

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

11 September 1986

David Hollenberg, Chairman

Present: David Hollenberg, Chairman
Penelope H. Batcheler, Historical Architect, Independence
National Historical Park
Theodore T. Bartley, Jr., F.A.I.A., Preservation Committee,
American Institute of Architects, Philadelphia Chapter
John Dickey, F.A.I.A.
Herbert W. Levy, A.I.A.
Patricia Siemiontkowski, Assistant Historic Preservation
Officer
Randal Baron, Preservation Planner
Terri Koob, Executive Secretary

Also: - Louis Lanni to present renovation proposal for 1218 Panama
Street
- John Goodwin of Growth Properties to present a proposal for
the addition of a sign at 233-235 Market Streets
- Theresa Aldamlouji of David Beck Architects to present a
proposal for alterations to the Society Hill Cafe, 3rd and
Chestnut Streets
- Joseph A. Felici of Tantala Associates and John Russick of
Classic Outdoor to present a proposal for sign replacement
at 226-230 N. 2nd Street
- John Primiano to present a proposal for alterations to 329
South Street
- Paul Vinicoff, Architect, to present a proposal for rehabilitation
of 131 N. 21st Street.
Mary Lou McFarland, Executive Director, Preservation Coalition of
Greater Philadelphia
William Blades, Executive Vice President, Philadelphia Historic
Preservation Corporation
And others

ALTERATIONS

1218 Panama Street, Louis Lanni, Owner. Ms. Siemiontkowski reported that work was begun at 1218 Panama Street without benefit of a building permit or the approval of the Historical Commission. Fortunately, the dormer window and roof were correctly restored to their original design. Replacement windows on the first, second and attic stories, however, contain incorrect one-over-one sash. Wood window frames have also been removed. The Committee recommended that correct windows and frames be installed.

After considerable discussion, the Committee agreed to recommend that Mr. Lanni have shop drawings prepared for windows, frames, shutters and front door. These drawings are to be submitted to a Committee member for review. The Committee agreed to accept Mr. Lanni's proposal to rebuild the front entrance steps in marble.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this project pending the submission and approval of shop drawings as requested above. The staff will provide Mr. Lanni with details of doors, windows and shutters appropriate for his house.

Arch Street Methodist Church, Southeast corner of Broad and Arch Streets. David Hollenberg, Architect, of John Milner Associates. Mr. Hollenberg presented a proposal as part of the sanctuary restoration of the Arch Street Methodist Church at Broad and Arch Streets, a.c. 1871 Addison Hutton building. This proposal includes the restoration and repair of stained glass windows, the repainting of the window frames and the installation of protective plexiglass over the stained glass. This plexiglass will be screwed into the flat surface of the window frames and sealed. Metal supports for the plexiglass will be used only at the meeting rails of the windows.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this project. Mr. Hollenberg abstained from voting.

233-235 Market Street, John Goodwin, Growth Properties. Mr. Goodwin presented a proposal calling for the addition of a sign on the ground floor storefront at 233-235 Market Street. Mr. Goodwin explained that this red brick building currently has a yellow band above the storefront and all wood work including the columns beside the storefront window is painted green. The current proposal is to repaint all wood a cream or greyish color to match the cement. The letters of the sign are to be cut from blue plexiglass and pinned onto the plywood fascia. The larger letters will be 16" and the smaller ones will be 8". The Committee reviewed the drawing and suggested that the lettering be centered within the space above the columns. The Committee agreed that the address numbers could be added above the columns, if desired.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend an approval of this project pending submission and approval of a revised drawing.

Society Hill Cafe, 3rd and Chestnut Streets, Theresa Aldamlouji of David Beck Architects. Ms. Aldamlouji presented a proposal calling for renovations to the Society Hill Cafe at 3rd and Chestnut Streets. This proposal includes major alterations including:

- 1) the construction of a single leaf door to replace double doors currently in existence at the entrance to the hotel lobby.

The Committee recommended that the new door be constructed with a reveal and center moulding to read as a double door;

- 2) the installation of a canopy over the hotel entrance door to replace a larger canvas awning which will be removed.

The Committee advised Ms. Aldamlouji that the Art Commission may also have jurisdiction over the canopy installation;

- 3) the introduction of a new entrance door at the north end of the 3rd Street elevation to provide a separate access into the kitchen. This door is to be a dutch door and is to match the existing double leaf door. Glass panels are to be installed adjacent to this new door.

The Committee was agreeable to this alteration; and

- 4) the construction of cabinets on the sidewalk below the kitchen window to enclose refuse containers and storage boxes. The proposal called for the use of a panel design.

The Committee recommended that the design of these cabinets be simplified and suggested the use of vertical boards rather than panels.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this project pending the receipt and approval of revised drawings noting its recommendations made at today's meeting.

226-230 N. 2nd Street, Joseph A. Felici of Tantala Associates and John Russick of Classic Outdoor. Messrs. Felici and Russick appeared before the Committee to present a proposal calling for the replacement of an existing sign which sits atop the roof of 226-230 N. 2nd Street and is visible from the Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Mr. Felici explained that the proposed replacement sign will be moved back twenty-five feet and will be ten feet higher than the existing sign. Ms. Siemiontkowski noted that the existing sign is an accessory sign but cautioned that should the proposed sign be used for general advertising purposes, approval must be obtained from the City Planning Commission. Mr. Felici stated that negotiations are currently underway and that this determination has not as yet been made. Mr. Felici stated that the Zoning Division of the Department of Licenses and Inspections has already granted its approval.

The Committee agreed to advise the Commission that it reviewed this sign proposal without comment.

329 South Street, John Primiano, Owner. Mr. Primiano presented a proposal calling for the introduction of a sliding take-out window within an existing storefront window at 329 South Street. This alteration will be confined to a single section of the storefront window within the center island of the recessed design.

The Committee reviewed the proposed design of this take-out window and suggested that the whole opening read like glass. The Committee requested the use of clear glass above the sliding window. The new slider should extend the entire width of this section and be secured in place with aluminum supports to match those already in existence in the storefront. Spandrel glass should fill the area below the slider.

The Committee unanimously recommended an approval of this project pending receipt and approval of revised drawings.

131 North 21st Street, Paul Vinicoff, Architect. Mr. Vinicoff presented a proposal calling for the substantial rehabilitation of 131 North 21st Street, a corner building built c. 1865. Major renovations on the Cherry Street elevation include the removal of a large modern window and the restoration of the original fenestration. Mr. Vinicoff plans to re-use all salvageable brick to rebuild this section of the wall. New window frames and six-over-six true muntin window sash will be milled and installed in the restored window openings on the Cherry Street elevation and in four existing openings at the rear of the building which presently contain one-over-one sash. Renovations to the west facade include the removal of the pent eave overhanging the storefront and the enlargement of the existing shopfront window. A large, tri-partite window will be used to glaze the opening in the shopfront. The Committee requested that the new storefront sill rest atop the brownstone watertable and not cut into it.

The existing six-over-six window sash and frames on the west and south sides as well as the wooden bracketed cornice will be repaired, scraped and painted. The brownstone lintels and sills, the watertable on the west facade and the door surround on the south facade will be checked for damage. If repair of the brownstone is necessary, specifications indicating the method of repair must be submitted for review.

The Committee requested the submission of more precise specifications if the architect decides that the paint and graffiti are to be removed.

The architect retracted several elements of his original submission including the installation of a canopy over the shopfront, the cleaning of the brick, the restoration of the brownstone and the creation of a new basement window on the south facade.

The Committee agreed to recommend approval of this project. However, it advised Mr. Vinicoff that should any changes occur in the proposal approved at today's meeting, revisions must be submitted for review and approval prior to the completion of such work.

2128 Mt. Vernon Street. Ms. Siemiontkowski presented the architect's proposal for revisions to an already approved roof deck on the rear of 2128 Mt. Vernon Street, which backs on to Clay Street. Ms. Siemiontkowski explained that the proposal has been revised to include a frame, one-room addition and a smaller roof deck than originally proposed. In addition, the one-over-one existing window sash will be replaced with new one-over-one sash on the Clay Street elevation.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this revised submission for 2128 Mt. Vernon Street.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Koob
Executive Secretary