

Public comment received regarding the nomination of 2301 Fairmount Avenue

Dr. Jonathan Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

January 7, 2022

Dear Dr. Farnham: Re: 2301 Fairmount Ave.
Committee on Historic Designation, January 19, 2022

Spring Garden Community Development Corporation strongly supports the historic designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue to the Philadelphia Register.

While currently undesignated, the property is an important historic structure in Philadelphia's rich history - - and one well-deserving of historic designation - - having housed one of the original lager beer breweries in the City, and, arguably, in the Country.

Founded by German immigrants, the City's lager brewing business, with origins at this site, grew to be an important Philadelphia industry for which the City became nationally known.

The property is also directly across the street from the Spring Garden Historic District and is situated on the Fairmount Avenue Commercial Corridor, which features a number of historically designated properties. The property at 2301 Fairmount Avenue should be added to this treasured collection of historic properties along the Avenue. The designation and preservation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue will significantly enhance the Spring Garden District and serve to promote the existing historic fabric of the entire abutting area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Patricia L. Freeland

President

cc: Council President President Darrell Clarke
Paul Steinke



601 N. 17th St., 1st Floor, Phila PA 19130, 215-236-7334

Dr. Jonathan Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

January 7, 2022

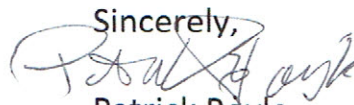
Dear Dr. Farnham: Re: 2301 Fairmount Ave.
 Committee on Historic Designation
 January 19, 2022 Meeting

Spring Garden Civic Association strongly supports the inclusion of 2301 Fairmount Ave. in the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, for the reasons set forth in the nomination submission.

As stated, the property reflects an important era in Philadelphia's history and should be preserved.

Also, a demolition of that property, if historic designation is denied, would most likely precipitate a chain reaction of demolitions of nearby historic (but unprotected) structures, which would devastate the block, and the surrounding area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Boyle
President

cc: Council President Darrell Clarke President
Paul Steinke

From: [Barb Moore](#)
To: [preservation](#)
Subject: 2301 Fairmount Ave.
Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 4:55:30 PM

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Please do not let yet another historic building in Philadelphia be demolished! Our city is losing its character building by building.

Thank you.
Barbara Moore
2401 Pennsylvania Ave

Sent from my iPhone

January 14, 2022

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Dr. Farnham:

I am writing in support of the designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue, historically known as the Rothacker-Orth Brewery and Lager Beer Saloon, and listing on the Register of Historic Places.

While the property and its tenant businesses, most recently London Grill, have been central to the modern Fairmount neighborhood, I was impressed to learn through the historic nomination how many generations have enjoyed its presence. It is remarkable that since the 1850's there has been a saloon and restaurant serving the community, at the corner of 23rd and Fairmount Avenue, that would be equally recognizable to our 19th Century and 21st Century neighbors. Philadelphia is enriched and made distinct by the chance to live alongside history. Designation will help ensure that future residents benefit, as current and past Philadelphians have.

The role of the building in the growth of the lager beer brewing industry in the city is noteworthy as well. This structure's history reflects the connection and flow of people, industry and ideas between Europe and North America, Philadelphia's original German immigrants and its current residents, and from communities like Kensington, to Fairmount and Brewerytown. Neighbors are truly bound across generations and communities through shared experiences and landmarks, like 2301 Fairmount Avenue. The opportunity to continue to learn from and participate in this history, through preservation and historic designation, is unique and essential to seize.

Fairmount Community Development Corporation fully supports the preservation of this important property and encourages the Committee on Historic Designation to recommend designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue to the Philadelphia Historical Commission and for the Commission to give its full approval for listing on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Patrick Sherlock
Executive Director
Fairmount Community Development Corporation



fairmount
civic
association

March 2, 2021

Dr. Jonathan Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19101

Dear Dr. Farnham:

I am writing to fully support the historic designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue, historically known as the Rothacker-Orth Brewery and Lager Beer Saloon to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. As you know, the historic nomination for this property was scheduled to be heard at the Historical Commission's Committee on Historic Designation on October 20th but a Continuance was granted to the March 2022 meeting of the Committee. This property has been a landmark institution in Fairmount for many years, most recently as London's Grill. However, I was surprised and impressed when I read the nomination to learn of the important role this unassuming building played in the development of the lager beer brewing industry in the city. In addition, it is truly noteworthy that since the 1850's, at the corner of 23rd and Fairmount Avenue, there has been a saloon/brewery/restaurant serving the Fairmount community. Therefore, our organization fully supports the preservation of this important property and encourages the Committee on Historic Designation to recommend designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue to the Philadelphia Historical Commission and for the Commission to give its full approval for listing on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kellyann Beene'.

Kellyann Beene
President
Fairmount Civic Association
215-808-0348

Historic Preservation of the London Restaurant Building at 23rd and Fairmount

Brian Killian

Mon 3/14/2022 1:22 PM

To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>

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My wife and I are long time residents at 651 N 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130. We support the proposed "historic designation" of the London and wish to voice our concern and about the removal of the building for a RE development project. We are apposed to the project as it stands and would like the historic building to remain. A new restaurant would be our preference.

Thank you,
Brian and Anne Marie

EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY

AMERICA'S MOST HISTORIC PRISON



March 3, 2022

Dr. Jonathan Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Dr. Farnham:

As the President of Eastern State Penitentiary, a National Historic Landmark just one block east of 2301 Fairmount, I am writing on behalf of our organization to fully support the historic designation of this building, historically known as the Rothacker-Orth Brewery and Lager Beer Saloon to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. As you know, the historic nomination for this property was scheduled to be heard at the Historical Commission's Committee on Historic Designation on October 20th but a Continuance was granted to the March 2022 meeting of the Committee.

This property has been a landmark institution in Fairmount for many years, most recently as London's Grill. However, I was surprised and impressed when I read the nomination to learn of the important role this unassuming building played in the development of the lager beer brewing industry in the city. In addition, it is truly noteworthy that since the 1850's, at the corner of 23rd and Fairmount Avenue, there has been a saloon/brewery/restaurant serving the Fairmount community. In addition, it is an anchor building at this corner, to its adjacent residential three-story buildings to the west.

Opened in 1829, Eastern State sat alone on Coates Street (now Fairmount Avenue). To recognize and designate a building that survives from this early period as the city expanded northward tells a fascinating story of early industry in the neighborhood.

Therefore, our organization fully supports the preservation of this important property and encourages the Committee on Historic Designation to recommend designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue to the Philadelphia Historical Commission and for the Commission to give its full approval for listing on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Sara Jane (Sally) Elk
President and CEO

From: jfjeh@verizon.net
To: [preservation](#)
Subject: London Bar and restaurant
Date: Friday, July 15, 2022 1:01:31 PM

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Dear Historic Commission,

As a long time resident and community activist in Spring Garden and Fairmount, PLEASE do not let the developers tear down the London Bar and Restaurant.

That old bar was the best meeting spot in Fairmount, started a restaurant renaissance, and has a long history in Philadelphia. Terry was Marie Antoinette for many years during Bastille Day Festival.

The building must be designated historic.

Please don't tear it down. Don't destroy the historic character of that very visible corner.

Please let me know how more of us can voice our concern.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Janoski
Jfjeh@verizon.net
484-678-0624

To: Robert Thomas, Chairman
Philadelphia Historical Commission

Date: September 8, 2022

Re: Community Support for the Historic Designation of 2301 Fairmount Ave.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The undersigned members of the Spring Garden Community strongly support the historic designation of 2301 Fairmount Avenue (the "Property"), including both for the main building and the historic one-story rear Ell, for the reasons set forth in the nomination submission.

The Property reflects an important era of Philadelphia's history and of the neighborhood in which it is located. The loss of the Property to demolition and/or incompatible development would be a significant blow to historic preservation in both the City and our community.

We urge you to designate the Property (including the rear Ell) as historic and to list it on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alfred Hanssen
Bonnie Hamilton
James Becker
Michael Row
Ashley Montague
Maria Wynant
Jeff Wynant
Judy Foley
Heather Frattone
Lisette Bralow

Robert Powers
Lauren Powers
Bridgette Sullivan
Christopher Leary
John Ianacone
Rachel McAfee
Adina Shapiro
Brian Shapiro
Louse Ward
Jeffery Porter

Justino Navarro
Maritza Benitez
Ian Cope
Patrick Boyle
Mark McQueen
Robert Platten
Patricia Freeland
Maria Petrillo
Barbara Wolf
Karen Sharrar