

REPORT OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE
PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Arlene Matzkin, Chair
217 Delancey Street
10 June 1997

Present

Arlene Matzkin, Chairperson
J. William Cornell
Herbert Levy
Daniel McCoubrey
Suzanne Pentz

Richard Tyler, Historic Preservation Officer
Laura Spina, Historic Preservation Specialist

Also

Tina R. Makouljian, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Bernice Hamel, Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA), Historic
Preservation Committee
Lorna Katz Lawson, SHCA, Historic Preservation Committee
Ann Davidoff, 210 Delancey Street
Judith Block, 219 Delancey Street
Sandra Williams, 309 South Philip Street
Sondra Busch, 212 Delancey Street
Barbara Nadley, 325 South 3rd Street
Sybille Zeldin, 200 Delancey Street
Catherine Apothaker, 315 South Philip Street
Stephen Klein
Mark Thompson, Mark Thompson Associates

Ms. Matzkin called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

217 Delancey Street

Stephen Klein, Owner
Hugh Newell Jacobsen, Architect/Applicant
DATE: 1758
PROPOSAL: Partial demolition, new addition

The Committee and Commission approved the proposal for 217 Delancey Street subject to the review and approval by the Architectural Committee and staff of the new design of the garage door and the masonry treatment.

Ms. Matzkin noted that the architect presented two brick samples: one with modulated dark burgundy brick and one with a lighter burgundy brick. The neighbors expressed the preference of the lighter sample. Stephen Klein, the owner, stated that both he and the architect, Hugh Newell Jacobsen, prefer the lighter brick sample. Mr. Levy observed that the extant brick on 217 Delancey Street has more modulation and texture than the proposed brick. Mr. Tyler, however, noted that the building was covered in stucco before the advent of wire lath. The contractor

hacked the brick to create a textured surface for the adherence of the stucco. Mr. Klein stated that Mr. Jacobsen did not wish to copy the brick type of the older structure, but to find a smooth brick that would complement the historic brick. The mortar of the additions will match the color of the mortar of the Delancey Street facade. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the lighter brick sample.

The Committee and neighbors moved to the Philip Street facade to discuss the garage door design. Ms. Matzkin noted that the proposed garage will sit three and one-half feet further back from the street, in line with the rest of the houses along Philip Street. The original proposal for the garage included a single arch over the door with a chevron pattern on the door. The Committee had asked Mr. Jacobsen to break the linear appearance of the garage door into two sections. The present proposal includes two arches over the door and a visual break at the middle of the door, giving the appearance of a pier at the center. Ms. Matzkin and Ms. Pentz stated that the "floating" pier did not make sense architecturally. Mr. Levy and Mr. McCoubrey agreed. Judith Block and Catherine Apothaker, neighbors, stated that they preferred the double-arch design.

Mark Thompson, local architect for the project, suggested keeping the single arch, but breaking the door into two chevrons and eliminating the center "pier". The Committee members agreed. The Committee voted to approve a garage door with a single arch and double chevrons.

In answering a question, Mr. Klein stated that the two large trees behind the garage will remain.

The Committee and staff approved the lighter brick and mortar sample and a garage design with a single arch over the door and a door with a double chevron pattern.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura M. Spina

Laura M. Spina
Historic Preservation Planner