

THE HISTORICAL VALUES COMMITTEE OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Monday, June 20, 1960

Present: Dr. Nichols, Chairman
Mr. Williams
Mrs. Tinkcom

The question of securing correct texts for all historical markers erected in Philadelphia was discussed. It was recommended that the Commission consider the desirability of securing the authority to review the text of all such markers put up within the City.

The Redevelopment Authority's proposals for Unit II of Washington Square East were reviewed. The Committee agreed to the Authority's plan to demolish a number of the certified houses in this Unit, principally those on South Fifth Street.

Exception was taken to the proposal to tear down the houses in the 400 blocks of Addison and Lombard Streets which the Presbyterian Church has hopes of preserving and restoring. Similarly it was thought that 325, 327, and 329 Lombard Street might well be incorporated into the plans St. Peter's Church has for their property in that block. The Committee recommends that the Commission request its chairman, Mr. Simon, to write to Mr. Koci, Rector of St. Peter's and to Dr. Mackie, suggesting to this effect.

The demolition of the houses in the 600 blocks of Delancey and Cypress Streets was questioned. If any alternative plan for the McCall School can be made, these houses should be preserved.

On South Fourth Street, Nos. 346 and 348 should be retained.

The Committee recommends that the Commission consider the possibility of saving the Archibald McCall house, at the S. E. corner of Second and Delancey. It was moved and seconded that the Commission recommend to the Redevelopment Authority that the McCall house be saved until some definite plan is proposed for the site and that, if possible, the plans for this land should include a restoration of the house. A copy of this resolution should be sent to the Mutual Assurance Company whose Policy No. 1 was issued on the McCall house.

June 20, 1960

Mrs. Tinkcom was asked to inquire into the reason for demolishing 202-206 Delancey Street and to see whether the houses on the west side of Second Street (Nos. 300-312) should not also be retained. A garden, to be attached to the five houses on the SW corner of 2nd and Delancey will replace 202-206 Delancey. Since these are not remarkable houses, the Redevelopment Authority's plan was agreed to. The houses on the west side of 2nd Street below Spruce (300-312 S. 2nd) are well worth saving in the Commission's opinion and it recommends that the Redevelopment Authority restudy its plan for this section of the street.

Upon motion Dr. Nichols' report was approved.