

MINUTES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE

PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

10 April 1986

David Hollenberg, Chairman

Present: David Hollenberg, Chairman
Theodore T. Bartley, Jr., F.A.I.A., Preservation Committee,
American Institute of Architects
John Dickey, F.A.I.A.
Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A.
Mark MacQueen, Esq., Assistant City Solicitor, Law Department
Richard Tyler, Historic Preservation Officer
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
Terri Koob, Clerk Steno II

Also: James L. Mullany, Reshetar Architects, to present a restoration
proposal for 239 Race Street.
Clifford Marchion of Nelson & Associates to present a proposal
to renovate 215 Church Street.
Sherry Williamson, Mike Scholnick and Eugene Lefevre of Growth
Properties and Samuel Crothers and Daniel J. Jalboot of S. Crothers
Associates to present a preliminary proposal for the reuse of 136-
148 N. Delaware Avenue.
Stephan White, Owner and Architect, and Katherine White, Owner, to
present mitigation schemes to correct adverse effects of skylight
atop 2123 Green Street.
Mary Lou McFarland, Executive Director, Preservation Coalition of
Greater Philadelphia
Patrick Starr, Foundation for Architecture
And others

ALTERATIONS

Strawberry Mansion, Craig Morrison, Architect. Ms. Siemiontkowski presented Mr. Morrison's report on the results of a paint analysis performed by Frank Welsh for Strawberry Mansion. The conclusion reached from the paint analysis is that the exterior of the mansion should be painted a pale yellowish pink. All trimwork is to be painted yellowish white with the exception of the second floor shutters which are to be painted dark green. Written evidence exists in an 1873 insurance survey documenting the Greek fret grilles which are to be restored to their original condition.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the approval of this paint restoration project for Strawberry Mansion.

- ✓ 2223 Mount Vernon Street, James Hellyer, Architect. Ms. Siemiontkowski presented the architect's proposal for the installation of a pair of 94" front entrance doors with a transom above at 2223 Mount Vernon Street. The new double doors will be painted green to match the window trim. The trim around the doors will be painted a creme color to match the stone lintels and sills. The house number, 2223, will be painted in gold on the transom.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the approval of this proposal to install new double doors on 2223 Mount Vernon Street.

- 239 Race Street, James L. Mullany of Reshetar Architects. Mr. Mullany presented a proposal to restore the original ground floor windows in this Old City house. The original windows were replaced sometime in the past with loading dock doors. The architect stated that an original door exists on the rear of the building. The Committee suggested that this existing door be used as a model for the replacement of the front door. The Committee examined the elevation drawings and recommended that the sills be shown correctly on the submission. They also recommended that notations be made on the drawings confirming the panel dimensions for the doors in accordance with the original door in existence at the rear of the building. It was further recommended that the dormer window sash contain 10" x 12" panes of glass as recorded in an insurance survey of 1843. The Committee asked that a cornice detail be included in the revised drawings as well as a note specifying the use of a round non-corrugated rain gutter. The Committee also requested that a notation be made on the drawings indicating that the cheek wall extending beyond the roofline on the east elevation will be removed.

The Committee agreed to recommend approval of this project pending the receipt of revised drawings to include the aforementioned recommendations. The Committee also requested that a completed Part II Tax Act application be presented along with the revised drawings.

- 215 Church Street, Clifford Marchion of Nelson & Associates. Mr. Marchion presented a proposal for renovations to 215 Church Street. This proposal calls for the removal of the exterior fire escape. New doors to replicate the original doors are also being proposed. Although the original doors to this structure no longer exist, the architect will copy the design of other doors on an adjoining building which it is believed duplicate those originally at 215 Church Street. The Committee requested the submission of revised drawings showing the new door detail and a modified treatment of the bulkhead.

The Committee agreed to recommend an approval to the Commission pending the submission and approval of revised elevations indicating the changes outlined at the meeting.

✓ Woodlands, John Dickey, Architect. Mr. Dickey presented plans for restoration work on the interior of the Woodlands. Plans call for cleaning and repainting. Care will be taken in the installation of electrical components to make them as unintrusive as possible.

The Committee agreed to recommend the approval of this restoration project. Mr. Dickey abstained from voting on this project.

136-148 N. Delaware Avenue, Sherry Williamson, Mike Scholnick and Eugene Lefevre of Growth Properties and Samuel Crothers and Daniel Jalboot of S. Crothers Associates. This is a preliminary proposal for the conversion of the Lummis Peanut Butter Factory buildings at 136-148 N. Delaware Avenue into a moderately priced hotel. The proposal calls for the application of white paint to the brick facades of these three buildings. In an effort to unify the three buildings, the architects propose to replace the small window sash with larger panes of glass. Owing to extensive interior and exterior deterioration, many costly repairs are required including the installation of 278 stabilizing star bolts in the front walls.

The Committee found the proposed conversion of the Lummis Peanut Butter Factory buildings into a moderately priced hotel to be an imaginative reuse proposal and agreed to lend its support of this project. The Committee, however, expressed concern over the proposed replacement of window sash and the developer's desire of painting the building facades white. The Committee asked that further study be undertaken and that consideration be given to a more authentic historical appearance on the exterior.

2123 Green Street, Stephan White, Owner and Architect, and Katherine White, Owner. In compliance with the recommendations made by the Architectural Committee at its meeting of 13 March 1986, Mr. White presented several mitigation schemes designed to make the skylight atop 2123 Green Street less intrusive. The Committee thanked Mr. White for his extensive efforts in searching for a solution to this problem. The Committee, however, agreed that many of the designs presented proved to be both costly and solarly inefficient.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that a modest approach to mitigation be undertaken. They asked that the redwood framing of the skylight be either painted white or covered with white aluminum to soften the contrast with the sky. The Committee requested that Mr. White contact the staff when this corrective measure is completed. The staff will inspect the skylight, at that time, and report its findings to the Committee.

PLAQUES

✓ 413 Fulton Street. The Committee reviewed the plaque application and photograph of 413 Fulton Street and agreed to recommend that a "Restored" plaque be awarded to 413 Fulton Street.

Mr. Hollenberg visited the properties at 3210 Powelton Street, 223 S. 42nd Street and 225 S. 42nd Street and reported his recommendations to the Committee. The following action was taken:

3210 Powelton Street. The Committee reviewed the plaque application and photograph of 3210 Powelton Street and agreed to recommend that a "Restored" plaque be awarded to this property.

223 S. 42nd Street. The Committee reviewed the plaque application and photograph of 223 S. 42nd Street and agreed to recommend that a "Restored" plaque be awarded to 223 S. 42nd Street.

225 S. 42nd Street. The Committee reviewed the plaque application and photograph of 225 S. 42nd Street. The Committee agreed that the treatment of the ballustrade and the rough cast stucco applied to the ballustrade and the facades of the building were inappropriate alterations. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that a plaque not be awarded to 225 S. 42nd Street.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Koob
Clerk Steno II