

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

16 May 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
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

Also: Joseph Abriola, Engineer, and John Lloyd, Vice President of the Episcopal
Hospital, to present a proposal for alterations to the Tower and
Annex buildings and to the chapel.
Anthony Rienzi, Architect, to present a proposal for the rehabilitation
of Merchants Hall at Girard College.
Irving Shapiro, Architect, to present his plans for the restoration
of 235 Bainbridge Street.
Leon Levin, Architect, to present his submission for the restoration
of 229 S. Schell Street.

SUBMISSIONS

Episcopal Hospital, Joseph Abriola, Engineer. Mr. Abriola and Mr. Lloyd presented to the Architectural Committee the Hospital's proposal for the construction of a fire tower adjoining the Tower Building. Mr. Lloyd, Vice President for the Episcopal Hospital, pointed out that in order to maintain its accreditation, the Hospital must correct all life-safety code deficiencies in the older buildings. One major correction entails the removal of a wooden stair in the Annex, which is attached to the Tower, and the erection of a four-story fire tower to connect with the Tower's fire-rated stair which begins at the fifth floor. Upon the completion of the new fire tower, the Hospital will demolish the Annex which became dangerous after the collapse of a wall in 1978.

After some discussion of the proposal, the Committee agreed to recommend approval for the construction of the fire stair. However, it was agreed that before a demolition permit for the Annex Building is issued, the Hospital must submit a complete set of drawings showing the treatment of the chapel wall and all other exterior building finishes.

16 May 1979

Girard College, Merchants Hall, Anthony T. Rienzi & Associates. Mr. Rienze presented to the Committee his plans for the rehabilitation of Merchants Hall. After some discussion of the proposal, the Committee voted to recommend the approval of this project.

235 Bainbridge Street, Irving Shapiro, Architect. Mr. Shapiro presented his plans for the restoration of this two and a half story, eighteenth-century house to the Committee for review. The Committee agreed to recommend the approval of this proposal subject to two conditions. The upper floor shutters should be divided into two sections rather than three with the meeting rail of the shutter positioned slightly below the center rail of the window. Secondly, the Committee requested that the soffit of the pent eave be plastered.

229 S. Schell Street, Leon Levin, Architect. The Committee examined the drawing for the restoration of 229 S. Schell Street in the absence of Mr. Levin. After a brief consideration of the proposal, the Committee agreed to recommend its approval subject to two minor conditions. The door frame on the Schell Street facade, if it is to be replaced, must match the existing frame exactly. In addition, the Committee asked that the wall at the rear of the building be reduced by 2'4" to meet the line of the Mikveh Israel Cemetery wall.

120-22 Market Street, Carlos Rodriguez, Architect. The Committee voted to approve this restoration proposal in concept. It was suggested that the bottom stile on each of the entrance doors be raised slightly. Working drawings and a complete set of details are required before a final approval can be given.

6043 Germantown Avenue, David Karp, Architect. The Committee recommends the approval of the architect's proposal to restore the first floor fenestration of this locally certified building.

RESUBMISSIONS

1035-37 Spruce Street, Stephen Leibowitz, Architect. The Committee recommends the approval of Mr. Leibowitz's most recent resubmission for alterations to the rear of the Quay House, 1035-37 Spruce Street.

PLAQUES

440 Spruce Street. The Committee agreed to recommend that a plaque not be issued at this time to the building situate at 440 Spruce Street owing to the poor quality of the brickwork. It is suggested that the brick be cleaned thoroughly and that additional pointing be undertaken in order to unify the color and texture of the Fifth Street wall.

16 May 1979

218 Monroe Street. The Committee recommends the approval of a Certified Restored plaque for 218 Monroe Street.

900 Waverly Street. The Committee noted that the restoration work undertaken at 900 Waverly Street does not conform with the approved drawing on file in the Historical Commission office. It is recommended that a plaque not be issued to this house.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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