

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

20 September 1978

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 of the 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.

Also : Roland C. Davies, Architect, to present proposal for 404 South Front Street.
Charles Hough, Architect, to present proposal for Houston Hall.
Douglas Randall, to present proposal for 242 Race Street.

SUBMISSIONS

404 South Front Street, Roland C. Davies, Architect. Mr. Davies submitted his revision for the restoration of this property. The Committee recommended that the cornice be raised one course of brick by reducing the bedmold and asked for a detail of the profile of the watertable. The Committee recommended approval of this project by the Commission subject to staff acceptance of these two details.

Houston Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Charles Hough, architect. The committee recommended the approval of the proposal to introduce an elevator for the handicapped in Houston Hall.

930 Spruce Street, Simon Koumjian, architect. The Committee recommended the approval of this submission subject to the correction of the treatment of the "D" window in the west facade; it should be bisected by a muntin, not by masonry.

242 Race Street, Douglas Randall. The Committee recommended the approval in concept of Mr. Randall's proposal for the rehabilitation of this property. Messrs. Levy and Pedersen offered to meet Mr. Randall on the site to refine the concept further.

POLICY CONSIDERATION

Substantial Reconstruction of an Historically Certified Building. After some discussion, the Committee determined that the question eluded a generalized solution and recommended that the Commission treat the

20 September 1978

problem on an ad hoc basis, with consideration given to the structural condition of the existing building, the authenticity of the proposed substantial reconstruction, the wishes of the owner, and such other variables as may apply in a particular case.

PLAQUES

311 South American Street. Mr. Bartley will examine this restoration and report on its eligibility for a plaque.

313 South American Street. Mr. Bartley will also examine this house.

329 Queen Street. The Committee recommended against the issuance of a plaque to this property owing to the discrepancies found between the approved drawings and the actual execution of the project, particularly in the cornice, brickwork near the cornice line and the shutters.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Tyler
Historian