

HARMONY AND SECOND STREETS
NORTH OF READ'S ALLEY

#47, #49 and #51 Second Street

(See Photo #102)

#47, #49 and #51 are located on 64' of the Strand Street end of Original Strand Plots #10 and #11, adjoining the northeastern line of Read's Alley, and extending back 30'. They are known by the name of "Aull's Row" from their builders, Capt. William Aull and John Aull.

The Aull's came from Ireland to Philadelphia about 1784. Two of their sisters, Sane Aull Blair and Mary Aull, a spinster, remained in Philadelphia and William and John moved to New Castle. Captain William Aull is described as a "dealer and chapman" and John Aull as a carpenter. John built a number of houses in New Castle around 1800 and in 1795 Maxwell Bins, sheriff, pays John Aull "one pound ten for halving, hughing, and dressing a tree for whipping post, and three pounds for workmanship and putting it up."

In 1796, William Aull sold the northern $42'-3\frac{1}{2}"$ x 300' part of the Original Strand Plot #10, extending from the Strand to Second Street, to William Armstrong, leaving the south 9' of the $42'-3\frac{1}{2}"$ for an alley (Head's Alley). The same year Israel Israel sold the Original Strand Plot #11, the Tile house property, to William Armstrong.

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(Aull's Row, continued)

In 1799 William Armstrong sold back to William Aull part of the 42'-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 300' lot he had purchased of Aull. This lot being the site of #47, being 22' on Second Street and 80' deep toward the Strand, bounded southwesterly by the Alley created by Aull and Armstrong.

About 1802 or 1803, on the 22' lot and on the 42' adjoining property still owned by Armstrong, William and John Aull finished building Aull's Row.

Just before 1804 William Aull died and his heirs, 1804; his wife, a brother and sister in Ireland and two sisters in Philadelphia, signed over their rights and claims upon William Aull's estate to John Aull. That same year, 1804, John Aull bought #49 and #51 East Second Street from William Armstrong.

Aull's Row stayed in the Aull family until 1845 when Maria Bull Pomeroy sold #51 to Washington Winson.

In the later part of the 19th century, #47 was owned by Jacob Atkinson and the present "Read's Alley" was called "Atkinson's Alley" in deed indentures of that period.

At present, #49 and #51 are owned by Rudolph Vallett and #47 by Jane McPike.

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(Aull's Row, continued)

In their present condition, the houses in Aull's Row would need considerable study and work to put them in their original condition. However, vestigss of their former appearance are still existing, and it would be possible to restore and preserve them. #51 still retains what appears to be the original siding and window frsnes and sash in the second floor. The cornice on all the houses would seem to be later date. The row is interestingly recorded in the background of the perspective of the Court Souse which accom- panies the 1804 survey.