

## Fun Facts Northeast

### Elfreth's Alley:

- Dating back to 1702, Elfreth's Alley is the oldest continuously inhabited residential street and is referred to as "our nation's oldest residential street." It is comprised of 32 houses which were built between 1728 and 1836.
- In the 18th century, artists such as candle makers, tailors, and blacksmiths worked out of their first story homes in Elfreth's Alley.
- The preservation of three centuries can be seen in the alley's charming window boxes, colonial window panes, and Flemish brickwork and details.
- The street is made of cobblestones and is on the US National Register of Historic Places.

### Betsy Ross House:

- Considered the best seamstress in Philadelphia, Betsy Ross is credited with designing and sewing the first American flag. Legend says Betsy offered George Washington a new star design which had 5 points instead of the six from his design. This was a time saver for Betsy because it was not as difficult to cut the 5 pointed stars.
- A widow three times, Betsy Ross supported herself as a seamstress.
- Betsy's home, circa 1740, is characterized by tiny spaces, winding staircases, brick courtyards and underground cellars.
- Betsy sewed the first American flag in her tiny bedroom.
- Inside her home was an upholstery shop, a parlor which housed the flag committee, and her basement where she made musket cartridges for the army. Betsy also had a medicinal garden in the courtyard where she is now buried.

### Franklin Square:

- Franklin Square is one of the 5 original open space parks (or "squares") planned by William Penn. It contains 8 acres of green space and was established in 1683.
- Franklin Square is managed by the Historic Philadelphia Foundation and is on the National Registry of Historic Places.