

LANDMARK DESIGNATION REPORT

LANDMARK/SITE NAME: DePelchin Faith Home Building

OWNER: The Hollyfield Foundation

APPLICANT: Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission

LOCATION: 2700 Albany

30-DAY HEARING NOTICE: April-20-98

AGENDA ITEM: Ii

PC MEETING DATE: June-25-98

HPO FILE NO.: 98L055

DATE ACCEPTED: Mar-26-98

HAHC HEARING DATE: May-21-98

SITE INFORMATION

Lots 1-6, Block 22, Settegast & Upham Addition, City of Houston, Harris County, Texas. The building on the site is a three-story institutional building.

TYPE OF APPROVAL REQUESTED: Landmark Designation

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE:

The DePelchin Faith Home Building is contained within the boundaries of Settegast & Upham Addition, platted in 1897. DePelchin Faith Home Building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 9, 1984 (Reference No. 84001759). The structure was built in 1912-1913 and is of the Italianate Villa style. It was designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1984 (R2229).

The De Pelchin Faith Home Building was designed in 1912 by the nationally prominent architectural firm, Mauran & Russell of St. Louis. It was originally used as an orphanage. The most prominent of the architectural features of the building are the repetitive round-arched apertures on the principal elevation and wide bracketed eaves. The DePelchin Faith Home is one of Houston's finest examples of an early twentieth-century institutional building.

At the public hearing of the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission (HAHC) held on March 13, 1997, the HAHC discussed the matter regarding the expiration of the two-year temporary designation of all landmarks that City Council had previously designated when the Historic Preservation Ordinance was adopted on March 1, 1995. Since the designation had expired, the HAHC requested that the planning staff contact the owners of these landmarks to determine their interest in the HAHC initiating an application for permanent designation. Letters were sent to the owners who confirmed that the HAHC could initiate designation. The HAHC had instructed the planning staff previously that if any landmark had been designated either by the National Register program, as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, a State Archaeological Site or a temporary landmark of the City of Houston, then the application would be considered for permanent landmark designation on that merit alone. Therefore, regarding the preparation of the application, HAHC agreed to consider the application with minimal information provided to them.

APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION....:

Sec. 33-224. Criteria for designation of a Landmark.

(a) The HAHC and the commission, in making recommendations with respect to designation, and the city council, in making a designation, shall consider one or more of the following criteria, as appropriate for the type of designation:

S D NA

S - satisfies D - does not satisfy NA - not applicable

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- (1) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area possesses character, interest or value as a visible reminder of the development, heritage, and cultural and ethnic diversity of the city, state, or nation;
- (2) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area is the location of a significant local, state or national event;
- (3) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area is identified with a person who, or group or event that, contributed significantly to the cultural or historical development of the city, state, or nation;
- (4) Whether the building or structure or the buildings or structures within the area exemplify a particular architectural style or building type important to the city;

The DePelchin Faith Home Building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion "C" which includes **"distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction."**

- (5) Whether the building or structure or the buildings or structures within the area are the best remaining examples of an architectural style or building type in a neighborhood;
- (6) Whether the building, structure, object or site or the buildings, structures, objects or sites within the area are identified as the work of a person or group whose work has influenced the heritage of the city, state, or nation;
- (7) Whether specific evidence exists that unique archaeological resources are present;
- (8) Whether the building, structure, object or site has value as a significant element of community sentiment or public pride.

HAHC RECOMMENDATION:

At a public hearing on May 21, 1998, the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission determined that the application complied with criteria found in the Houston Preservation Ordinance, and recommended that the Planning Commission accepts the recommendation of the HAHC and forward it to City Council for the designation of the DePelchin Faith Home Building as a Landmark of the City of Houston.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Recommends that the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission recommends designation of the DePelchin Faith Home Building as a landmark to the Planning Commission since the application complies with the criteria of the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

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SITE LOCATION MAP
DEPELCHIN FAITH HOME BUILDING
2700 ALBANY STREET
NOT TO SCALE