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LAMPS IN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY PHILADELPHIA

Prepared by

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Independence National Historical Park

April 1961

Independence National Historical Park
420 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

May 26, 1961

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region V
From: Superintendent, Independence NHP
Subject: Report on Lamps in 18th-Century Philadelphia

We attach herewith a copy of a study on 18th-century lamps prepared recently by members of this office. This special study was prepared to guide EODC in the preparation of plans and specifications for the lighting system of Areas A and B of this Park.

M. O. Andersen
Superintendent

Attachment

5/26/61 - Copy of Report given Dr. Hedges

Philadelphia's Streets Before 1750---Before the advent of public lighting in the city of Philadelphia, the responsibility for illuminating the streets had fallen solely upon the private citizen. For a half century and more residents of the growing provincial town in after hours had stumbled about its darkened streets, at the mercy of robbers or householders' carelessly discarded refuse. In the decade of the 1740's, however, an increasingly self-conscious citizenry began to be disturbed about the condition of the city's streets. Aroused by the prodding of such men as Benjamin Franklin, the inhabitants of the city had begun at last to concert efforts for paving, cleaning, draining, and lighting Philadelphia's neglected streets.

By about the middle of the eighteenth century, certain public-minded citizens had already undertaken to fulfill the need for lighting Philadelphia's streets and by-ways. In Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette for December 19, 1749, appeared a notice which informed the general public that

those who have put up, or intend to put up LAMPS at their doors in this city, are desired to meet at the Widow PRATT'S, on Thursday, the 21st instant...in order to concert measures for having them regularly lighted by persons to be agreed with for the purpose.

Little information exists concerning the appearance of these privately maintained lamps, but as to their general design it can be said that they were equipped with the glass globe which were in use in England during the first half of the eighteenth century. Robert Venable was undoubtedly correct in his remembrance as recounted in

Watson's Annals (Vol. I, p. 102) stating that "the first lamp he ever saw in the streets was round, and was set up before (John) Clifton's door"--a detail corroborated in Franklin's autobiography (Carl Van Doren (ed.), Benjamin Franklin's Autobiographical Writings, New York, p. 727). This is further supported by an advertisement which appeared in the September 15, 1748, edition of the Gazette listing "glass globe [sic] for street lamps."

First Public Lighting in Philadelphia.--The efforts of private citizens apparently did not meet all the needs of a growing city, for in January, 1751, a bill was laid before the Assembly entitled:

As Act for the better regulating the nightly watch within the city of Philadelphia, and for enlightening the streets lanes and alleys of the said city, and for raising of money on the inhabitants of the said City for defraying the necessary expenses thereof. (The Statutes at Large of Pa., V, 11.)

Governor James Hamilton added his concern for the "Many Dangers the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia are exposed to by the Darkness of their Streets" (Colonial Records, V, 505), and with certain amendments, the bill passed in early February 1751.

The act provided that each year at a specified time certain gentlemen termed "wardens" were to meet together at the city courthouse in order to determine when "to erect, put up and fix a sufficient and convenient number of lamps in such parts and places of the said city as to them shall seem meet and expedient." It was also the duty of the wardens "to contract with any person or persons for lighting, trimming, stuffing, supplying, maintaining and repairing" the city's lamps. (The Statutes at Large of Pa., V, 112.) As a warning to certain "evil-

disposed persons," the act provided that a fine of forty shillings be imposed upon any person or persons who "willfully or maliciously break, throw [sic] down or extinguish any lamp that is or shall be hung out or set up to light the said streets, lanes or alleys or shall willfully damage the post, iron or other furniture thereof." (Ibid., V, 119)

A few months later Franklin's Gazette recorded that on September 30, 1751, "the Streets of this City began to be illuminated with Lamps, in Pursuance of a late Act of Assembly." (Pa. Gazette, October 3, 1751.)

Development of Public Lamps.---It is almost certain that these first public lamps were imported from England either in whole or in part. An advertisement which appeared in the Gazette for October 10, 1751, lists "street lamps" as being among those items from London on sale at James Trotter's store on Front Street. Benjamin Franklin, in his autobiographical writings, indicates that this supposition is well founded. In speaking of his innovation regarding lamp design, he mentions it as "differing from the globe lamp we were first supply'd with from London." (Carl Van Doren (ed.), Benjamin Franklin's Autobiographical Writings, New York, p. 727.)

By 1756, the first act regarding public lighting was about to expire. A new bill, representing merely a continuation of the first, was passed into law early in 1757. Under the provisions of the renewed act, however, the wardens were not only entrusted with the task of erecting new lamps, but were also ordered "to maintain, preserve, and

take care of the lamps already erected." (The Statutes at Large of Pa., V, 225.) In addition, the range of punishable offenses was expanded to include willful damage done to the city's "sentry-boxes," upon which public lamps were sometimes placed. (Ibid., V, 233.)

The act for "enlightening the streets" was periodically renewed until the incorporation of the city of Philadelphia in 1789. In 1790, a supplement to the act of incorporation gave to the "mayor, recorder, aldermen and common councilmen in common council assembled" full tax powers respecting the "lighting, watching, watering, pitching, paving and cleaning" of the streets. (The Statutes at Large of Pa., XIII, 497.)

Franklin Introduced New Design in Public Lighting---It was at about the time of the first renewal act in 1756 that Benjamin Franklin made his well-known contribution in the field of public lighting. In his autobiography, Franklin writes that the lamps imported from London were

...inconvenient in these respects: they admitted no air below; the smoke, therefore, did not readily go out above, but circulated in the globe, ledg'd on its inside, and soon obstructed the light they were intended to afford; giving, besides, the daily trouble of wiping them clean; and an accidental stroke on one of them would demolish it, and render it totally useless. I therefore suggested the composing them of four flat panes, with a long funnel above to draw up the smoke and crevices admitting air below, to facilitate the ascent of the smoke; by this means they were kept clean, and did not grow dark in a few hours, as the London lamps do...and an accidental stroke would generally break but a single pane, easily repaired. (Carl Van Doren (ed.), Benjamin Franklin's Autobiographical Writings, New York, 1927-28.)

The practical consequences of Franklin's innovation are obvious. By adopting his ingenious suggestion, the city obtained better public lighting at lower cost to the tax paying townspeople. How rapidly the city of Philadelphia adopted Franklin's suggestion cannot be said. It can be stated, however, that all pictorial evidence for the period of the eighteenth century depicts the Franklin-type lamp exclusively; representations of the globe lamp are totally absent.

The Location of Public Lamps.---The exact location of the first city lamps is not known. The only indications that are given us as to the position of public lighting devices come from periodical newspaper accounts telling about the destruction of certain city-owned lamps (see Appendix A).

As indicated above the placing of lamps was left to the discretion of the "gentlemen" wardens. None of their records are known to exist. As protection as well as convenience was here involved, it is virtually certain that interior streets and courtyards were provided with lights. Private citizens undoubtedly contributed installations for these by-ways wholly within their property limits while governmental authorities undertook the responsibility of interior streets under their jurisdiction.

An examination of eighteenth century prints and engravings reveals that the vast majority of public lamps were placed atop posts located at the edges of the foot-ways, while others were mounted on top watchboxes or bracketed to the walls of buildings. It has been

suggested that these early public lighting devices were also placed atop the city pumps (Ellis F. Oberholzer, Philadelphia: A History, I, 185) but none of the evidence at hand substantiates this claim.

Whether the placement of public lighting devices proceeded with uniformity down through the century is a matter open to question. A description of the city in the year 1771 characterizes the streets as being "well lighted by lamps, placed at the proper distances."

(Caspius's Letters, Containing Observations on a Variety of Subjects, 1771, 10.) A letter written several years later concurs in this judgment, and adds that the lamps are lighted nightly "except when the Moon shines." (Dr. Solomon Brown to William Brown, November 9, 1774, Pa. Magazine of History and Biography, p. 233.) Dunlap's American Daily Advertiser, however, suggests that if the streets were uniformly illuminated in the 1770's, perhaps this uniformity had been lost by the early 1790's. The Advertiser for September 29, 1791, states that

the lighting of many of our streets admits to improvement. The lamps are sufficiently numerous; but are placed at such unequal distances, that at one time you are dazzled, and the next minute you are left in total darkness.

In 1805, however, the opinion is once again expressed that the streets were "well lighted at night" and "kept remarkably clean." (J. Morse, American Univ. Geog., 1805, p. 559.)

The number of public lighting devices increased steadily throughout the eighteenth century and into the next. In 1767, there were 320 public lamps in the streets, alleys and lanes of the city

(Oberholtzer, I, 230). By 1754, this number had more than doubled, with 662 public lamps nightly illuminating the streets of the city.

(B. Davies, Some Accounts of Philadelphia, p. 28.)

Fuel Used in and Design of Public Lamps.—The city lamps of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries burned sperm oil as their illuminant. Other types of illuminants were tallow, beeswax candles, spermaceti candles, rapeseed oil, linseed oil, olive oil, and lard oil. The oils, sperm alone excepted, are not known to have been used to any considerable extent in Philadelphia. Candles were but no case can be made for their place in street lighting. A widespread traffic in spermaceti products had sprung up in the colonies long before the Revolution, leading to a combine with agents in Philadelphia. (H. A. East, Business Enterprises in the American Revolutionary Era, p. 23.) Oberholtzer states in his history of Philadelphia that early in development of the city's street lighting "a quantity of oil was kept in a vault under the meat market, where it emitted a stench unpleasant to the neighborhood." (Oberholtzer, I, 185.) In 1779, a higher tax rate was levied against the citizens of Philadelphia because of the "increase of watchmen and watchmen's wages" and the "excessive high price of oil and materials." (The Statutes at Large of Pa., IX, 391.) By 1784, the public lamps of the city were consuming 8606 gallons of oil annually. (B. Davies, Some Accounts of Philadelphia, p. 28.) In 1810, the captain of the watch was attending at "the old courthouse in Market Street" where he doled out the oil and wick to the various watchmen who were entrusted with lighting the city lamps. (Oberholtzer,

I, 431.) Thus, the fixtures in street lamps from an early date were oil burning in type.

Appearance of Street Lamps.--During the first fifty years of public lighting in Philadelphia, the number of public lamps grew steadily as a provincial town matured into the largest and most sophisticated city in the colonies. With emissaries such as Dr. Franklin in the field, with a system in operation, improvements in lighting were considered as they were developed. Nor did the design remain static. Thus by century's end a number of lamp designs had made their appearance on Philadelphia's streets. It is not beyond conception that a few of the old imported globular lamps were still in place (Illustration No. 1). Then there were the several versions of the paralleled lamps introduced by Franklin and modified to taste and function as the century progressed. Little textual material concerning their appearance and operation has come down to us. However, a wealth of prints and engravings of the period provide an abundant source for recreating lamps of the type then in use.

The lamps of the period were either four-sided or hexagonal in shape. The simple four-sided lamp, however, was far the more prevalent of the two. These lamps were constructed of tin, as were most lamps in the latter half of the eighteenth century. Frequently, the tin was japanned to prevent rusting.

Three distinct sections are evident in these lamps: the metal hood, its funnel or cap, and the glass-enclosed lower section. The hood overhanging the lower section and was either flat-paralleled or

"a" shaped panalled, sometimes with vents, sometimes with a hinged top to permit access. The glass panels of the lower section were four-sided, wider at the top than the bottom. Sometimes the bottom was another glass panel, but more frequently was of vented tin to promote circulation of air. The funnel consisted of a tin cylinder surmounted with either a shallow or high-crowned cup. This in some lamps was also vented. The "original" city lamp in the possession of Independence NHF (Museum #63,002) is representative in size and possesses several of the features common to all. Its dimensions are given in Illustration No. 68.

Appearance of the Lamps' Illuminating Device.---Among the lamps' most distinctive features were their illuminating devices. First of all, they were equipped with cups which held the fuel. These are established early by a notice in the Pennsylvania Gazette dated February 1, 1773, that refers to wilfull damage to certain of the public lamps, and mentions that "some of the Cups which contain the oil have been taken out and carried off." These cups are believed to have had two or more branches, each branch holding a wick. In 1793, the United States Gazetteer reported that there were 662 street lamps along the city's streets, each "consisting of two branches each." (United States Gazetteer, Philadelphia, 1793 [photostat: Sellers Collection, INHP Papers, Folder 33].)

In a letter from William Coudery to the American Philosophical Society dated January 27, 1797, reference is made to a "two spout tin lamp." Robeson's Encyclopedia, in describing an experiment involving various types of illuminating substances, mentions a "lamp with

five small wicks." (Dobson's Encyclopedia, Supplement, II, 321.) The prints suggest that in the larger lamps four-spouted receptacles were used. In these spouts were placed wicks which were made of cotton usually. Dobson indicates that numerous small wicks were considered more efficient and effective than a single large one (Ibid., p. 320).

Benjamin Franklin, always interested in the improvement of lighting devices, made an important discovery which increased the efficiency of wick tube lamps, a type common in the latter half of the eighteenth century. (Heating and Lighting, p. 64-65.) Through experimentation, Franklin found that two wick tubes "ranged up side by side and a certain distance apart gave a greater amount of light than would be furnished by two single-tube lamps." (Ibid., p. 65) This discovery was of immense practical value, was taken up at once and enjoyed great popularity as a feature of interior lighting devices for nearly a century. Certainly, its superior design would have commended it to the gentlemen entrusted with providing the city with proper illumination.

Two methods of suspending the illuminating device are suggested by the evidence at hand. One was described in 1797 by William Couldrey, an Englishman, in a letter to the American Philosophical Society telling of his invention of a "burner or lamp...hung on a cross wire" in a glass globe. The other is to be found in the Park's lamp. It consists of two notched lugs attached to the hood's underside diagonally across from one another. From these notches wires were no doubt dropped to the cup below. Several of the Birch prints have linear representations of this description. The prints also suggest the

possibility of wires on rigid standards dropped vertically from the hood to the cup.

Appearance of the Lamp Standards. --The posts to which the lamps were attached were usually simple, sometimes being nothing more than a plain turned red cedar post that tapered gradually from bottom to top. In other instances, the post was in two sections, the upper telescoping from the lower. Below the lamp was a crosspiece upon which the watchman rested his ladder as he tended the lamp.

Connecting the lamp and post was a bracket. It was of iron as is shown in the original act for "enlightening the streets." Three parts of the lighting device were named; willful damage done to the "post, iron, or other furniture" of the lamp was prescribed under penalty of fine. The brackets were usually either crook-shaped or less radically curved. By no means did all public lighting fixtures have brackets for in many instances the lantern rested directly on the post.

Lighting devices were also frequently attached to the top of the city's watchtowers. Lamps bracketed to walls or other objects constituted the least frequently observed type of public lighting device.

Evaluation and Recommendations

During the historic period (1774-1800) a number of types and designs of lamps were to be found in the Park area and the streets around it. No fewer than nineteen lamps located in or immediately adjacent to the Park can be counted in early prints. As the study reveals, lamps were located on interior streets as well as the principal thoroughfares. They were mounted on standards, watchboxes, and buildings.

In providing interior lighting a variety of types and locations would, therefore, be admissible. It is to be hoped that every location within the Park's boundaries at which a lamp originally was found will receive a duplicate installation. No effort should be spared to make it precisely the same.

In selecting other designs, it is recommended that the rule of uniformity be waived to allow full play with known designs. A rich variety, of obvious interpretive value, can be expected to result. Composites are, however, to be scrupulously avoided. In a few locations on interior streets, wall lamps will be possible and are considered highly desirable.

The principle of authenticating should be applied to the lamps' internal features and not be limited to external appearance. A naked incandescent bulb would undermine the effect of a faithfully rendered casing. It is strongly recommended that a cup-type bulb housing, complete with wick apertures and wicks, be designed for the lamps and that when installed it be suspended realistically by wires or other

historically correct supports. The bulb, of course, should have the appearance of an oil fed flame, to include color and shape, but not necessarily be held to an oil flame's low candlepower.

APPENDIX

LOCATION OF SOME PUBLIC LAMPS IN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

[Pennsylvania Gazette, November 29, 1764]

November 2, 1764

TWENTY POUNDS Reward.

WHEREAS some evil disposed Persons did in the Night time of the 2d inst. November, willfully and maliciously break and destroy the following publick lamps belonging to the City of Philadelphia, viz. One opposite Thomas Tilbury's Door, in Sixth-Street. Two along the Friends Burying Ground, in Arch-street. One at the Corner of Arch, on the West Side of Fourth-street. One opposite William Standley's, in Market-street. One at Rudolph Bunner's Door, in Second-street. One at the Corner of Elm and Third streets. One at the Corner of the New Presbyterian Church, in Arch-street. One in Arch-street, by Isaac Jones's, Esq; and one in Arch-street, at Joseph Stiles's Door....

[Pennsylvania Gazette, February 20, 1772]

February 1, 1772

[Reward for anyone giving information as to the persons who broke two of the public lamps in Second Street, between Spruce and Pine Streets.]

[Pennsylvania Gazette, January 6, 1773]

January 1773

[£25 reward offered by Wardens of City for discovering of persons who stole] one of the PUBLIC LAMPS, which was fixed in Fourth-street, between High and Chestnut-street.

[Pennsylvania Gazette, February 28, 1781]

February 1781

[£25 reward offered for information leading to arrest and conviction of person or persons who stole two public lamps from Water Street between Chestnut and Walnut and have damaged many others.]

[Burt, Nathaniel. Address on the Washington Mansion (Phila., 1875), p. 16]

1790-1800

...The mansion of Washington stood by itself; it was a large double house; few if any equal to it are at present in Philadelphia. The brick of the house was, even in his time, dark with age, and two ancient lamp posts, furnished with large lamps, which stood in front,...

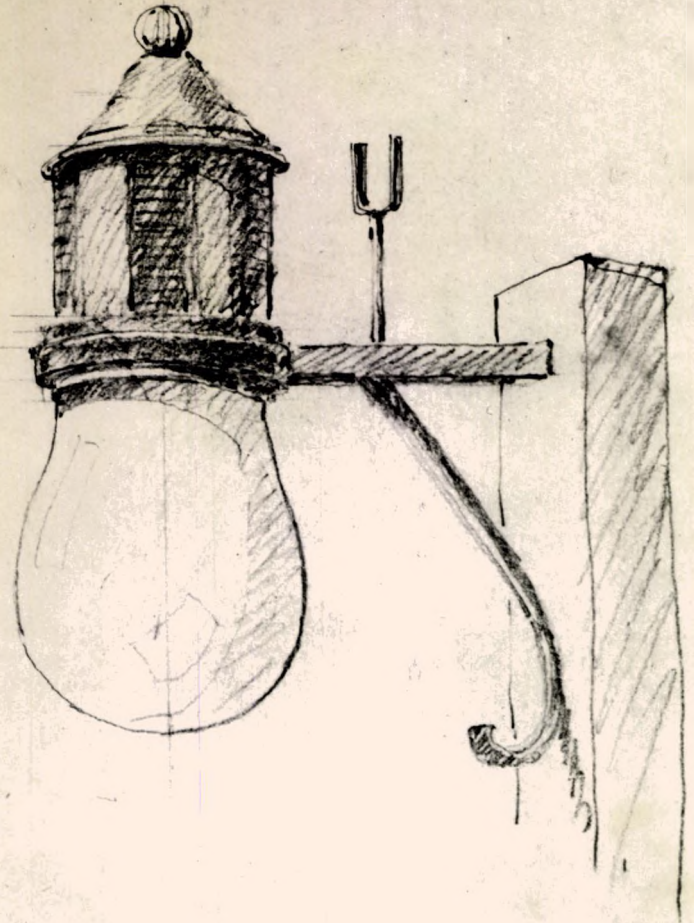
[Minutes of City Council, 1789-1793]

January 16, 1792

Resolved, that the Mayor be requested to order the City Commissioners to pay for the Lamps ordered to be placed in Fifth Street opposite to the Library.

ILLUSTRATIONS

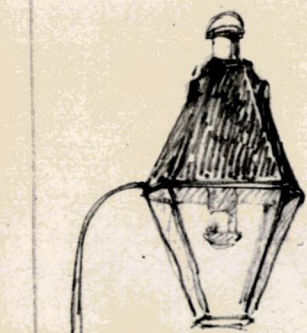
London
18th Century
Hogarth
The First Stage of Cruelty



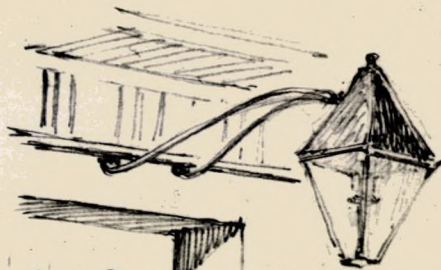
London
18th Century
Hogarth
The Enraged Musician



"Original" City Lamp
18th Century



Arch Street
1799
W. Birch



South Door
State House
1799
W. Birch



Hanging Lamp
High Street Market
1800
W. Birch



Congress Hall
1800
W. Birch



Third Street
W. Birch



Bank of the
United States
1799
W. Birch



Watch Box
on Chestnut St.
1800
W. Birch



Library Company
1799
W. Birch

18th Century Street Lamps

W. M. Campbell



Illustration No. 4

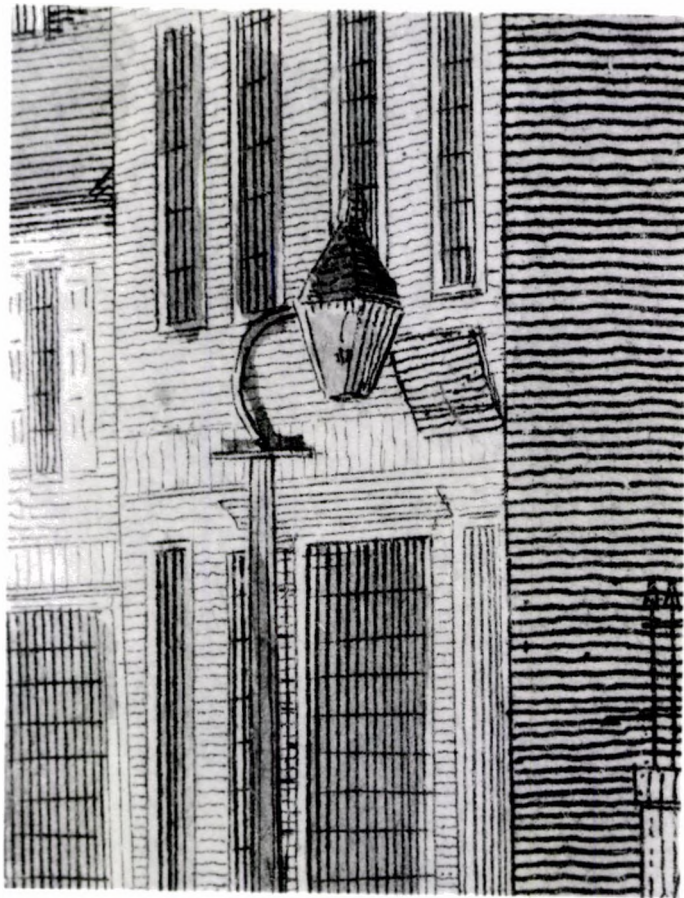
View of lamp on watchbox before State House, from Birch print, 1798, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 21.



Detail of watchbox Lamp before State House.
Note forked bracket and hexagonal shape of
head, from Birch print 1798, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park,
Plate No. 21.



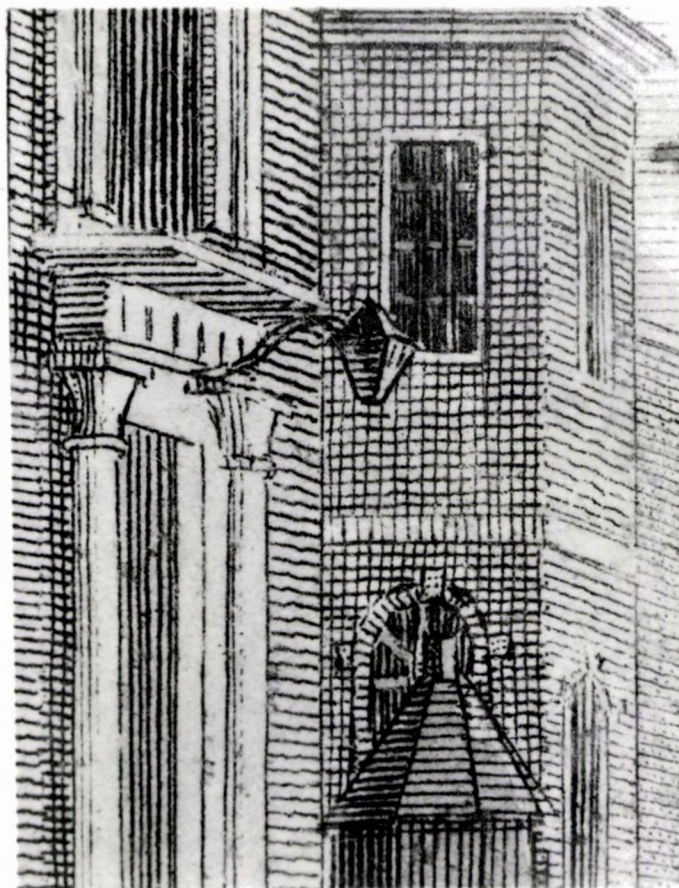
View of lamp on Market Street in front of
First Presbyterian Church from Birch print,
1799, in Collection, Independence National
Historical Park, Plate No. 9.



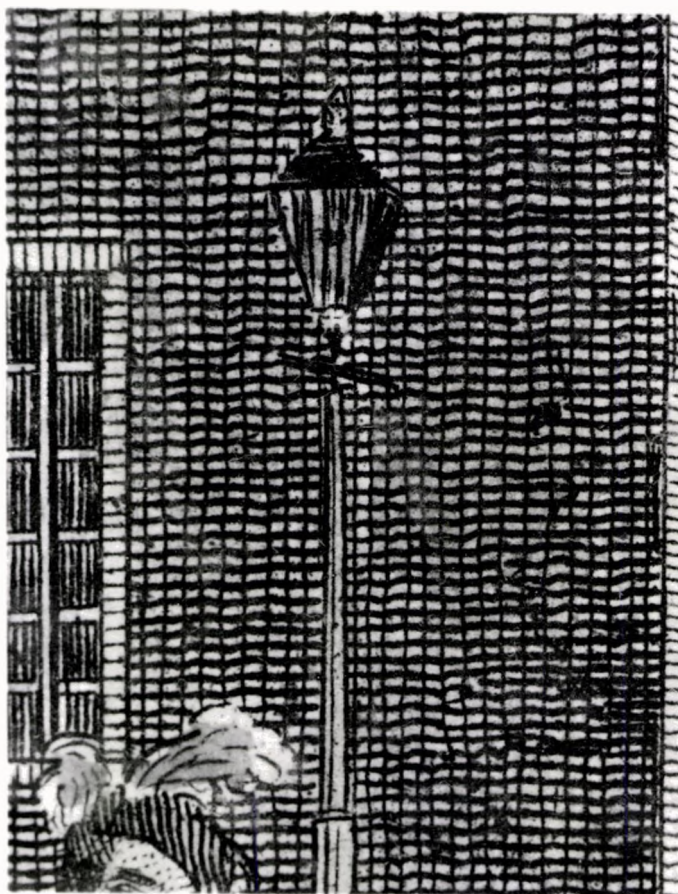
Detail of lamp in front of First Presbyterian Church. Note crook-shaped bracket, location of cross-piece, and shape of post. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 9.



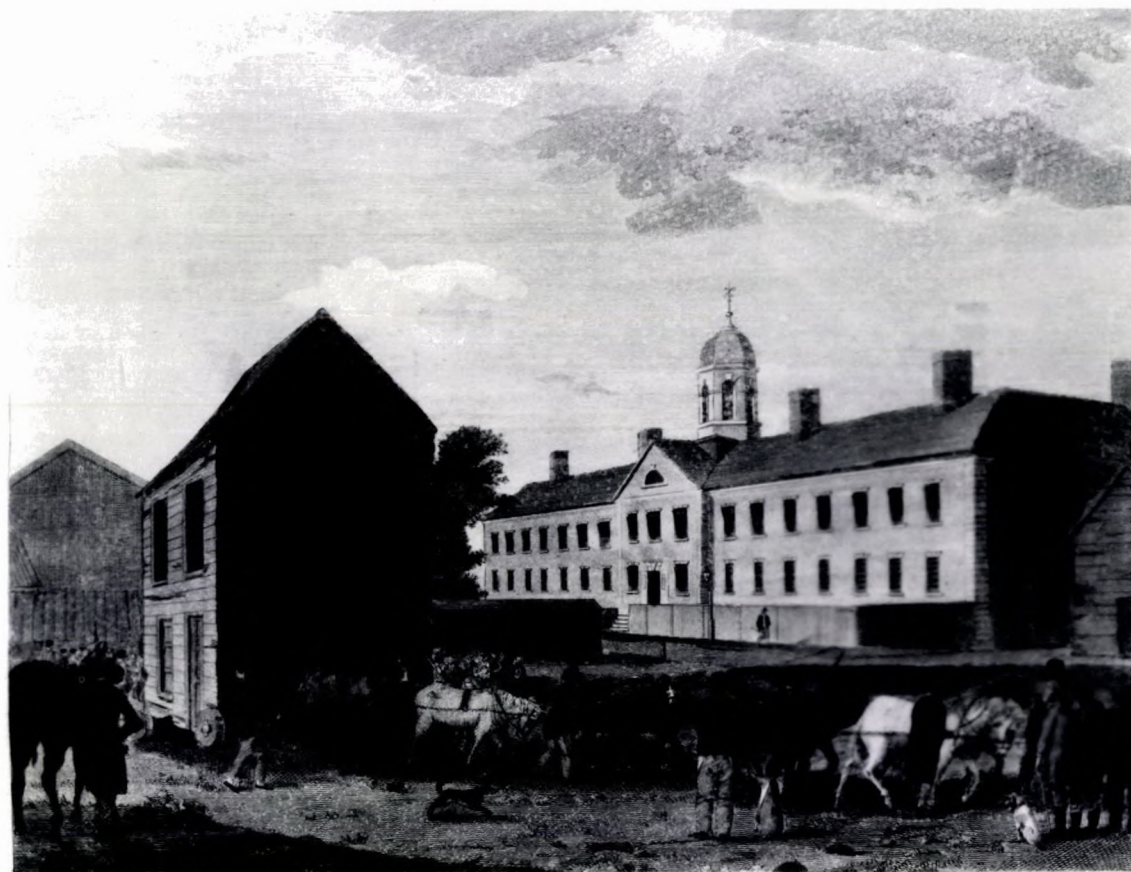
Lamps in rear view of State House from
Birch print, 1799, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park,
Plate No. 22.



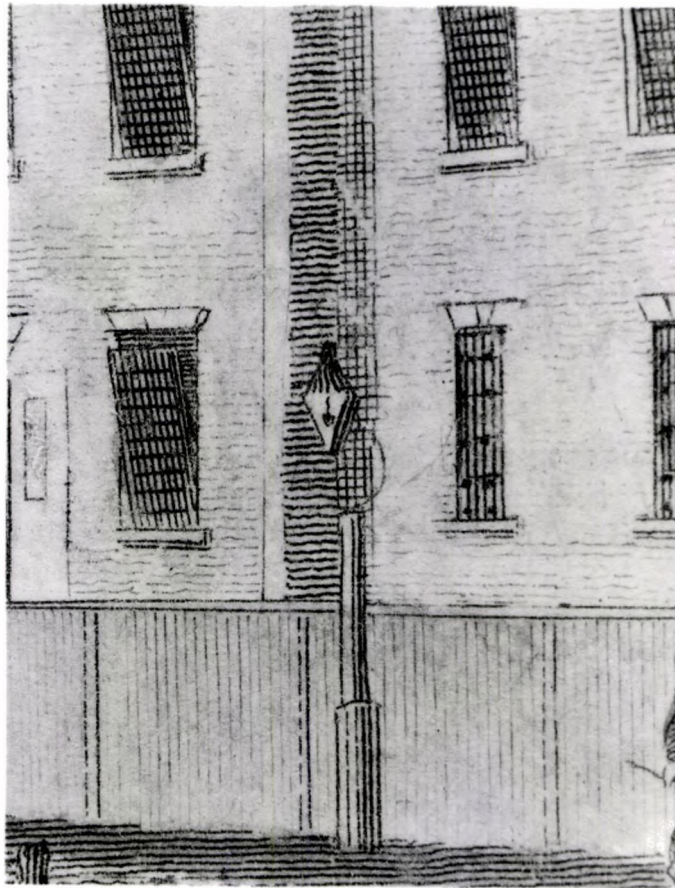
Detail of lamp over tower doorway of State House. Note design of bracket. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 22.



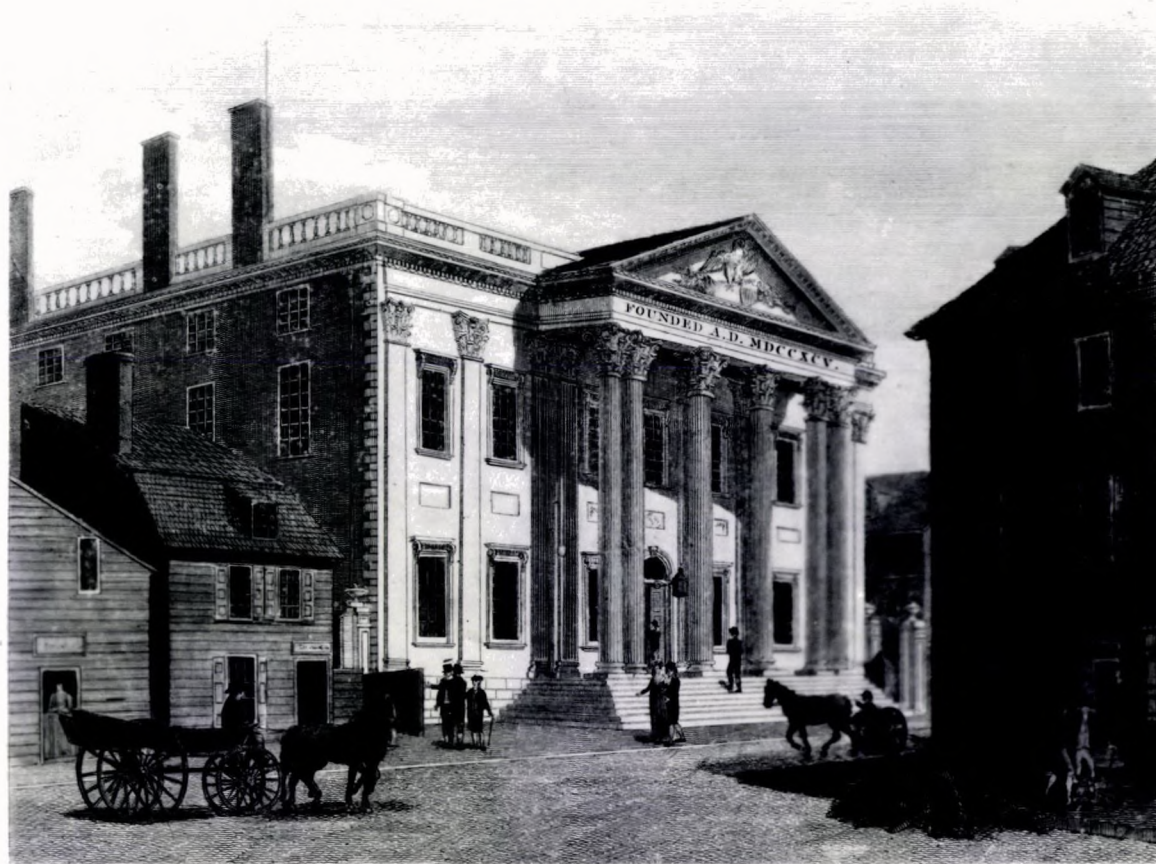
Detail of lamp in State House Garden.
Note base of post and attachment between
post and head of lamp. From Birch print,
1799, in Collection, Independence National
Historical Park, Plate No. 22.



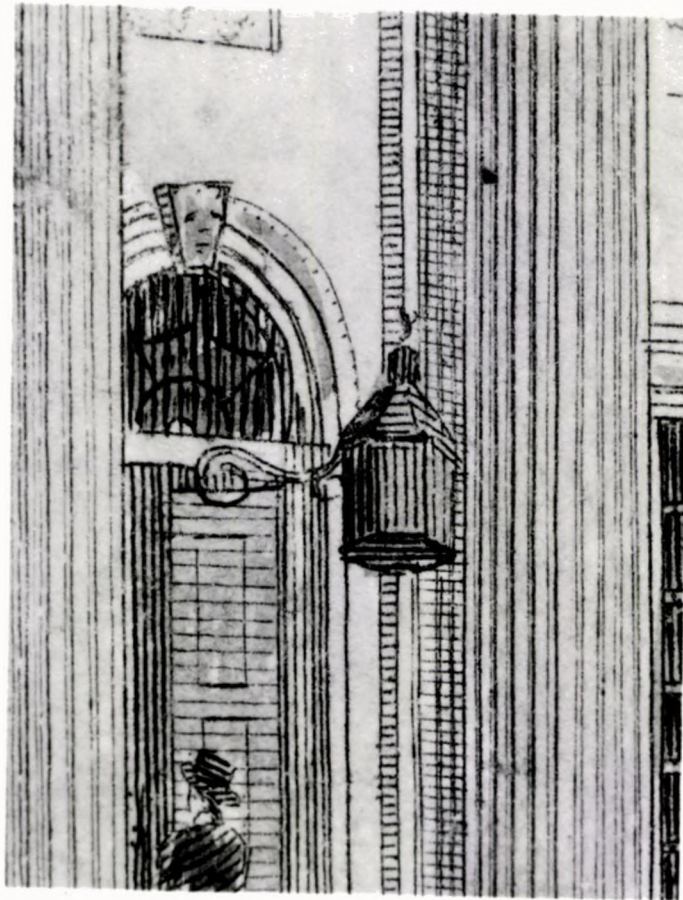
View of lamp in front of Walnut Street
Jail from Birch print, 1799, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park,
Plate No. 24.



Detail of lamp in front of Walnut Street Jail. Note base of post, crook-shaped bracket and point of attachment to lamp, cup-shaped fixture inside lamp. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 24.



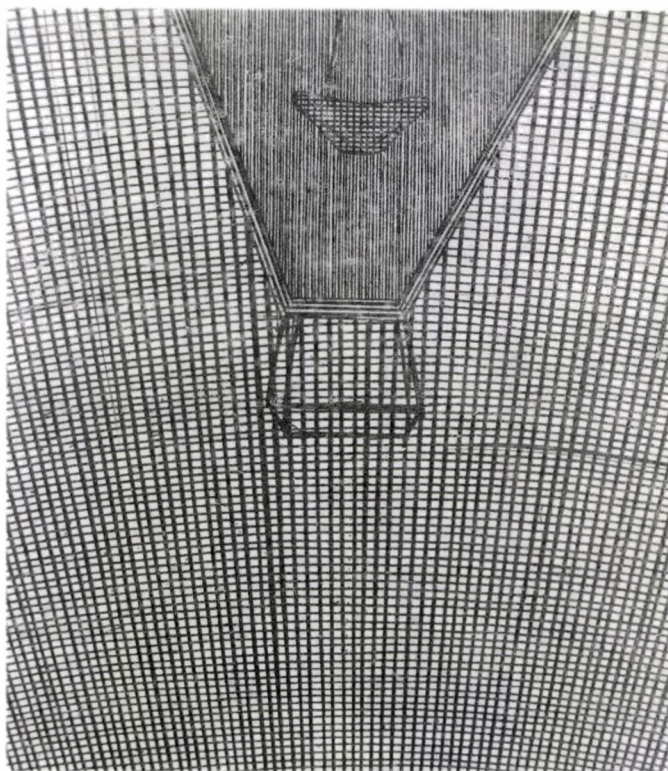
View of lamp over front door of First
Bank of the United States from Birth
print, 1799, in Collection, Independence
National Historical Park, Plate No. 17.



Detail of lamp over door of First Bank of the United States. Note great size and hexagonal shape of lamp, design of bracket and emblem over funnel. Panel sides do not taper. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 17.



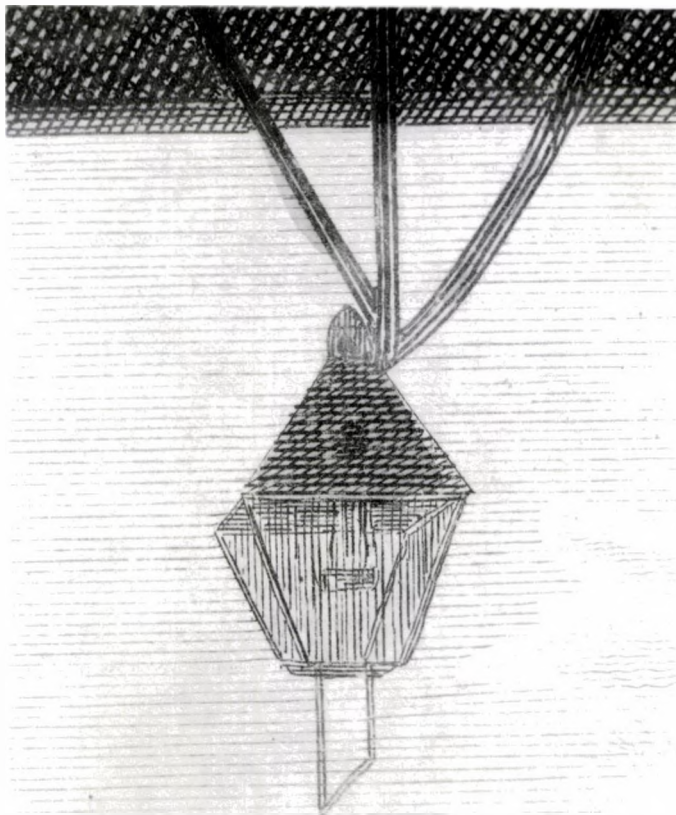
View of lamps in market shed in High Street
from Birch print, 1799, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park, Plate
No. 10. Note brackets of lamps in background.



Detail of lamp in market shed on High Street. Note double or perhaps four-branch lighting fixture in lamp. Also note undercarriage. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 10.



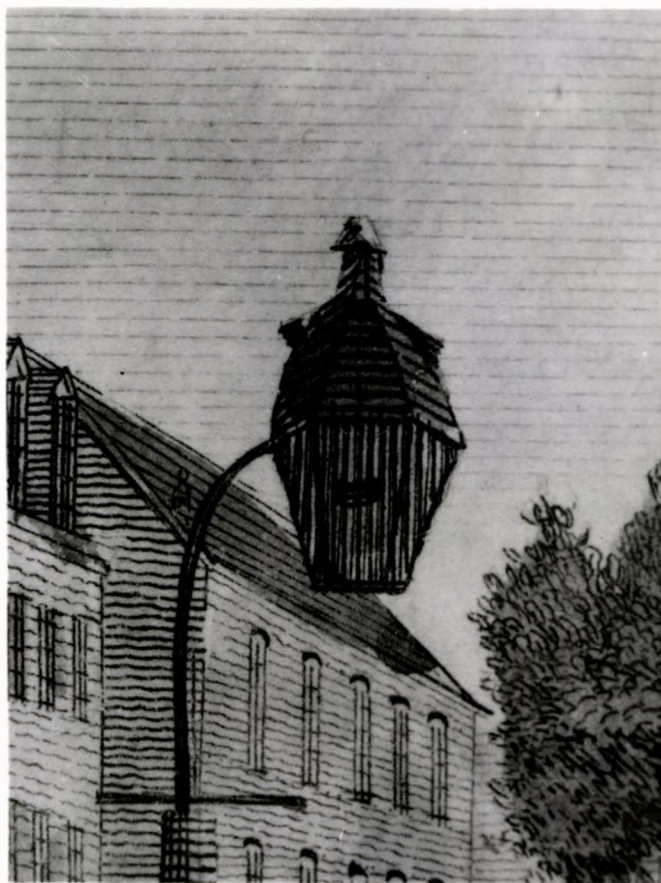
View of lamp at west end of market shed on High
Street from Birch print, 1799, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 11.



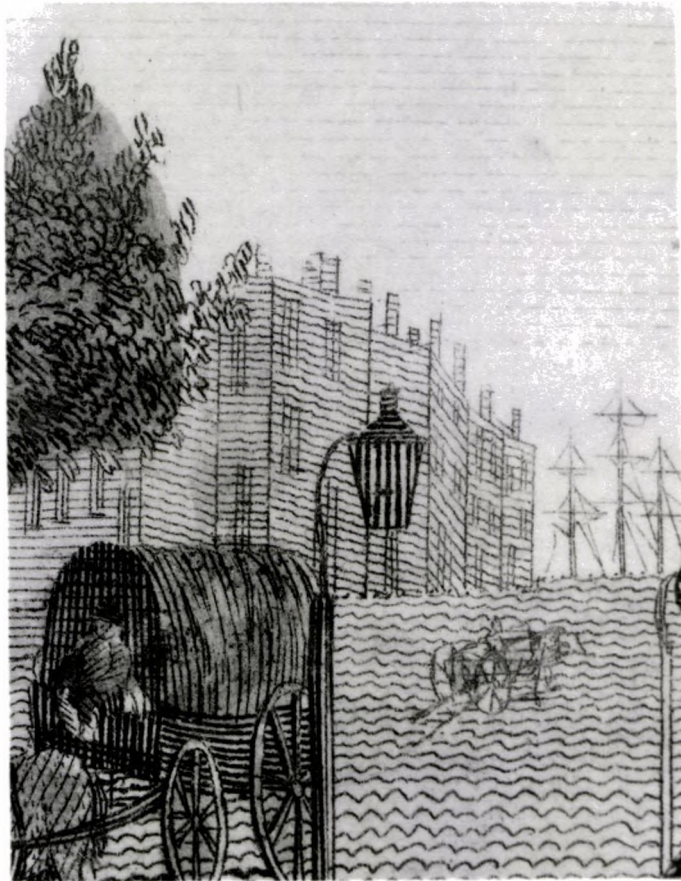
Detail of lamp at west end of market sheds on High Street. Note bracket with curved member, design of lamp head and fixture. Also variation in undercarriage from other lamps shown in Illustration No. 15. This has appearance of handle and suggests lamp was retractable. Hood appears to have vent as does funnel. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 11.



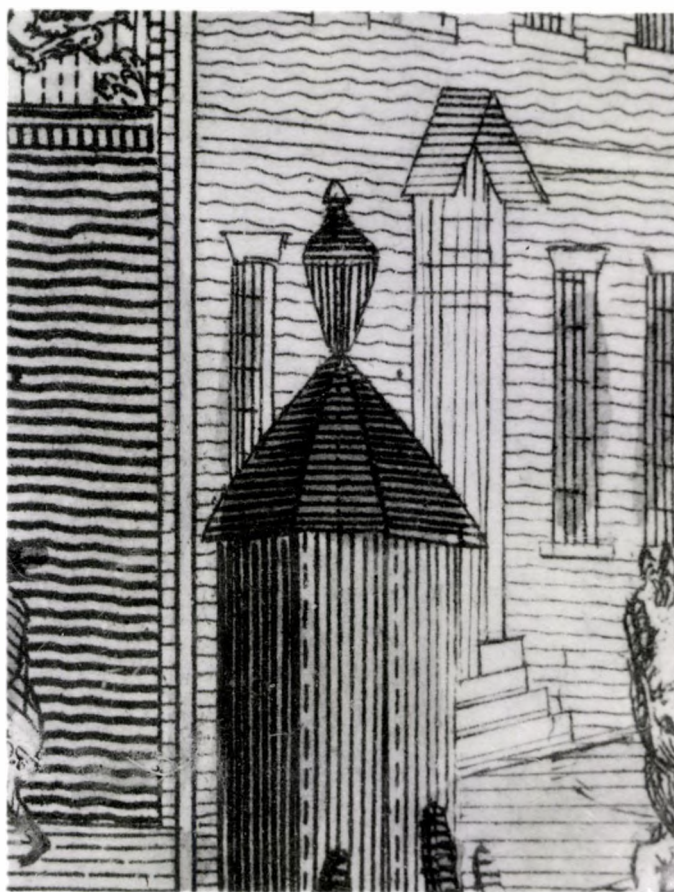
View of lamps on Arch Street from Birch
print, 1799, in Collection, Independence
National Historical Park, Plate No. 4.



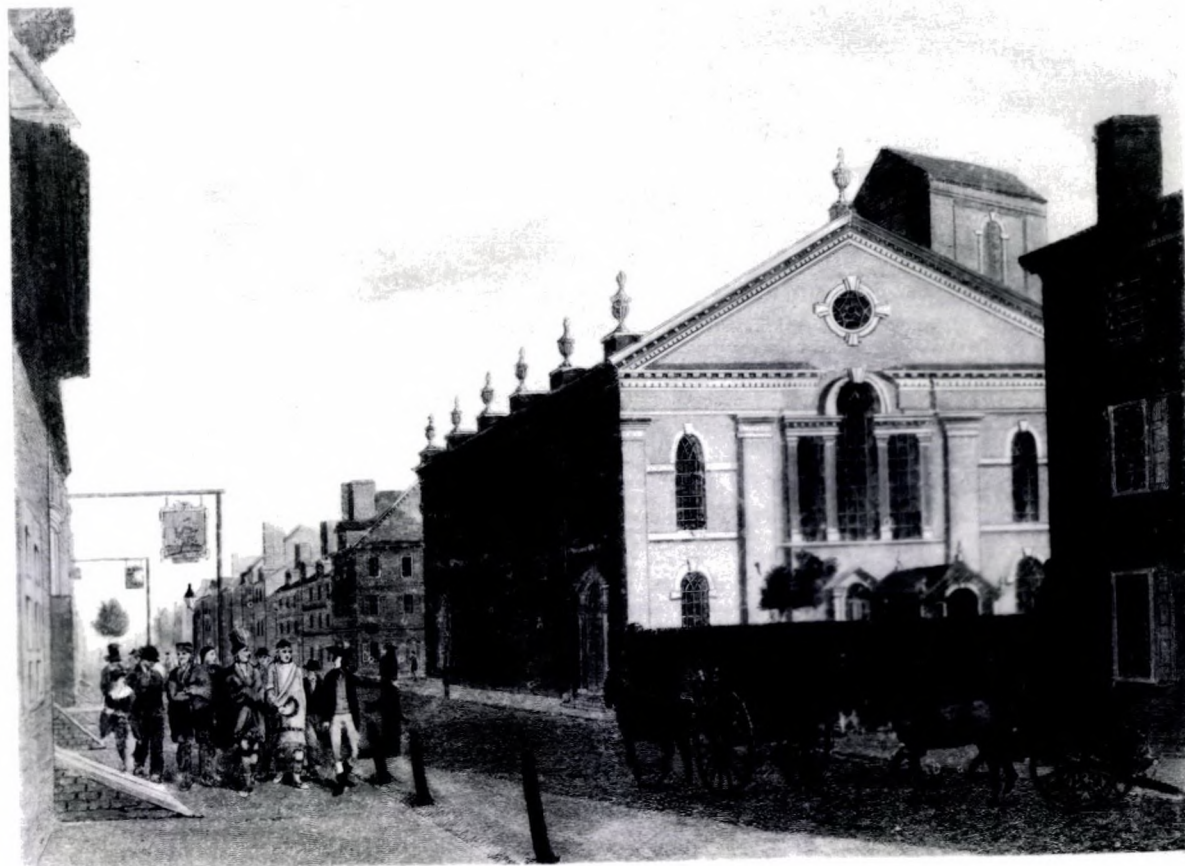
Detail of lamp on Arch Street showing crook-shaped bracket, cross-piece, vented hexagonal head, funnel with cap, and fixture inside. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 4.



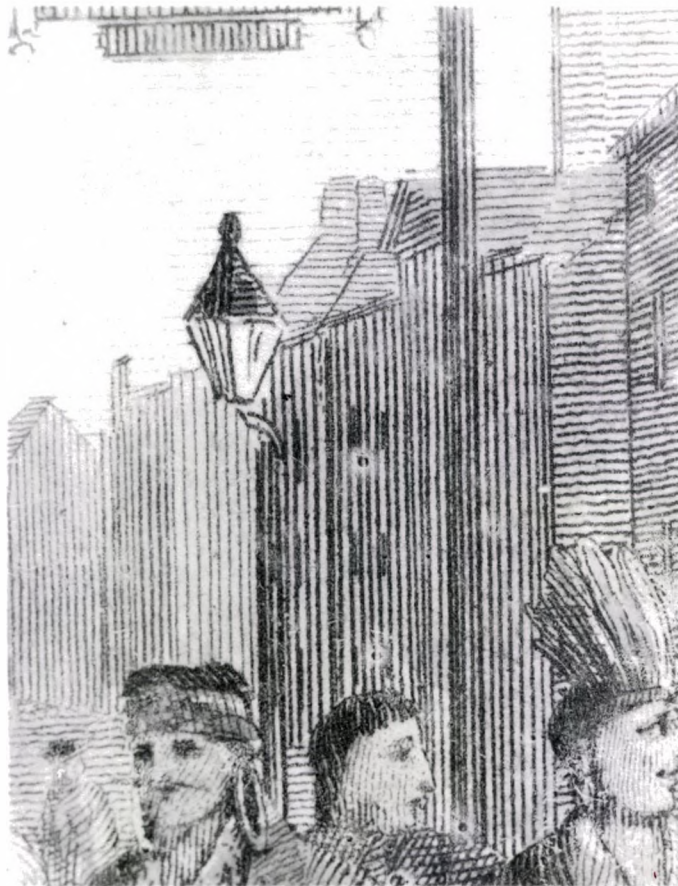
Details of lamp on Arch-Street showing features typical of four-sided heads with crook-shaped brackets and plain post. Note similar lamp in background. From Birch print, 1799, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 4.



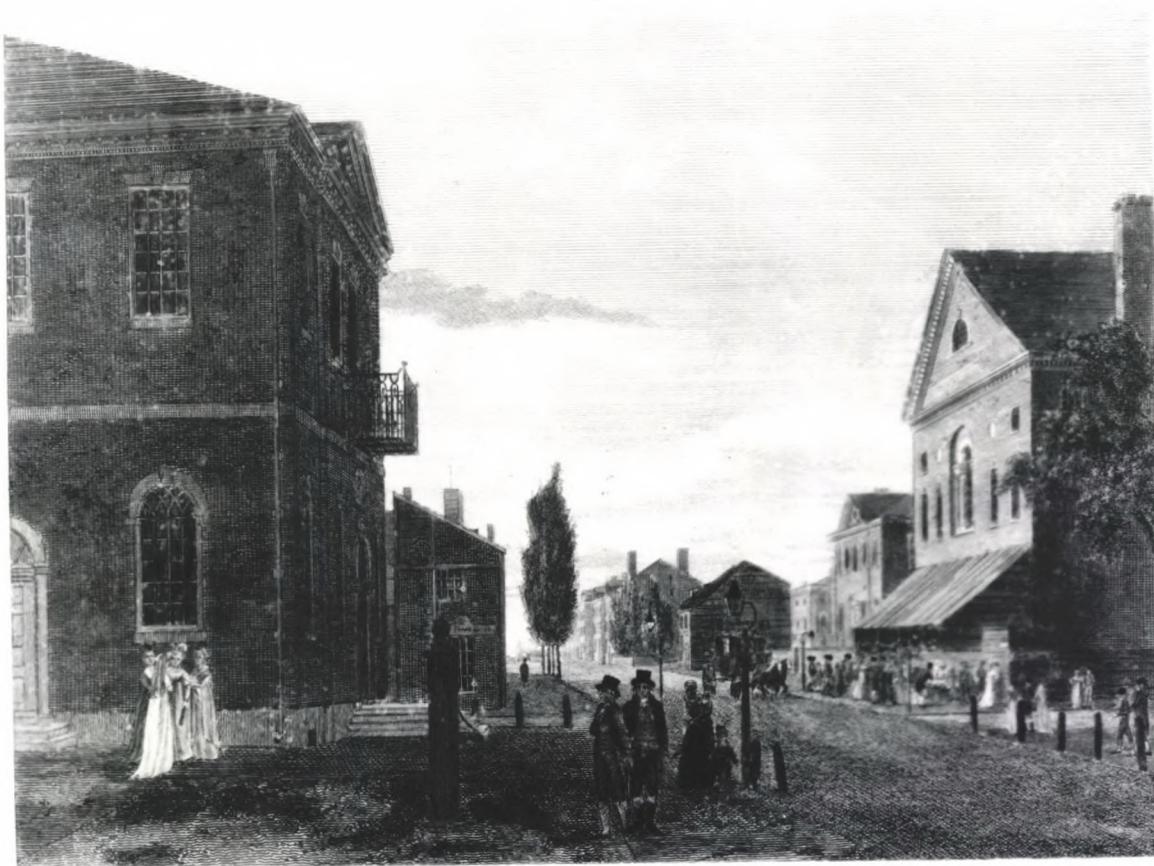
Detail of lamp on watchbox in Arch Street.
From Birch print, 1799, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park,
Plate No. 4.



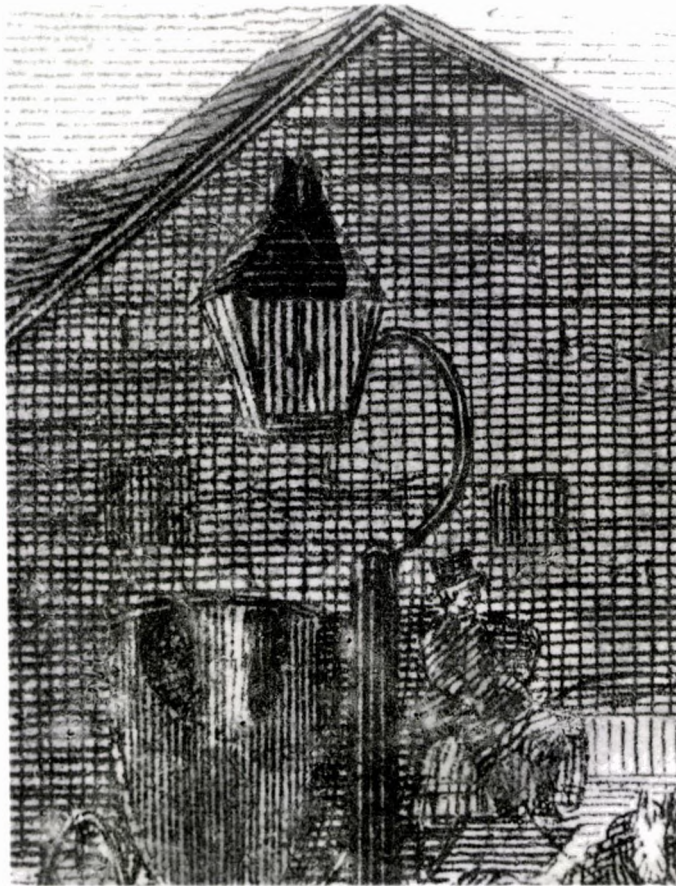
View of lamp across Fourth Street from New
Lutheran Church from Birch print, 1799, in
Collection, Independence National
Historical Park, Plate No. 6.



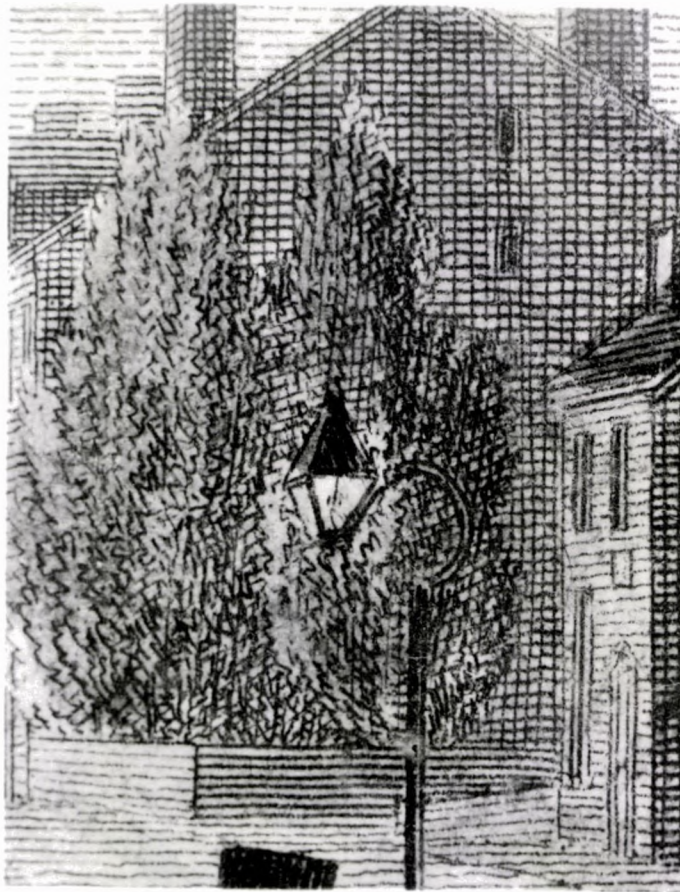
Detail of lamp across Fourth Street from
New Lutheran Church. Note underslung
bracket. From Birch print, 1799, in
Collection, Independence National
Historical Park, Plate No. 6.



View of lamps in front of Congress Hall
from Birch print, 1800, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park,
Plate No. 20.



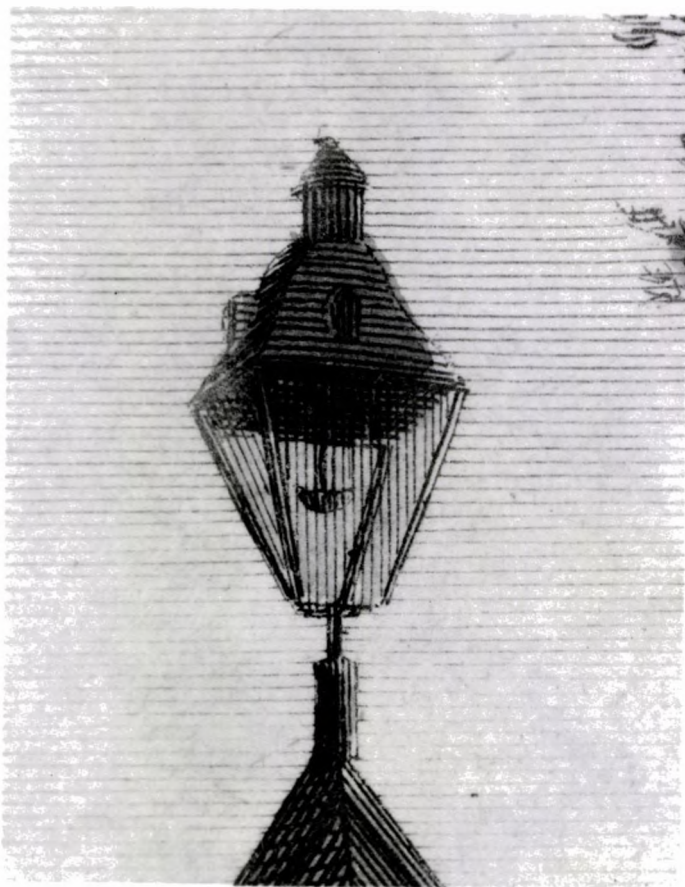
Detail of lamp in front of Congress Hall. Note crook-shaped bracket and point of attachment to lamp head. Typical four-sided lamp is on plain post. From Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 20.



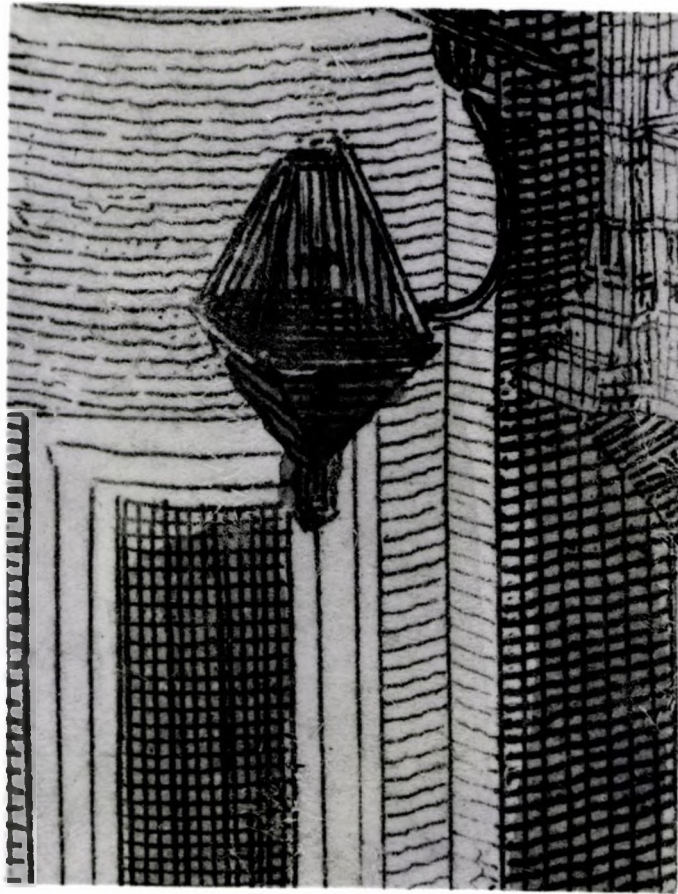
Detail of lamp at corner of Sixth Street in front of Congress Hall. Note crook-shaped bracket and point of attachment to lamp head. This too is typical four-sided lamp on plain post. From Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 20.



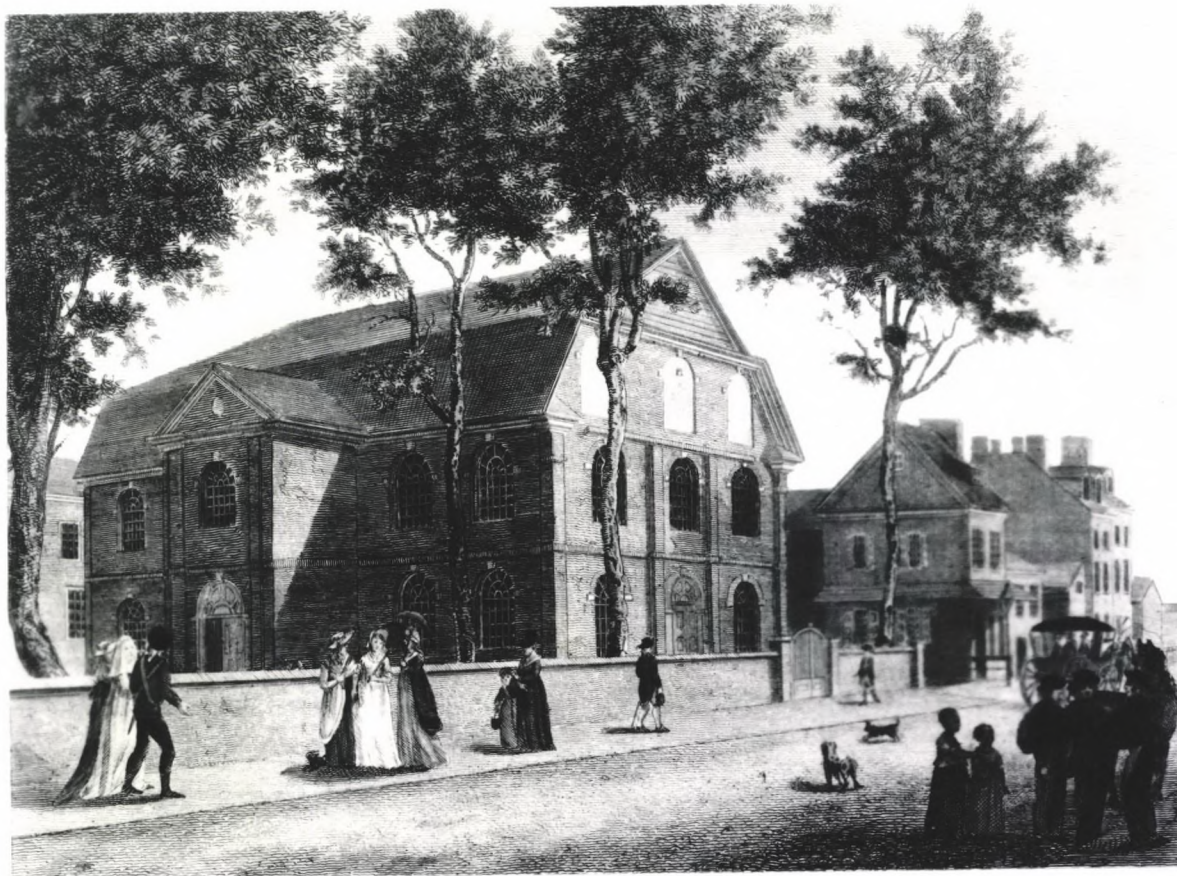
View of lamps in vicinity of Robert Morris' unfinished house on Chestnut Street, from Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 14. Note watchman with ladder and oil can making rounds of lamps.



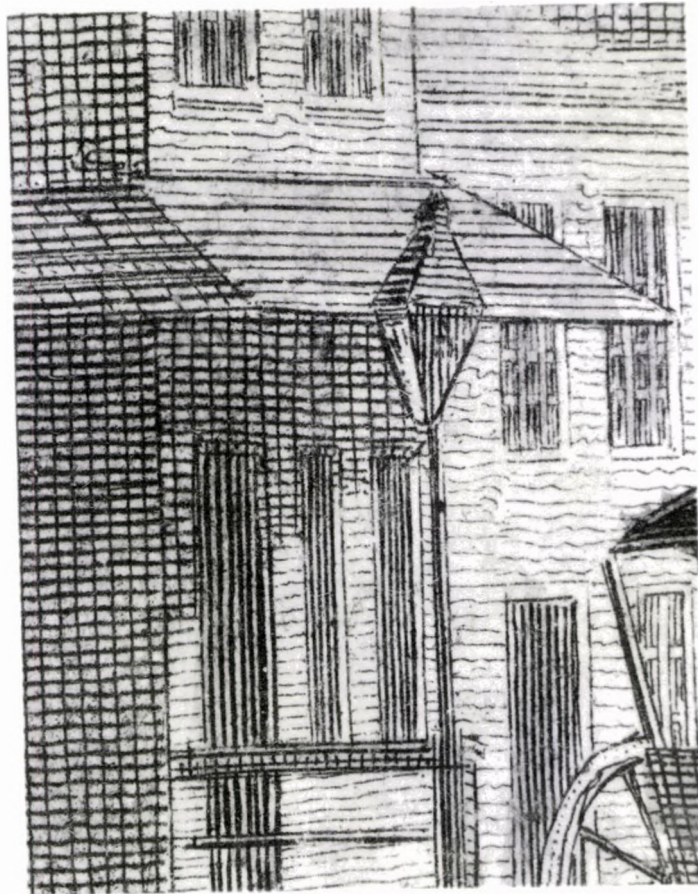
Detail of lamp in vicinity of Robert Morris' unfinished house. Note vented "s"-curved hood, funnel with high-crowned fixture in lamp, and design of attachment to watchbox. From Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 14.



Detail of lamp in vicinity of Robert Morris' unfinished house. Note location of cross-piece at post and bracketed, also suggestion of vent. Other characteristics of four-sided lamps with crook-shaped bracket are present. From Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Plate No. 14.



View of lamp in front of Old Lutheran Church on Fifth Street. From Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, plate No. 7.



Detail of lamp in front of Old Lutheran Church. Lamp is attached to post directly without curved bracket. From Birch print, 1800, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, plate No. 7.

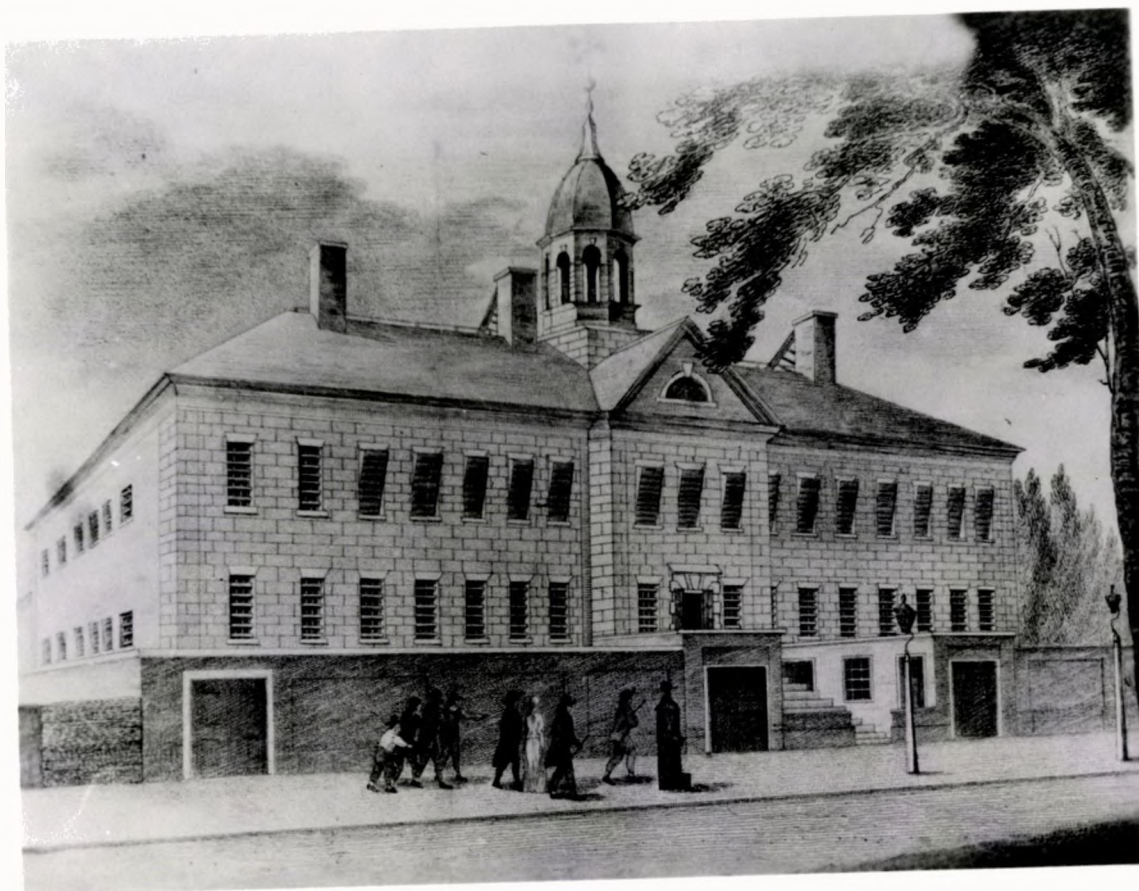


N.W. CORNER of CHESTNUT & THIRD STREETS PHILAD.
Fashionable & Plain Hats, Chapans, Caps, Ladies beaver bonnets & Childrens fancy Hats.
 Wholesale & Retail.

View of lamp on Chestnut Street, 1800, from Thomas Birch print. Photograph in Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 1724.



Detail of lamp on Chestnut Street.
Note design of bracket and post with
bolt to hold cross-piece. From Thomas
Birch print; photograph in Independence
National Historical Park files, negative
No. 1724.



Lamps in front of Walnut Street Jail
c. 1804, from Birch print. Photograph
in Independence National Historical
Park files, Negative No. 422.



Detail of lamp in front of Walnut Street Jail. Note configuration of bracket and point of attachment. Also shape of funnel and suggestion of finial atop it. Hood is "s"-shaped with vents. Plain wooden post has cap, perhaps to prevent splitting. From Birch print; photograph in Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 422.



View of lamp on Second Street in front
of Christ Church, from 1811 painting by
William Strickland, in Collection,
Independence National Historical Park,
Museum No. 1126.



Detail of lamp on Second Street, in front of Christ Church, showing "s"-shaped hood, crook-shaped bracket, cross-piece above post, and high-crowned funnel cap, from 1811 painting by William Strickland, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Museum No. 1126.



"Worldly Folk" Questioning Chimney Sweeps before Christ Church

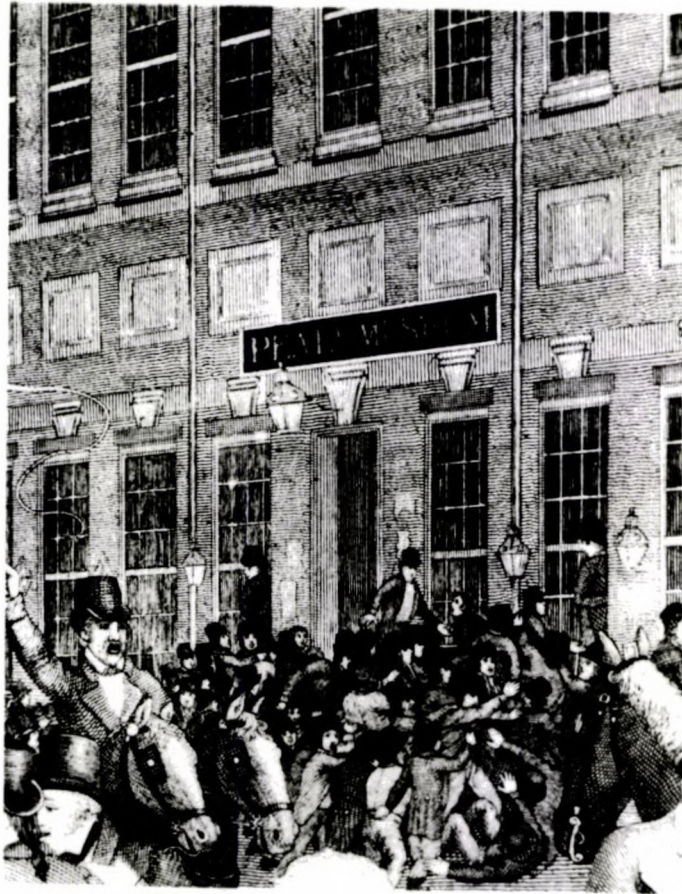
View of lamp on Second Street across
from Christ Church from Pavel P. Svin'in
watercolor c. 1811. Photographed from
reproduction in Pennsylvania Magazine of
History and Biography, LXXV, following
p. 24.



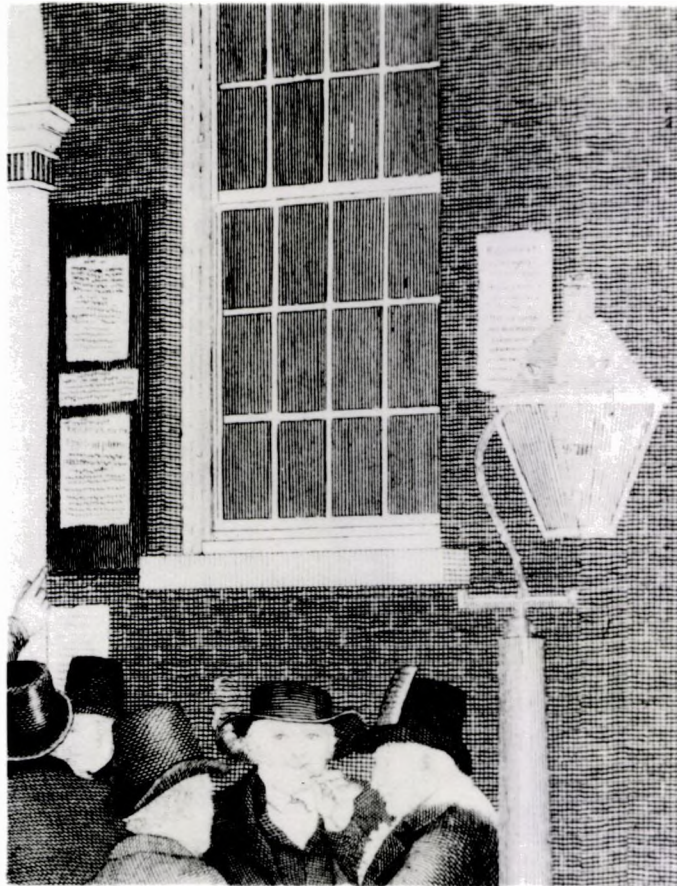
Detail of lamp in Svin'in watercolor is definite as to several of installation's features. Note especially double-branch fixture in lamp, shape of lamp head including vented "s"-shaped hood, vents in funnel, shape of cap and its finial. Note also bracket and location and design of cross-piece. Post has cap with moldings, but is in other respects typical. Photograph from reproduction in Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, LXXV, following p. 24.



View of lamp in front of Independence Hall and Congress Hall from Krimmel print, 1815, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park; photograph in Park files, negative CN 17074.



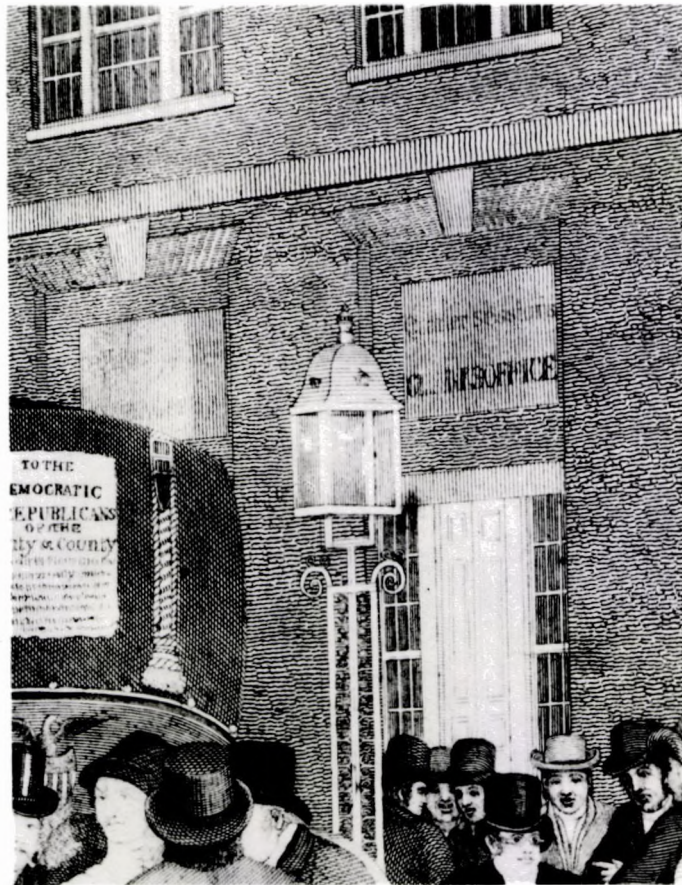
Detail of lamps on front of Independence Hall. Note bracket of lamp over front doorway. From Krimmel print, 1815, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park; photograph in Park files, negative CN 17074.



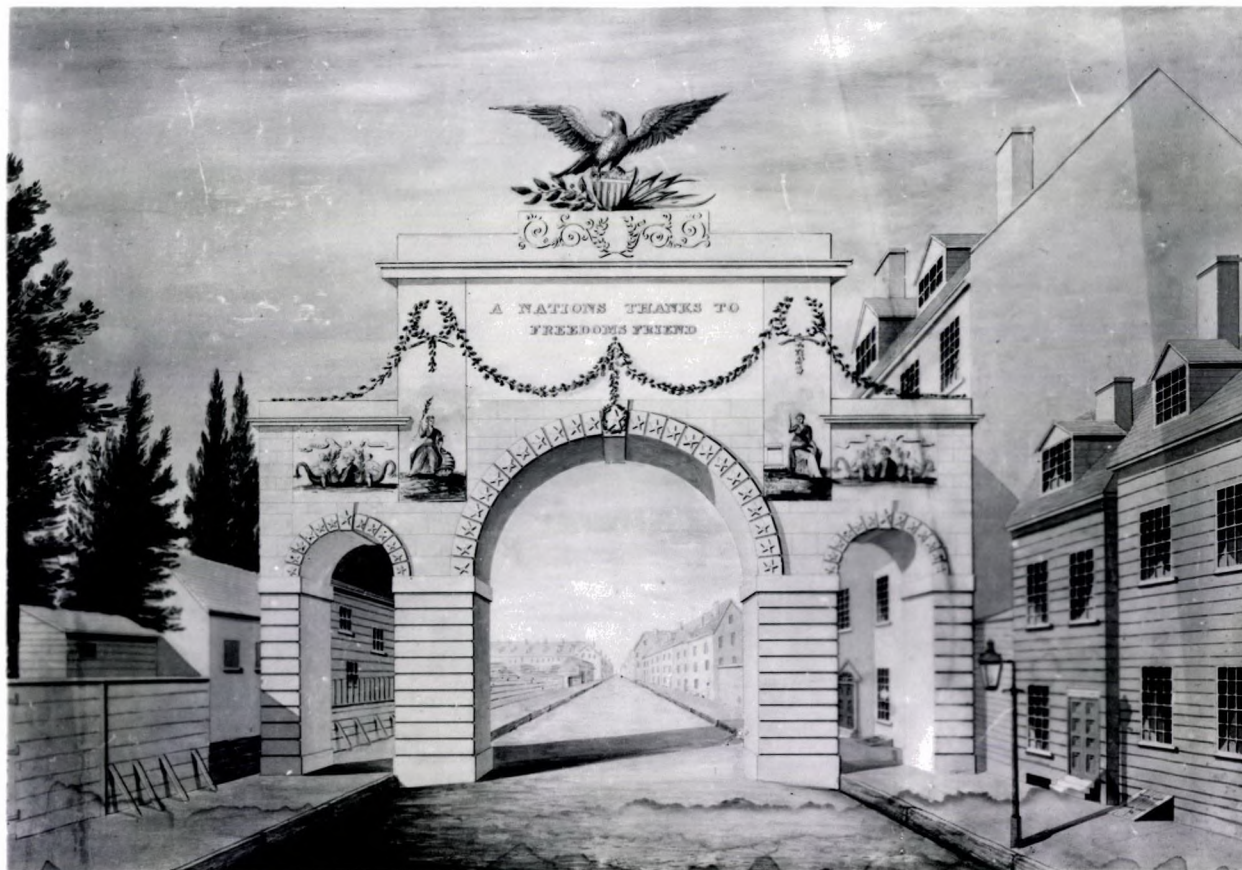
Detail of lamp on sidewalk in front of Congress Hall. Note crook-shaped bracket, cross-piece, standard, and contour of hood and funnel cap. From Krimmel print, 1815, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park; photograph in Park files, negative CN 17074.



Detail of lamp in front of Independence Hall. From Krimmel print, 1815, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park; photograph in Park files, negative CN 17074.



Detail of lamp in front of West Mills Building showing very different characteristics from more conventional types. Note especially enriched standard, type of bracket, rectangular glass panels, and funnel. From Krimmel print, 1815, in Collection, Independence National Historical Park; photograph in Park files, negative CN 17074.



View of lamp next to Lafayette Arch, c. 1824,
from S. H. Kneass watercolor sketch from
Collection, Independence National Historical
Park, Museum SN 14.001.



Detail of lamp next to Lafayette Arch showing right angle bracket, cross-piece and wires and cup in lamp. From S. H. Kneass watercolor sketch in Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Museum SN 14.001.



View of ^Lcamp across from Bank of Pennsylvania,
c. 1830, from engraving by Wm. E. Tucker based
on drawing by George Strickland. Photograph
from Park files, negative No. 2162.



Detail of lamp across from Bank of
Pennsylvania. Note appearance of cup.
From engraving by Wm. E. Tucker based on
drawing by George Strickland.
Photograph from Park files, negative No.
2162.



View of lamp in front of President's House on Market Street at Ninth when occupied by University of Pennsylvania, from engraving by William Strickland, c. 1830. Photograph in Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 301.



Detail of lamp in vicinity of President's House. Note contour of lamp's hood, curvature of bracket, position of cross-piece, and plain post. From engraving by William Strickland, c. 1830. Photograph in Independence Historical Park files, negative No. 301.



View of First Town Hall or Old Court House on Market
Street at Second, c. 1830. Photograph in Independence
National Historical Park Collection, negative No. CN 13112.



Detail of lamp on corner of Market Street at Second. Note the appearance of the funnel and the crook-shaped bracket with cross-piece. Photograph in Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. CN 13112.

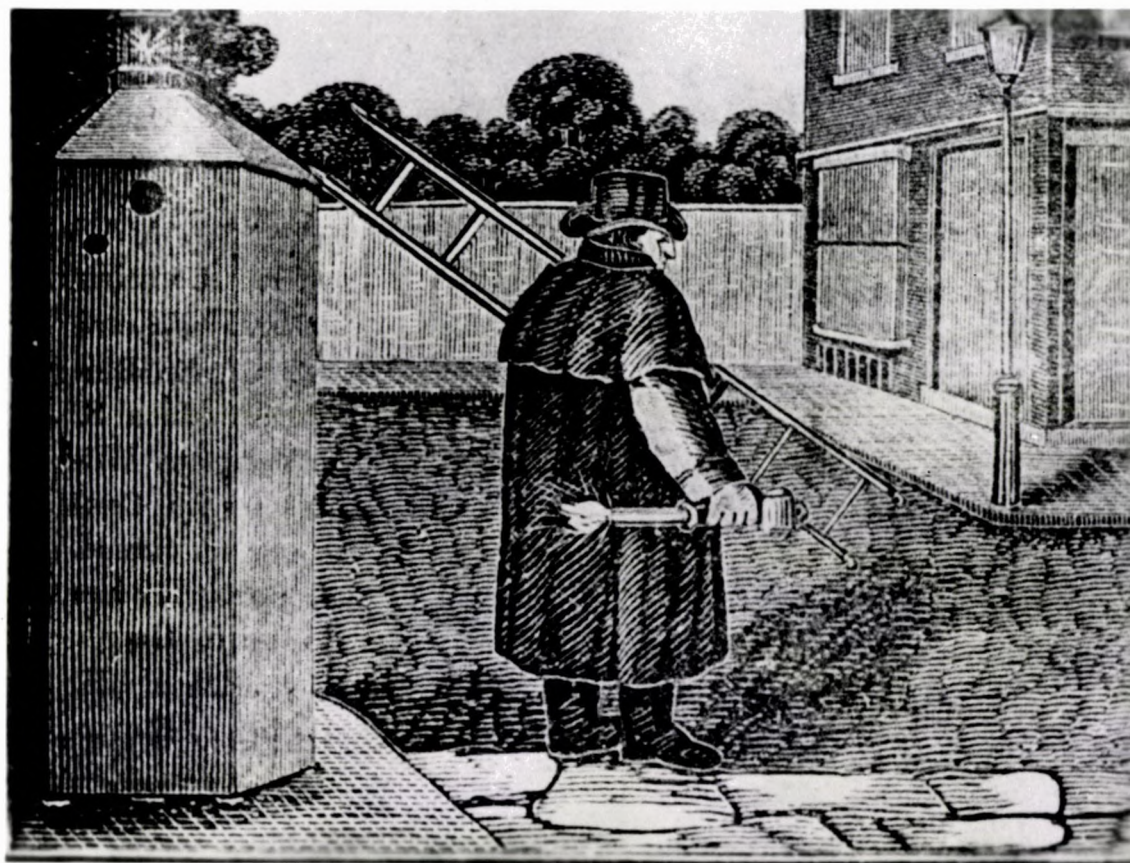


Illustration No. 54

View of a night watchman making his rounds, c. 1830.
(See E. P. Oberholtzer, Philadelphia: A History of
the City and its People, II, 298.)



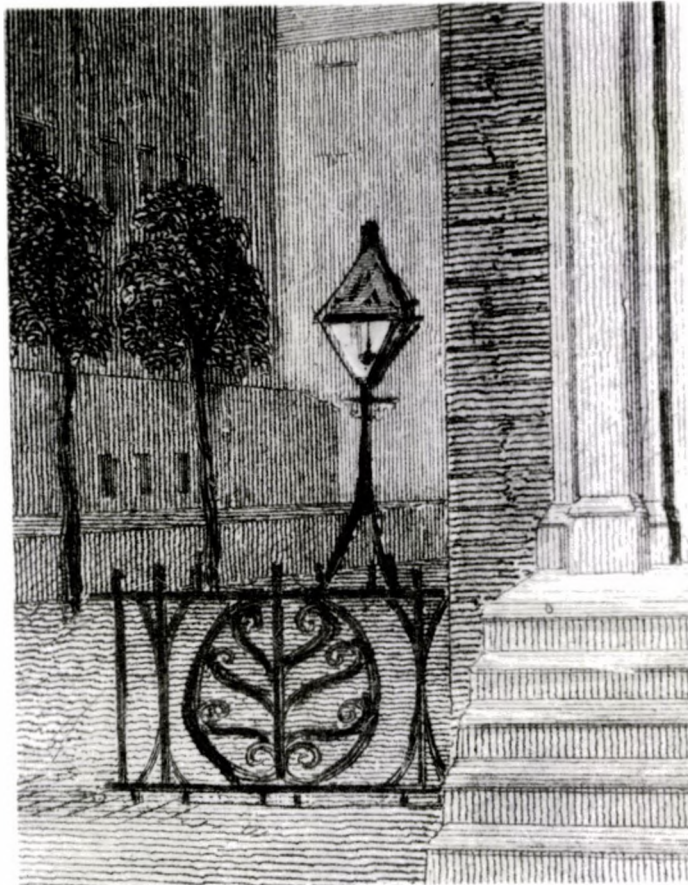
Detail of lamp surmounting watchbox.
(See E. P. Oberholtzer, Philadelphia: A History of the City and its People, II 298.)



Detail of lamp located at edge of footway on the corner. Note attachment between post and head of lamp, position of cross-piece, and funnel atop lamp. (See E. P. Oberholtzer, Philadelphia: A History of the City and its People, II, 298.)



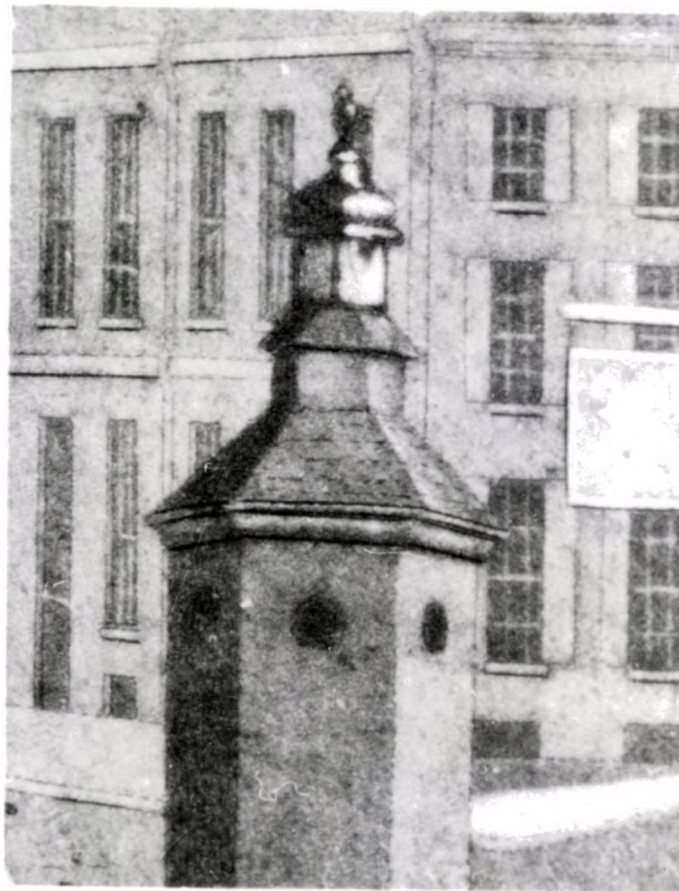
View of the United States Bank drawn by C. Burton and engraved and printed by Fener & Co., published 1831. From Collection, Independence National Historical Park, Museum No. 1127. Also, photograph in Park files, negative No. 5381B.



Detail of lamp bracketed to iron fence adjoining United States Bank. Note especially the manner in which the bracket attaches the standard with its cross-piece to the fence. Note also the pyramidal shape of the hood, the funnel atop it, and the suggestion of a suspended lighting apparatus inside. Photograph, Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 5381B.



View of the Philadelphia Exchange, drawn by
W. Strickland and engraved by J. Sartain,
c. 1834-40. Photograph in Independence
National Historical Park files, negative No.
1692.



Detail from engraving of Philadelphia Exchange showing lighting device fixed atop watchbox. Note four-sided lamp with parallel glass panes, curvature of hood, funnel with conical shaped cup, and finial at apex of the fixture. Photograph in Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 1692.



View from Drawbridge Wharf, 1835, from a watercolor
by W. J. Breton. Photograph in Independence National
Historical Park files, negative No. A-2204.



Detail of lamp located near Drawbridge Wharf. Note curvature of vented hood and the funnel with cap. Note appearance of bracket joining lamp to post, and point of attachment between lamp and bracket. Photograph in Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. A-2204.



A SOUTH WEST VIEW OF SANDERSON'S FRANKLIN HOUSE FROM CHESTNUT STREET PHILADELPHIA

View of Sanderson's Franklin House on Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia. Drawn and engraved by John Ruben Smith,
c. 1838. Photograph from Independence National
Historical Park files, negative No. 213.



Detail of lamp attached to building across the street from Sanderson's Franklin House. Note manner in which lamp is bracketed to building. Note curvature of glass paned hood, and the funnel surmounted by cap with finial. Photograph from Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 213.



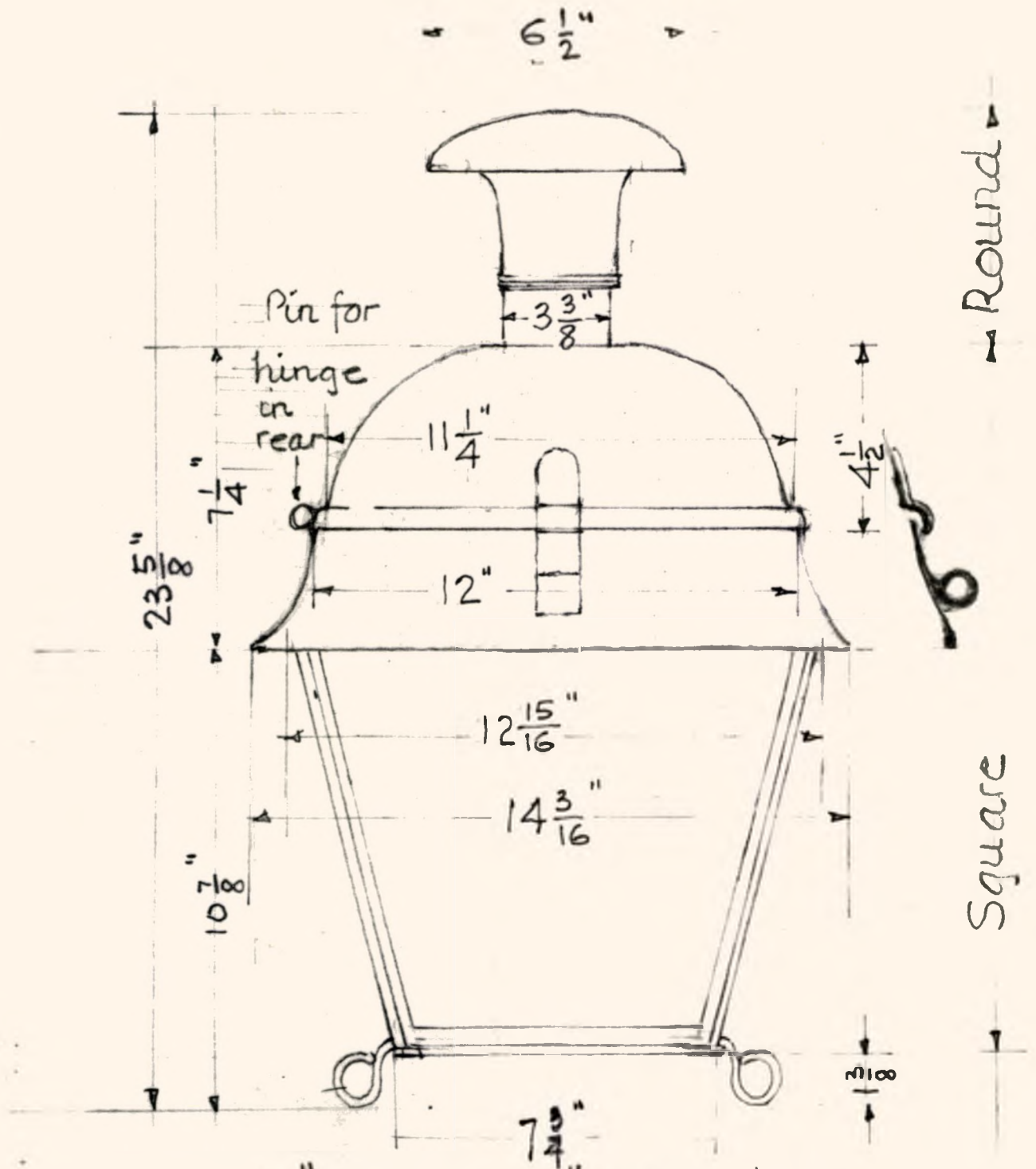
Detail of lamps along Chestnut Street in vicinity of Sanderson's Franklin House. Note that hoods of all lamps appear to be of glass, and that heads rest directly upon standards. Note also the uniform placement of public lamps along Chestnut Street. Photograph from Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 213.



Photograph of old watchbox in yard of Friends Meeting House, Arch Street at Third. This watchbox was located at Eighth and Walnut Streets until 1850. Photograph from Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 1405.



Detail from photograph showing lighting device atop old watchbox. Note hexagonal shape and rectangular glass panes. Photograph from Independence National Historical Park files, negative No. 1405.



"Original" City Lamp
 "18th. Century"

Scale 3"=1'.0"