



The city of Philadelphia, as laid out by William Penn, comprised only that portion of the present city situated between South and Vine Streets and Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. In fact, the city proper was that portion between High (Market) Street and Dock Creek. Settlements were made, however, outside of these boundaries, and in the course of time they became separately incorporated and had separate governments, making congeries of towns and districts, the whole group being known abroad simply as Philadelphia. Several of these were situated immediately contiguous to the "city proper" including Southwark and Moyamensing in the south, and Northern Liberties, Kensington, Spring Garden and Penn District to the north, and West Philadelphia to the west — all of which were practically one town continuously built up. Besides these, there were a number of other outlying townships, villages and settlements near the built-up town, though detached from it. Among these were Bridesburg, Frankford, Harrowgate, Holmesburg, the unincorporated Northern Liberties, Port Richmond, Nicetown, Rising Sun, Fox Chase, Germantown, Roxborough, Falls of Schuylkill, unincorporated Penn township, Francisville, Hamilton Village, Mantua, Blockley, Kingsessing and Passyunk. Some of these also became absorbed in the extending streets of the congeries of towns of which Philadelphia was composed and in 1854 they were all consolidated under one municipal government, the boundaries of which are coincident with those of the old county of Philadelphia.