

THE MINUTES OF THE 310th STATED MEETING

OF THE

PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

29 April 1987

Edward A. Montgomery, Jr., Chairman

Present: Edward A. Montgomery, Jr., Chairman
Christine Washington, Vice-Chairman
David Brownlee
Joan C. Ferreira
David Hollenberg
Jason Nathan
William D. Thompson
David Baldinger, Deputy Director, City Planning Commission
Rebecca Northrop, Director of Policy and Planning, Office
of Housing
Dudley R. Sykes, Commissioner, Department of Public
Property
Mark MacQueen, Esq., Chief Assistant City Solicitor, Law
Department
Richard Tyler, Historic Preservation Officer
Patricia A. Siemiontkowski, Assistant Historic Preservation
Officer
Randal Baron, Preservation Planner
Sally Elk, Historic Research Technician
Terri Koob, Executive Secretary
Carmen Weber, Archaeologist
Maureen Heaney, Clerk Steno I

Also: Mary Lou McFarland, Executive Director, Preservation
Coalition of Greater Philadelphia
A. Robert Jaeger, Philadelphia Historic Preservation
Corporation
Martha Nestor of John Milner Associates
J. Shane Creamer, Attorney for the Sameric Corporation
J. Caracci and D. Benedict, Cameramen for WPVI TV 6
Julie Zatuchni, Court Reporter for City Solicitor
Greg D'Angelo, First Pennsylvania Bank
Pat Green, University of Pennsylvania Historic Preservation
Program student

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

THE MINUTES of the 309th Stated Meeting of the Philadelphia Historical Commission held on 25 March 1987, Edward A. Montgomery, Jr., Chairman, were reviewed and approved.

THE MINUTES of the Special Meeting of the Philadelphia Historical Commission held on 2 April 1987, Edward A. Montgomery, Jr., Chairman were reviewed and approved.

THE REPORT of the Architectural Committee meeting of the Philadelphia Historical Commission held on 9 April 1987, David Hollenberg, Chairman. Mr. Hollenberg stated that the submission for 1908-1910 Chestnut Street will be presented separately. Mr. Hollenberg reported that information requested for the following projects has not been received and that these projects are still pending: 411 N. 20th Street; 21 S. 13th Street, St. John the Evangelist Church; 1939 Mt. Vernon Street; 1213-1215 Locust Street; 48-50 S. Front Street; 757 S. Front Street; 1910 Wallace Street, and 2301 Green Street.

Mr. Hollenberg stated that a correction should be made in the Report of the Architectural Committee Meeting held on 9 April 1987 for the Mellon Independence Center submission. The Report erroneously states that Mike Pate represents John Milner Associates. The correction should note that Mike Pate is a representative of Gilbane Construction.

Richard Tyler presented an addendum to the Report of the Architectural Committee Meeting held on 9 April 1987 which concerns the Church of the Advocate located at 18th and Diamond Streets. Mr. Tyler reported that a fifty foot spire on the roof is irreparably deteriorated. The cost of restoring the spire is approximately \$200,000 and the cost of a representation of the spire is approximately \$100,000. These funds are not available to the Church at this time. Mr. Tyler informed the Commission that the staff and the Architectural Committee concur in the recommendation to remove the spire and simply to construct a capped base where the spire now exists as part of the current reroofing project.

The Committee suggested the recordation of the spire and the storage of its intact components. The Commission agreed to allow removal of the spire as recommended by the staff and the Architectural Committee.

The Commission unanimously voted to approve the Report of the Architectural Committee Meeting of 9 April 1987 with the exception of the five submissions noted above where additional information is required. The proposal for demolition of 1908-1910 Chestnut Street is not included in this approval and will be considered separately.

J. Shane Creamer, attorney for the Sameric Corporation, addressed the Commission and requested information on the restrictions of alternate uses of the Boyd Theatre located at 1908-1910 Chestnut Street.

David Hollenberg responded that the Sameric Corporation need not consider reuses that would entail the entrance subdivision of the building, such as apartments as an obvious example. Rather, the Corporation should study reasonable reuses consistent with historic preservation.

The Commission unanimously voted to delay its decision on the demolition request for the Boyd Theatre pending the receipt of additional information that would statisfy Section 7(e), 7(f).5 .6 .7 and 7(j). The Commission also requested that an analysis be conducted by an independent consultant. The Commission stated that the sixty day period which the Commission has to approve or deny the application for demolition or to defer a decision has commenced.

THE REPORT of the Committee on Historic Designation Meeting held on 6 March 1987, David Brownlee, Chairman. Dr. Brownlee presented the report of the Committee on Historic Designation Meeting held on 6 March 1987. Following an oral report on the architectural and historical significance of each nomination by Dr. Brownlee and a slide presentation by Mr. Baron, the Commission unanimously voted to designate the following:

Raymond Pace Alexander/Cecil B. Moore House,
1708 Jefferson Street

DeBennerville Family Burial Ground, 6064 N. Broad Street

C.C. Knight/Middishade Factory, 350-352 N. 16th Street

Snellenburg Clothing Factory, 642 N. Broad Street

Dr. Brownlee reported that the Committee considered the nomination to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places for the WFIL Television Studio located at 4548 Market Street. Dr. Brownlee informed the Commission that the Committee agreed to defer a recommendation on this nomination pending a tour of the interior of the building by members of the Committee on Historic Designation.

THE REPORT of the Philadelphia Historical Commission Staff Activities for 15 March 1987 - 15 April 1987, Richard Tyler, Historic Preservation Officer, was reviewed and approved.

Mr. Tyler reported that a decision will not be made on 149 S. Hancock Street owing to the deliberations going on between the Redevelopment Authority and Mr. Taxin.

RESOLUTION OF COMMISSIONER DUDLEY R. SYKES

Mr. Tyler read a resolution prepared in recognition of Commissioner Sykes who has resigned as Commissioner of Public Property.

The Commission unanimously approved the adoption of this resolution which was presented to Commissioner Sykes at today's meeting. A copy of this resolution is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

A. Robert Jaeger, Philadelphia Historic Preservation Corporation, addressed the Commission and expressed his concern over the length of time that it has taken the Historical Commission to act upon the proposed designation of the UGI Building. Mr. Tyler responded that the Historical Commission staff is continuing to work toward a resolution on this nomination and that all is progressing satisfactorily. Mr. Tyler added that, in the interim, the building is protected under the local preservation ordinance.

Patricia Green, a student in the Historic Preservation Program at the University of Pennsylvania, requested permission to read a legal overview prepared of historic preservation court cases. The Commission thanked Ms. Green for her offer. Rather than hear the paper they accepted a copy for review by Commission's legal counsel.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Heaney
Clerk Steno I

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