

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

21 April 1976

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

Guests: Robert Patterson, Architect and Francis J. Brownsholts, owner, to
present plans for the restoration of 241 Montrose Street.
Sandra Thornton and Mr. Stevenson concerning fire code requirements
for Christ Church.
A representative of the firm of John S. Sabatino and Associates to
present a resubmission for the renovation of 709 N. Franklin Street.
John File of the Byberry Friends Meeting concerning their request
for a Historical Commission plaque.

SUBMISSIONS

241 Montrose Street, Robert Patterson, Architect. Mr. Patterson
presented his proposal for the restoration of this building to
the Committee. The Committee agreed to recommend the approval
of his proposal to the Historical Commission, subsequent to the
review and approval of a revised elevation. The third floor
window sash should be three over six lights and the building
should have a hanging gutter. Door and shutter details will be
provided the architect by the Commission staff.

858 South Front Street, H. C. Stevens, Architect. The Committee
recommends the approval of the architect's plan as submitted.

Christ Church, Sandra Thornton, Bicentennial Co-ordinator for Christ
Church and Mr. Stevenson, Electrical Engineer. Ms. Thornton
informed the Committee of the major restoration project being
undertaken by the Church as a result of the National Park Service
investigation of the structure. She also noted that to conform
with fire code requirements the installation of emergency lighting
over the doors would be required. The Committee agreed that
emergency lighting over the doors, given the importance of the
building, would be inappropriate. The Committee will recommend
to the Commission that a letter be sent to the Board of Fire
Safety sympathizing with the Church and supporting their request
for a variance to install post lights or low step lights in place
of overhead ones as required by the Fire Code.

SUBMISSIONS (Cont'd)

334 Queen Street (rear court houses), Nick James Chines, Architect. The Committee agreed to recommend the approval of the details subject to a clarification of the doorway section. It is also recommended that a four light, rather than a three light, transom be installed over the door.

709 N. Franklin Street, John S. Sabatino and Associates. Since the existing brownstone facade cannot be salvaged, the architect proposes to sandblast, removing all loose stone, and to wire lath and stucco the building. The stucco will be seared and painted to resemble brownstone and all decorative components will be cast to match the existing and replaced as necessary. The Committee voted to recommend the approval of this project to the Commission.

1029-31-33 Spruce Street (details), Larry Leibowitz, Architect. The Committee found the detail of the shutter to be unacceptable as drawn. Mr. Bartley inspected the shutters on the buildings at 913 and 917 Clinton Street, used by Mr. Leibowitz as a model and found them to be appropriate for the Spruce Street buildings. A correct shop drawing of the shutter will be required for review before a final approval can be given, however. Also, the Committee suggested dividing the louver shutter panels into three sections thereby lowering the meeting rail of the shutter to below the center rail of the window.

PROBLEMS

314 South Fawn Street. The owner's request for information on the restoration of the building at 314 South Fawn Street was reviewed by the Committee. A full and accurate restoration would involve the removal of the window box and storm doors and the installation of an appropriate door and shutters. The brick steps are acceptable and may be retained. The owner is requested to submit a measured drawing prepared by a registered architect for approval before any work is begun on the building.

6408 Germantown Avenue. The owner's request to install a concrete porch floor and replace the existing porch railings was reviewed by the Committee. The Committee suggests that the Commission urge the owner to restore the porch. If the owner does not wish to do so, however, he may proceed with the work as proposed and be informed that the building cannot be eligible for a plaque.

PLAQUES

Byberry Friends Meeting. John File of the Byberry Friends Meeting requested of the Committee a clearer definition of the reason for the Commission's refusal to grant the meetinghouse a plaque. The

PLAQUES (Cont'd)

Committee informed Mr. File that because of the addition of the heating and utility structure at the rear of the meetinghouse, the building could not receive the Commission's plaque signifying that the structure was in its original condition. Mr. File was informed, however, that the building could be eligible for the Commission's new plaque currently under consideration. It was agreed that if the new plaque is accepted by the Commission and approved for distribution, Mr. File's request for the plaque for the Byberry Friends Meetinghouse will be reviewed again.

Ridgway Library. The Committee recommends the approval of this request.

2117 Brandywine Street. Approval is recommended.

529 Pine Street. Approval is recommended.

117 Queen Street. The Committee suggests that this building receive the proposed second plaque.

2223 Green Street. The Committee found an inconsistency in the window sash on the building facade and recommended that the structure be cleaned.

3619 Locust Street. The Committee suggests the issuance of the proposed second plaque to this building.

2010 Delancey Street. Approval of the plaque is recommended since the storm sash and air conditioners have been removed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Sieniontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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