

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

3 September 1974

Presents: Mr. Erling H. Pedersen, A.I.A., Old Philadelphia Development Corporation
Mr. Theodore T. Bartley, Jr., A.I.A., Committee on Conservation and Historic Preservation of the American Institute of Architects, Philadelphia Chapter
Mr. Richard Tyler, Historian
Patricia Slomionkowski, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

SUBMISSIONS

1801-05 Walnut Street, Resources Cambridge Inc. The Architectural Committee reviewed the proposal for the conversion of the VanRensselaer Mansion into a branch store for the Cambridge based firm of Design Research and gave its approval. The Committee was pleased to see its prior recommendations incorporated into the plan, i.e., the retention of the Doges' Room and the stained glass dome on the interior. For the Walnut Street facade, the proposal is approved with the suggestion that the architect consider turning the stairs on the interior to direct egress toward Eighteenth Street rather than Walnut Street. This slight change in plan will eliminate the need for an exit onto Walnut Street. If such a change requires the obtaining of a variance from the Board of Building Standards, the Historical Commission and the American Institute of Architects will support such a request.

Finally, it is suggested that all railings and metal ornamentation be executed in dark bronze or nautical aluminum.

326 Queen Street, Nick James Chines, Architect. This plan is approved with the recommendation that a three light transom be installed over the door. Shutters must be operable and fitted with appropriate hardware.

330 Queen Street, Nick James Chines, Architect. The plan for the rehabilitation of this structure is approved with the recommendation that a three light transom be installed over the door.

334 Queen Street, Nick James Chines, Architect. This plan is approved subject to the installation of a three light transom over the doorway.

DEMOLITIONS

34 South Third Street. At the request of James Martin of the Old Philadelphia Development Corporation, Richard Tyler met with the Keystone Shipping Company to discuss their long range development plans for the corner of Third and Chestnut Streets. Although the Keystone Company does not at this point own all the structures on this site, they plan to acquire them in time and to construct an office building on the site. After much discussion, the Committee agreed to table the request for demolition until its next meeting.

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PROBLEMS

5443-45 Germantown Avenue (Germantown Market Square). At the request of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, the Committee was asked to consider the proposed rehabilitation of this structure and comment on Mr. Tyler's proposals. The Committee agreed that all existing openings should be retained and treated in the Victorian idiom, and that the existing stucco facade be retained and repainted a sand or tan color. Finally, all shutters must be replaced.

PLAQUES

139 Elfreth's Alley. Approved.

255 Pine Street. Approved.

PRELIMINARY SUBMISSION

408-10 Lombard Street, Leon Levin, Architect. The architect was advised to install 8 x 10 lights of glass in all window openings and to install louvered shutters, if so desired, at all floors above the first level. A resubmission is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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