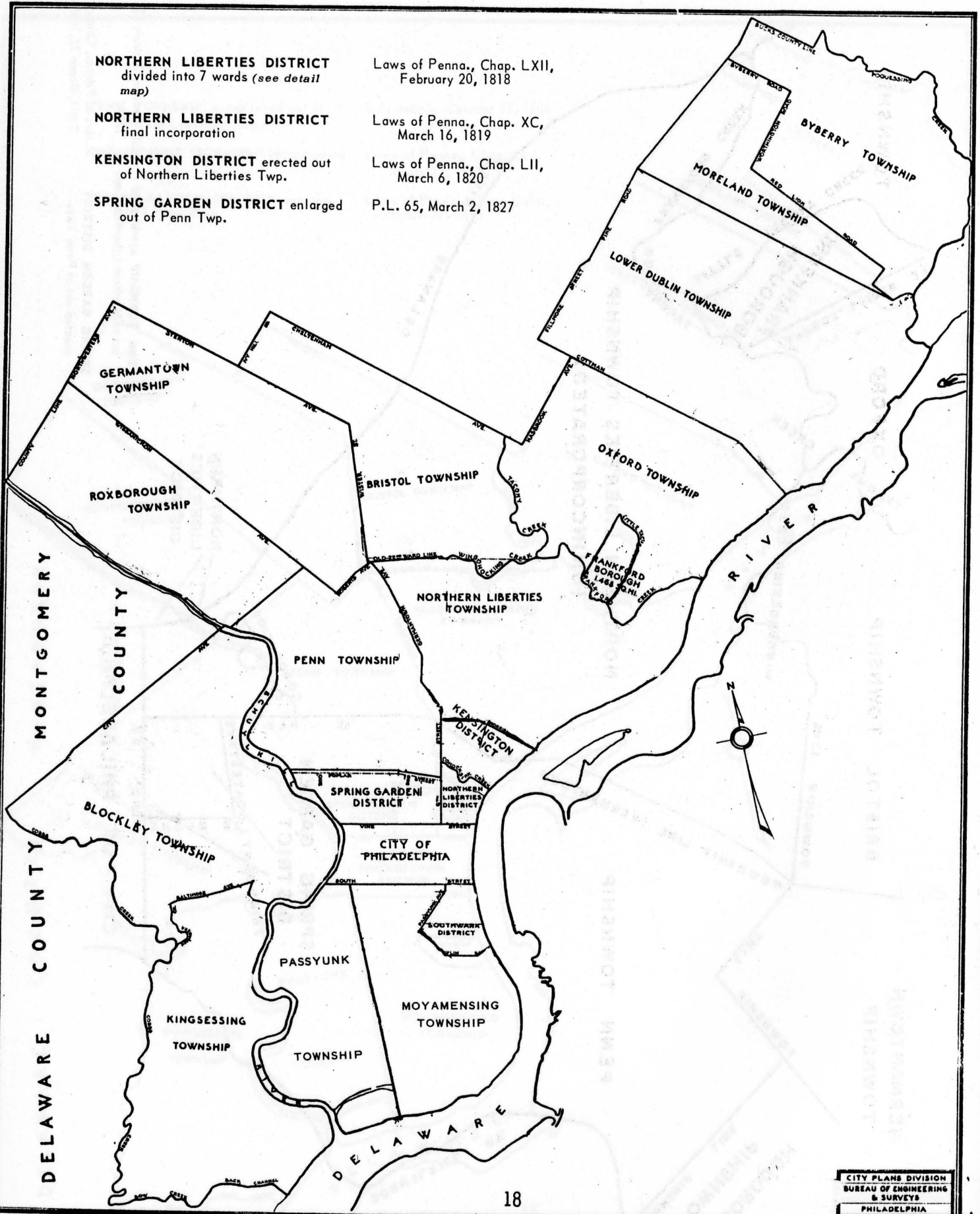
Laws of Penna., Chap. XC,  
March 16, 1819

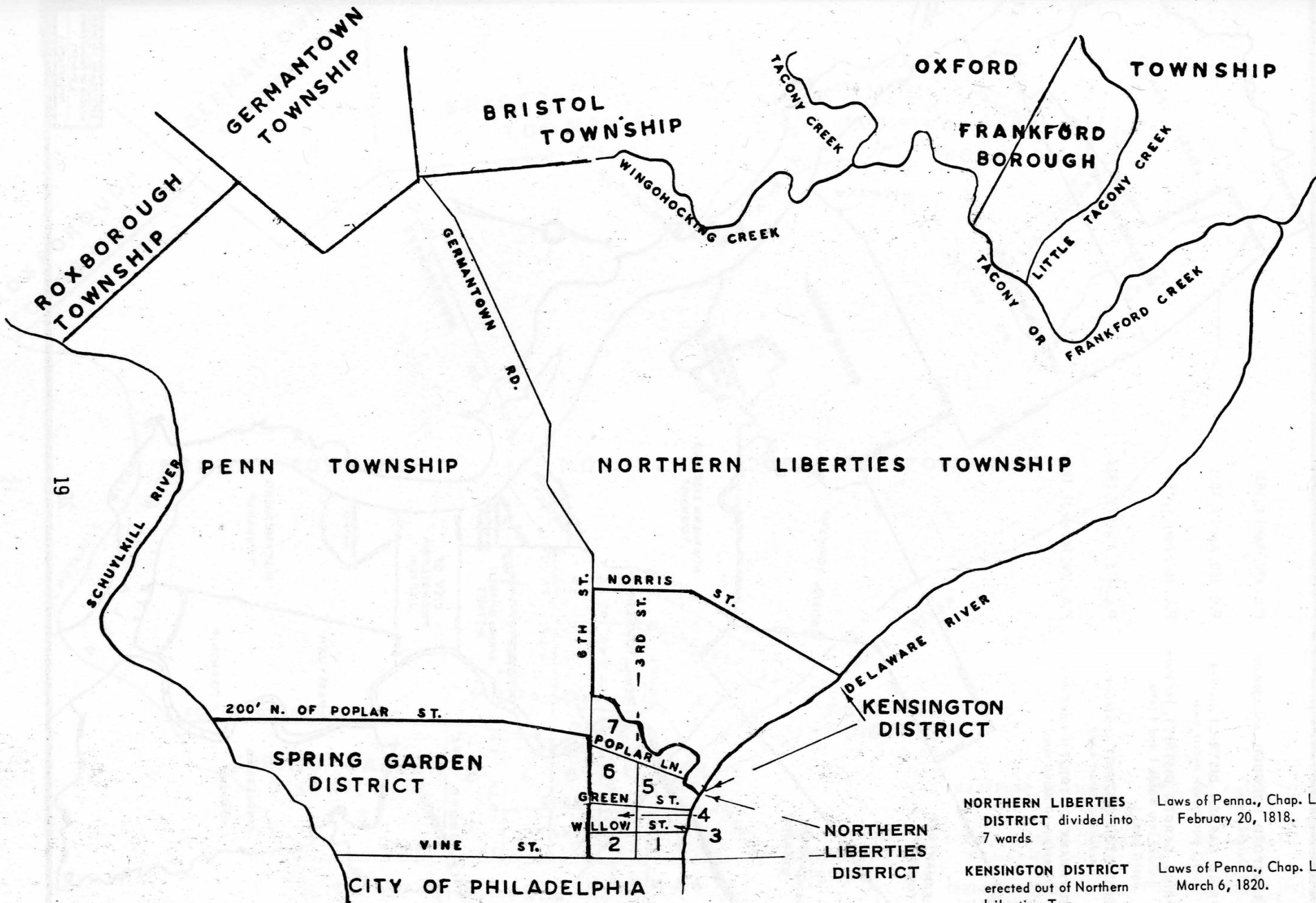
**KENSINGTON DISTRICT** erected out  
of Northern Liberties Twp.

Laws of Penna., Chap. LII,  
March 6, 1820

**SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT** enlarged  
out of Penn Twp.

P.L. 65, March 2, 1827





19

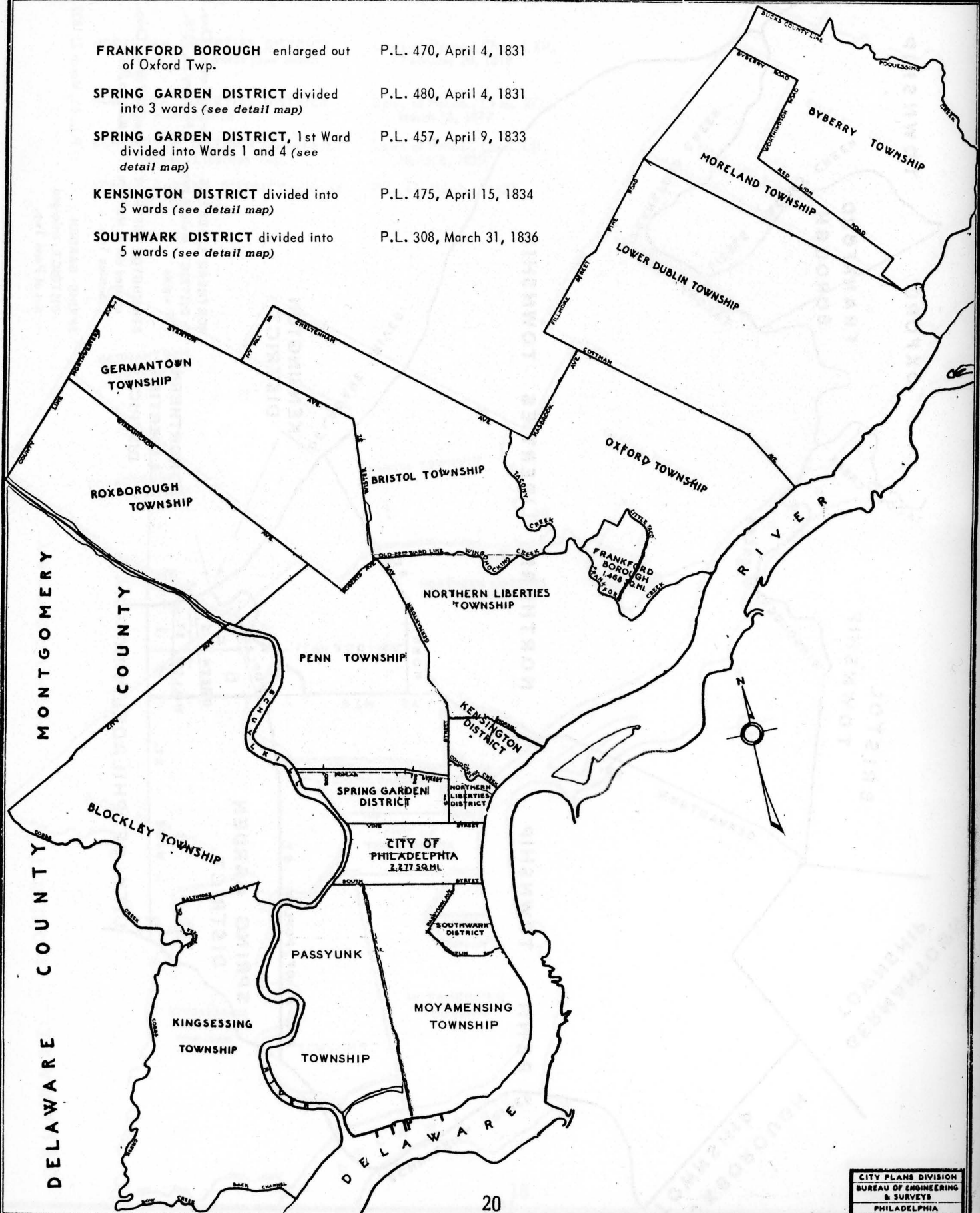
**NORTHERN LIBERTIES DISTRICT** divided into 7 wards  
 Laws of Penna., Chap. LXII, February 20, 1818.

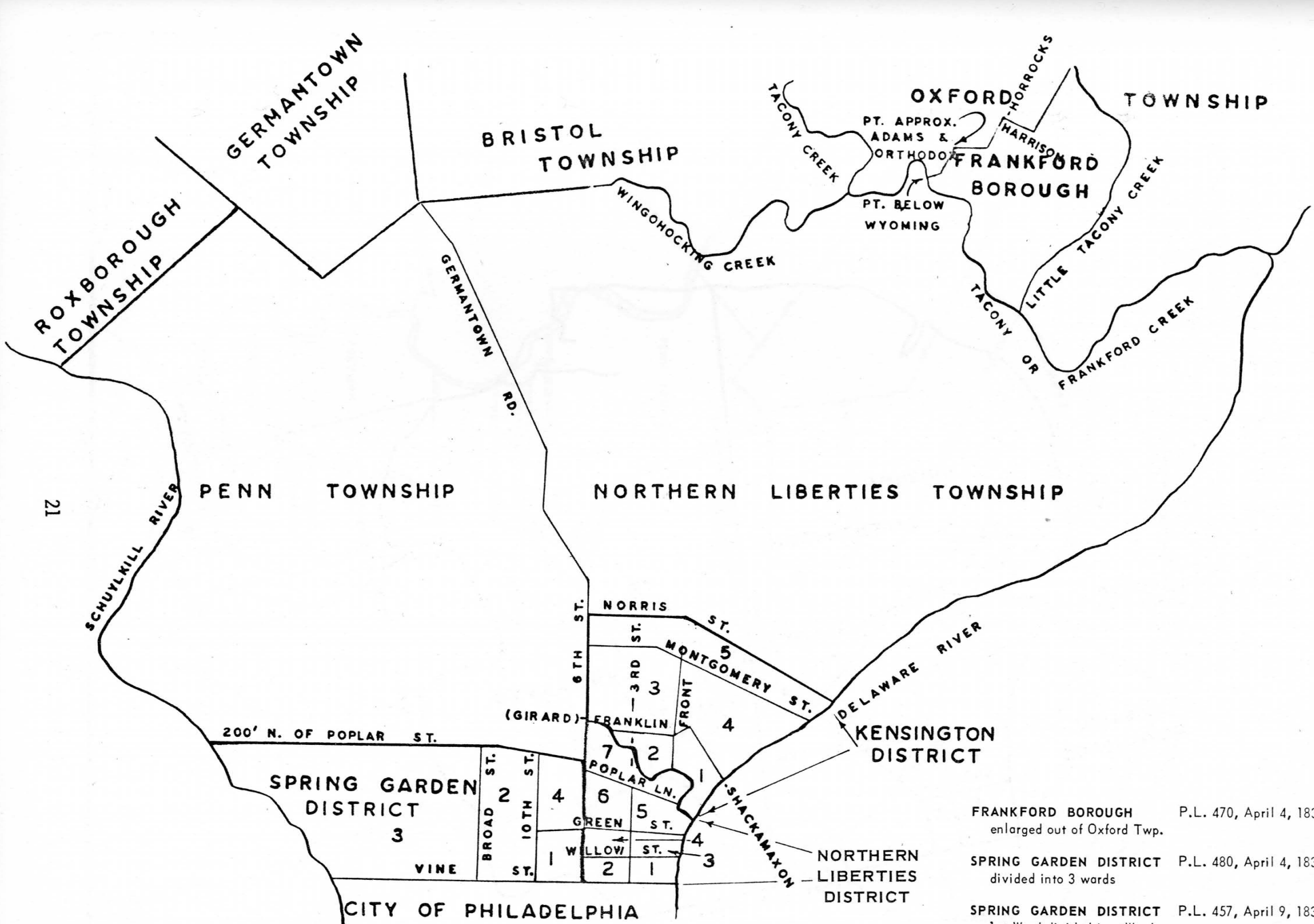
**KENSINGTON DISTRICT** erected out of Northern Liberties Twp.  
 Laws of Penna., Chap. LII, March 6, 1820.

**SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT** enlarged out of Penn Twp.  
 P.L. 65, March 2, 1827.

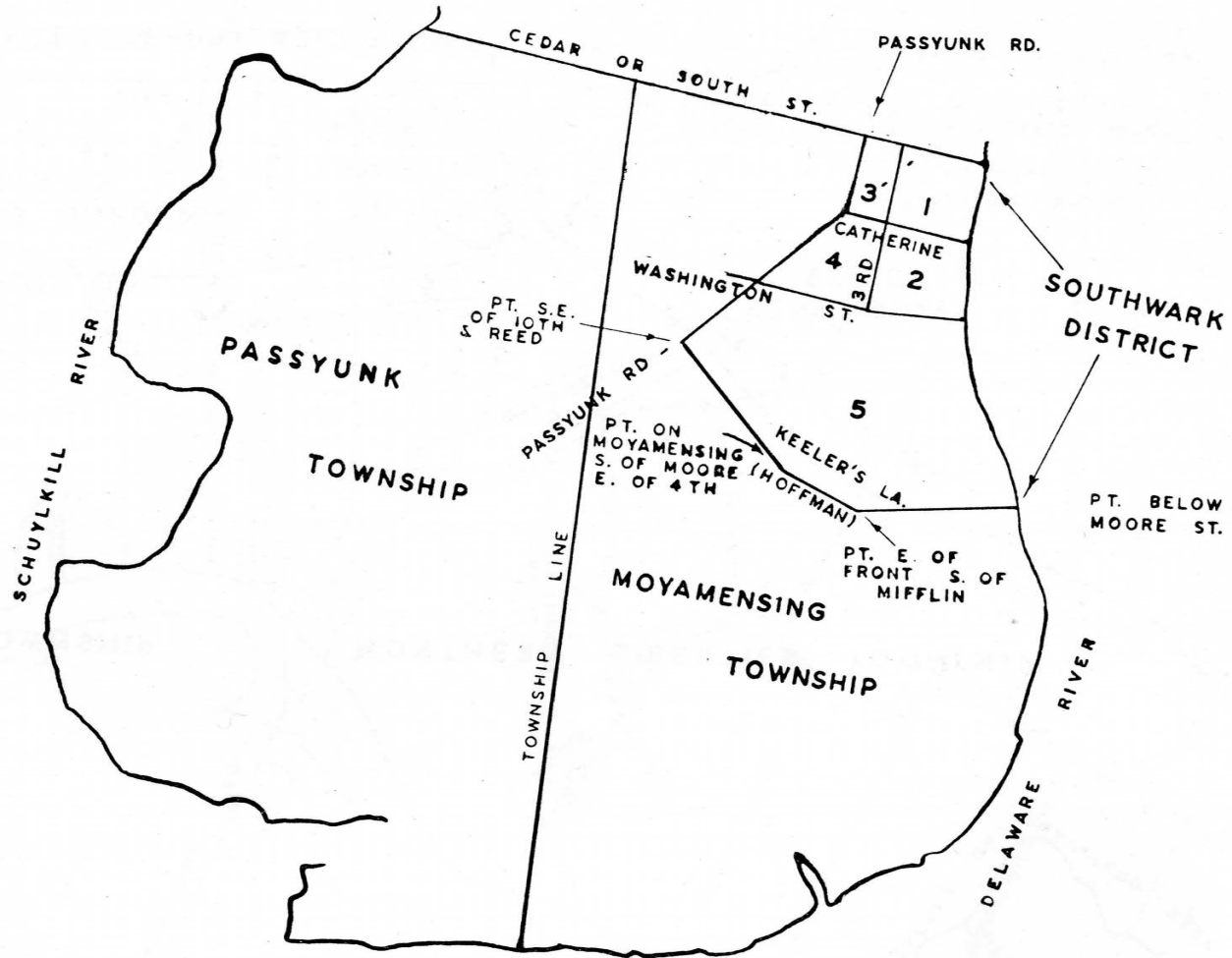


- FRANKFORD BOROUGH enlarged out of Oxford Twp. P.L. 470, April 4, 1831
- SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT divided into 3 wards (see detail map) P.L. 480, April 4, 1831
- SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT, 1st Ward divided into Wards 1 and 4 (see detail map) P.L. 457, April 9, 1833
- KENSINGTON DISTRICT divided into 5 wards (see detail map) P.L. 475, April 15, 1834
- SOUTHWARK DISTRICT divided into 5 wards (see detail map) P.L. 308, March 31, 1836





- FRANKFORD BOROUGH P.L. 470, April 4, 1831.  
enlarged out of Oxford Twp.
- SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT P.L. 480, April 4, 1831.  
divided into 3 wards
- SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT P.L. 457, April 9, 1833.  
1st Ward divided into Wards  
1 and 4
- KENSINGTON DISTRICT P.L. 475, April 15, 1834.  
divided into 5 wards



SOUTHWARK DISTRICT divided into 5 wards

P.L. 308, March 31, 1836.

MOYAMENSING TOWNSHIP divided into 4 wards (see detail map)

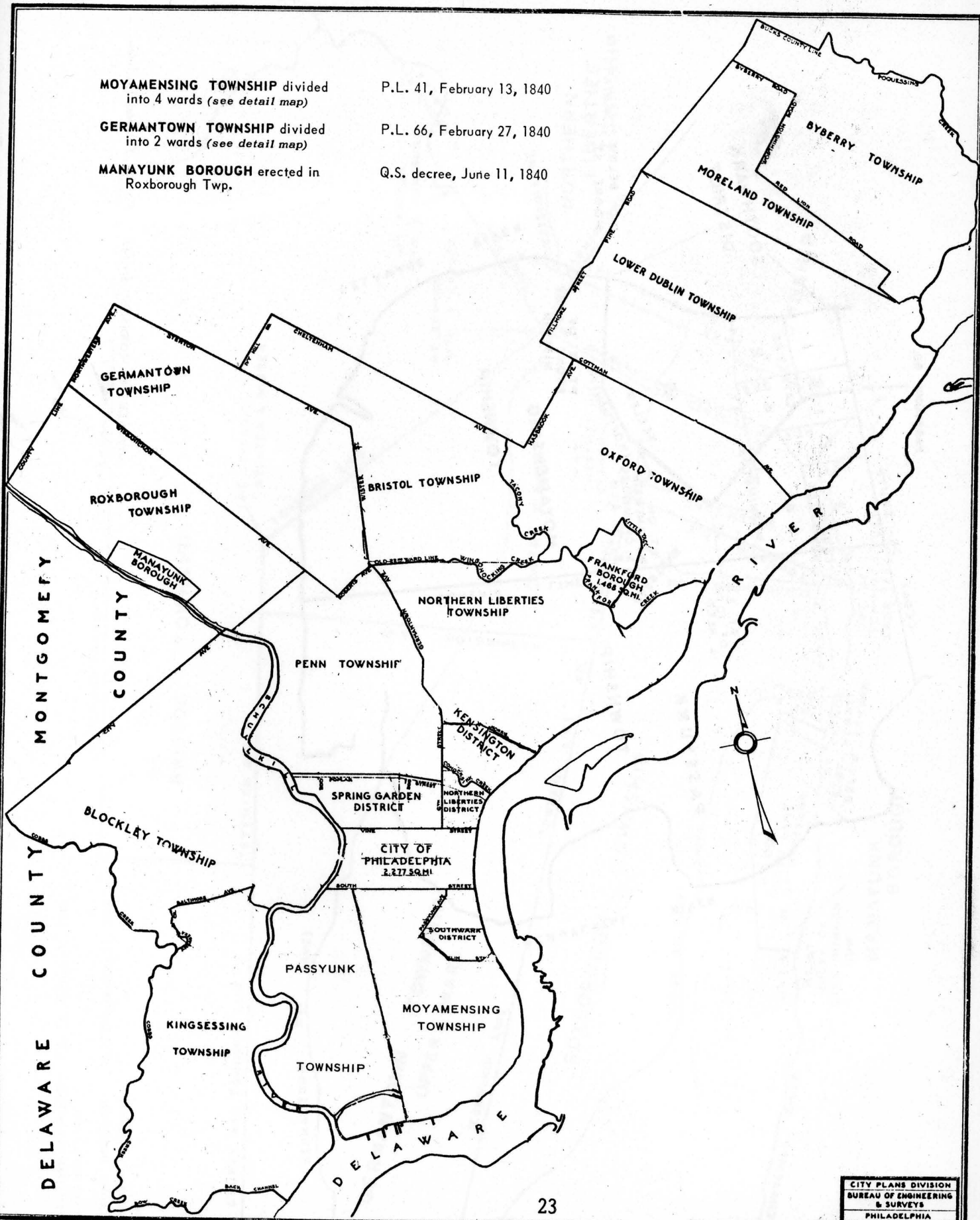
P.L. 41, February 13, 1840

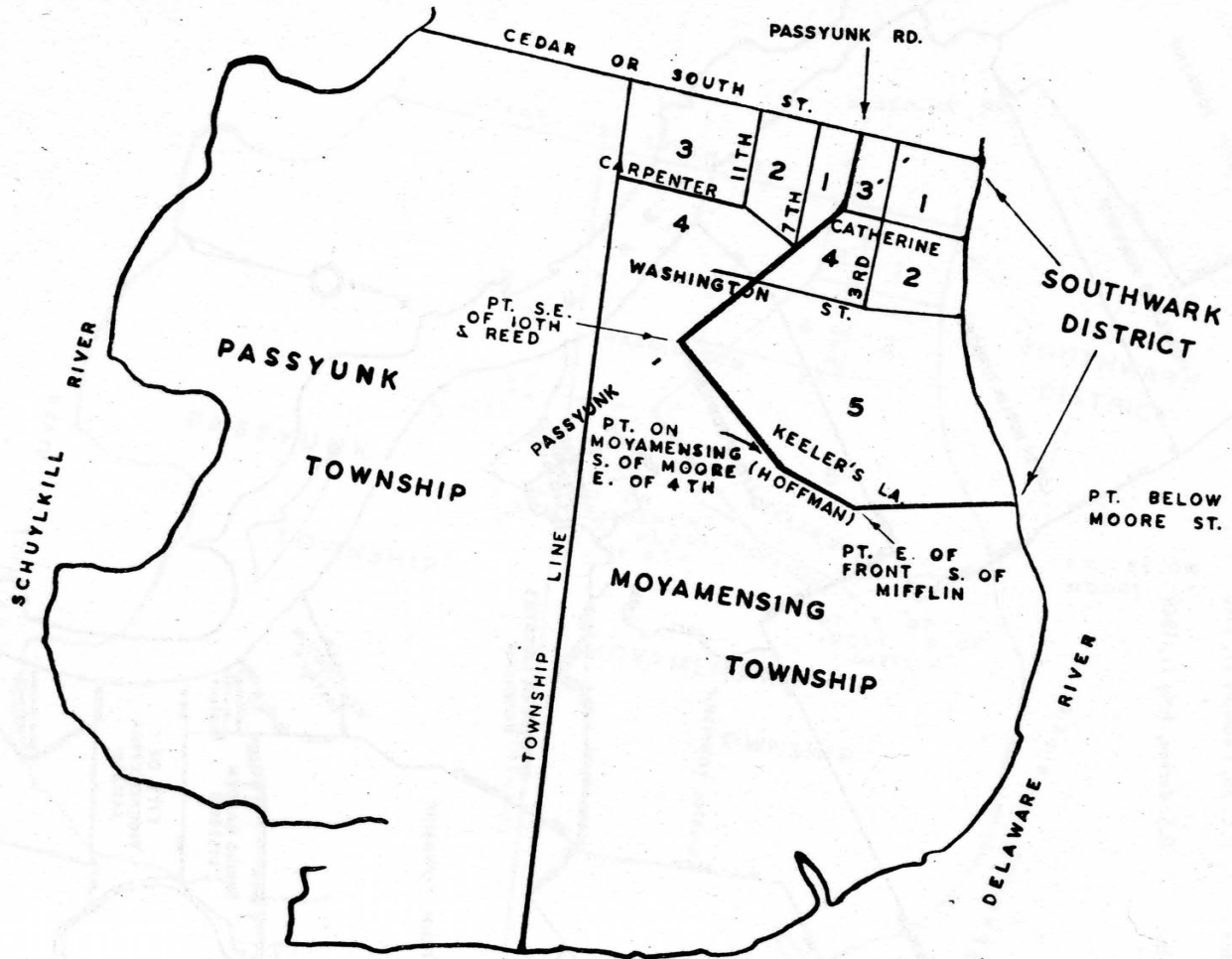
GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP divided into 2 wards (see detail map)

P.L. 66, February 27, 1840

MANAYUNK BOROUGH erected in Roxborough Twp.

Q.S. decree, June 11, 1840

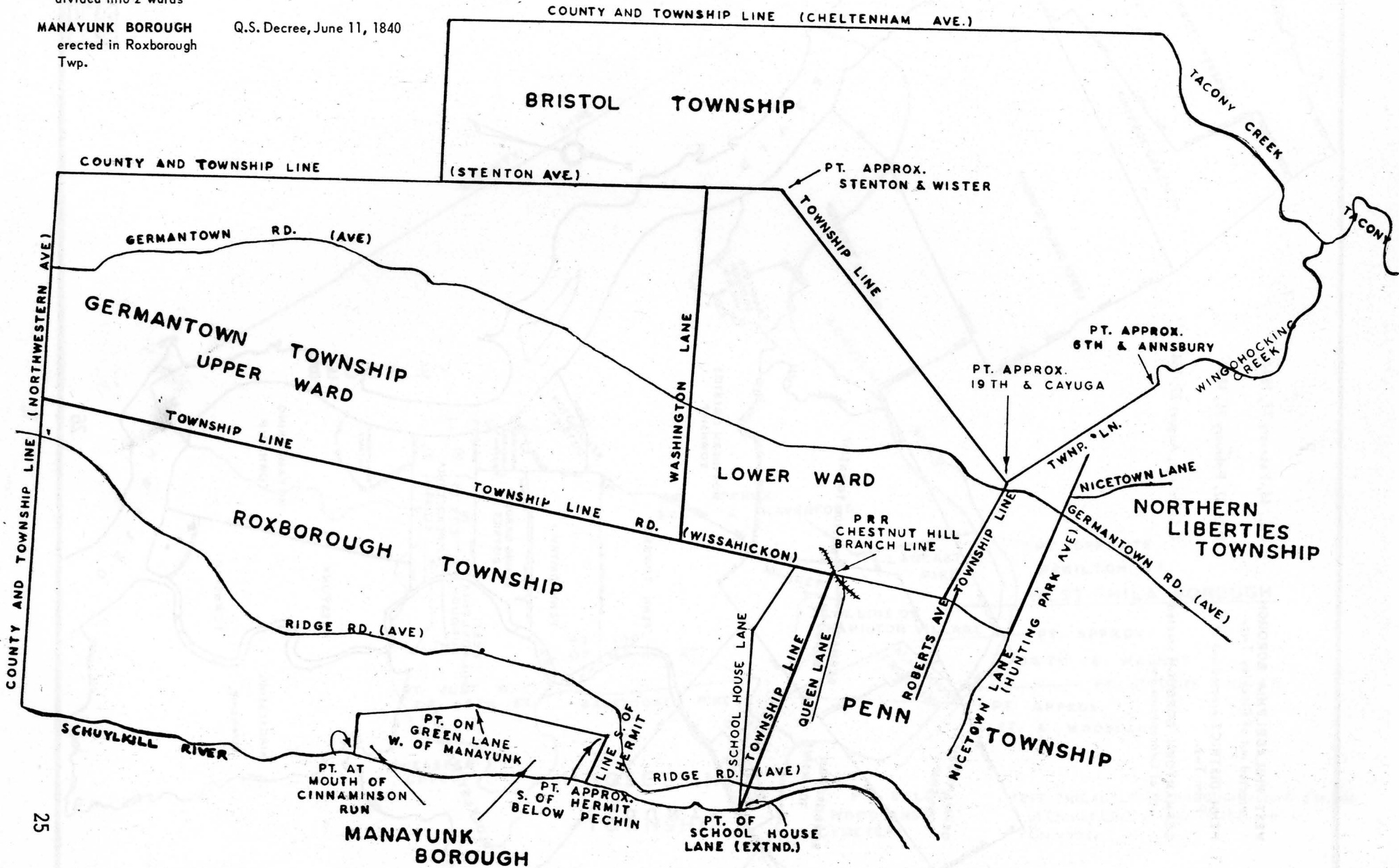




MOYAMENSING TOWNSHIP divided into 4 wards P.L. 41, February 13, 1840.

GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP P.L. 66, February 27, 1840  
divided into 2 wards

MANAYUNK BOROUGH Q.S. Decree, June 11, 1840  
erected in Roxborough  
Twp.



**WEST PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH**  
erected out of Blockley Twp.

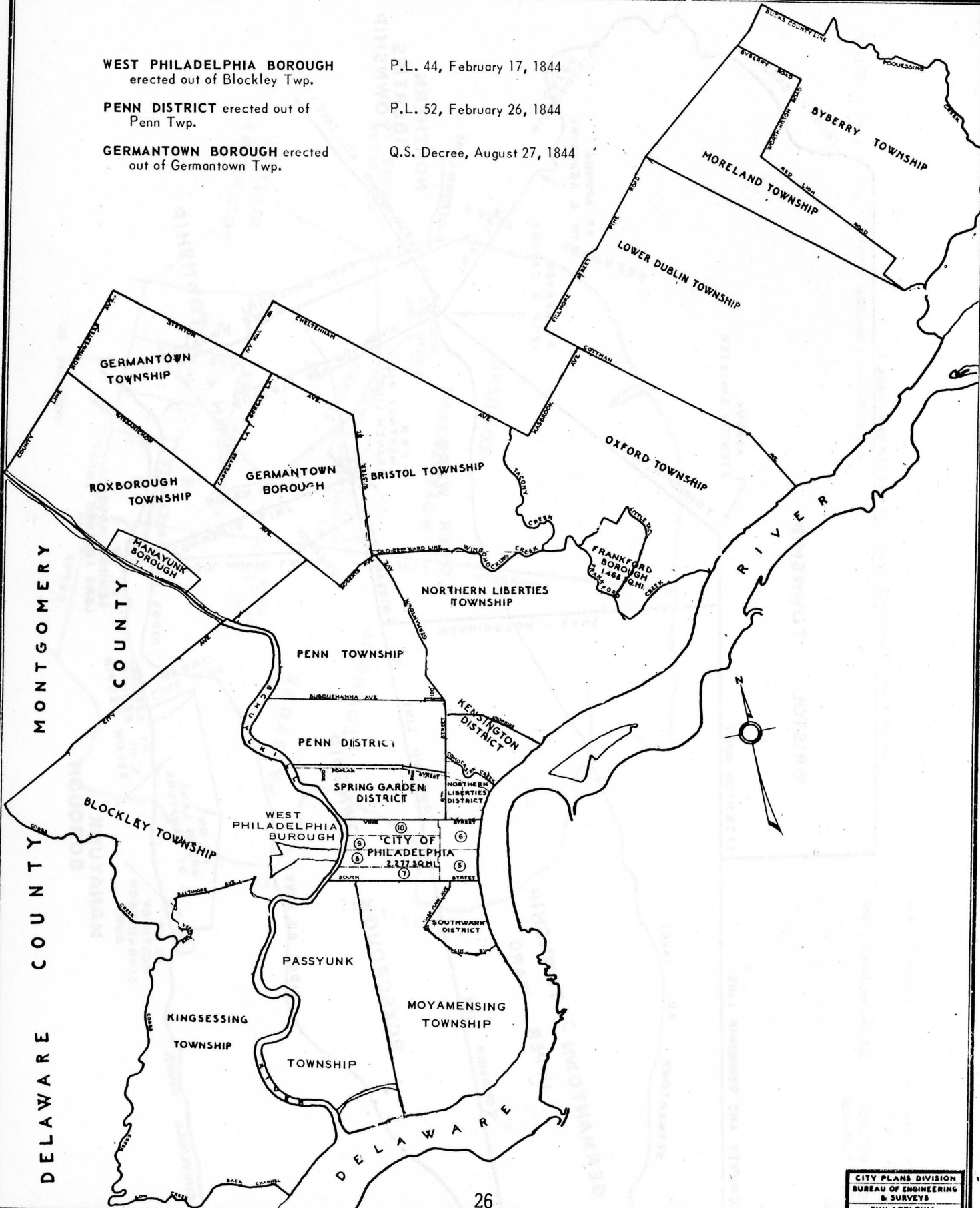
P.L. 44, February 17, 1844

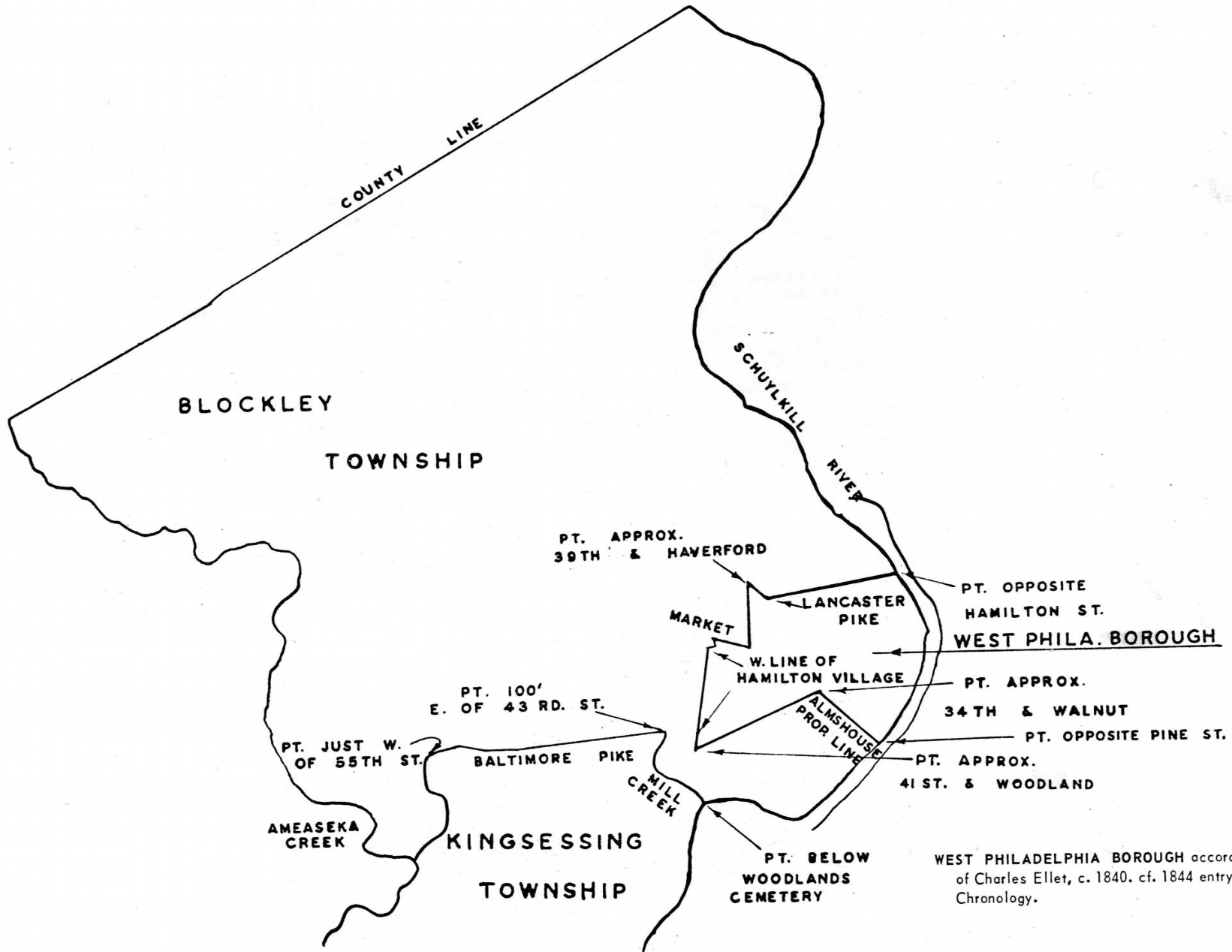
**PENN DISTRICT** erected out of  
Penn Twp.

P.L. 52, February 26, 1844

**GERMANTOWN BOROUGH** erected  
out of Germantown Twp.

Q.S. Decree, August 27, 1844





BLOCKLEY  
TOWNSHIP

COUNTY  
LINE

SCHUYLKILL  
RIVER

PT. APPROX.  
39TH & HAVERFORD

PT. OPPOSITE  
HAMILTON ST.

MARKET

LANCASTER  
PIKE

WEST PHILA. BOROUGH

W. LINE OF  
HAMILTON VILLAGE

PT. APPROX.

PT. 100'  
E. OF 43 RD. ST.

34TH & WALNUT

PT. JUST W.  
OF 55TH ST.

BALTIMORE PIKE

PT. OPPOSITE PINE ST.

ALMHOUSE  
PROR LINE

PT. APPROX.  
41 ST. & WOODLAND

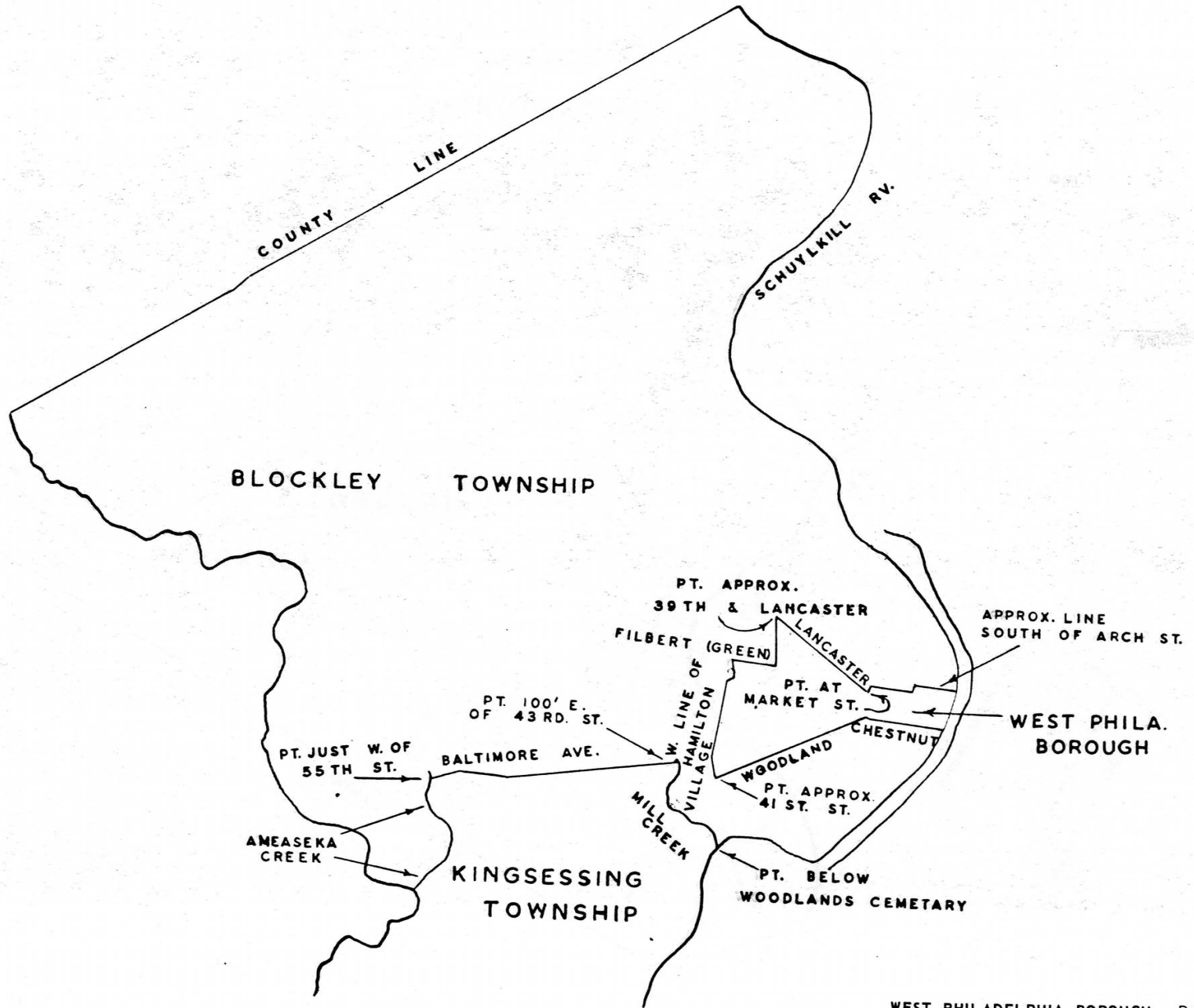
AMEASEKA  
CREEK

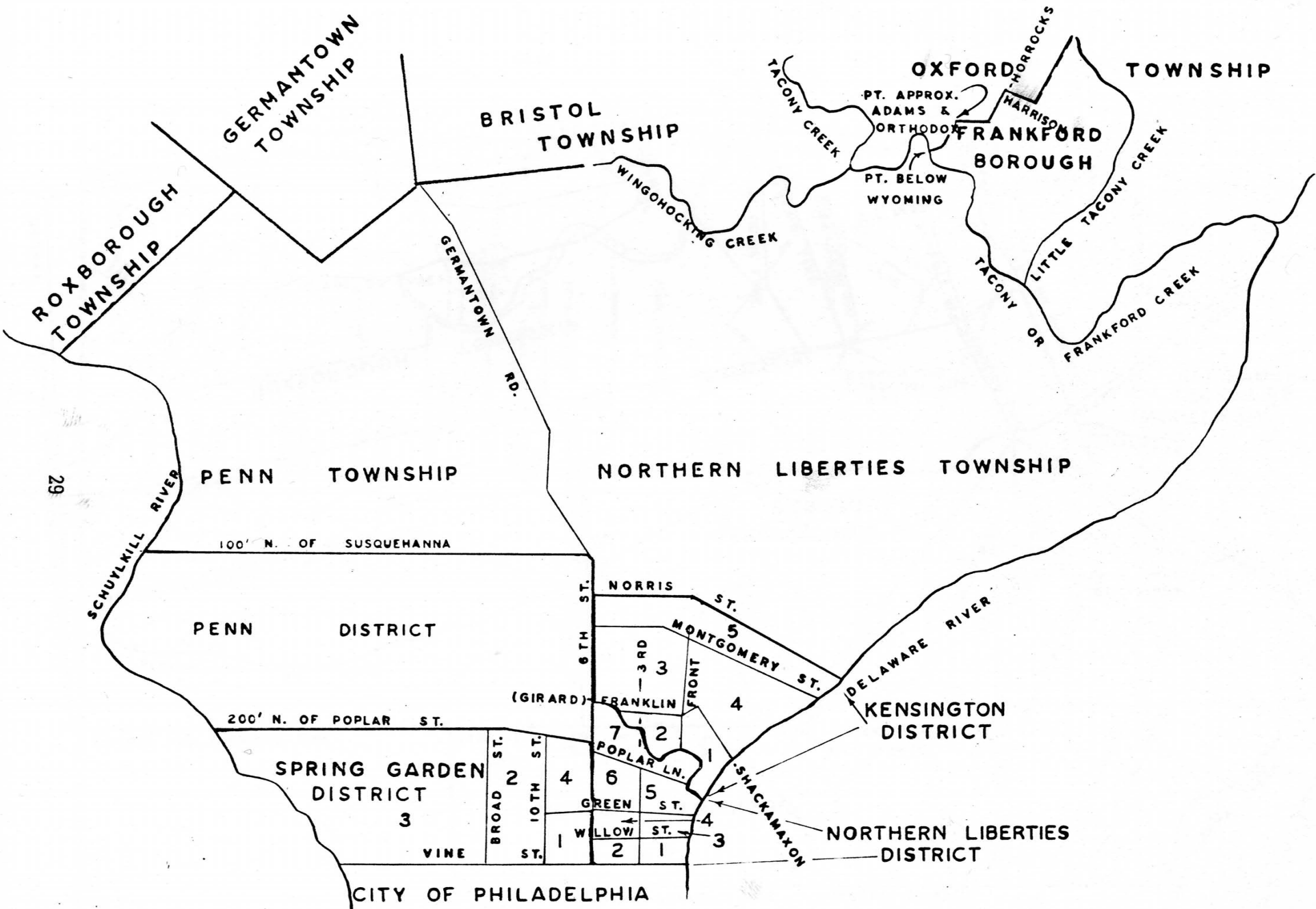
KINGSESSING  
TOWNSHIP

PT. BELOW  
WOODLANDS  
CEMETERY

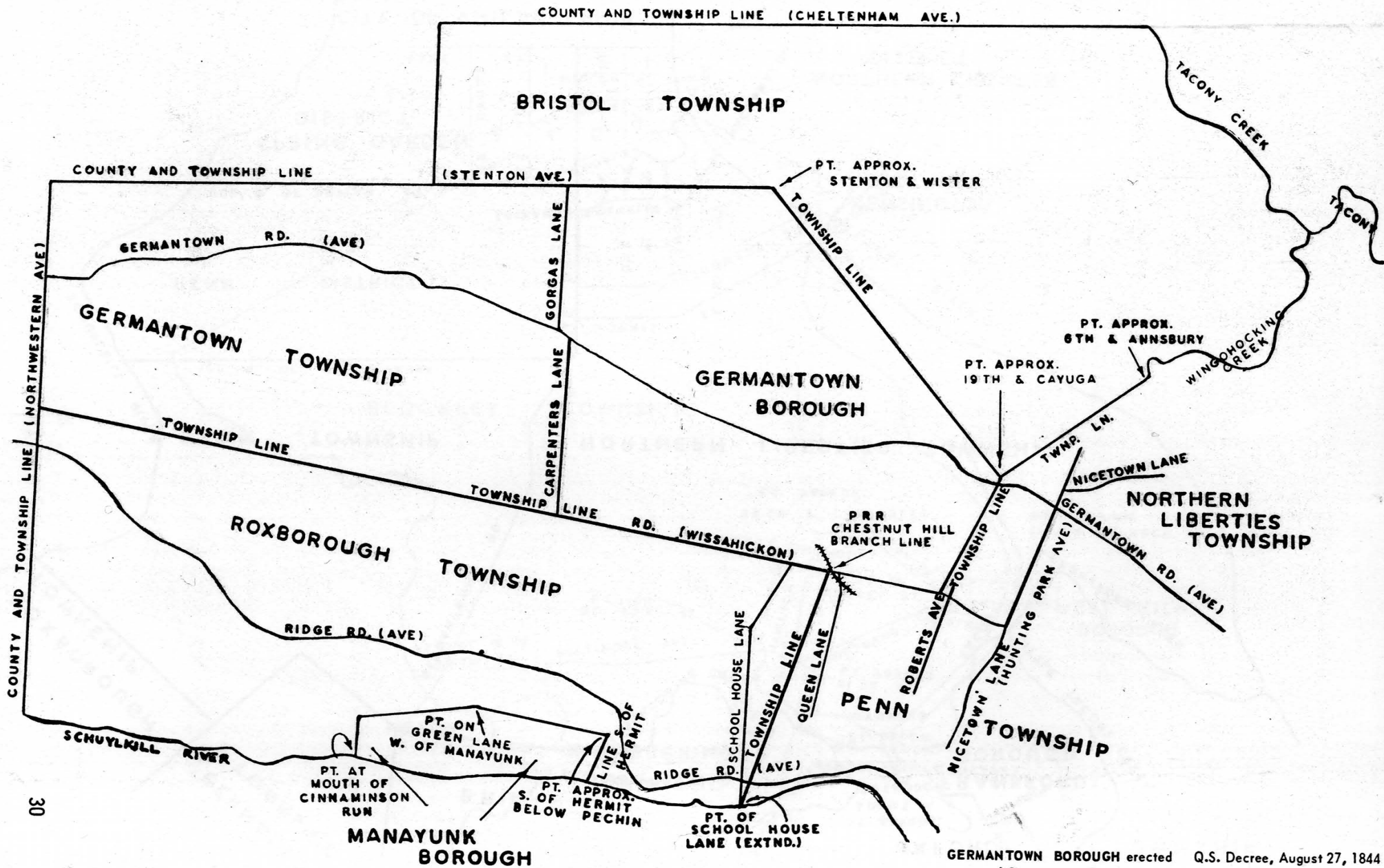
WEST PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH according to map  
of Charles Ellet, c. 1840. cf. 1844 entry in  
Chronology.







29



GERMANTOWN BOROUGH erected Q.S. Decree, August 27, 1844 out of Germantown Twp.

SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT divided into 7 wards (see detail map)

P.L. 41, February 13, 1846

KENSINGTON DISTRICT divided into 7 wards (see detail map)

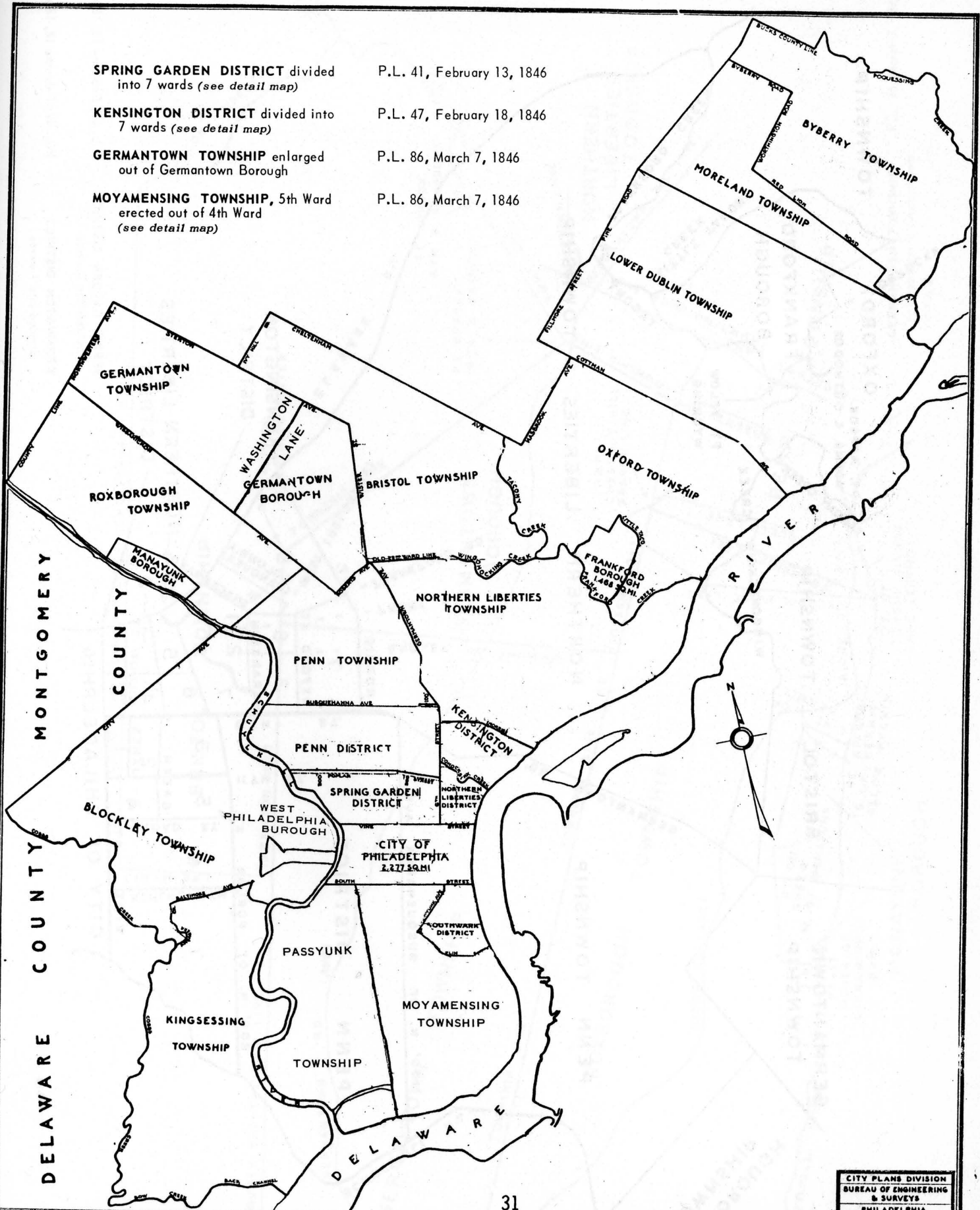
P.L. 47, February 18, 1846

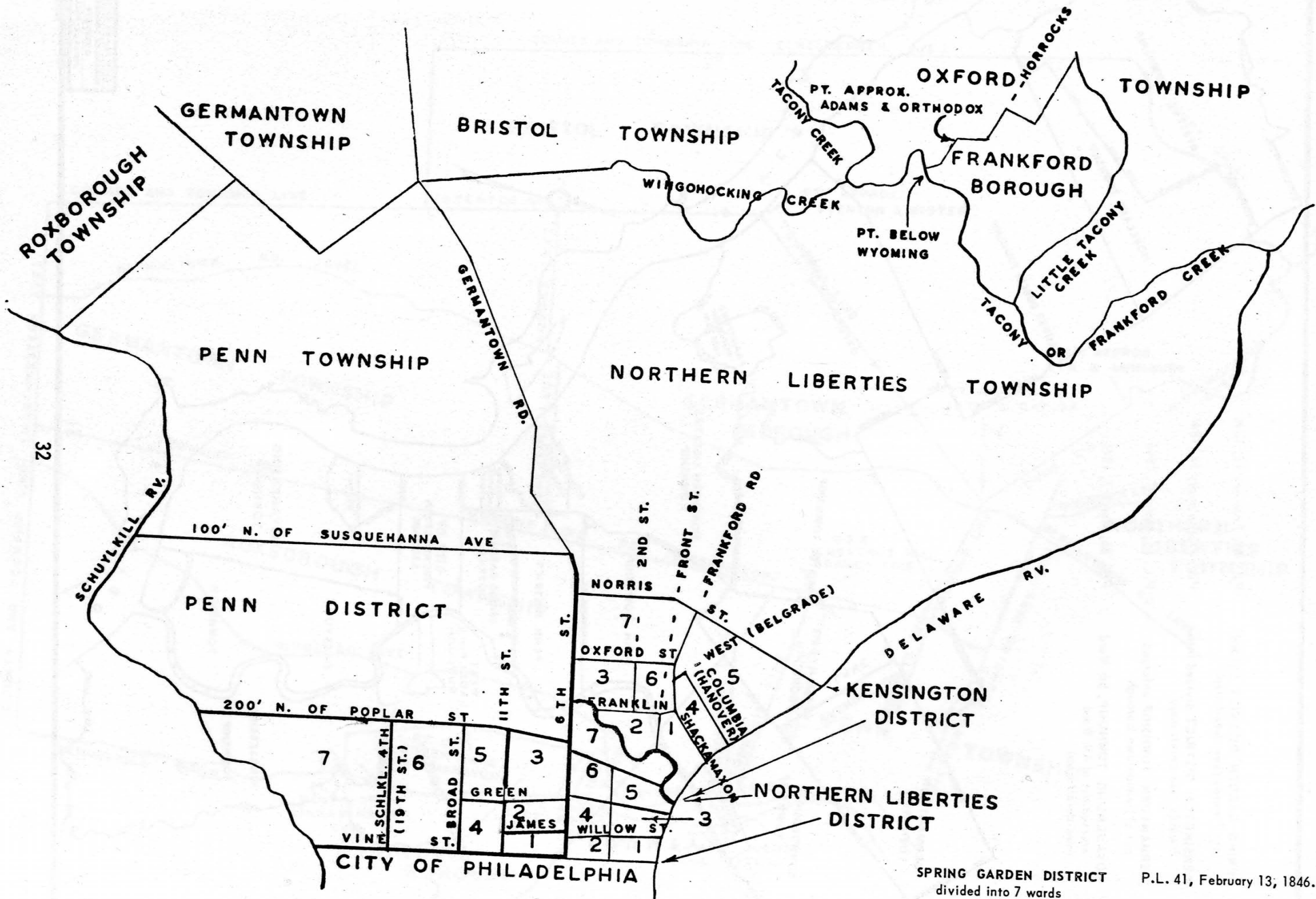
GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP enlarged out of Germantown Borough

P.L. 86, March 7, 1846

MOYAMENSING TOWNSHIP, 5th Ward erected out of 4th Ward (see detail map)

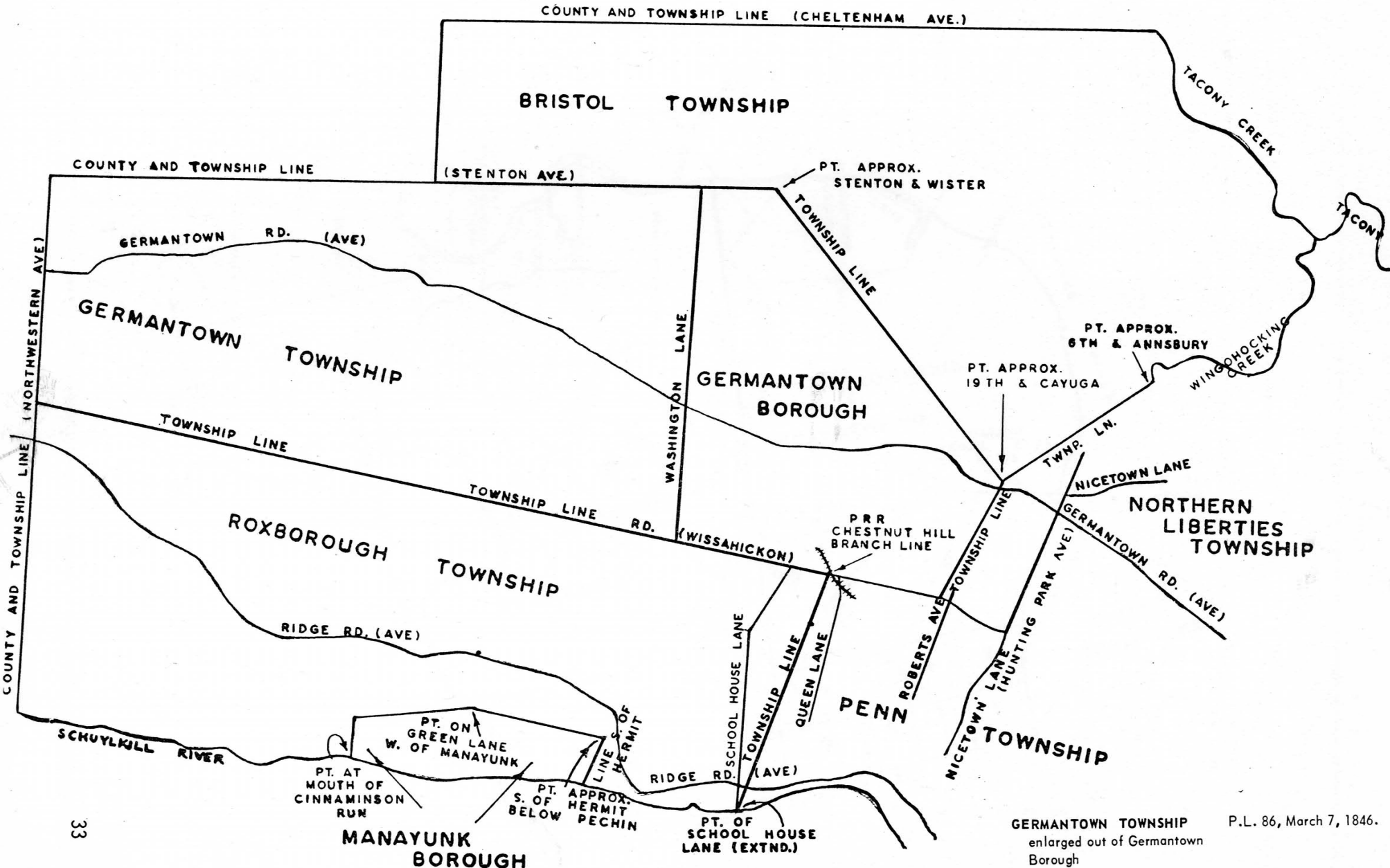
P.L. 86, March 7, 1846



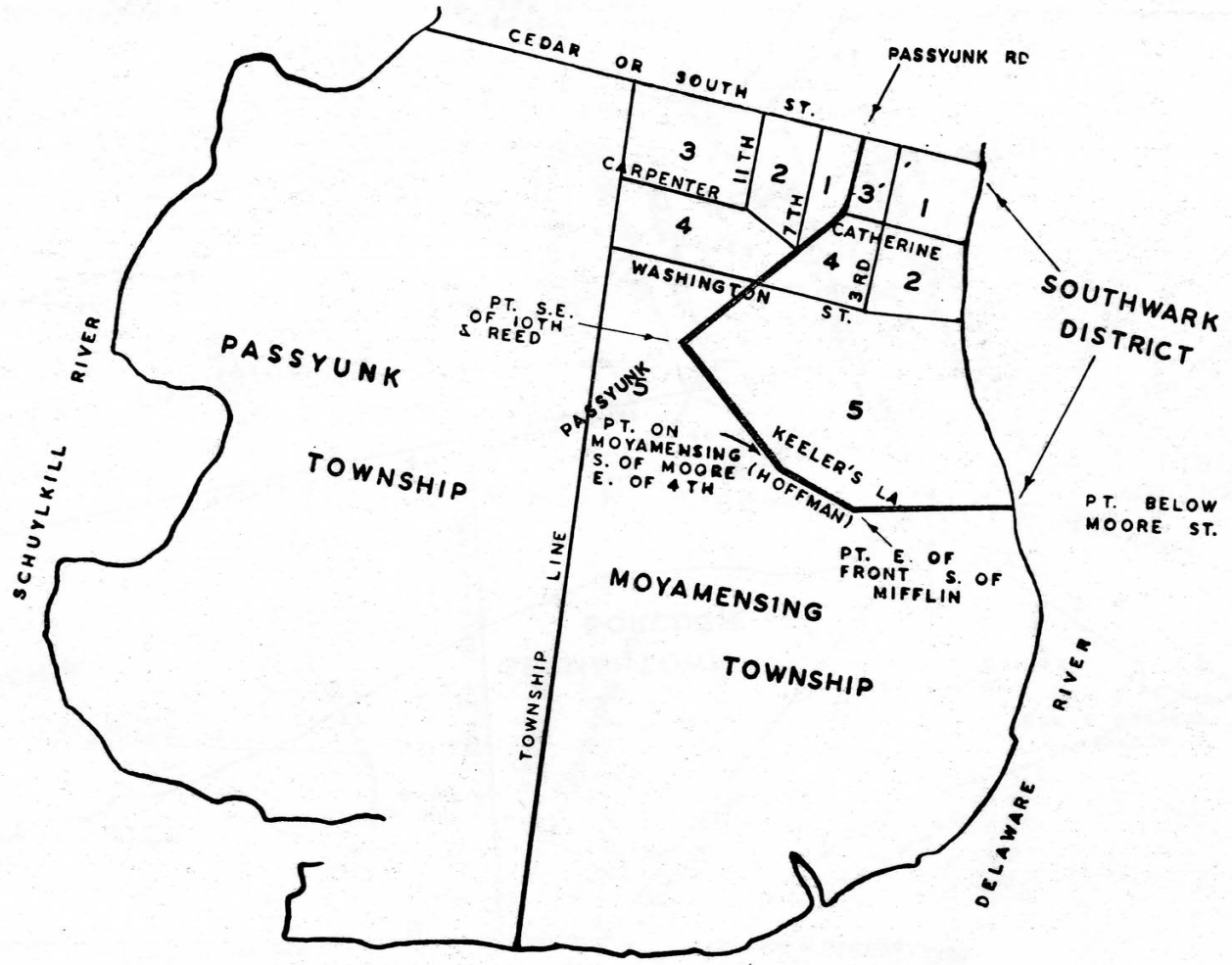


SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT  
divided into 7 wards  
P.L. 41, February 13, 1846.

KENSINGTON DISTRICT  
divided into 7 wards  
P.L. 47, February 18, 1846.



GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP enlarged out of Germantown Borough P.L. 86, March 7, 1846.



**PENN TOWNSHIP** enlarged out of  
Penn District

P.L. 114, February 17, 1847

**RICHMOND DISTRICT** erected out of  
Northern Liberties Twp. (formally  
designated a District, P.L. 303,  
March 14, 1850)

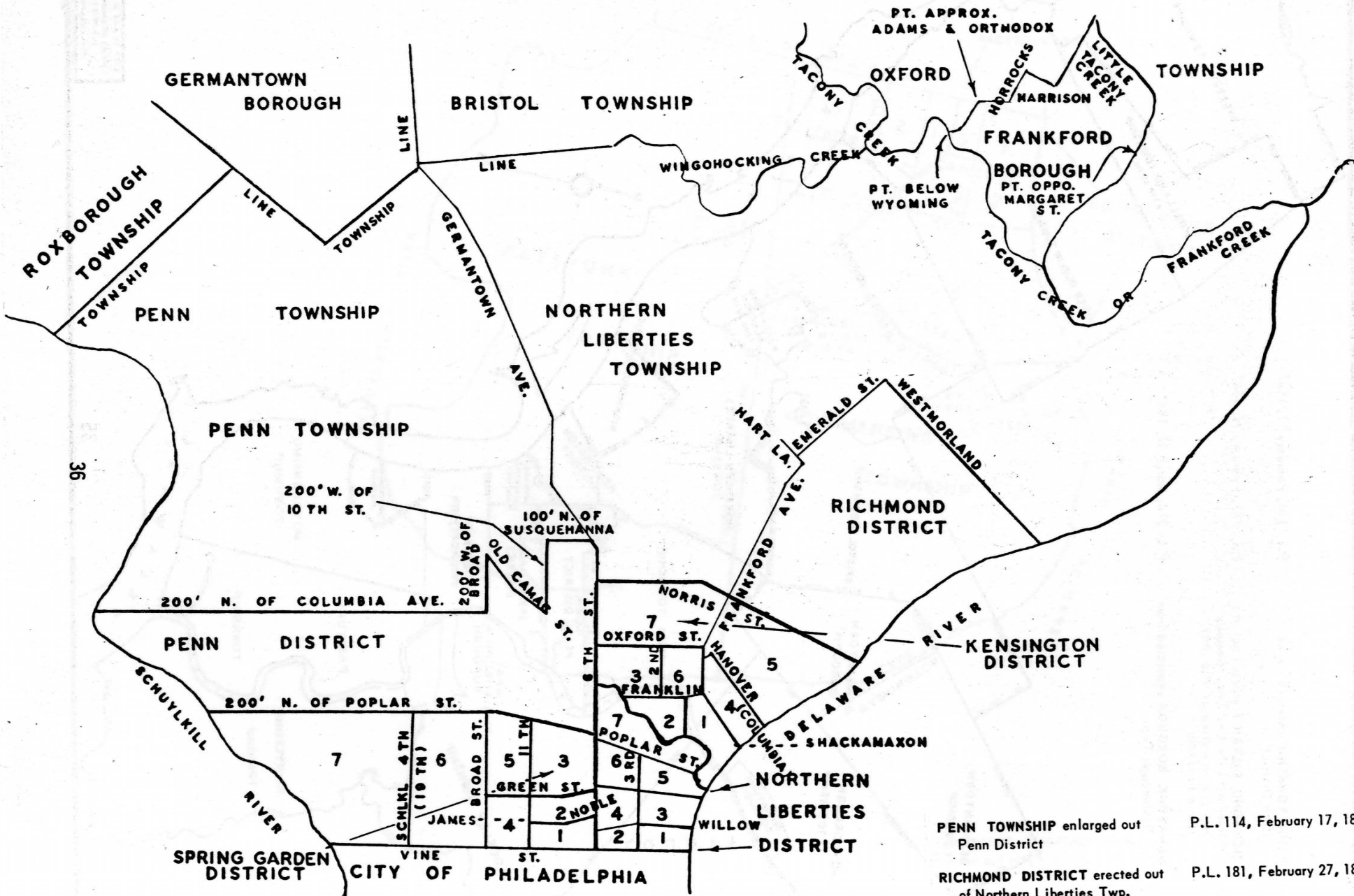
P.L. 181, February 27, 1847

**MANAYUNK BOROUGH** separated from  
Roxborough Twp.

P.L. 214, March 31, 1847







36

PENN TOWNSHIP enlarged out Penn District P.L. 114, February 17, 1847

RICHMOND DISTRICT erected out of Northern Liberties Twp. P.L. 181, February 27, 1847

**RICHMOND DISTRICT** enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.

P.L. 250, March 25, 1848

**BRIDESBURG BOROUGH** erected out of Northern Liberties Twp. (Southern boundary a now - undeterminable property line)

P.L. 720, April 1, 1848

**MOYAMENSING AND PASSYUNK TOWNSHIPS**

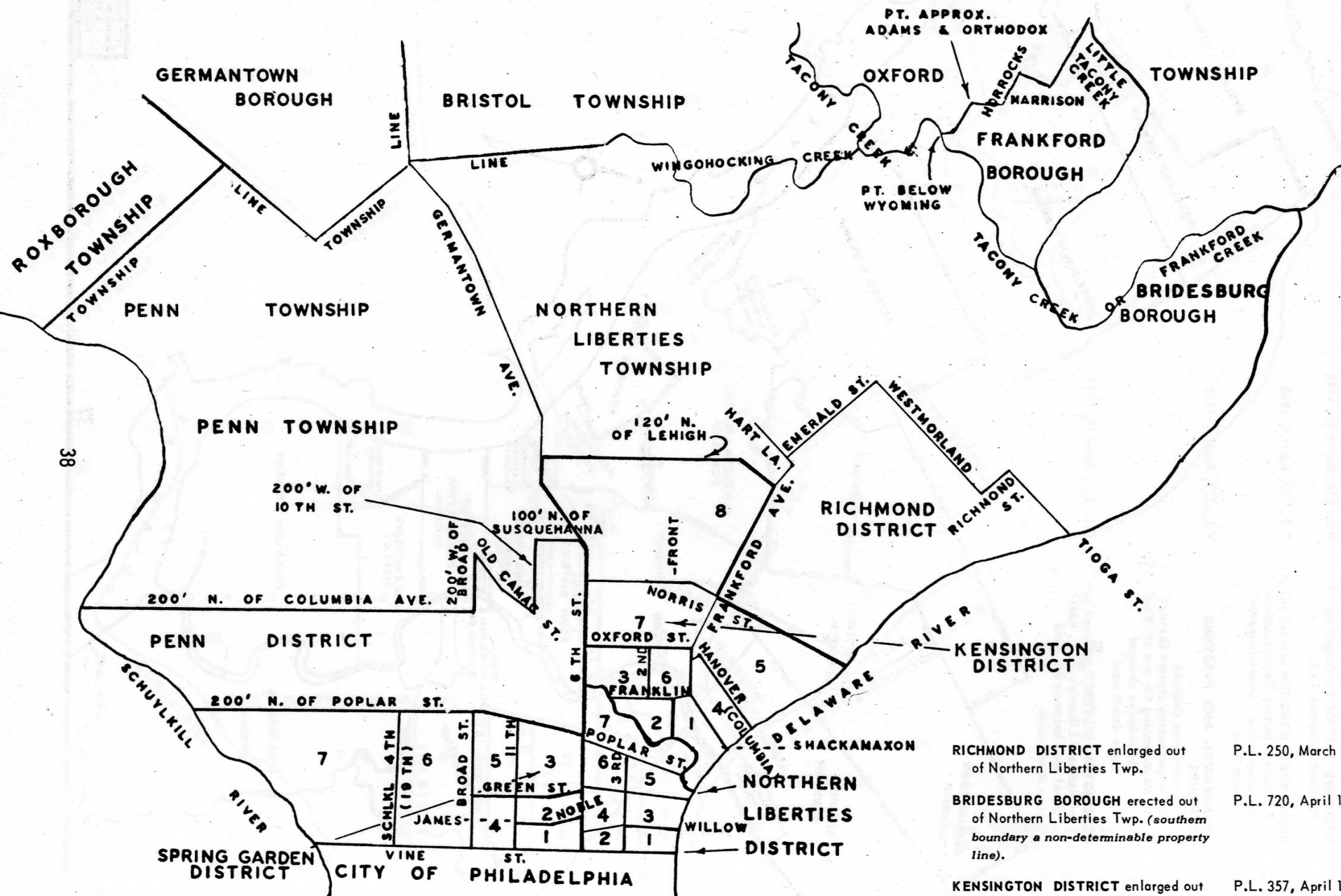
P.L. 339, April 5, 1848

- 1) boundaries changed
- 2) Moyamensing created District
- 3) Moyamensing 4th and 5th Ward boundaries changed (see detail map)

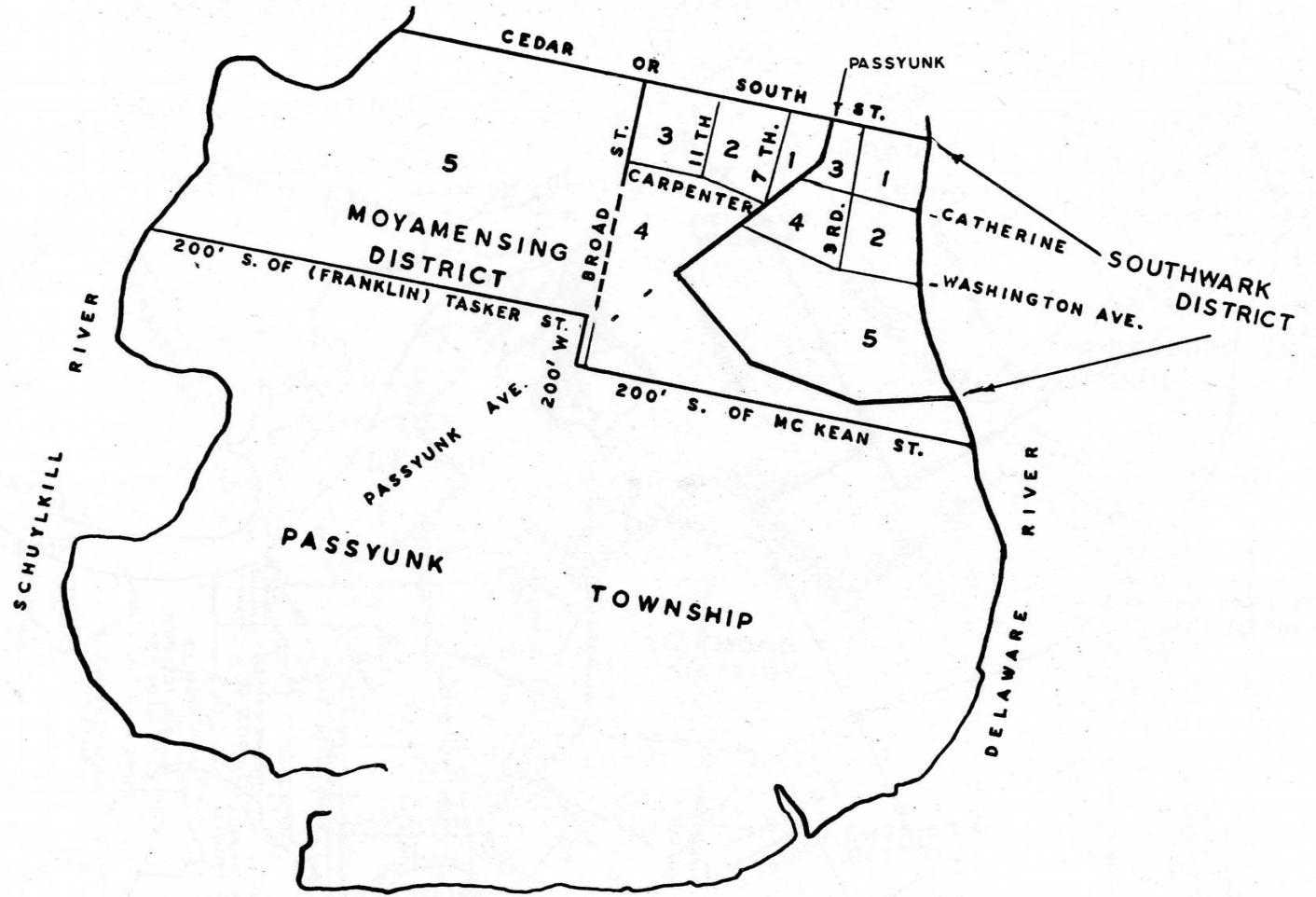
**KENSINGTON DISTRICT** enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp., additional area becomes 8th Ward (see detail map)

P.L. 357, April 16, 1848





- RICHMOND DISTRICT enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp. P.L. 250, March 25, 1848.
- BRIDESBURG BOROUGH erected out of Northern Liberties Twp. (southern boundary a non-determinable property line). P.L. 720, April 1, 1848.
- KENSINGTON DISTRICT enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp; additional area becomes 8th Ward. P.L. 357, April 16, 1848.



MOYAMENSING AND PASSYUNK TOWNSHIPS P.L. 339, April 5, 1848

- 1) boundaries changed
- 2) Moyamensing created District
- 3) Moyamensing 4th and 5th Ward boundaries changed

**RICHMOND DISTRICT** enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.

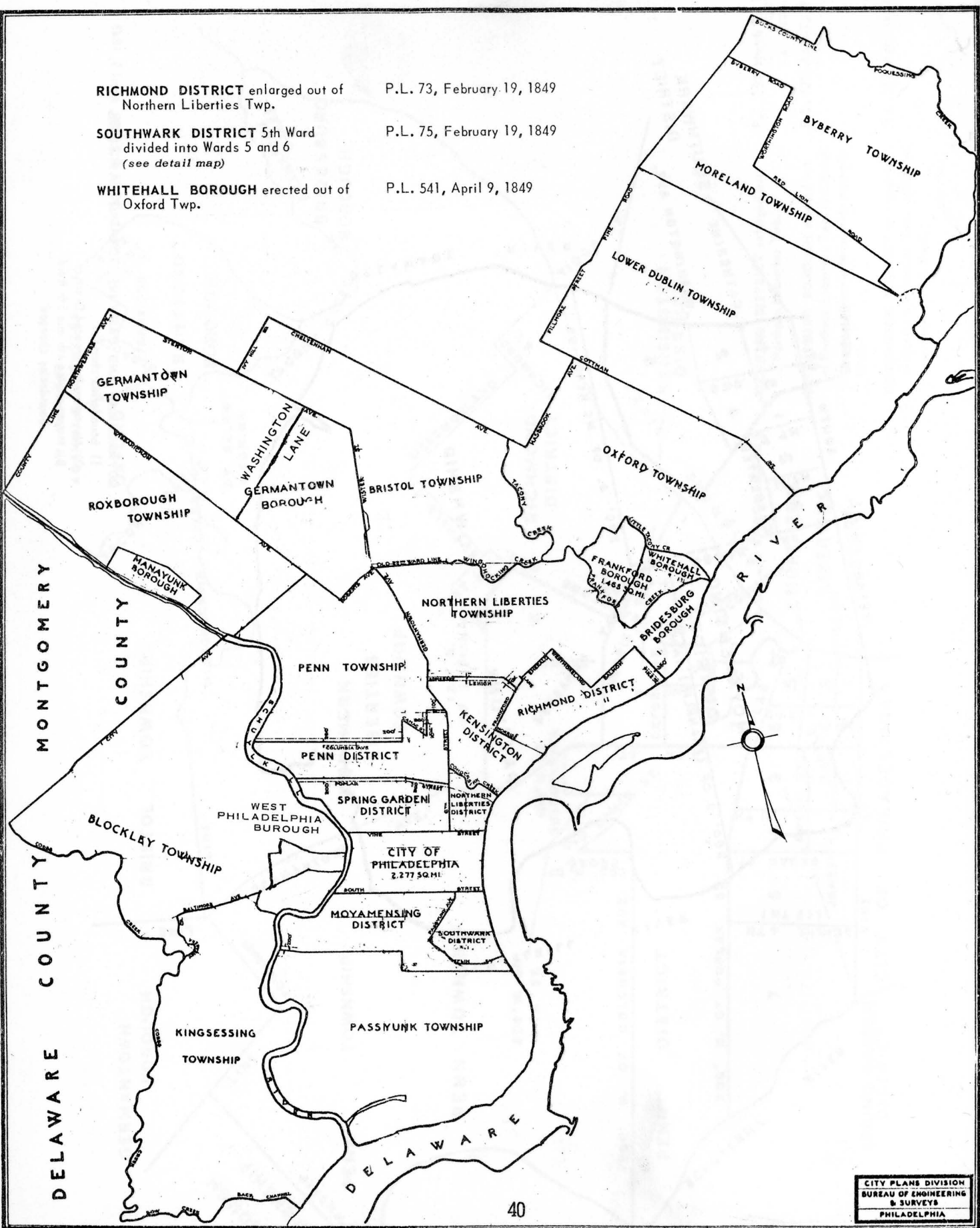
P.L. 73, February 19, 1849

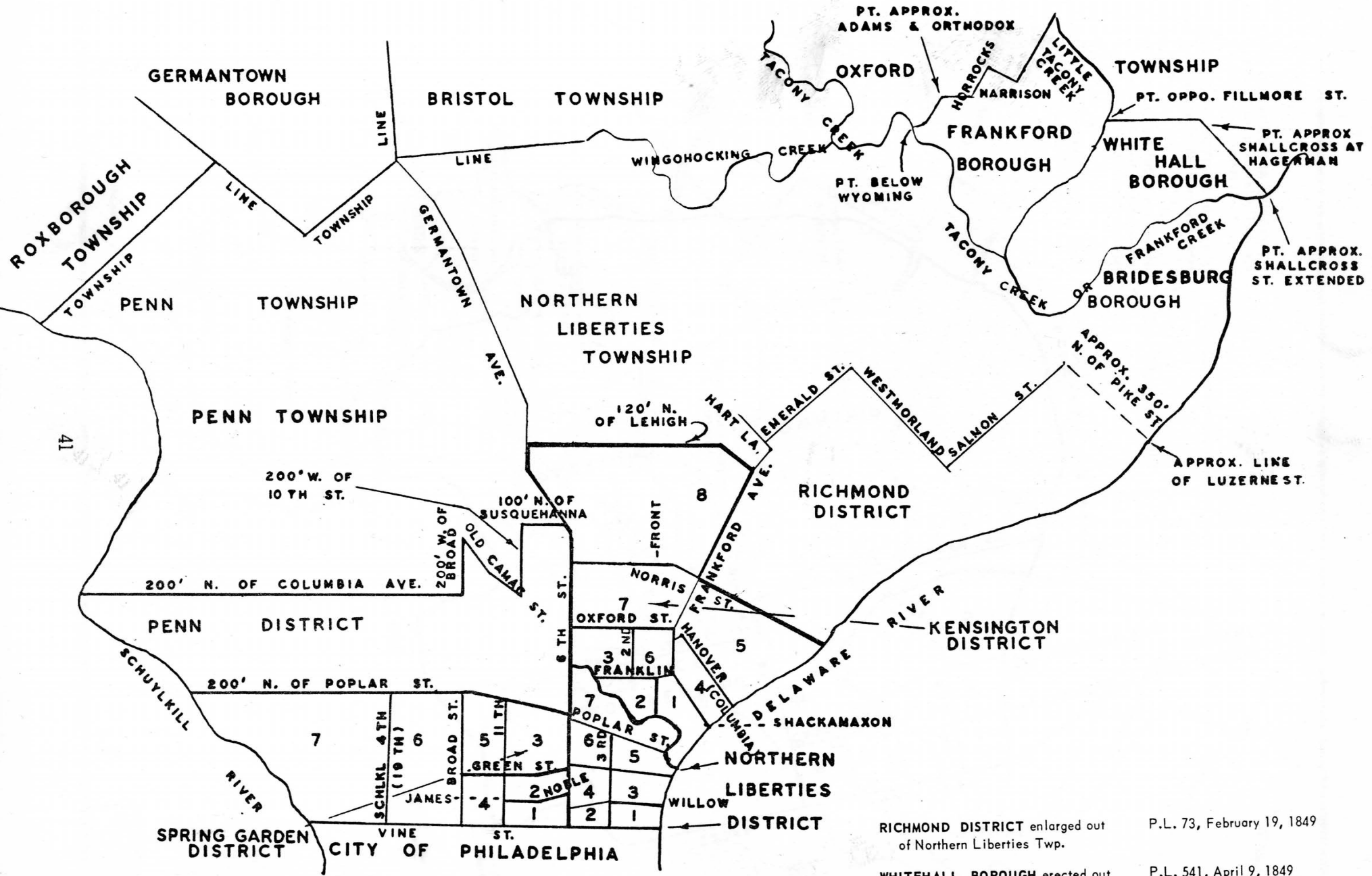
**SOUTHWARK DISTRICT** 5th Ward divided into Wards 5 and 6  
(see detail map)

P.L. 75, February 19, 1849

**WHITEHALL BOROUGH** erected out of Oxford Twp.

P.L. 541, April 9, 1849



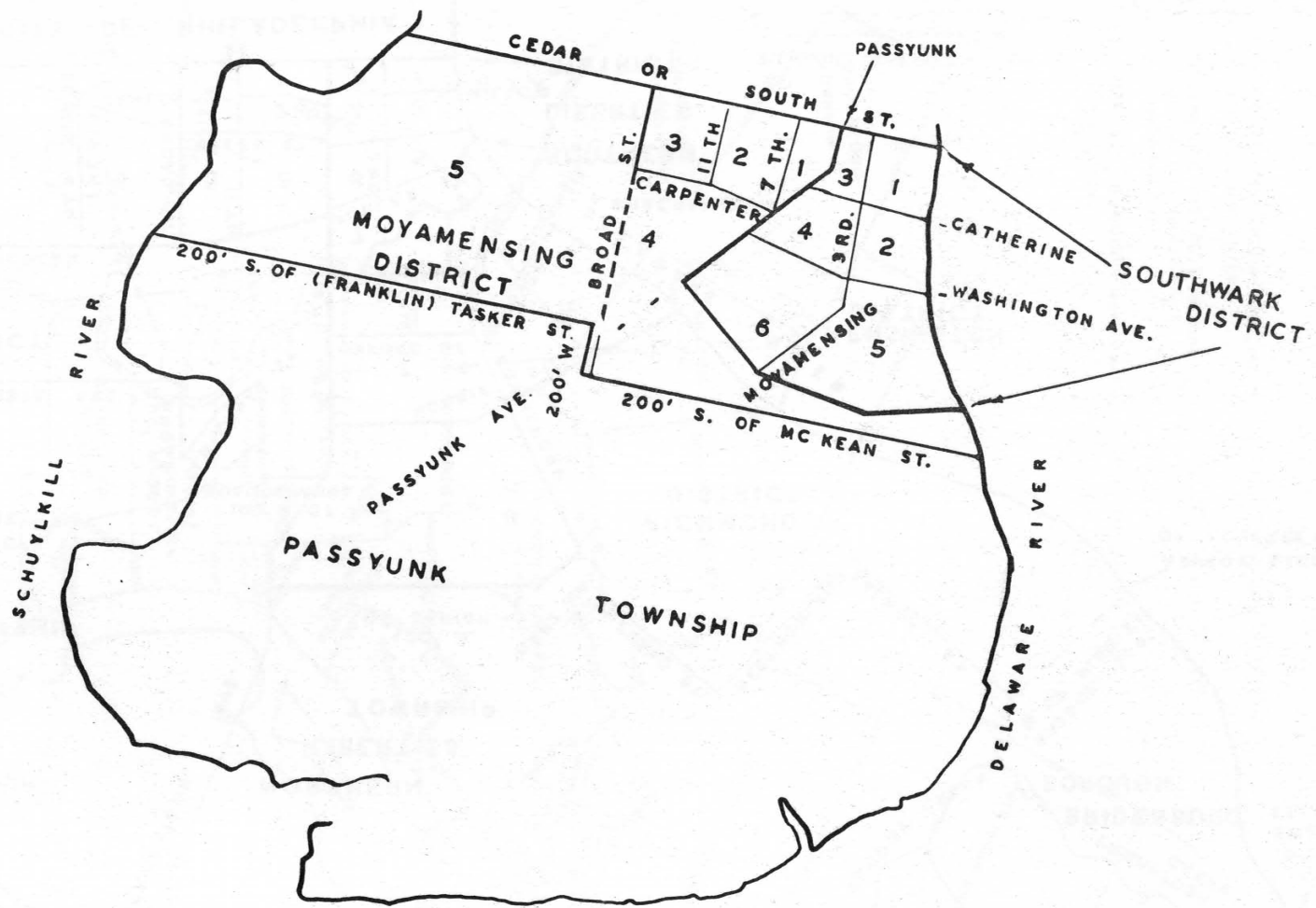


RICHMOND DISTRICT enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.

P.L. 73, February 19, 1849

WHITEHALL BOROUGH erected out of Oxford Twp.

P.L. 541, April 9, 1849



**WEST PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH**  
enlarged out of Blockley Twp. and  
divided into 3 wards (see detail map)

P.L. 215, March 14, 1850

**KENSINGTON DISTRICT** 7th Ward in-  
creased out of 8th Ward (see detail  
map)

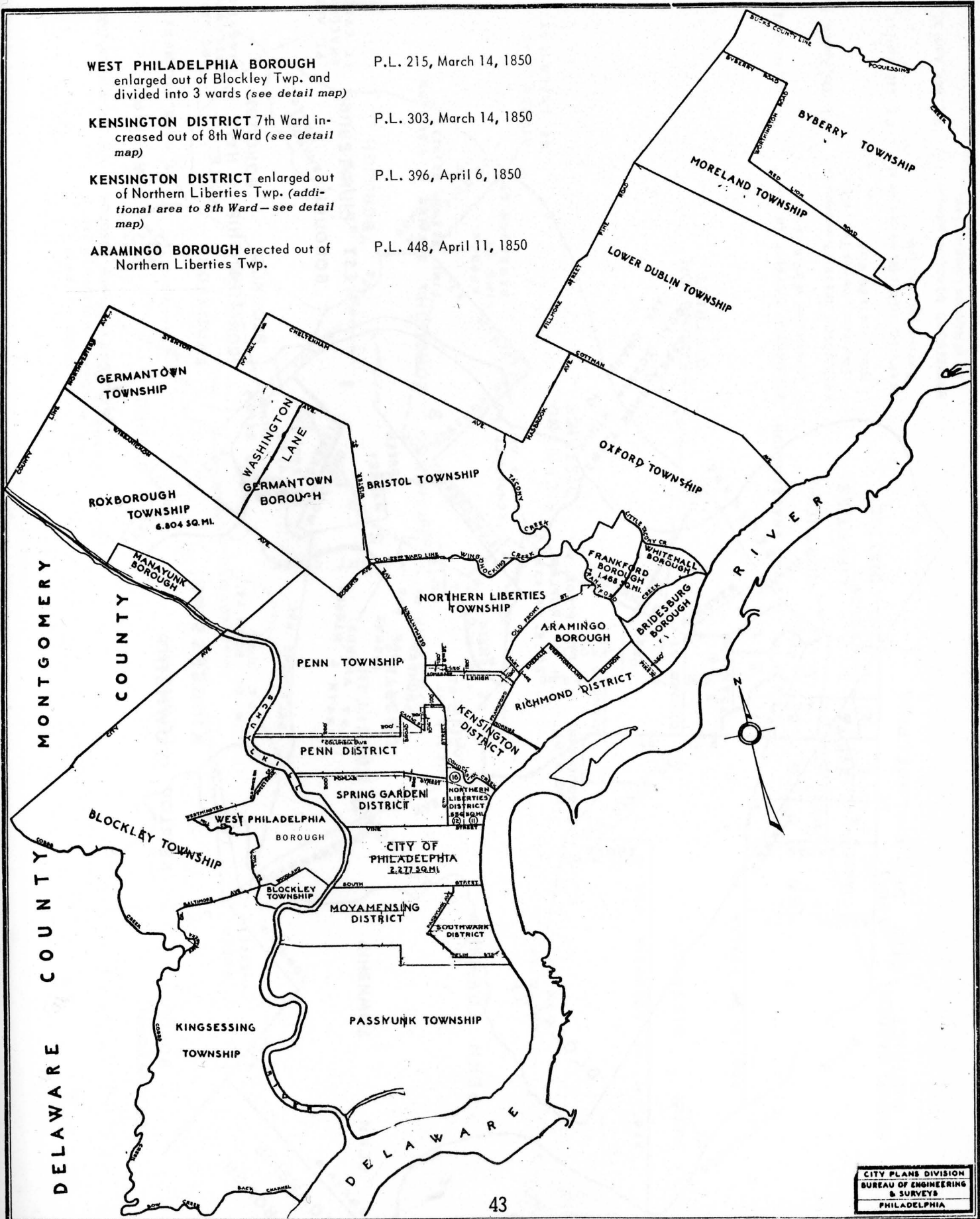
P.L. 303, March 14, 1850

**KENSINGTON DISTRICT** enlarged out  
of Northern Liberties Twp. (addi-  
tional area to 8th Ward—see detail  
map)

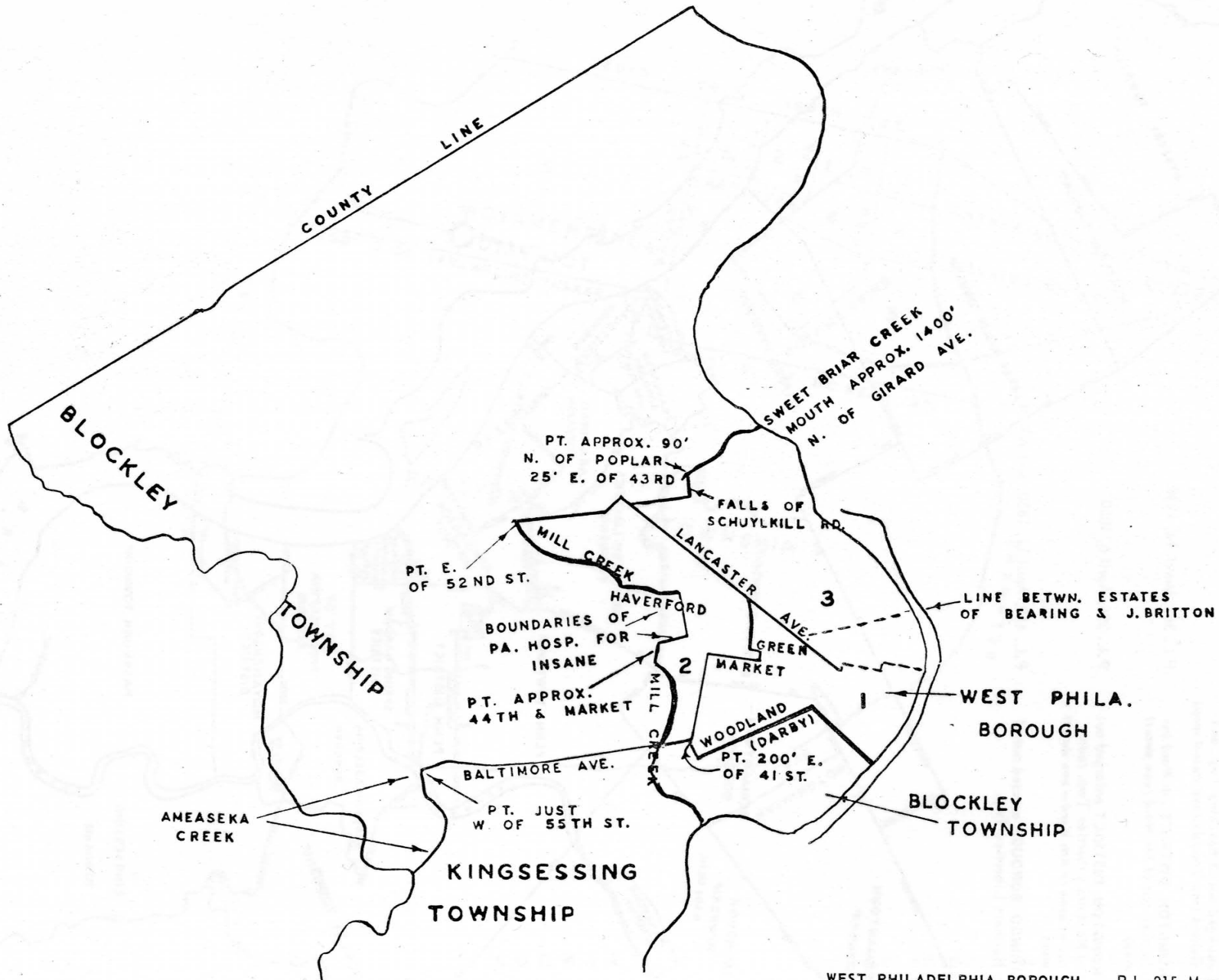
P.L. 396, April 6, 1850

**ARAMINGO BOROUGH** erected out of  
Northern Liberties Twp.

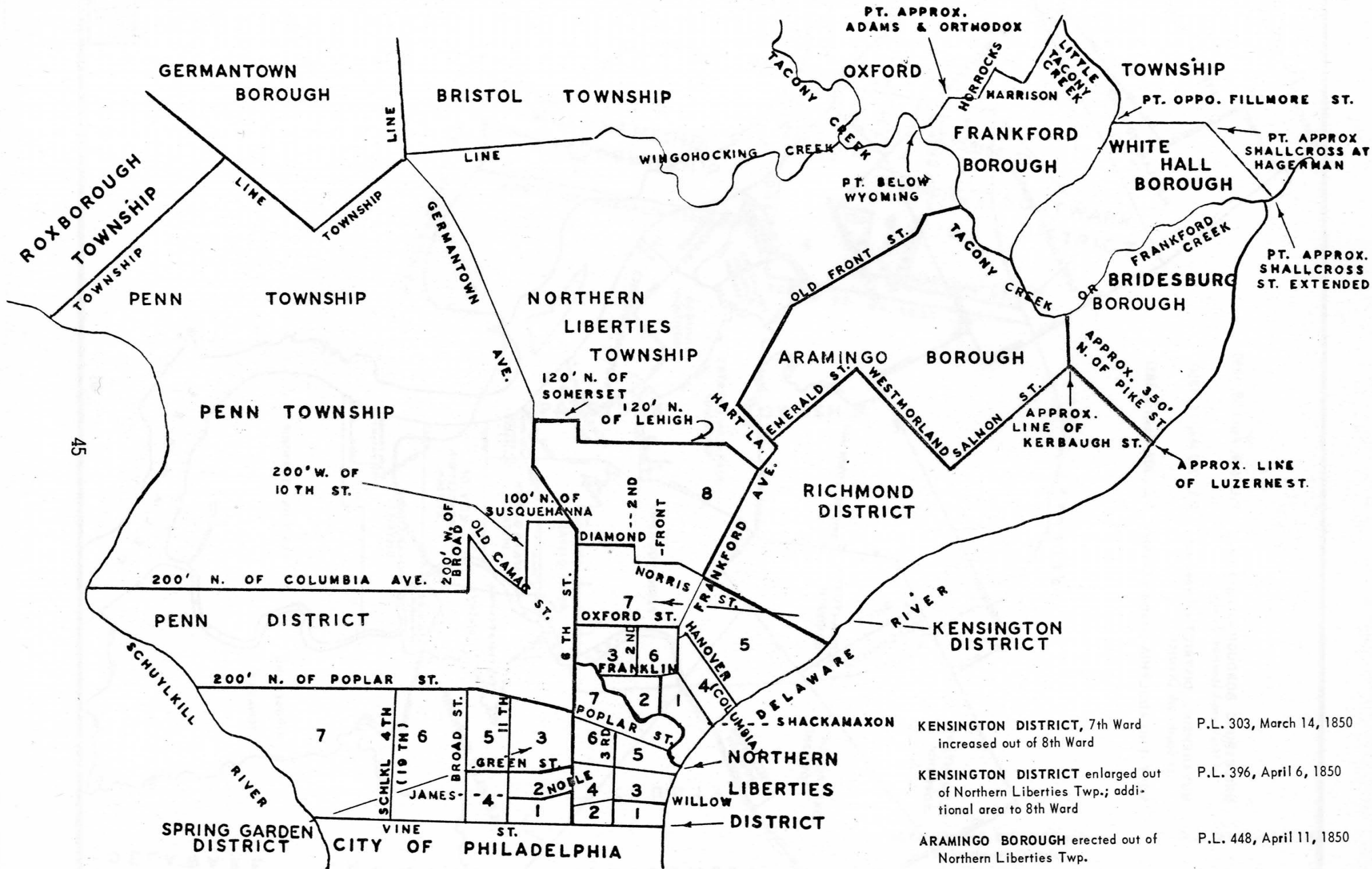
P.L. 448, April 11, 1850







WEST PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH enlarged out of Blockley Twp., and divided into 3 Wards P.L. 215, March 14, 1850

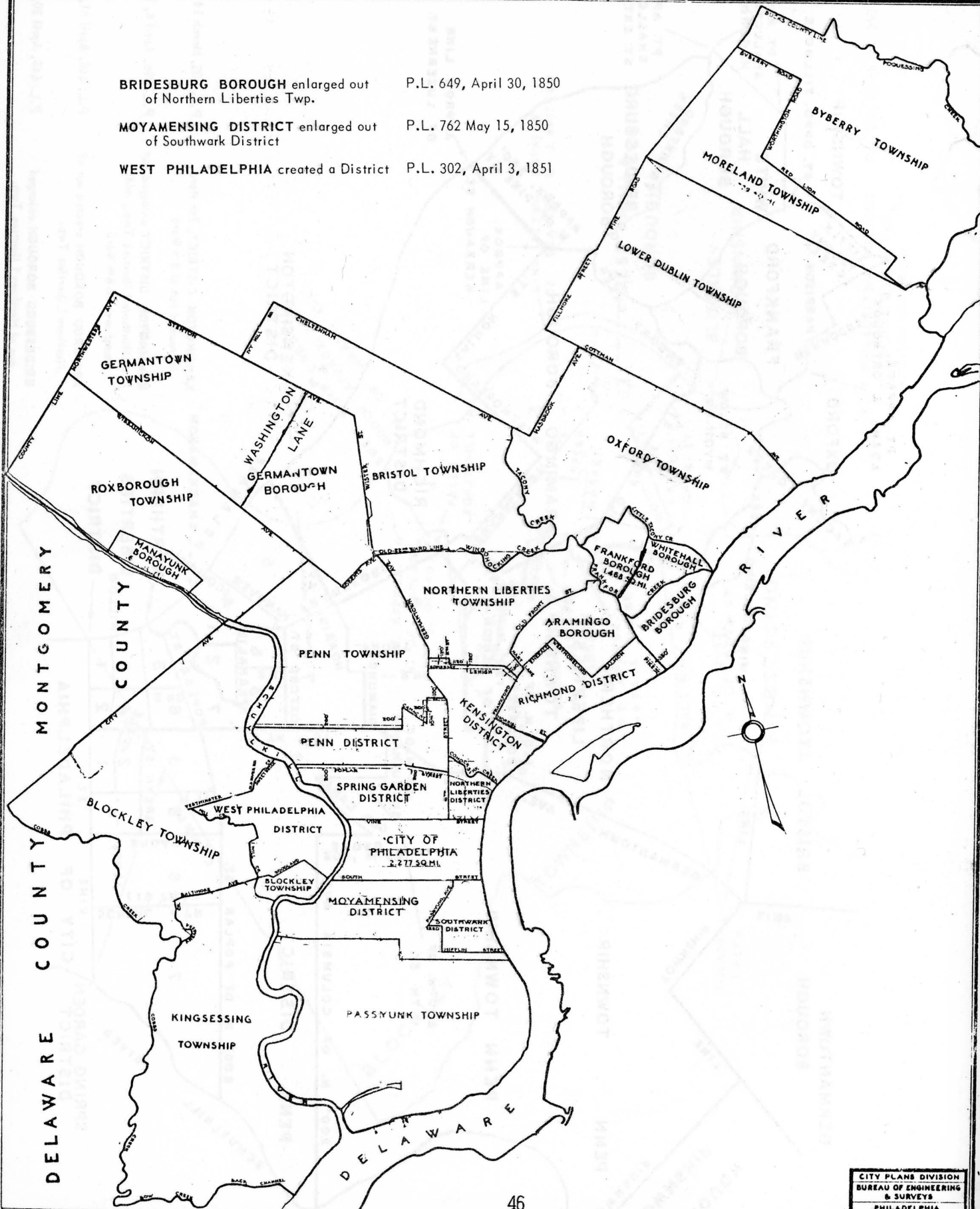


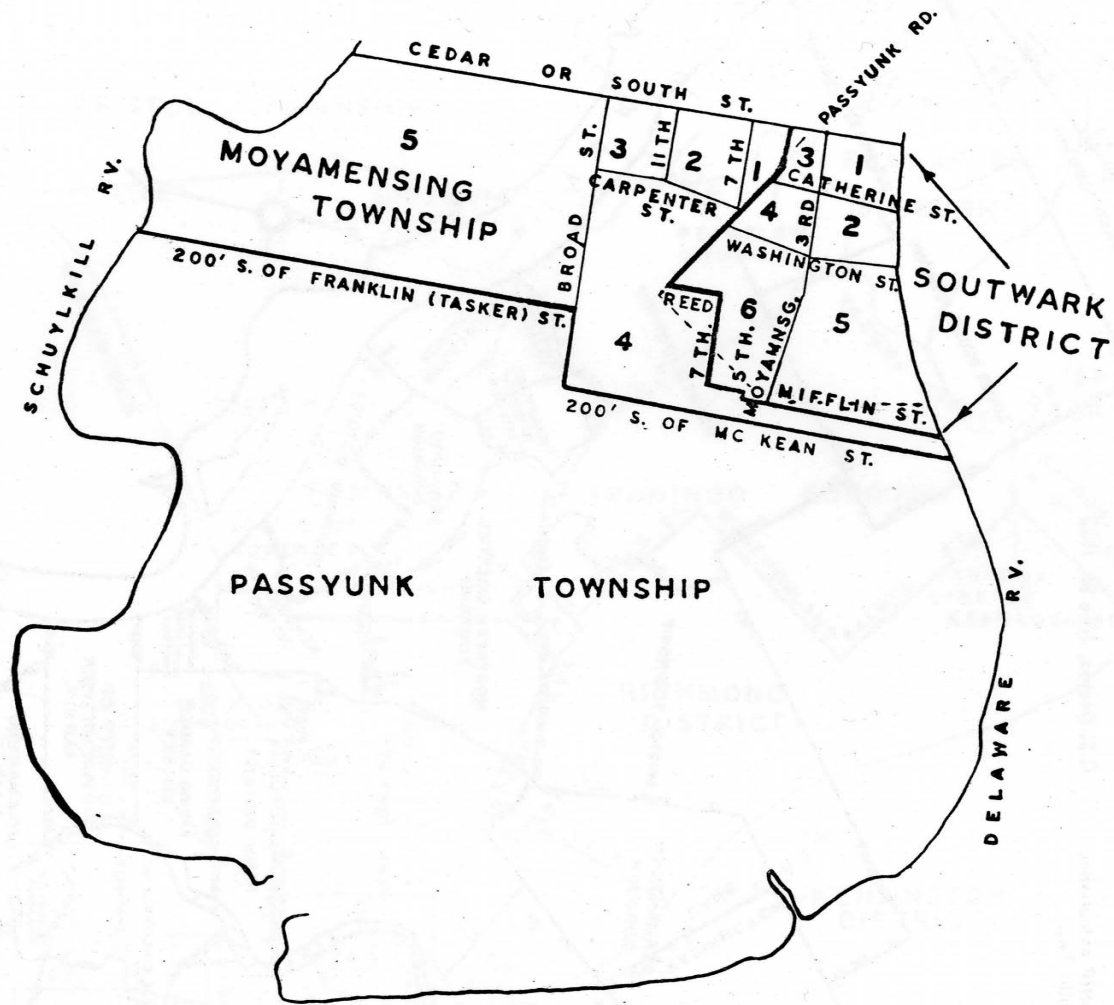
- KENSINGTON DISTRICT, 7th Ward increased out of 8th Ward P.L. 303, March 14, 1850
- KENSINGTON DISTRICT enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp.; additional area to 8th Ward P.L. 396, April 6, 1850
- ARAMINGO BOROUGH erected out of Northern Liberties Twp. P.L. 448, April 11, 1850
- BRIDESBURG BOROUGH enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp. P.L. 649, April 30, 1850

BRIDESBURG BOROUGH enlarged out of Northern Liberties Twp. P.L. 649, April 30, 1850  
 of Northern Liberties Twp.

MOYAMENSING DISTRICT enlarged out of Southwark District P.L. 762 May 15, 1850  
 of Southwark District

WEST PHILADELPHIA created a District P.L. 302, April 3, 1851





47

MOYAMENSING DISTRICT enlarged  
out of Southwark District

P.L. 762, May 15, 1850

**PENN DISTRICT** divided into 3 wards  
(see detail map)

P.L. 75, February 20, 1852

**KENSINGTON DISTRICT** enlarged out  
of Richmond District

P.L. 268, April 6, 1852

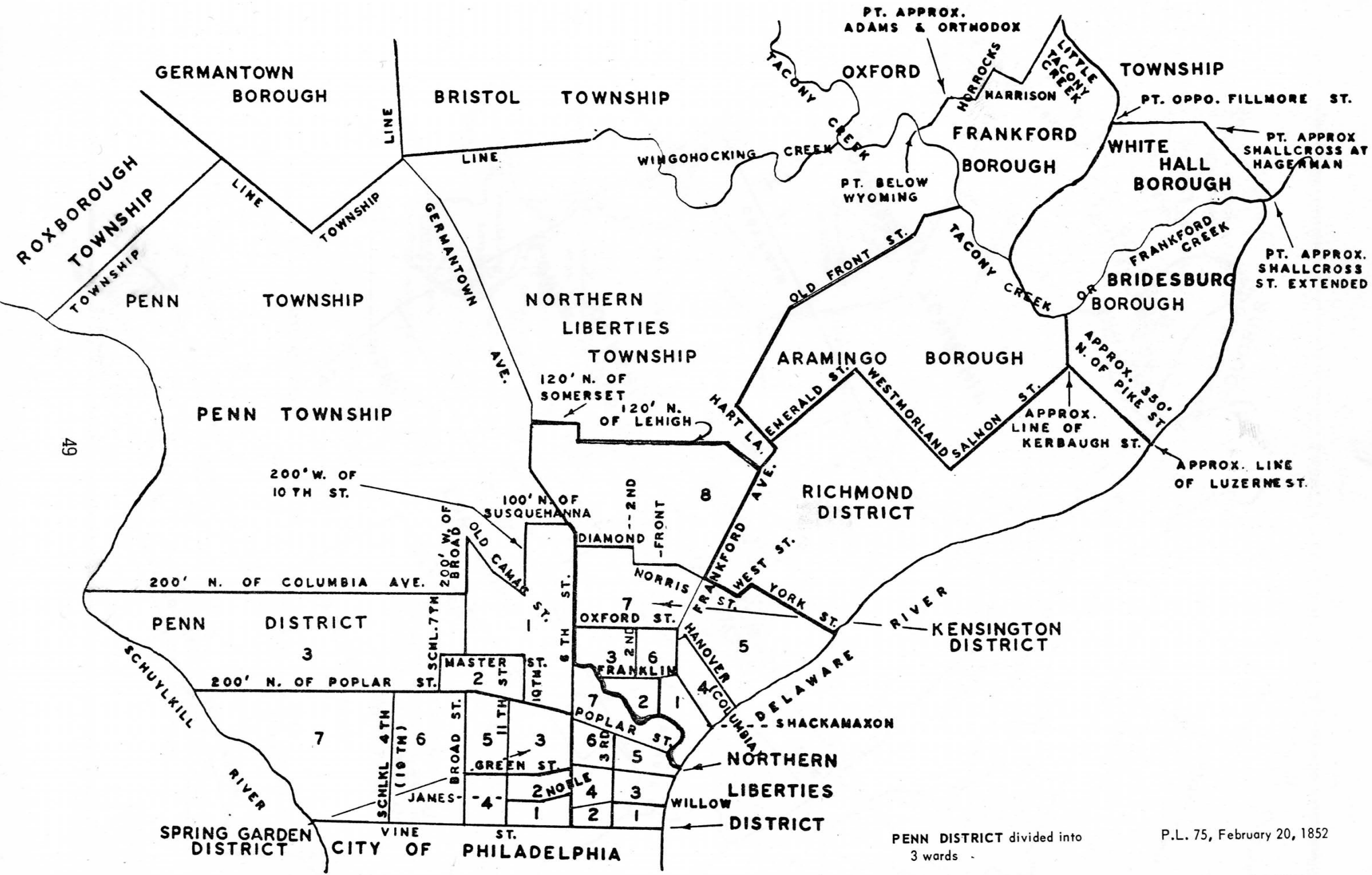
**WEST PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT**  
incorporated as a district

P.L. 508, May 1, 1852

**DELAWARE TOWNSHIP** established  
out of Lower Dublin Twp.

Q.S. Decree, June 26, 1852



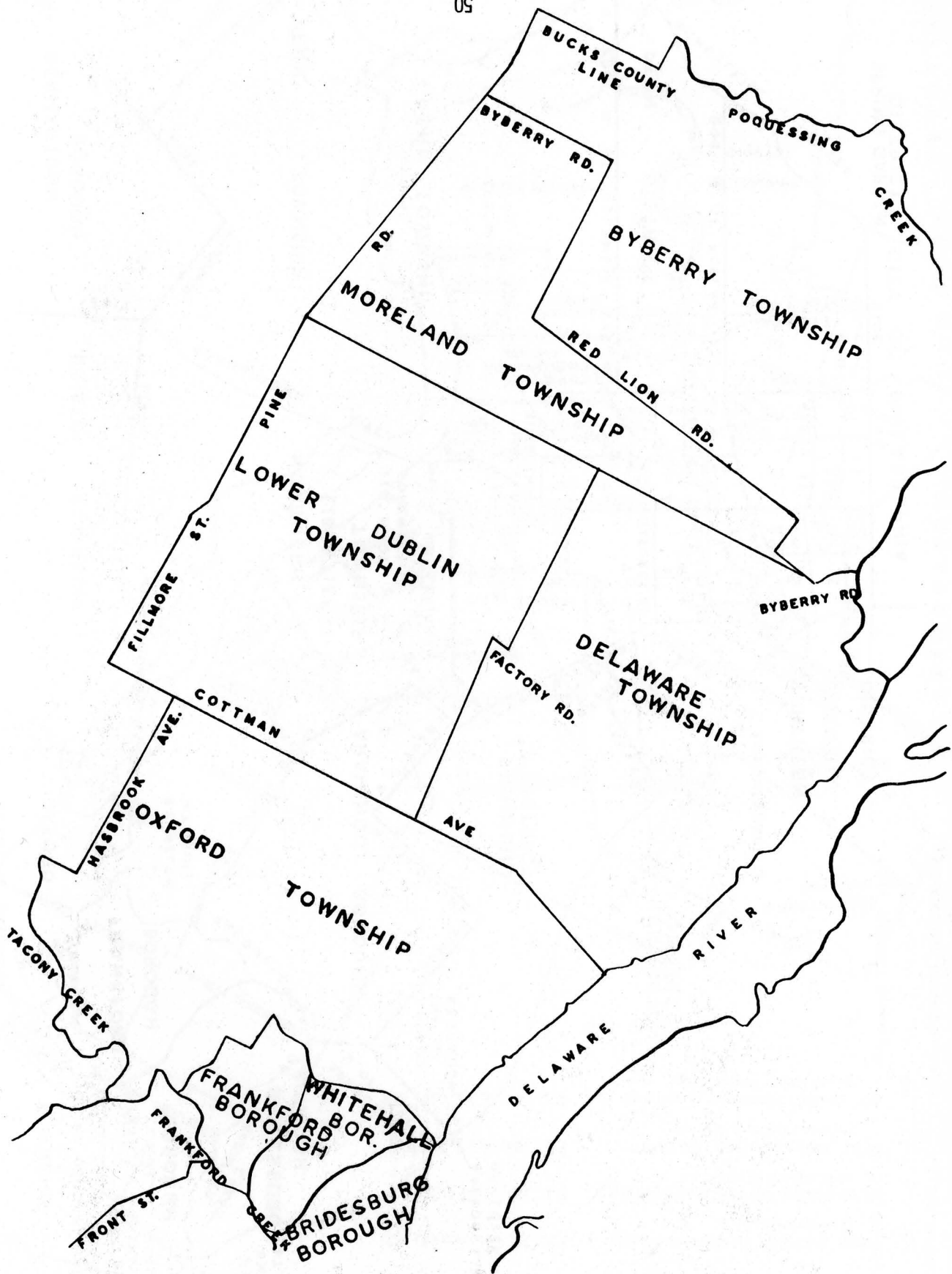


PENN DISTRICT divided into  
3 wards

P.L. 75, February 20, 1852

KENSINGTON DISTRICT enlarged  
out of Richmond District

P.L. 268, April 6, 1852



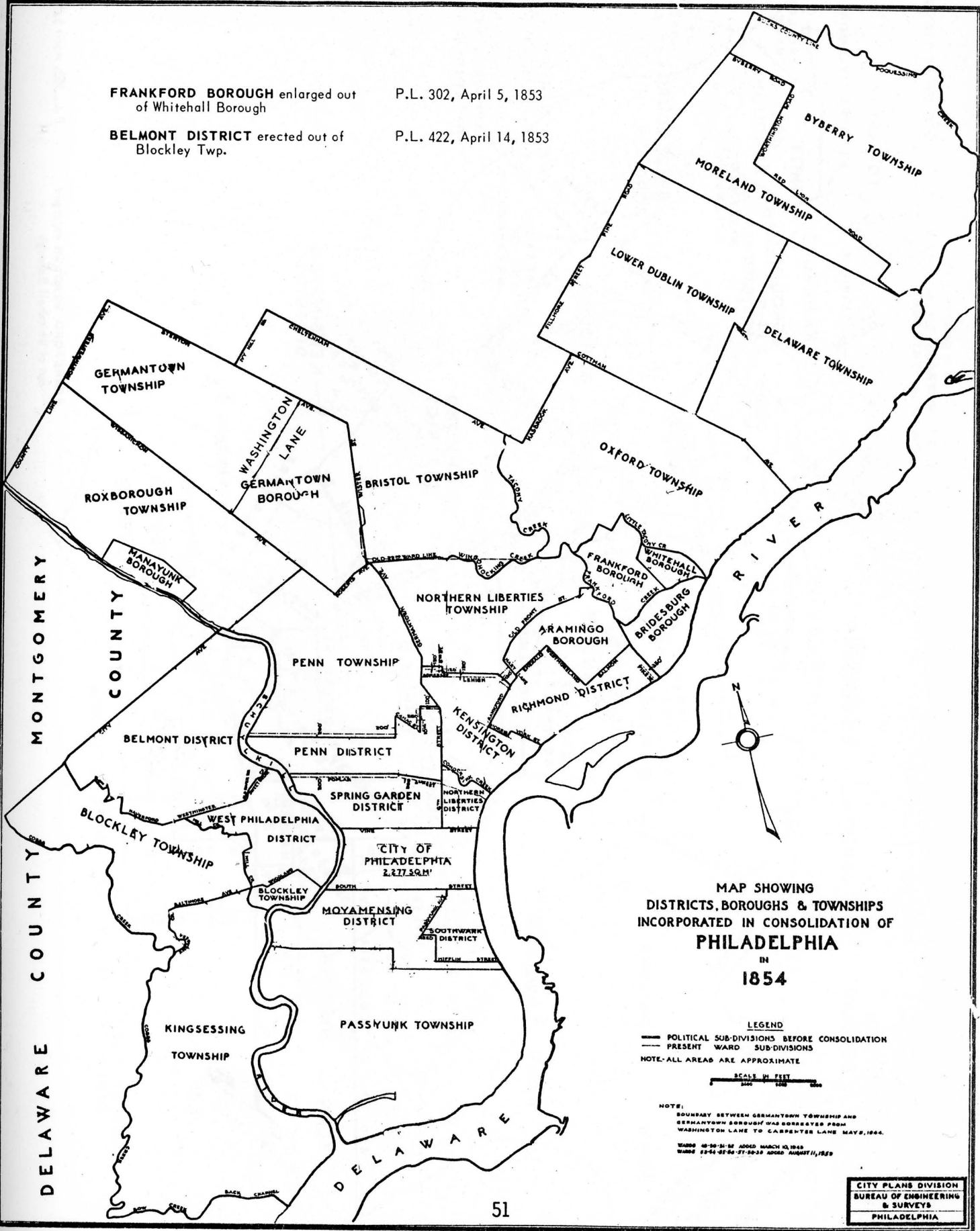
DELAWARE TOWNSHIP established  
 out of Lower Dublin Twp. Q.S. Decree, June 26, 1852

FRANKFORD BOROUGH enlarged out  
of Whitehall Borough

P.L. 302, April 5, 1853

BELMONT DISTRICT erected out of  
Blockley Twp.

P.L. 422, April 14, 1853



MAP SHOWING  
DISTRICTS, BOROUGHS & TOWNSHIPS  
INCORPORATED IN CONSOLIDATION OF  
PHILADELPHIA  
IN  
1854

**LEGEND**  
 — POLITICAL SUB-DIVISIONS BEFORE CONSOLIDATION  
 - - - PRESENT WARD SUB-DIVISIONS  
 NOTE: ALL AREAS ARE APPROXIMATE

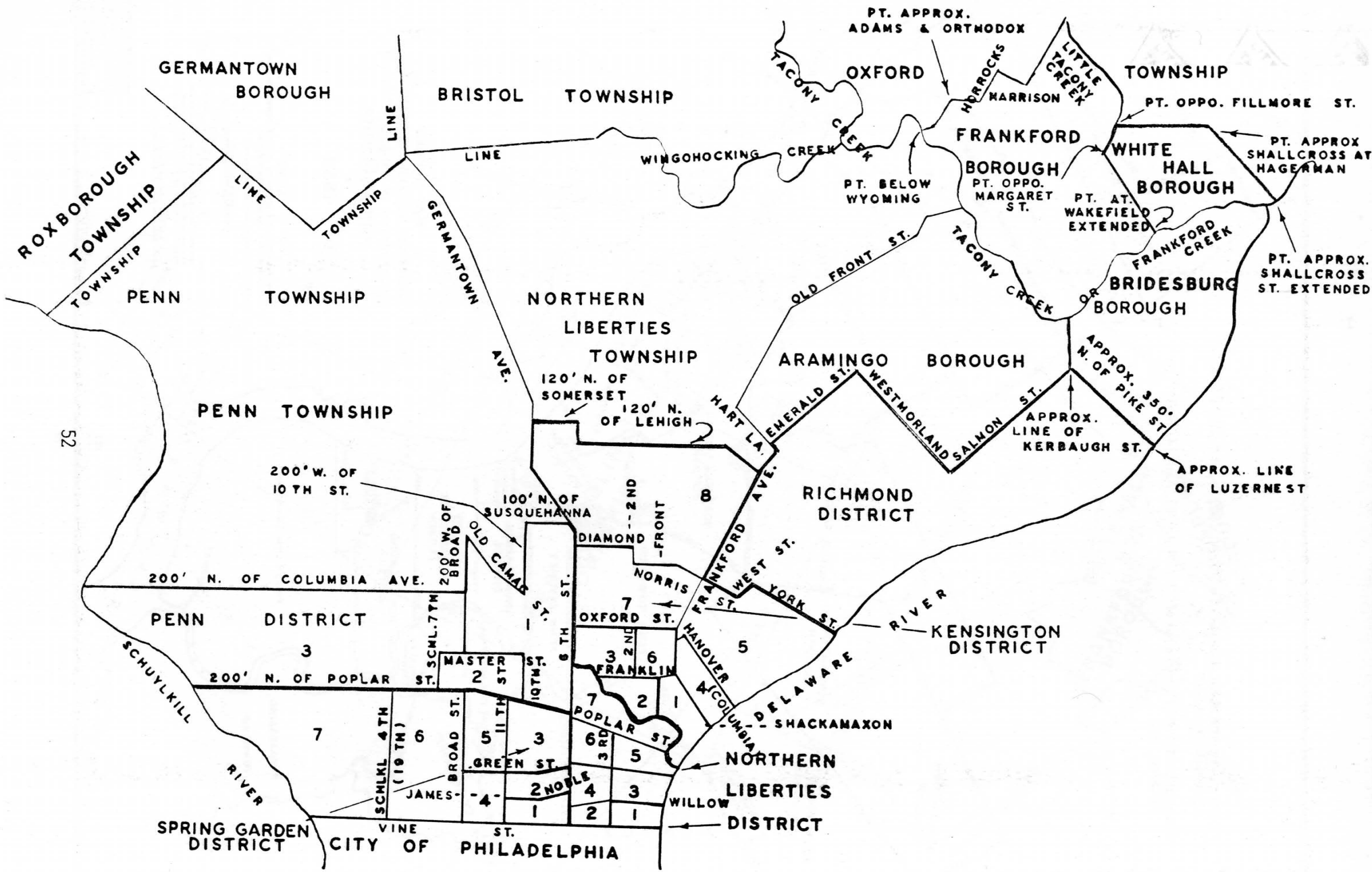
SCALE IN FEET  
 1000 500 0

NOTE:  
 BOUNDARY BETWEEN GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP AND  
 GERMANTOWN BOROUGH WAS CORRECTED FROM  
 WASHINGTON LANE TO CARPENTER LANE MAY 2, 1864.

WARD 48-50-51-52 ADDED MARCH 10, 1868  
 WARD 53-54-55-56-57-58-59 ADDED AUGUST 11, 1869

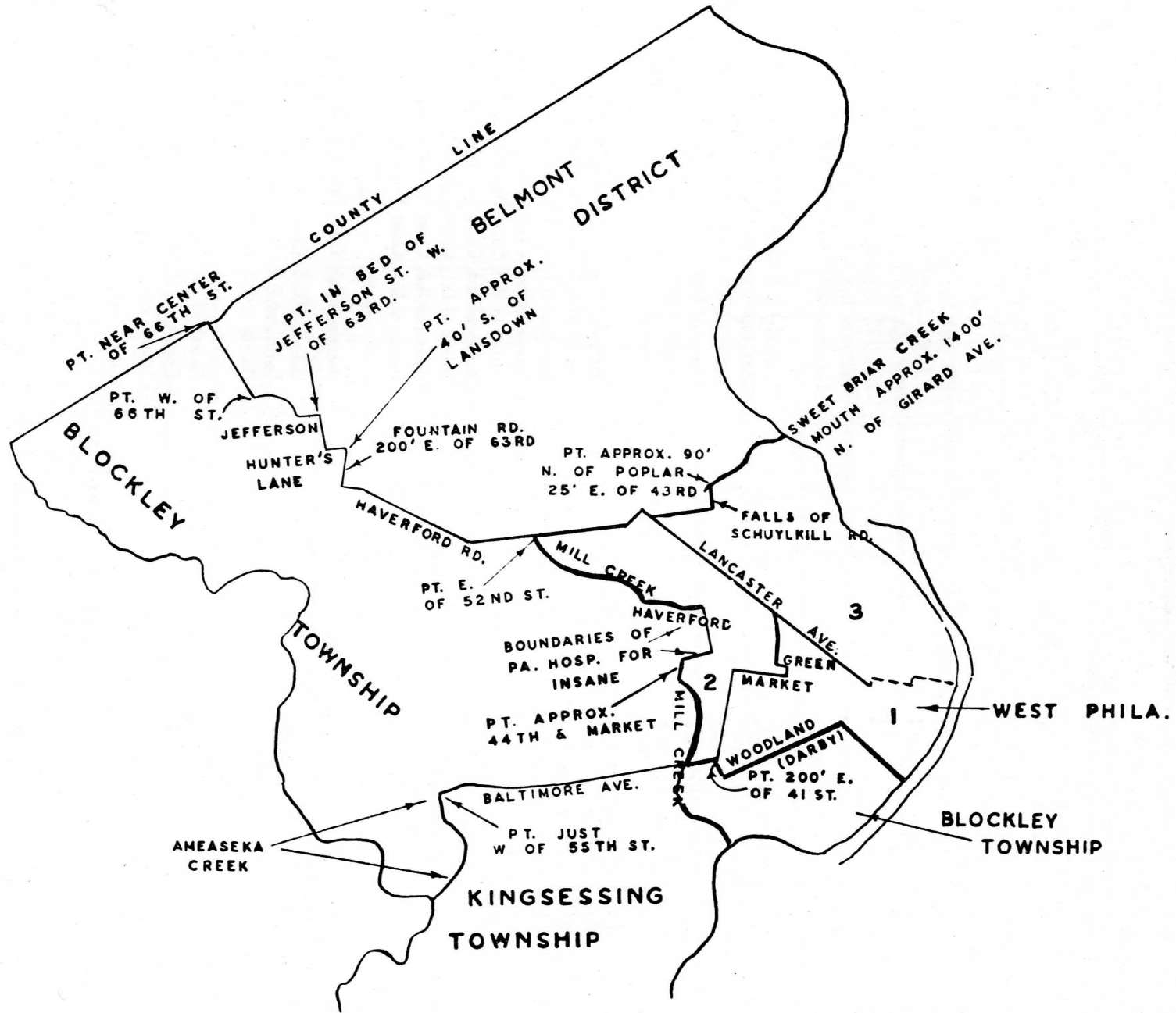
CITY PLANS DIVISION  
 BUREAU OF ENGINEERING  
 & SURVEYS  
 PHILADELPHIA





FRANKFORD BOROUGH enlarged  
out of Whitehall Borough

P.L. 302, April 5, 1853



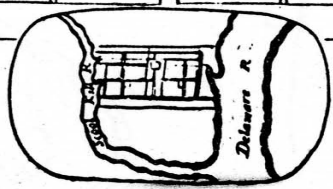
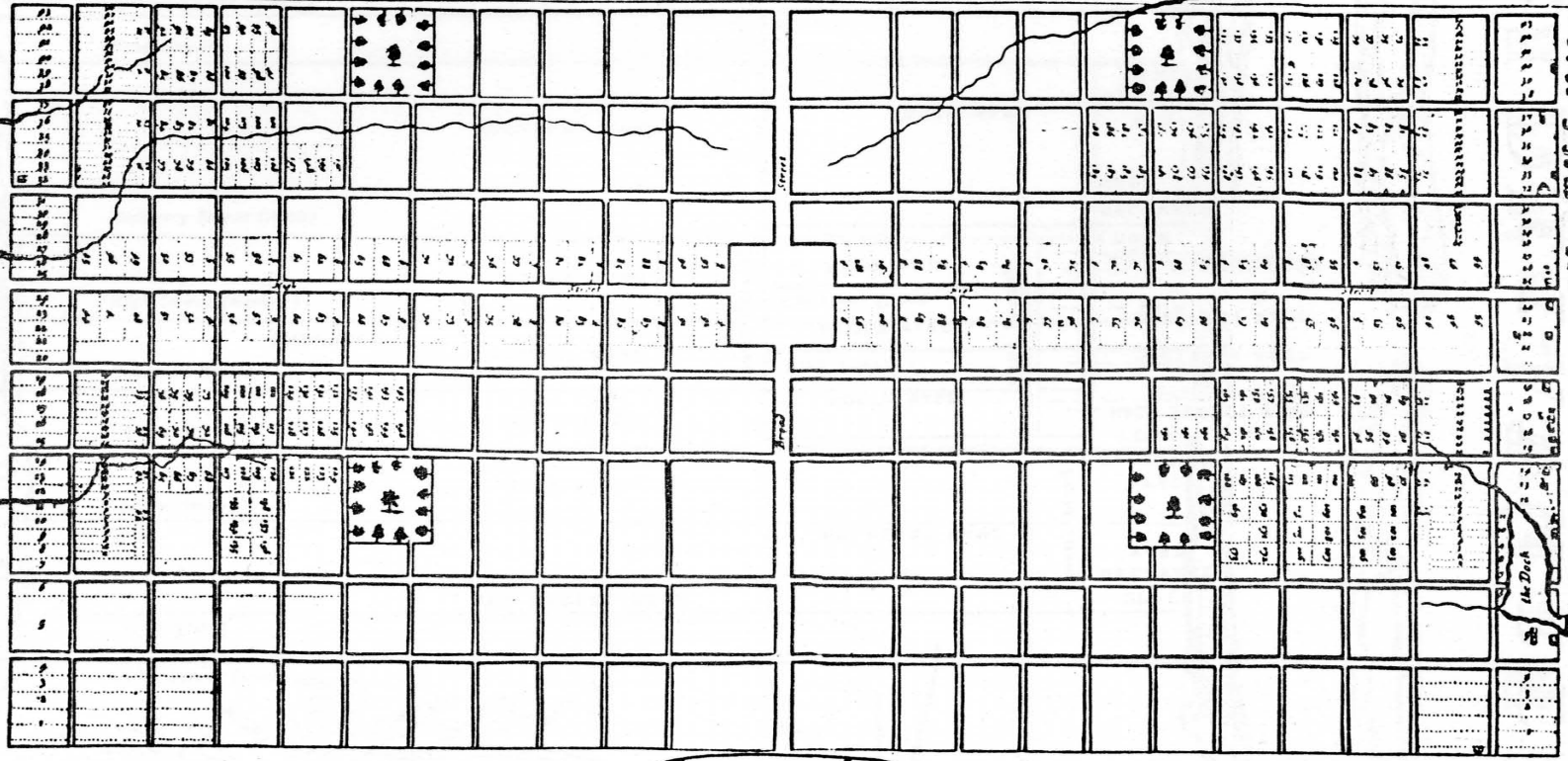
## CITY WARD CHRONOLOGY

DATE	WARD CHANGE	AUTHORITY
1705	Original Division into 10 Wards	Informal decree of City Council, Feb. 2, 1705
1785 <sup>1</sup>	New Market Ward from Dock Ward	State Statutes, Vol. XI, Chap. MCXXVII
1786	Mulberry Ward divided into North and South Mulberry Wards	State Statutes, Vol. XII, Chap. MCCXXIII
1800	Locust Ward from Dock Ward	
	Cedar Ward from New Market Ward	State Statutes, Vol. XVI, Chap. MMCX
1825	Pine Ward from Dock & New Market Wards	Laws of Penna., Chap. LXXIII (Mar. 31, 1825)
1846	Lombard & Spruce Wards from Cedar Ward	Laws of Penna., Chap. XXIII (Feb. 4, 1846)
1854	Division of consolidated City into 24 numbered Wards	Act of Consolidation 2/2/1854, P. L. 21
1855	Enlargement of 19th Ward from part of 23rd Ward	P.L. 26, April 21, 1855
1861	25th Ward from parts of 19th and 23rd Wards	P.L. 293, April 12, 1861
1864	26th Ward from 1st Ward	P.L. 111, March 29, 1864
1865	Enlargement of 18th Ward from part of 19th Ward	P.L. 603, March 23, 1865
1866	27th Ward from 24th Ward	P.L. 968, April 14, 1866
1867	28th Ward from 21st Ward	P.L. 460, March 14, 1867
1871	29th Ward from 20th Ward	P.L. 122, February 23, 1871
1875	30th Ward from 26th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court 3/3/1875
	31st Ward from 19th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court 3/2/1875
1888	32nd Ward from 28th Ward	
	33rd Ward from 25th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 14, 1888
1889	34th Ward from 24th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 9, 1889
1890	35th Ward from 23rd Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 11, 1890
1892	36th Ward from 26th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 25, 1892
	37th Ward from 28th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 22, 1892
1896	38th Ward from 28th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 13, 1896
1898	39th Ward from 1st Ward	
	40th Ward from 27th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court March 18, 1898
1899	41st Ward from 35th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 23, 1899
1901	42nd Ward from 22nd Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 16, 1901
1905	43rd Ward from 33rd Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 23, 1905
1906	44th Ward from 34th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court December 7, 1906
	45th Ward from 25th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court December 3, 1906
1907	46th Ward from 27th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court March 25, 1907
	47th Ward from 29th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court November 20, 1907
1914	48th Ward from 36th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court February 25, 1914
1916 <sup>2</sup>		
1932	49th Ward from 42nd Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court December 16, 1932
	50th Ward	
1936	51st Ward from 40th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court December 7, 1936
1942	52nd Ward from 34th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court June 5, 1942
1957	53rd - 58th Wards from 35th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court June 10, 1957
1958	59th Ward from 22nd Ward	
	21st Ward enlarged from 22nd Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court May 22, 1958
1961	60th Ward from 46th Ward	Decree of Q.S. Court June 15, 1961
1965	Revision of entire City into 66 Ward Plan	Decree of Q.S. Court August 2, 1965

<sup>1</sup> There is every indication to believe that **at least** 10 years prior to 1785 the so-called western wards were informally extended to the Schuylkill River.

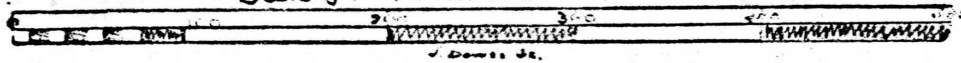
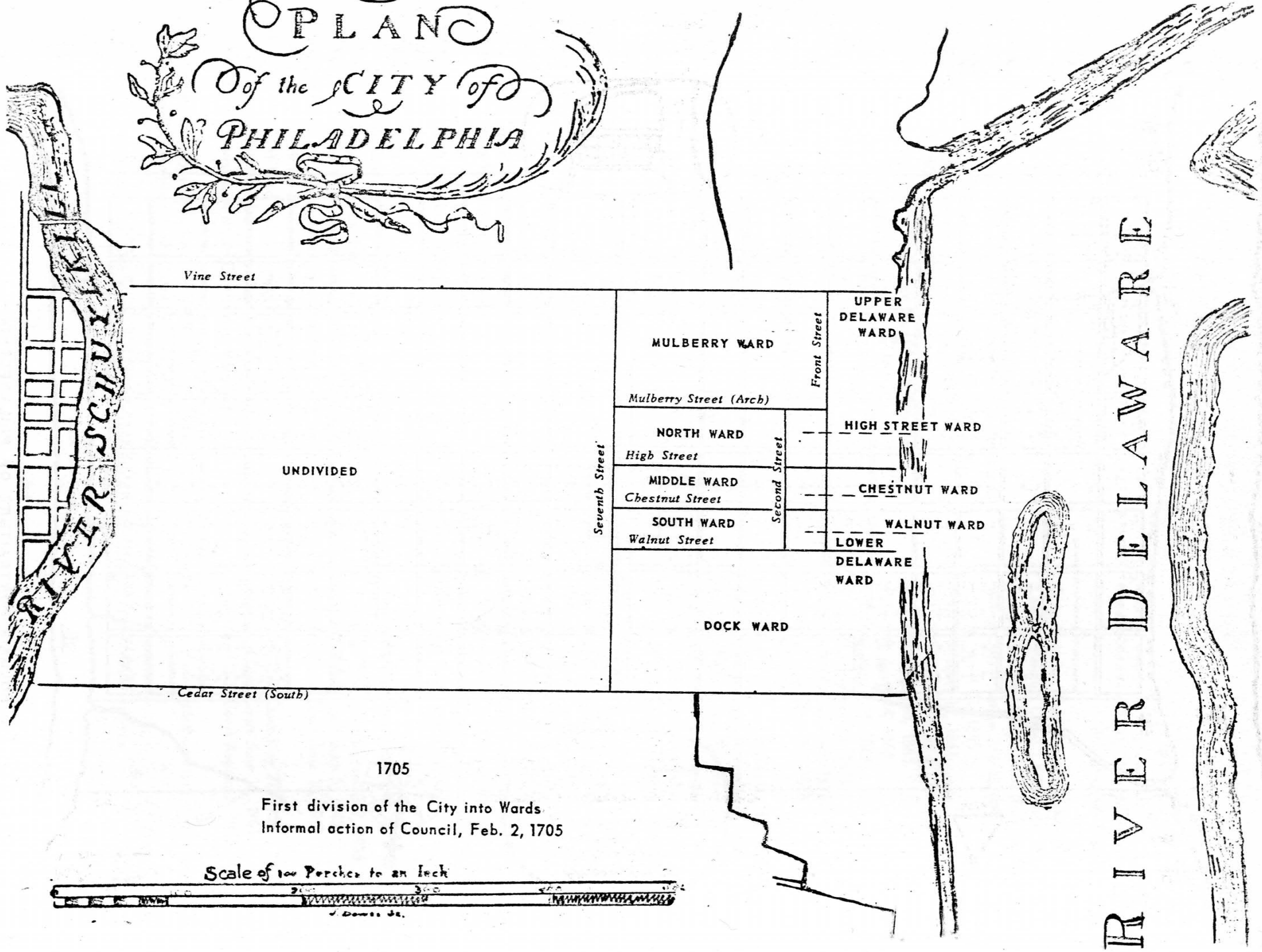
<sup>2</sup> 1916 - Enlargement of 35th Ward through re-alignment of City Line at Cheltenham Avenue.

A Portraiture of the City  
 Philadelphia  
 in the Province of  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
 America  
 by Thomas Nelson Surveyor General  
 Sold by Andrew Seale in Sherchitch  
 London

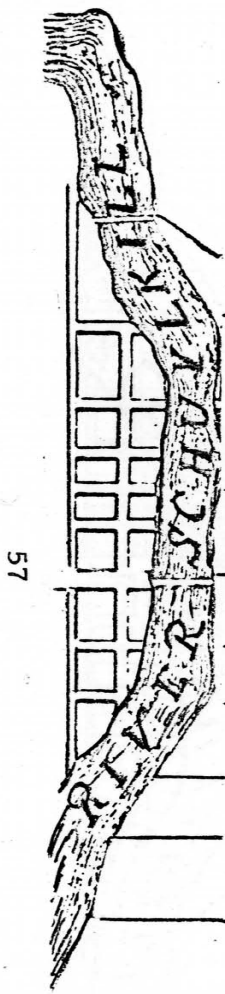


# PLAN Of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA

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# PLAN Of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA



Vine Street

MULBERRY WARD

Mulberry Street (Arch)

NORTH WARD

High Street (Market)

MIDDLE WARD

Chestnut Street

Walnut Street

SOUTH WARD

Spruce Street

DOCK WARD

NEW MARKET WARD

Cedar Street (South)

UPPER DELAWARE WARD  
HIGH STREET WARD  
CHESTNUT WARD  
WALNUT WARD  
LOWER DELAWARE WARD

Front Street

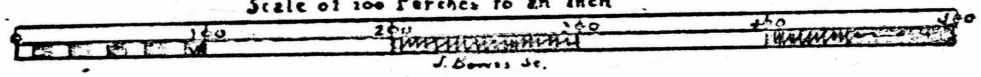
Second Street

RIVER DELAWARE

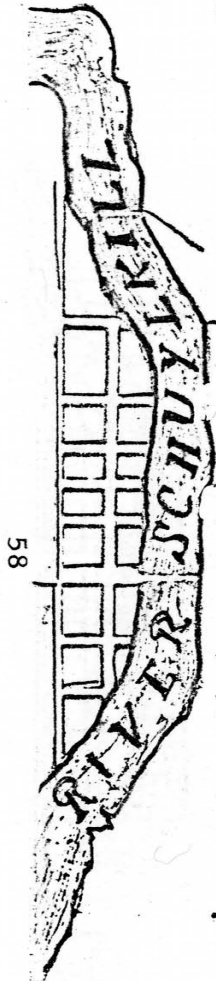
1785

New Market Ward from Dock  
State Statutes, Vol. XI, Chap. MCXXVII, p. 418

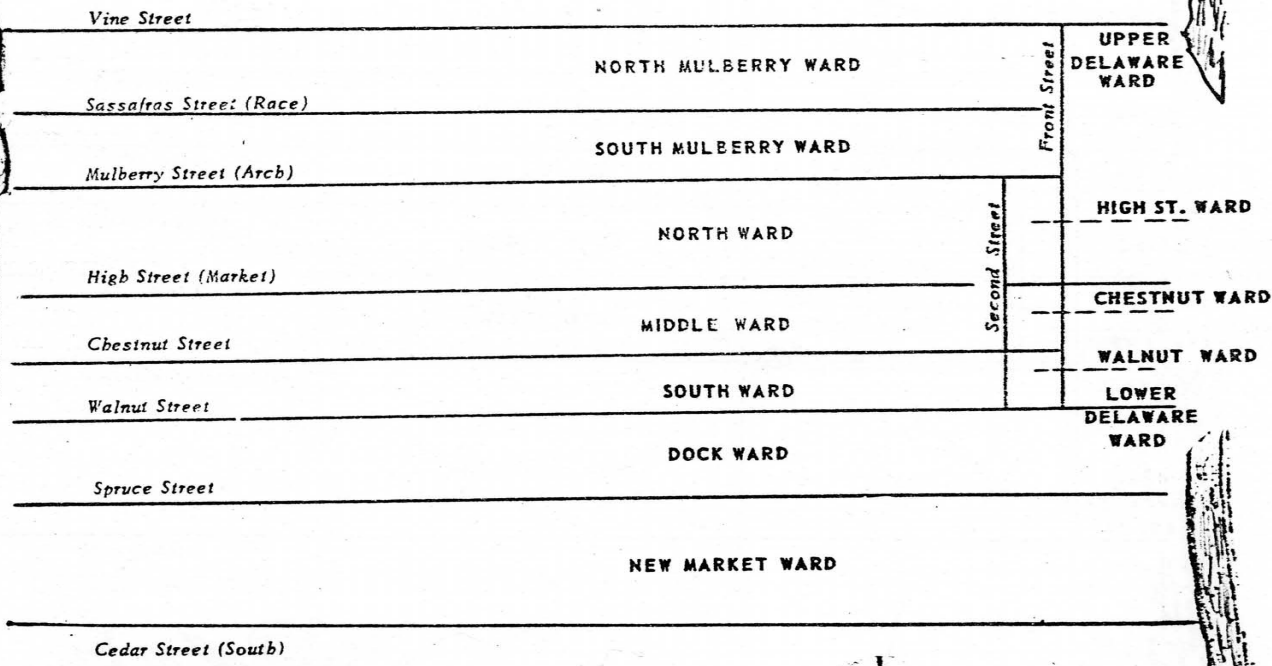
Scale of 100 Perches to an Inch



# PLAN Of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA

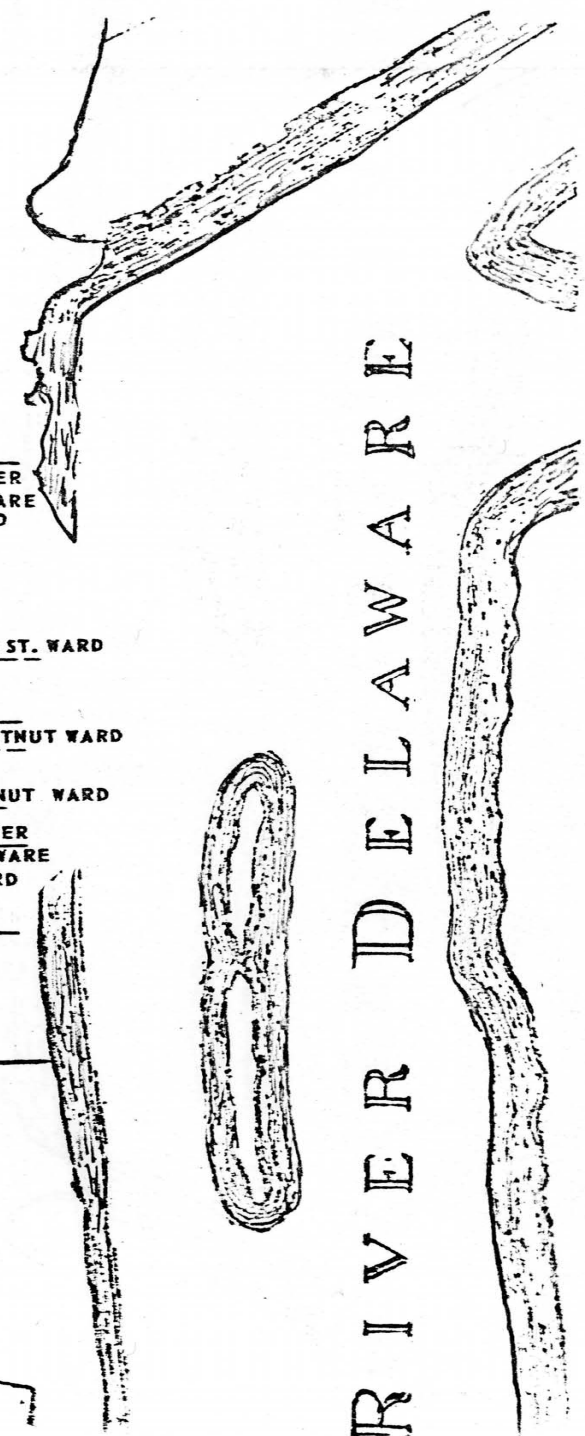
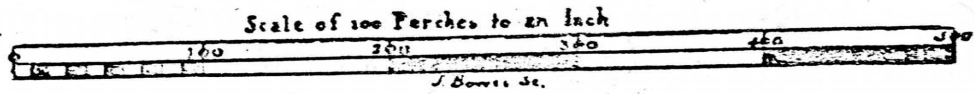


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1786

Mulberry Ward divided into North and South Mulberry Wards  
State Statutes Vol. XII, Chap. MCCXXIII, p. 220



DELAWARE RIVER

# PLAN Of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA



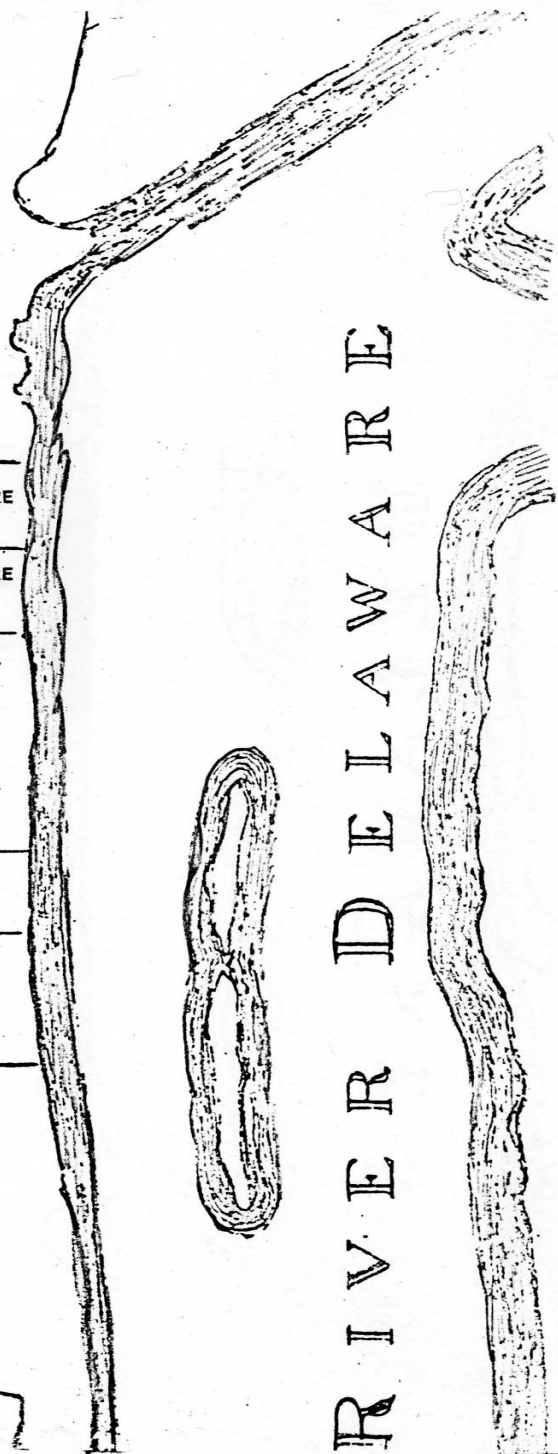
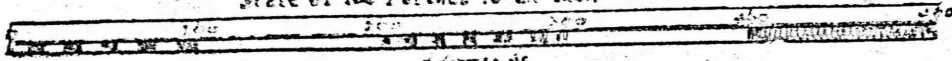
<i>Vine Street</i>	NORTH MULBERRY WARD	UPPER DELAWARE WARD
<i>Sassafras Street (Race)</i>		
	SOUTH MULBERRY WARD	LOWER DELAWARE WARD
<i>Mulberry Street (Arch)</i>		
<i>High Street (Market)</i>	NORTH WARD	HIGH STREET WARD
<i>Chestnut Street</i>	MIDDLE WARD	CHESTNUT WARD
<i>Walnut Street</i>	SOUTH WARD	WALNUT WARD
<i>Spruce Street</i>	LOCUST WARD	DOCK WARD
	CEDAR WARD	NEW MARKET WARD
<i>Cedar Street (South)</i>		

Fourth Street

1800

Division of the City into fourteen Wards  
State Statutes, Vol. XVI, Chap. MMCX, p. 421

Scale of 100 Perches to an Inch

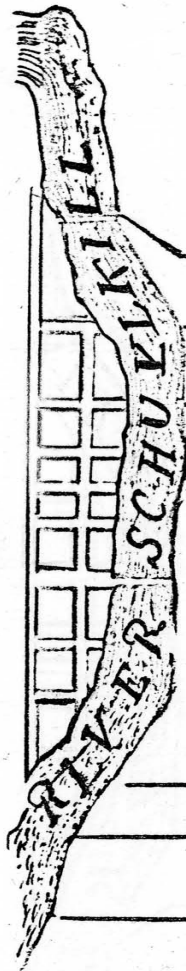


RIVER DELAWARE



# PLAN Of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA

09

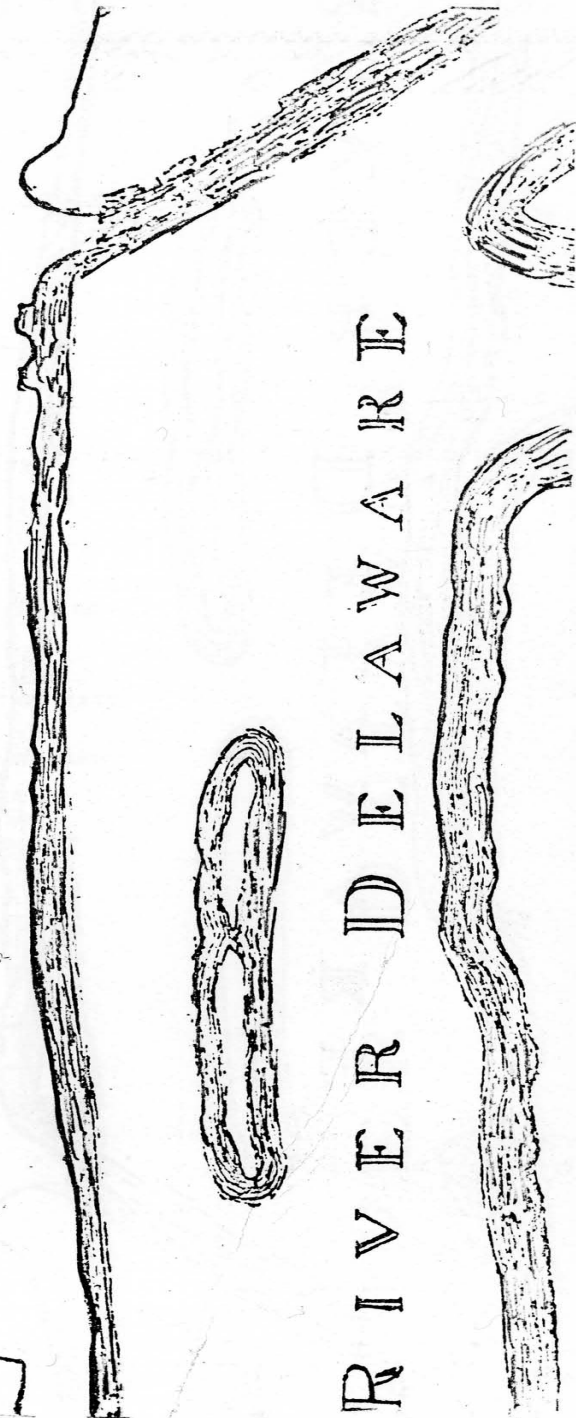
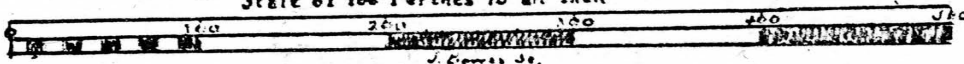


Vine Street	NORTH MULBERRY WARD	UPPER DELAWARE WARD
Sassafras Street (Race)		
Mulberry Street (Arch)	SOUTH MULBERRY WARD	LOWER DELAWARE WARD
High Street (Market)	NORTH WARD	HIGH STREET WARD
Chestnut Street	MIDDLE WARD	CHESTNUT WARD
Walnut Street	SOUTH WARD	WALNUT WARD
Spruce Street	LOCUST WARD	DOCK WARD
	CEDAR WARD	PINE WARD Pine Street
Cedar Street (South)		NEW MARKET WARD

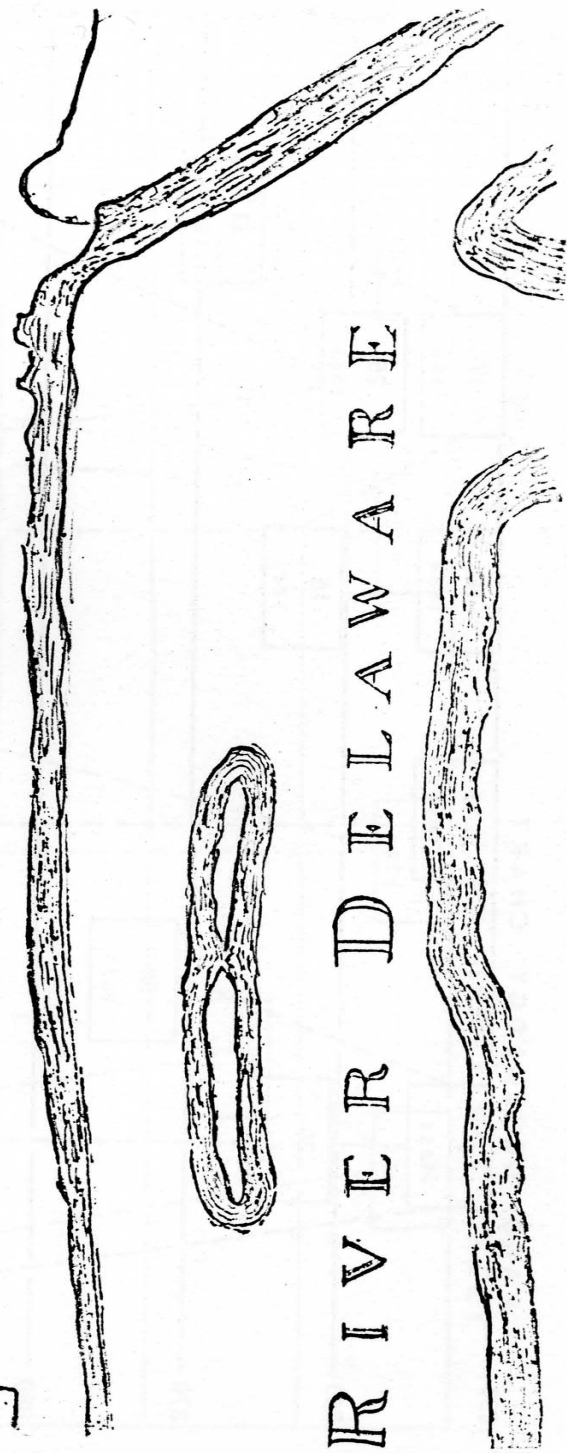
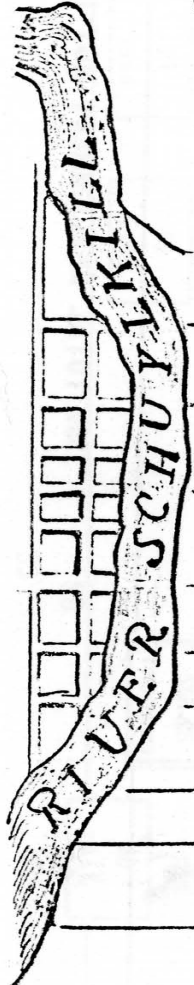
1825

Pine Ward from New Market  
East-West Boundary moved to Seventh Street  
Laws of Pennsylvania, Chap. LXXIII, p. 130

Scale of 100 Perches to an Inch



# PLAN Of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA



19

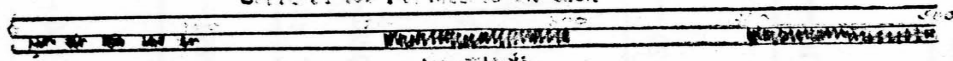
<i>Vine Street</i>		NORTH MULBERRY WARD	UPPER DELAWARE WARD
<i>Sassafras Street (Race)</i>		SOUTH MULBERRY WARD	LOWER DELAWARE WARD
<i>Mulberry Street (Arch)</i>		NORTH WARD	HIGH STREET WARD
<i>High Street (Market)</i>		MIDDLE WARD	CHESTNUT WARD
<i>Chestnut Street</i>		SOUTH WARD	WALNUT WARD
<i>Walnut Street</i>		LOCUST WARD	DOCK WARD
<i>Spruce Street</i>		CEDAR WARD	PINE WARD
<i>Sixteenth Street</i>	SPRUCE WARD	LOMBARD WARD	NEW MARKET WARD
<i>Cedar Street (South)</i>			

Seventh Street

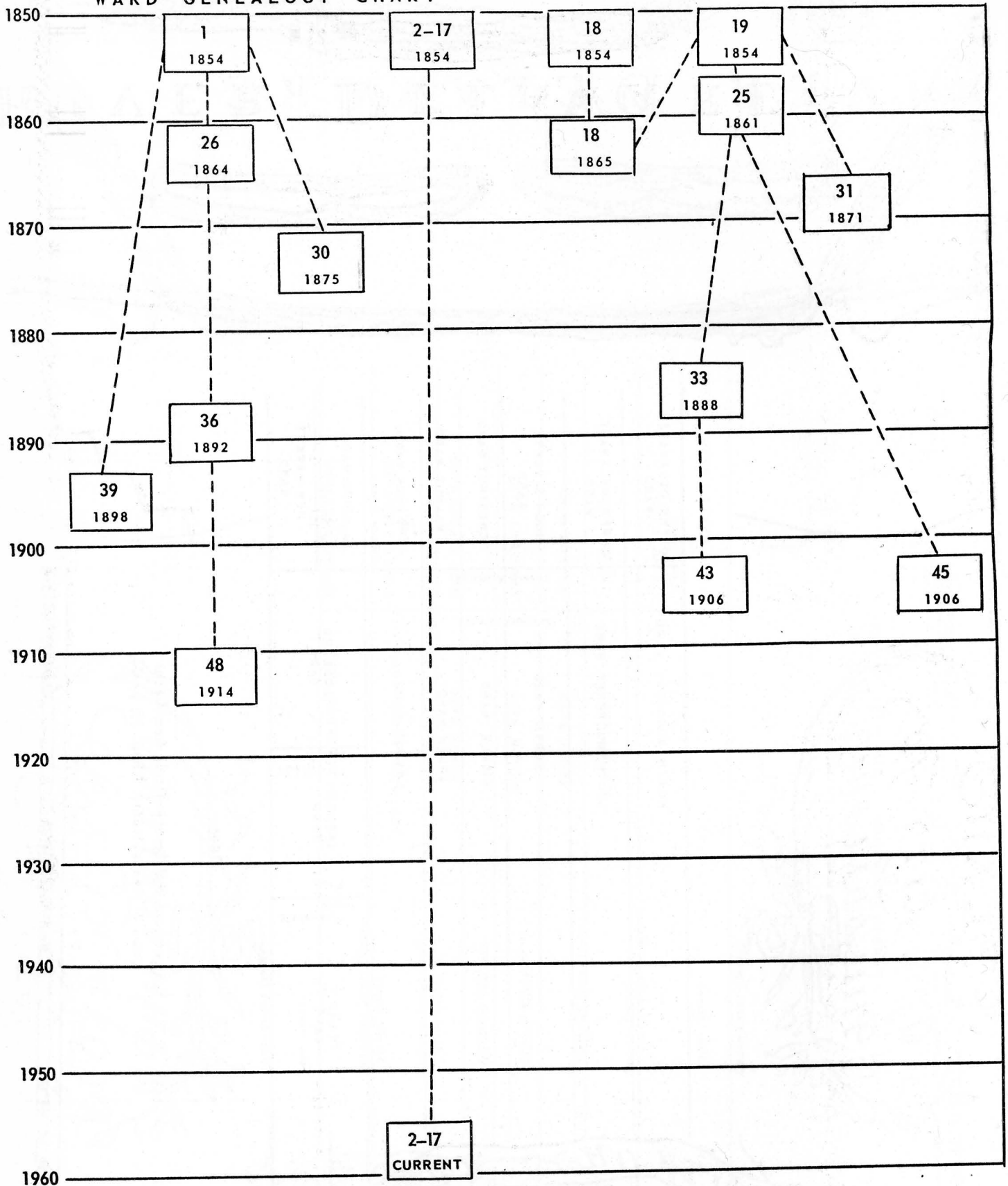
1846

Lombard and Spruce Wards from Cedar  
Laws of Pennsylvania, Chap. 23, p. 24

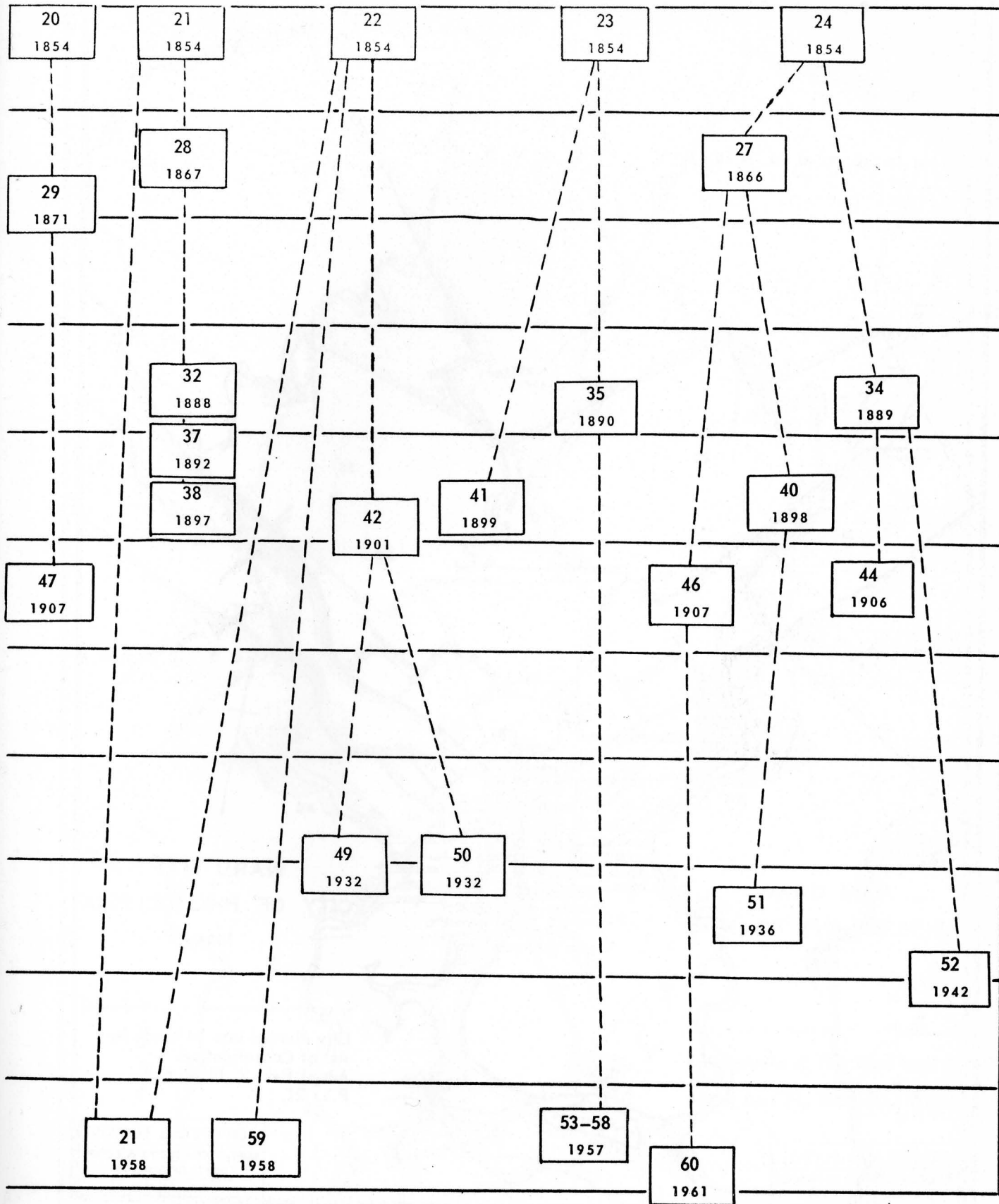
Scale of one Inch to one Mile

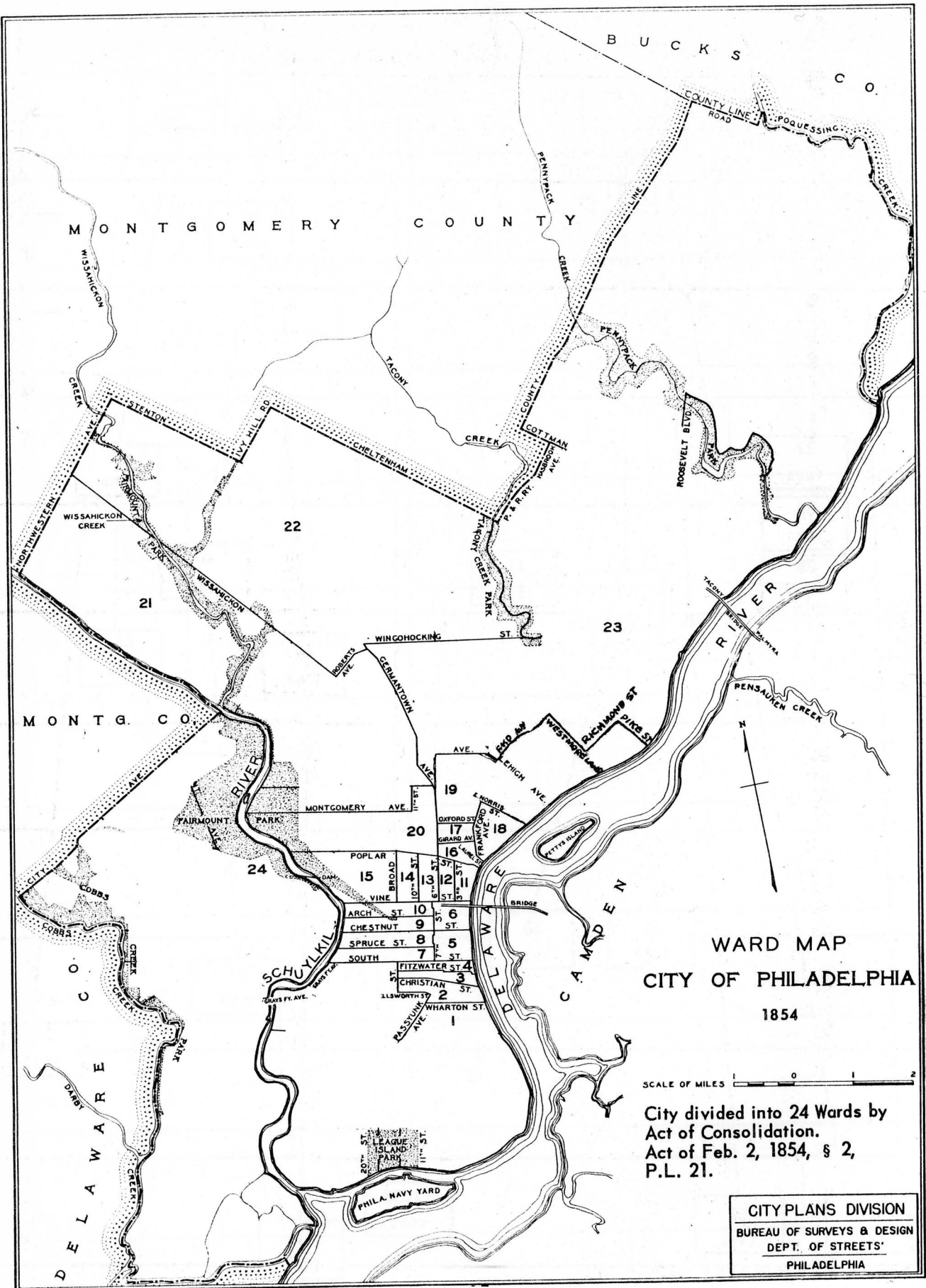


# WARD GENEALOGY CHART



WARD GENEALOGY CHART



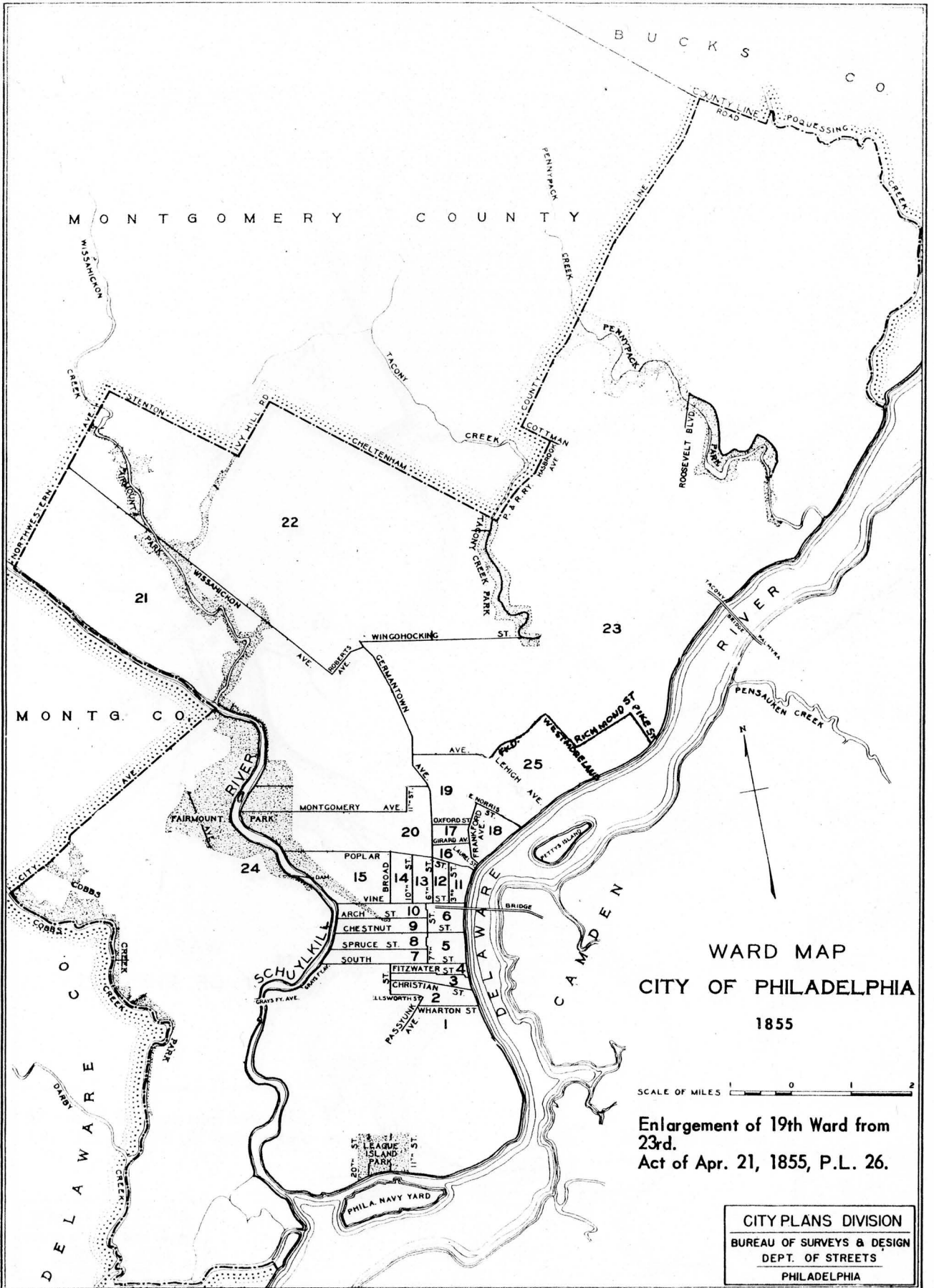


**WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1854**

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

City divided into 24 Wards by  
Act of Consolidation.  
Act of Feb. 2, 1854, § 2,  
P.L. 21.

**CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA**

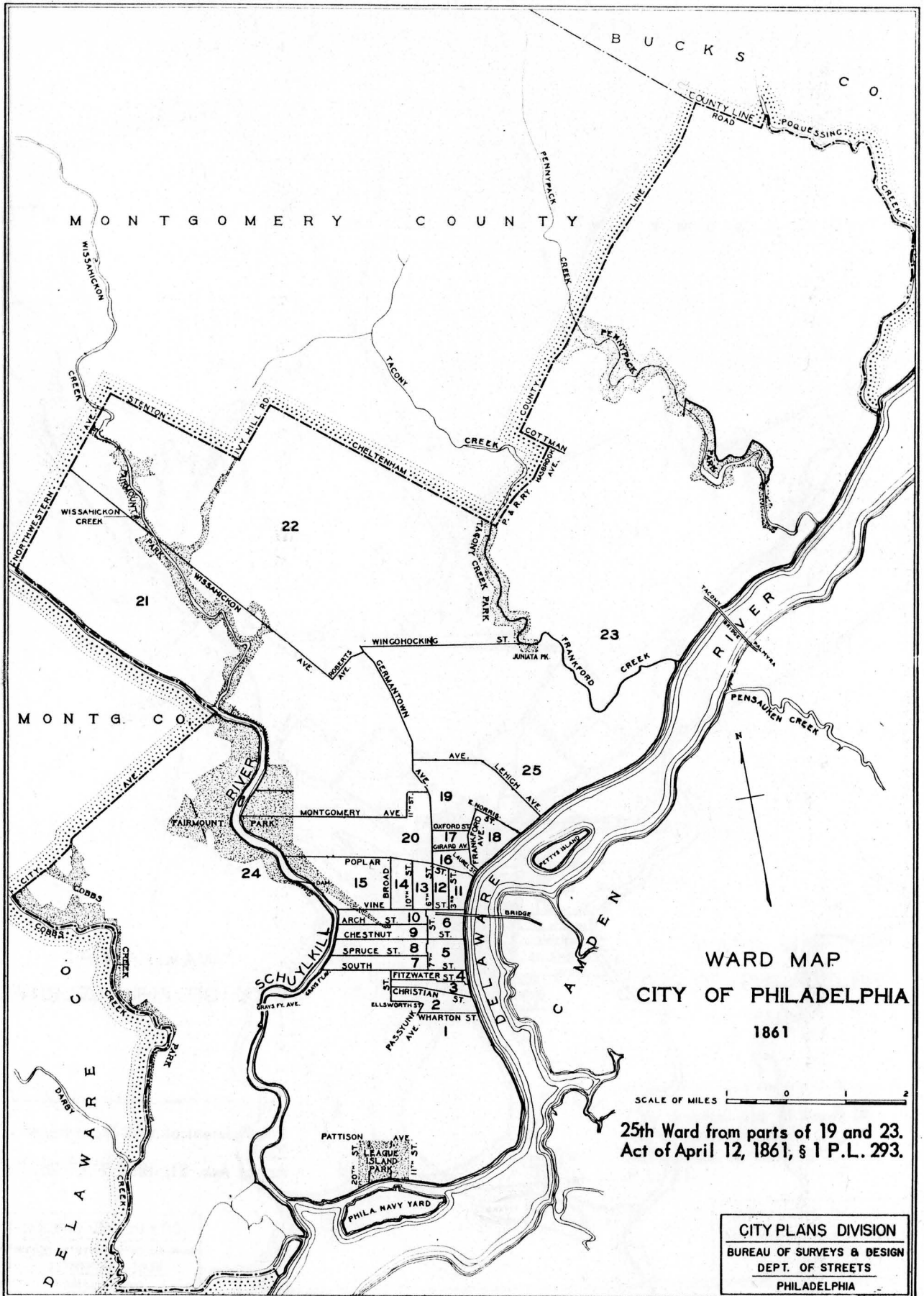


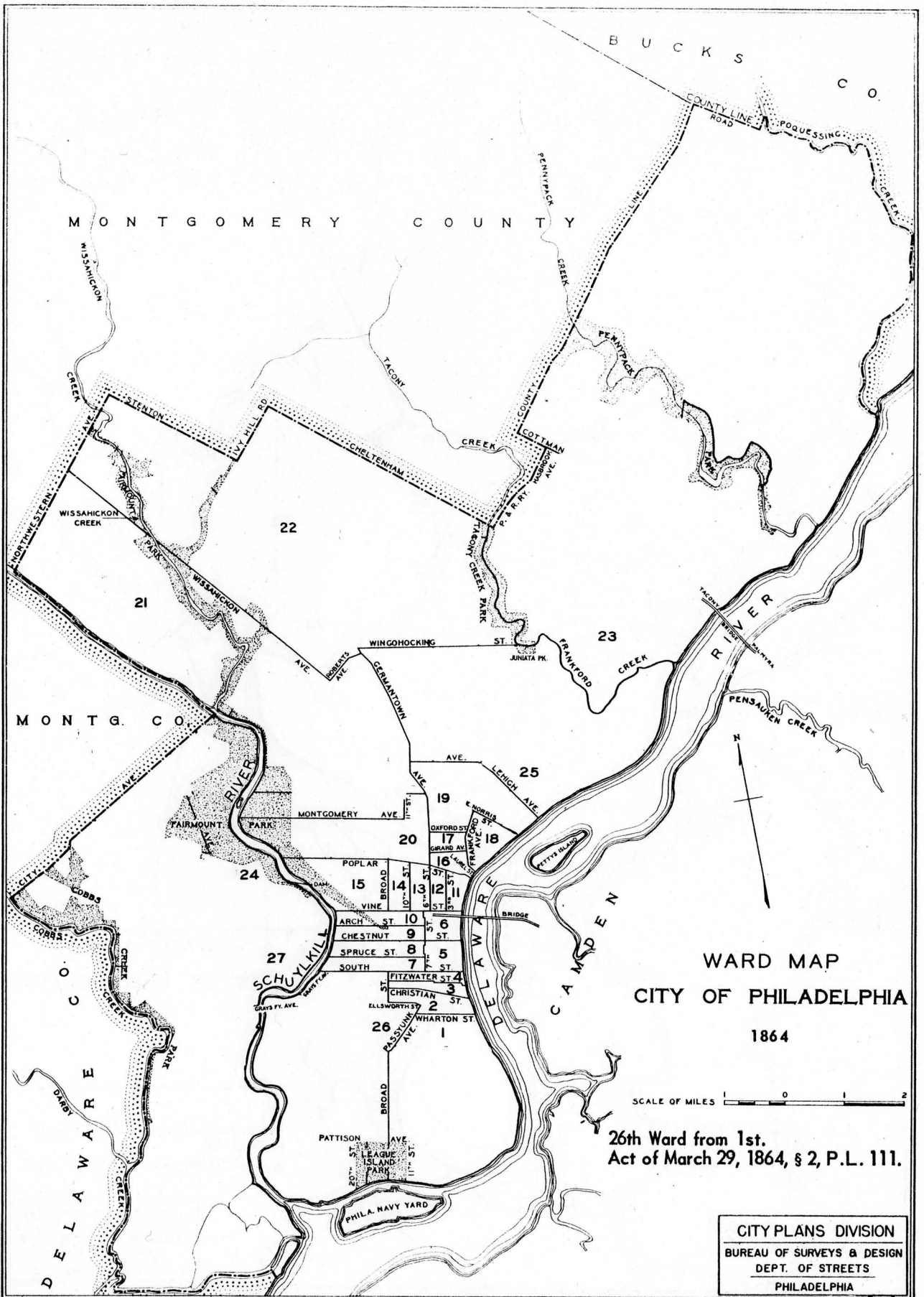
WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1855



Enlargement of 19th Ward from  
23rd.  
Act of Apr. 21, 1855, P.L. 26.

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

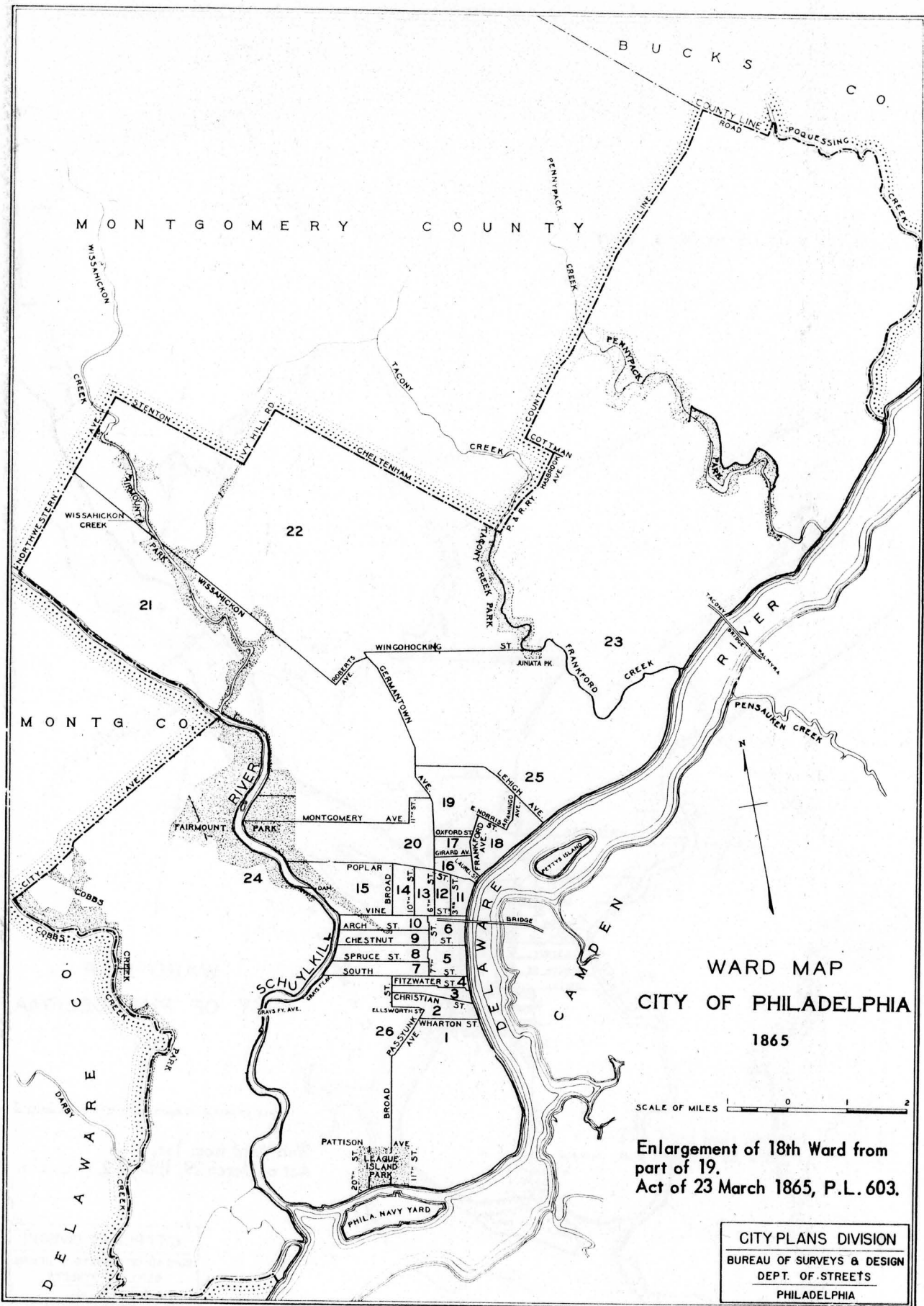




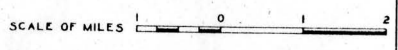
26th Ward from 1st.  
Act of March 29, 1864, § 2, P.L. 111.

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA



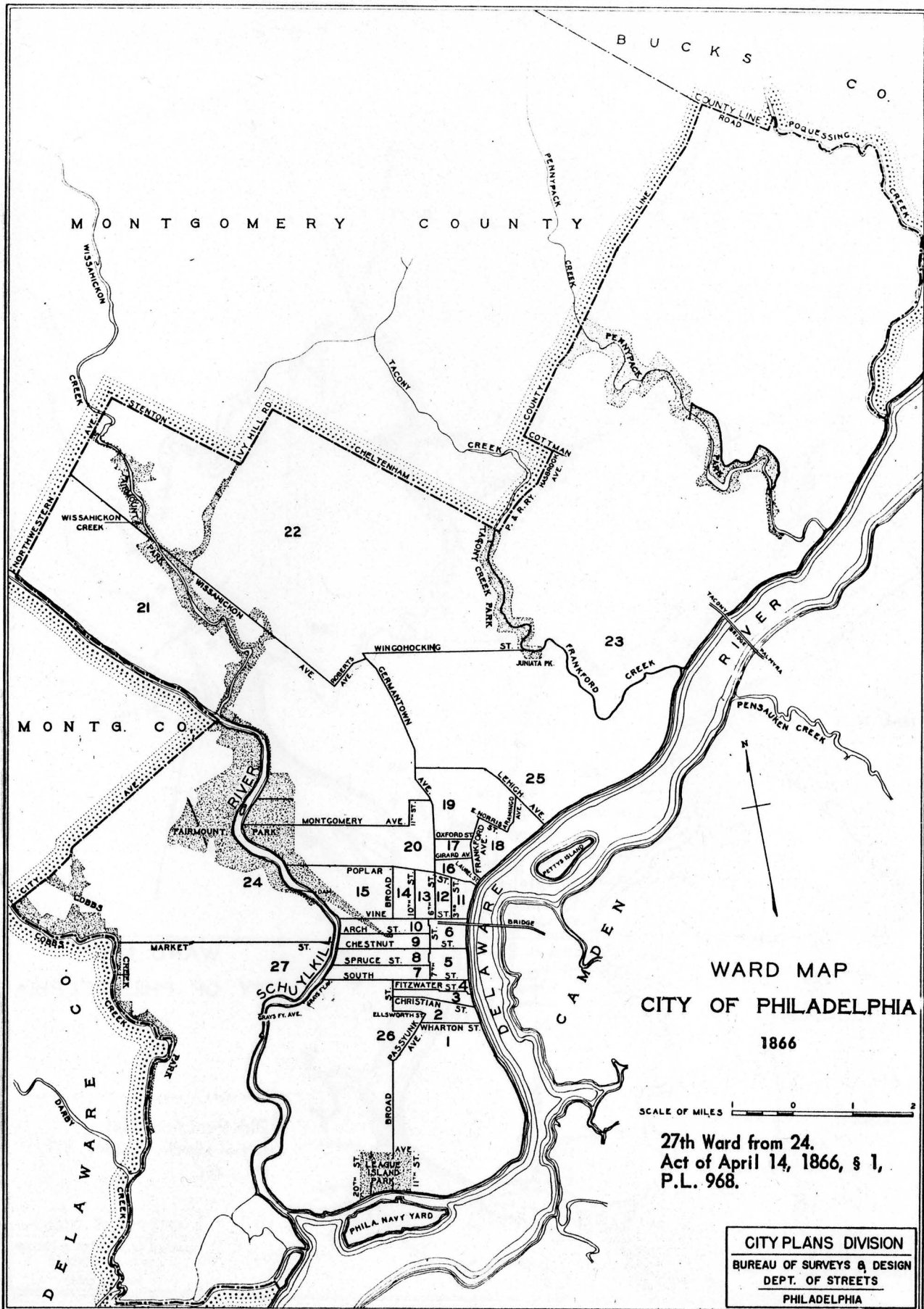


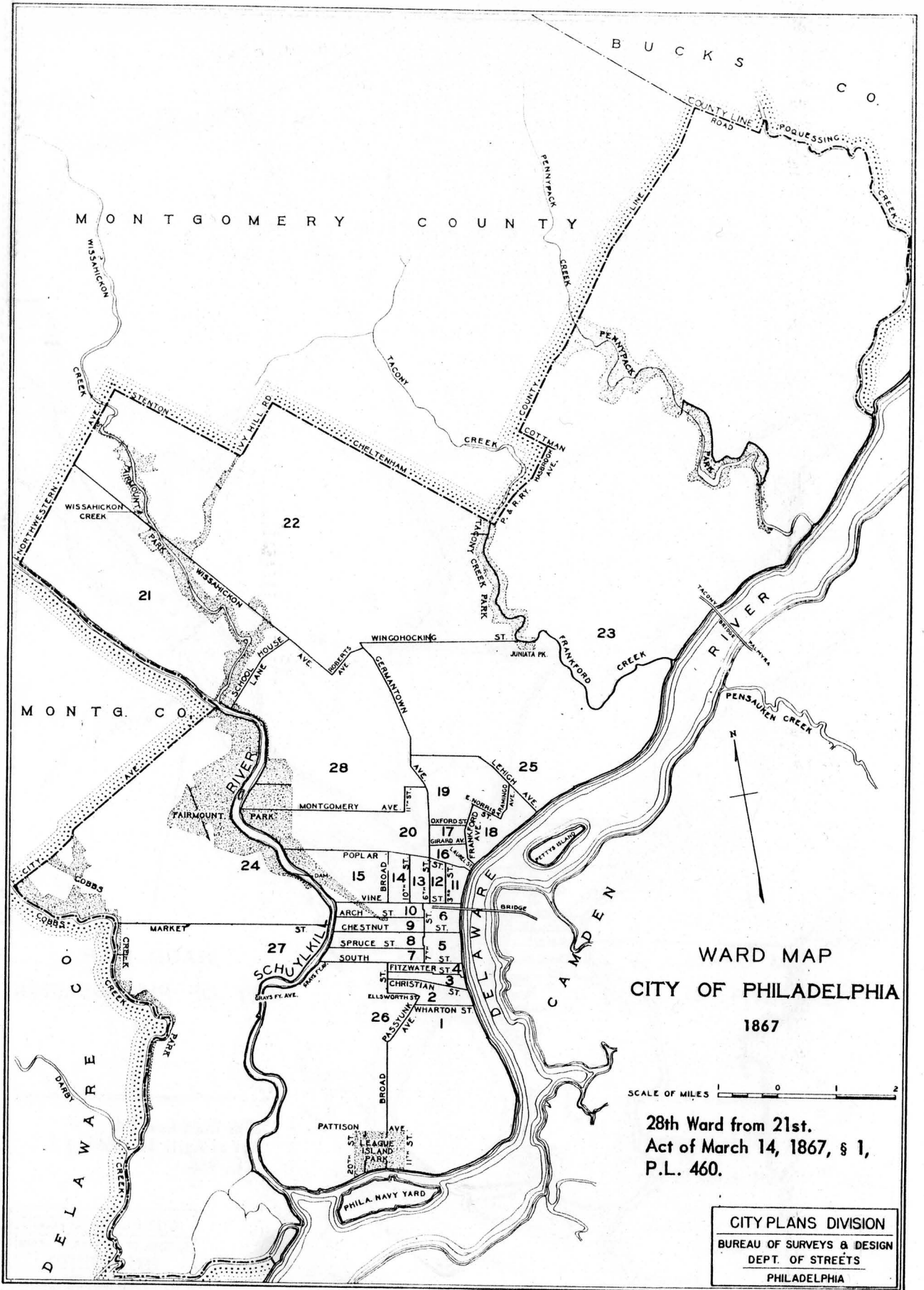
WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1865



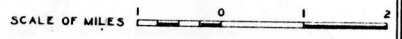
Enlargement of 18th Ward from  
part of 19.  
Act of 23 March 1865, P.L. 603.

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA



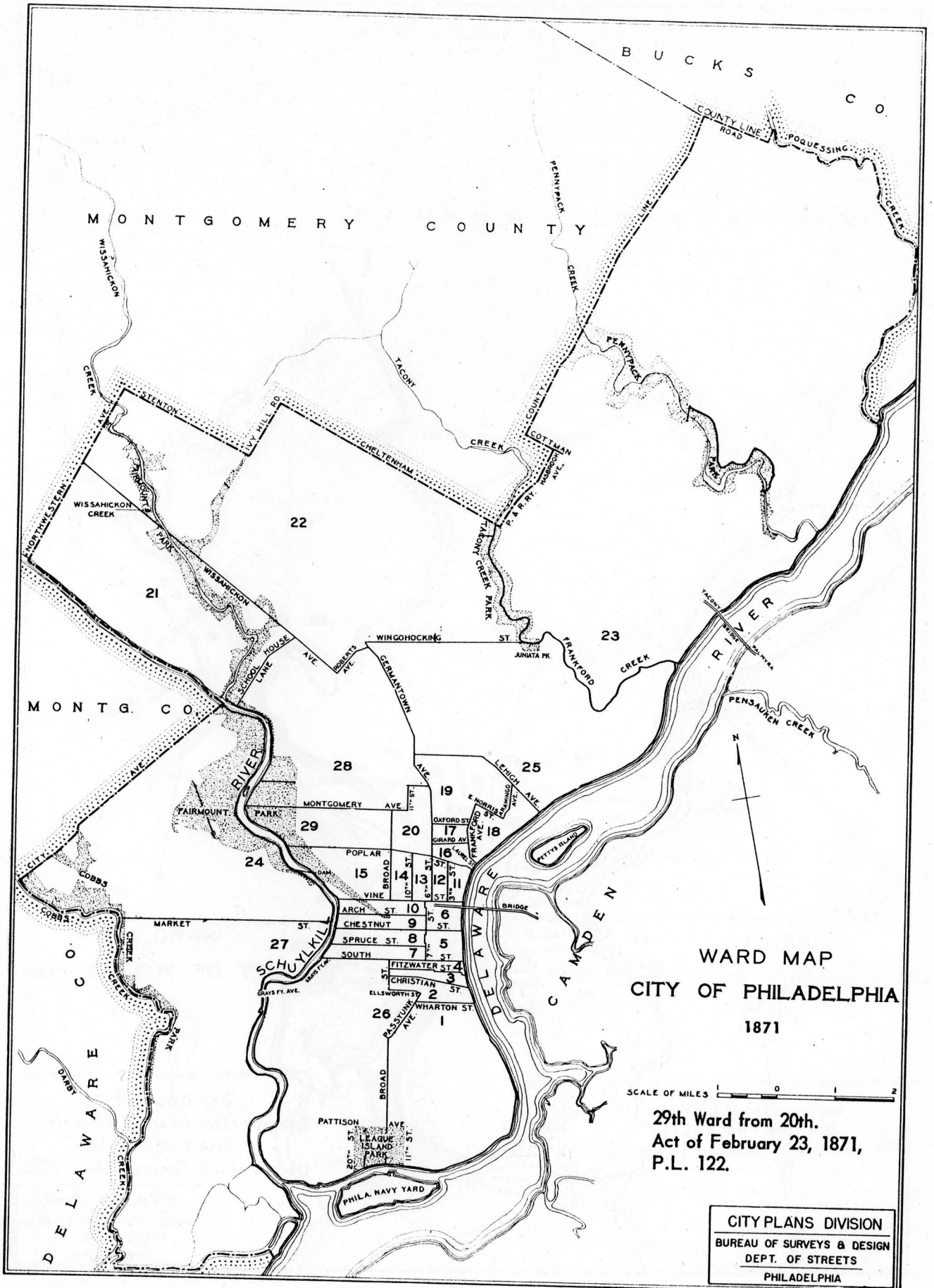


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1867



28th Ward from 21st.  
Act of March 14, 1867, § 1,  
P.L. 460.

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

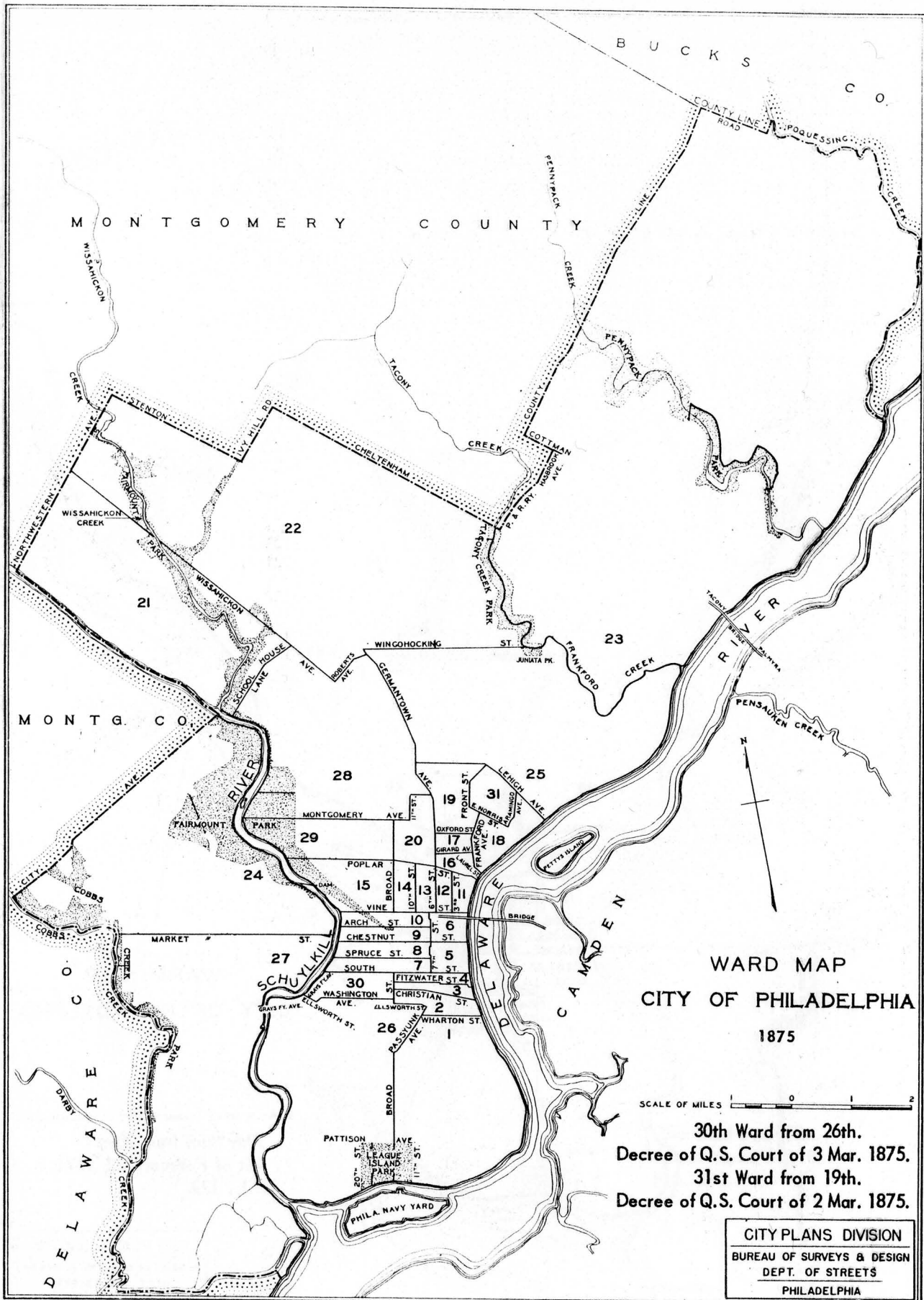


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1871

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

29th Ward from 20th.  
Act of February 23, 1871,  
P.L. 122.

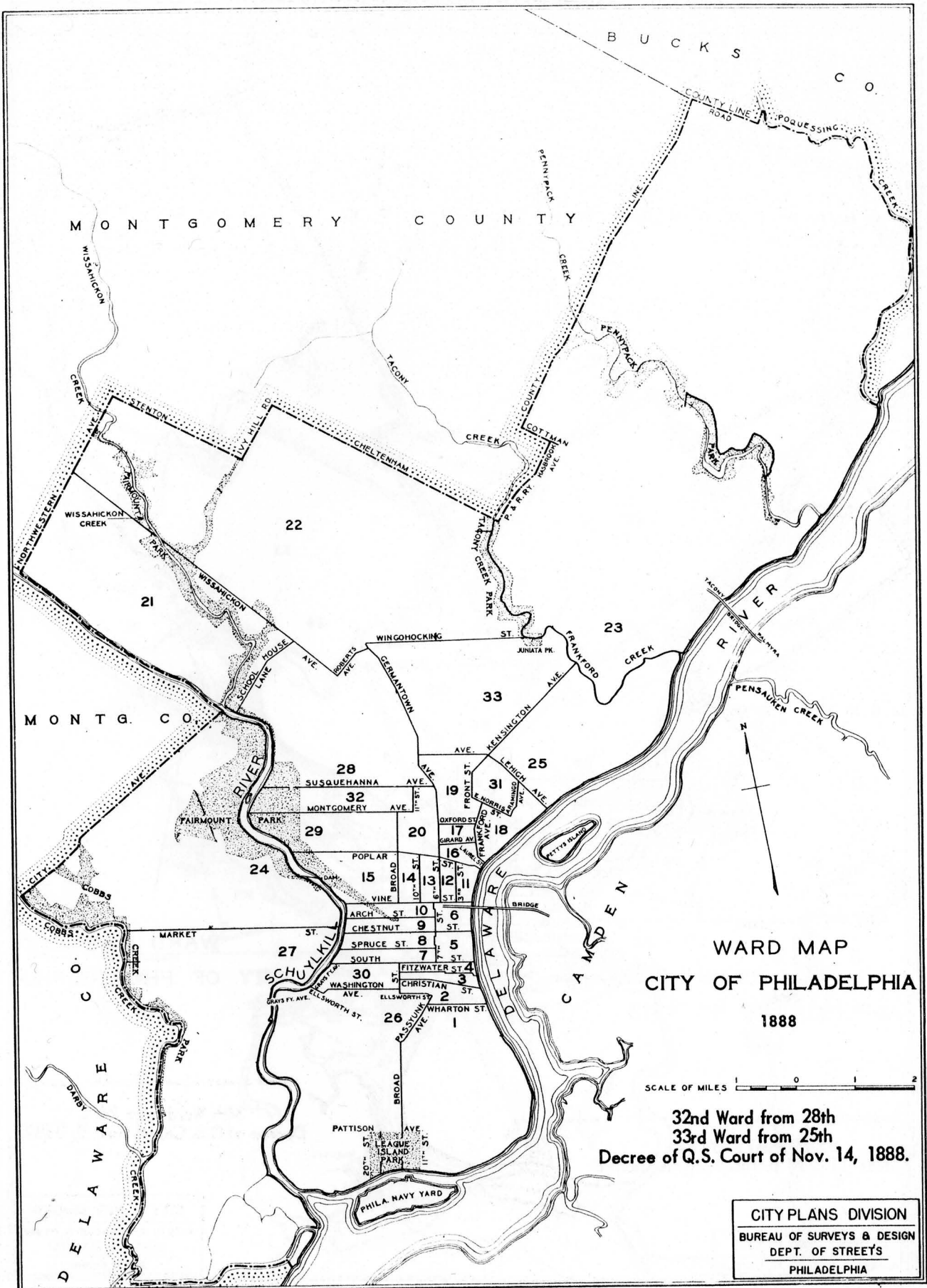
CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

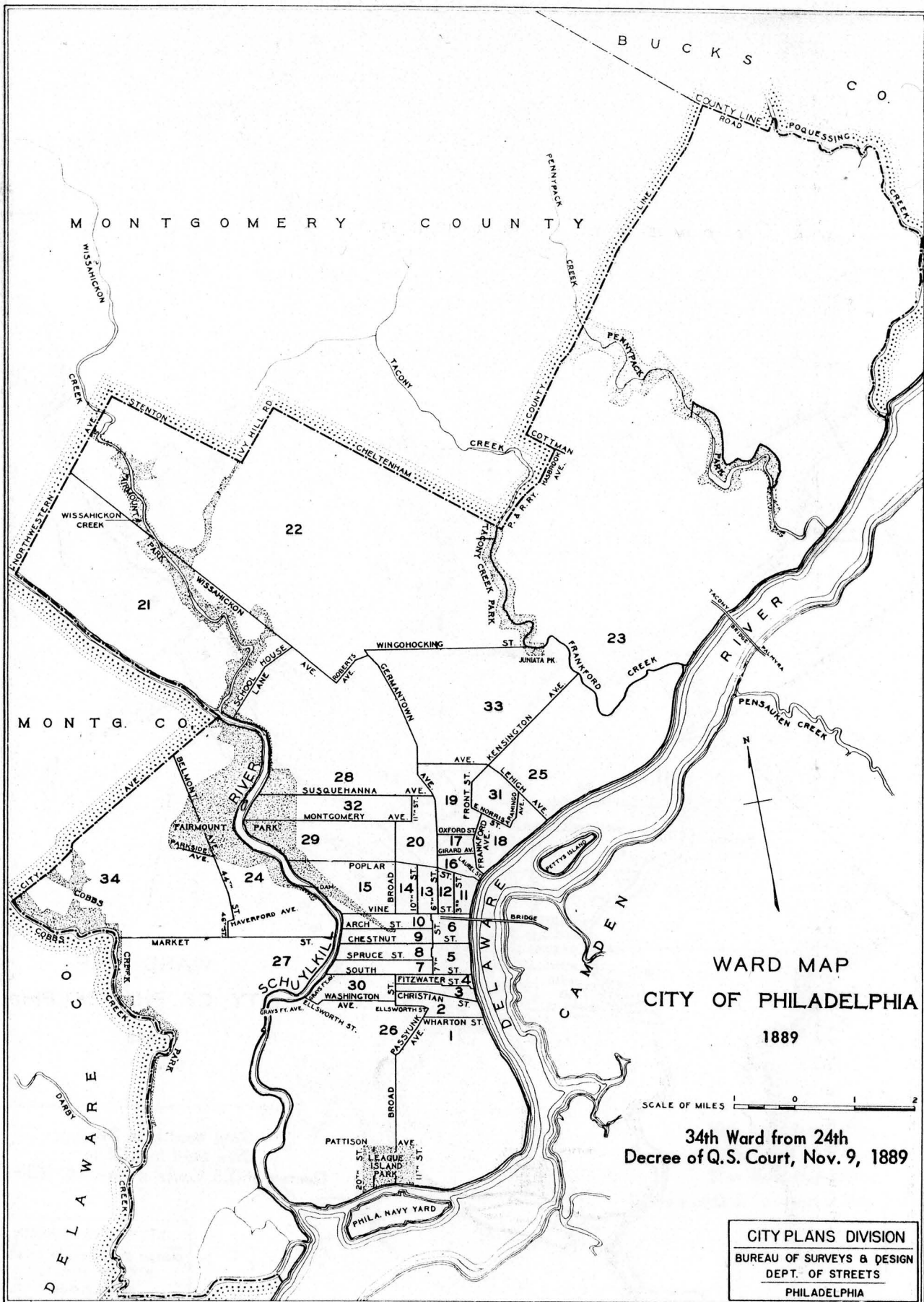


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1875

30th Ward from 26th.  
Decree of Q.S. Court of 3 Mar. 1875.  
31st Ward from 19th.  
Decree of Q.S. Court of 2 Mar. 1875.

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

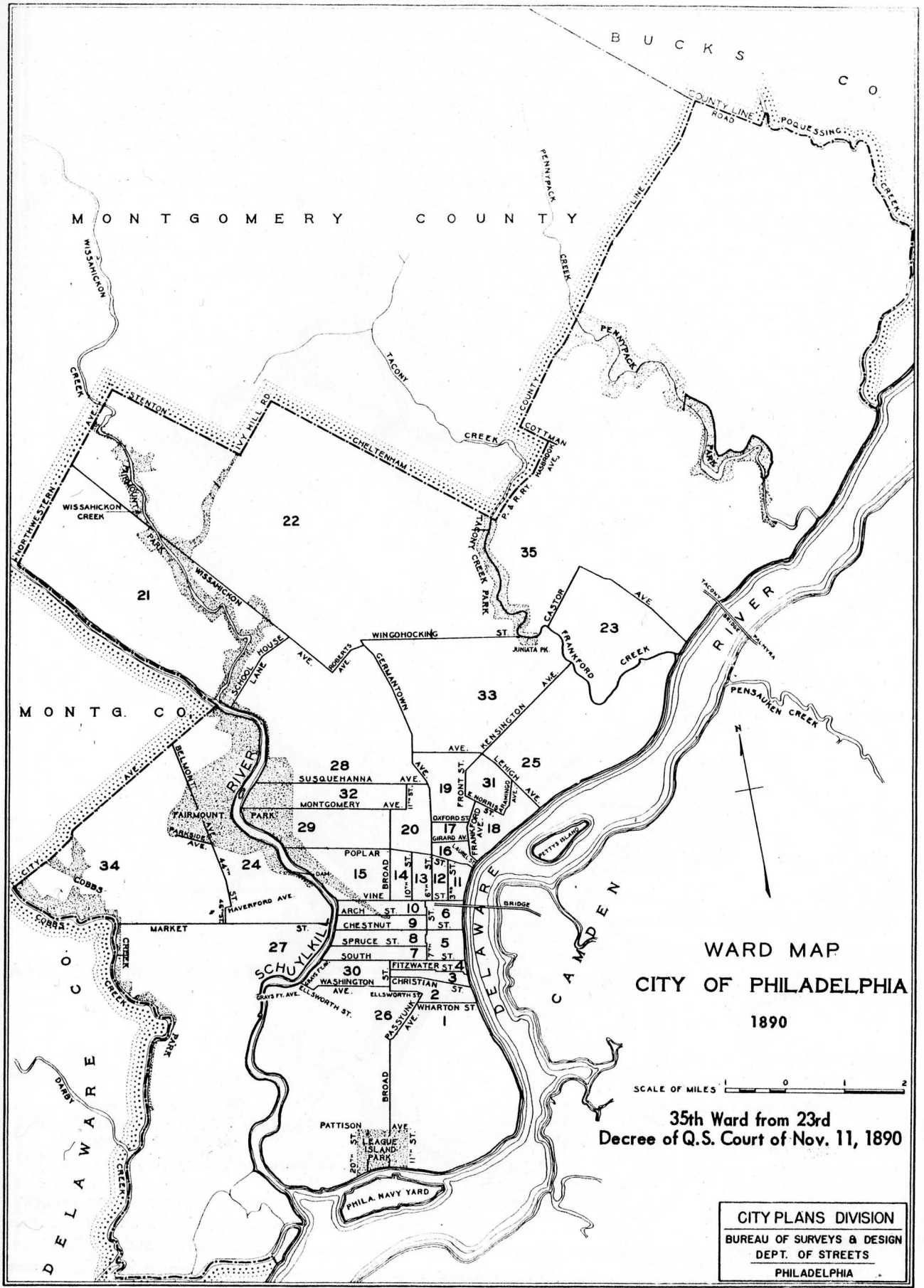




WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1889

34th Ward from 24th  
Decree of Q.S. Court, Nov. 9, 1889

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA



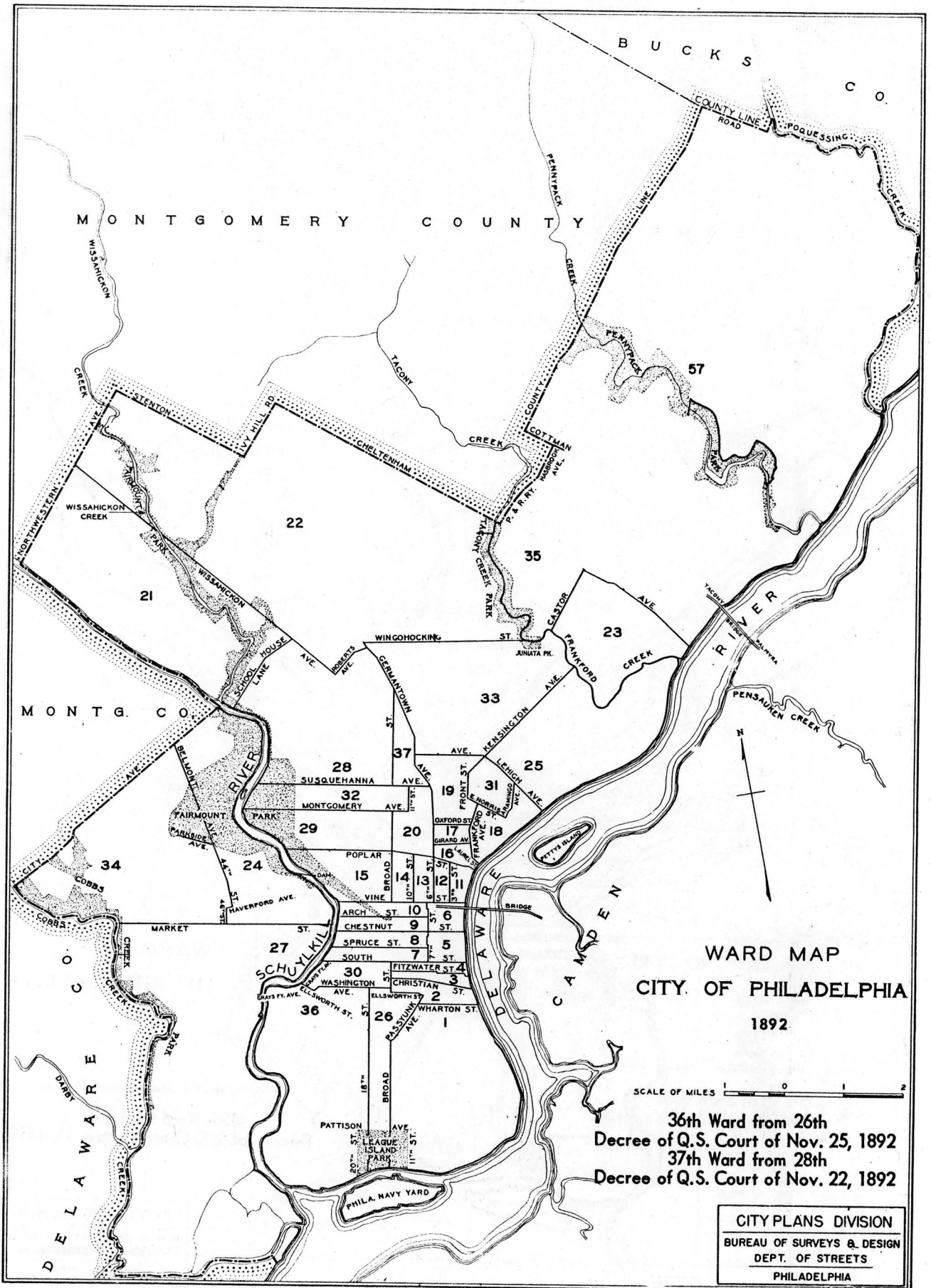
WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1890

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

35th Ward from 23rd  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Nov. 11, 1890

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA





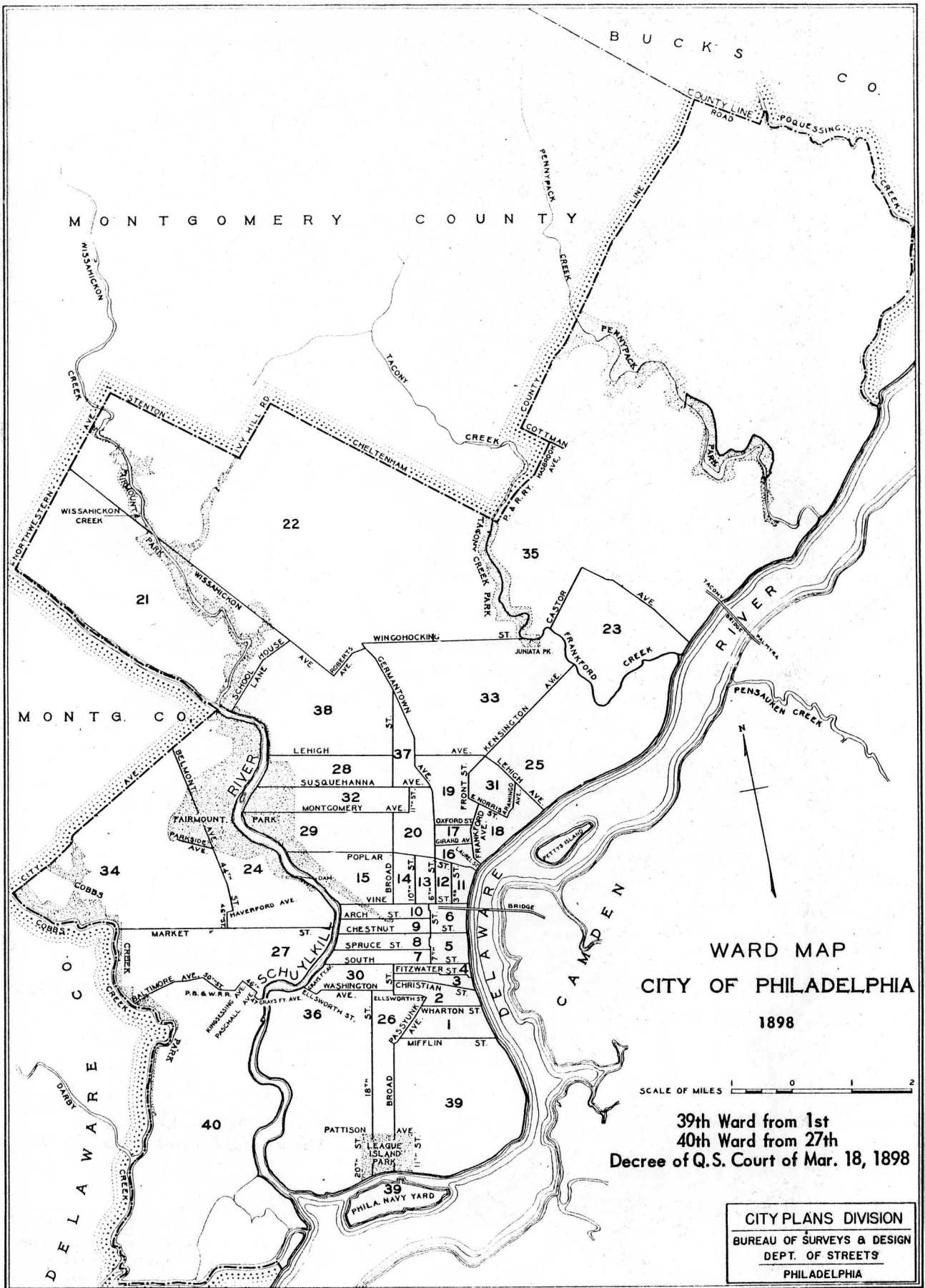
**WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1892**



36th Ward from 26th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Nov. 25, 1892  
37th Ward from 28th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Nov. 22, 1892

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

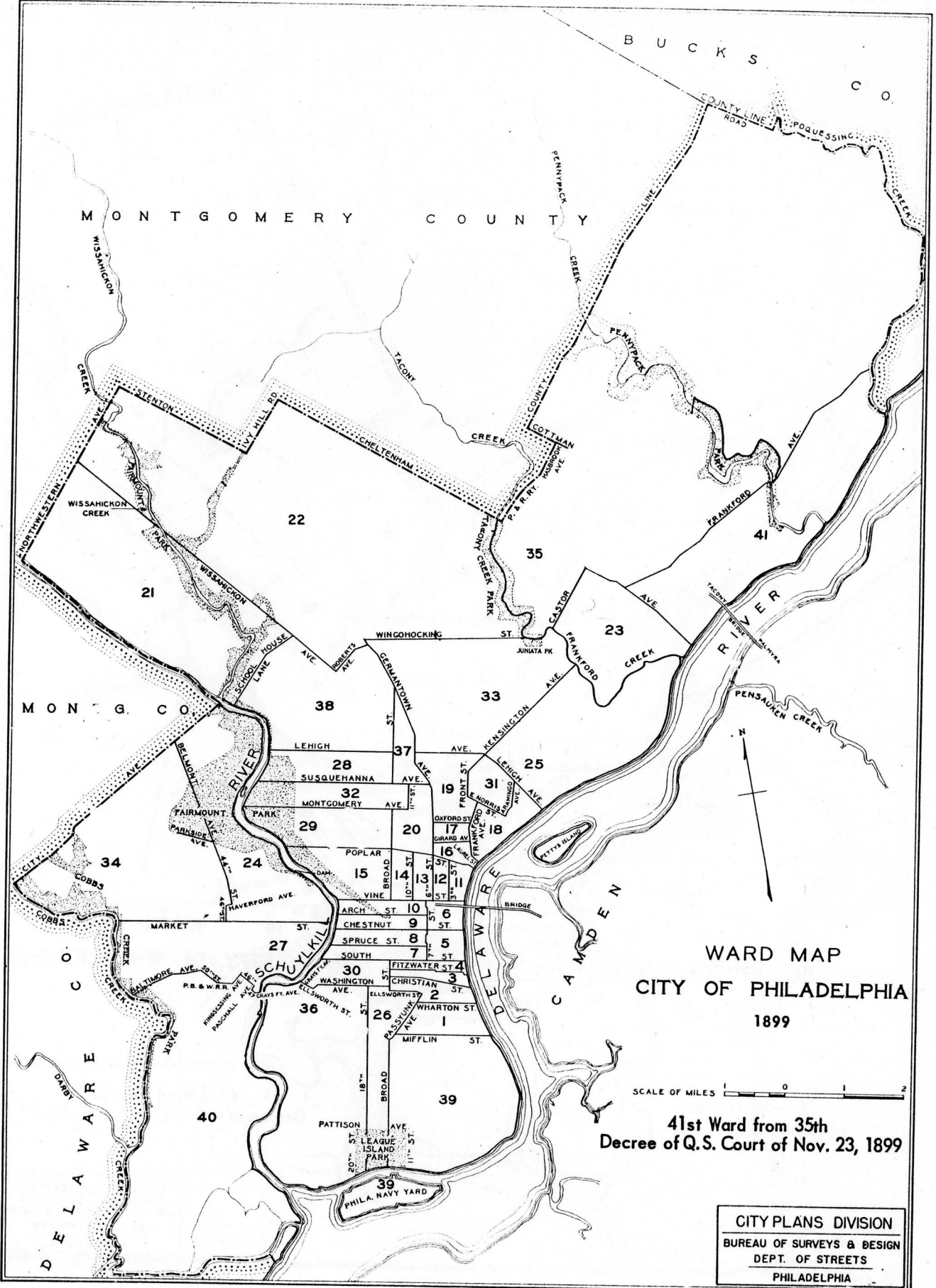




WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1898

39th Ward from 1st  
40th Ward from 27th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Mar. 18, 1898

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

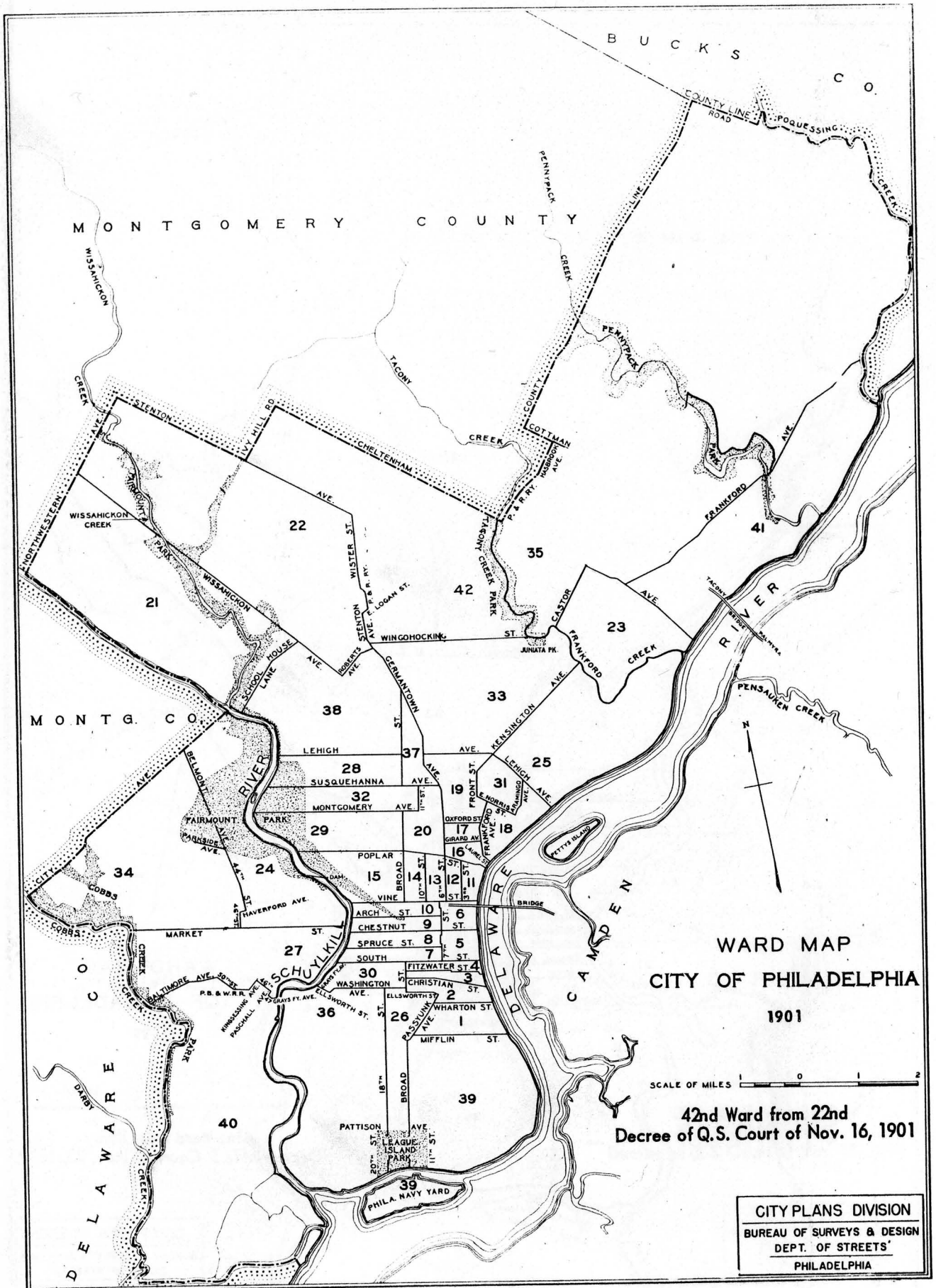


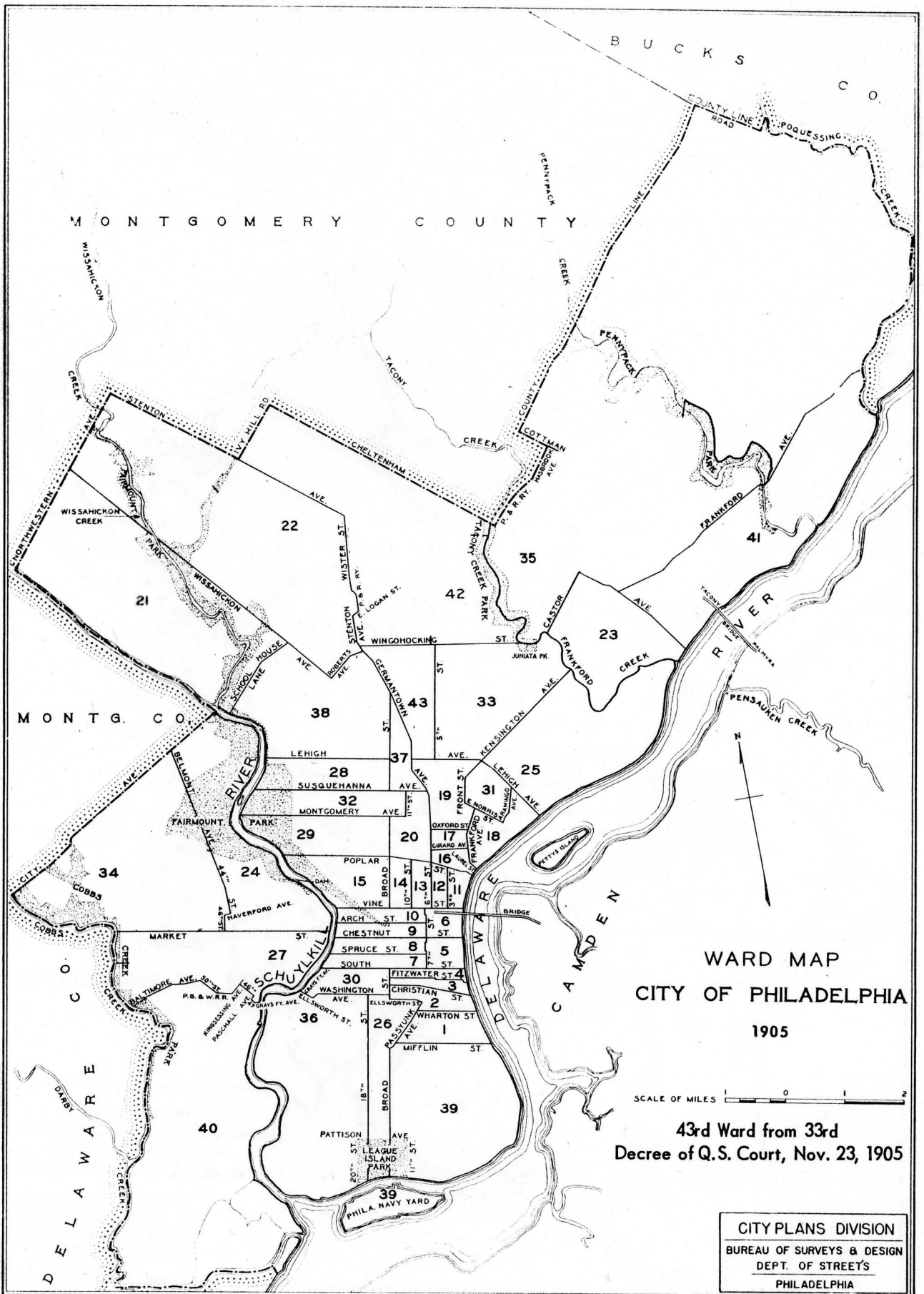
WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1899

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

41st Ward from 35th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Nov. 23, 1899

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA



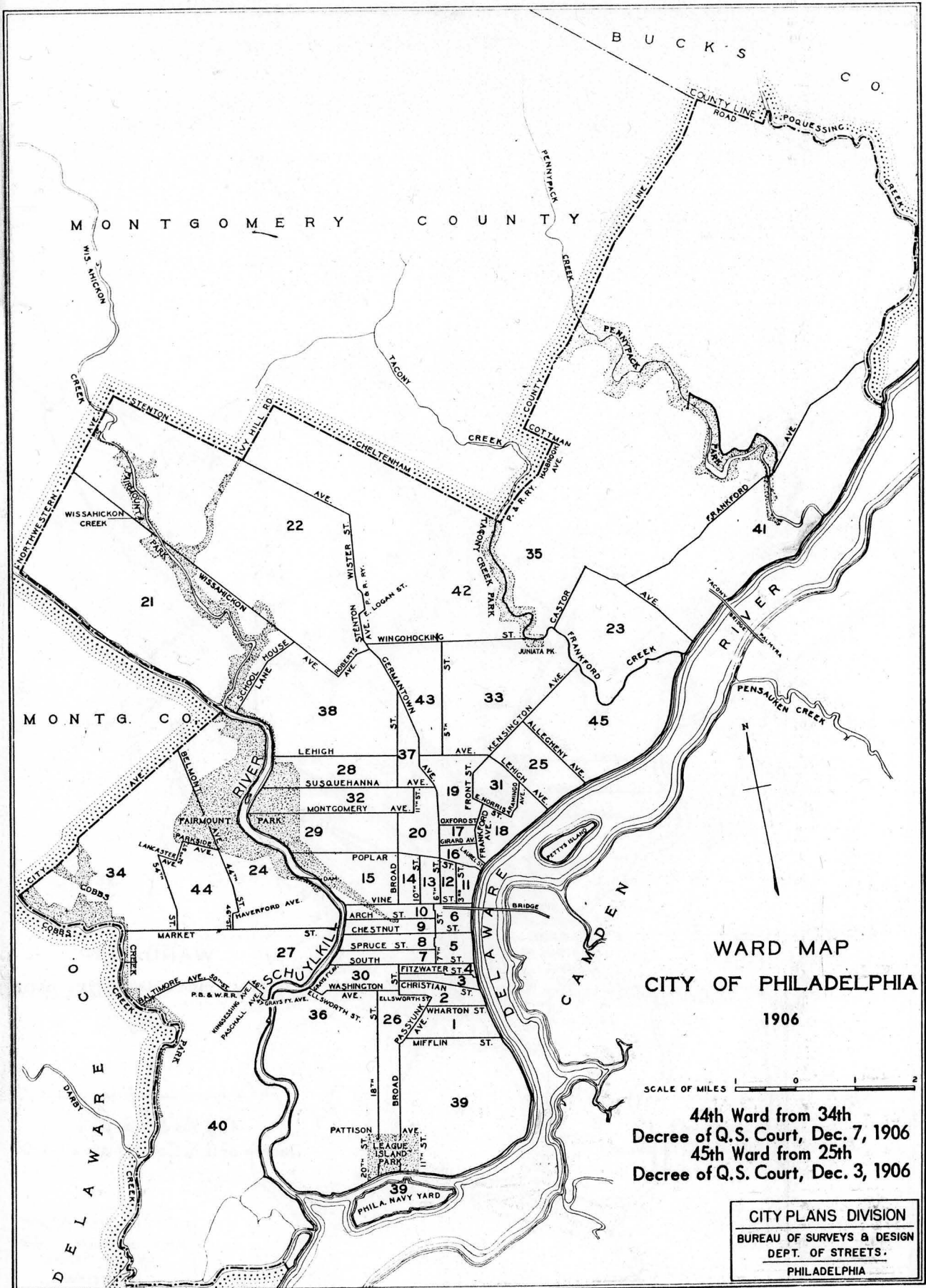


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1905

SCALE OF MILES 0 1 2

43rd Ward from 33rd  
Decree of Q.S. Court, Nov. 23, 1905

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREET'S  
PHILADELPHIA

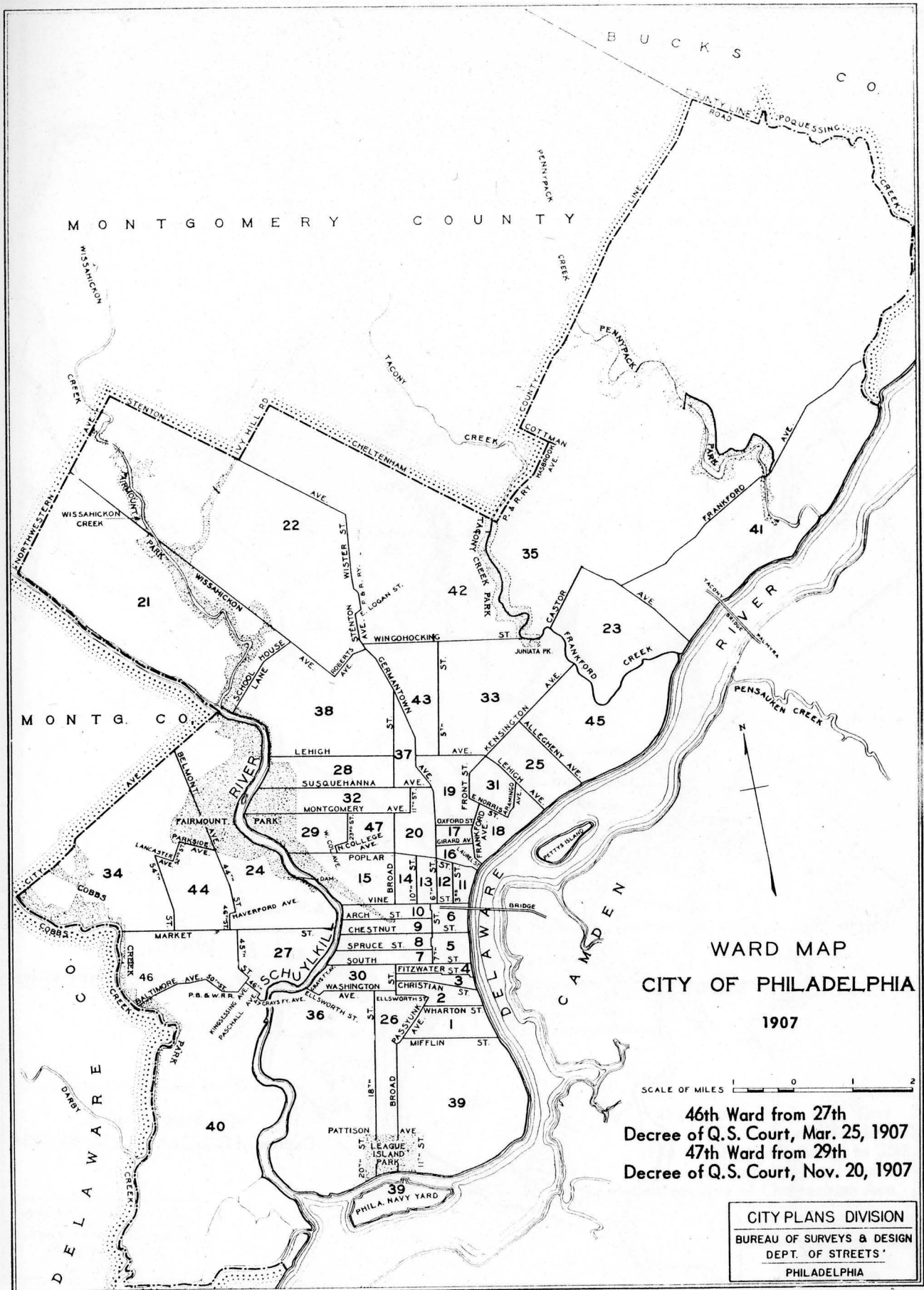


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1906

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

44th Ward from 34th  
Decree of Q.S. Court, Dec. 7, 1906  
45th Ward from 25th  
Decree of Q.S. Court, Dec. 3, 1906

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS.  
PHILADELPHIA

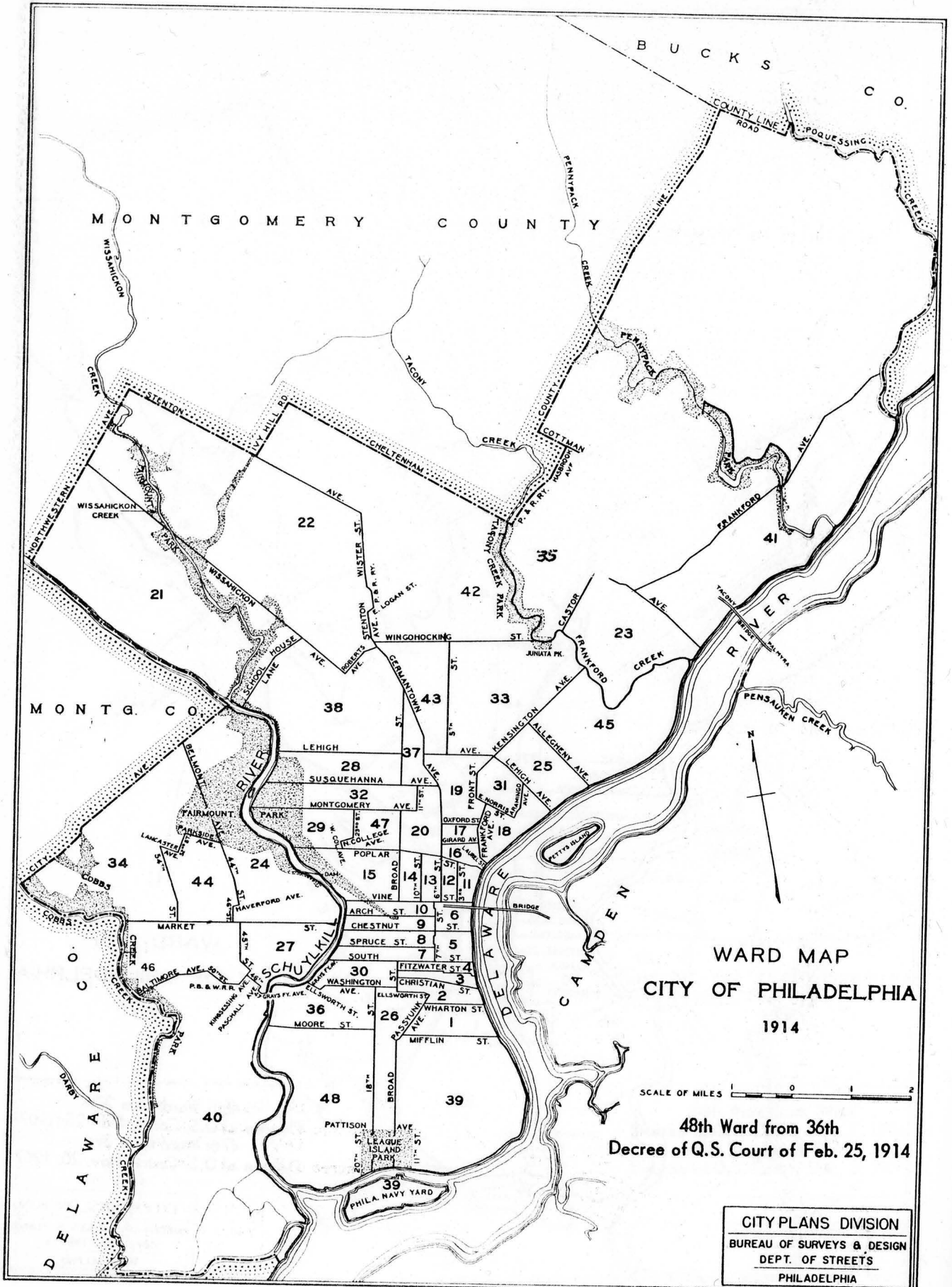


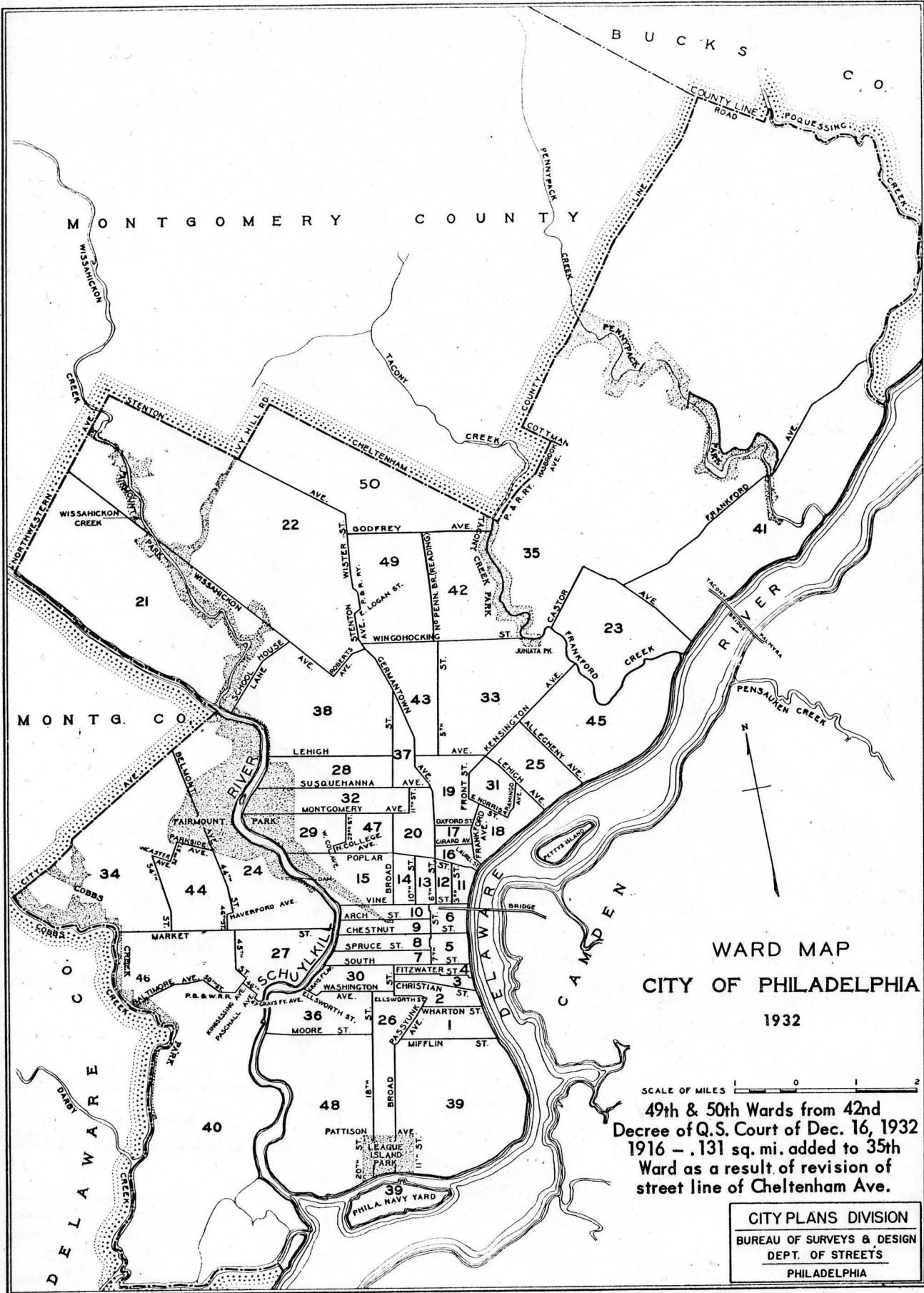
**WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1907**

46th Ward from 27th  
Decree of Q.S. Court, Mar. 25, 1907  
47th Ward from 29th  
Decree of Q.S. Court, Nov. 20, 1907

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA



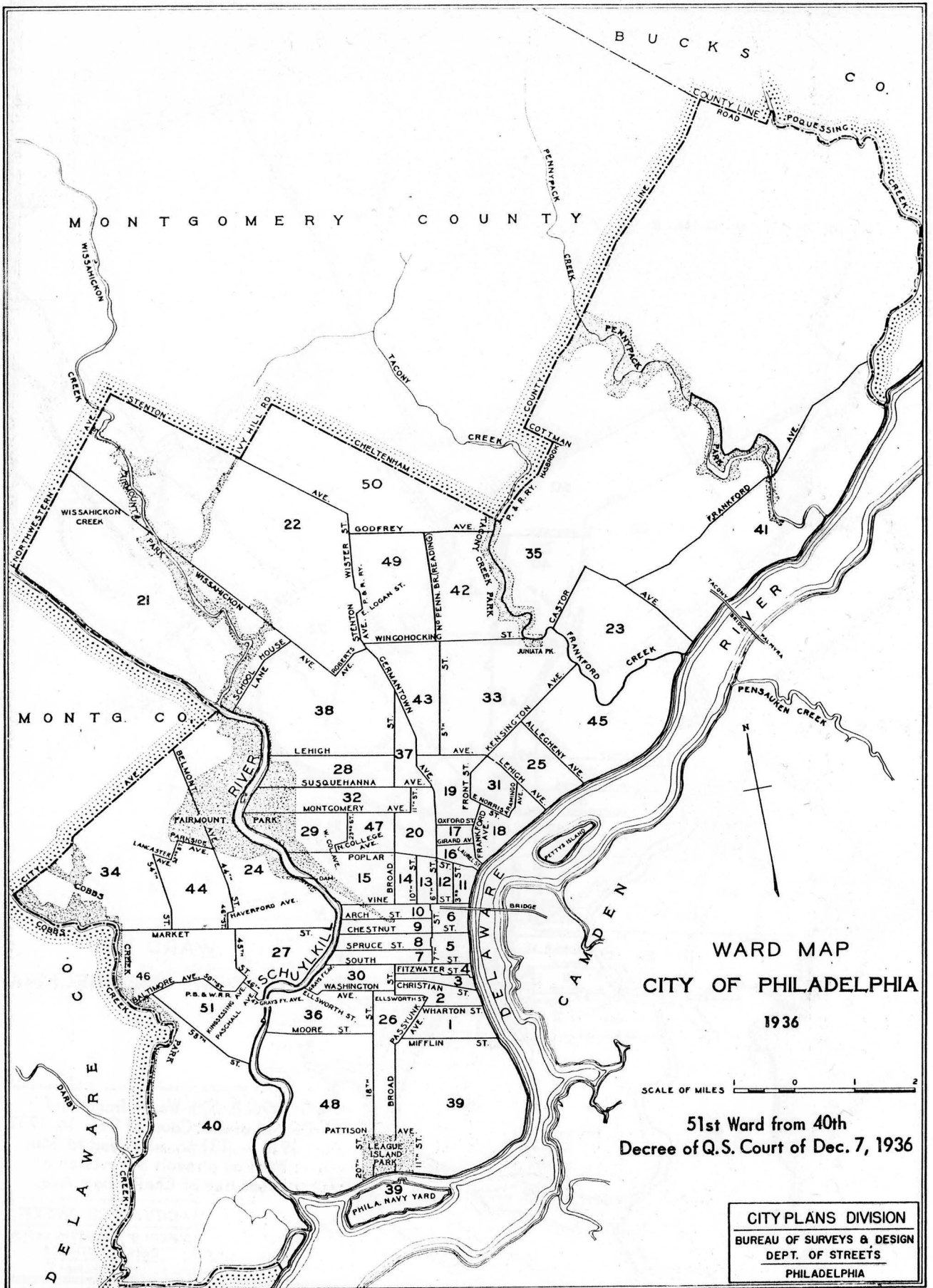




WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1932

SCALE OF MILES 0 1 2  
49th & 50th Wards from 42nd  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Dec. 16, 1932  
1916 - .131 sq. mi. added to 35th  
Ward as a result of revision of  
street line of Cheltenham Ave.

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

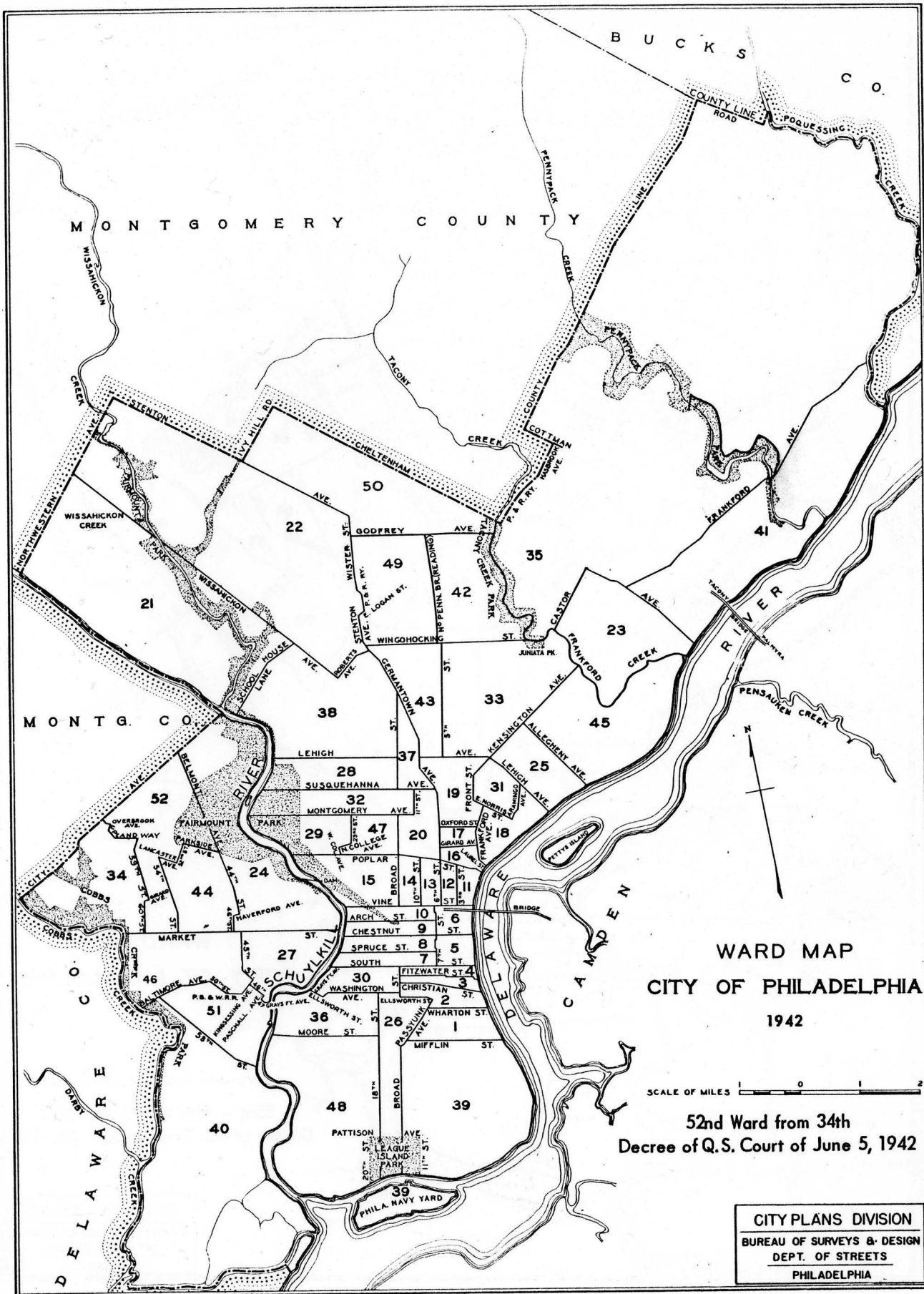


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1936

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

51st Ward from 40th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of Dec. 7, 1936

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

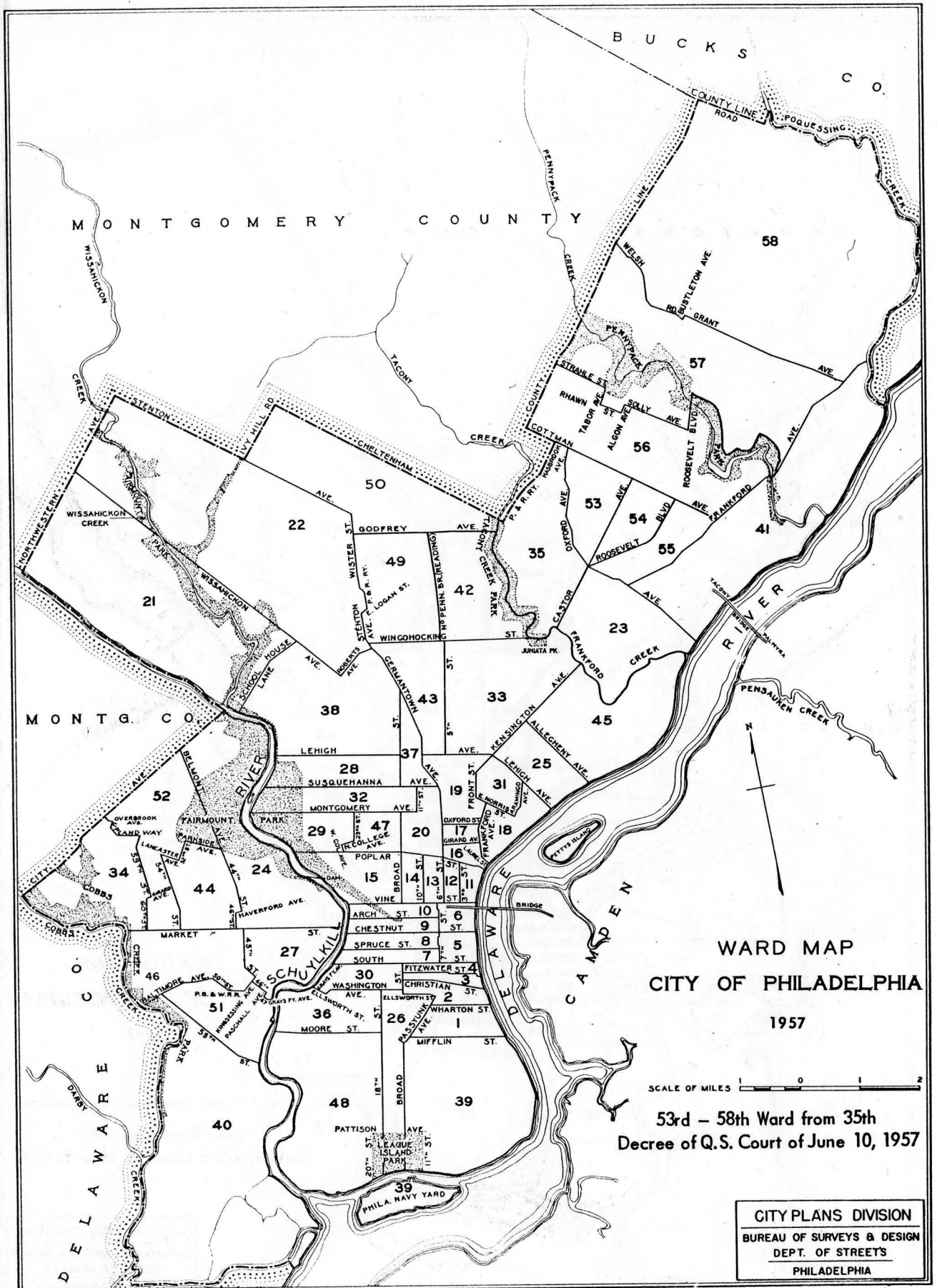


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1942

SCALE OF MILES 1 0 1 2

52nd Ward from 34th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of June 5, 1942

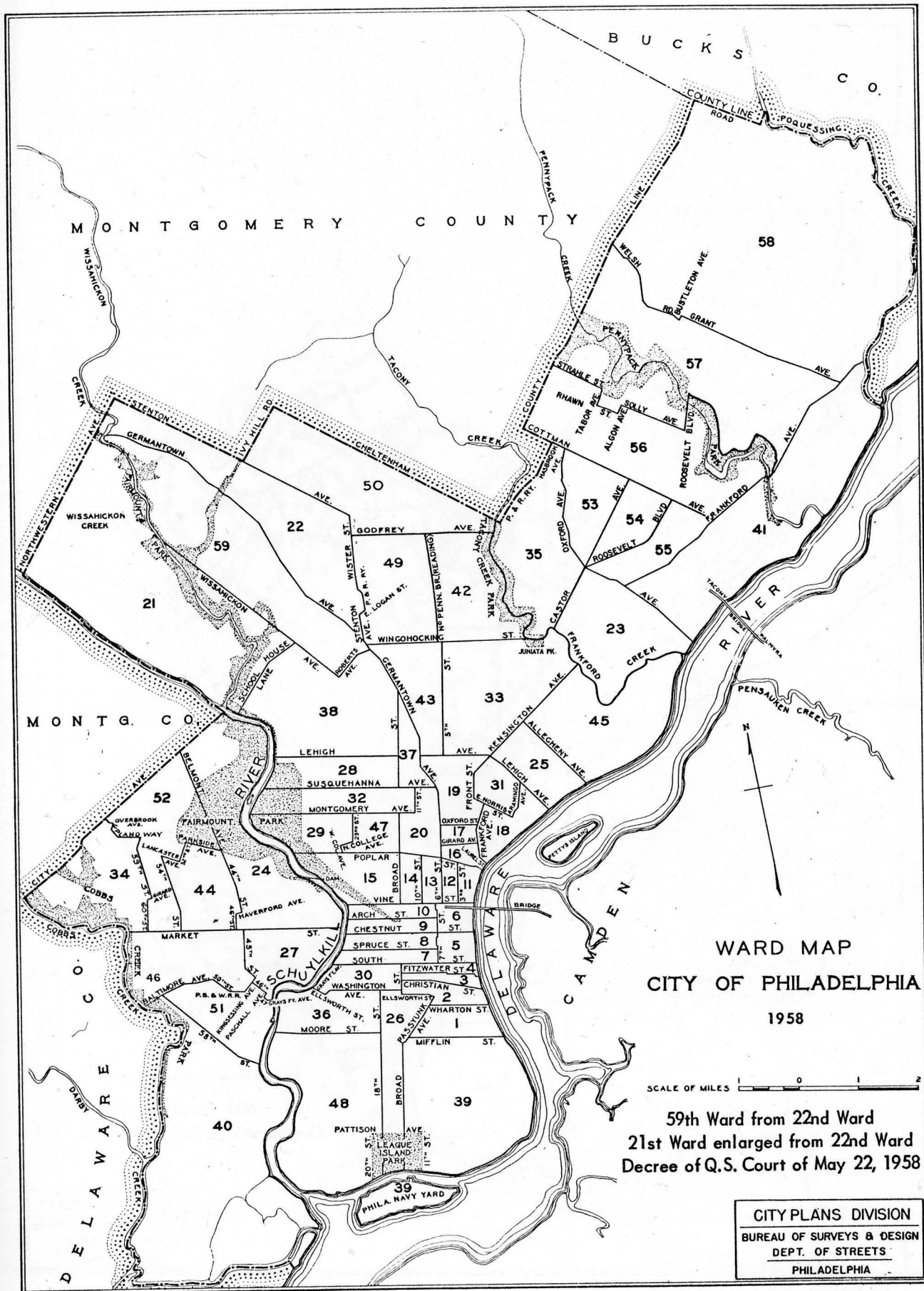
CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA



WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1957

53rd - 58th Ward from 35th  
Decree of Q.S. Court of June 10, 1957

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

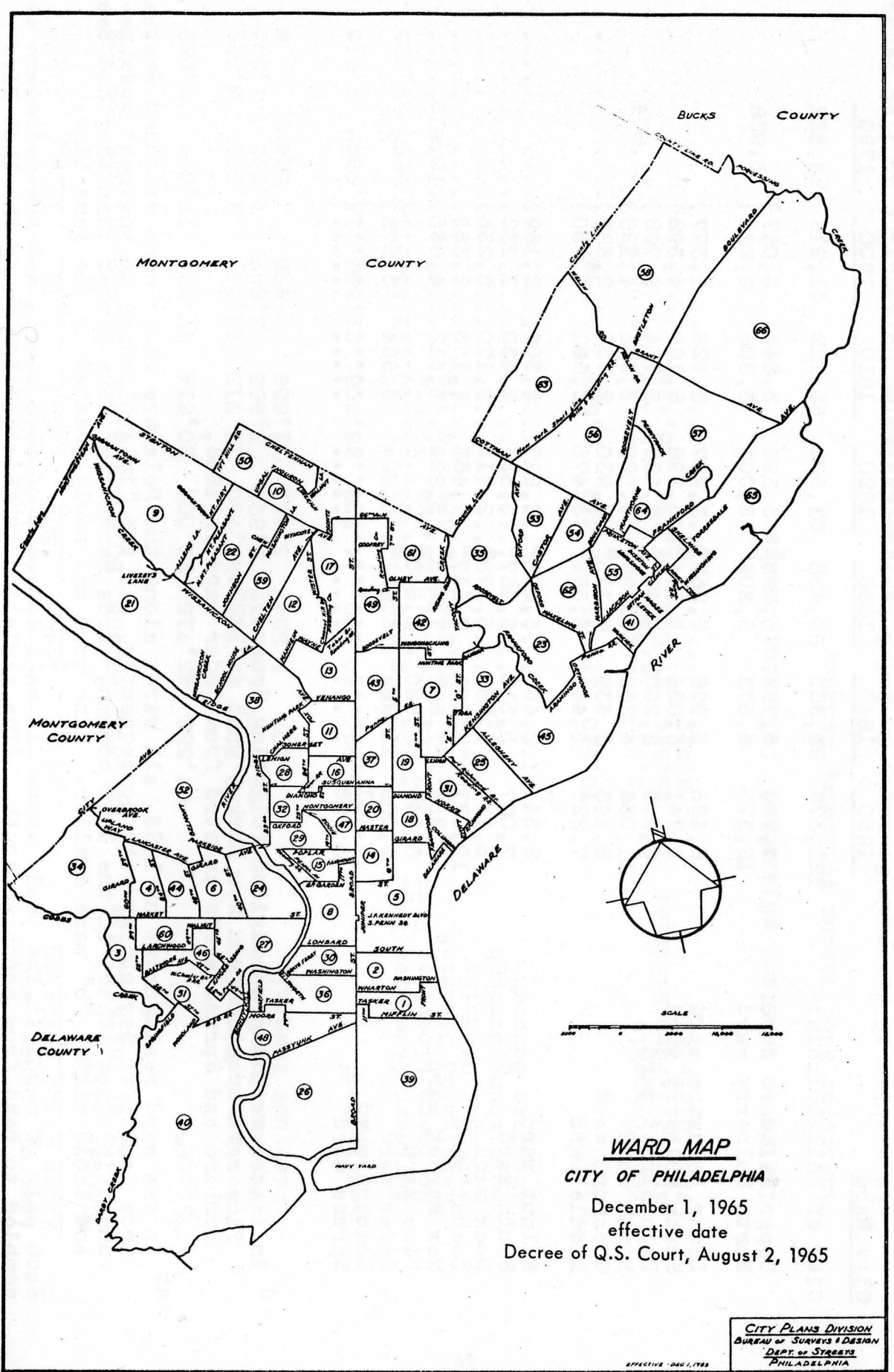


WARD MAP  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
1958

59th Ward from 22nd Ward  
21st Ward enlarged from 22nd Ward  
Decree of Q.S. Court of May 22, 1958

CITY PLANS DIVISION  
BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
DEPT. OF STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA





**WARD MAP**  
**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**  
 December 1, 1965  
 effective date  
 Decree of Q.S. Court, August 2, 1965

**CITY PLANS DIVISION**  
 BUREAU OF SURVEYS & DESIGN  
 DEPT. OF STREETS  
 PHILADELPHIA

EFFECTIVE - DEC 1, 1965



. TOTAL POPULATION OF PHILADELPHIA WARDS, 1790-1850

City Ward	Total Population						
	1850	1840	1830	1820	1810	1800	1790
City of Philadelphia:	121,376	93,665	80,458	63,802	53,722	41,216	28,522
Upper Delaware ward	7,224	5,783	5,763 <sup>a</sup>	3,396	3,644	3,067 )	3,938
North Mulberry ward	12,375	8,573	5,804 <sup>b</sup>	5,096	3,606	2,285 )	
Lower Delaware ward	6,425	5,996	6,863 <sup>a</sup>	3,237	3,526	3,377 )	13,674
South Mulberry ward	8,741	6,824	5,364 <sup>b</sup>	6,298	6,169	4,592 )	
High Street ward	3,549	3,200	4,427 <sup>a</sup>	2,529	2,764	2,792 )	
North ward	11,036	8,268	5,796 <sup>b</sup>	6,020	5,363	4,126 )	
Chestnut ward	2,443	2,639	4,115 <sup>a</sup>	2,930	2,732	2,693 )	
Middle ward	7,227	5,444	3,632 <sup>b</sup>	3,475	2,681	1,850 )	
Walnut ward	2,544	2,405	3,428 <sup>a</sup>	2,817	2,306	2,169 )	
South ward	7,007	5,515	3,467 <sup>b</sup>	3,333	2,430	1,232 )	10,910
Dock ward	5,734	4,533	5,378 <sup>a</sup>	2,415	2,170	2,235 )	
Locust ward	10,671	9,581	7,117 <sup>b</sup>	7,463	4,155	2,355 )	
New Market ward	8,256	7,592	7,443 <sup>a</sup>	5,889 <sup>d</sup>	5,512	4,865 )	
Pine ward	6,149	5,380	5,540	.....	.....	..... )	
Cedar ward	9,008	11,932 <sup>d</sup>	6,321 <sup>b</sup>	8,904	6,664	3,578 )	
Lombard ward	6,201	.....	.....	.....	.....	..... )	
Spruce ward	6,786	.....	.....	.....	.....	..... )	

<sup>d</sup> Indicates ward was subdivided following Census:  
 Pine ward created from New Market ward in 1825.  
 Lombard and Spruce wards created from Cedar ward in 1846.

<sup>ab</sup> In the ward realignment of 1825, all wards along the Delaware river were extended westward from Fourth to Seventh street; consequently, all the "inland" wards to the west were reduced in size. Thus, in the 1830 column, wards marked "a" were larger than they had been, and those marked "b" were smaller. Pine ward was newly created at the same time.

Each pair of wards in the table above lie east and west of each other, and the pairs are assembled to read from north to south. (The variation in this pattern among the last five wards reflects the ward-splitting which occurred in the southernmost tier of wards. Both New Market and Pine wards lie east, along the Delaware river; and Cedar, Lombard, and Spruce wards lie west of the Seventh street line.)

. TOTAL POPULATION OF MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, 1790-1850

Area of County, and Minor Civil Division	Total Population						
	1850	1840	1830	1820	1810	1800	1790
"Center City" City of Philadelphia	121,376	93,665	80,458	63,802	53,722	41,216	28,522
"South"	67,385	43,715	29,003	20,314	17,586	12,097	7,052
Southwark District	38,799 <sup>b</sup>	27,548 <sup>b</sup>	20,740	14,713	13,707	9,621	5,661
Moyamensing District	26,979 <sup>b</sup>	14,573 <sup>b</sup>	6,822	3,963	2,887	1,592	1,391
Passyunk Township	1,607	1,594 <sup>b</sup>	1,441	1,638	992	884	*
"Kensington"	103,294	60,120	44,702	28,606	21,558	16,980 <sup>d</sup>	9,913
Northern Liberties Twp.	2,632 <sup>db</sup>	3,332 <sup>db</sup>	2,453	1,810	21,558 <sup>d</sup>	16,980 <sup>d</sup>	9,913
Northern Liberties Dist.	47,223	34,474	28,923	19,678	.....	.....	.....
Kensington District	46,774 <sup>b</sup>	22,314 <sup>b</sup>	13,326	7,118	.....	.....	.....
Richmond District	5,750 <sup>b</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bridesburg Borough	915 <sup>b</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aramingo Borough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
"North"	70,520	31,191	13,648	6,603	3,798	.....	.....
Penn Township	2,687	3,342 <sup>d</sup>	2,507	3,105 <sup>b</sup>	3,798 <sup>d</sup>	.....	.....
Spring Garden District	58,894	27,849	11,141	3,498 <sup>b</sup>	.....	.....	.....
Penn District	8,939	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

<sup>b</sup> Indicates boundary adjustment following Census.

<sup>d</sup> Indicates subdivision following Census.

\* Population of Passyunk Township included in enumeration of Moyamensing in 1790 Census.

. continued

Area of County, and Minor Civil Division	Total Population						
	1850	1840	1830	1820	1810	1800	1790
"West"	13,265	7,553	4,469	3,843	2,521	1,729	1,424
Blockley Township	5,916 <sup>db</sup>	3,318	3,401 <sup>d</sup>	2,655	1,618	1,091	882
West Philadelphia District	5,571 <sup>b</sup>	2,896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belmont District	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kingsessing Township	1,778	1,339	1,068	1,188	903	638	542
"Northwest"	19,384	13,013	9,401	7,250	6,460	5,039	4,265
Roxborough Township	2,660	5,797 <sup>d</sup>	3,334	1,682	1,252	1,048	778
Manayunk Borough	6,158	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germantown Township	2,127	5,482 <sup>d</sup>	4,642	4,311	4,243	3,220	2,764
Germantown Borough	6,209	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bristol Township	2,230	1,734	1,425	1,257	965	771	723
"Northeast"	13,538	8,780	7,280	6,679	5,565	3,954	3,160
Oxford Township	2,276 <sup>bd</sup>	1,582	1,502 <sup>b</sup>	1,315	973	1,518 <sup>d</sup>	983
Frankford Borough	5,346 <sup>b</sup>	2,376	1,637 <sup>b</sup>	1,405	1,233	.....	.....
White Hall Borough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lower Dublin Township	4,294 <sup>d</sup>	3,298	2,705	2,640	2,194	1,495	1,267
Delaware Township	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Moreland Township	492	469	418	443	400	362	377
Byberry Township	1,130	1,055	1,018	876	765	579	533

<sup>b</sup> Indicates boundary adjustment following Census.

<sup>d</sup> Indicates subdivision following Census.

<u>Minor Civil Division</u>	<u>Total Population</u>			
	<u>1830</u>	<u>1820</u>	<u>1810</u>	<u>1800</u>
Southwark District	20,740	14,713	13,707	9,621
East	10,361		7,264	4,883
West	10,379		6,443	4,738
Northern Liberties Twp. (unincorporated)			21,558	16,980
East: built-part*			10,079	4,817
outer-part*			1,516	3,421
West: built-part*			9,795	5,911
outer-part*			168	2,831
Blockley Township				1,091
Portion north of turnpike**				649
Balance of Blockley				442

\* The distinction between "built-part" and "outer-part" in 1810 does not seem to be comparable to the "in-part" and "out-part" used in 1800. The division into East and West followed the same line in both 1800 and 1810 (north along Second street to Germantown road, and thence to the Township's northern boundary); but in 1808, Penn Township was erected out of a major portion of the western parts of Northern Liberties Township. Thus, East is equivalent in the two Censuses, but West in 1810 should include the 3,798 persons (158 Negro) of Penn Township.

\*\* "Turnpike" is not specified.

. TOTAL POPULATION OF SELECTED DISTRICTS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY,  
BY WARDS, 1820-1850

County District and Ward	Total Population			
	1850	1840	1830	1820
Northern Liberties District:	47,223	34,474	28,923	19,678
1st ward	5,745	3,390	3,560	2,826
2nd ward	3,423	3,159	3,115	2,093
3rd ward	6,920	4,663	4,552	3,249
4th ward	5,034	3,948	3,187	1,850
5th ward	8,411	6,307	5,471	4,606
6th ward	7,723	6,235	4,946	2,872
7th ward	9,967	6,772	4,092	2,182
 Kensington District:*	46,774	22,314		
1st ward	4,554	3,316		
2nd ward	5,254	3,598		
3rd ward	9,988	6,012		
4th ward	5,175	4,535		
5th ward	8,387	4,853		
6th ward	6,925	.....		
7th ward	4,902	.....		
8th ward	1,589	.....		

\* Kensington wards were redrawn between 1840 and 1850; thus, ward data between the two Censuses are not comparable.

<u>County District and Ward</u>	<u>Total Population</u>	
	<u>1850</u>	<u>1840</u>
Spring Garden District:	58,894	27,849
1st ward	6,500 <sup>a</sup>	6,291 <sup>a</sup>
2nd ward	6,971 <sup>a</sup>	7,959 <sup>a</sup>
3rd ward	12,479 <sup>a</sup>	7,245 <sup>b</sup>
4th ward	7,257 <sup>a</sup>	6,354 <sup>a</sup>
5th ward	8,398 <sup>a</sup>	.....
6th ward	8,760 <sup>b</sup>	.....
7th ward	8,529 <sup>b</sup>	.....
 Southwark District:	 38,799	 27,548
1st ward	7,800	7,074
2nd ward	7,320	5,998
3rd ward	4,927	4,533
4th ward	8,012	5,234
5th ward	6,553	4,709 <sup>d</sup>
6th ward	4,187	.....
 Moyamensing District:	 26,979	
1st ward	5,845	
2nd ward	8,097	
3rd ward	5,404	
4th ward	4,636	
5th ward	2,997	

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<sup>ab</sup> Spring Garden wards were redrawn in 1846. Wards marked "a" lie east of Broad street, and those marked "b" lie west of Broad street.

<sup>d</sup> Southwark 5th ward divided in 1849 to create the 6th ward.

Total Population of Philadelphia Wards, by Sections: 1860-1960

Section & Ward	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
Center City (A)	137,756	124,585	112,846	104,154	95,724	89,267	73,678	55,859	48,383	51,792	38,323
Ward 5	24,792	18,736	16,372	16,987	16,868	17,006	12,138	9,683	7,142	6,982	3,378
Ward 6	14,882	12,064	10,004	8,712	8,042	6,374	4,078	1,635	835	1,031	421
Ward 7	31,267	31,558	31,080	30,179	28,137	27,425	26,297	20,229	19,918	21,741	17,079
Ward 8	27,770	22,286	19,547	16,971	15,757	13,965	12,078	12,305	10,605	12,108	11,149
Ward 9	17,196	16,629	12,481	9,791	6,953	5,071	3,747	1,642	1,228	1,658	1,646
Ward 10	21,849	23,312	23,362	21,514	19,967	19,426	15,340	10,365	8,655	8,272	4,650
South (B)	103,399	132,641	172,944	218,506	282,057	336,134	375,449	357,755	324,424	310,144	260,767
Ward 1	30,886*	25,817	43,082	53,882*	37,919	47,712	45,830	41,103	36,627	32,493	26,112
Ward 2	29,123	30,220	28,498	31,563	35,206	40,536	35,215	28,172	22,228	20,352	12,805
Ward 3	19,929	19,149	18,274	19,925	24,693	25,747	21,364	16,997	13,050	12,268	7,918
Ward 4	23,461	20,852	18,854	20,384	22,562	22,316	16,831	14,135	10,763	10,054	6,971
Ward 26	(1)	36,603*	35,138	62,138*	45,615	54,842	62,461	61,731	60,503	56,517	44,486
Ward 30	.....	(26)	29,098	30,614	28,874	29,209	29,471	27,783	27,605	27,208	23,527
Ward 36	.....	.....	.....	(26)	46,811	61,379*	55,225	54,828	52,665	52,786	45,306
Ward 39	.....	.....	.....	(1)	40,377	54,393	82,709	82,415	73,395	66,666	59,203
Ward 48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(36)	26,343	30,591	27,588	31,800	34,439
West (C, D)	23,738	44,317	69,404	99,182	148,548	247,928	359,601	411,636	412,371	440,143	402,161
Ward 24	23,738*	24,932	46,071*	42,556	53,200	54,370	60,408	54,947	53,803	63,391	57,987
Ward 27	(24)	19,385	23,333	32,905*	32,204*	24,255	24,290	22,298	20,971	30,070	23,621
Ward 34	.....	.....	(24)	23,721	43,706*	49,575	72,326	96,510	99,613*	50,695 <sup>e</sup>	50,896
Ward 40	.....	.....	.....	(27)	19,438	41,820	78,900	108,490*	65,723 <sup>e</sup>	64,556 <sup>e</sup>	57,507
Ward 44	.....	.....	.....	.....	(34)	39,449	45,467	42,671	43,743	41,552	36,459
Ward 46	.....	.....	.....	.....	(27)	38,459	78,210	86,720	85,722	88,206	80,623*
Ward 51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(40)	42,796 <sup>e</sup>	45,301 <sup>e</sup>	42,822
Ward 52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(34)	56,372 <sup>e</sup>	52,246
Ward 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(46)**

\* Indicates ward was subdivided following census.

<sup>e</sup> Estimated; actual figures not available.

\*\* Created after 1960 Census; population at time of Census estimated at 43,874, and Ward 46 at 36,749.

(continued)

Section & Ward	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
North (E-F)	106,357	154,261	207,302	267,044	329,952	353,678	391,204	363,084	354,850	387,994	342,857
Ward 13	20,045	19,956	18,646	17,923	17,427	19,769	18,959	13,010	10,727	13,306	7,219
Ward 14	24,258	22,643	22,353	20,737	19,405	19,477	18,318	14,188	9,713	14,175	10,343
Ward 15	32,091	44,650	47,866	52,705	50,379	47,273	44,825	38,292	38,127	39,887	35,988
Ward 20	29,963	56,642*	43,207	44,480	43,276	45,356	47,007	41,382	40,365	43,844	32,385
Ward 28	(21)	10,370	34,443*	46,390*	43,931	49,242	53,698	50,453	49,991	50,775	50,616
Ward 29	.....	(20)	40,787	54,759	60,096*	30,217	32,219	30,261	30,663	30,333	28,250
Ward 32	.....	.....	(28)	30,050	39,889	40,293	47,540	45,663	50,062	60,860	54,497
Ward 37	.....	.....	.....	(28)	22,445	23,110	23,236	20,128	20,081	21,604	18,738
Ward 38	.....	.....	.....	(28)	33,104	48,939	72,347	76,049	73,163	76,516	73,588
Ward 47	.....	.....	.....	.....	(29)	30,002	33,055	33,658	31,958	36,694	31,233
Kensington (E-F, G)	135,962	160,864	206,533	250,555	294,542	334,483	365,305	329,645	309,229	293,426	257,508
Ward 11	16,681	14,845	12,929	12,953	11,843	11,619	9,246	6,185	3,740	2,954	1,850
Ward 12	16,681	15,171	14,690	14,170	13,850	15,152	12,313	8,809	5,878	5,965	3,426
Ward 16	20,067	19,256	17,802	17,087	15,788	16,175	13,583	10,068	8,157	7,681	5,221
Ward 17	23,264	21,347	20,451	19,546	17,908	17,484	14,157	11,341	10,218	9,635	6,890
Ward 18	20,441	26,366	29,358	29,164	29,643	27,134	26,008	21,900	20,249	18,697	15,285
Ward 19	38,828*	45,240*	43,887	55,545	55,246	52,283	49,936	42,695	40,694	39,715	33,668
Ward 25	(19,23)	18,639	36,108*	35,945	51,753*	42,510	47,800	43,846	40,958	37,061	31,917
Ward 31	.....	(19)	31,308	32,974	33,139	30,863	29,764	26,249	26,240	24,208	21,073
Ward 33	.....	.....	(25)	33,171	65,372*	51,769	66,399	67,288	66,789	66,928	65,622
Ward 43	.....	.....	.....	.....	(33)	43,260	56,932	52,604	50,749	47,384	42,233
Ward 45	.....	.....	.....	.....	(25)	26,234	39,167	38,660	35,557	33,198	30,323

\* Indicates ward was subdivided following census.



(continued)

Section & Ward	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
Northwest, Far North (H, I, J)	34,332*	36,466	51,497	72,229	96,823	129,261	184,311	283,310	304,555	330,161	347,464
Ward 21	17,159*	13,861	19,699	26,900	32,168	35,406	38,194	40,759	39,379	41,409	43,352
Ward 22	17,173	22,605	31,798	45,329	64,655*	70,245	85,382	104,865	108,083	114,197*	64,982
Ward 42	.....	.....	.....	.....	(22)	23,610	60,735	137,686*	54,413 <sup>e</sup>	53,651 <sup>e</sup>	53,563
Ward 49	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(42)	53,044 <sup>e</sup>	53,593 <sup>e</sup>	51,234
Ward 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(42)	49,636 <sup>e</sup>	67,311 <sup>e</sup>	86,026
Ward 59	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(22)	48,307
Greater Northeast (K, L)	23,985*	20,888	26,644	35,294	46,051	58,257	74,231	149,672	177,522	257,945	353,432
Ward 23	23,985*	20,888	26,644	35,294*	26,109	32,133	38,823	49,355	51,080	51,839	46,800
Ward 35	.....	.....	.....	(23)	8,614	10,484	14,264	59,110	80,689	148,458*	40,928
Ward 41	.....	.....	.....	(23)	11,328	15,640	21,144	41,207	45,753	57,648	64,956
Ward 53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35)	27,377
Ward 54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35)	26,609
Ward 55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35)	32,482
Ward 56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35)	45,852
Ward 57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35)	34,460
Ward 58	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35)	33,968

\* Indicates ward was subdivided following census.  
 In the case of Ward 21 in the Northwest in 1860, a portion of the area became Ward 28 in North Philadelphia. In Ward 23 in the Greater Northeast in 1860, a portion of the area was combined with a portion of Ward 19 in Kensington to create Ward 25 in Kensington. In each instance, the "losing" sections seem to have had about 5,000 persons allocated to the new wards.

Estimated 1950 population of the wards later created in the subdivision of Ward 35:  
 35th - 38,170; 53d - 20,792; 54th - 17,626; 55th - 24,695; 56th - 23,869; 57th - 7,888;  
 58th - 15,321.

<sup>e</sup> Estimated; actual figures not available.