

THE MINUTES OF THE 260th STATED MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

7 January 1982

F. Otto Haas, Chairman

Present: F. Otto Haas, Chairman of the Commission
Janet S. Klein, Vice Chairman of the Commission
Edward Pinkowski
Val C. Mogensen, Executive Assistant Director of Finance
Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Architectural Advisor to the Commission
Frank Thomas, Esq., Deputy City Solicitor, Law Department
Richard Tyler, Historian
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Architectural Historian
Jefferson M. Moak, Executive Secretary

Unless otherwise noted, all actions taken herein are the results of motions correctly made, seconded and carried.

The Minutes of the Stated Meeting held on 3 December 1981 were reviewed by the members of the Commission. At the request of Mr. Pinkowski the minute relating to the decertification of 129 South 18th Street and the certification of 131 South 18th Street was amended to read as follows:

"Owing to an address error when initially considered in 1974, the Commission mistakenly certified 129 South 18th Street. To correct this, the Commission members voted to decertify 129 South 18th Street and to certify 131 South 18th Street and add it to the Commission's list."

Subject to the above change, the Minutes of the 3 December 1981 Stated Meeting were approved and directed to be filed.

The Report of the Architectural Committee for 16 December 1981, Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A., Chairman, was reviewed by the Commission.

At the request of Mr. Pinkowski, the Minutes were amended to include the following, more detailed description of the Redevelopment Authority's rehabilitation schemes for 736-738 Pine Street:

"Of the two schemes proposed by the Redevelopment Authority for the rehabilitation of 736-738 Pine Street, Scheme 2 preserves more of the original fabric of the building than does Scheme 1. It, in fact, calls for the demolition of only the later additions to the building at the rear of the property thereby retaining the original plan of each of the old buildings. Scheme 1 calls for the demolition of the original, three-story, back building of 736 Pine Street and the retention of more of the later fabric at 738 Pine Street."

In addition, Mr. Pinkowski requested that the staff report to the Commission on its review and approval of plans and details resulting from recommendations made by the Architectural Committee.

Subject to the addendum to 736-738 Pine Street, the Report of the Architectural Committee for 16 December 1981 was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

The Report on Philadelphia Historical Commission Staff Activities for the month of December, Richard Tyler, Historian. Mr. Tyler's report was approved and directed to be filed with the official copy of the Minutes.

At this time, the Chairman expressed special thanks to Janet Klein on behalf of the Commission and its staff for her recent generous donation to the Harry A. Batten Memorial Fund.

The Report of the Committee on Certification for 17 November 1981, Edward Pinkowski, Chairman.

The Commission reviewed, individually, and approved for certification each of the following buildings:

1006-1016 Arch Street - The John C. Winston Building
1701-1705 Arch Street - The Robert Morris Hotel
2240-2248 North Broad Street - The Uptown Theater and Office Building
822-840 Chestnut Street - The Benjamin Franklin Hotel
2501 Christian Street - Gray's Road Recreation Center
401 E. Evergreen Avenue - The Anglecott
400 Green Street - Integrity Title Insurance, Trust & Safe Deposit Company. The Commission members asked that the word "unsuitable", relating to the 1943 alterations, be struck from the minute.
3433-3439 Lancaster Avenue - John Shedwick Development Houses
6655 McCallum Street - Malvern Hall
5501 Old York Road - The Henry S. Frank Memorial Synagogue
334-338 Reed Street a.k.a. 1401-1403 S. 4th Street - O'Neill Dry Goods
1900 Rittenhouse Square
1520 Spruce Street - The Touraine
1409-1411 Walnut Street - The Philadelphia Stock Exchange Building. The Commission asked that the minute be amended to read "Philadelphia's financial center" rather than "Philadelphia's corporate business center."
1616-1626 Walnut Street - The 1616 Walnut Street Building
49th Street and Monument Road - Christ Church Hospital

Mr. Mogensen opposed the certification of two of the above buildings, Malvern Hall and 1900 Rittenhouse Square.

In agreement with the recommendation of the Committee on Certification, the Commission voted not to certify the Crown Nursing Home at 1425-1427 Snyder Avenue.

Pending the receipt of a fuller nomination form for both the Mayfair House at 401-417 W. Johnson Street and 1439 N. 15th Street, action on these two properties was tabled.

Finally, the Commission directed the staff to prepare documentation on 1707-1709 Arch Street and to give it priority for presentation to the Committee on Certification.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Siemiontkowski
Architectural Historian