

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

18 May 1977

Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman

Present: Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Theodore T. Bartley, Jr., A.I.A., Preservation Committee, American Institute of Architects, Philadelphia Chapter.
Erling H. Pedersen, A.I.A., Old Philadelphia Development Corporation.
Russell Milnor, A.I.A., Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority.
Richard Tyler, Historian.
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Executive Assistant to the Chairman.

Also: Ronald Peck, Contractor, to present plans for the renovation of 303 Gaskill Street.
Alden Blyth, Architect, to present plans for the renovation of 764 South Front Street and 313 South American Street.
John Frondorf, Architect, to present plans for the restoration of 906 Spruce Street.
William McGrath, Contractor, to discuss with the committee members his proposal for renovations to the building situate at 6 North Third Street.

SUBMISSIONS

- 303 Gaskill Street, Ronald Peck, Contractor. The Committee, after some discussion with the contractor, agreed to recommend the approval of the renovation proposal, as presented, with the suggestion that a cellar bulkhead be installed with either brick or cast-stone cheeks and batten doors. It was agreed that common running bond would be acceptable for the new facade although Flemish bond would be preferred. Finally, a brick cornice covered with a simple barge board, rather than a box cornice as shown on the drawing, may be installed.
- 764 South Front Street, Baker, Rothschild, Horn & Blyth, Architects. The Committee recommends the approval of this renovation proposal as presented.
- 313 South American Street, Baker, Rothschild, Horn & Blyth, Architects. Approval is recommended with the suggestion that a batten gate, rather than a metal one, be hung at the alley entrance.
- 906 Spruce Street, John Frondorf, Architect. Approval is recommended. The Committee, however, asks that the architect be required to provide additional specifications on the drawing and submit a detail of the iron railing.
- 6 North Third Street, William McGrath, Contractor. The Committee recommends that the owner salvage and restore the existing commercial front. Window openings, if not needed, could be filled with block, recessed approximately four inches, and covered with a translucent spandrel glass. Before an approval can be given, a measured drawing specifying the proposed alterations must be submitted for review.

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- 700 S. Washington Square, Lombardi Company, Contractors. Approval of the alterations, as proposed, is recommended with the suggestion that the fire escapes on the rear be removed, if permitted by code, and the dormer window on the fourth floor be restored.
- 329 S. Lawrence Street, Roland Davies, Architect. Approval of the rear addition to this building is recommended.
- 331 S. Lawrence Street, Roland Davies, Architect. The Committee agreed that the original form of the house must be retained by setting the rear addition back at least eight inches at the point of the original building line. The window on the gable wall should be eliminated and the window pattern, on the rear, at the first and second floors should be duplicated on the third floor.
- 606 Spruce Street, Roger Lewis, Architect. Approval of this restoration proposal is recommended with the requirement that the frontispiece remain as it exists and that the marble watertable be restored. Mr. Bartley agreed to look at the watertable, marble infilled with brick, and report to the staff as to whether or not it is original or has been altered.

RESUBMISSIONS

- 924 Spruce Street, Harlan Crider, Architect. The architect's revised elevation, now in accordance with the details submitted at the April meeting, was reviewed by the Committee and approval is recommended.

DEMOLITIONS

- 228 South 9th Street. Dr. Tyler reported that due to Wills' Eye Hospital's desire for more Locust Street frontage an agreement with the Hospital to restore 228 South 9th Street had been taken under consideration. Subsequent correspondence with the hospital however, requests that demolition of the building be allowed so that the hospital proceed with new construction. Russ Milnor reported that currently the Authority is trying to market the building since it is still owned by them and not by Wills Eye Hospital. The Committee agreed to refer the problem to the Authority and to ask the hospital for the schematics showing both the retention of 228 South 9th Street and its demolition as part of the new Wills Eye complex.
- 730-32 South Broad Street. The Committee tabled this request for demolition and agreed to ask for further information concerning the proposed use of the site.

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PLAQUES

335 South 7th Street. It is suggested that a plaque not be awarded to this building since the shutters and downspout do not conform with the approved drawing on file in the Commission office.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Sieniontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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