Public Comment Received for
48-60 W Logan St

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
CITY COUNCIL

CINDY BASS
ROOM 508, CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107
(215) 686-3424 or 3425
Fax No. (215) 686-1937
Email: cindy.bass@phila.gov

COUNCILWOMAN - 8TH DISTRICT

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Streets and Services
Whole Council

Mr. John Farnham, Executive Director
Philadelphia Historic Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th FL
Philadelphia, PA 19102

September 1, 2026

Dear Mr. John Farnham,

Re: Former St Francis Assisi Church, 48-60 W Logan St

I am writing on behalf of Philadelphia's 8th Councilmanic District to express my support for Independence Mission Schools and DePaul Catholic School in their efforts regarding the former St. Francis of Assisi Church, located at 48–60 W. Logan Street.

I understand that Independence Mission Schools has spent considerable time and resources evaluating potential options for the former church property, including rehabilitation and adaptive reuse. After exploring these alternatives and considering the significant costs associated with restoring and maintaining the building, the school has determined that moving forward with demolition and transforming the property into recreational open space would better serve its students and the surrounding community.

DePaul Catholic School has been an important educational institution and community presence in the Logan neighborhood. The proposed creation of a playground and recreational field would provide much-needed outdoor space for students while allowing the property to continue serving a positive community purpose.

As Councilwoman for the 8th Councilmanic District, I am supportive of thoughtful investments that enhance the quality of life for our children, families, and neighborhoods. For these reasons, I support Independence Mission Schools and DePaul Catholic School in their efforts to move this project forward and respectfully ask that their plans for the former St. Francis of Assisi Church property receive your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Cindy Bass
Councilmember - 8th District

Anonymous Public Feedback Regarding Saint Frances Assisi Church

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Saint Frances Assisi Church in Germantown for historic designation and preservation.

For well over a century, Saint Frances Assisi Church has stood as a part of the fabric of Germantown. Generations of families have walked through its doors. It has been a place of prayer, celebration, grief, hope, and community. Its walls have witnessed baptisms, weddings, funerals, holidays, and countless ordinary moments that, together, become the history of a neighborhood.

The condition of the church today is certainly concerning, and I recognize that the past decade has been difficult for the building and the community surrounding it. I also recognize the very real needs of DePaul Catholic School. As an educator, I understand the responsibility schools have to provide students with safe, functional, and supportive places to learn.

But I believe we have to ask ourselves an important question: What are we willing to lose in the process of moving forward?

The demolition of a Catholic church by a Catholic school would send a deeply troubling message to students, families, parishioners, and the Germantown community. Our children should be taught that history, faith, and community matter — not simply when they are convenient, but especially when preserving them requires effort and imagination.

A church is not just an old building. It is a repository of memories. It is where families brought their children to be baptized, where couples began their marriages, and where loved ones were mourned and remembered. It becomes part of the identity of the neighborhood itself. When a church like Saint Frances Assisi is demolished, we do not simply lose bricks, windows, and architectural details. We lose an irreplaceable piece of the community's story.

Philadelphia has already experienced the loss of historic churches that can never be recovered. In 2021, a similar argument was presented to the Historical Commission regarding the former Our Lady of the Rosary Church. The Commission ultimately declined to designate the church, and the West Philadelphia community lost one of its oldest and most architecturally significant resources. For many nearby residents, the loss was especially painful because they were unaware that demolition was being considered until it was too late.

We should not allow history to repeat itself.

As an educator, I believe deeply in preparing our children for the future. But preparing children for the future should not require erasing the places that connect them to the generations who came before them. Our students deserve modern, functional schools — but they also deserve to inherit a city with a history worth knowing and places worth remembering.

There may not be an easy solution. Rehabilitation will require time, creativity, resources, and cooperation. But the difficulty of preservation should not become the reason we abandon it. The decision to demolish Saint Frances Assisi Church is permanent. Once the building is gone, no future generation will have the opportunity to reconsider its value, restore it, or find a new purpose for it.

That is why I respectfully urge the Historical Commission to protect Saint Frances Assisi Church and to work with DePaul Catholic School, the surrounding community, preservationists, and other stakeholders to explore alternatives to demolition.

We have an opportunity to show our children that progress and preservation can exist together. We can teach them that the places that shaped our communities are worth fighting for. We can demonstrate that when something is difficult to save, the answer is not always to tear it down.

Saint Frances Assisi Church has already given more than a century to Germantown. Its story should not end simply because its future is difficult.

Please give this church — and the community that remembers it — the opportunity to have a future.

Thank you for your consideration.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

CITY COUNCIL

Mike Driscoll
Councilmember
6th District
Room 313 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-686-3444 or 3445

October 1, 2026

Mr. John Farnham, Executive Director
Philadelphia Historic Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102

RE: Former St. Francis Assisi Church, 48-60 W. Logan St.

Dear Mr. Farnham:

I am writing as the 6th Councilmanic District representative in support of the Independence Mission Schools and DePaul Catholic School and their proposed re-development of the former St. Francis of Assisi Church site at the above-referenced location.

District Councilwoman Bass indicated in her letter to you of September 1, 2026 as follows:

“I understand that Independence Mission Schools have spent considerable time and resources evaluating potential options for the former church property, including rehabilitation and adaptive reuse. After exploring these alternatives and considering the significant costs associated with restoring and maintaining the building, the school has determined that moving forward with demolition and transforming the property into recreational open space would better serve its students and the surrounding community.

DePaul Catholic School has been an important educational institution and community presence in the Logan neighborhood. The proposed creation of a playground and recreational field would provide much-needed outdoor space for students while allowing the property to continue serving a positive community purpose.”

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

CITY COUNCIL

In short, I echo Councilwoman Bass and her support of the recreational use plan and respectfully request your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Driscoll

Mike Driscoll

Outlook

Save St Francis of Assisi Church!

From scaronson <scaronson@protonmail.com>
Date Thu 10/15/2026 11:31 AM
To preservation <preservation@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 Philadelphia Historical Commission,
Allowing the demolition of the St. Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown would be a terrible loss to the community and to Philadelphia's history. The goal of the owners at Independence Mission Schools is inappropriate for this site, adding playgrounds at the expense of this historic structure, over 100 years old, is not a good idea.
Preservation studies have shown the building can be repurposed for other important uses, for the IMS school or for others. This work was supported by a grant from the Commonwealth that would be wasted if demolition is allowed.
Please urge the Commission to follow whatever steps are necessary to prevent another loss to our neighborhoods.
Thank you,
Sherman Aronson AIA LEED AP

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

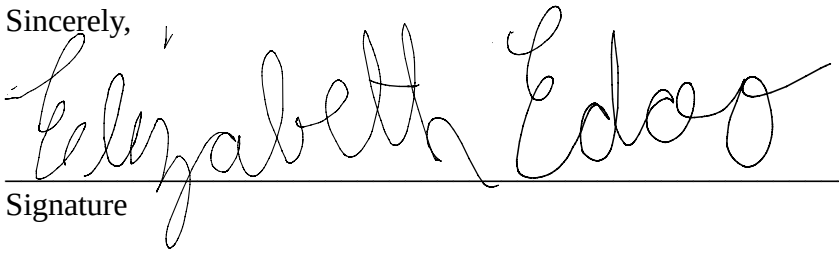
I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,



Signature

Elizabeth Edoo ledoo911@aol.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

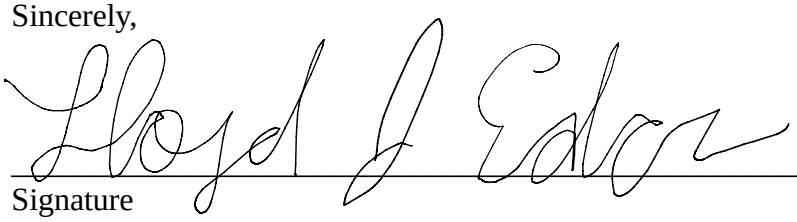
I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,



Signature

Lloyd Edoo ljedoo@aol.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Outlook

Fw: St. Francis of Assisi Church Designation

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/2/2026 7:17 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Michael Simone <msimone825@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 31 October 2026 11:52:45
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St. Francis of Assisi Church Designation

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Dear Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission,

I am writing to you today as a concerned resident of Germantown and to strongly support for the benefit of future generations; the nomination, designation and protection of Saint Francis of Assisi Church located at Logan and Greene Streets.

For over a hundred years, this church has stood as a cornerstone of our community's identity, architectural heritage, and shared history. Designating and protecting this community landmark would mean protecting an irreplaceable piece of Philadelphia's cultural fabric.
I urge the Philadelphia Historical Commission and our local leadership to nominate and designate the building for historical designation based on the following vital contributions:

Preservation Criteria…. Significance to the Community
Architectural Value……Features a distinct architectural design that defines our neighborhood's streetscape.
Cultural & Historical Anchor…. Served generations of Philadelphians, acting as a sanctuary, community hub, and a monument to the neighborhood's immigrant and diverse history.
Environmental Sustainability…. Preserving and retrofitting this existing structure prevents massive neighborhood disruption and avoids sending tons of granite and wood and masonry directly into landfills.

We have seen across Philadelphia that historic churches can be successfully adapted for the modern era—repurposed as community centers, affordable housing partnerships, or vibrant arts spaces—without erasing the physical history that makes our city unique.
Please protect this vital landmark before it is lost forever. I welcome the opportunity to discuss community-led preservation initiatives and alternative options with your office.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and dedication to preserving Philadelphia's irreplaceable history.

Sincerely,
Michael Simone

Outlook

Fw: St. Francis of Assisi

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/2/2026 7:17 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Howlin' Johnny <howlinjohnnywbyc@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 31 October 2026 20:17:56
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St. Francis of Assisi

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 am writing to you today as a concerned former resident of Germantown and parishioner of St. Francis to strongly support for the benefit of future generations; the nomination, designation and protection of Saint Francis of Assisi Church located at Logan and Greene Streets.

For over a hundred years, this church has stood as a cornerstone of the community's identity, architectural heritage, and shared history. Designating and protecting this community landmark would mean protecting an irreplaceable piece of Philadelphia's cultural fabric.

I urge the Philadelphia Historical Commission and the local leadership to nominate and designate the building for historical designation based on the following vital contributions:

Preservation Criteria…. Significance to the Community

Architectural Value……Features a distinct architectural design that defines the neighborhood's streetscape.

Cultural & Historical Anchor…. Served generations of Philadelphians, acting as a sanctuary, community hub, and a monument to the neighborhood's immigrant and diverse history.

Environmental Sustainability…. Preserving and retrofitting this existing structure prevents massive neighborhood disruption and avoids sending tons of granite and wood and masonry directly into

landfills.

We have seen across Philadelphia that historic churches can be successfully adapted for the modern era—repurposed as community centers, affordable housing partnerships, or vibrant arts spaces—without erasing the physical history that makes the city unique.

Please protect this vital landmark before it is lost forever. I welcome the opportunity to discuss community-led preservation initiatives and alternative options with your office.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and dedication to preserving Philadelphia's irreplaceable history.

Sincerely,

John W. Moss III

Mr. John Fortune
1246 Roosevelt Drive Apt B
Havertown, PA 19083
Ph: 215-900-9105

November 2, 2026

Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

To Whom it may Concern,

I like to mention the St. Francis of Assis; Church building located at 4821 Greene Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144 is set for a future demolition. That is a historical building please do not let for a demolish.

Thank You,
Mr. John Fortune

4TH DISTRICT
STATE SENATOR
ART HAYWOOD

SENATE BOX 203004
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3004
717-787-1427
FAX: 717-772-0572

7106 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19119
215-242-8171
FAX: 215-242-6118

1168 EASTON ROAD
ABINGTON, PA 19001
215-517-1434
FAX: 215-517-1439

E-MAIL: SenatorHaywood@pasenate.com
FACEBOOK: @SenatorArtHaywood
INSTAGRAM: @SenatorArtHaywood
YOUTUBE: @SenatorHaywood
X: @SenatorHaywood
BLUESKY: @SenatorHaywood.com
WEBSITE: SenatorHaywood.com

Senate of Pennsylvania

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JUDICIARY

LEGISLATIVE FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE

18 September 2026

Mr. John Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historic Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

RE: Former St. Francis Assisi Church, 48-60 W Logan Street

Dear Mr. Farnham,

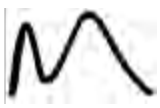
I am writing to respectfully request you decline the application to designate the former St. Francis of Assisi Church at Logan and Greene Streets as historic.

The owner, Independence Mission Schools, operates the adjacent De Paul Catholic School and acquired the Church with the intent to convert it into assembly space. The Church has been closed for about 15 years, had a fire, and has been cited by the city. The condition of the building is such that it is not feasible for IMS, despite their best efforts, to raise enough money to preserve it. No other community congregation has expressed interest in utilizing the facility and taking on the challenge of maintaining it.

At this time, the School seeks to introduce some green space into the lives of the children by creating a play field along with converting a small adjacent parking lot also owned by the School into a playground area. The result will be a first-rate educational institution serving the community. Your declination of this application will enable this well-conceived plan to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Art Haywood (D-4)
Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

1601 Cherry Street · Suite 1100 · Philadelphia, PA 19102-1310
Telephone (215) 587-4507 · Direct (215) 587-4549 · omtc@archphila.org

OFFICE of the MODERATOR OF THE CURIA

November 10, 2026

Jonathan Farnham, Ph.D., Executive Director
Philadelphia Historic Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

RE: Former St. Francis Assisi Church, 48-60 W. Logan Street

Dear Dr. Farnham,

I am writing to express the support of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for Independence Mission Schools (IMS) and DePaul Catholic School proposal to improve the school's campus, located at 48-60 West Logan Street in the City of Philadelphia. I am aware that this plan calls for the demolition of the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church building.

We believe the proposed improvements will provide lasting benefits for current and future Catholic school students and immeasurable benefits to the community-at-large.

The former Saint Francis of Assisi Parish was merged with nearby parishes in 2012. Subsequently, that church building was relegated to profane but not sordid use in accordance with the Code of Canon Law, meaning it formally ceased to function as a church. This building has not been utilized for any purpose in several years.

The Archdiocese sold the former Saint Francis of Assisi Parish campus property to IMS in 2016. That parcel included the school building, schoolyard and former church building. From the Archdiocesan perspective, that transaction was beneficial as IMS would continue the Catholic mission to educate children in Philadelphia neighborhoods. St. Francis Assisi Church was included in the transaction since the building was located on the same property, even though it suffered from fire damage in 2013. We understand and appreciate that IMS made efforts to identify ways to reuse the former church building prior to considering demolition. It is also our understanding and experience that the financial burden of adaptive reuse projects and maintaining these types of structures can be cost prohibitive and jeopardize the financial stability of a non-profit entity.

The proposed campus improvement plans proposed would be a great benefit to the current and future students and would continue the legacy of the parish which once existed on the property. For these reasons, we support the proposed plans for the property.

Sincerely yours,

Reverend Eric Banecker
Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia

3RD DISTRICT
STATE SENATOR
SHARIF STREET

SENATE BOX 203003
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3003
717-787-6735
FAX: 717-772-0581

1621 W. JEFFERSON STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19121
215-227-6161
FAX: 215-560-1316

4458 A GERMANTOWN AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19140
215-457-5200
FAX: 215-457-5206

Senate of Pennsylvania

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AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
URBAN AFFAIRS & HOUSING

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON SENTENCING

E-MAIL: Sharif.Street@pasenate.com
FACEBOOK: @SenSharifStreet
X: @SenSharifStreet
INSTAGRAM: @SenSharifStreet
WEBSITE: SenatorSharifStreet.com

September 28, 2026

Mr. John Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historic Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

RE: Former St. Francis Assisi Church, 48-60 W Logan Street

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I am writing to respectfully request you decline the application to designate the former St. Francis of Assisi Church at Logan and Greene Streets as historic.

The owner, Independence Mission Schools, operates the adjacent De Paul Catholic School and acquired the Church with the intent to convert it into assembly space. The Church has been closed for about 15 years, had a fire, and has been cited by the city. The condition of the building is such that it is not feasible for IMS, despite their best efforts, to raise enough money to preserve it. No other community congregation has expressed interest in utilizing the facility and taking on the challenge of maintaining it.

At this time, the school seeks to introduce some green space into the lives of the children by creating a play field along with converting a small adjacent parking lot also owned by the School into a playground area. The result will be a first-rate educational institution serving the community. Your declination of this application will enable this well-conceived plan to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Sharif Street
Senator
3rd District PA

Outlook

Fw: Support for designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, 48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Fri 11/13/2026 7:13 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Mason Carter <mcartern88@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 12 November 2026 23:01:37
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Support for designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, 48–60 West Logan Street, 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 and the Committee on Historic Designation:

I live in Germantown, and I am writing in strong support of the nomination of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. The church is a landmark of Lower Germantown and a fixture of our neighborhood, and it satisfies Criteria for Designation D, E, and J.

Criterion D. Dedicated in 1928, St. Francis is a monumental Romanesque Revival church of rusticated North Carolina granite, trimmed in Vermont marble and terra cotta. Its rose window, triple-arched portal, and 118-foot tower are classic features of the style.

Criterion E. The church is the work of F. Ferdinand Durang, son of the noted ecclesiastical architect Edwin Forrest Durang. This Commission has already found, in designating his St. Donato's Church, that Ferdinand Durang's church work significantly influenced Philadelphia's development.

Criterion J. Founded in 1899, the parish was a central institution of Irish Catholic Germantown, growing to nearly 3,000 families and about 1,200 schoolchildren. Its congregation carried the cost of this church through the Depression and the war years, retiring the debt in 1945.

I believe that the owner's November 12 filings do not change the fact that this building is worthy of designation. The legal memo says Durang was never recognized for anything, but the Commission found, in 2021 and again in 2023, that his church work significantly influenced Philadelphia's development. It calls the congregation short-lived, but the parish lasted more than 110 years and paid off this church in 1945. The costs and condition issues both filings stress are not designation criteria; they belong in a hardship review. And the memo says the school itself planned to adapt the church for gym and assembly use, which shows the building can be reused.

The church has stood at the corner of Greene and Logan for nearly a century, and it is one of the most recognizable buildings in Lower Germantown. I support DePaul Catholic School, and I believe this church can serve the school and the neighborhood for many more years. Nearby churches show how. The former St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Wayne Avenue sat empty for years before the Waldorf School of Philadelphia moved in in 2015. In Mount Airy, the former Mount Airy Presbyterian Church property now holds 19 condominiums, and its sanctuary is planned as a theater and will become a new location for the Lantern Theater. With its open 60-foot nave, St. Francis is just as adaptable. I respectfully ask the Committee to recommend, and the Commission to approve, designation under Criteria D, E, and J.

Sincerely,

Mason Carter

Outlook

Fw: DePaul Catholic School

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Fri 11/13/2026 7:14 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Sean Morris <suburbanbeat@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, 12 November 2026 20:27:21
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: DePaul Catholic School

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. My name is Sean Morris and I am a Germantown resident writing to urge the PHC to nominate the DePaul Catholic School. These historic reasons are the reason people want to live here. Germantown can truly not afford to lose any more. Thank you.

Best,
Sean

Outlook

Fw: St Francis of Assisi Nomination

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Fri 11/13/2026 12:12 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Gregory Paulmier <gregbpaulmier@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 12:11 PM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St Francis of Assisi 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.

November 13, 2026

Greg Paulmier
221 West Winona Street
Philadelphia, Pa.19144

Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St 13th floor
Phila., PA 19102

Attn: Dr Farnham/Preservation

Subject: Support for the Historic Designation of **St Francis of Assisi** at 48-60 W Logan St and Greene St. Philadelphia, PA 19144

Dear Philadelphia Historical Committee/Commission,

Please accept this letter as formal documentation of my full support for the nomination of **St Francis of Assisi** at 48-60 W Logan St and Greene St Philadelphia, PA 19144.

The building's architectural merits and historical value are clearly demonstrated in the nomination materials. It has long and important associations to our neighborhood, and deserves the formal recognition and legal protections that only listing on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places provides. I strongly urge you and the commission to support its designation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Paulmier

DARISHA K. PARKER, MEMBER
198TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

116A EAST WING
P.O. BOX 202198
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2198
(717) 787-7727

1335 WEST TABOR ROAD, SUITE 109
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19141
(215) 849-6426
TOLL-FREE: (833) 787-5117
FAX: (215) 849-5476

REPPARKER@PAHOUSE.NET

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS
COMMERCE
INSURANCE
RULES

CAUCUSES

PHILADELPHIA HOUSE DELEGATION
PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS, *VICE CHAIR*
PA SAFE CAUCUS
WOMEN'S HEALTH CAUCUS

Mr. John Farnham
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historic Commission
1515 Arch Street, l3th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

RE: Former St. Francis Assisi Churcho 48-60 W Logan Street

Dear Mr. Farnham,

I am writing to respectfully request you decline the application to designate the former St. Francis of Assisi Church at Logan and Greene Streets as historic.

The owner, Independence Mission Schools, operates the adjacent De Paul Catholic School and acquired the Church with the intent to convert it into assembly space. The Church has been closed for about 15 years, had a fire, and has been cited by the city. The condition of the building is such that it is not feasible for IMS, despite their best efforts, to raise enough money to preserve it. No other community congregation has expressed interest in utilizing the facility and taking on the challenge of maintaining it.

At this time, the school seeks to introduce some green space into the lives of the children by creating a play field along with converting a small adjacent parking lot also owned by the school into a playground area. The result will be a first-rate educational institution serving the community. Your declination of this application will enable this well-conceived plan to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me with any questions

Sincerely,

Darisha K. Parker

DARISHA K. PARKER
State Representative
198th District

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Outlook

Fw: Urgent Request to Protect St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lower Germantown

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Fri 11/13/2026 3:21 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: V Ross <vceross@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 3:15 PM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Urgent Request to Protect St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lower 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 am writing to urge the Commission to take immediate steps to protect the former St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church in Lower Germantown from demolition and to consider the building for historic designation.

This monumental granite church is an important part of our neighborhood's architectural and cultural heritage. Its proposed demolition to create a playing field for DePaul Catholic School would represent an enormous and irreversible loss to the community.

While I recognize the importance of recreational space for students, surely there are alternatives to destroying a building of such architectural significance. At the very least, serious consideration should be given to preserving and adaptively reusing the church rather than simply demolishing it.

Equally troubling is the apparent lack of meaningful community involvement in a decision with such permanent consequences for the neighborhood. Lower Germantown residents deserve a voice in determining what is preserved and what is lost.

I strongly urge the Historical Commission to evaluate this building for historic designation and to take whatever steps are within its authority to help prevent its demolition while preservation alternatives are explored.

Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate knowing what steps the Commission can take and how concerned residents can support the preservation process.

Sincerely,
Valerie Ross
Philadelphia, PA

Outlook

Fw: St. Francis of Assisi church

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 7:31 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Carly Brand <carlybrand5@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 14 November 2026 12:34:43
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St. Francis of Assisi church

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

Hi, I'm reaching out to say that I would
love to see the St. Francis of Assisi church be remodeled and turned into a center for the arts instead of torn down for a sports field. Thank you!
Carly Brand
Sent from my iPhone

Judith Mackarey

533 West Hortter Street

Philadelphia, PA 19119

November 15, 2026

Preservation@phila.gov

Re: St. Francis of Assisi in Germantown

I am writing to request that the St. Francis of Assisi church be preserved, not demolished by the Independent Mission School. This building, like many in Philadelphia should be found to be historic.

One of the many values in the City of Philadelphia is the fact that its many buildings are in fact historic and honored, as was seen in the 250 year celebration. We do not want to take action that will detract from that. Northwest Philadelphia (Germantown, Mount Airy and Chestnut Hill) is a great example of that!

I would request that Councilmembers Bass and Driscoll and State Senators Stret and Haywood support the preservation of this church. Politics should not be given priority over the best interests of their constituents.

Judith Mackarey

Outlook

Fw: Please, Do Not Tear Down Philadelphia's Magnificent Architectural Legacy- Save Germantown's St. Francis of Assisi.

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 9:17 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Kelly McShain <kmcshain@elfantwissahickon.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 9:16 AM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Please, Do Not Tear Down Philadelphia's Magnificent Architectural Legacy- Save Germantown's St. Francis of Assisi.

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 The Historic Commission of Philadelphia,

I am writing today as a multi-generational Philadelphian; as a Restoration Investor in our Northwest Corridor architecture; as a professional Realtor; and as the Television Host of the Nationally broadcast, Emmy-nominated and Telly Award-winning 'The American Dream- For the Love of Philadelphia.'

Please, Do Not Tear Down Philadelphia's Magnificent Architectural Legacy- Save Germantown's St. Francis of Assisi.

I am privileged to stand on the frontlines of our World Heritage City every day helping to showcase Philly's preciously built architectural jewels- that triumphantly crown each of our many Neighborhoods. Iconic structures, such as 'St. Francis of Assisi in Germantown-' represent the bedrocks of our individual Communities, and serve as the nourishing focal points of our travels as we strive for Hope and inspiration throughout our weary days. Many will speak of Sacred and personal 'Rights of Passage' experiences which this specific Catholic Church has played in their family's foundational growth here in our City...The Church served them, and they now serve the City. As a devout Irish Catholic and the oldest of 9 children- it deeply resonates that my own McShain family attended these Masses, Yes. I, however, wish to acknowledge the importance of this stunning structure without its Sanctification- as a worthy, built Palace which STILL serves the needs of Religious and Secular alike...near neighbors and travelling passersby alike.

Does our past built legacies mean nothing? Or, do we build upon these Artist and Artisan constructed foundations- using the most precious building materials- with the understanding that we care. That we believe that Philadelphia neighborhoods deserve Beauty. We believe in our children and that they deserve to know they are connected to the Best of our Past- that transience and destruction aren't the values we wish to impart, but permanence- inspiring a future of Giving and Critical Thinking.

Reinvesting and seeking Creative Re- Uses serve our Greater Communities so much better than the dumpster and the landfill.

I am including my latest National Television Segment highlighting some of our great jewels of Philadelphia- this one in particular also hosts Paul Steinke, Executive Director of The Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia- discussing what important buildings mean to us on a visceral level. "Philly's Knock-out Punch: Art & Architecture on the Parkway," may be showcasing a highly visible Corridor for our City and well-known Architectural icons- but can so easily be directly translated to the modest corner of Greene St. & W. Logan. St. Francis of Assisi maintains a societally foundational offering to Germantown to our beloved City at large- please vote to designate this structure as the inspiring Historic Gift that it is...

I truly hope my added perspective helps. SO much more to say- but I wish to amplify and support all efforts to keep this Wonderful Building from being torn down.

Respectfully Shared,

Kelly McShain Tyree
Philadelphia Resident, 19126

https://youtu.be/DT3ZzzfT3_8

--
Kelly McShain Tyree
REALTOR, CNE, BA, MFA
Elfant Wissahickon Realtors
8039 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118
215.247.3600 # 279
646.526.6909 (preferred cell)
5 Star Client Testimonials- Zillow



National Television Host for "The American Dream- Philadelphia"
YouTube Channel: @FortheLoveofPhiladelphia

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Hassida Emanuel

Signature

26 W. Logan St 19144

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 5 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Lourdes Torres

Signature

Lourdes Torres 311 Holly Dr. Levittown, PA 19055 Prlatina369@aol.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 5, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

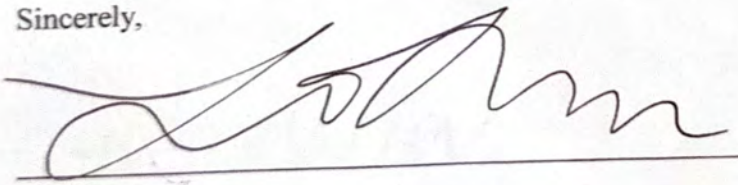
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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,



Signature

L u Flowers read something rad @ gmail.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 6 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

ALISON MINER 4634 CHESTER AVE 19143 ALISON.MINER@GMAIL.COM

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Kalob Joseph 6132 Erdrick ST dagoodfather@gmail.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 29 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Mahmoud Mohamm 1630 Welsh Road
Print Name Address Phone Email Phila PA 19151 215-877-4992

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 29, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Harriet L Faas

Signature

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 29, 2026

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Eileen M Bonner

Signature

Eileen M Bonner 3833 Patricia Dr 19154
215 370 5194 gutfp57@gmail.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 29 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

LINDA Lee M Gibbs 700 Cloverhurst Ave Phila PA 19128
Print Name Address Phone Email LLFBLL@MAC.COM

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 29 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Maria DiBlasi

Signature

MARIA DiBLASI 33 ANNE DR HAMMONTON NJ 08037
RET825@VERIZON.NET

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 29 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Joines-Eyre

Signature

JACQUELINE JOINES-EYRE 19202 OR/AIR LAW LIPLG

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 21, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

BRUCE GREEN 20E PLEASANT ST PHILA PA 19119-2142 greenbruce19144@gmail.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 21, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas Robinson

Signature

THOMAS ROBINSON

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 21, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 20, 2026

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Sincerely,

E. Turner
Signature

E. Turner
Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date November 20 , 2026

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Margaret A Bromell
Signature

Margaret A Bromell 3130 N. 33rd St. 215 228-711
Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 22, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Sincerely,

Signature

MasonFells 2672653356 MasonFells2609mail.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 22, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 21, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Sincerely,

Signature

Fidel Rodriguez

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

John Bazemore 5916 Alma St Bazemore_John@yahoo.com
Print Name Address Phone Email 267-264467
2647315

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

William M Hill

Signature

William M Hill 23 W. Enfield Rd
Feasterville, PA 19053

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 23 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Hoyd Edoo 1717 West Cayuga St / ljedoo@aol.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 23 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Bobby Edoo 1719 W Cayuga St Phila PA 19140 Bedoo911@aol.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Carole Reilly

Signature

Carole Reilly Lieutenant 113 @ Comcast.net

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

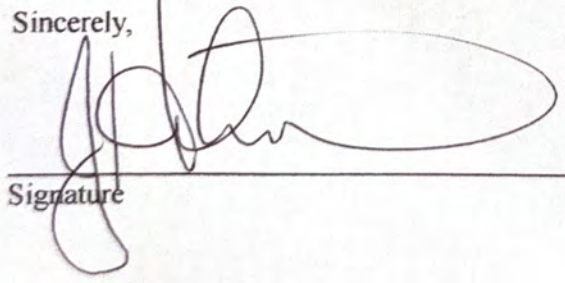
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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,



Signature

Jeffrey Hutchson 4405 Solly Ave 19136

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Carmen L Ortiz
Signature

133 W. Lippincott St
Print Name Address Phone Email Phila PA 19133
Coltr1862@gmail.com

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

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The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Carmen Sanchez

Signature

Carmen Sanchez 1537 E. Cheltenham Ave Phila PA 19124 Csanchez866@gmail.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Signature

EUGENE HEFFRON 2159300023 GENEH369@VERIZON.NET

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27 , 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Virginia Killman
Signature

Virginia Killman VirginiaKillman78@gmail.com
Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Charles Esposito

Signature

Charles Esposito 1105 Bloomdale Rd 215 313 4630

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

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The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

S. Itzko

Signature

Steve Itzko 6446 Akron St PhAtKop@AOL.com

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 29, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Pamela O Canada

Signature

Pamela O. Canada 4614 Fernhill Rd Phila, PA 19144

Print Name Address Phone Email

Dr. Jonathan E. Farnham email: preservation@phila.gov
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch St., 13th Flr.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Date October 27th, 2026

Re: Support 48-60 W Logan St Phila PA 19144 former St Francis of Assisi Germantown

Dear Dr. Farnham Committe and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for adding the property at 48-60 W. Logan Street (the former Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Germantown) to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

This monumental structure is a significant landmark and has been a familiar visual fixture in lower Germantown for over a century. Throughout its history, it served not only as a religious institution but as a vital social anchor for the local community.

The building fully meets the criteria for designation for the detailed reasons outlined in the nomination. I urge the Committee and the Philadelphia Historical Commission to approve this nomination, ensuring that this remarkable asset receives the formal recognition and protection it deserves for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important community matter.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Winslow
Signature

EVELYN WINSLOW, 7306 LONGSPUR PL. 19153 2711
Print Name Address Phone Email

Outlook

Fw: St. Francis of Assisi

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 11:30 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Emily Busch <birdiebuschmusic@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 11:29 AM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St. Francis of Assisi

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 the Historic Commision of Philadelphia,

I am writing in regards to the projected demolition of St. Francis of Assisi at the corner of Greene St. and Logan St. in Germantown, PHL.

I am a near neighbor who lives on Greene St. and a longstanding believer in restoration over demolition as a path forward for our community and city at large. I have been very active in support of the preservation of Germantown's historic built environment and this is no exception. Germantown is already considered a National Historic Landmark so why do we have to continue to fight to prevent the demolition of buildings within this area as they all contribute to a whole history that makes this city and this neighborhood incredibly unique?

The building should be invested in and restored not demolished, which is the better lasting vision. The amount of craft and quality of materials alone is breathtaking but in addition the histories and intentions that came before us are worth preserving. These aren't buildings we knock down.

I will continue to believe that there is a vision for this building that is more imagined that leveling it, and that the current owners and investors can invest in a better future use for this building, one that is incredibly creative, forward thinking, and honoring of the past.

Sincerely,
Emily Busch

Outlook

Fw: 48-60 W Logan St for addition to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places

---

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 11:48 AM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Laurence Harrington <laurenceharrington@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 11:39 AM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: 48-60 W Logan St for addition to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places

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 The Historic Commission of Philadelphia,

I am a Philadelphia based attorney. I have lived in NW Philadelphia since 2015 and have lived 2.5 block from Germantown's St. Francis of Assissi for the past two years. It is an absolutely gorgeous building that adds so much beauty and grace to the neighborhood. Buildings like this are simply not made any more and once gone the character of the neighborhood is forever changed. It is an immense disservice to all the people who live here to allow something this beautiful to be destroyed.

Therefore consider this email as one more voice in a chorus urging you to consider adding 28-60 W Logan St. to the Register of Historic Places.

Regards,

--
Laurence A. Harrington, Esq.
The Harrington Firm
www.theharringtonfirm.com
(484) 469-0468

Outlook

Fw: St Francis of Assisi church - Germantown, corner of Green and Logan Streets

---

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 12:05 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Kass Gallagher <kassg120@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 12:05 PM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>; Kass Gallagher <kassg120@comcast.net>
Subject: St Francis of Assisi church - Germantown, corner of Green and Logan Streets

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 write to request that St Francis of Assisi not be torn down as I consider the church one of Philadelphia's magnificent architectural buildings.

Please, save Germantown's St. Francis of Assisi.

Respectfully,
Kathleen M. Gallagher
formerly from Ashmead Pl North in Germantown.

215-527-2332

Outlook

Fw: Support for the nomination of St. Francis

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 12:20 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Ken Weinstein <ken@phillyofficeretail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 12:18 PM
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Support for the nomination of St. Francis

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 16, 2026
Philadelphia Historical Commission
Attention: Dr. Jon Farnham, Executive Director
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
preservation@phila.gov

Re: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church
48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Dear Dr. Farnham and Members of the Committee on Historic Designation,

I strongly support the nomination of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. I urge the Committee on Historic Designation to recommend approval and the Historical Commission to designate the church and rectory.

In the late 1980s, I took on my second rehab project ever, at 4818 Greene Street, directly across the street from St. Francis. I remember what a vibrant gathering place the church was for the neighborhood. Today my office is just around the corner, and I drive past St. Francis twice a day, on my way to work and on my way home.

St. Francis began on this corner in 1910 with a basement chapel and a rectory. Many of its parishioners were Irish immigrants and their children. Between 1924 and 1928, those families built the Romanesque Revival upper church designed by F. Ferdinand Durang. Its 118-foot bell tower still marks the corner of Greene and West Logan Streets.

I have restored and reused seven churches in Northwest Philadelphia, with two more church projects in the works. At the former St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Germantown, my company, Philly Office Retail, worked with the Waldorf School of Philadelphia to turn the sanctuary into the school's Great Hall. I believe St. Francis can serve our community again, too.

About ten years ago, I came close to buying St. Francis myself. DePaul Catholic School asked me to step aside so it could buy the church, restore it, and use it to expand its educational program. On that understanding, I stepped aside. A decade later, the church still awaits restoration, and the school now seeks to demolish it. I regret my decision.

DePaul's students deserve a place to play. I believe there is enough green space nearby for a ball field. Just one block away, Loudoun Mansion stands in a city park of more than seven acres. I urge DePaul to explore with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation whether part of those grounds could serve its students.
I gave DePaul the chance to save St. Francis. Now I ask DePaul and Independence Mission Schools to give someone else that same chance by offering the church for sale to a buyer committed to restoring and reusing it. St. Francis is part of the fabric of our community. Once it is gone, it is gone forever.
Please approve this nomination.
Sincerely,

Ken Weinstein
--

Strengthening Community Through Economic Development

Check out available properties at PhillyOfficeRetail.com
Get RE Development Training, Mentoring and Networking at JumpstartGermantown.com
Borrow $$ for real estate projects by going to JumpstartPhilly.com
Keep wealth local by starting your own Jumpstart Program at GoJumpstart.org
Love the game of ping-pong/table tennis at TrolleyCarTTC.com

Outlook

Fw: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

---

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 1:59 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Jenn Ladd <jrladd89@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 16 November 2026 13:48:40
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

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

Re: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church
48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, PA 19144
Dear Dr. Farnham and Members of the Committee on Historic Designation,

I strongly support the nomination of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. I urge the Committee on Historic Designation to recommend approval and the Historical Commission to designate the church and rectory.

Please recognize and preserve Philadelphia history, which this 100+ year-old church so obviously is.

Thank you,
Jenn Ladd
236 W. Winona St., 19144
--
Jenn Ladd
443.928.1226

Outlook

Fw: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church 48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, PA 19144

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 2:40 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Dara Silverman <dara.silverman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 16 November 2026 14:29:54
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Re: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church 48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, PA 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 Dr. Farnham and Members of the Committee,

I live just a few blocks from St. Francis of Assisi, and I strongly support its nomination to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

I'm an artist, and one of the things I love most about living in Germantown is the beauty and character of its historic architecture. Our neighborhood has so many remarkable buildings that tell the story of the people who lived here and the communities they built. St. Francis is one of them.

I pass the church regularly, and it's hard to imagine this corner without it. Its beautiful Romanesque architecture, imposing bell tower, and place in the history of the neighborhood make it worth saving. But this isn't just about preserving an old building. It's about preserving the character of a neighborhood and the possibility that these buildings can continue to serve our community in new ways.

Philadelphia has lost too many historic buildings to demolition. Once they're gone, they're gone. I believe St. Francis deserves the chance to have a second life, rather than be torn down before that possibility has been fully explored.

Please support the nomination and help protect this important piece of Germantown's history.

Thank you,

Dara Silverman

Dara Silverman **(She/Her)**



Agile Rascal Bike Theatre



Creative Structures

Structural Guidance for Artists, Writers and Entrepreneurs

Outlook

Fw: St Francis of Assisi

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 2:40 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: coopergem56 <coopergem56@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, 16 November 2026 14:30:27
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St Francis of Assisi

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

This letter is to beg you to save St Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church on 48-60 West Logan St, Germantown, Philadelphia.

Please place it in the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

My parents were married in this church. All the other RC churches we attended have been torn down. All of our catholic heritage has been destroyed. One church we attended was built in the mid 1800's. All the history is lost. This was a huge part of the history of Philadelphia.

Please do something. We appreciate your efforts.

Thank you,

Don House

Sent from my Galaxy

Outlook

Fw: St. Francis Assisi 48-60 W. Logan 19144

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 2:29 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Gerry Givnish <gerrygivnish@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, 16 November 2026 14:22:07
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: St. Francis Assisi 48-60 W. Logan 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.

Historical Commission:
St. Francis is important to my family and should not be demolished. Surely there is a good project that could repurpose the church and rectory. The DePaul School's plan for use as outdoor recreation for students is incomplete. The grounds will be available only during the school day would exclude neighborhood children. I live at 4825 Germantown Ave.
Gerry Givnish

Outlook

Fw: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church 48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, PA 19144

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 2:47 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Mary South <msouth12@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 16 November 2026 14:45:46
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Re: Historic designation of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church 48–60 West Logan Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, PA 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.

November 16, 2026

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

Dear Dr. Farnham and Members of the Committee on Historic Designation,

I strongly support the nomination of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. I urge the Committee on Historic Designation to recommend approval and the Historical Commission to designate the church and rectory.

There are nearby places that could be used as ball fields but the type of history St. Francis represents isn't replaceable. I moved to Philadelphia from Brooklyn 15 years ago and the gorgeous architecture reflecting this city's history is my favorite aspect of this beautiful city. It seems to be increasingly discarded for cheap and ugly quick-builds, which is shameful. We need to be responsible stewards of all of our resources, and ripping down something lovely and useful when there are other options is wasteful and irresponsible, as well as very misguided.

Once our architectural history is gone, it is gone forever. Please approve this nomination.

Best,
Mary South
241 W. Pastorius Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Outlook

Fw: Public Comment regarding 48-60 W Logan Street

From preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Date Mon 11/16/2026 3:13 PM
To Joshua Schroeder <Joshua.Schroeder@phila.gov>

From: Arielle Harris <harris.ari@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 16 November 2026 15:06:11
To: preservation <preservation@Phila.gov>
Subject: Public Comment regarding 48-60 W Logan Street

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 the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

I am writing to lend my voice in support of Germantown residents who are mobilizing to prevent Independence Mission Schools from demolishing the historic church building at 48–60 West Logan Street, formerly home to St. Francis of Assisi parish and later the DePaul School. I urge the Commission to designate the property and add it to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

Germantown has a long and troubling history of institutional expansion at the expense of its historic built environment. Large institutions and developers repeatedly treat historic properties as obstacles to growth rather than assets worth preserving and incorporating into their portfolios. In an article for *Hidden City Philadelphia* nearly a decade ago, I documented the dozen or so buildings La Salle University had demolished for campus expansion since the 1960s. In response to my nomination of the Mary and Frances Wister studio to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, La Salle demolished the undesignated historic residential property next door, which had been used as an on-campus daycare. The lot remains vacant to this day. And lest we forget, in 2006 Philadelphia University demolished Red Gate, a remarkable work by architect George T. Pearson (an especially ironic loss given the school's eventual merger with Thomas Jefferson University, which now offers a degree in historic preservation). I could go on with even more examples, but I will keep my comments localized to what's been going on in Germantown. These are particularly frustrating examples of how historic buildings can be lost in the name of institutional growth without any meaningful long-term plan or benefit to the surrounding community.

Demolishing a usable building for playing fields is asinine in 2026. We should be thinking more seriously about sustainability, embodied carbon, construction waste, and the environmental costs of demolishing buildings. There are opportunities in this case to rethink campus planning, explore alternative configurations, and find solutions that meet educational needs without sacrificing the neighborhood's architectural heritage. What does it teach children when a historic building in their community is demolished because an institution finds a different use for the land more convenient for

them? We should be teaching the next generation that history matters and that responsible growth requires imagination and stewardship rather than simply clearing what is already there.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Arielle Harris (19147)