

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

15 August 1979

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

Present: Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman, 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
Janet S. Klein, Vice Chairman of the Commission
Richard Tyler, Historian
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Executive Assistant to the Chairman
Marion Carroll, Architectural Historian
Jefferson Moak, Historical Research Technician

Also present:

Vincent Canuso, owner of the building situate at 302 Lombard Street, to present his architect's proposal for the complete restoration of this building.

The Reverend Mr. Jones and Councilman Coleman appeared before the Architectural Committee to seek the approval of their building permit application for the illegal removal of a side porch at Ivy Lodge, 29 East Penn Street.

Philip Buckley, Architect, and Stanley Taraila, Architect, to present their proposal for the restoration of 56-66 North Third Street and 302-304 Arch Street.

John Dickey, Architect, to present a proposal for the rehabilitation of the Bartram House.

Joel Chernock, owner of 723-725 Spruce Street, to request a change in the approved plans for his building.

Larry Woodward, Architect, to present his submission for the restoration of the frame building situate at 1011 Moyamensing Avenue.

A. DeRoy Mark, Architect, to present a proposal for the construction of a masonry fence with iron gates at 904 Clinton Street.

Stewart Harting, Developer, to present a preliminary proposal for alterations to 301 Chestnut Street.

Victoria Fyle, Carl Massara Associates, with a preliminary proposal for renovations to 1321 Locust Street.

SUBMISSIONS FOR ALTERATIONS

302 Lombard Street, Greg Woodring & Associates, Architects. Mr Canuso, owner of the building situate at 302 Lombard Street, presented his architect's proposal for the building's restoration. In reviewing the architect's drawing, the Committee members noted that the size of the

third floor window openings did not conform with the size of the existing openings as shown on a photograph in the Commission's file. The owner was asked to have his architect verify the size of the third floor openings and to correct the drawing to conform with his findings. In addition, the Committee pointed out that a larger window opening at the third floor would require a change in the window sash from three over three lights, as shown on the drawing, to six over six lights. At the second floor level the meeting rail of the shutter should be positioned below the center rail of the window to allow for the installation of properly fitting shutter hardware. Since the cornice is to be rebuilt, a detailed drawing of the new wood cornice to match that at 326 Lombard Street must be submitted for review. A drawing of the dormer window, if it is to be replaced, is required as well. Finally, the Committee asked that the architect check the floor to floor heights at the basement level to insure the proper positioning of the cellar windows.

As soon as the above items have been studied and a revised drawing prepared, the Committee agreed to reconsider the submission as soon as possible to avoid any delay in construction.

56-66 North Third Street and 302-304 Arch Street, Philip Buckley and Stanley Taraila, Architects. The Architectural Committee reviewed the architects' proposal for the restoration of the buildings situate at 56-66 North Third Street and 302-304 Arch Street and agreed to recommend to the Commission an approval of the project in concept. It was strongly suggested that the architect restudy the balcony railing on the Third Street buildings. The Committee found the architects' rendering to be too heavy and suggested employing the same design but in a lighter treatment. The staff offered to show Mr. Buckley examples of similar wrought iron railings in the Old City area.

Bartram House, John Dickey, Architect. Mr. Dickey presented to the members of the Architectural Committee his proposal for the complete rehabilitation of the Bartram House, 54th Street and Elmwood Avenue. The Committee found Mr. Dickey's proposed treatment of the building to be acceptable and voted to recommend to the Commission the approval of the plans as submitted.

Janet Klein expressed some concern over the inadequate security system planned for the building. Except for the window over the shed, no security alarm system will be installed at the second floor openings.

723-725 Spruce Street, Carl Massara Associates, Architects. Mr. Chernock, owner of 723-725 Spruce Street, appeared before the members of the Architectural Committee to request a change in the previously approved plans for these two buildings.

After some consideration, the Committee agreed to recommend an approval of the proposed changes. These include the retention of the existing transom and doorway at 723 Spruce Street and the elimination of the basement areaway at 725 Spruce Street.

1011 Moyamensing Avenue, Larry Woodward, Architect. Mr. Woodward presented his plans for the restoration of this early nineteenth century frame building to the Architectural Committee for review. After a brief discussion, the Committee voted to recommend the approval of Mr. Woodward's plans to the Commission.

904 Clinton Street, A. DeRoy Mark, Architect. The Committee reviewed the proposal for the construction of a masonry wall with a decorative iron gate at 904 Clinton Street as presented by Mr. Mark. The members found the architect's plans to be acceptable and voted to recommend their approval to the Commission.

301 Chestnut Street, David Beck, Architect. Stewart Harting, developer for the building situate at 301 Chestnut Street, presented the architect's plans for the rehabilitation of this mid-nineteenth century commercial structure.

After a brief discussion of the proposal, the Committee agreed to ask for a resubmission. It was suggested that the architect examine the ground floor of the building to determine if the original commercial facade existed under the stucco finish. If not, the Committee suggested that the pilasters with a plain neat entablature, as described in the 1849 Contributionship survey, be reproduced in a compatible material. The Commission staff agreed to assist Mr. Harting and his architect in the preparation of a resubmission.

1321 Locust Street (preliminary submission), Carl Massara Associates, Architects. Victoria Pyle presented to the Architectural Committee a preliminary proposal for renovations to the building situate at 1321 Locust Street. The Committee was pleased with the architect's proposal to restore the window sash in accordance with an early photograph on file in the Office of the City Archives. It was suggested that the architect contact

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Willits & Company to determine the feasibility and cost of reproducing the original leaded glass window sash. If a less expensive way of reproducing the window sash design could be found, the Committee agreed that this would be acceptable. Mr. Bartley suggested that it might be possible to reproduce the design in plexiglass. The plexiglass could then be applied to the exterior side of a solid piece of glass.

The Committee members also considered the construction of a rear bay or porch at the second floor of the building. After some discussion of this matter, it was agreed that Mr. Bartley would examine the rear wall and make suggestions concerning its proper treatment.

218 South 8th Street, Hassinger Schwam Associates, Architects. Mr. Milnor presented the architect's proposal for the renovation of 218 South 8th Street to the Committee for review. Upon examination of the elevation, the Committee members found the drawing to be incorrectly scaled. A revision of the drawing, particularly the ground floor, is required. Moreover, the Committee members asked for a restudy of the dormer window proposal and for the submission of a complete set of details. Finally, it was noted particularly that the glass lights under the bulk window should be removed.

The members agreed to recommend that the Commission require the resubmission of this proposal for another review by the Committee.

DEMOLITIONS

Ivy Lodge, 29 East Penn Street. The Reverend Mr. Jones and Councilman Coleman appeared before the Architectural Committee to request the approval of the demolition of a side porch undertaken without a permit. According to the Reverend Mr. Jones, the porch had deteriorated badly and was in danger of collapse and for this reason, he ordered its immediate demolition.

Following a brief discussion of the situation, the Committee agreed to legalize the demolition work provided that the stone wall be repaired to match the remainder of the building. In addition, the Commission's Historian agreed to advise the Reverend Mr. Jones and Councilman Coleman on the tax incentives and funding for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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