**VARIOUS BLOCKS OF THE HISTORIC STREET PAVING THEMATIC DISTRICT**
Owner: City of Philadelphia
Nominator: Staff of the Philadelphia Historical Commission

**OVERVIEW:** In 1998, the Historical Commission designated the Historic Street Paving Thematic District, a collection of several hundred blocks of streets in the city that retain their historic street paving materials. In 1999, the Commission amended the district, adding a few streets that had been initially overlooked. The designation covers the cartway itself, but not the curbs or sidewalks. The historic preservation ordinance authorizes the Historical Commission to review building permit applications issued by the Department of Licenses & Inspections, but not streets permits for work within the right-of-way, which are issued by the Streets Department of the City of Philadelphia. Therefore, with regard to historic streets, the Historical Commission acts in an advisory capacity, providing advice to the Streets Department about the appropriateness of alterations to historic cartways. Per an informal agreement, the Streets Department consults with the Historical Commission whenever it undertakes work to historic streets or reviews applications from third parties for work to historic streets. The Streets Department should be commended for its stewardship of historic streets, which it undertakes voluntarily at great expense.

The Streets Department recently commissioned Gilmore & Associates Inc. to study the conditions of streets that retain their historic paving materials and generate a report that would allow the Streets Department to plan strategically for the maintenance of the historic streets. The Streets Department has limited funds for restoration work to historic streets and is seeking to spend those funds as effectively as possible. The consultant surveyed every block currently listed in the inventory of the Historic Street Paving Thematic District as well as several that are not included in the district and generated a lengthy report. The report includes photographs of all blocks as well as information about paving materials, condition, and need for repair. The staff of the Historical Commission integrated the data collected by the consultant with data related to context including local and National Register districts, rarity of material, and other factors and then ranked all blocks. Based on these rankings, the staff proposes a series of additions and removals from the inventory of the Historic Street Paving Thematic District. The blocks proposed for addition were overlooked in the late 1990s, when the nomination was prepared. The blocks proposed for removal include cartways where the historic paving material has been removed since the designation, usually by regional and state agencies beyond the control of the City, as well as blocks where the cartways are in very poor condition, do not merit restoration, and will provide stockpiles of rare paving materials for restorations elsewhere. If adopted, the amendments to the inventory of the Historic Street Paving Thematic District will allow the Streets Department to be more efficient with its management of historic streets, focusing its scant resources on cartways meriting preservation.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** The staff recommends that the Commission amend the inventory of the Historic Street Paving Thematic District as proposed in the following documents, pursuant to Section 5.14 of the Rules & Regulations.
Proposed for Removal from the Historic Street Paving Thematic District

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15. Pollard Street, between New Market Street and Germantown Avenue ....15
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18. Torresdale Avenue, between Robbins Street and Cottman Avenue ........18
19. Wister Alley, between dead end and N 3rd Street ..............................19
1. N Sixth Street, between Oxford Street and Germantown Avenue

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block between trolley tracks; asphalt to curb

Current paving material: Asphalt
2. Beck Street, between Independence Ct and Swanson Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block
Current paving material: Asphalt
3. Bread Street, between dead end and New Street

Paving material at time of designation: Blue glazed granite block with red and yellow brick patching
Current paving material: Blue glazed granite block with red and yellow brick patching; asphalt patching
Located in the Old City Historic District
4. Cherry Street, between Bread Street and N 3rd Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block (low integrity at time of designation)
Current paving material: Asphalt
Located in the Old City Historic District
5. Chester Avenue, between 42nd Street and 49th Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block between trolley tracks
Current paving material: Asphalt, Concrete
6. Clover Street, between S 12th Street and S 13th Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block (repaved in 1926)
Current paving material: Granite block, asphalt
7. Cuthbert Street, between Hutchinson Street and 9th Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block (1/2 of block); blue glazed granite block (1/4 of block); concrete (1/4 of block) – low integrity
Current paving material: Granite block, Concrete
8. George Street, between 27th Street and 28th Street

Paving material at time of designation: Red brick
Current paving material: Asphalt
9. Lindberg Boulevard, between Harley Street and Grays Avenue

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block between trolley tracks
Current paving material: Concrete, asphalt
10. Ludlow Street, between 23rd Street and 24th Street

Paving material at time of designation: Blue glazed granite block
Current paving material: Asphalt
11. Melvale Street, between Sarah Street and Brady Street

Paving material at time of designation: Orange brick with red brick patches
Current paving material: Asphalt
12. Moravian Street, between Hancock Street and 2nd Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block
Current paving material: Modern pavers
Located in the Old City Historic District
13. Parrish Street, between Lawrence Street and Leithgow Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block
Current paving material: Concrete, asphalt
14. Pollard Street, between Hancock Street and New Market Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block
Current paving material: Granite block, asphalt, gravel
15. Pollard Street, between New Market Street and Germantown Avenue

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block
Current paving material: Granite block, asphalt
16. Sarah Street, between E Allen Street and E Wildey Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block
Current paving material: Asphalt
17. Torresdale Avenue, between Adams Avenue and Orthodox Street

Paving material at time of designation: Red brick between trolley tracks
Current paving material: Asphalt
18. Torresdale Avenue, between Robbins Street and Cottman Avenue

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block between trolley tracks
Current paving material: Asphalt
19. Wister Alley, between dead end and N 3\textsuperscript{rd} Street

Paving material at time of designation: Granite block with cobblestone center gutter (west end only)
Current paving material: Granite block, Asphalt
Located in the Old City Historic District
Proposed for Inclusion to the Historic Street Paving Thematic District

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1. N 18th Street, between Lehigh Avenue and Glenwood Avenue ............... 1
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4. Bridge Street, between Garden Street and dead end ......................... 4
5. Cameron Street, between Francis Street and Wylie Street ................. 5
6. N Chang Street, between Poplar Street and dead end ......................... 6
7. Coral Street, between Auburn Street and William Street ................. 7
8. S Darien Street, between dead end and Reed Street ......................... 8
9. Ellen Street, between Delaware Avenue and Penn Street ................. 9
10. Etting Street, between Flora Street and Stiles Street .................... 10
11. Flora Street, between N 27th Street and N 28th Street .................. 11
12. Gillingham Street, between Penn Street and Griscom Street .......... 12
13. N Hutchinson Street, between Cherry Street and Race Street .......... 13
14. N Jessup Street, between Stiles Street and Thompson Street .......... 14
15. Mintzer Street, between dead end and Brown Street ..................... 15
16. Pearl Street, between dead end and N 15th Street ....................... 16
17. Saint Mark’s Street, between dead end and Baltimore Avenue (excluding dirt area past parking lot driveway) ..................... 17
18. Shamokin Street, between Ridge Avenue and N 11th Street .......... 18
19. Sheldon Street, between Hermitage Street and Fountain Street ...... 19
20. Shunk Street, between Front Street and Swanson Street ............. 20
21. Spring Street, between Juniper Street and Clarion Street ............ 21
22. Wensley Street, between Richmond Street and dead end ............. 22
23. Wildey Street, between Frankford Avenue and Shackamaxon Street ... 23
24. Wolf Street, between Vandalia Street and Wecacoe Street .......... 24
25. S Woodstock Street, between Reed Street and Wharton Street .... 25
1. N 18th Street, between Lehigh Avenue and Glenwood Avenue

Current paving material: Granite block
2. Bouvier Street, between North Street and Melon Street
Current paving material: Granite block, cobblestone
Located within the Spring Garden Historic District
3. Bouvier Street, between Melon Street and Fairmount Avenue
Current paving material: Granite block, cobblestone
Located just outside of the Spring Garden Historic District boundary
4. Bridge Street, between Garden Street and dead end

Current paving material: Granite block
5. Cameron Street, between Francis Street and Wylie Street

Current paving material: Red brick
6. N Chang Street, between Poplar Street and dead end

Current paving material: Red brick
7. Coral Street, between Auburn Street and William Street

Current paving material: Granite block
8. S Darien Street, between dead end and Reed Street

Current paving material: Orange mottled brick
9. Ellen Street, between Delaware Avenue and Penn Street

Current paving material: Granite block, asphalt
10. Etting Street, between Flora Street and Stiles Street

Current paving material: Red brick
11. Flora Street, between N 27th Street and N 28th Street
Current paving material: Granite block
12. Gillingham Street, between Penn Street and Griscom Street

Current paving material: Red brick
13. N Hutchinson Street, between Cherry Street and Race Street

Current paving material: Granite block
14. N Jessup Street, between Stiles Street and Thompson Street

Current paving material: Granite block
15. Mintzer Street, between dead end and Brown Street

Current paving material: Granite block
16. Pearl Street, between dead end and N 15th Street
Current paving material: Granite block
17. Saint Mark’s Street, between dead end and Baltimore Avenue (excluding dirt area past parking lot driveway)

Current paving material: Granite block, orange brick
18. Shamokin Street, between Ridge Avenue and N 11th Street
Current paving material: Red brick, granite block
19. Sheldon Street, between Hermitage Street and Fountain Street

Current paving material: Red brick, concrete
20. Shunk Street, between Front Street and Swanson Street

Current paving material: Granite block
21. Spring Street, between Juniper Street and Clarion Street

Current paving material: Granite block, asphalt
22. Wensley Street, between Richmond Street and dead end

Current paving material: Granite block
23. Wildey Street, between Frankford Avenue and Shackamaxon Street

Current paving material: Granite block, asphalt
24. Wolf Street, between Vandalia Street and Wecaccoe Street

Current paving material: Granite block
25. S Woodstock Street, between Reed Street and Wharton Street

Current paving material: Granite block