

The Pennsylvania Prison Society/

- Formed in 1787
- First of such societies in the world
- Urged creation of a large penitentiary, leading to the creation of Eastern State Penitentiary
- Three main goals: Oversight and advocacy, prison visiting, and assistance to men and women released from prison.

Primary Sources

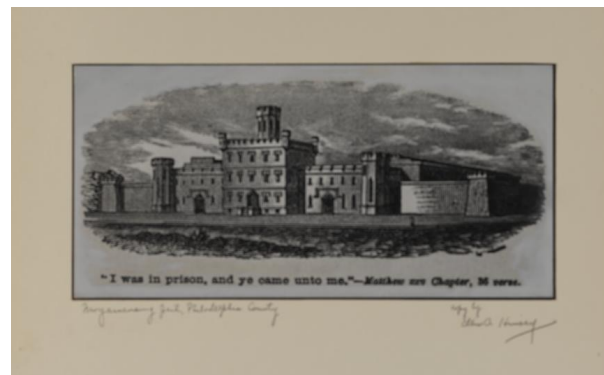
Moyamensing Jail, Philadelphia County

Inscription text: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. -Matthew xxv chapter, 36 verse

Collection: Historical Society of Pennsylvania
print collection [V89]

HSP Digital Archive Item #4419

Box Number: Box.FF Prisons.107



Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons

Pamphlets published 1806, 1821

Constitution published 1789, 1830

Call number: WI*.43

Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons, minutes 1787-1793

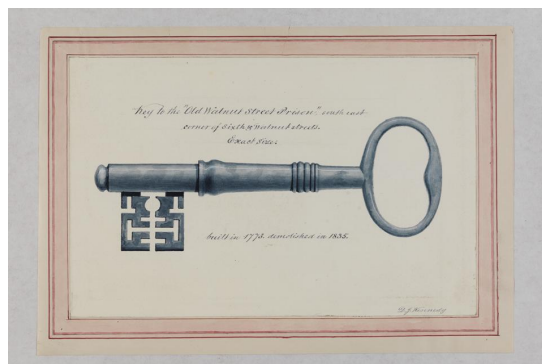
Call number: AM.3229

Pennsylvania Prison Society Records, 1787-1966

The Pennsylvania Prison Society Records span from 1787 to 1966 and offer insight into the establishment, operations, and activities of the Society since its creation.

Collection #1946

http://hsp.org/sites/default/files/legacy_files/migrated/findingaid1946prisonsociety.pdf



Key to the "Old Walnut Street Prison" exact size

"Key to the "Old Walnut Street Prison," south east corner of sixth and walnut streets, exact size, built in 1773. demolished in 1835"

By David Kennedy

HSP Digital Archive Item #3462

Constitution for the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons
published 1787
Call number: LCP Ap.787 P 544

Secondary Sources

Review of the county jails in Pennsylvania official report, issued as a prologue to No. 59 of the journal of prison discipline and philanthropy.
by Albert Hyatt Votaw, published 1920
Call number: Vb* .485 v.1

Considerations respecting the policy of some recent legislation in Pennsylvania.
by William Parker Foulke, published 1861
"Reprinted from The Journal of Prison Discipline, vol. XVI, October, 1861."
Call number: Wxf* 2

Journal of prison discipline and philanthropy
by Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons
Began with v. 1, no. 1 (Jan. 1845); ceased with v. 1, no. 4 (Oct. 1845).
Call number: HV 8987.A4 J68

They were in prison; a history of the Philadelphia prison society, 1787-1937, formerly the Philadelphia society for alleviating the miseries of public prisons.
by Negley K. Teeters, published 1937
Call number: UPA HV 8987.P43 T44 1937

(incomplete list, these are just some of the highlights from HSP's collection)