

THE MINUTES OF THE 262nd STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

6 May 1982

F. Otto Haas, Chairman

Present: F. Otto Haas, Chairman of the Commission
Janet S. Klein, Vice Chairman of the Commission
Edward Pinkowski
John Taxin
Commissioner Joseph W. Brown, Department of Public Property
Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Kenneth Cooper, Esq., Assistant City Solicitor, Law Department
Richard Tyler, Historian
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Architectural Historian
Jefferson Moak, Executive Secretary

Unless otherwise noted all actions taken herein are the results of motions correctly made, seconded and carried.

The Minutes of the Stated Meeting held on 4 February 1982 were reviewed, approved and directed to be filed subject to the addition of the following explanation of Mr. Mogensen's concern about the certification process which appears on page 2 of the Minutes:

"At the request of Mr. Mogensen, the Historian explained the certification process and the means by which buildings are presented to the Commission for consideration.

"As a result of the work of various private consultants, the Historical Commission staff receives numerous National Register nomination forms for Philadelphia buildings. Using this information, the Commission staff prepares local registration forms and presents them to the Historical Commission and its Committee on Certification for review. Recently, owing to the incentives available under the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, the nominated buildings tend to be of substantial size. Mr. Mogensen observed that the size and location of buildings being nominated to the Commission reflect this development of such larger older buildings now underway in the City and questioned the process by which buildings come to the Commission's attention. The Commission discussed at length the ramifications of local certification, the need for economic incentives to spur the rehabilitation and preservation of older buildings, the absence of such incentives to buildings entered only on the local register, and other related matters. No action followed this discussion."

The Reports of the Architectural Committee for 17 February 1982, 17 March 1982 and 21 April 1982, Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman. Each of the reports of the Committee was reviewed, approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Commission members discussed briefly the proposed demolition of 325 Lombard Street (21 April 1982 Report of the Architectural Committee) to allow for the construction of a new addition to the adjoining St. Peter's School building. A special motion to allow the demolition of 325 Lombard Street and to strike the building from the Commission's list was made, seconded and carried.

Special Report of the Philadelphia Historical Commission, sitting in committee on 1 April 1982, on the proposed alteration to the ground floor of the PSFS Building.

The Historian reviewed with the Commission members the April 1982 Special Report concerning proposed alterations to the ground floor of the PSFS Building for Lerner Shops. At that time, the architect for Lerner Shops was asked to revise his plans to reflect, as nearly as possible, the original design of the corner entrance as it appeared on a 1933 shop drawing.

Following the Commission's recommendation, the architect revised his plans and forwarded them to the Architectural Committee for another review. The Committee members on 21 April 1982 reviewed the revised plans but could not reach a consensus concerning their approval. As a result, the matter was once again referred to the Commission without a recommendation from the Architectural Committee.

Mr. Levy proposed an alternative treatment for the corner entrance and Mr. Tyler recommended that the architect be asked to restudy the problem from the perspective of Mr. Levy's suggestion and make another submission. Following some discussion, a motion was made to accept the architect's present revision. This was seconded and carried. The Commission further agreed to require the submission of shop drawings and material specifications before a final approval of this undertaking is granted.

The Report of the Committee on Certification for 19 January 1982, Edward Pinkowski, Chairman.

The remainder of the Report of the Committee on Certification for 19 January 1982 was reviewed by the Commission. Each of the following buildings was considered, individually, and approved for certification:

1717 Spring Garden Street: The John B. Stetson House
222 S. 19th Street: The Chateau Crillon
123 S. 22nd Street: The Robert Lewis Residence
125 S. 22nd Street: The John C. Bullitt Residence
127 S. 22nd Street: The Stephen Farrelly Residence
129-131 S. 22nd Street: The Travis Cochran Residence
133 S. 22nd Street: The Dr. James H. Hutchinson Residence
2246 N. 52nd Street: The DeWaele-Trumbauer House

Mr. Moak reported to the Commission his receipt of correspondence from the owners of the Warwick Hotel refusing the Commission's proposed certification of their property. Following some discussion of the issue, the Commission directed the staff to acknowledge the receipt of the letter and further moved to table the certification of the Warwick Hotel for future consideration.

The Reports on Philadelphia Historical Commission Staff Activities for February and March, 1982 and April, 1982, Richard Tyler, Historian. Each of the two reports was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

A.I.A. Contribution to the Harry A. Batten Memorial Fund. A check in the amount of \$100.00 to cover the cost of photographic reproductions for "Preservation Perspectives: 1982" was received and deposited in the Harry A. Batten Memorial Fund.

At the request of the Historian, the Commission members voted to approve the reimbursement of \$100.00 to Ms. Siemiontkowski to cover her payment of Professional Color Processing Laboratories Invoice No. 6213.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of an additional member to the Architectural Committee. Mr. Levy asked the Commission to consider the appointment of an additional member to the Architectural Committee. Presently four architects with voting privileges sit on the Committee. Russell Milnor, staff architect for the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, attends meetings on a regular basis but only in an advisory capacity. Because of the absence of at least one, and sometimes two, members of the Committee from the regular monthly meetings, Mr. Levy asked that the Commission consider the appointment of an additional person.

The Commission members agreed and asked Mr. Levy, in consultation with the Commission staff, to prepare a list of nominees.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Architectural Historian