

Williams-Mathurin House
427 Spruce Street
Philadelphia (Society Hill)
Philadelphia County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1383

HABS
PA,
51-PHILA,
570-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS
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51-PHILA,
570-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
PENNSYLVANIA	PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
WILLIAMS-MATHURIN HOUSE		PA-1383
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
427 Spruce Street, Society Hill section of the city		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
1791	William Williams, house carpenter.	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
Notable Philadelphia Federal townhouse with some original interior trim.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Brick with wood structural framing. The foundation is of rubblestone set in mortar.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
22'-9" (three-bay front) X 34'-5" with three-story rear ell; three-and-a-half stories.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
Marble stringcourses; marble lintels with keystones; modillioned cornice with guttae; front and back dormers; round-arch entrance with fanlight and Adamesque frontispiece (not original to the house).		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
The floor plan was of the Philadelphia rowhouse type, having 2 rooms per floor and a side hall. The hall stair is a curved open string stair with a mahogany handrail and a newel post. Original yellow pine floor is still intact in certain parts of the house. Interior trim includes fluted pilasters, molded chairrails, and a wood cornice with a (con't. on page 2)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
Front entrance and first floor altered in 19th century. Altered again to warehouse ca. 1920. Exterior restored 1969-72.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
Webster, Richard. <u>Philadelphia Preserved</u> . Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1976. Fire insurance survey for 113 Spruce Street (old number), issued March 23, 1812 by Philadelphia Contributionship.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION	DATE	
William B. Bassett, NPS Historian, July 16, 1964; edited by Susan McCown, HABS Historian, August, 1984		

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (continued from page 1):

double cone molding. Federal fireplaces, as seen in the 1962 HABS interior photos, are probably original.

ADDENDUM TO:

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An alternative caption would be:

PRESENT CONDITION AND USE: RESTORED RESIDENCE