



The Historical  
Society of  
Pennsylvania

Am .3801

**Northern Liberties (Philadelphia, Pa.)**

**Board of Commissioners**

**Collection**

**1838-1854**

**1 volume, 0.12 lin. feet**

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**Abstract**

This volume is the ordinance book of the Northern Liberties Board of Commissioners. Ordinances include the requirement of owners of railroads to repair the streets along which the tracks run, permission to the Gas Works to lay gas lines along various streets throughout the district, street name changes, determination of the mayor's salary, the election of a district superintendent for the collection of water rents, the regulation of fire departments, the establishment of a nightly patrol for the protection of the district from incendiaries, prevention of dogs wandering into the district, the establishment of stands for the sale of oysters, and other routine (and extraordinary) policy decisions.

Ordinances enacted in the Northern Liberties District from 1838 to 1854 cover a wide range of municipal issues. Included are ordinances for regulating pawn brokers, establishing of sewers and regulation of water, altering street names, providing salaries for government workers, collecting taxes, appropriating funds for the fire company, establishing "stands for the sale of oysters," constructing and managing gas works, creating guidelines to "prevent dogs from going at large," and suppressing nuisances.

Northern Liberties, the land immediately to the north of the city proper, was one of Philadelphia's original townships. In 1803 the portion of the township from the Delaware River west to Sixth Street, and from Vine Street north to Cohocksink Creek, was incorporated. The district was managed by a Board of Commissioners. In 1819, the district boundaries were changed slightly. In 1854 Northern Liberties and other outlying municipalities in the county were consolidated with the city and subsequently managed by city government.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Restrictions**

The collection is open for research.

### **Acquisition information**

Gift of A.S.W. Rosenbach. 1939.

### **Preferred citation**

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], Northern Liberties (Philadelphia, Pa.) Board of Commissioners collection (Am .3801), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

### **Processing note**

This volume has been cleaned for mold.

This volume was formerly known as Collection 965.

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