

Public comment received by the Historical Commission
regarding the nomination of 5139 Wayne Avenue

Allyson Mehley

From: Lorraine <lorbitgiv@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 1:21 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Joseph T. Pearson house

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We would urge you to designate as historic and to list it on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, the Joseph T. Pearson House, 5139 Wayne Avenue, Phila, PA 19144.

Thank you,

Lorraine and Gerard Givnish,
4825 Germantown Avenue

Allyson Mehley

From: Penn Knox Neighborhood Assoc. <pennknox.germantown@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 10:54 AM
To: preservation
Cc: Jon Farnham; Allyson Mehley
Subject: Designation of Joseph T Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Ave

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Dear Mr Farnham and the Historic Commision,

We, the board of the Penn Knox Neighborhood Association, are writing to express our support for the designation of 5139 Wayne Ave to the historic register.

The Joseph T Pearson house is about a hundred feet outside of our Southwest boundary at Wayne Ave & Hansberry St, and we support our neighboring RCO, SoLo Germantown, in this nomination.

At the January meeting when the Committee voted unanimously in favor of recommending designation, it was made clear that the experienced professionals assessment agrees with the opinion of the neighborhood and the nominating RCO that the Joseph T Pearson House meets criteria A & J for designation.

We hope that you agree with the Staff and Committee's recommendation and vote to add this property to the register.

The community does not support demolition of this building.

This property is located on a largely intact block of Wayne Ave with other significant structures nearby, several of which are already on the register. The lot is large and we believe there are other options for development of fewer than 40 apartments on this lot that could avoid demolition.

It is important for this community to see the full Historic Commission acknowledge the historic significance of the Joseph T Pearson house.

Our board and members thank the Commission for your consideration,

Penn Knox Neighborhood Association

Irving Vaughn Chair
Angela Steele Co-Vice Chair
Adam Kaufman Co-Vice Chair
Margaret Manzer Treasurer
Grace Flisser Recording Secretary
Terese Vekteris Communications Secretary

From: Maggie Manzer <margaretmanzer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 10:49 AM
To: preservation; Allyson Mehley
Subject: Designation of the Joseph T Pearson house at 5139 Wayne Ave

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr Farnham and the Historic Commission,

I ask you to support this nomination to designate the Joseph Pearson house at 5139 Wayne Ave to the Philadelphia Historic Register.

I walk past the house often and have admired its chimney from Wayne Ave many times. The architectural detail of this house contributes significantly to the character of our neighborhood, and to this particular block of Wayne Ave, which has many 19th and early 20th century buildings intact.

Recent sales of several properties on this same block will result in renovation and preservation as single family or multi-family homes, and there are many buildings nearby in Penn Knox that are already on the register. Historic preservation has long been very important to this community, but Southwest Germantown has recently seen an unprecedented level of development interest. Its residents and business owners need your assistance in protecting its character for future generations. We welcome development that considers the community and the neighborhood, but not development at the expense of this neighborhood's contribution to the cultural and architectural heritage of the city.

I attended the January Committee meeting and I really enjoyed listening to the Committee discussion of the importance of Joseph T Pearson Sr as a Philadelphia artist and educator at PAFA, as well as the house's contribution to the social and cultural heritage of Germantown as an example of the artist's community.

It's worth noting that the Committee even voted to add Criteria C to their recommendation, on the basis that the architecture of the building reflects the built environment around it with its contribution to a distinctive architectural style.

I hope that the Commission understands the importance of acknowledging the historical significance of the property in fulfilling the criteria for designation, and agrees with the Committee's unanimous recommendation for designation.

This will help to highlight for the record the great disservice that developers are doing to the neighborhood when they remove 19th century single family homes to maximize the volume of market rate apartments that can fill a lot size. There are many vacant properties and lots that can be developed without the removal of our existing historic houses, including quite a few owned by the city, but perhaps those do not come with the highest profit margin.

Margaret Manzer
150 W Queen Lane

Allyson Mehley

From: Jon Farnham
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 8:18 AM
To: preservation
Subject: Fw: Sent on behalf of Clayton Holomon re 5139 Wayne Ave demolition
Attachments: Clayton Holomon re 5139 Wayne.pdf

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
Working Remotely

From: Jen Lav <jenlaverty@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 5:12 AM
To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>
Subject: Sent on behalf of Clayton Holomon re 5139 Wayne Ave demolition

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Dear Mr. Farnham,

Attached please see a signed letter from Clayton Holomon, a directly adjacent neighbor to 5139 Wayne Avenue in Germantown. The owners of this property have been granted a permit for demolition of this historic home, and Mr. Holomon feels strongly that the existing structure should be preserved.

Thank you for the time taken reading this letter and for your consideration.

Should you have any questions or if I may assist in any other way, please do not hesitate to reach me by email or by phone.

Many thanks,
Jennifer Laverty

5043 Pulaski Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

215-756-6591

November 11, 2020

Jon Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Mr. Farnham:

I write to you today to seek your urgent assistance in stopping the demolition of the Joseph T. Pearson house, located at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144).

The quality of life in Southwest Germantown is worth more than the value of its land, and as resident of 5160 Henley Street for more than 20 years and as such an adjacent neighbor of 5139 Wayne, I can without reservation and emphatically attest that the demolition of the historic Joseph Pearson House will significantly and irreparably damage the integrity of my community and compromise the value and quality of life for my neighbors and myself.

I understand that the property was purchased in March of this year and almost immediately listed for resale as a construction-ready parcel, approved for more than 40 apartment units. In addition to disfiguring the charm of the neighborhood through the removal of one of its most elegant facades, this change will negatively alter the walkability of Wayne Avenue and add congestion to Henley Street, which it cannot sustain.

The Pearson home itself has graced our neighborhood for well over a century, and while it does require rehabilitation to return to use, it is in no way dangerous or otherwise unwelcome. The architectural detail of the home represents a level of craftsmanship unique to the past, informing and inspiring all who look upon them. With repair, the Pearson home could support one or more families within its current zoning and continue to contribute to this picturesque, low- to moderate-income residential neighborhood and business corridor, which its current owners (investors) have likely never visited. Removing a physical testament to the rich history and cultural heritage of Germantown serves no one. Once these homes are gone, they cannot be replaced, and children and adults in Southwest Germantown deserve to walk in the steps of history and to look upon its face every bit as much as children and adults in any other neighborhood in this city.

On a personal level, my own home life in Germantown cannot be separated from the Joseph T. Pearson, which like his great painting, has always existed "Over The Hedge." The Pearson House helps tell the story of my life and my community, existing across different periods of time, encompassing many different generations of people, and demonstrating a rich history and resilience in the face of substantial change. The Pearson House is an integral part of the built environment along Wayne Avenue, providing spatial and aesthetic balance to the denser row and twin homes on Henley Street and acting as part of Germantown's proud architectural legacy, shared by all regardless of race, income, or social status. Living alongside the historic structures of Southwest Germantown has provided me with a pride of place and a feeling of ownership in the community and its long history, and preservation of the Pearson House will contribute to stabilizing our close and connected neighborhood, which is working through years of disinvestment and into a shining new future. Removal of this building will slow revitalization of the Wayne Avenue business district by breaking up the streetscape and making the area less likely to support the desirable businesses that will improve life for area residents.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may answer any questions.

Sincerely,



Clayton Holomon

5160 Henley St.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Allyson Mehley

From: Grace Flisser <gfliss18@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:19 PM
To: Allyson Mehley; Penn Knox Neighborhood Assoc.
Subject: support for historic designation for 5139 Wayne Avenue

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April 6, 2021

To the Philadelphia Historic Commission:

I am a Germantown resident of Philadelphia, living in the Penn-Knox area, and am writing to support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue, which is just a few blocks away from me. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, a celebrated Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. Joseph Pearson's paintings hang in the Woodmere Art Museum in the Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia, the well-known Michener Museum in Doylestown, as well as in Reading and other areas of Pennsylvania and attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in downtown Philadelphia. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I would think that development can happen in our part of the city without demolishing our important cultural and historic architectural legacy, which adds beauty and value to our neighborhood communities. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Grace Flisser, gfliss18@gmail.com

Allyson Mehley

From: Georgette Bartell <geobartell@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:50 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Preservation of 5129 Wayne Avenue

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To: The Philadelphia Historical Commission
Re: 5129 Wayne Ave.

I am writing in support of the preservation of 5129 Wayne Ave.

Our area benefits from a saturation of historic buildings and the city as a whole benefits from this notoriety. You have the power to bring Philadelphia in the national spotlight one decision at a time.

As you know, Germantown is struggling. The residents need your help to for our place in the city, our historical heritage is a gift we cannot squander. Consider this building and its architect, George Pearson, as building blocks of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your efforts,
Georgette Bartell

Allyson Mehley

From: sberisoty@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:10 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Joseph Pearson House

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Northwest Philadelphia resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue as historically protected. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition is likely the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic. We must STOP allowing the willy-nilly destruction of our architectural riches just to benefit developers whose sole desire is to maximize profit. Healthy communities are like human bodies, with each part contributing to a beautiful whole. Rather than contribute to or improve the vitality of our living communities by thoughtfully adding to the quality of the whole, all too many developers are allowed to function as parasites, draining life blood from our communities, degrading the quality of our environment, and adding nothing of value for the people who live in the area. Philadelphia was the first site in the United States to be designated as a World Heritage Site. Do not allow our city to be the first site removed from that list for not protecting enough of our historic fabric. Please start protecting the quality of Philadelphia's architecture, even when not politically expedient. It is after all, supposed to be what you do.

Sincerely,

Steven B. Erisoty
71 Bethlehem Pike
Philadelphia, PA 19118
215-753-8808

Allyson Mehley

From: Allyson Mehley
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:29 PM
To: Sue Patterson; preservation
Subject: Re: 5139 Wayne Avenue

Sue,

Thank you for providing public comment.

Allyson

Allyson Mehley
Historic Preservation Planner
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
allyson.mehley@phila.gov
Working remotely

From: Sue Patterson <suepatterson1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:10 PM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Cc: Allyson Mehley <Allyson.Mehley@Phila.gov>
Subject: Re: 5139 Wayne Avenue

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Allyson,
Attached is another document to add to my letter of support for the nomination of 5139 Wayne Avenue.

Thank you -

Sue Patterson

On Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 10:16 PM Sue Patterson <suepatterson1@gmail.com> wrote:
5139 Wayne Avenue

Allyson & the Historic Commission,

In my haste to send a letter of support, I forgot that pertinent information for this nomination was buried in other email correspondence.

Attached is a revision of the letter I just sent, to include the missing details..

Please post/share this version instead.

Thank you very much -

Sue Patterson

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and along with many other nearby residents support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue.

This house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect.

The parcel is over 12,000 square feet, and the house footprint is approximately 3000 sf. With basements and three stories, that would equal 36,000 sf available for new housing, while preserving the existing historic property for adaptive residential reuse. This environmentally sustainable approach is what the community wants, and that application is completely and reasonably viable for this property, at very little inconvenience to the current owner.

After checking previous emails, I confirmed that the developer's actual plan is to package the proposal and flip it to someone else anyway - with a \$900,000 price increase above the \$300K they bought it for. See text copied from the August 2020 listing below.

\$1,200,000 *For sale*

5139 Wayne Ave, Philadelphia, PA

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to purchase over 12,000 square feet of developable land in up and coming Germantown and build 48 units by right! Currently, there is a single-family home on the property which can either be torn down to develop the entire parcel or renovated into a single family or multifamily building to provide cash flow before developing the parcel. The current owner has completed a property survey and geotechnical soil tests. No environmental testing is required. A zoning plan for a building with 47 one bedroom and 1 two-bedroom units has been submitted to the city. The development plan utilizes both a green roof and low-income bonus to obtain height and density bonuses. Civil engineering work is in process. Based on market comps of new construction product, expected rents for studios are between \$900-\$1100, one bedrooms \$1,200 - \$1,400 and 2 bedrooms between \$1,400-\$1,800. 5139 Wayne Avenue is located only a few blocks away from Germantown Ave, Queen Lane, Mt. Airy and more. The location provides easy access to public transportation.

Therefore, if the Historical Commission does not support the historic nomination of 5139 Wayne Avenue, then they are an active participant in not only destructive profiteering, but also predatory development practices, now rampant in Germantown.

I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.
Sincerely,

Sue Patterson
Former chair, Penn Knox Neighborhood Association

SPACE

Martha Savery

c. 610.308.0579 | o. 215.625.3650 | f. 215.625.4721

msavery@spaceandcompany.com | www.spaceandcompany.com

Agent Full

5139 Wayne Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Expired

Multi-Family

\$1,200,000



MLS #: PAPH923726
 Tax ID #: 123215100
 Ownership Interest: Fee Simple
 Type: Other
 Waterfront: No
 Garage: No

Number of Units: 1
 Above Grade Fin SQFT: 2,949 / Assessor
 Price / Sq Ft: 406.92
 Year Built: 1900
 Style: Other
 Cooling: No Cooling

Location

County: Philadelphia, PA
 MLS Area: 19144 - Philadelphia County (19144)

School District: [The School District Of Philadelphia](#)

Taxes and Assessment

Tax Annual Amt / Year: \$2,478 / 2020
 School Tax: \$1,360
 County Tax: Annually
 City/Town Tax: \$1,118 / Annually
 Clean Green Assess: No
 Zoning: RM1

Tax Assessed Value: \$177,000 / 2020
 Imprv. Assessed Value: \$150,450
 Land Assessed Value: \$26,550
 Land Use Code: A51
 Block/Lot: 266

Units Information

Single Room Units: 0
 One Bedroom Units: 0
 Two Bedroom Units: 0
 Three Bedroom Units: 0

Building Info

Structure Type: Other
 Building Units Total: 1
 Above Grade Fin SQFT: 2,949 / Assessor
 Total Fin SQFT: 2,949 / Assessor
 Tax Total Fin SQFT: 2,949
 Total SQFT: 2,949 / Assessor

Construction Materials: Masonry, Other

Lot

Lot Acres / SQFT: 0.28a / 12278sf / Assessor

Lot Size Dimensions: 70.00 x 175.40

Parking

Total Parking Spaces: 0

Features: No Parking

Interior Features

Interior Features: Accessibility Features: None

Utilities

Utilities: No Cooling, Cooling Fuel: None, Heating: None, Heating Fuel: None, Hot Water: None, Water Source: Public,

Sewer: Public Sewer

Remarks

Agent: Please contact Paul Chin with any questions at Paul@McCannTeam.com - We currently have the survey, soil test, and the zoning plan has been submitted to the ZBA.

Public: Don't miss out on this great opportunity to purchase over 12,000 square feet of developable land in up and coming Germantown and build 48 units by right! Currently, there is a single-family home on the property which can either be torn down to develop the entire parcel or renovated into a single family or multifamily building to provide cash flow before developing the parcel. The current owner has completed a property survey and geotechnical soil tests. No environmental testing is required. A zoning plan for a building with 47 one bedroom and 1 two-bedroom units has been submitted to the city. The development plan utilizes both a green roof and low-income bonus to obtain height and density bonuses. Civil engineering work is in process. Based on market comps of new construction product, expected rents for studios are between \$900-\$1100, one bedrooms \$1,200 - \$1,400 and 2 bedrooms between \$1,400-\$1,800. 5139 Wayne Avenue is located only a few blocks away from Germantown Ave, Queen Lane, Mt. Airy and more. The location provides easy access to public transportation, the Roosevelt Expressway and 76. Residents are able to catch bus route 53 at the corners of Hansberry and Wayne Ave. or pick between 2 train stations (Wayne Junction or Queen Lane) to get to Center City or the Main Line in 10 minutes. Centrally located and within a short stroll to several shopping spots and restaurant hubs, green parks, bike trails, the river and so much more. 1 mile from the entrance to the Wissahickon Park.

Listing Office

Listing Agent: [Michael McCann](#) (3118193) (Lic# AB049770L) (215) 709-4141
 Listing Agent Email: info@mccannteam.com
 Broker of Record: Andrew Gismondi (3136221) [Click for License](#)
 Listing Office: [Keller Williams Philly](#) (55962)
 728 Broad St S 3, Philadelphia, PA 19146-2240
 Office Phone: (215) 607-6007 Office Fax: (215) 689-2961
 Office Email: agismondi@kw.com
 Co-Listing Agent: [Jim Onesti](#) (Lic# RS224457L) (215) 709-4242
 Co-Listing Agent Email: jonesti@mccannteam.com

Directions

Use GPS

Compensation

Buyer Agency Comp:	2.5% Of Gross	Sub Agency Comp:	2.5% Of Gross
Transaction Broker:	0% Of Gross	Dual/Var Comm:	Yes

Listing Details

Original Price:	\$1,200,000	DOM / CDOM:	87 / 87
Listing Agrmnt Type:	Exclusive Right	Original MLS Name:	BRIGHT
Prospects Excluded:	No	Off Market Date:	12/06/20
Listing Service Type:	Full Service	Expiration Date:	12/06/20
Dual Agency:	Yes	Withdrawn Date:	11/04/20
Sale Type:	Standard		
Listing Term Begins:	08/10/2020		
Listing Entry Date:	08/10/2020		
Possession:	Settlement		

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From: Matt Wilcox <mwilcox@materialculture.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:17 PM
To: preservation
Subject: <https://www.phila.gov/.../5139-Wayne-Ave-nomination-1.pdf>

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Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Matt Wilcox
5306 Knox Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Matthew S. Wilcox
Director of Trusts, Estates & Appraisal Services
MATERIAL CULTURE
4700 Wissahickon Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144
(267) 809-6378
mwilcox@materialculture.com



[Ctrl & click to Browse Our Virtual Consignment Brochure](#)

Allyson Mehley

From: Georgia Kioukis <gkioukis@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:37 PM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Ave

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Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,
Georgia Kioukis
19144

Allyson Mehley

From: Mary Sweeten <mcsweets@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:49 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Pearson House in Germantown

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Philadelphia Historic Commission
To whom it may concern:

Please accept this email in support of historic designation for the Joseph T. Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Ave.

Pearson is a well-known local figure in American Impressionism, and several of his works, including two referenced in the application, are at the Woodmere Museum. Descendants of the family are still active in maintaining the artist's legacy.

Preserving Germantown's Victorian housing stock is crucial to our neighborhood's ongoing revitalization.

Sincerely,
Mary Sweeten
Germantown

From: Ann Hudson Peters <ancar119@lightlink.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:55 AM
To: preservation
Subject: Joseph T. Pearson House, 5139 Wayne Avenue

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To the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I write to express my strong support for the designation of the Joseph T. Pearson House, 5139 Wayne Avenue, as a historic property.

In that house, Pearson came of age and studied at PAFA, and while living there he developed a distinctive style honoring the aesthetics of Japanese art, making him a strong contributor to early 20th century innovations in American art.

Germantown has been a community of artists throughout the 19th and 20th century, and many important figures lived here. Characterized by relatively spacious and attractive housing, green spaces and former industrial buildings converted to studios, Germantown continues to be a community of artists. I have walked its streets with my partner, a portrait painter, as he points out the homes and former homes of well-known artists. He has also pointed out, again and again, an empty lot where the former home of a well-known artist fell into ruin and was simply knocked down, fruit of ignorance and uncaring. Not only were these landmarks in the history of American art, they were also once lovely homes.

At this time, the value of Germantown homes is skyrocketing. This can lead either to preservation or to destruction. The actions taken by the Philadelphia Historical Commission are essential at this time to preserve the character and quality of life in Germantown, and in other Philadelphia neighborhoods.

We who carry forward the traditions of art, music, scholarship and responsible custody of our homes and neighborhoods must advocate for and carefully observe the designations that should become the basis for historic preservation and the effectiveness of public policy in making them real.

With best wishes,

Ann Hudson Peters

5209 Wayne Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144-3582
mundocomun@lightlink.com

Allyson Mehley

From: Dennis Barnebey <dennis.barnebey@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:43 AM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Ave.

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As a near neighbor of the past 50 years to 5139 Wayne Ave., I am appealing for the designation of the property as historically significant. It sits on a block that is virtually unchanged since it was developed by the late 1800's. It is a unique single home with distinctive architectural features and has a rich history of use by an important Philadelphia artist and his family. There is no reason for it to be destroyed, while there are many reasons to preserve it. Its loss would be a major one to a neighborhood that is now under increasing pressure to eliminate its rich architectural heritage as new proposed construction takes its place.

PLEASE accept this property as officially historically certified, to be preserved not destroyed. Its a rare property that cannot be replaced.

Dennis Barnebey
5122 Newhall St.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Allyson Mehley

From: Brian Rademaekers <rademaekers@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:35 AM
To: preservation
Subject: The Joseph Pearson House - 5139 Wayne Avenue

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Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist.

The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Brian Rademaekers

Allyson Mehley

From: Susan Mangan <smangan@what-design.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:30 AM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Avenue historical designation

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Dear Philadelphia Historical Commission-

I have been a resident of Germantown since 2001, and I am appalled at the plans to demolish this historical property. Please designate it as historic, and preserve this important part of Germantown and Philadelphia heritage.

Regards,

Susan Mangan
5529 Morton St.
Philadelphia, Pa 19144
215-266-5763

From: Carla Willard <carla.willard@fandm.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:02 AM
To: preservation
Subject: URGENT: Rendering "historic" designation for Joseph Pearson House in Germantown

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I urge you to consider giving historic designation to the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue.

Joseph Pearson was an American impressionist whose style of painting became crucial for the expansion of French impressionism in the United States. His art evolved a distinctive American style, and he emerged as one of the most renowned impressionists of his time anywhere in the nation.

The beautiful Pearson house that remains standing is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue. Moreover, the Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect.

I entreat the Commission to designate the Joseph Pearson House property as a historic site. We want to preserve the architectural history of our fascinating and beloved Germantown for all Philadelphians to share and enjoy.

With appreciation for the hard work you do,

Carla

--
Carla Willard
Associate Professor
American Studies
Faculty in the Africana Studies Program
Franklin & Marshall College
on leave -- please email: carla.willard@fandm.edu
+46 076 102 99 05

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."
Jimmy Baldwin

Allyson Mehley

From: Madison Donchez <mdonchez@ptd.net>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 10:34 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Pearson House Designation

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission,

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,
Madison Donchez

Allyson Mehley

From: Alyssa Kreilick <alyssakreilick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 9:44 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Historic designation Joseph Pearson House

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission,

I am writing to express my support of the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue as a historic site.

This beautiful building was Pearson's home during his most active years as a Pennsylvania Impressionist painter. As a resident of Germantown and a painter, (PAFA Certificate) I strongly urge you to protect this part of Philadelphia's cultural heritage.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Kreilick

Allyson Mehley

From: Sue Patterson <suepatterson1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 8:56 PM
To: preservation
Cc: Allyson Mehley
Subject: 5139 Wayne Avenue

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and along with many other nearby residents support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue.

This house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect.

The parcel is over 12,000 square feet, and the house footprint is approximately 3000 sf. With basements and three stories, that would equal 36,000 sf available for new housing, while preserving the existing historic property for adaptive residential reuse. This environmentally sustainable approach is what the community wants, and that application is completely and reasonably viable for this property, at very little inconvenience to the current owner. I heard that they just want to package the proposal and flip it to someone else anyway - with a price increase above the \$300K they bought it for - so why should the community and the Historical Commission be supporting this kind of destructive profiteering?

I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Sue Patterson
Former chair, Penn Knox Neighborhood Association

Allyson Mehley

From: Sue Patterson <suepatterson1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 8:56 PM
To: preservation
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I am a Germantown resident and along with many other nearby residents support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue.

This house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect.

The parcel is over 12,000 square feet, and the house footprint is approximately 3000 sf. With basements and three stories, that would equal 36,000 sf available for new housing, while preserving the existing historic property for adaptive residential reuse. This environmentally sustainable approach is what the community wants, and that application is completely and reasonably viable for this property, at very little inconvenience to the current owner. I heard that they just want to package the proposal and flip it to someone else anyway - with a price increase above the \$300K they bought it for - so why should the community and the Historical Commission be supporting this kind of destructive profiteering?

I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Sue Patterson
Former chair, Penn Knox Neighborhood Association

Allyson Mehley

From: Lisa Jackson <cultie2@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 8:50 PM
To: preservation
Subject: STOP THE DESTRUCTION

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident, and a lifelong Philadelphian, and I support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic so that it can remain in our neighborhood and in Philadelphia for future generations.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jackson

Allyson Mehley

From: Lisa K <fishtown513@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 7:31 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Philadelphia resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. This beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kahuila

From: Edith Newhall <enewhall@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 7:28 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Pearson House

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Chestnut Hill resident with deep roots in Germantown; an art critic for the Philadelphia Inquirer, ARTnews, and other publications; a former board member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and a longtime member of the Chestnut Hill Conservancy and the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. I emphatically support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. This handsome house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, a highly-regarded Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. Germantown and its amazing colonial and Victorian-era houses should be preserved. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Edith Newhall

Allyson Mehley

From: Rich Conti <buddha1946@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 7:16 PM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Ave.

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I grew up near the 5100 block of Wayne Ave and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Conti

(grew up at 5168 Henley St.)

Allyson Mehley

From: Gmail <Irdymond1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 6:24 PM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Ave

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,
Lindsey Dymond
503 Hansberry St 19144

Sent from my iPhone

From: Janelle Avant <janelle.avant@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 5:53 PM
To: preservation
Subject: NO Demolition 5139 Wayne Ave., 19144

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the historic designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Be well,

Janelle

Janelle R. Avant, MBA

From: ruth yaskin <ryservice@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 5:50 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Fwd: 5139 Wayne Ave please save

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

> Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

>

> I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

>

> Sincerely,

> Ruth Yaskin

>

> Ruth Yaskin

> Sent from my iPhone

Allyson Mehley

From: Jill Saull <jillsaull@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 5:45 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Joseph T Pearson House Nomination

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

In addition I would like to say that there are many empty places for developers to build "density" and demolishing properties such as this creates a tear in the fabric of the community. If we are a World Heritage city then the development needs to be more thoughtful and inclusive of what makes Germantown a rich cultural, historical, artistic and political timeline. Clear cutting the the architecture in Germantown, much like clear cutting an old growth forest is short sighted.

"By Right" needs to be the exception not the norm. Just because you can doesn't mean you should.

Sincerely,
Jill Saull

jill saull
jillsaull@aol.com
Board Member
Gtown Radio
www.gtownradio.com
215-843-7391
267-602-7281
FB:G-town Radio
Twitter@Gtownradio
Instagram @Gtownradio

Allyson Mehley

From: Amy Lambert <maryamelialambert@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:58 PM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Avenue
Attachments: Joseph Pearson House support letter.docx

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please see the attached letter of support for the Joseph Pearson House in southwest Germantown. Thank you.

Amy Lambert

April 5, 2021

VIA EMAIL

To: Philadelphia Historical Commission
preservation@phila.gov

Re: 5139 Wayne Avenue, the Joseph Pearson House

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission,

I am a resident of southwest Germantown. I support the historic designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue around the corner from my house. This beautiful structure is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect.

The site where the house is located is quite large and susceptible to development. This development should include the Pearson House in its position along the Wayne Avenue right-of-way. There is plenty of space in the rear of the site for multifamily units if the house is left to soften the neighborhood streetscape with its period and respectful character. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Very truly yours,

Amy Lambert
Architect and Preservationist

Allyson Mehley

From: Lillian <lh@hightowersystems.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:58 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Ave.

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist.

The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,
Lillian Hightower

The Nomination: https://www.phila.gov/media/20210108140957/5139-Wayne-Ave-nomination-1.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3NFuDeQ3Bf8IoYXQhbK03SaG6StAcf-lBfOWo_6Tob4hQ5crUNo00Wi7U

Allyson Mehley

From: Kevin Snyder <kevin@ksproserv.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:46 PM
To: preservation
Subject: 5139 Wayne Avenue

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition is believed to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely,
Kevin Snyder
508 W Clapier St.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

267-388-0024

Allyson Mehley

From: Christopher Esposito <oceannavigator1@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:43 PM
To: preservation
Subject: Support for Nomination of Joseph T. Pearson House, 5139 Wayne Avenue for Historic designation

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am a Germantown resident and support the designation of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The beautiful house is one of the oldest to survive on Wayne Avenue and was home to Joseph Pearson, an important Pennsylvania Impressionist artist. The Victorian-era addition appears to be the work of George Pearson, an important Germantown architect. Germantown's Victorian architecture is an important treasure in the architectural fabric of Philadelphia. I strongly urge the commission to designate the building as historic.

Sincerely, Christopher Esposito

Allyson Mehley

From: preservation
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 2:06 PM
To: Allyson Mehley
Subject: Fw: Pearson House, 5139 Wayne Ave.
Attachments: Pearson house, 5139 Wayne Avenue.pdf

From: Tuomi Forrest <director@freedombackyard.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>
Cc: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>; emily.t.cooperman@gmail.com <emily.t.cooperman@gmail.com>
Subject: Pearson House, 5139 Wayne Ave.

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Dr. Farnham,

Please see the attached letter in support of the nomination of the Pearson House to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

All best,

Tuomi

--

Tuomi Joshua Forrest
Executive Director
Historic Germantown
5501 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144
215-844-1683 x 101
www.freedombackyard.com

Tuesday,
19 January 2021

Jon Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
13th Floor
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

RE: Joseph T. Pearson, Jr., House,
5139 Wayne Avenue, Germantown,
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Dear Dr. Farnham,

I write on behalf of Historic Germantown, a partnership of eighteen historic houses, sites, and museums in Northwest Philadelphia – “the German Township” – that have come together into one organization to protect, preserve, and share some of Philadelphia’s prized historical assets. At the regular December meeting of the Board of Directors of Historic Germantown, the Board voted to support the nomination of the Joseph T. Thurman, Jr., House at 5139 Wayne Avenue in Germantown for inclusion on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. The Board agrees with the twin merits of the Pearson House as set forth by the Keeping Society of Philadelphia in its nomination: a) this historic resource is associated with the life of a person significant in the past; and b) this historic resource exemplifies the cultural, economic, and historical heritage of the early twentieth-century community of Germantown.

Joseph Thurman Pearson, Jr. (1876 – 1951) was born and raised in Germantown and 5139 Wayne Avenue was his childhood home. His father was typical of the new men who made Germantown their home in the years after the Civil War, those fortunate men who – for the most part – learned a trade well, established small businesses of their own, and built them up until they provided real prosperity and often, financial independence. Joseph T. Pearson, Sr. (1850 – 1920) was such a man. The older Pearson placed his son in the architectural firm of Wilson Eyre, but Eyre soon recognized the young man’s extraordinary talent as a painter. The younger Pearson turned to the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA) in Philadelphia and was educated there. He then traveled to Europe, where he devoted an entire year to meeting with and studying the work of a number of the most distinguished European artists of that era.

Joseph T. Pearson, Jr. returned to the United States in 1902 and married. By this time the Pearson family had moved to a far grander house in Germantown, but still owned the house and property at 5139 Wayne Avenue. The newlywed couple happily made their home there and Pearson entered into the most productive phase of his long career. As the opportunities arose,

he submitted his paintings – primarily landscapes and portraiture – to different exhibitions and they began to win commendations and prizes. Pearson’s career flourished. In September 1909, the Philadelphia newspapers reported that PAFA had “added [Pearson] to the teaching corps,” where he would start as an “assistant instructor in drawing and painting.” This was the beginning of a life-long teaching career at PAFA, one that extended to 1937.

These were also the years in which Pearson received repeated honors from his colleagues and peers in the world of fine art. In the decade between 1908 and 1918, he won a total of four prizes from PAFA, two prizes from the National Academy of Design, and one from the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. A few years later, in 1926, he won the Gold Medal at the U.S. Sesqui-Centennial Exposition, which was held in Philadelphia.

This three-paragraph sketch of Pearson’s first forty-two years is an important part of Historic Germantown’s advocacy for the nomination. As the Pearson House in Germantown is considered for inclusion on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, *it is important to note* that the most celebrated work of Pearson’s long career was sketched and painted at his home on Wayne Avenue.

In 1918, Pearson purchased from a very wealthy Philadelphian, William West Frazier, an old farm house and barn with nine acres of land at the intersection of Huntingdon Road and Creek Road, directly on the banks of Pennypack Creek, in what was then Upper Moreland Township, in Montgomery County, about ten miles north / northeast of Germantown (this land may now be within the bounds of the Borough of Bryn Athyn or of Lower Moreland Township; maps are unclear on this point). In 1921, Pearson purchased an additional twenty-two acres of adjoining land. He lived in this bucolic place for the remaining thirty years of his life.

Historic Germantown represents a long tradition – a tradition now more than 120 years old – of valuing historic preservation in northwest Philadelphia (“the German Township”). It is with that vision, purpose, and practical experience in mind, that Historic Germantown recommends the inclusion of the house and lot at 5139 Wayne Avenue for inclusion on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Frazier Lloyd
Member, Board of Directors
and
Chair, Collections Committee
Historic Germantown

Address and send to: Dr. Jon Farnham <jon.farnham@phila.gov>

With copies to: Philadelphia Historical Commission <preservation@phila.gov>
and to the chairperson of the Historical Commission:
Dr. Emily T. Cooperman <emily.t.cooperman@gmail.com>

Allyson Mehley

From: awfromhh/aweiss <awfromhh4@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 9:53 PM
To: Jon Farnham; preservation; Kim Chantry; Shannon Garrison; Allyson Mehley; Laura Dipasquale; Megan Schmitt; Meredith Keller
Subject: Support 5139 Wayne Ave
Attachments: support5139waynefinal.doc

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Support 5139 Wayne Ave
below and attached

SoLo/Germantown Civic Association (RCO)

Southwest Central Lower Germantown

CLEAN GREEN SAFE

Wayne Ave Merchant Association (WAM)

Registered Community Organization (RCO)

A Weiss BC Organizer 215 843 5555 awfromhh4@gmail.com

Jan. 17, 2021

Philadelphia Historical Commission

1515 Arch St.

Phila., PA 191

Attn: Jon Farnham, Executive Director Jon.Farnham@phila.gov

Re: Support 5139 Wayne Ave. Joseph T. Pearson House

Dear Dr. Jon Farnham:

We fully support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Ave., the Joseph T. Pearson House to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. It is important to our community. It has remained mostly as it was for well over 100 years. It has been an important part of the historic character of Wayne Ave. for generations. Important not only for its wonderful architectural features, character and enduring presence but for its importance to the local Germantown art community history.

Joseph T. Pearson was a teacher at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. He was an award winning painter who lived and painted in this his home/studio at the time 5139 Wayne Ave. The painting of his twin girls won numerous awards locally and beyond was painted there. Pearson remains an important Pennsylvania impressionist painter. His paintings on display nearby at Woodmere and Michener Art Museums.

5139 Wayne Ave., the Joseph T. Pearson House deserves the recognition and protection accorded to properties listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. We have the opportunity now to recognize this important property. We must seize it so it can serve and continue to educate future generations by its presence. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Allison Weiss

BC Organizer

cc: preservation <preservation@phila.gov>, Kim Chantry <Kim.Chantry@phila.gov>, Laura.dipasquale laura.dipasquale@phila.gov, Shannon Garrison <Shannon.Garrison@phila.gov>, Meredith Keller meredith.keller@phila.gov, Allyson Mehley allyson.mehley@phila.gov, Megan Schmitt megan.schmitt@phila.gov

SoLo/Germantown Civic Association (RCO)

Southwest Central Lower Germantown
CLEAN GREEN SAFE

Wayne Ave Merchant Association (WAM)

Registered Community Organization (RCO)

A Weiss BC Organizer 215 843 5555 awfromhh4@gmail.com

Jan. 17, 2021

Philadelphia Historical Commission

1515 Arch St.

Phila., PA 191

Attn: Jon Farnham, Executive Director Jon.Farnham@phila.gov

Re: Support 5139 Wayne Ave. Joseph T. Pearson House

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Joseph T. Pearson was a teacher at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. He was an award winning painter who lived and painted in this his home/studio at the time 5139 Wayne Ave. The painting of his twin girls won numerous awards locally and beyond was painted there. Pearson remains an important Pennsylvania impressionist painter. His paintings on display nearby at Woodmere and Michener Art Museums.

5139 Wayne Ave., the Joseph T. Pearson House deserves the recognition and protection accorded to properties listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. We have the opportunity now to recognize this important property. We must seize it so it can serve and continue to educate future generations by its presence. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Allison Weiss
BC Organizer

cc: preservation <preservation@phila.gov>, Kim Chantry <Kim.Chantry@phila.gov>,
Laura.dipasquale laura.dipasquale@phila.gov, Shannon Garrison <Shannon.Garrison@phila.gov>,
Meredith Keller meredith.keller@phila.gov, Allyson Mehley allyson.mehley@phila.gov, Megan
Schmitt megan.schmitt@phila.gov

Allyson Mehley

From: awfromhh/aweiss <awfromhh4@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 26, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Jon Farnham; preservation; Kim Chantry; Laura Dipasquale; Shannon Garrison; Meredith Keller; Allyson Mehley; Megan Schmitt
Subject: Fwd: Letter of Support 5139 Wayne Avenue
Attachments: 5139 Wayne Avenue.docx

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Simone** <msimone825@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, Dec 26, 2020 at 9:04 AM
Subject: Letter of Support 5139 Wayne Avenue
To:

Please find enclosed letter of support for 5139 Wayne Avenue.

Happy Holiday's,

Mike

Michael Simone
25 W Manheim Street
Philadelphia Pa 19144
Msimone825@hotmail.com
215.495.7191

Philadelphia Historical Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

Please note my name is Michael Simone my family has been rooted in Germantown for more than one-hundred and fifty years. I fully support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Avenue to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. As a lifelong resident I have taken an interest in the many notable residents of Germantown. Mr. Pearson and his talent as an impressionist artist has helped through his painting's to document in both the Germantown and communities of Philadelphia as well as Pennsylvania, the very fabric of life as it was in Germantown's past. It is important to our community and deserves the recognition and protection accorded to properties listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. We have the opportunity now to recognize this important property. We must seize it so it can serve and continue to educate future generations by its presence. Pearson remains an important Pennsylvania impressionist painter, he was part of the local Germantown art community. I/we urge you to accept this nomination. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Michael Simone

Allyson Mehley

From: Paula Paul <pauladance@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 6:37 PM
To: Jon Farnham; Kim Chantry; Laura Dipasquale; Shannon Garrison; Meredith Keller; Allyson Mehley; Megan Schmitt
Subject: Protection and support of 5139 Wayne Avenue-The Pearson House

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Members of the Commission,

What a wonderful role you play in our city. Thank you so much for doing all that you can to preserve properties so meaningful to our communities and so easily lost to development and time.

I'm writing to strongly encourage you to support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Ave to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

It is important to our community and deserves the recognition and protection accorded to properties listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

We must seize this opportunity to preserve this still lovely property so it can serve and continue to educate future generations by its presence and remain a significant link to our earlier history. Pearson remains an important Pennsylvania impressionist painter, he was part of the local Germantown art community and a point of pride for all of us.

I urge you to accept this nomination.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,
Paula J. Paul
5917 Pulaski Avenue
19144

Allyson Mehley

From: karel kilimnik <kkilimnik39@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Jon Farnham; preservation; Kim Chantry; Laura Dipasquale; Shannon Garrison; Meredith Keller; Allyson Mehley; Megan Schmitt
Subject: 5139 Wayne Avenue Needs to be Preserved not demolished

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I fully support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Ave to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. It is important to our community and deserves the recognition and protection accorded to properties listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. We have the opportunity now to recognize this important property. We must seize it so it can serve and continue to educate future generations by its presence. Pearson remains an important Pennsylvania impressionist painter, he was part of the local Germantown art community. I/we urge you to accept this nomination. If we do not save our historical buildings now then they are lost forever. Please do the right thing and protect this historical building. Save it from the wrecking ball and developers. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,
Karel Kilimnik
4913 Morris
19144

Allyson Mehley

From: preservation
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:44 AM
To: Allyson Mehley
Subject: Fw: Preservation of Joseph Pearson House

From: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:14 AM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Fw: Preservation of Joseph Pearson House

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
Working Remotely

From: Emily Busch <birdiebuschmusic@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>
Subject: Preservation of Joseph Pearson House

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Jon Farnham,
I am in support of protecting the Joseph Pearson House and Studio (Built 1857 and Enlarged 1882) at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown. As a resident of Germantown I believe it is now a more crucial time than ever to ensure that Germantown and its rich history and architecture is not destroyed for the sake of money hungry developers building throwaway architecture to line their pockets. This structure is unique, historic, thoughtfully built, and contributes to the neighborhood's built environment and story in a way that what would replace it cannot. PLEASE hear the residents of this neighborhood's voices and do not allow the demolition to proceed. Sincerely,
Birdie Busch

--
emilybirdiebusch.com

Kim Chantry

From: awfromhh/aweiss <awfromhh4@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Jon Farnham; preservation; Randal.Baron@phila.gov; Kim Chantry; Laura Dipasquale; Shannon Garrison; merredith.keller@phila.gov; Allyson Mehley; Megan Schmitt
Subject: 5139 Wayne Ave/Please review and accept

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

We hope you and your families are well.

Please be advised we fully support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Ave to the phila register of historic places. It is important to our community and deserves protection. We urge you to review and accept the nomination. Thank you in advance. Stay healthy and safe, Regards -Allison Weiss 215 843 5555 SoLo/Germantown Civic Assoc (RCO)

Kim Chantry

From: Dana Fedeli <nwpresphila@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 4:22 PM
To: preservation
Cc: Kim Chantry; Jon Farnham
Subject: Joseph Pearson House and Studio

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello Historical Commission Staff,

I would like to ask for your support in protecting Joseph Pearson House and Studio (built 1857 and Enlarged 1882), located at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown.

A teacher at the Pennsylvania Academy for several decades, Pearson was an important local artist who created his greatest works in this house between ca. 1902-1904 to 1919. Two of Pearson's works are in the permanent Woodmere art collection in Chestnut Hill. Today a zoning demolition permit was issued for the property; however, if the Historical Commission were to send notice on the nomination filed by the Keeping Society on August 31st, the house could still likely be saved.

As a resident of Mt Airy and a business owner in Germantown, I believe this property should be considered immediately and today's demo permit should not be relevant as the nomination was submitted months ago. Please excuse my direct contact, I typically do not directly reach out to specific staff members regarding these matters but am doing so as a singular exception due to this timing issue.

I extend my advanced gratitude for your time and consideration. Please stay safe and be well during these difficult times.

Best,
Dana Fedeli

Kim Chantry

From: Zarah Adams <zadams@germantownfriends.org>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 3:35 PM
To: Kim Chantry
Subject: Nominations for Historic Commission

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Greetings!

I hope this message finds you well.

Please be advised we at Germantown Friends School fully support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Avenue and 5200-5208 Wayne Avenue to the Philadelphia register of historic places. It is important to our community and deserves protection. We urge you to review and accept the nomination.

We request your immediate attention to this important matter. Thank you in advance.

Warmly,
Zarah

--

Zarah Adams, Ed.D.
Director, Community Engagement
Germantown Friends School

—

Main: 215.951.2300 | **Direct:** 215.951.2325
zadams@germantownfriends.org | www.germantownfriends.org

Kim Chantry

From: hindsbracy@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Jon Farnham; preservation; Kim Chantry; Randal.Baron@phila.gov; Laura Dipasquale; Shannon Garrison; merredith.keller@phila.gov; Allyson Mehley; Megan Schmitt
Subject: phc/review nominations 5139 wayne

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good Afternoon Everyone,

I hope each of you are doing well during this time of uncertainty on many levels.

It is my understanding that a nomination application for historic designation for 5139 Wayne Ave has been sent to you for review and acceptance. I am asking that you would quickly review and designate the property historic. This house is important to the history of Germantown and could be renovated for a single family home.

Yes, I know the seller has suggested the house be demolished but many of us here in the Community really don't want any more of our historic homes torn down. The seller has also suggested that 48 units be built on this parcel of land.

Thank you for your assistance to this matter.

Pamela Bracey

Kim Chantry

From: Melissa D <mldymond@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 2:02 PM
To: Jon Farnham; preservation; Kim Chantry; Randal.Baron@phila.gov; Laura Dipasquale; Shannon Garrison; merredith.keller@phila.gov; Allyson Mehley; Megan Schmitt
Subject: historic nomination 5139 Wayne Avenue 19144

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello everyone!
Hope you are well.

I am writing to fully support the nomination of 5139 Wayne Avenue Philadelphia PA 19144

It is an important property in our community and deserves protection.

I urge you to review and accept the nomination. Thank you in advance.

Stay healthy and safe.

Melissa Dymond
503 West Hansberry St
570-881-4784
mldymond@gmail.com

Joseph Pearson house

melonb4u@aol.com <melonb4u@aol.com>

Thu 11/5/2020 5:18 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr Farnham,

I have been advised that you are on the Historical Commision and I am thus writing to ask that you please work to halt the demolition of the Pearson house. Joseph Pearson was an important member of the Bucks County Impressionist movement which is esteemed in the art world and an important movement born and bred in Philadelphia. It would be a shame and regretted by future generations of art lovers if this home was destroyed. His work hangs in museums and homes throughout the tri-state area. Thank you for your help in saving this house,
Mary-Helen Boothby

Sent from my iPhone

Preserve 5139 Wayne Ave, Germantown

Tina LeCoff <tinalecoff@gmail.com>

Thu 11/5/2020 5:53 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Dr. Farnham,

As a 29 year resident of Germantown and a career advocate of preservation of Philadelphia history, I request that the Commision, and the Architecture Committee, deny the proposal to demolish this building. Its association with artist Joseph Pearson is of great interest to the long time cultural history of Germantown.

Thank you for considering its preservation, rather than demolition.

Sincerely,

Tina LeCoff, ASLA

Pearson House - 5139 Wayne Ave

Sue Patterson <suepatterson1@gmail.com>

Thu 11/5/2020 4:41 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

We would like to ask for your support in protecting Joseph Pearson House and Studio (Built 1857 and Enlarged 1882) at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown. A teacher at the Pennsylvania Academy for several decades, Pearson was an important local artist who created his greatest works in this house between ca.1902-04 to 1919. Today a zoning demolition permit was issued for the property; however, if the historical commission were to send notice on the nomination filed by the Keeping Society on August 31, the house could still likely be saved.

Thank you -

Sue Patterson

Former Chair, Penn Knox Neighborhood Association

Joseph Pearson House - 5139 Wayne Avenue

jpmpwl@aol.com <jpmpwl@aol.com>

Thu 11/5/2020 5:23 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

November 5, 2020

Jon Farnham
Historical Commission Director
City of Philadelphia

Dear Mr. Farnham:

I am writing to express my concern about news I have heard regarding the potential demolition of the Joseph Pearson House at 5139 Wayne Avenue in Germantown.

For a number of years I served on the board of directors of the Germantown Historical Society. As such, I am acutely aware of the historical preservation successes of the Germantown community and the many instances where buildings of significance were lost. As I expect you know, Joseph Pearson and his wife Alice Kent Stoddard, two artists of national significance, made 5139 Wayne Avenue their home. Many of their acclaimed works were also created there. Have survived since 1857, through the heyday of Germantown, its decline, and into a new era of investment, it would be a large civic error to allow the house to be lost now. I hope the City and the Historical Commission will provide every possible protection to ensure its survival. Doing so will strengthen Germantown, and also Philadelphia's reputation as a place where history, and the artists who contribute to our culture, are respected and honored.

Thank you for your review. I hope you will reach out to me if you have any questions about my email. I can be reached at jpmpwl@aol.com or by phone at 215 350-5417

Best regards,

Patrick Moran
6609 Lincoln Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19119

Joseph Pearson home...Wayne Ave

Louise D'Alessandro <louise@elfantwissahickon.com>

Thu 11/5/2020 4:25 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

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I support saving The Pearson Home.

Louise DAlessandro

215 852 9312

Amazing artist!!

Protect 5139 Wayne Ave from demolition

Angela Steele <juststeele@gmail.com>

Fri 11/6/2020 12:39 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I write to request your urgent attention to the protection of the Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144).

I understand that a demolition permit has been issued for the property and strongly ask that you refuse this permit to raze an historic property in my neighborhood.

Southwest Germantown has seen an unprecedented level of development in recent months, and there are many vacant and unbuilt properties, which can be used for new housing construction. It is not necessary to tear down this home.

Should you have any questions or if I may assist in any other way, please do not hesitate to reach me by email or by phone at (908) 938-6153

Many thanks,
Angela Steele

169 W Hansberry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144

I urge you to stop the demolition order for 5139 Wayne Avenue

karel kilimnik <kkilimnik39@gmail.com>

Fri 11/6/2020 12:14 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I write to request your urgent attention to the protection of the Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144). I understand that a demolition permit has been issued for the property and strongly ask that you refuse this permit to raze an historic property in my neighborhood. I have lived in SW Germantown for decades. Now there is a rush to both demolish and build new construction. This is totally changing the historical and cultural nature of our cherished neighborhood. There is no need to tear down this building. We are witnessing the destruction of many historic buildings. Ugly boxes are being constructed with no regard to our community. You can help stop this demolition by removing the demolition order. I strongly urge you to do so. What is torn down can never be replaced. Do not contribute to the destruction of our neighborhood!

Here's a bit of its history - The Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown was built in 1857 and enlarged in 1882. Mr. Pearson was an important local artist and instructor at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts for several decades, and he created his greatest works in this house in the time between 1902-04 to 1919.

Sincerely,
Karel Kilimnik
4913 Morris street
Phila Pa 19144

Protect 5139 Wayne Ave from demolition

Jen Lav <jenlaverty@gmail.com>

Fri 11/6/2020 11:07 AM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I write to request your urgent attention to the protection of the Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144).

I understand that a demolition permit has been issued for the property and strongly ask that you refuse this permit to raze an historic property in my neighborhood.

Southwest Germantown has seen an unprecedented level of development in recent months, and there are many vacant and unbuilt properties, which can be used for new housing construction. It is not necessary to tear down this home.

Should you have any questions or if I may assist in any other way, please do not hesitate to reach me by email or by phone at (215) 756-6591.

Many thanks,
Jennifer Laverty

5043 Pulaski Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

5139 Wayne Avenue


Barbara Dowdall <gtnbassoon@aol.com>

Sat 11/7/2020 8:32 AM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham:

As a lifelong resident of Southwest Germantown (except for 13 years in West Central Germantown), I strongly urge you to help preserve 5139 Wayne Avenue for both our community's 300+ years of history and our architectural/aesthetic .

Barbara McDowell Dowdall
5031 Schuyler St
1982-present

Previously 6134 Wayne Ave (Tulpehocken Apartment Coop)
1969-1982

574 W Clapier St
1947-1969

Sent from my iPhone

Protect 5139 Wayne Ave from demolition

eagreen2@gmail.com <eagreen2@gmail.com>

Mon 11/9/2020 12:49 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I write to request your urgent attention to the protection of the Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144).

I understand that a demolition permit has been issued for the property and strongly ask that you refuse this permit to raze an historic property in my neighborhood.

Southwest Germantown has seen an unprecedented level of development in recent months, and there are many vacant and unbuilt properties, which can be used for new housing construction. It is not necessary to tear down this home.

Should you have any questions or if I may assist in any other way, please do not hesitate to reach me by email or by phone at (716)499.9635.

Many thanks,
Elizabeth Green

5225 Knox St.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

5139 Wayne Ave.

Katie Wynne <kmcmanuswynne@gmail.com>

Wed 11/11/2020 6:07 AM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I write to request your urgent attention to the protection of the Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144).

I understand that a demolition permit has been issued for the property and strongly ask that you refuse this permit to raze an historic property in my neighborhood.

Southwest Germantown has seen an unprecedented level of development in recent months, and there are many vacant and unbuilt properties, which can be used for new housing construction. It is not necessary to tear down this home. Rather, we should work to preserve the history and beauty that makes Germantown noteworthy.

As a neighbor and resident of Germantown I strongly object to this permit being issued.

Many thanks,

Katie Wynne

Sent from my iPhone

5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown

Kevin Snyder <kevin@ksproserv.com>

Wed 11/11/2020 9:09 AM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I write to request your assistance in preventing the demolition of the Joseph Pearson House and Studio at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown (19144).

I understand that a demolition permit has been issued for the property and I ask that you intervene to save this historic property.

Southwest Germantown has seen a great deal of development in recent months, and there are many vacant and unbuilt properties, which can be used for new housing construction. It is not necessary to tear down this home.

Many thanks,

Kevin Snyder
508 W Clapier St.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

support for nomination of Joseph Pearson House

Robert G. Smith <rob@retina.anatomy.upenn.edu>

Tue 11/17/2020 4:25 PM

To: Jon Farnham <Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I support protecting the Joseph Pearson House and Studio (Built 1857 and Enlarged 1882) at 5139 Wayne Ave. in Germantown. Pearson was an important local artist who created his greatest works in this house between ca.1902-04 to 1919. I hope that the Historical Commission can send notice on the nomination filed by the Keeping Society on August 31, to save the house.

Sincerely,

Robert Smith

Robert G. Smith
Research Associate Professor
Department of Neuroscience
University of Pennsylvania