



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

Room 576, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
Tel: 215.686.7660
Fax: 215.686.7674

Sam Sherman, Jr.
Chair

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director

29 May 2008

Boyd Development LP
C/O Clear Channel Entertainment
220 W. 42nd Street
New York, NY 10036

Re: 1910 Chestnut Street, Boyd Theater

Dear Boyd Development:

As the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Historical Commission, I should like to inform you that the Commission will consider at two public meetings the nomination for historic designation of the property at 1910 Chestnut Street, also known as the Boyd Theater, pursuant to the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section 14-2007 of the Philadelphia Code. The Commission's Committee on Historic Designation will review the nomination at its meeting on Wednesday, 16 July 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission's offices, Room 578, City Hall. The Historical Commission will consider the nomination at its regular monthly meeting on Friday, 8 August 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 18-029, 1515 Arch Street, also known as One Parkway. Both meetings are open to the public and members of the public are invited to speak on every agenda item. You are welcome but not required to attend these meetings.

Under the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section 14-2007 of the Philadelphia Code, the Historical Commission bears the responsibility for the designation of buildings, structures, sites, objects and districts important to the historical, cultural, architectural, archeological and educational traditions and values of the City. To achieve this, the Historical Commission evaluates the historical, architectural and other attributes of properties throughout the City for possible listing on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. Over 10,500 entries illustrative of the City's history from the earliest years to the recent past already appear on the Philadelphia Register.

Designation brings with it benefits to the owner of an historic property. There is, of course, the satisfaction derived from the ownership of a recognized cultural resource and from the trusteeship for the past and future that accompanies ownership. The owner of a designated property may call upon the Commission's staff for historical and technical services and assistance at no charge. In addition, the protection against inaccurate or unsympathetic alterations and against unnecessary demolitions offers some assurance that the character of a resource will be preserved or improved. In Philadelphia and other cities, designation has helped to enhance resale values and to foster community pride. Finally, a well-maintained or accurately preserved property may also be eligible for an Historical Commission plaque.

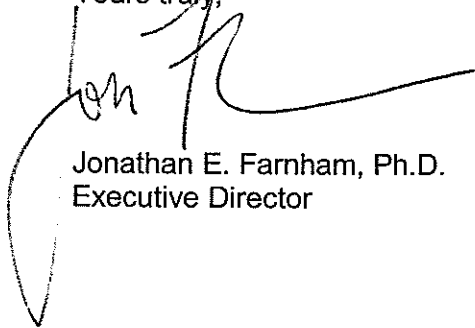
Designation entails some restrictions. To ensure authenticity and compatibility, the Commission reviews all proposed alterations to historic resources. The Commission also has jurisdiction over the issuance of demolition permits for historic properties. You will find, however, that the Commission and its staff approach such matters in a reasonable and practical way, and understand changes in building uses and contemporary requirements. For example, the Commission exercises a jurisdiction only over the exteriors of historic buildings; the staff, upon submission, approves interior modifications that do not affect the appearance of the exterior.

The Commission begins to exercise its jurisdiction over the subject property as of the date of this letter. If it votes to designate the property, its jurisdiction continues; if it rejects the nomination, its jurisdiction lapses as of the vote.

I welcome your participation in our effort to recognize and preserve the City's historical and architectural heritage. I invite you to attend the public meetings and to provide the Commission with information you may have about your property and its history to supplement our own research.

Should you have any questions about historic preservation or the work of the Commission, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission staff.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Farnham", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director