

THE MINUTES OF THE 263rd STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

3 June 1982

F. Otto Haas, Chairman

Present: F. Otto Haas, Chairman of the Commission
Janet S. Klein, Vice Chairman of the Commission
Edward Pinkowski
Val C. Mogensen, Executive Assistant Director of Finance
Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Richard Tyler, Historian
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Architectural Historian
Jefferson M. 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 of the Philadelphia Historical Commission held on 6 May 1982 were reviewed, approved and directed to be filed.

The Report of the Architectural Committee of the Philadelphia Historical Commission for 19 May 1982, Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman. The Committee's Report for 19 May was reviewed, approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Report of the Committee on Certification for 4 May 1982, Edward Pinkowski, Chairman. The report for 4 May 1982 was reviewed and the following action taken:

Each of the following buildings was considered, individually, and approved for certification:

1911 Waverly Street
Castor Avenue, Bristol, Cayuga and M Streets - The Carl Mackley Apartments
1811-1817 Chestnut Street - Belgravia Hotel
600-602 S. Washington Square - The Lea & Febiger Company Building
306-308 S. 19th Street - The Edward Brinton Smith Residence
318-322 S. 19th Street - The Horace Jayne Residence
20 South 21st Street
22 South 21st Street
24 South 21st Street
26 South 21st Street
28 South 21st Street
30 South 21st Street

Mr. Mogensen opposed the certification of the Belgravia Hotel at 1811-1817 Chestnut Street.

In addition, the Commission voted to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Certification to table the nomination of 1217-1241 Callowhill Street pending the receipt of additional information and more photographs.

At this time, Mr. Mogensen expressed his concern over the number of buildings nominated for certification in the Rittenhouse Square area and questioned the significance of those buildings outside of the Rittenhouse Square context. Although the buildings presented to the Commission for certification possess special significance in their own right, the Historian pointed out that a compatible environment further reinforces the desirability of designating buildings for certification. This is particularly true of the Rittenhouse Square area where quality buildings line the streets and add to the architectural integrity of the neighborhood. Since the Commission cannot create districts, it can only recognize and protect an important area by certifying individual buildings of historical and/or architectural merit.

Mr. Mogensen noted that the Statements of Significance for some of the buildings considered for certification did not include an explanation of their importance as part of the streetscape. If street context is, indeed, a factor in evaluating a building for certification, Mr. Mogensen asked that a statement to that effect be included in the nomination forms.

The Report on Philadelphia Historical Commission Staff Activities for the month of May, Richard Tyler, Historian. Mr. Tyler's report was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Architectural Historian