

MINUTES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

9 January 1974

Present: Mr. Henry J. Magaziner, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Mr. Erling H. Pedersen, A.I.A., Old Philadelphia Development Corporation
Dr. F. Otto Haas, Chairman of the Philadelphia Historical Commission
Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom, Historian
Patricia Sieniontkowski, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Guests: Mr. W. Keough of Thalheimer and Weitz, Architects and Engineers,
to confer with the Architectural Committee concerning proposed
alterations to the Bourse Building

Mr. Neil Shupack, Realtor, Mr. Irvin Lazar, Contractor; and the
owners of 227 South Ninth Street, Martin and Jeremiah Ross, attended
the meeting to present their plans for the proposed rehabilitation
of 227 South Ninth Street.

Mr. Carl Chandler of the Seamen's Church Institute to discuss with
the Architectural Committee the Institute's plan to acquire the
property at 249-53 Arch Street for use as a Service Center.

SUBMISSIONS

Bourse Building (21 South Fifth Street), Thalheimer and Weitz, Architects
and Engineers. Mr. Keough of Thalheimer and Weitz presented his
proposal for alterations to the Bourse Building to the Architectural
Committee for review. The proposal, incorporating the Committee's
recommendations of 11 December 1973, was approved as presented
as were several additional exterior alterations. The Committee
did suggest, however, that the inside facing of all openings be
enameled to match the glass in color.

227 South Ninth Street, Joseph T. Schwindt, Jr., A.I.A. The Committee
gave its approval to the proposed rehabilitation of this building
with the requirement that the thru-wall air conditioning units be
eliminated and that window units, to project not more than one
inch from the building face, be substituted.

249-53 Arch Street, Mr. Carl Chandler, Seamen's Church Institute.
The Architectural Committee reviewed the Seamen's Church Institute's
proposal to acquire 249-53 Arch Street and gave this project its
full support. Because of the need for a second means of access from
the building, a new opening will be required. At the request of
Mr. Chandler, the Historical Commission will support the suggestion
that this opening be placed in the east wall of the building,
presently stuccoed, leading into the Betsy Ross garden. It will
also be requested that permission to install a window on this same
elevation be granted by the Department of Licenses and Inspections.

SUBMISSIONS (Cont'd)

A letter will be sent to the appropriate authority asking the City's maximum cooperation on this project especially since this is a non-profit institution working to meet one of Philadelphia's needs

707 Pine Street, Hank Murvin of Lewis Kremer's staff, Redevelopment Authority. The Committee approved this submission with the requirement that the frontispiece over the front door be removed and the brick arch restored. There is no need to retain the storage opening at the rear of this building. The installation of cast iron grilles over the cellar openings is suggested. As for the carriage house, it is recommended that only the facade be retained and that all gate and window openings be filled with iron grillwork.

328 Queen Street, Nick James Chimes, Architect. The plans for the rehabilitation of this house are approved. It is required, however, that the balcony at the second floor level reach across the entire front of the building so as to allow the installation of shutters to fit the second floor openings. The door and window frames should match those existing.

521 Spruce Street, Arthur W. Jones, A.I.A. Mr. Jones' proposal is approved with the suggestion that the size of the lights proposed for the side elevation be the same as those on the front facade.

1811-13 Walnut Street (Rittenhouse Club). The owners request for permission to close the stair between the second and third floors is approved.

517-19 South Twelfth Street, William E. Cox, A.I.A. This submission was tabled until photographs of the existing buildings can be made available for review.

319 South Sixth Street (rear), Anthony Panzarino, Architect. Approved.

DEMOLITIONS

228-30 South Ninth Street, Redevelopment Authority. The Committee voted to withhold approval of the demolition permit application until all negotiations with the proposed developer for this site are final.

103-05 Walnut Street, Interstate Oil Transport Co., Owner. This request for demolition was tabled until further information on the proposed development of the site can be made available for the Committee's review.

9 January 1974

PLAQUES

Poe House (530 North Seventh Street). This request for a plaque was not approved.

120 Federal Street. Until this building is completely restored according to plans submitted and approved by the Committee, a plaque cannot be issued.

SPECIAL REVIEW

Irvin Building, Fourth and Walnut Streets. Mr. Magaziner reported to the Committee his concern for the preservation of this structure. It was decided that the Historical Commission ask the Advisory Council to mail to the Commission a roster of all Philadelphia cases now under review by the Council.

Eastern State Penitentiary, Twentieth and Fairmount Avenue. Mr. Magaziner asked the Committee members for suggestions as to how the City might use it. Several suggestions were entertained but no immediate use was agreed upon.

Musical Fund Hall, 808 Locust Street. Mr. Magaziner reported the federal government's consideration of Musical Fund Hall for landmark status and suggested that such a designation might be helpful in the acquisition of funds for the building's restoration. The Victorian Society in America, in trying to find a use for the building, suggested that the State might take it over as a theatre. It was suggested by the Society that Governor Shapp be contacted as to the availability of state money for such a project. Dr. Tinkcom asked that Mr. Magaziner contact the Bicentennial staff before going to Governor Shepp, since money may already be available for the restoration of Musical Fund Hall as part of the Bicentennial restoration program.

Mr. Magaziner asked that a special meeting of the Architects' Committee be called before the Commission's monthly Stated Meeting to discuss the above matters in more detail.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman