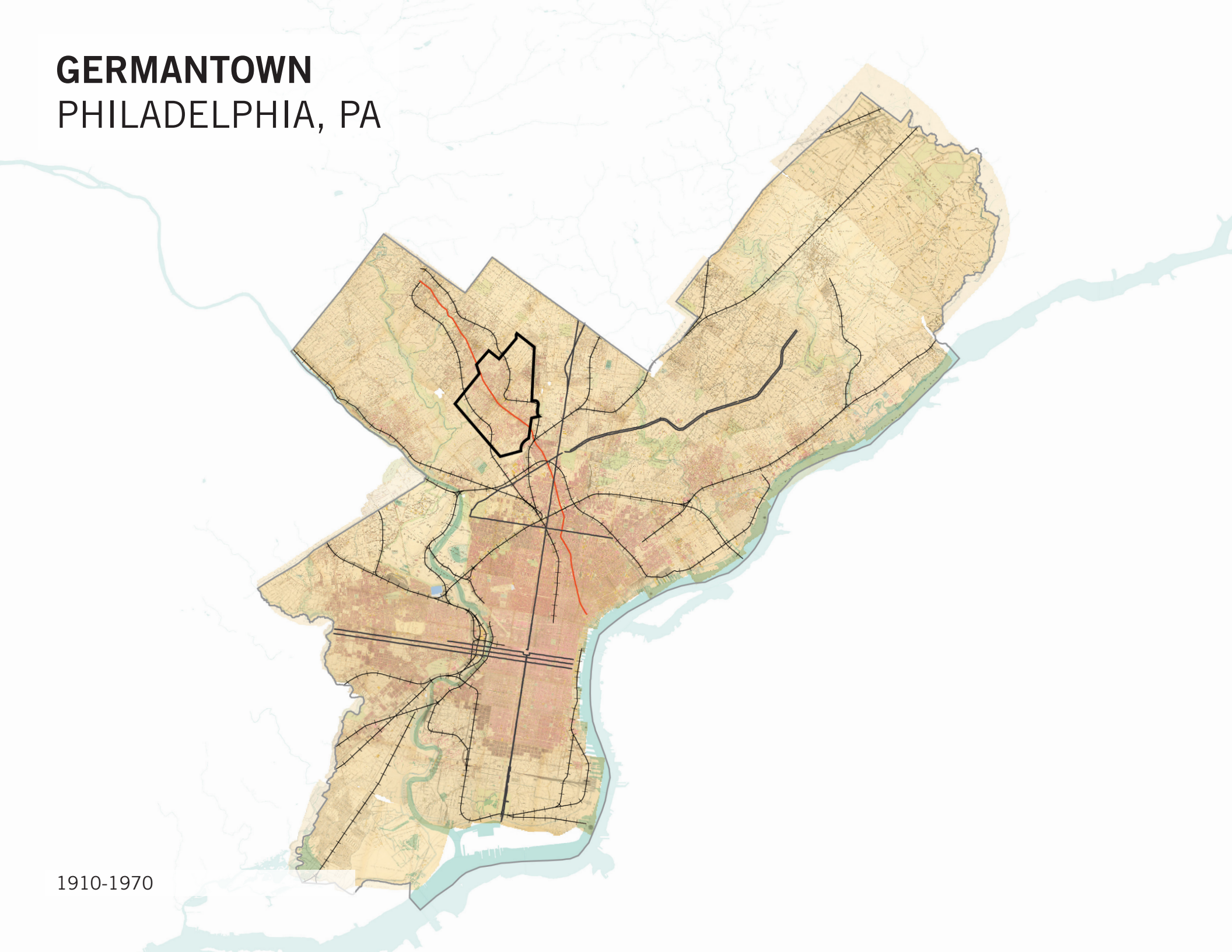
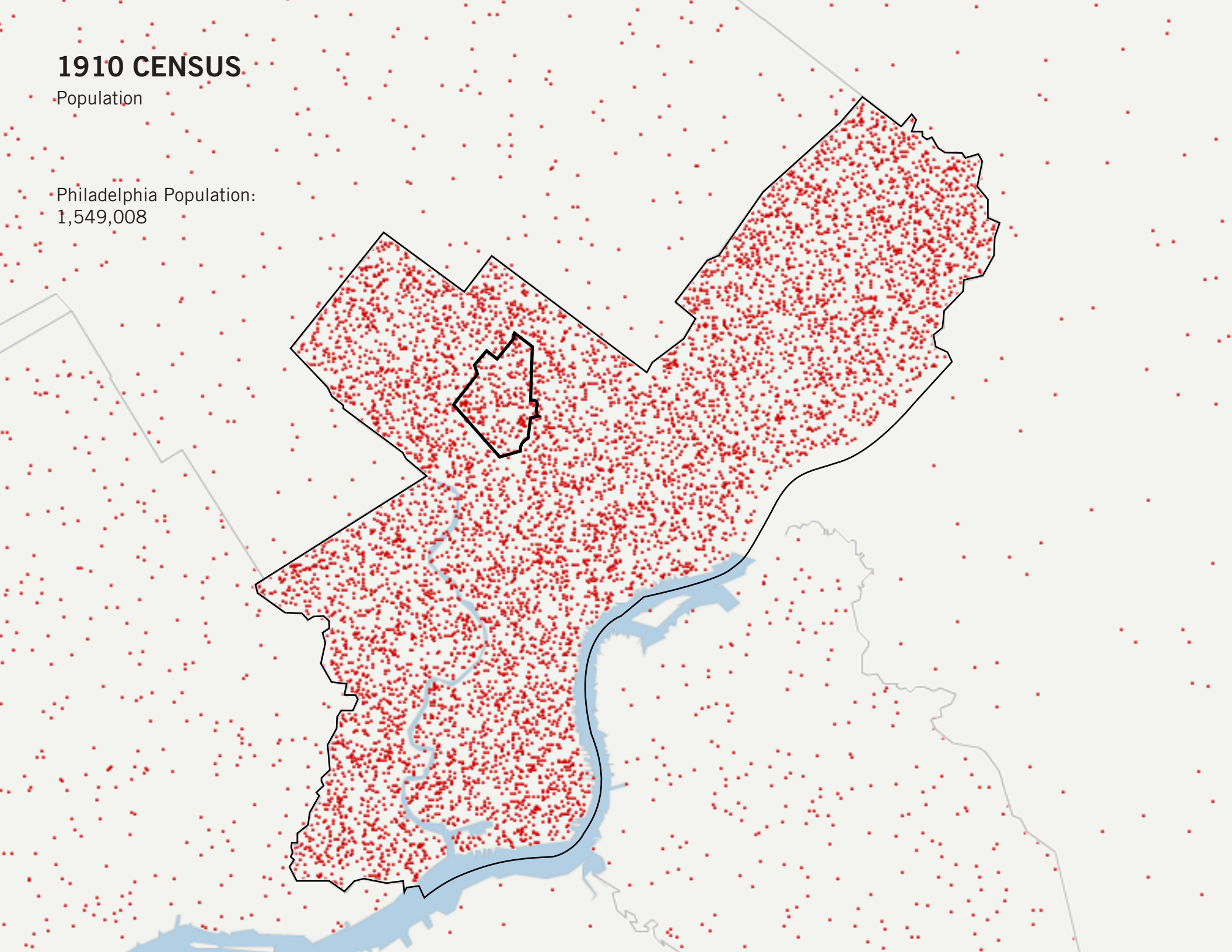
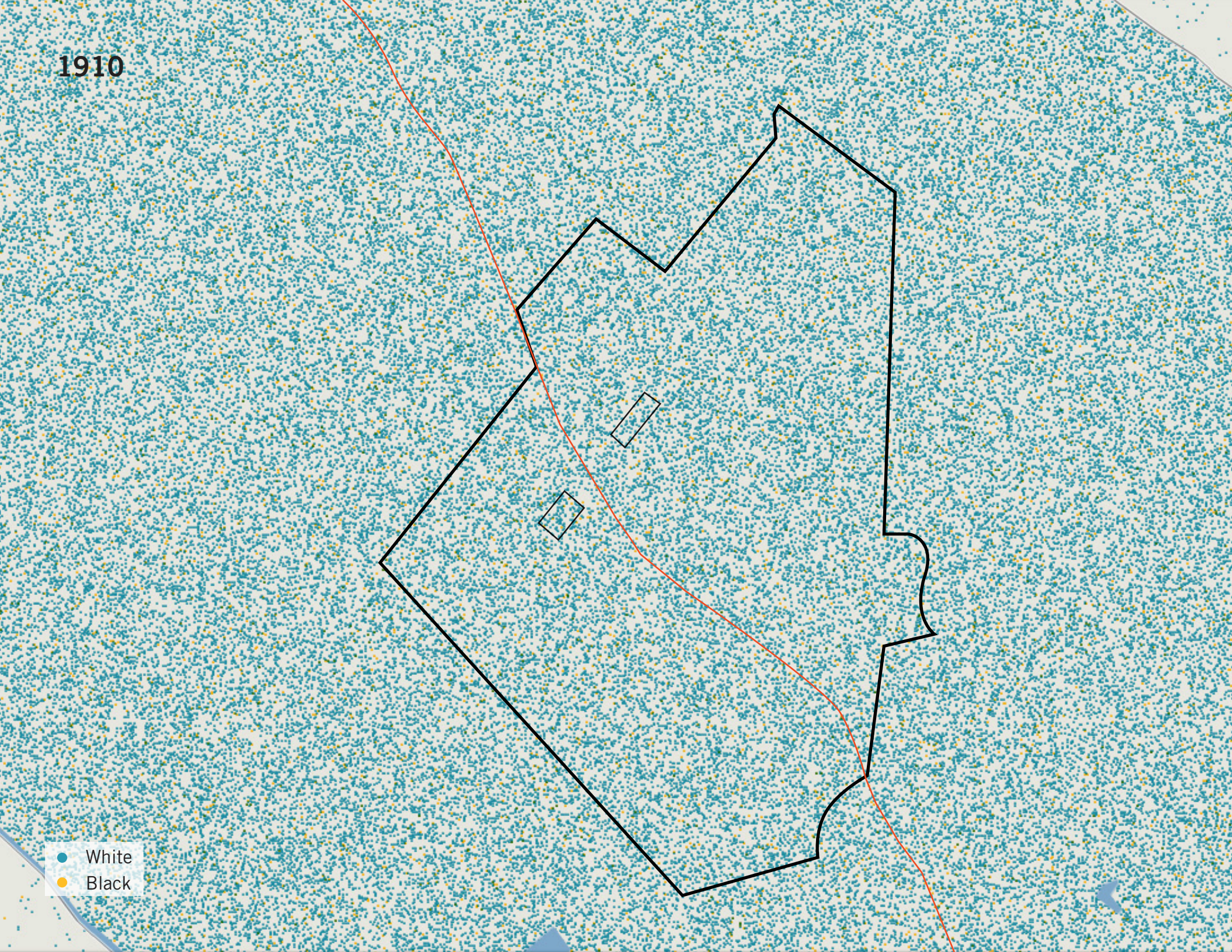
GERMANTOWN
PHILADELPHIA, PA



1910-1970

1910

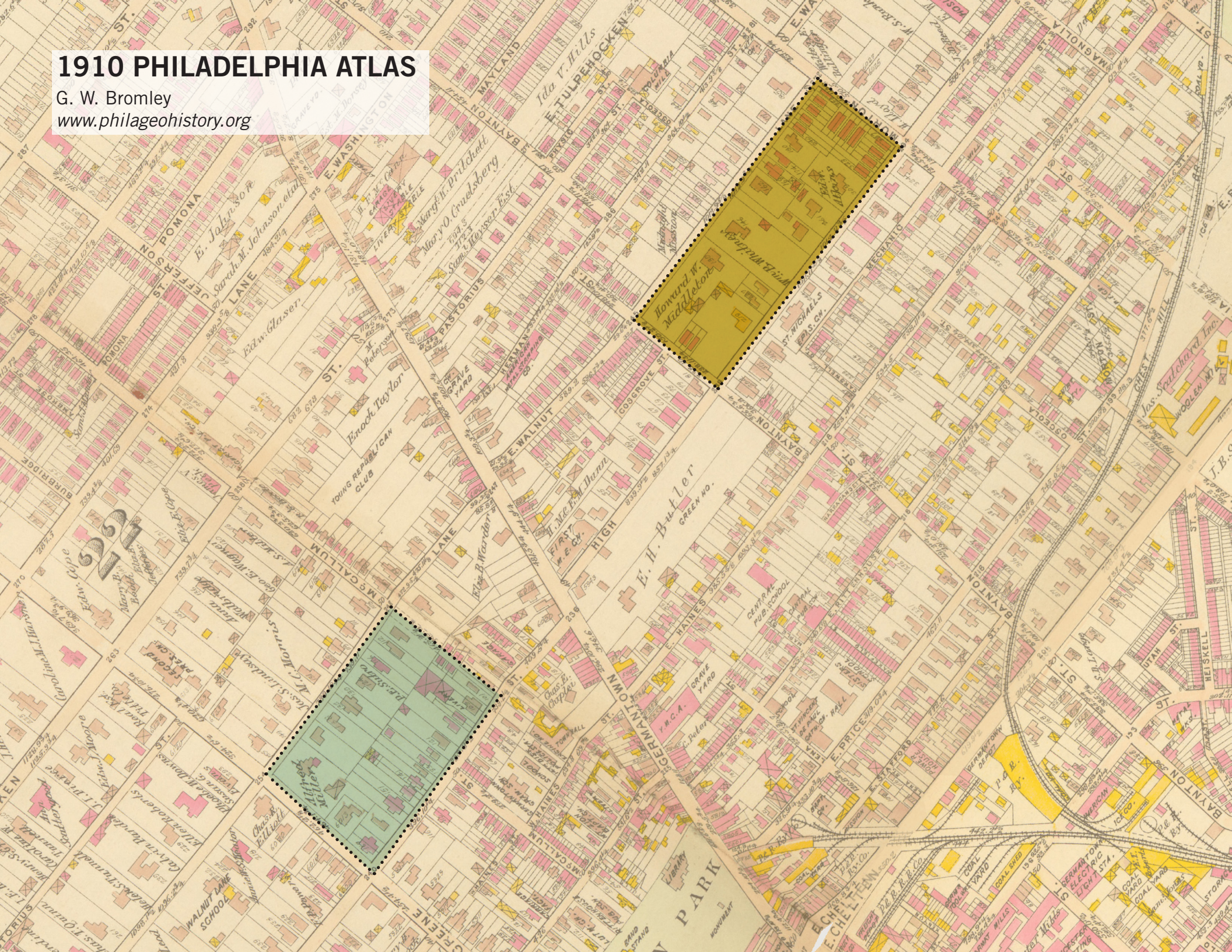

1910 CENSUS
Population
Philadelphia Population:
1,549,008


1910
White
Black

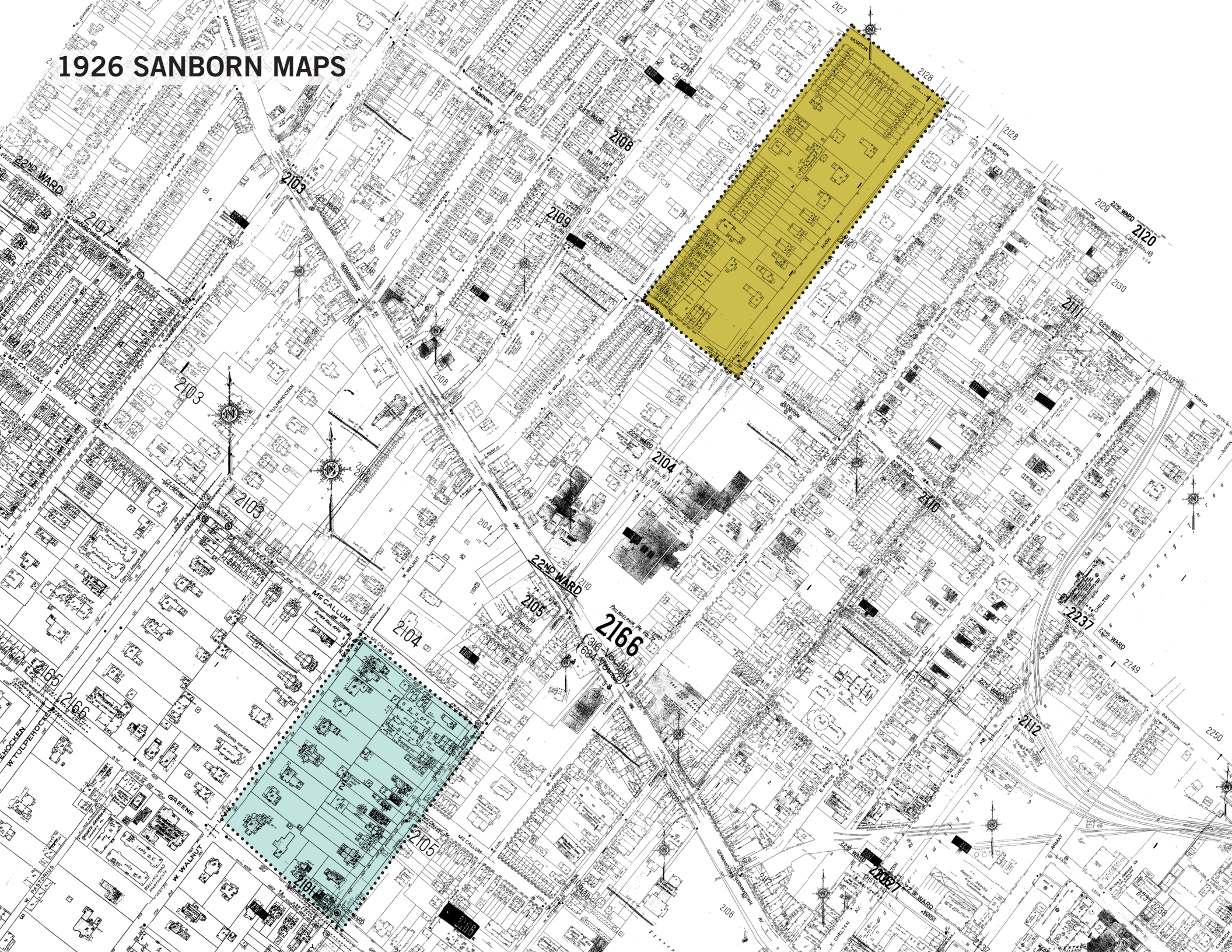
1910 PHILADELPHIA ATLAS

G. W. Bromley

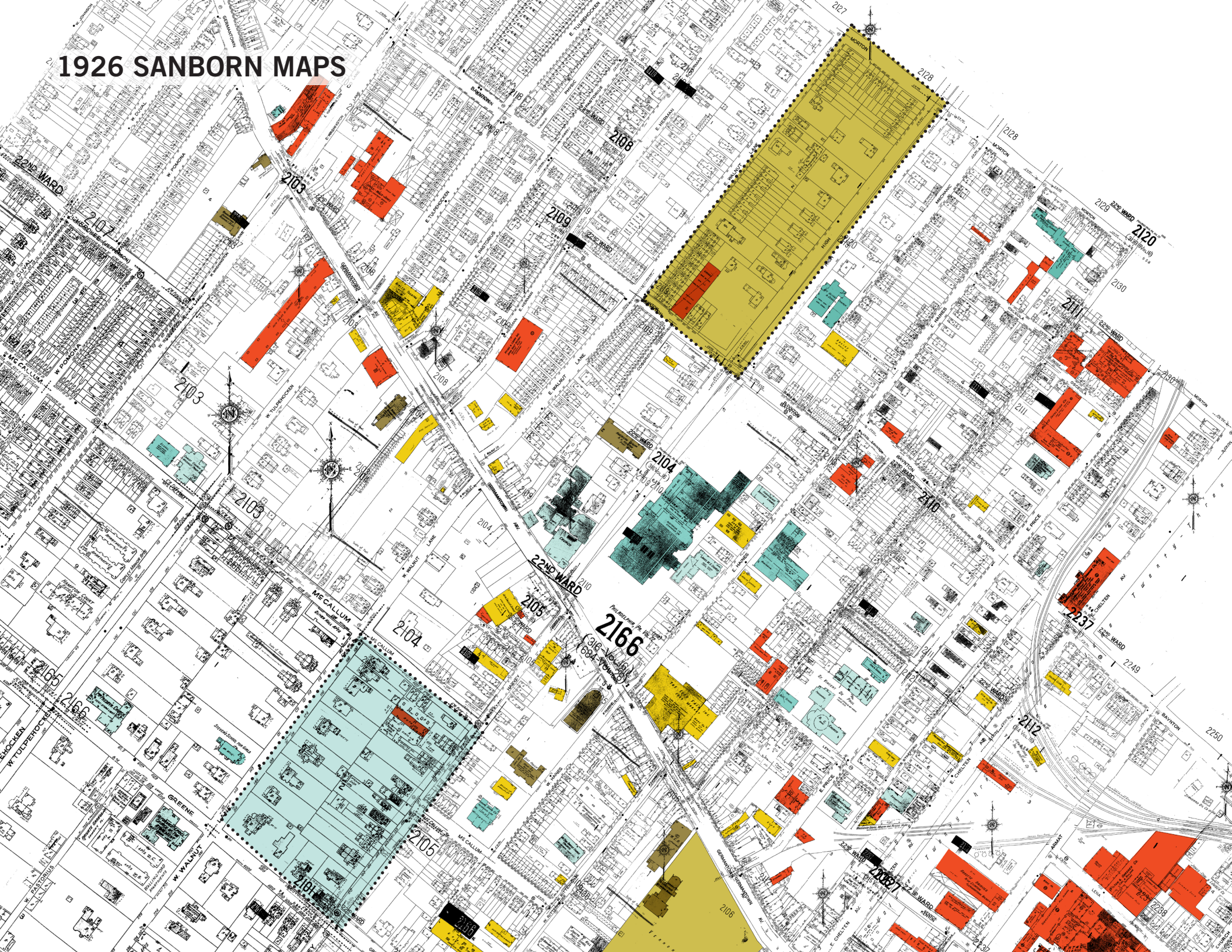
www.philageohistory.org



1926 SANBORN MAPS

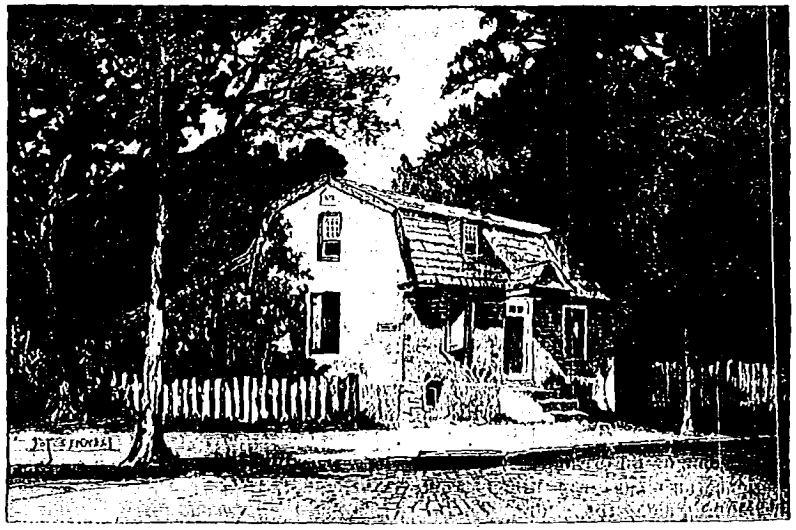


1926 SANBORN MAPS



1910

OLD GERMANTOWN.



OLDEST HOUSE IN GERMANTOWN.

1884

FIRST GERMAN COLONY

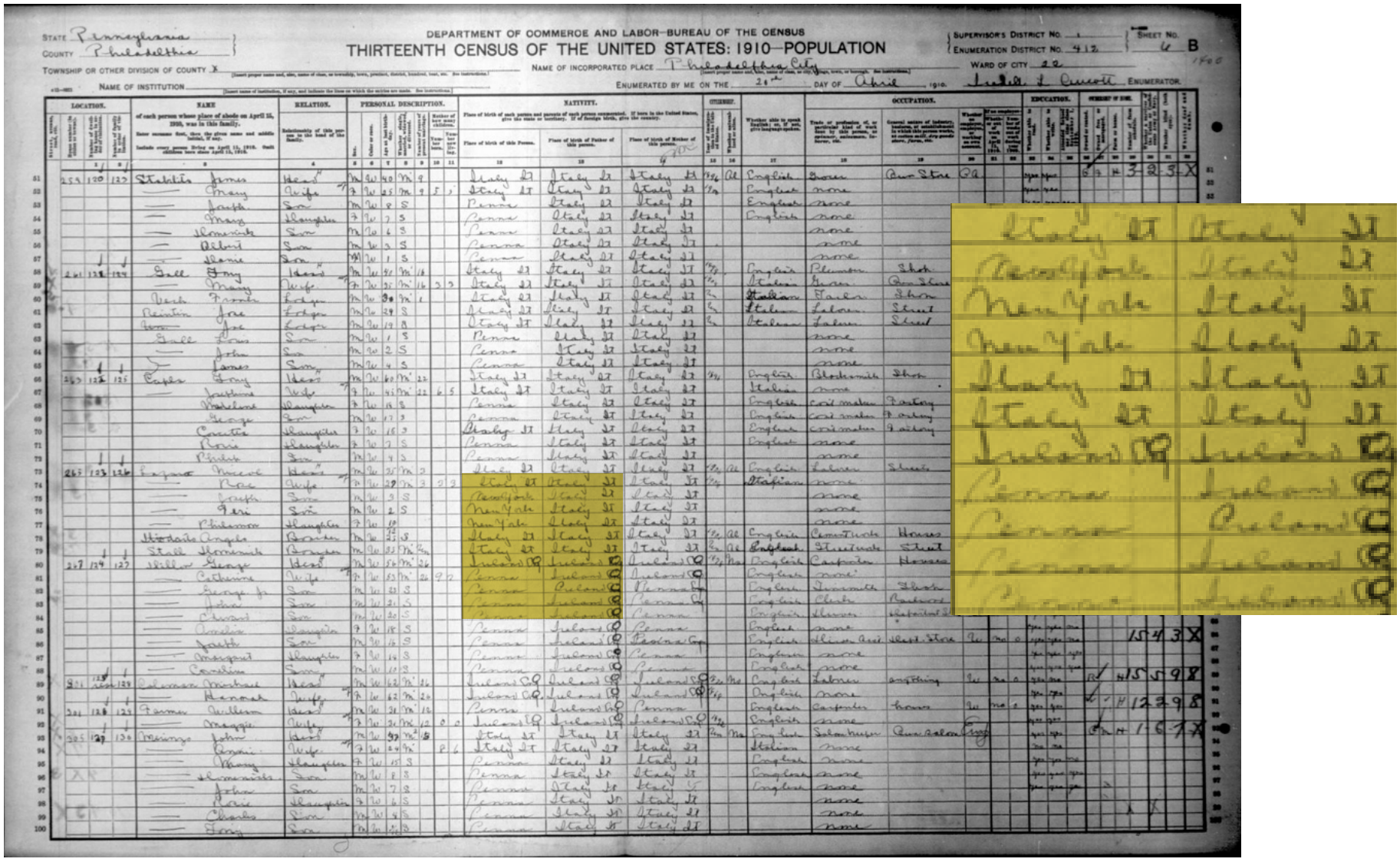
An Anniversary Event Soon to Be Commemorated Here.

FOUNDING OF GERMANTOWN

Arrival of First Organized Band of Immigrants Under Pastorius in 1683 to Escape the Rule of Prince and Priest—First Protest Against Slavery—Builders of the First Paper Mill.

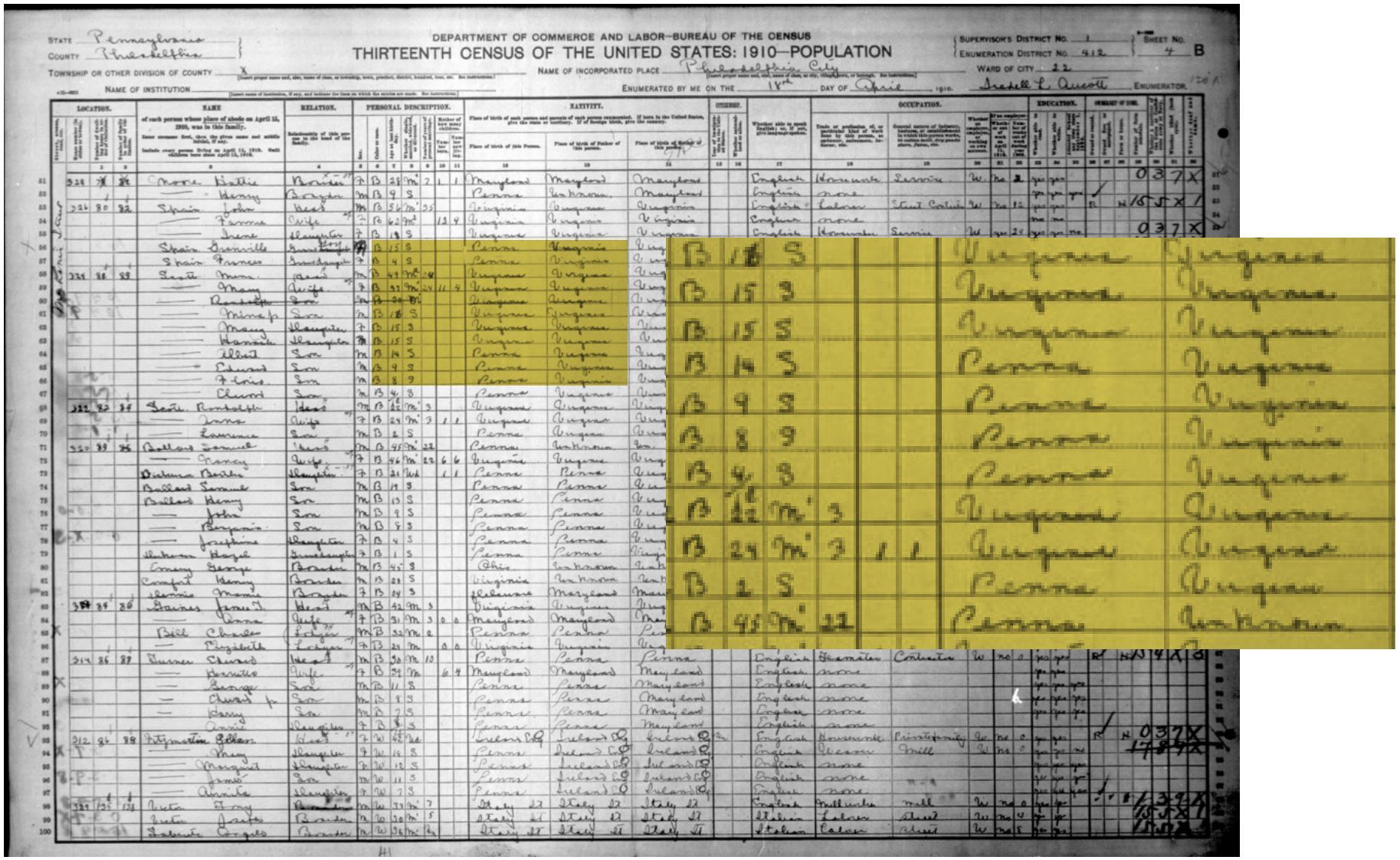
1903
Already celebrating its 220th anniversary

1910



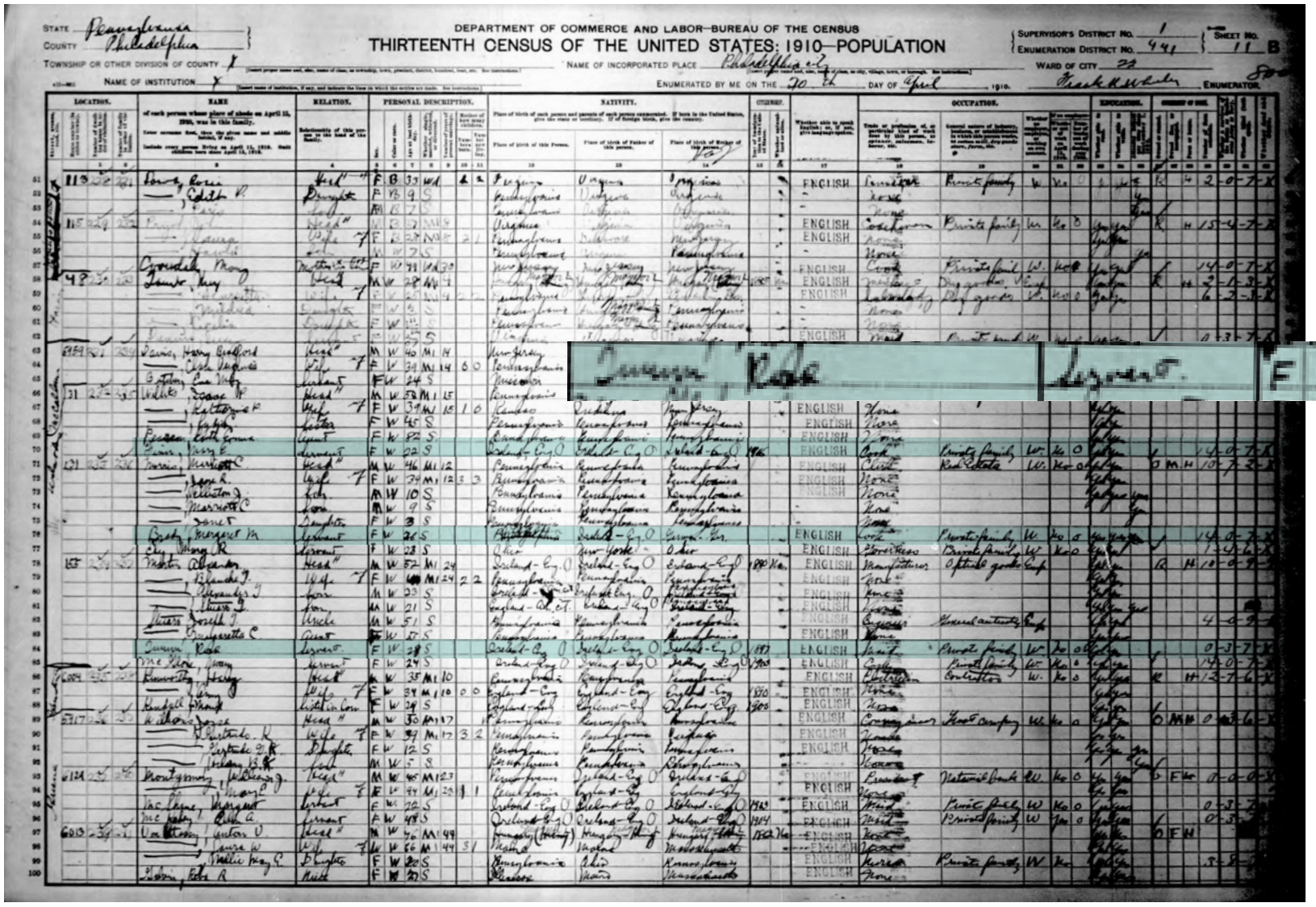
Already historic, but no longer German. To the east of Germantown Ave, primarily second-generation Italian- and Irish- Americans in laborer jobs.

1910



To the east, black neighborhoods with families primarily from Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, some with lodgers.

1910

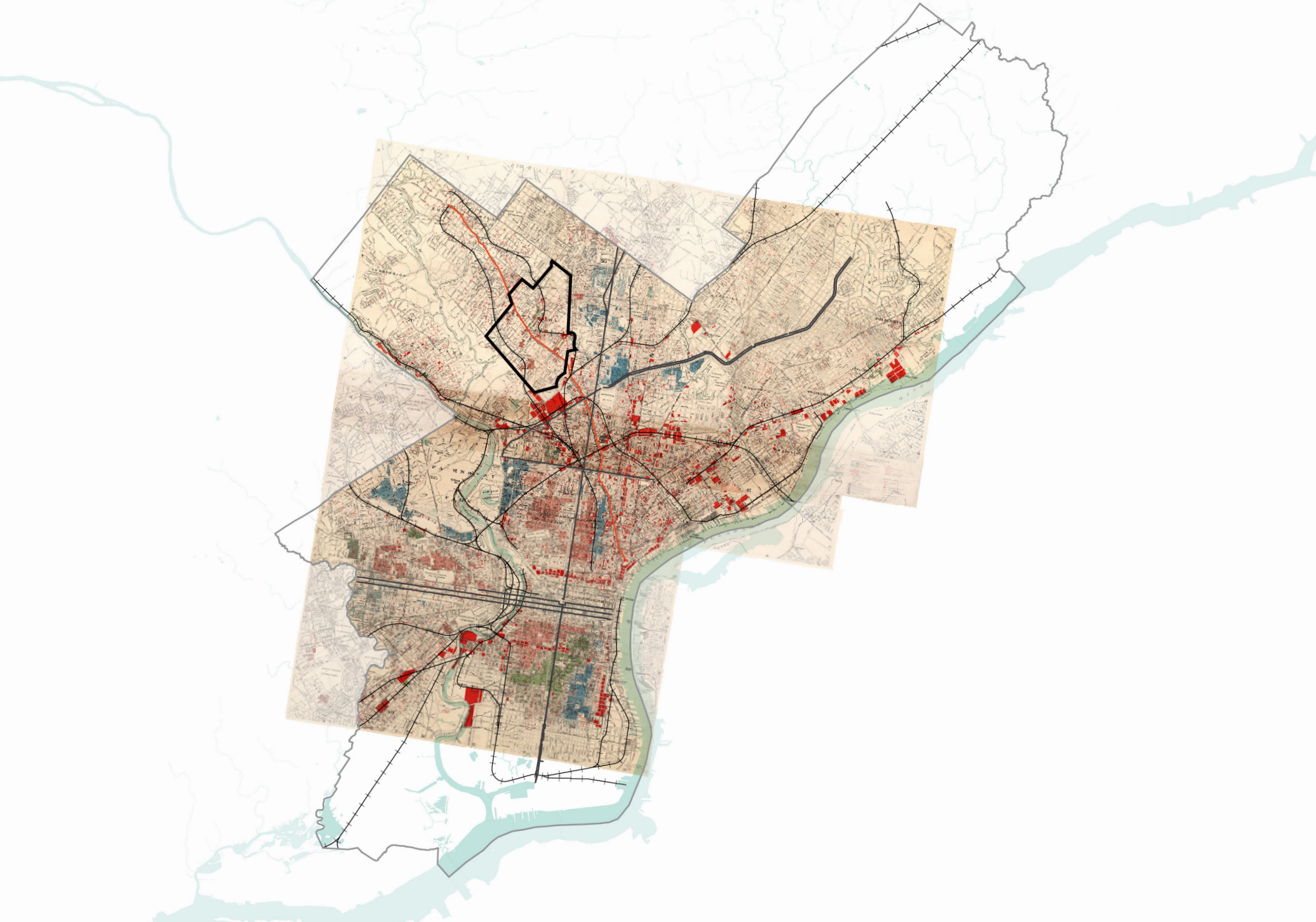


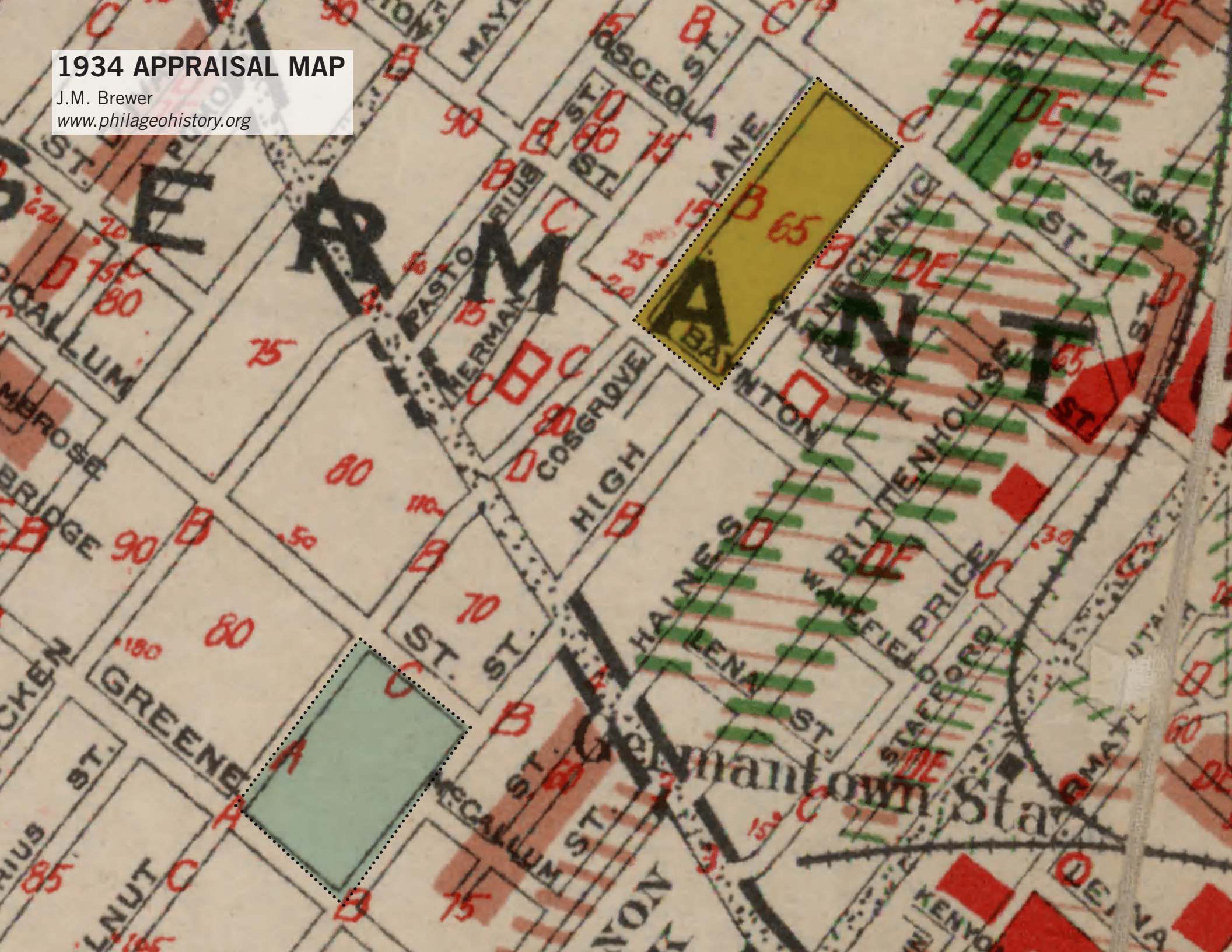
To the west, wealthier families of German, English and Irish descent. Some families have servants that are either white or black. Heads of households are primarily clerks and managing positions.

Germantown Avenue, c.1900-1910

Germantown Ave, 1920

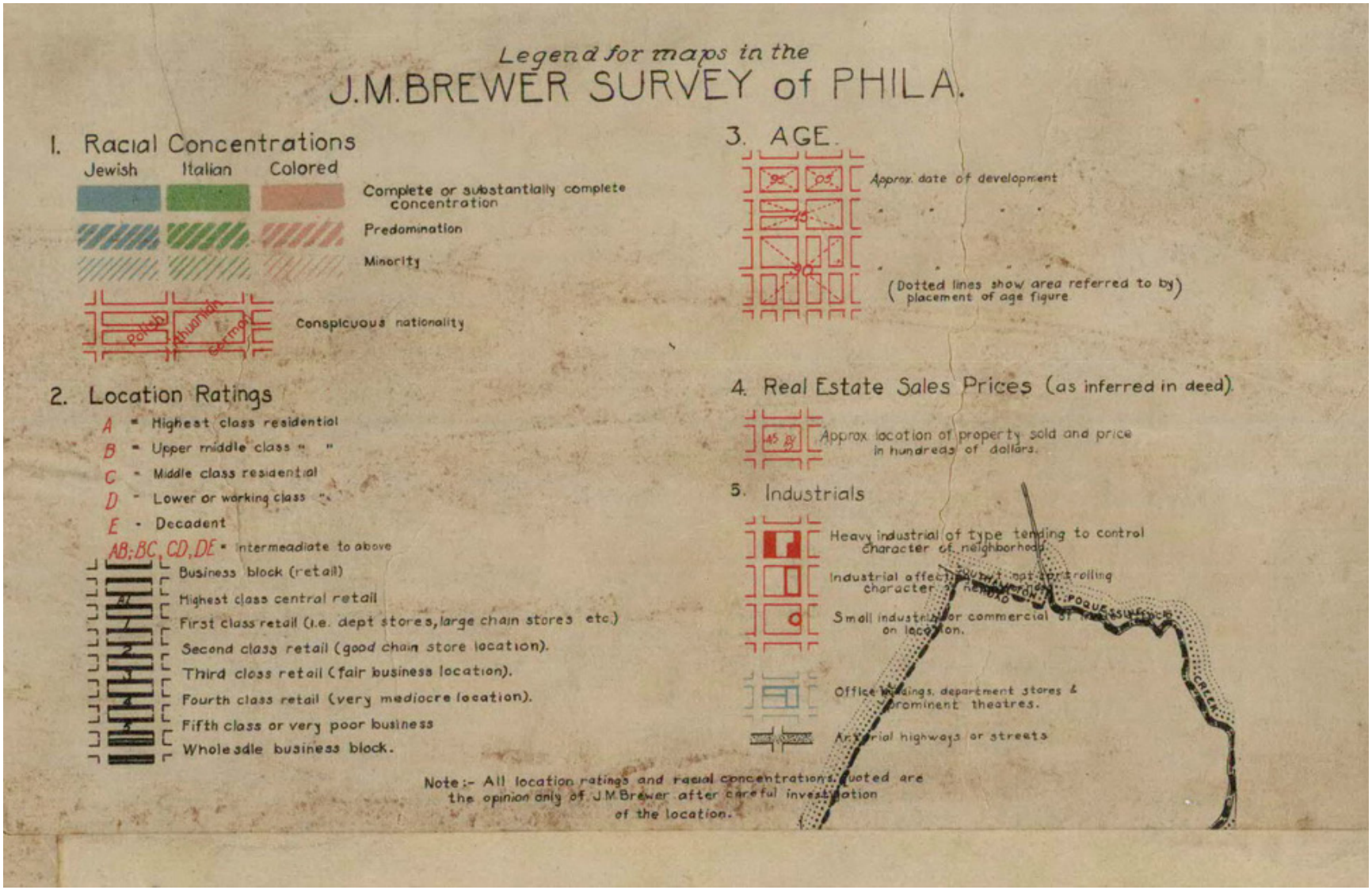
1940




1934 APPRAISAL MAP
J.M. Brewer
www.philageohistory.org
GERMANTOWN
OSCEOLA ST.
LANE
PASTORIUS
HERMAN
COSGROVE
HIGH
BAYNTON
MECHANIC
RITTENHOUSE
PRICE
HAINES
LENA ST.
STAFFORD
GREENE
McCALLUM
BRIDGE
Germantown Sta

1934 APPRAISAL MAP

J.M. Brewer
www.philageohistory.org

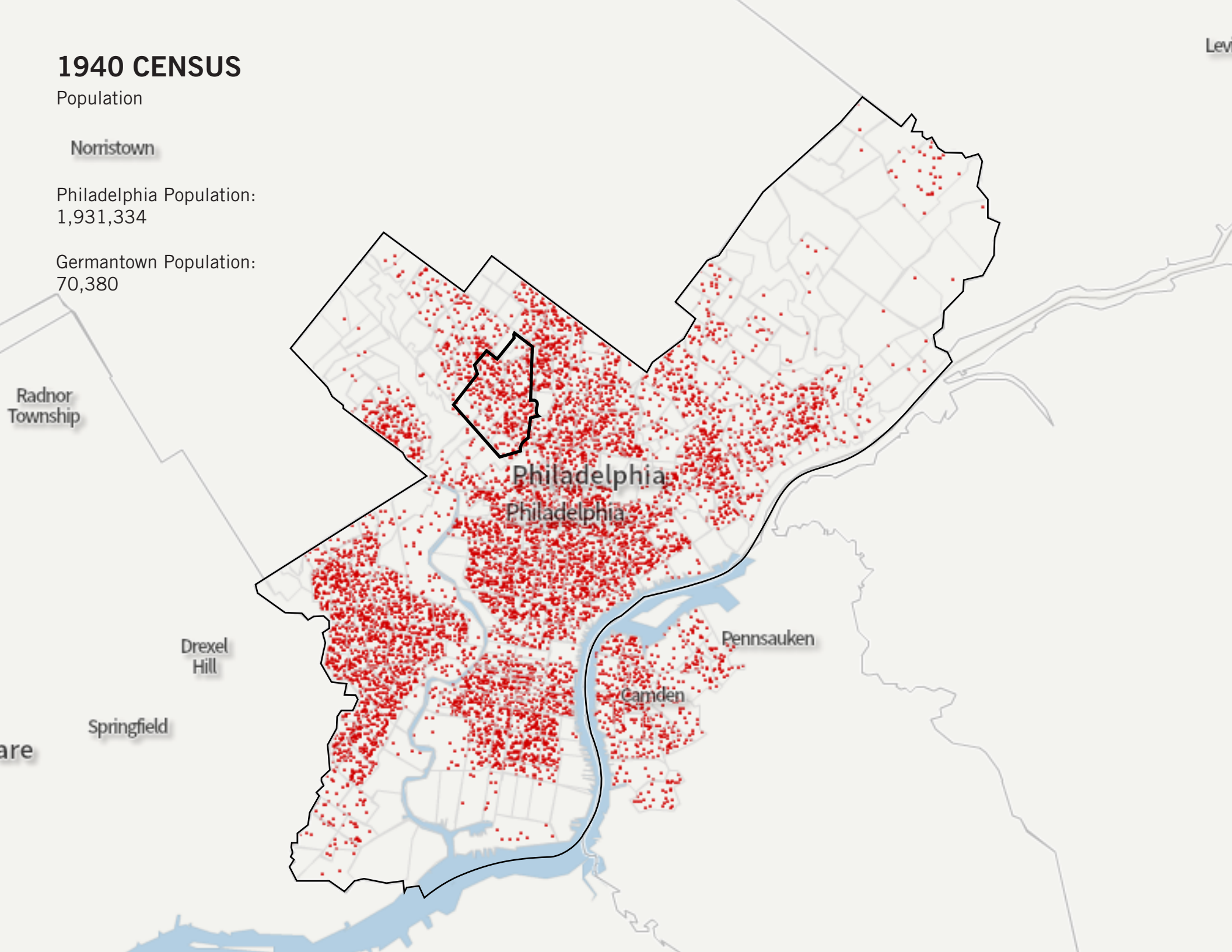


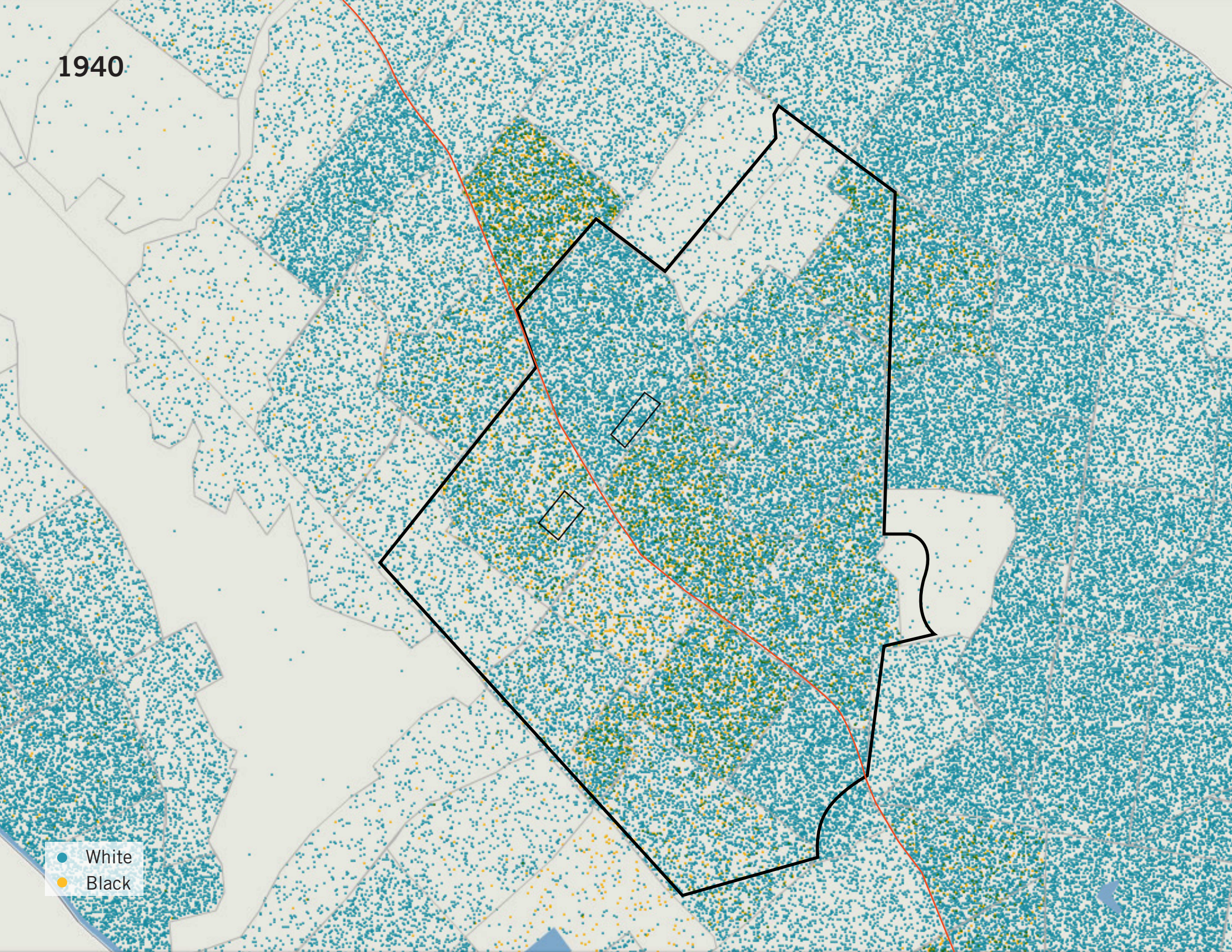
1940 CENSUS

Population

Philadelphia Population:
1,931,334

Germantown Population:
70,380

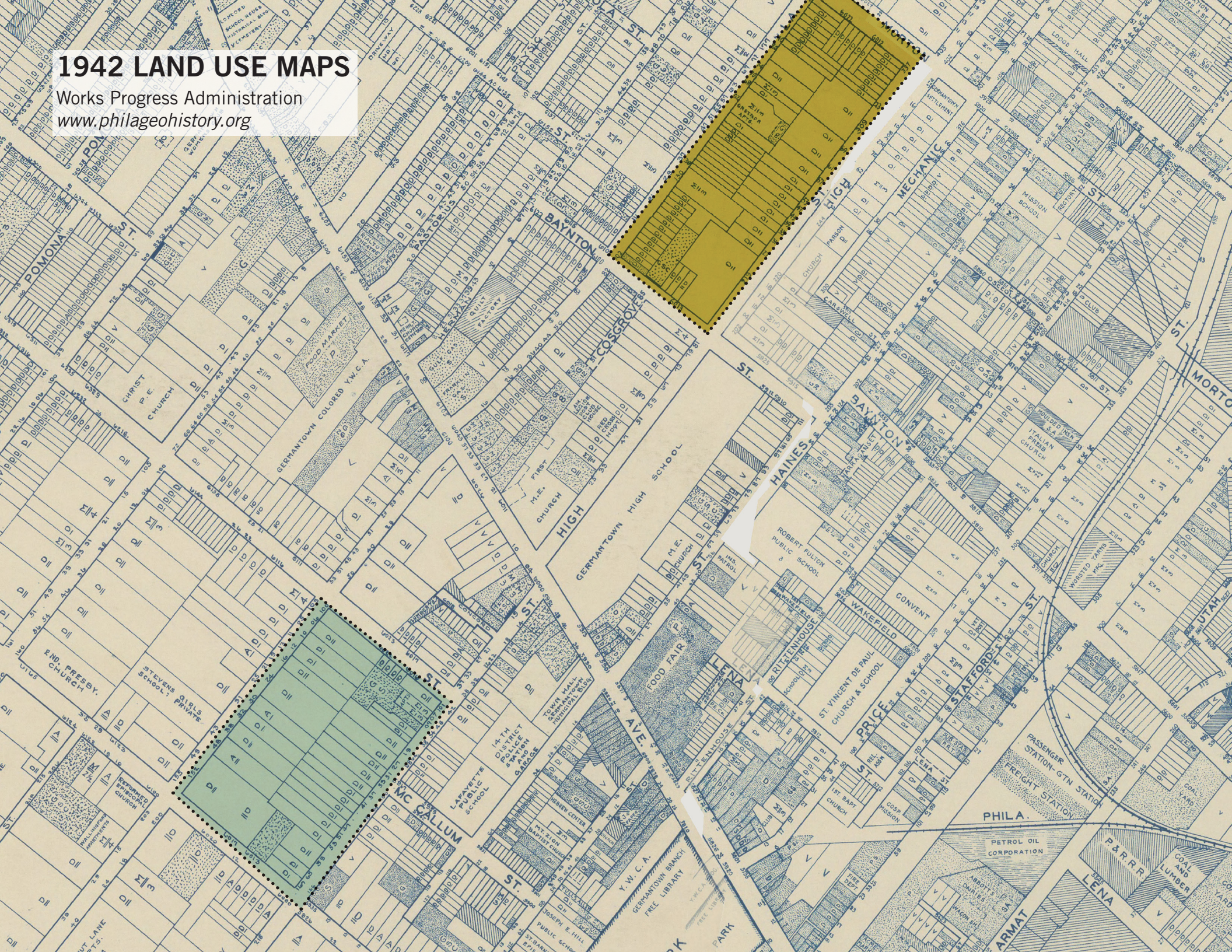



1940
White
Black

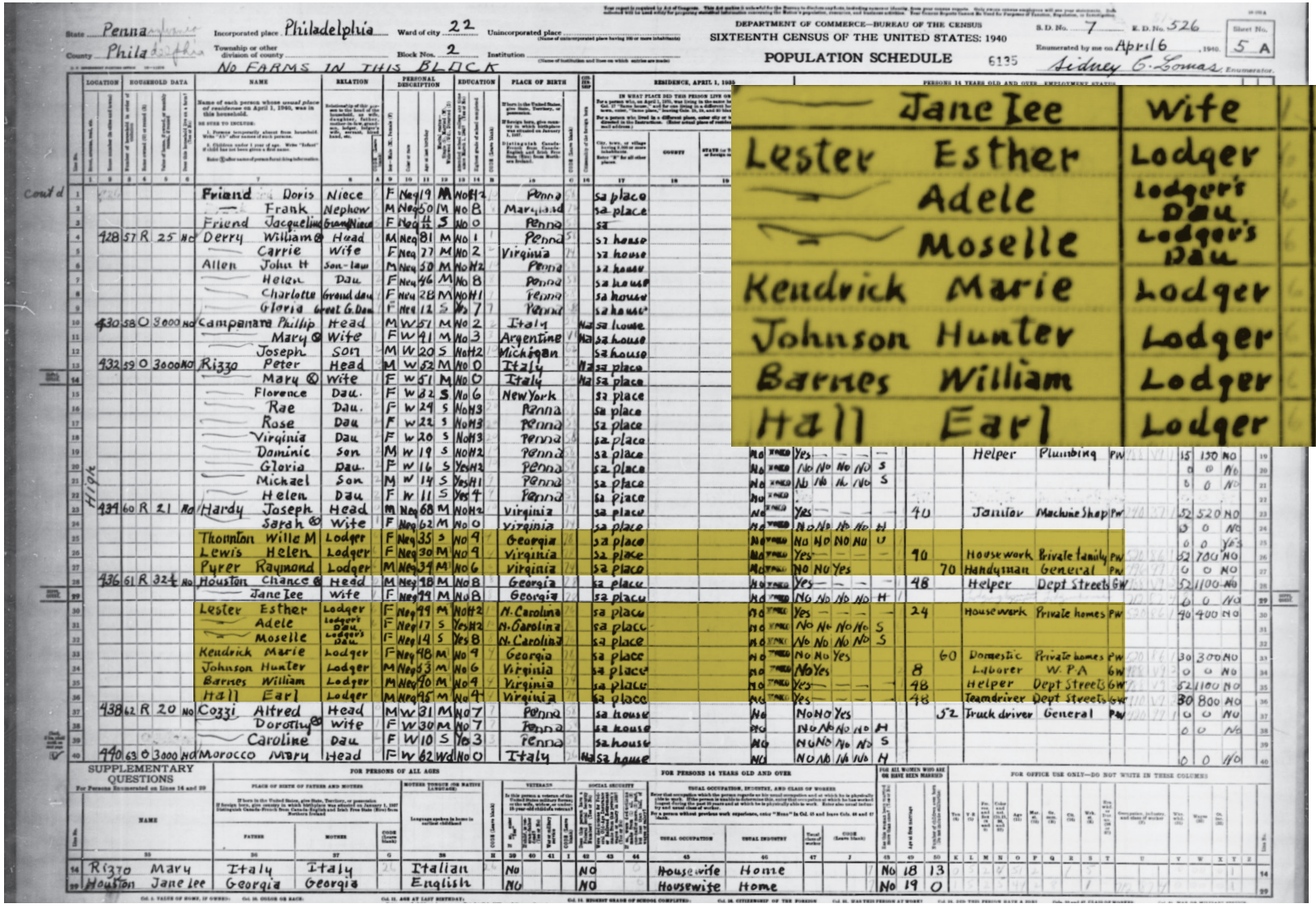
1942 LAND USE MAPS

Works Progress Administration

www.philageohistory.org

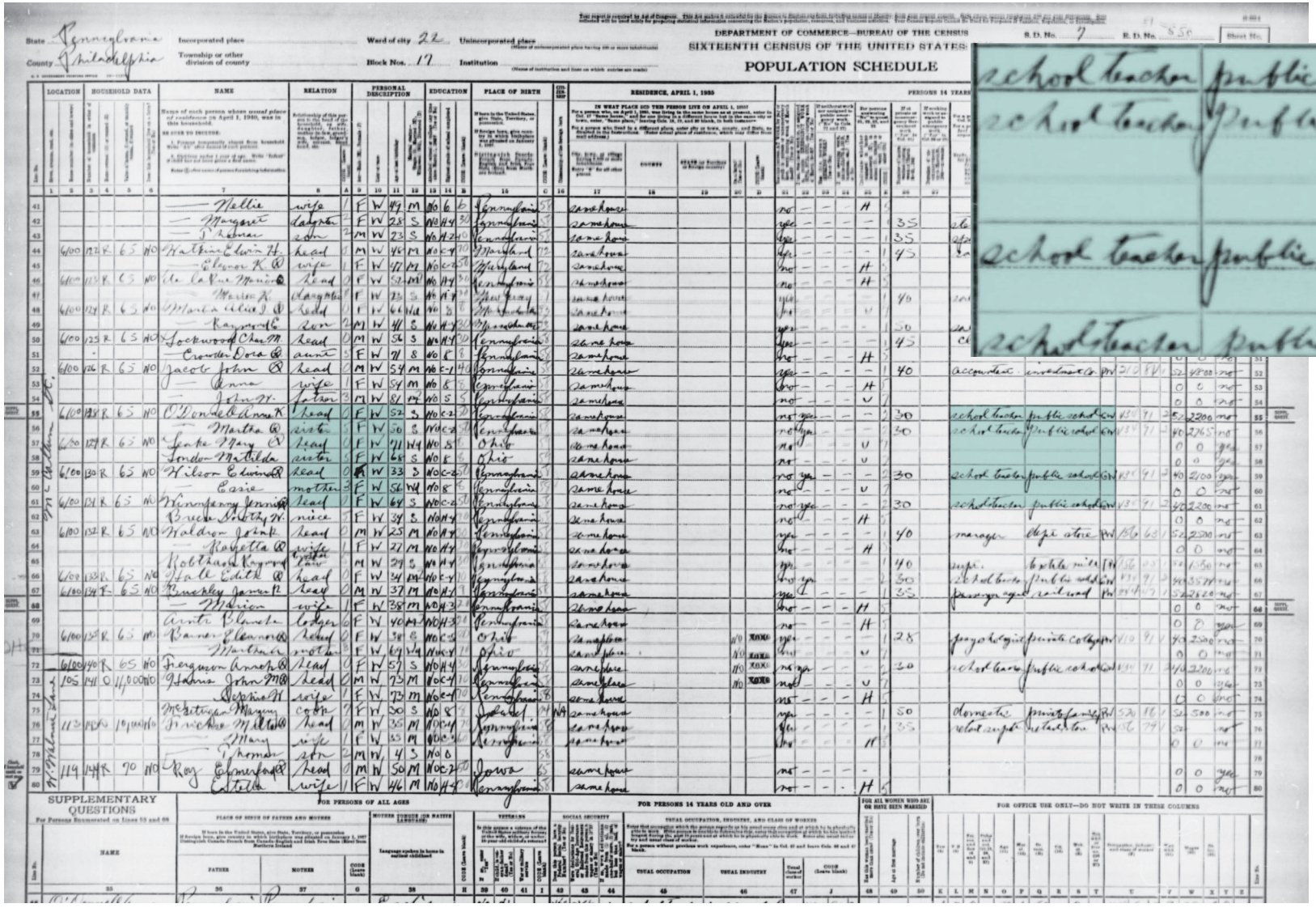


1940



As in 1910, to the east, many black lodgers come for industrial and service jobs in the neighborhood. The neighborhood also remains largely Italian-American. Many households are multi-generational and include extended family.

1940



To the west, women live in apartment buildings. They primarily serve as school teachers and usually live in pairs with another female relative.

1940

TIME
Feb 12, 1940: Women at Work

Gtn. 'Y' Board Sanctions Bar On Negro Boys

Christians Sidetrack Principles to Maintain Jim Crow Policy

pg. 15

Board of Education Enters Swimming Controversy

Use of Germantown YW Pool to Be Stopped Unless Color Bar Is Dropped

Save The Schools" Rally Held In Germantown School

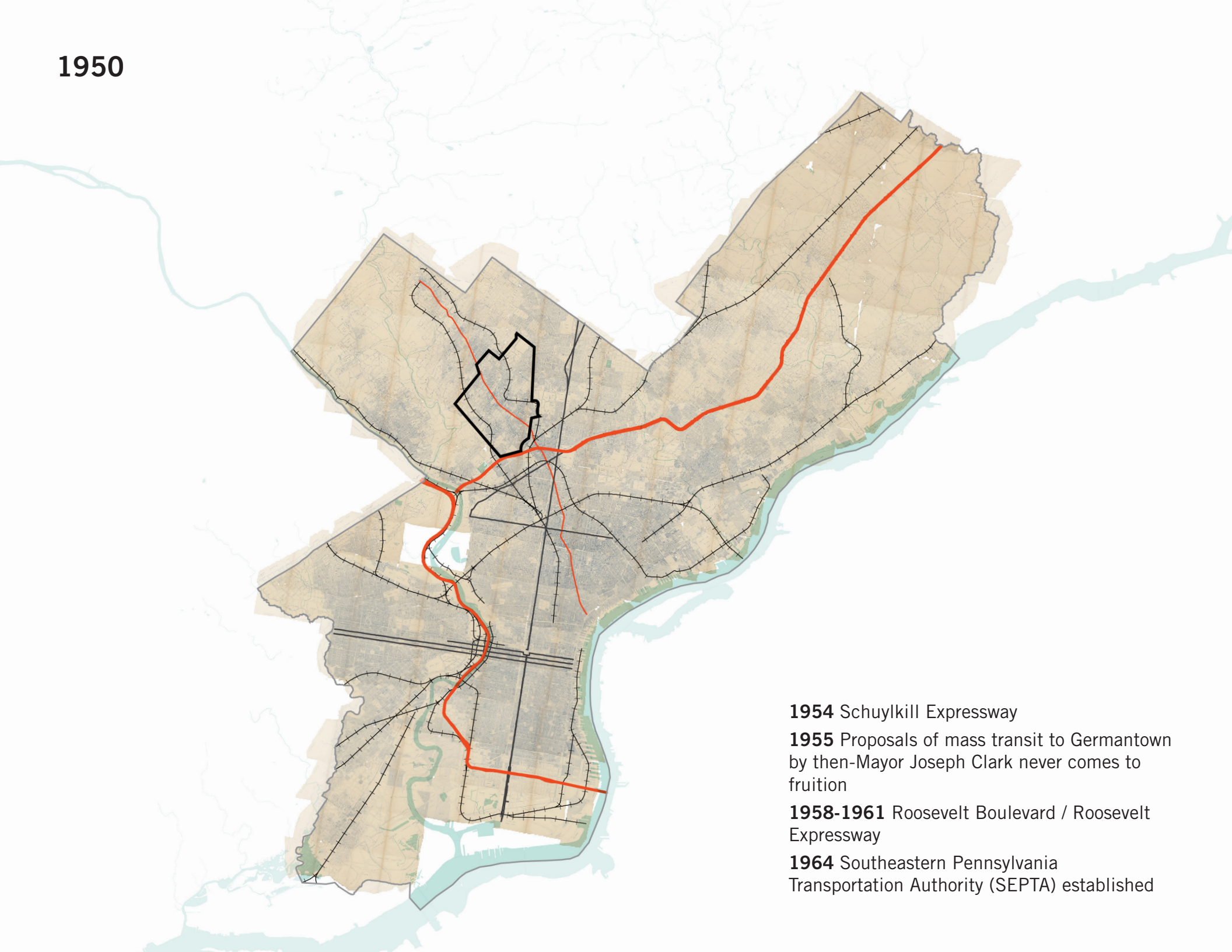
Corner Loungers Germantown Problem

pg. 3

GERMANTOWN GROUP STARTS FIGHT FOR HOUSING PROJECT

Germantown Ave, 1948

1950

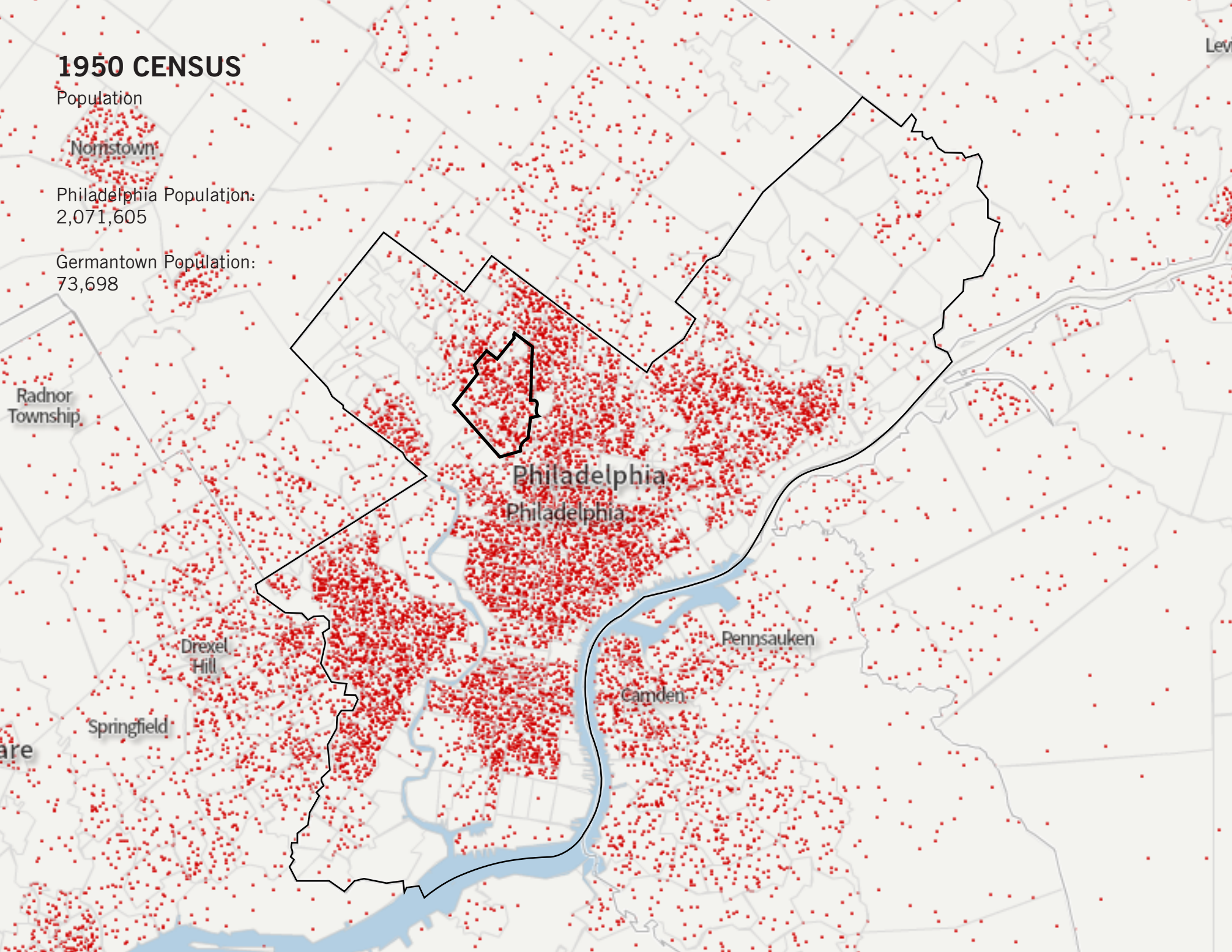


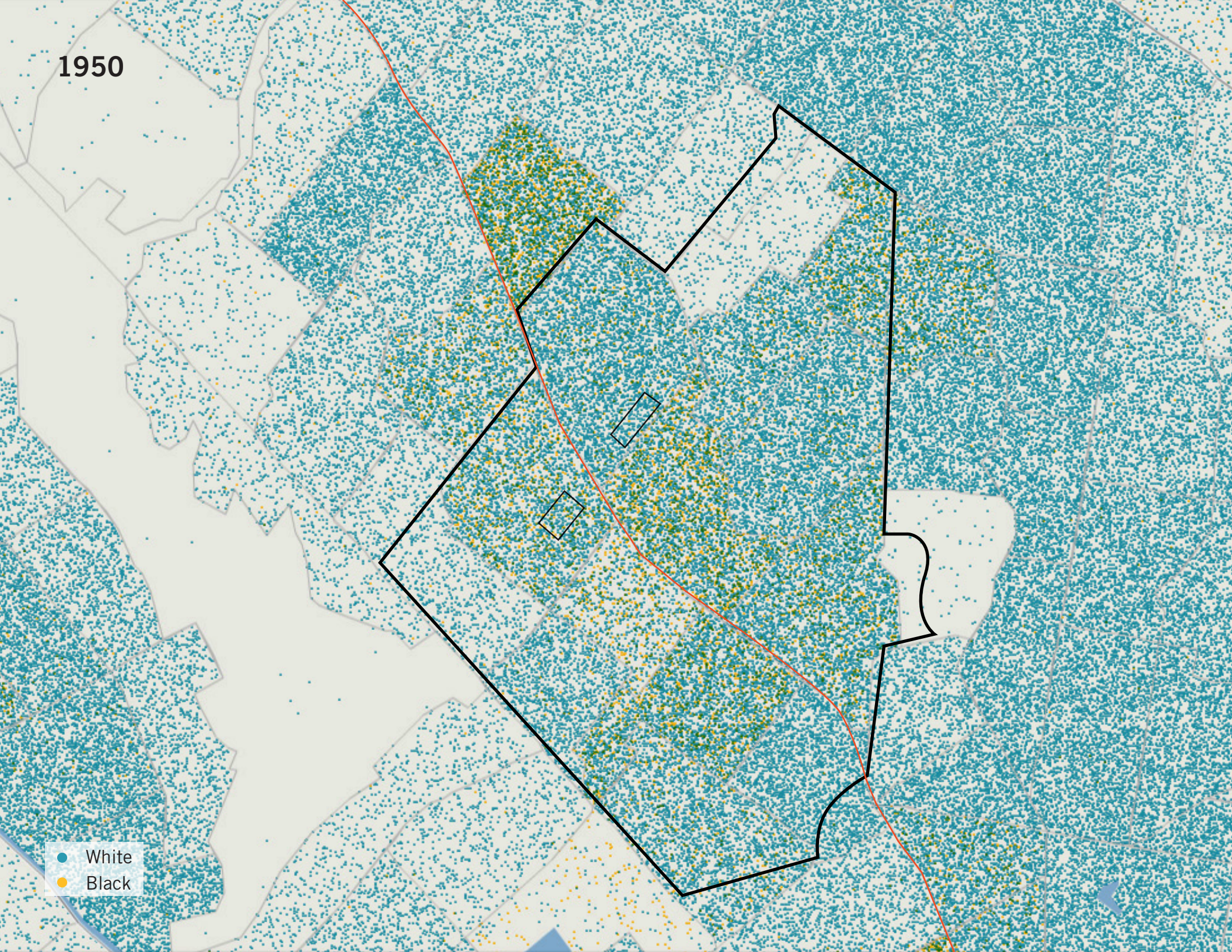
1954 Schuylkill Expressway

1955 Proposals of mass transit to Germantown by then-Mayor Joseph Clark never comes to fruition

1958-1961 Roosevelt Boulevard / Roosevelt Expressway

1964 Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) established

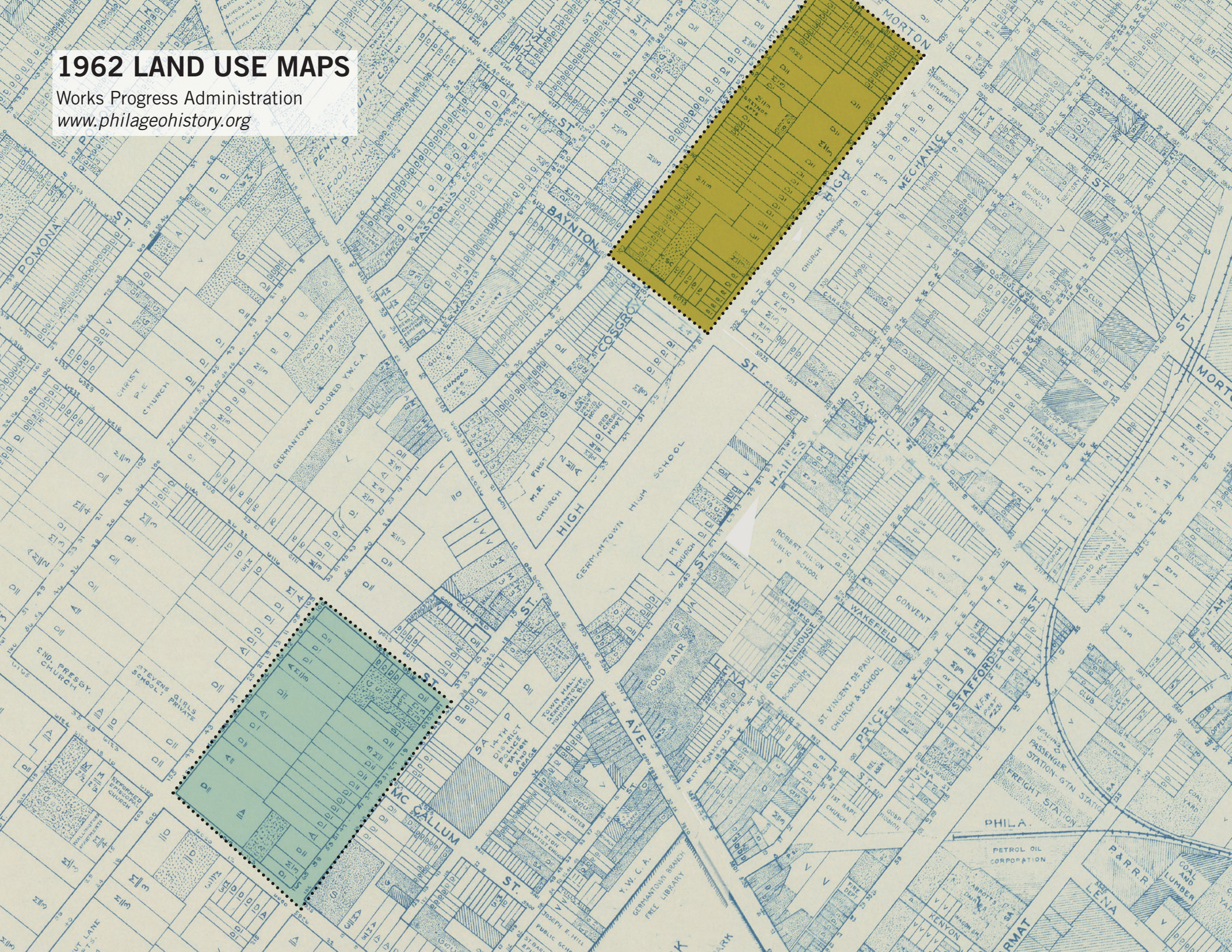

1950 CENSUS
Population
Norristown
Philadelphia Population:
2,071,605
Germantown Population:
73,698
Radnor
Township
Philadelphia
Philadelphia
Drexel
Hill
Springfield
Pennsauken
Camden


1950
White
Black

1962 LAND USE MAPS

Works Progress Administration

www.philageohistory.org



5901-13 Germantown Avenue, c.1960

1950

GERMANTOWN'S 275TH BIRTHDAY

Germantown Community Action Eased Bias In Housing Changes

Challenge Of Racial Problem Met Through Neighbor Councils

By CHARLES THOMAS, Staff Writer

In a time of increasing racial tensions in most other areas, the problems of changing neighborhoods are being met with less upheaval in Germantown than in other sections of Philadelphia. This, according to findings, is due greatly to organized community action

Racial Change In Germantown Third Highest In Philadelphia

Swank Interracial Party Is Raided By Germantown Police

This White Minister Can Teach Biased Negroes Of Germantown Needed Lesson

Anti-Bar Protest Gaining Ground In Germantown

Germantowners Seek More Crossing Guards But None Want Job

City Needs 14 Women To Take School Crossing Posts In Gtn.

1946, YWCA

1950, YWCA

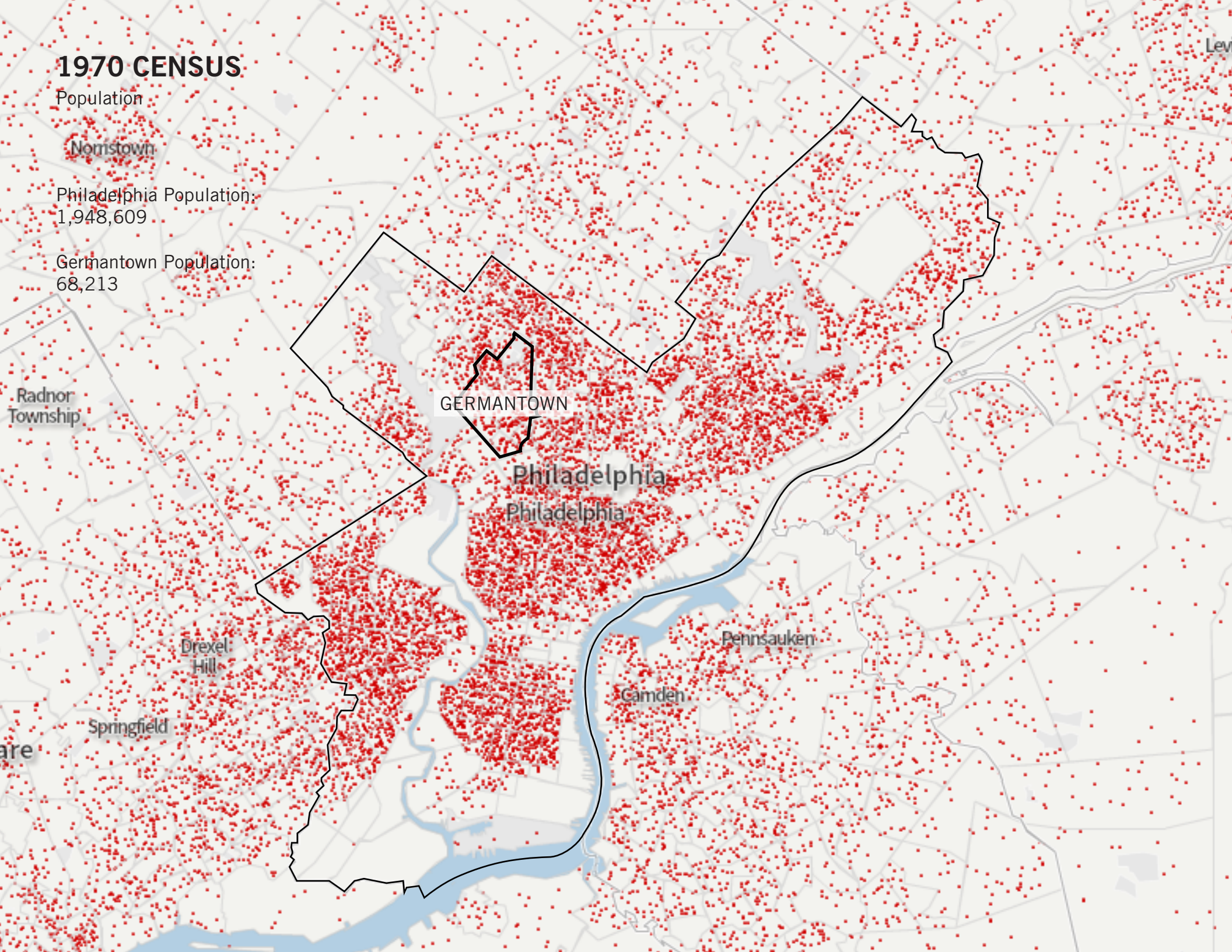
1959, 5555 Wissahickon Ave - Strafford House

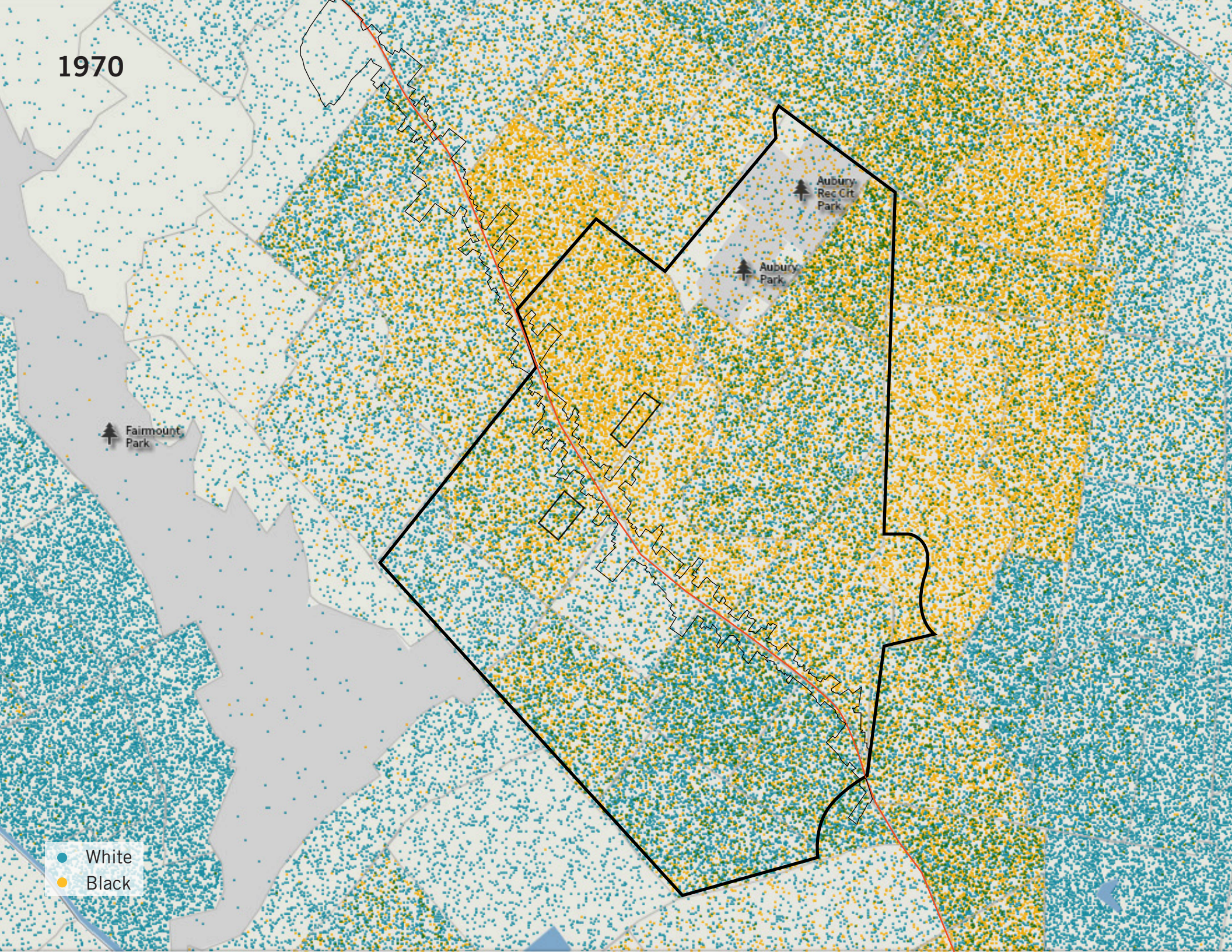
1970

1965 Colonial Germantown Historical District designated a National Historic Landmark

1966 Added to the National Register of Historic Places

1987 District expanded to the 7600 block of Germantown Avenue (up to Cresheim Valley Drive), which is the southern boundary of the Chestnut Hill Historic District


1970 CENSUS
Population
Norristown
Philadelphia Population:
1,948,609
Germantown Population:
68,213
GERMANTOWN
Radnor
Township
Philadelphia
Philadelphia
Drexel
Hill
Springfield
Pennsauken
Camden


1970
Aubury Rec Ctr Park
Aubury Park
Fairmount Park
White
Black

1970

Balloons Used To Protest Gtn. By-Pass

"Little people" being literally bulldozed by Big Government was the issue Wednesday when 50 people from the Germantown area staged a balloon - launching outside City Hall.

Mrs. Wesley P. Tomlinson, vice president of the planning division of the Germantown Community Council, said the flying balloons symbolized the "city sending citizens' rights to the winds."

The Council is up in arms because a proposed highway in their area would displace residents of some 90 homes without provisions for their relocation. Most of the people involved are Negro.

KING'S NAME INVOKED

During a debate over the highway, known as the Belfield-Rittenhouse By-Pass, which followed in City Council, one of the proponents of the highway said that "Dr. King would have wanted to see this kind of urban renewa in Germantown."

The speaker was criticized by many present for invoking the name of Dr. King on behalf of a highway that would leave Negroes homeless.

— An Orphans' Court Judge —

1968 Protest against a proposed highway.

30 Germantown Families Given Eviction Notices

Tenants Group Protests Housing Conditions in City's Northwest

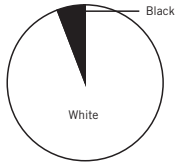
2 Battles in Germantown:

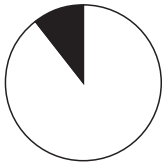
One Re-Enacted, One Waged Every Day

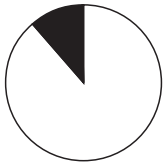
1967

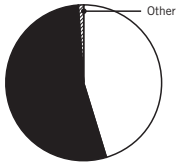
		1910	1940	1950	1970
TOTAL POPULATION	Philadelphia	1,549,008	1,931,334	2,071,605	1,948,609
	Germantown	--	70,380	73,698	68,213

RACE

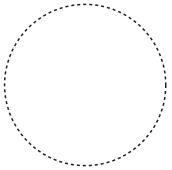


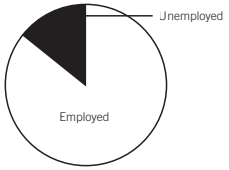


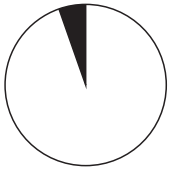


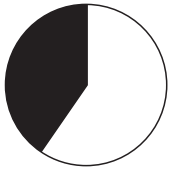


EMPLOYMENT





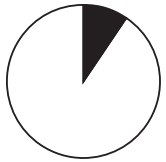


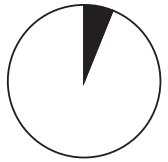


PLACE OF BIRTH

*Calculations for white only

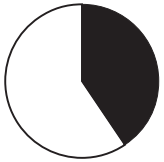
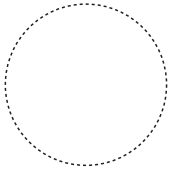
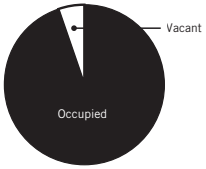
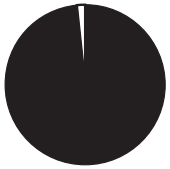
*Calculations for white only





HOUSING

Tenure



Occupancy