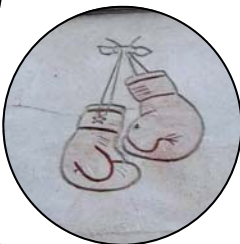




A DESIGNATION CELEBRATION



October 15, 2013

Designation Celebration

October 15, 2013

Philadelphia History Museum

The Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia and the Philadelphia History Museum are proud to host this reception to celebrate the recent addition of 15 properties to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, the city's list of buildings, structures, sites, objects, districts, and public interiors that have been recognized by the Philadelphia Historical Commission for their architectural or historic significance. These properties were designated as historic by the Philadelphia Historical Commission in June and July 2013.

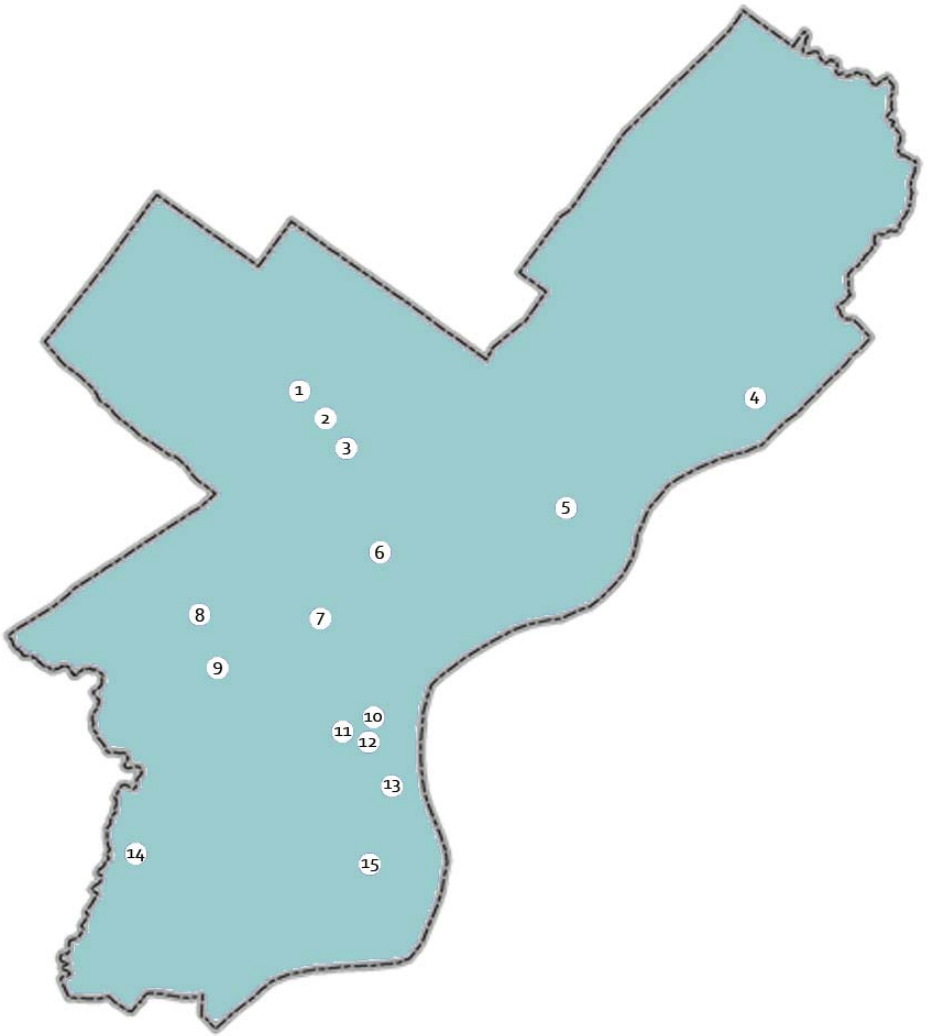
SPEAKERS

6:30pm—6:45pm

- I Charles Croce, Executive Director & CEO
Philadelphia History Museum
- II Caroline E. Boyce, Executive Director,
Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia
- III David Schaaf, Director of Urban Design
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
- IV Richardson Dilworth, Chair of the Committee on Historic Designation
Philadelphia Historical Commission
- V Brent Leggs, Field Officer
National Trust for Historic Preservation
- VI Ruth Hyman, Branch Manager
Paschalville Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia
- VII Barbara Rosin & Laurel Katz
Save Our Stiffel
- VIII Debbie Klak
Historical Society of Frankford

This event sponsored by





- 1) George T. Pearson Residence, 125 W. Walnut Lane
- 2) Flavell Residence, 5340 Greene Street
- 3) Happy Hollow Playground Recreation Center, 4740 Wayne Avenue
- 4) Box Grove Plantation, 8047 & 8049 Walker Street
- 5) Wilmerton House, 1548 Adams Avenue
- 6) Joe Frazier's Gym, 2917-19 N. Broad Street
- 7) Dox Thrash House, 2340 Cecil B. Moore Avenue
- 8) Shofuso Japanese House and Garden, 4301 Lansdowne Drive
- 9) St. Petri Evangelical German Lutheran Church, 838 1/2 N. 42nd Street
- 10) Chinese Cultural and Community Center, 125 N. 10th Street
- 11) A. Pomerantz & Company Building, 1525 Chestnut Street
- 12) Horn & Hardart Building, 15-21 S. 11th Street
- 13) Bethel Burying Ground (Weccacoe Playground), 405-25 Queen Street
- 14) Free Library of Philadelphia, Paschalville Branch, 6942 Woodland Avenue
- 15) Jewish Education Center #2 (Stiffel Senior Center), 2501-15 S. Marshall Street



George T. Pearson Residence

125 W. Walnut Lane
George T. Pearson, c. 1893

Designation Criteria: C, D, E
Nominator: Philadelphia Historical Commission
Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/wy5Ttn>



Architect George T. Pearson was a master of Victorian eclecticism, designing over 300 homes in and around Philadelphia. He purchased this property in the Tulpehocken Station area of Germantown in 1893, converting and expanding a small c.1850s home into the unique Tudor-influenced design still seen today. He resided here with his family until his death in 1920.



Flavell Residence

5340 Greene Street

George T. Pearson, c. 1887-89

Designation Criteria: C, D, E

Nominator: Philadelphia Historical Commission

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/zhoEO1>



George T. Pearson designed this home in the Penn-Knox neighborhood of Germantown for Thomas Flavell, owner of the Flavell Brothers' Hosiery Mill. With its asymmetrical façade, corner tower, steeply-pitched roof and eclectic palate of materials, the house embodies the character-defining features of the Queen Anne style popular with the upwardly-mobile industrialists of the late nineteenth century.



Happy Hollow Playground Recreation Center

4740 Wayne Avenue
George T. Pearson, 1910-1911

Designation Criteria: A, E

Nominator: Kim Broadbent, Friends of Happy Hollow

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/56d1ha>



Happy Hollow Playground is the oldest surviving recreation center owned by the City of Philadelphia. Commissioned in 1910 by philanthropist E.W. Clark, the playground is a significant example of the progressive city playground movement of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Designed to provide children relief from overcrowded streets, early playgrounds like Happy Hollow provided supervised activities and outdoor play equipment in an era before widespread municipal investment in urban parks. More than one hundred years after its founding, Happy Hollow continues to serve Germantown youth as part of the Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation.



Box Grove Plantation

8047 and 8049 Walker Street
1750

Designation Criteria: A, B, C, D, I, J

Nominator: Philadelphia Historical Commission

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/oHzyos>



Box Grove is the family estate of English colonist John Holme, a miller who operated Pennypack Mill, one of the earliest and most important mills in Pennsylvania. Located in what was then Lower Dublin Township, the area is now known as Holmesburg after the Holme Family. Box Grove was built c.1750 by John's son John Holme III and stands today in remarkably intact condition. Its simple Georgian design is comparable in age and style to other Philadelphia landmarks like Grumblethorpe (1744), the Green Tree Tavern (1748), the Deshler-Morris House (1752) and the Johnson House (1768). The house also features picturesque-style porches added in the mid-nineteenth century.



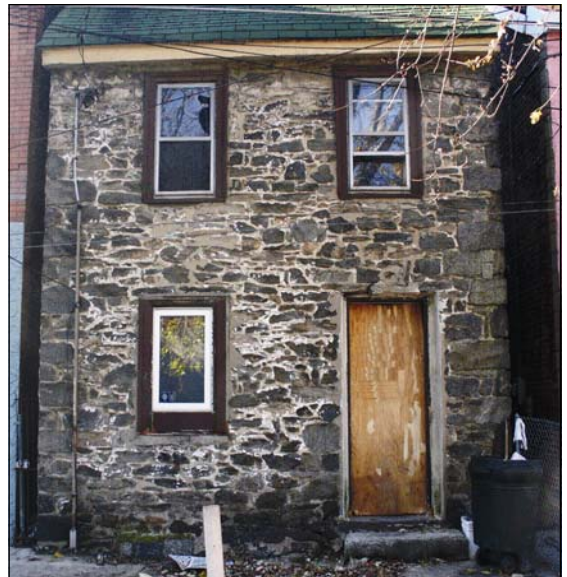
Wilmerton House
1548 Adams Avenue
c.1713-1728

Designation Criteria: C, I, J

Nominator: Kristin Hagar, Historical Society of Frankford

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/n516nT>

The Wilmerton House, also known variously as the Worrell-Winter House and the Leech House, is a rare surviving example of early development in Frankford, one of the oldest settlements in Pennsylvania. Built sometime between 1713 and 1728, this modest stone house is comparable in age to Elfreth's Alley (c.1724-28), Stenton (c.1723-30) and Wyck (c.1736). Likely built by shoemaker Paul Wilmerton, it was sold in 1728 to Isaac Leech, a Cheltenham Township tanner who also operated an old Swedish gristmill in Frankford. The house was acquired by the Deal family in 1785, descendants of some of the state's first German immigrants. By the late nineteenth century, the home had been converted into an oyster house. Currently vacant, it survives today as possibly the oldest building in Frankford.



Joe Frazier's Gym

2917-19 N. Broad Street

c.1895; converted to gym in 1969

Designation Criteria: A, H, J

Nominator: Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/mmjQLP>



Smokin' Joe Frazier was one of the greatest boxers of all time. In 1969, Frazier and his financial backers converted a North Philadelphia lumber warehouse into the Cloverlay Gym. He trained here for the duration of his legendary career, living in a modest apartment above the gym after amassing one of boxing's most celebrated career records of 32-4-1. His 1971 victory over Muhammad Ali in the "Fight of the Century" is still considered one of the sport's most epic bouts. After his retirement in 1976, Frazier devoted himself to the gym, which became an ad-hoc community center for its North Philadelphia neighborhood until its closure in 2008. Frazier passed away in November 2011.





Dox Thrash House

2340 Cecil B. Moore Avenue
Harold Godwin, 1895

Designation Criteria: A, C, J

Nominator: Chelsea Troppauer,

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/Xiliai>



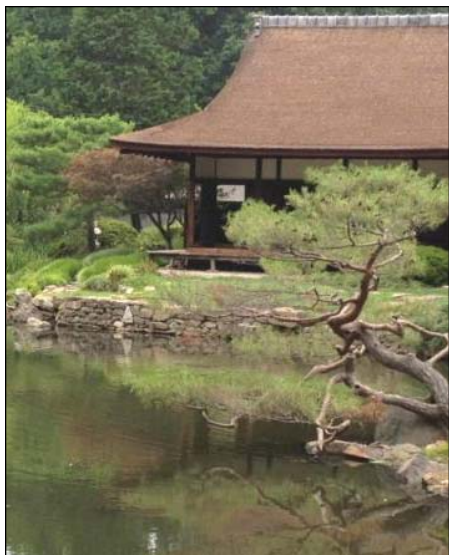
Dox Thrash (1893-1965) was an innovative printmaker and key figure in Philadelphia's vibrant African American art scene in the early and middle twentieth century. A native of Georgia and a veteran of World War I, he lived and worked in North Philadelphia for most of his career, regularly documenting the bustling street life in the city's burgeoning African American working-class neighborhoods. He lived at 2340 Cecil B. Moore (then Columbia Avenue) from 1945 until 1958. In 2001, his work was featured in a Philadelphia Museum of Art retrospective, *Dox Thrash: An African American Master Printmaker Rediscovered*.



Shofuso Japanese House and Garden

4301 Lansdowne Drive
Junzo Yoshimura, 1957-58

Designation Criteria: B, D, E, F, G, H, J
Nominator: Samantha Kuntz,
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/IYNfe5>



Commissioned by the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1953, the Shofuso (“Pine Breeze Villa”) Japanese House was originally crafted in Nagoya, Japan in 1953 and installed in MoMA’s courtyard for the 1954 exhibition series “House in the Museum Garden.” It was donated to the City of Philadelphia in 1956 and erected in Fairmount Park on the site of a Japanese Buddhist Temple Gate lost to fire in 1955. The house is modeled after traditional 16th- and 17th-century *Shoin* style dwellings and is surrounded by one of America’s finest traditional Japanese gardens.



St. Petri Evangelical German Lutheran Church

838 1/2 N. 42nd Street

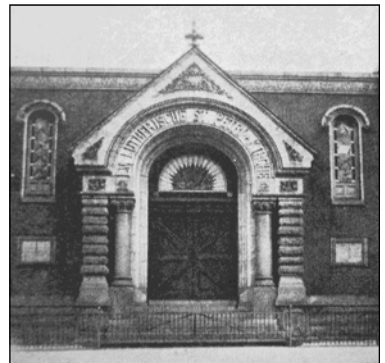
1872; Emil H.C. Hartmann, 1895; Duhring, Okie & Zeigler, 1906

Designation Criteria: A, C, D, J

Nominator: Philadelphia Historical Commission

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/GZ3Xmd>

The former St. Petri Evangelical German Lutheran Church is comprised of two buildings constructed over three major building campaigns between 1872 and 1906. The complex is an excellent example of the *Rundbogenstil* ("round-arched") style of Romanesque Revival architecture that proliferated in Germany and German-American communities in the mid-nineteenth century. The congregation was founded by Pastor Christian F. Welden, a major figure in the history of Lutheranism in America. For the past 40 years, the church has been owned and occupied by the Community Church of God.



Chinese Cultural and Community Center

125 N. 10th Street

Yang Cho-Cheng, 1967-71

Designation Criteria: A, D, E, H, J

Nominator: Chelsea Troppauer,

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/l7lKBr>



Before the Friendship Gate was erected in 1984, the Chinese Cultural and Community Center stood as the single most iconic symbol of Philadelphia's Chinatown. The center was an anchor for generations of Chinatown residents and the public face of the community for the rest of the city. The center evolved from a YMCA chapter established in 1955 by T.T. Chang, considered the unofficial "mayor" of Chinatown for his lifelong efforts in promoting Chinese culture in Philadelphia. The temple-style façade was completed in 1971 following designs by Yang Cho-Cheng, a prominent Taiwan-based architect also responsible for the Chinese Pavilion at the 1967 Montreal Expo, the Taipei Grand Hotel, and Philadelphia's Friendship Gate.





A. Pomerantz & Company

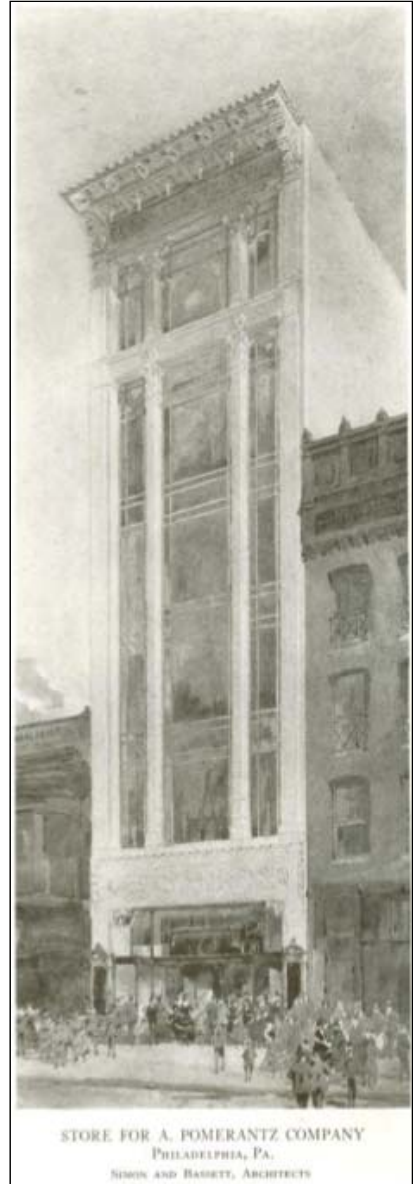
1525 Chestnut Street

Edward P. Simon & David B. Bassett, 1917

Designation Criteria: D, F

Nominator: Philadelphia Historical Commission

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/1Lh1r6>

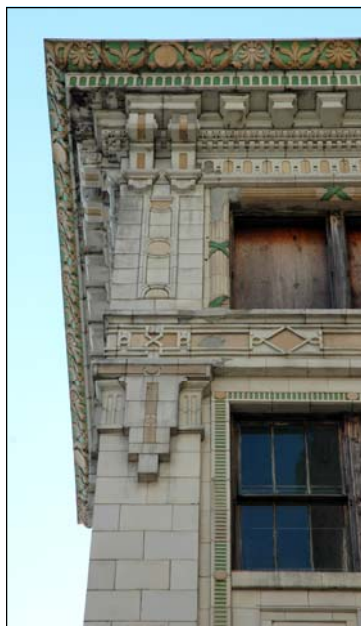


Amen Pomerantz founded his successful stationary and office supply company in 1888, and after numerous relocations and expansions, commissioned Simon & Bassett to design a modern six-story headquarters at 1525 Chestnut Street in 1916. The innovative design featured continuous glazing from the second to the fifth floor— perhaps the earliest expression of the modern glass curtain wall in Philadelphia. The strikingly vertical composition is capped with an audacious bracketed terra cotta cornice whose classical ornamentation tempers an otherwise modern façade.

Horn & Hardart Building

15-21 S. 11th Street
William Steele & Sons, 1912

Designation Criteria: E, F, J
Nominator: Jon Vimr,
Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia
Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/ZnVnk5>



William Steele & Sons were pioneers in reinforced concrete construction, responsible for such landmarks as the Snellenberg Manufacturing Building (1903), Shibe Park (1908), and the Terminal Commerce Building (1929). They were commissioned by Horn & Hardart to design this building in 1912 as the company's fourth (and first purpose-built) Automat. Featuring a reinforced concrete frame, the building is distinctive for its polychromatic glazed terra cotta supplied by the Atlantic Terra Cotta Company, who also made the terra cotta for Cass Gilbert's Woolworth Building (1913) in New York City. The building was celebrated at the time of its opening as the first polychromatic terra cotta building in Philadelphia.



Bethel Burying Ground (Weccacoe Playground)

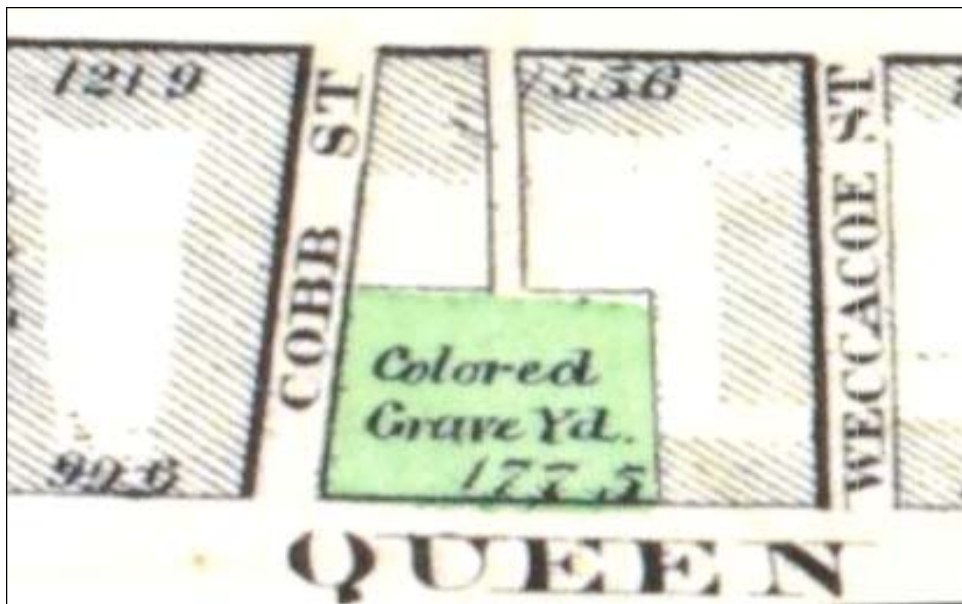
405-11 Queen Street

c.1810-1889

Designation Criteria: A, I

Nominator: Terry Buckalew

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/tS2gFg>



Reverend Richard Allen and the trustees of Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church purchased a plot of land on Queen Street in 1810 for the purposes of establishing a proper burying ground for African Americans—the first freestanding, African American-owned burying ground in Philadelphia. Between 1810 and 1889, at least 1,300 (and perhaps as many as 3,000) people were interred here. The site was purchased by the City of Philadelphia in 1889 and converted into Weccacoe Playground without the relocation of the burial sites.



Free Library of Philadelphia, Paschalville Branch

6942 Woodland Avenue

Henry C. Richards, 1915



Designation Criteria: A, H

Nominator: Jon Vimr,

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/XBiYwN>



Jewish Education Center #2 (Stiffel Senior Center)

2501-15 S. Marshall Street
Frank E. Hahn, 1928

Designation Criteria: A, E, J

Nominator: Sharon Reid,

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia

Nomination link: <http://goo.gl/zsOSRj>



Constructed in 1928 as the Jewish Education Center #2, this neighborhood landmark was a fixture of Jewish culture in South Philadelphia for over eighty years. Designed by Frank E. Hahn, the building served a dynamic immigrant community which developed along Porter Street in the early twentieth century. A devastating arson fire in 1985 nearly destroyed the building, but an outpouring of community support led to a complete restoration the following year. The Stiffel Senior Center evolved with the changing demographics of the neighborhood, reaching out to new generations of immigrants to remain a vital part of South Philadelphia life until its untimely closure in 2011.



Section 14-1004-i of the Philadelphia code :

A building, complex of buildings, structure, site, object, or district may be designated for preservation if it:

- (A) Has significant character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the City, Commonwealth, or nation or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past;
- (B) Is associated with an event of importance to the history of the City, Commonwealth or Nation;
- (C) Reflects the environment in an era characterized by a distinctive architectural style;
- (D) Embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or engineering specimen;
- (E) Is the work of a designer, architect, landscape architect or designer, or professional engineer whose work has significantly influenced the historical, architectural, economic, social, or cultural development of the City, Commonwealth, or nation;
- (F) Contains elements of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship that represent a significant innovation;
- (G) Is part of or related to a square, park, or other distinctive area that should be preserved according to a historic, cultural, or architectural motif;
- (H) Owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community, or City;
- (I) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history;
- (J) Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social, or historical heritage of the community.

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PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

for greater philadelphia

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A Center for Architecture Event