

2

MINUTES OF THE 187th STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

12 September 1974

Dr. F. Otto Haas, Chairman

Present: Dr. F. Otto Haas, Chairman  
Charles R. Tyson, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. James C. Crumlish, Jr.  
The Hon. John B. Kelly, Jr., Councilman-at-Large  
Edward Pinkowski  
John Javorski, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Property  
Henry J. Magaziner, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission  
James L. Ferguson, Deputy Director, Department of Finance  
David Rosenblum, Assistant City Solicitor, Law Department  
Richard Tyler, Historian  
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Unless otherwise noted, all action taken herein is the result of motions correctly made, seconded and carried.

THE MINUTES of the Stated Meeting, 1 August 1974, were approved and directed to be filed.

REPORTS

The Reports of the Architectural Committee for 15 August 1974 and 3 September 1974 were approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

Mr. Pinkowski advised the Board that the plans approved by the Architectural Committee at its meeting of 15 August 1974 for the restoration of 301 Pine Street were preliminary. Another submission by the National Park Service will be expected.

Recommendations for the Certification of Buildings, Richard Tyler, Historian.  
Mr. Tyler reported to the Board on the staff's lack of progress in the undertaking of the study of the historical and geographical distribution of certified buildings in the City. Mr. Pinkowski suggested expanding this study to include research into the ethnic character of the City as well. Since little headway had been made because of the pressure of routine activities, Mr. Tyler recommended the withdrawal of the moratorium on certification and presented the following buildings to the Board for consideration:

1710 Locust Street  
611 Spring Garden Street - German Society of Pennsylvania Library  
Seventh and St. James Streets - M.W. Ayer Building  
2417 North Eighth Street - St. Edward's Church  
3033 Byberry Road - Byberry Friends' Meetinghouse

## REPORTS (Cont'd)

1102-1112 Kater Street (inclusive)  
1109-1117 Bainbridge Street (inclusive)  
630 Spruce Street  
2200 block of Delancey Street (inclusive)  
39th and Pine Streets - Convent of the Good Shepherd  
39th and Pine Streets - University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School  
Spring Garden Civic Association proposal

The Board voted to accept Mr. Tyler's recommendations with the exception of the Spring Garden Civic Association proposal. It was agreed that this request be tabled pending further study of area proposals. Mr. Tyler was directed to contact the City Planning Commission to determine what properties, if any, are connected with the Spanish Village project and to contact Spanish representatives within the community concerning their views in regard to certification.

Mr. Pinkowski stated his objection to the certification of the Kater and Bainbridge Street buildings. The Board, however, voted to accept these buildings for certification over Mr. Pinkowski's objection pending notification and approval of the owners.

Commission Activities, Report on, Richard Tyler, Historian. Mr. Tyler's Report on Staff Activities for the period 1 August 1974 through 5 September 1974 was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

## OLD BUSINESS

Van Rensselaer Mansion, Richard Tyler, Historian. Mr. Tyler presented to the Commission members the recommendation of the Architectural Committee for the approval of the revised plan for alterations to the structure at 1801-05 Walnut Street. The Board agreed to concur with the Committee's recommendation and approve the plan as per the Minutes of the Meeting of the Architectural Committee for 3 September 1974.

Salvage and the Redevelopment Authority, Richard Tyler, Historian. Mr. Tyler reported the Redevelopment Authority's lack of interest in allowing the salvage of architectural components from buildings scheduled for demolition for reuse in the restoration of other buildings of a similar period, scale, and style. This reply was received in response to a recommendation made by the Historical Commission at its meeting held on 25 April 1974.

Joint Architect with the Redevelopment Authority, Richard Tyler, Historian. Again, the Historical Commission's request for assistance from the Redevelopment Authority was refused. It was the opinion of the Authority that there did not exist a sufficient need for the hiring of a joint architect for both the Commission and the Authority.

## NEW BUSINESS

Three federally funded restoration projects: Elfreth's Alley, Ohio House, and the Athenaeum, Richard Tyler, Historian. At the request of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, the Philadelphia Historical Commission reviewed a proposal for the granting of federal restoration funds to the aforementioned sites. The Commission agreed not to disapprove of the allocation of the funds but asked that the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission reconsider their priorities.

National Trust Annual Meeting, Dr. F. Otto Haas, Chairman. The Historical Commission unanimously agreed to allow the Commission's Historian to attend the National Trust Annual Meeting and the meeting of the Landmark Commission Representatives in Portland, Oregon during the week of September 30. The details of Mr. Tyler's attendance were to be arranged by the Chairman and the Historian.

Philadelphia Historical Commission Operations, Henry J. Magaziner, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission. Mr. Magaziner commented to the Board on the Commission's need for additional staff and finances and asked that the Board consider directing the staff to draw up a prospectus for the acquisition of funds from private and governmental sources. Mr. Tyler agreed to take this matter under consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Sienientkowska  
Executive Assistant to the Chairman