

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

15 June 1977

Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman

Present: Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Theodore T. Bartley, Jr., A.I.A., American Institute of Architects, Philadelphia Chapter, Preservation Committee.
Erling H. Pedersen, A.I.A., Old Philadelphia Development Corporation.
Russell Milner, A.I.A., Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
Richard Tyler, Historian
Patricia Sieniontkowski, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Also: John Calahan, Director of Development; Tony Platt, Architect, and Nancy Goodwin of Anderson, Notter, Finegold and Associates to present their proposal for the rehabilitation of the Mariners' Church at Front and Delancey Streets.
Edward Bernstein, Architect, to present his submission for the restoration of 632-34 South American Street.
Richard Hooking, Architect, with his plans for 305 Cherry Street and 137 Elfreth's Alley.
Roland C. Davies, Architect, to request another review of his proposal for alterations to the rear of 331 South Lawrence Street.

SUBMISSIONS

632-34 South American Street, Edward H. Bernstein, Architect. Mr. Bernstein present schematics for the restoration of the buildings situate at 632 and 634 South American Street. The Committee reviewed the drawing and recommends the approval of the proposal with the recommendation that lowered, rather than paneled, shutters be hung at the second floor. Before a building permit application is signed, however, a full set of working drawings must be submitted to the staff.

Mariners' Church, Front and Delancey Streets, Anderson-Notter and Associates, Inc. Messrs. Calahan and Platt and Ms. Goodwin presented to the Committee an historical sketch of the property and a slide program outlining their client's proposal to rehabilitate the existing structure for use as a restaurant. After some discussion, the Committee agreed to recommend the approval of the project in concept. The submission of a complete set of working drawings is required before a final approval to the proposal can be granted. Finally, it is suggested that the cupola, as shown on the woodcut and presented as evidence of the existence of store front windows on the Front Street elevation, be restored. The Committee further recommends that the staff be authorized to approve a building permit for alterations required to insure the structural stability of the building.

SUBMISSIONS (Cont'd)

305 Cherry Street, Richard Hocking, Architect. The Committee recommends the approval of this renovation proposal in concept. It is suggested that the character of the glass wall on the first floor reflect that of the rest of the building through the use of larger lights of glass. A detailed drawing of the front elevation, specifically the glass wall, must be submitted for further review before a final approval can be granted.

137 Elfreth's Alley, Richard Hocking, Architect. Approval of this renovation proposal is recommended.

Colorado Youth Community Center, 20th and Dauphin Streets. The Committee reviewed this submission and recommends its approval.

RESUBMISSIONS

255 Pine Street. The resubmission of the rear dormer window design, as requested by the Committee, was reviewed and its approval is recommended.

331 South Lawrence Street, Roland C. Davies, Architect. Mr. Davies presented to the Committee his proposal for renovations to the rear of this building for a second review and outlined the specific problems preventing him from conforming with the changes recommended by the Committee at its meeting of 18 May 1977.

The Committee's recommendation that the original form of the house be retained by setting the rear addition back at least eight inches at the point of the original building line was again taken into consideration. It was agreed that the use of a construction joint between the original building and the new addition would serve the same purpose of delineating the two sections of the structure without losing any interior space. Also the requirement that the window on the gable wall be eliminated was waived since it is needed to provide light to the stairwell. Finally, the architect agreed to align the upper floor window mullions with those on the first floor if possible.

DEMOLITIONS

921 South Street. At the request of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, the demolition of the building, 921 South Street, was taken under consideration. The structure, occupied by Paul Sobolewski who produced the first American version of the Polish National Anthem, has been extensively altered and is in poor condition. It is recommended that demolition be allowed with the suggestion that a commemorative marker be installed in honor of Sobolewski. The entire 900 block of South Street is to be cleared for commercial development.

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REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

1023-25 Clinton Street. The Committee reviewed two development proposals for the Anatomy Lab located at 1023-25 Clinton Street and recommends that the Commission endorse the proposal calling for the rehabilitation of the existing buildings rather than the one calling for the construction of Greek Revival type houses on the site.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patriela Siemiontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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