

PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

1 May 1980

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
Richard Tyler, Historian

Also

present: John Caulk of Francis, Cauffman, Wilkinson and Pepper,
Architects, to present proposal for the installation
of an elevator at College Hall, University of
Pennsylvania

College Hall, University of Pennsylvania, John Caulk, Architect.
The Architectural Committee held an extraordinary meeting on
1 May 1980 to expedite the building permit application review
process and to cooperate with the University in its desire to
undertake construction this summer.

Mr. Caulk presented his plans for the installation of an
elevator for handicapped persons in College Hall. The plan
calls for placing the elevator in one of the two major stair-
wells of the building. The members of the Committee and staff
regard these two stairwells and Room 200 to be among the more
important architectural elements in College Hall, the
University's most distinguished building architecturally and
historically.

The Committee examined the proposal and the use plan of the
Hall. In the view of the Committee, the placing of the
elevator in the stairwell would constitute an irreversible and
unsympathetic intrusion. It also noted that the space avail-
able in the stairwell cannot accommodate an elevator large
enough to provide convenient utilization by a person in a
wheelchair in accordance with the American National Standards
Institute requirements for the handicapped.

The Committee recommended the rejection of the present proposal.
It also recommended that the University reconsider the adoption
of one of the other locations suggested by Mr. Caulk in his
preliminary studies for this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Tyler
Historian