

Public Comment received by the Historical  
Commission regarding the nomination of  
724 Locust Ave - *Heartsease*



**KLEHR HARRISON  
HARVEY BRANZBURG<sup>LLP</sup>**

Michael V. Phillips, Esquire  
Direct Dial: (215) 569-2499  
Email: [mphillips@klehr.com](mailto:mphillips@klehr.com)

1835 Market Street, Suite 1400  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
[www.klehr.com](http://www.klehr.com)

March 7, 2023

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Philadelphia Historical Commission  
[Jon.Farnham@phila.gov](mailto:Jon.Farnham@phila.gov)

**Re: 724 Locust Avenue**

Dear Dr. Farnham:

This firm represents Kosa Properties Inc. (“Kosa”), the owner of real property located at 724 Locust Avenue, Philadelphia, PA (the “Property”). Kosa recently received notice from the Philadelphia Historical Commission (the “Commission”) that its Property has been proposed for historic designation. I understand the nomination is scheduled to be considered at the March 15, 2023 meeting of the Committee on Historic Designation (the “CHD”) and the Commission’s regular meeting scheduled for April 14, 2023.

On behalf of Kosa, I am writing to respectfully request a 60-day continuance of the CHD and Commission’s consideration of the nomination. Kosa only recently received notice of the nomination and requires additional time to research, analyze and consider the merits of the nomination in advance of any public meetings. No prejudice would result from the proposed continuance as the Property will remain under the Commission’s jurisdiction during the pendency of the nomination as though it were designated. Likewise, Kosa agrees to suspend the 90-day permit review set forth in Section 14-1005(6)(f) of the Philadelphia Code for any permit applications submitted during the continuance period.

Thank you in advance for your courtesies and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully yours,

*Michael V. Phillips*

Michael V. Phillips

**From:** [preservation](#)  
**To:** [Heather Hendrickson](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: "Heartsease"  
**Date:** Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:29:16 AM

---

---

**From:** Laura Bligh <lbligh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:00 AM  
**To:** preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>  
**Subject:** "Heartsease"

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

---

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing during Women's History Month in support of the application to the Register of Historic Places for "Heartsease," 724 Locust Avenue, the home of Hannah Ann Zell. As a member of the Germantown Historical Society and a descendant of her sister, I am keenly interested in her history and legacy. This redoubtable woman accomplished so much during her long life. My favorite of these is her celebrated founding of libraries around Pennsylvania (see attached clipping). Surely her beloved home is worthy of this important recognition!

Sincerely,

Laura Bligh  
226 Glen Ave SW  
Vienna, VA 22180

Mrs. J. D. Sayers and State Supt. Bralley. E. W. Winkler was re-elected State Librarian and plans were formulated for library extension throughout the state.

---

Some sixteen small towns in Pennsylvania owe their public library facilities to one woman, Hannah Ann Zell, who died in Philadelphia January 30, at the age of 91. In her declining years she was greatly interested in the establishment of libraries.

---

"The ideal city of the future will be the city where every man will be willing to have every other man in the city as his next door neighbor—

**From:** [preservation](#)  
**To:** [Heather Hendrickson](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Please nominate historic the property known as Heartsease  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 17, 2023 2:22:18 PM

---

---

**From:** Matthew Bateman <batemanm3@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 4:55 PM  
**To:** preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>  
**Subject:** Please nominate historic the property known as Heartsease

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

---

Oscar Beisert nominated this property and it should be deemed historic due to the importance that Hannah Zell played in archiving the history of Germantown philadelphia.

Thanks,  
Matthew Bateman

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)