

**REPORT OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE
PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

**Arlene Matzkin, Chairperson
Commission Conference Room
Suite 1301, 1401 Arch Street
26 December 1995**

Present

**Arlene Matzkin, Chairperson
Penelope Batchelor
William Cornell
David Hollenberg
Herbert Levy**

**Richard Tyler, Historic Preservation Officer
Randal Baron, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
Jeffrey Barr, Historical Research Technician**

Also

**Myrna and Marvin Galfand, 2037 Locust Street
Mary Doran, 258 S. 4th Street
Ellen Emens, 258 S. 16th Street
Garry O'Rourke, 2047 Chestnut Street
Stephen McLaughlin, Roof System Consultants
Steve Kennerly, Architect
Titus Hewryk, University of Pennsylvania
Richard Wesley, Architect for 3432-36 Sansom Street
Carl Doebley, Dan Peter Kopple and Associates**

2037 LOCUST STREET

Myrna and Marvin Galfand, Applicant

PROPOSAL: Rebuild Front Wall

At its meeting of 8 November 1995 the Commission gave emergency permission for the rebuilding of this front wall because of the severe bowing of the facade documented in a letter from the Galfand's engineer. Although the Commission delegated the review of details to the staff disagreement emerged about the design of the transom. Staff thought it best to refer to the Committee particularly as cold weather will now delay the rebuilding of the front facade until Spring. Instead of reusing the doorway and leaded transom as is, the applicant would like to cut down the transom in order to create more brick area above the door. The Committee had no problem with this or the rest of the design of the new facade and they recommended approval of the new brick as well.

The Committee voted to recommend approval of the proposal.

258 S. 4TH STREET

Mary Doran, Applicant

PROPOSAL: New side windows and garage door

The applicant seeks to alter the side of this corner house that had been used as a funeral parlour. She would like to convert a double door to a double 6/6 wood true divided light window. On the side of the stuccoed rear addition she would like to cut out two doors and create a new garage door.

The Committee voted to recommend approval of the proposal with staff review of details of the garage door.

2047 CHESTNUT STREET

Garry O'Rourke, Applicant

PROPOSAL: Storefront Alterations

The applicant proposes to legalize storefront alterations begun without a permit. A recessed door has been replaced with a simple flat wood door. The door jamb has had brick removed and the side of the storefront which was filled with plywood, has had an air conditioner installed and has been infilled with stucco. The Committee explained that the storefront should have glass in the side of the storefront and the airconditioner should be installed in a transom area above. They offered to revisit the issue however if the owner of the building would like to bring in the store tenant to explain his needs in the matter.

The Committee voted to recommend denial of the proposal as presently configured. Staff offered to meet with owner and tenant at the site to refine the application.

2108-2114 CHESTNUT STREET

Steven Kennerly, Architect

PROPOSAL: Wooden Ramp

The applicant appeared before the Committee and Commission before to obtain permission to build a concrete handicap ramp. Since then, the proposal has come in over budget prompting the architects to design a new pressure treated wood ramp. Some Committee members expressed the opinion that the wood does not seem like a compatible material for this masonry building. Richard Tyler said ,however, that the material looks clearly like a temporary addition which is good in terms of distinguishing it from the original. Arlene Matzkin explained that the Committee had agreed to be particularly flexible on the architecture of the link in order to see more money spent on making the ramp look better and she was sorry to see it appear so much like a timber roof deck. Mr. Kennerly explained that this new ramp will save almost \$40,000 leaving the wood ramp in the \$10,000-\$15,000 range. Mr. Baron explained that he had recommended that the applicant look at a metal ramp similar to the one approved for the synagogue on Spruce Street. He also had seen an internal lift directly inside a ground level door as a solution to handicapped access in historic buildings in both New York and Cambridge, Massachusetts, and asked if the cost of that solution would not be comparable in cost. Committee members discussed whether this wood ramp should be painted and agreed it is probably better to leave it gray.

The Architectural Committee voted to recommend approval of the ramp as submitted with the option of asking for it to be painted after its installation.

3432-36 SANSOM STREET

Richard Wesley, Architect

PROPOSAL: Addition, ramp, rooftop duct work

This proposal revisits the question of reestablishing La Terrace restaurant on this corner. The side green house addition had been seen and approved in the past. Committee members liked the new brick ramp with stepped side wall. The main issue was the highly visible banks of round metal ducts rising several feet above the mansard and extending across 3432. In addition, a large stuccoed wall containing the vertical ducts will project up at the party wall between two buildings perpendicular to the facade. The Committee looked at repositioning the ducts and determined that there was no feasible and prudent alternative that would not disrupt the apartment below. The architect promised that the ducts would not remain a shiny silver color. Other elements of the facade will only be repaired. If additional funding is found the applicant might consider restoring the missing storefront cornice at a later time.

The Committee voted to recommend approval of the proposal

201 S. 34TH STREET

Stephen Mc Laughlin, Roofing Consultant

PROPOSAL: New Roof

This application involves replacing the asphalt shingle roof of the Music building with an asphalt shingle or rubber slate roof. Although the permit has already been approved, Mr. Tyler explained that he is encouraging the University to look at the possibility of using the rubber slate to approximate better the look of the original slate roof.

Committee members voted to recommend approval of the submission, with either the slate gray asphalt or rubber shingles.

6260 CITY LINE AVENUE OVERBROOK TRAIN STATION

Carl Doebley, Dan Peter Kopple & Associates

PROPOSAL: Complete Restoration / cutting security openings in platform wall

The applicant seeks approval for restoring / reconstructing almost every element of this seriously deteriorated structure. The one area where the applicant is not proposing restoration is in the removal of muntins from a platform window and the cutting of two similar window size openings to make the platform safer from muggers. Mr. Baron asked if the muntins could not remain in the windows even as a metal grid to retain some of the historic character of the openings. Committee members agreed with the applicant that the muntins could be broken by vandals and should be removed. Mrs. Batchelor asked that the sash of the original window be stored in the attic.

The Committee voted to recommend approval.

2901-41 MARKET STREET

Carl Doebley, Dan Peter Kopple and Associates

PROPOSAL: Elevators, lighting, signage on commuter platforms

This proposal involves installing new elevators on the commuter platforms in order to provide handicapped access. In addition, former stairways will be reopened and new signage will be installed. There arose a question only about the new additional lighting in the form of long florescent tube box lights attached to the lip of the canopy. Members agreed that they needed to see a detail of this light to make an assessment.

The Architectural Committee voted to recommend approval of the proposal with the exception of the lighting which needs a closer look.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randal Baron

