

Public Comment for
3414-16, 3418-20, 3422-24
W Westmoreland Street

Heather Hendrickson

From: David S Traub <davidstraub@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 2:00 PM
To: preservation
Subject: 3424-16, 2418-20. 3422-24 W.Westmoreland Street, Dobson Back to Back Houses
Attachments: Westmoreland Street Designation.docx

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**To the Committee on Historic Designation of the Philadelphia Historical Commission.
Please find attached comments on the proposed designation of the above subject properties.
to be heard at the Meeting on May 24, 2023, 9:30 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,
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May 22, 2023

To: The Committee on Historic Designation of the Philadelphia Historical Commission
RE: 3414-16, 3418-20 and 3422-24 W. Westmoreland Street, Dobson Back to Back Houses

Save Our Sites wishes to whole-heartedly endorse the nomination of the above referenced properties to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Criterion A

Without question the Westmoreland Street houses, with their unique architectural design, have" significant character as part of the development of the City." In addition, clearly John Dobson by virtue of his major contribution to the development of Philadelphia's textile industry, and in providing workers housing in the neighborhoods adjacent to his factories, is a "person significant in the past." Save Our Sites, holds that Criterion A, by itself, is sufficient to support the nomination.

Criterion H

While the Historical Commission Staff did not recommend that the nomination satisfies Criterion H, Save Our Sites argues that *if* the three buildings, visually unique in all of Philadelphia with their handsome, robust, outsized, appearance, were to be demolished, the people in the surrounding community would sorely miss them as "familiar visual features" of their neighborhood. In that way, the nomination, as written, does satisfy Criterion H.

Criterion J

Save Our Sites agrees with the Historical Commission Staff that the nomination implicitly makes an argument for significance under Criterion J, as innovative "workers houses for the textile community." Save Our Sites suggests that Criterion J might, in addition to Criteria A and H, be included in the nomination.

Save Our Sites urges the Designation Committee to consider the above comments and recommend to the Philadelphia Historical Commission the addition of the three Westmoreland Street houses to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

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