

THE MINUTES OF THE 261st STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

4 February 1982
F. Otto Haas, Chairman

Present: F. Otto Haas, Chairman of the Commission
Janet S. Klein, Vice Chairman of the Commission
Edward Pinkowski
John F. McCloskey, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Property
Val C. Mogensen, Executive Assistant Director of Finance
Frank Thomas, Esq., Deputy City Solicitor, Law Department
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 held on 7 January 1982 were approved and directed to be filed.

The Report of the Architectural Committee for 20 January 1982, Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman, Architectural Advisor to the Commission.

Subject to the correction of a typographical error, the Report of the Architectural Committee for 20 January 1982 was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Report on Philadelphia Historical Commission Staff Activities for the month of January, Richard Tyler, Historian.

Dr. Tyler's report was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Report of the Committee on Certification for 19 January 1982, Edward Pinkowski, Chairman

Under Old Business, the Commission accepted the recommendation of the Certification Committee concerning 433 Catharine Street and voted to strike the building from the Commission's list.

At this time, Mr. Pinkowski asked the Commission to consider taking a similar action with regard to 304-306 Lombard Street. Owing to the building's poor structural condition, the Architectural Committee and the Commission,

in 1980, voted to allow the demolition of the existing facade and the construction of a new, contemporary front. Following some discussion of this matter, including the extent of demolition undertaken by the contractor, the Commission voted to strike the building, 304-306 Lombard Street, from its list of certified buildings owing to the loss of structure's historic fabric.

Also under Old Business, the Commission reviewed individually each of the following buildings and voted to ratify their certification:

4301-4311 Frankford Avenue: The Presbyterian Church
of Frankford
8100 Frankford Avenue: The Griffith-Peale House
8110-8112 Frankford Avenue: The Lewis-Patterson Houses
29 East Penn Street: Ivy Lodge

Based on the submission of a revised Statement of Significance as requested by the Committee on Certification at its meeting of 17 November 1981, the Commission voted to certify 401-417 W. John Street: The Mayfair. Mr. Mogensen opposed.

At this time, Mr. Mogensen expressed some concern about the certification process and the buildings which have come to the Commission's attention for review and consideration. The Commission members and the staff discussed the issues raised by Mr. Mogensen at length.

Finally, under Old Business, the Commission, in agreement with the recommendation of the Committee on Certification, tabled action on the building at 1439 North 15th Street and directed the staff to prepare a nomination form for the adjoining building at 1437 North 15th Street.

Under New Business, the Commission reviewed and approved for certification each of the following buildings:

136-148 N. Delaware Avenue, a.k.a. 131-139 N. Water Street:
The Lummis Peanut Butter Factory
1659 Kinsey Street: The Campbell A.M.E. Church
1701-1715 Locust Street, a.k.a. 220-240 S. 17th Street:
The Warwick
2042 Locust Street: The Louis S. Fiske House

In addition, the Commission voted to support the recommendation of the Committee on Certification not to certify The Diaphane Building at 1926-1934 Arch Street.

Owing to the lateness of the hour, the Commission agreed to table the remainder of the Report of the Committee on Certification. Action on these remaining buildings will be taken at the Commission's next Stated Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Harry A. Batten Memorial Fund Expenditure Request. The Historian reported to the Commission members on the approaching opening of the Commission's exhibit, "Preservation Perspectives: 1982." Thanks to the generosity of John and Albert Taxin, wine, fruit and cheese will be served at a reception to be held in The Granary following the Historian's opening lecture at the Free Library on 7 March. In addition to the wine, fruit and cheese, the staff asked the Commission to consider allocating \$100.00 from the Harry A. Batten Memorial fund to provide hot hors d'oeuvres for the reception. The Commission agreed to do so and approved the expenditure of \$100.00 for this purpose.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 P. M.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Architectural Historian