



SOCIETY HILL REPORTER

Newsletter of the Society Hill Civic Association
Issued January 10, 1996

Message from the President The Year Ahead

Another major issue this year will be riverboat gambling, pushed by City Hall.

Clean-Up Day this past November was, as usual, a sweeping success. It was also an illustration of what the community can do when it literally gets down to the nitty-gritty. Scores of you participated. And even though the Park Service employees were on furlough, the neighborhood was given a good mop-up by residents and City personnel. My hats is off to **Larry Meehan, Mary Sturdivant** and **Howard Lander** for leading the effort, as well as to the many others who contributed in one way or another. We also thank **Eric Blumenfeld** for arranging food for the post-clean-up picnic and the **Pennsylvania Hospital** for once again being our host.

The Association was very active in 1995. Besides two Clean-Up Days, we published five issues of THE REPORTER, played an active role in the Penn's Landing hotel issue, kept an eye on zoning developments and monitored liquor control activities, among other things. Under the leadership of **Matt DeJulio**, we are mounting an especially broad membership drive this year, mailing invitations to about 3,200 residents. We look forward to welcoming many new members from this effort.

All this was done because many of you contributed. Among those who did the most are **Bernice Hamel** and **Alan Halpern**, who put out THE REPORTER, a publication we can all be proud of; **Dick Ostrander**, who assisted with the advertising and other business matters, now replaced by **Bill Hawkins** and **Betsy Alexander**, who already are making a great impact;

Lorna Katz Lawson has continued as our Zoning and Development chair, performing beyond the call of duty. She follows every zoning and development issue and represents us at zoning hearings and inter-community meetings.

As the new year begins, we can look forward to a number of things old and new. THE REPORTER will continue to keep you informed with upcoming zoning and development issues. We will have spring and fall Clean-Up Days, and we will hold the customary four membership meetings and ten directors' meetings.

Our next general meeting, on January 17th at the Society Hill Sheraton, will feature Theodore Hershberg, professor of regional planning at Penn. We again thank the Hotel and its manager, **Gerry Gutenstein**, for being our host.

The riverfront hotel question, dormant at the moment, doubtless will reemerge. Another major issue this year will be riverfront gambling, pushed by City Hall.

On February 19th we will have our annual members-only party at Tutto Misto, compliments of owners **Bill Curry** and **Judy DeVicaris**. As the year progresses, we will be arranging other events. They'll be listed in this newsletter.

And, oh, yes, a U.S. President will be elected...or re-elected.

All in all, it will be an exciting year. And, we hope, a good one for all of you.

—Mel Buckman

Mark Your Calendars!

Next SHCA General Meeting

7:30 pm, Wednesday, January 17th
Sheraton Society Hill, 2nd & Walnut Sts.

Riverboat gambling update and poll
Guest Speaker:

U of P Regional Science Professor Ted Hershberg

6:30: Board Meeting

7:00: Refreshments, coffee & socializing

9:30: Rump crisis session on
Historic Preservation: See page 2

Members Only

Cocktail Reception

Monday, February 19th, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres
Courtesy of Tutto Misto Restaurant
603-5 S. 3rd Street—just south of South St.
Meet and socialize with your neighbors.

Future SHCA Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 21st, 7:30 pm
Old Pine Community Center
4th & Lombard Sts

Bulletin Board

Good News for Physick House: In our last issue we reported that the Arronson Foundation had offered the **Physick House** a \$50,000 challenge grant if the Physick House Committee members and community supporters could raise a similar amount by Dec. 31, 1995. Actually, the Foundation was considerably more generous—offering \$100,000 if the House Committee, the Landmarks Society and other friends, such as our own community, would raise \$50,000! That magic number of \$50,000 was reached on Dec. 13—thanks to the generosity of many neighbors and friends who recognize the unique character of the house and its valuable position in the neighborhood. To celebrate this happy occasion, a party was held at the Physick House on Jan. 7.

Meanwhile as you read this in January, donations are still encouraged, because the Arronson Foundation will continue this two-to-one offer by doubling every dollar received from the general community—even after having reached its initial challenge grant goal. If you haven't already contributed to the Physick House Endowment Fund, please make your tax-deductible checks to: Landmarks-Physick Endowment, and mail to the Landmarks Society at 321 S. 4th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

The two Society Hill houses operated by the Landmarks Society, Physick and Powel, are both special to the fabric of our community, and they deserve our continuous care and involvement. You can call Landmarks at 925-2251 for more information about their programs and how you can help.

SOCIETY HILL REPORTER
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Deadline for March issue: February 15
Mail contributions to above address
or Fax to (215) 925-0877
or E-mail to: berniehamel@eworld.com

Music, Maestro, Please: The second chamber music concert series of the season will be given by Society Hill's own **Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble**—mostly Philly Orchestra virtuosos, directed by Pine Street's **Donald Montanaro**. The venue will be the acoustically-friendly stenciled sanctuary of Old Pine Street Church at 4th and Pine. The dates are Friday evening, Jan. 19 at 8 pm, and Sunday afternoon, Jan. 21 at 2 pm. A cheese and wine reception follows the music with the musicians on hand

to informally discuss the program with attendees. It's a truly civilized experience. To purchase tickets phone 592-7840 or buy them at the door.

Paint the Town Red: Or, at least, the lampposts. The SHCA has two cans of Barn Red #85—a lead-free paint that was specially formulated for sprucing up our Franklin lampposts. To borrow a can, call Mary Sturdivant at 928-1203. We guarantee she won't give you the brush.

DESPERATELY SEEKING... VOLUNTEERS FOR HISTORIC DESIGNATION WORK

We've recently received disappointing news from the Philadelphia Historical Commission regarding their lack of personnel which is disrupting their schedule to complete the designation of the Rittenhouse-Fitler Square Historic District. Until "Rit-Fit" is officially completed, the commission cannot begin reviewing Society Hill's nomination.

In our last issue, we asked interested neighbors, and particularly members of SHCA's Historic Preservation Committee, to call Bernice Hamel, its chair (925-4363), to find out what is or is not going on with the designation process.

Would you believe? Not one call!

Does this mean that we don't care? Not likely. Just that many of us are too busy and some of us may need to be jiggled into action!

If our dream to become a City-designated Historic District is ever to become a reality, we must proceed with the process, which will offer

a degree of protection for our historic, residential neighborhood. This designation is designed to protect buildings from deliberate or inadvertent demolition or inappropriate alterations to the unique architectural character of our neighborhood. (Society Hill is on the National Register of historic districts, but this is just an honorary designation, which offers absolutely no protection.)

We know for certain that volunteers are needed to assist the Historical Commission. This requires manpower, and that must come from us.

Therefore, we are calling a special meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee which will follow the General Membership Meeting at the Society Hill Sheraton on Wednesday night, Jan. 17. So please mark your calendar for a very busy meeting night, and expect to stay about 45 minutes longer to learn the details of our historic nomination's dire straits!

SOUTH STREET TRIES TO CLEAN UP ITS ACT

A public meeting was held on December 6th at Old Pine Community Center to consider a proposed ordinance that the Special Services District hopes to present to City Council early in 1996 designed to protect its unique character of the South Street/Headhouse corridor.

Specifically, the zoning proposals include the following prohibited uses within the South Street/Headhouse District:

- athletic and dance halls, and other similar entertainment establishments;
- automobile repair shops, service stations and car-washing operations;
- fortune teller establishments;
- chemical, analytical and research laboratories;
- outdoor use of coin-operated machines dispensing food and drink;
- private clubs with LCB licenses for the sale of "after hours" alcoholic drinks;
- retail sales of products or food through a window opening onto the sidewalks;
- tattoo and body-piercing establishments;

- trolley and bus terminals;
 - accessory curb cuts for vehicular ingress and egress along South Street;
 - speakers or audio devices that cause music or voices to reach sidewalk areas;
 - prohibition of building set-backs
- Existing prohibited uses are grandfathered in.

The District advertises itself as extending east from 11th Street to Front Street and up 2nd Street to Head House Square, and south from Pine to Bainbridge Streets. Its office is located inside the historic building of Head House at 2nd and Pine Streets, and it operates the following committees: Sanitation, Public Safety, Planning, Marketing & Special Events, Business Development, Executive Committee, Retail, Restaurant Row, and the Shambles.

Unfortunately, it does not have a liaison committee for area residents and nearby civic associations (for example, SHCA, Queen Village and South Street Neighbors).

The District's chair is Steven Kujolic of J-Brite Cleaners. Phone 413-3713.

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Restoring Brickwork & Joints

By Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler
Retired Independence Park Historical Architect Consultant
Restoration contractor Thomas H. Nickles

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles offered to make historic preservation as authentic and painless as possible. If you have any questions or suggestions, mail them to the Editor, Society Hill Reporter, P O Box 3, Phila., PA 19105, and we will try to get answers for you promptly.

The great London fire of 1666 must have been in William Penn's mind when he proposed in the 1680's that Philadelphia be built of brick. There is evidence that bricks were brought to this country very early as ship ballast. But there is also evidence that brick kilns were built on the outskirts of Philadelphia in the late 1600's.

Bricks in the 18th century were hand-cast and often uneven in size. Glazed headers (see sketches) were created by applying silica to the butt ends which were stacked closest to the kiln fire. The hardest of bricks were chosen for the outside face of walls. "Salmon" bricks, those less well-fired, and thus porous, were laid in wall interiors or in party walls shared by adjacent houses. Facade bricks of the 19th century were machine-made.

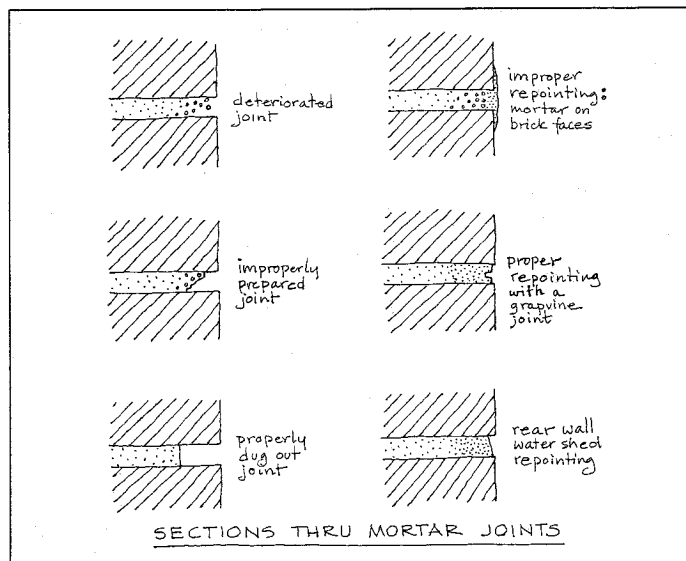
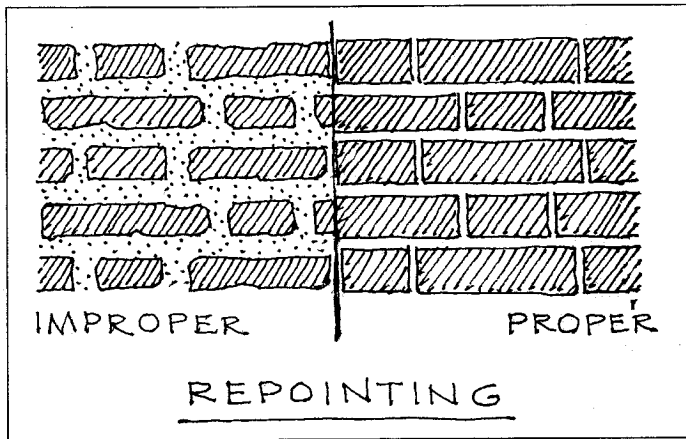
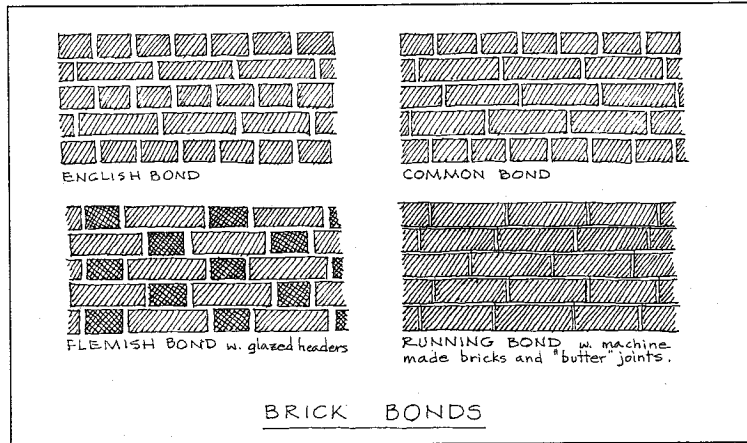
Brick patterns — called English, Flemish and Common bonds (see sketches) — reflect various methods of staggering bricks in each course to make the wall stronger. Philadelphia's early 18th century façades have Flemish bond, often with glazed headers. The rear walls of houses usually were laid up with Common bond. Running bond is found after the mid-19th century.

Mortar between the bricks attaches them to each other. In the 18th century, brick mortar contained unevenly distributed lumps of lime and sand of differing colors. The lime used near seacoasts was made of ground seashells, but in Philadelphia quarried limestone was used.

Mortar joints were wider in the early 18th century, due to uneven-sized bricks and unrefined mortar content. But 19th-century, machine-made bricks permitted uniformly narrow joints called "butter" joints. Walls with narrow joints appear redder than those with wider joints.

Repointing is the process of repairing defective mortar joints. Mortar can be washed out and become crumbly due to leaky flashing, gutters or broken downspouts.

Poorly done repointing unfortunately abounds and is easily recognized if you know what to look for: 1. The color of the mortar is grey from using quick-drying grey cement; 2. The mortar is spread out onto the face of the brick. Cement mortars are a threat to the integrity of the wall since they are rigid and not flexible like walls built with properly limed mortar. Brick walls may settle and also move slightly with temperature changes. A lime-content mortar will expand and contract maintaining a tight joint. Cement mortar will not give



with the movement and will develop fissures that allow water to enter the wall. When this water freezes in the winter it expands in volume and can cause portions of the cement mortar and brick to break off.

Proper repointing procedures will save money in the long run. If you only have a small area of defective brickwork, take time to work with your restoration contractor to match the repointing of your sound wall. If needed, start by washing the wall. Don't allow water pressure higher than 600 pounds per square inch or sand blasting or other abrasion of the bricks. The hard surface will be worn away leaving you with a porous wall.

If there are any bricks needing replacement, find bricks which match yours in size, color and quality. Next, mix some mortar samples in small patties and allow them to dry a minimum of two days. Break the patties and match the broken edges to the existing joints. It is better to achieve the correct color by using various colors of sand, as was done in the 18th century. Try to avoid using commercial pigment additives which can leach out over time.

Mortar mix for repointing should have these proportions: 1 part white cement (a small quantity of grey cement can reduce the whiteness), 3 parts lime and 8 parts brown sand.

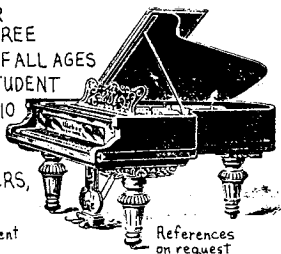
Preparing the joints must be done carefully. You don't want to damage the bricks. Scrape or chisel out all deteriorated mortar (minimum: one-half inch). If the area to be repointed contains some sound joints which a chisel alone can't dig out, a small grinder or rotary saw with a thin, small-diameter blade can cut thin grooves down the center of the joints. Then, carefully chisel out the mortar. As grey cement is stronger than the bricks, walls already repointed with it probably should be left alone to avoid further damage.

Striking the joints is the last step and is critical in a careful restoration. Fill the joint in two layers. The outside layer of mortar is struck with a tool which gives a specific profile. In the 18th century, front walls were usually scored with a "grapevine" joint (see sketch), i.e., a groove down the middle of the joint. At rear walls, a simpler joint was used—one with a slope that sheds water easily. Butter joints of the mid-19th century were just slightly recessed below the brick face.

Further information can be found in "Preservation Brief 2 - Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Brick Buildings," U.S. Gov't Printing office: 1977-726-159. Also see "Masonry Repointing," The Old House Journal, Vol VII, No. 6, June 1979.

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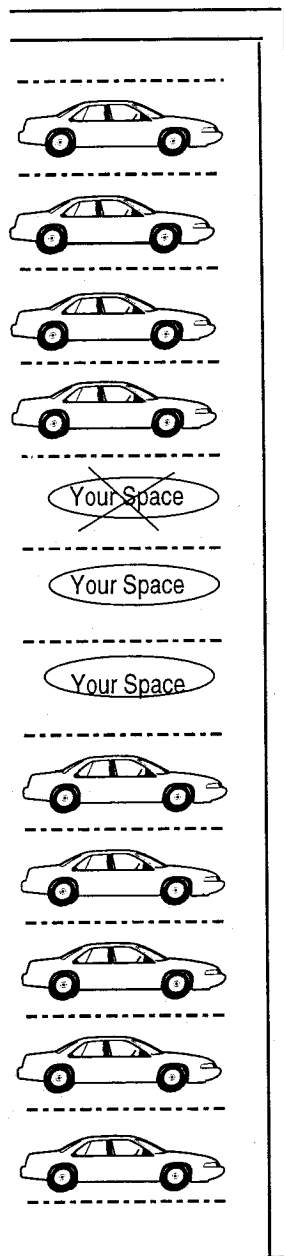
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Darts & Laurels



Dart: To City Hall bigwigs and their planning panjandrums for foisting Project X on an unsuspecting public without community hearings or input. Project X is the parcel on Penn's Landing at the foot of Market Street (which should have been the site for the 25-story riverfront hotel now proposed for the foot of Spruce Street—a location right in Society Hill Towers' face). According to The Inquirer, the mayor hopes to see Project X become a family entertainment center in conjunction with

riverboat gambling. Sounds to us like a place to leave the kiddies while Mum and Dad wager the family milk money in the seagoing slots.

Laurel: To City Hall and Penn's Landing poohbah Stanhope Brown for re-installing the ice rink at Penn's Landing near Market Street. It's lots of fun and there's hot chocolate nearby. Makes a lot more sense than Project X.

Dart: To the federal entitlement czars who dreamed up the idea of sloping the corner curbs.

That's one politically correct project whose bottom line we hate to even imagine. We have yet to see our first wheelchair user take advantage of them, but have talked with at least a half dozen neighbors who say they've almost tripped trying to navigate them. And a couple who say they've been nearly run down by bicyclists who feel encouraged by the curb cuts to pedal at high speed on the sidewalks.

Dart: A poisoned one—plus a snow shovel and a kilo of rock salt—to those Society Hillers who think they still live in suburbia and don't clear their sidewalks after a snowfall—leaving their neighbors to slip and slide past their domiciles on their way home.

In addition to being unneighborly, they're flirting with financial disaster. While the sidewalks belong to the general public, responsibility for maintaining them lies with individuals whose houses back them. So if someone trips on an icy brick or a tree root hummock on your sidewalk, you're liable. Hope you have decent insurance coverage, baby.

Laurel & Dart combination plate: A tip of the hat to all you folks who enhanced your sidewalks this summer and fall with flowers in tree wells, window boxes and planters—and kept them flourishing through the drought—especially on the north side of the 500 block of Pine.

But the point of our spear to you other folks who couldn't even be bothered to weed your sidewalks, making some parts of the neighborhood look like a Hooverville. You slackers know which corners I mean. Now go out front, bend over and pull. It's great for your back. Ask Dr. Rothman.

Dart: To the South Street-Headhouse District for not admitting a single Society Hill Civic Association representative to their board—despite the fact that SHCA has supported it to get the city's authorization in the first place and has gone to bat for them with the city many times on police, liquor license and zoning matters, that their events and non-events—from Howard Stern book signings to Arts and Crafts shows—have tremendous impact on Society Hill traffic, that their district even includes a chunk of Society Hill—the east side of Second Street north of Lombard and the NewMarket portion of the 100 block of Pine Street, and that their executive director, Dick Ostrander, is a former SHCA president.

Laurel: For neighborhood improvement to the Society Hill Towers for restoring the enigmatic but powerful bronze Leonard Baskin sculptures—part of the Redevelopment Authority's 1% for art program—commissioned and installed in the Towers courtyard by the building's world-class architect, I. M. Pei, back in the mid-'60's. The three pieces had been out of sight for the past year while contractors dug up the courtyard to waterproof the ceiling of condo's underground garage.

Got any Dart or Laurel nominations? Send them to the address on page 2. No Fast Eddie items, please. They're interdicted. Good-bye.

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How Clean Was Our Alley

The neighborhood was down in the dumpsters last fall.

The report card for the Sixth Great Semiannual Car Migration and Street Sweeping (a.k.a. Fall Clean-Up Day) contains A's and F's.

A's go to the Sixth District Police officers James Drumm and Colleen Keys and an A+ to the Parking Authority's Bernadette Muchison for coordinating the ticketing and car relocation program. No calls came in from neighbors erroneously ticketed on Friday night, and over 70 cars were relocated to facilitate sweeping.

An F goes to the dynamic trio—Newt, Bob and Bill—for failing to get a federal appropriation extension in time for the furloughed National Park Service volunteers to help out. In the past, they provided almost 50% of the men and machines and were sorely missed! Then, promptly at 11:00 a.m., the sweeper from the Citizen's Alliance for Better Neighborhoods—provided to them by Vince Fumo with a WAM grant—broke down. Our new councilman, Frank DiCicco, promises it will be back in action for the next go-round. But there went another 25% of the machines.

But the battle wasn't lost. The caissons included two big yellow sweepers from the City, manned by Andre Barnes and Walt Smith, and Danny Velez from the Center City Services District. The foot troops included scores of neighbors shouldering fully-loaded brooms. Obviously, they get A's for good citizenship.

Waste Management once again provided a "30-yard" dumpster at the McCall School so the sweeping machines could quickly unload and continue. They earned an A for good corporate citizenship, as did Pennsylvania Hospital for printing the fliers, hanging banners, and hosting the picnic. Glad Bags along with PhilaPride, Inc. provided leaf bags and T-shirts for young volunteers. The Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee supplied 80 brooms and 250 parking signs for the event. Pizzeria Uno, Friday's, and Bridget Foy's donated pizza, chicken wings, and soda for the picnic, and Eric Blumenfeld delivered them himself. The food committee did not do so well in figuring out the math and the pizza ran out early, but co-chair Larry Meehan sprinted to a local pizza parlor and returned with garlicky reinforcements for the overflow crowd at Pennsylvania Hospital. In fact, the food staff at the hospital immediately pitched in with their own pizza and dessert to fill the gap. Thanks go to acting president, John Ball, for encouraging the hospital's participation.

Making the honor roll among the neighbors: Steve and Linda Skale for hosting the signage committee at their home. The signage committee members include Jim Covello, Florrie and John Lloyd, Anne Eiswerth, Jim and Janet Cooke, Linda Percival, David Stevens, Frank Thomas, Miffy Coonley, Marian and Joe McKone, Suzie Pattison, Bob Bodine, Martha Moore, Nancy Hallman, Peter Whitehouse, and Bernie Cleff. Karen Biddle organized the students, teachers, and parents at the McCall School, and Maria DiCicco did the same at St. Peter's School.

Co-chairs Larry Meehan and Mary Sturdivant gave high marks to everyone who came out to clean. For Spring Clean Up, May 4th, they promise more pizza, more fun, more sweepers, and honorary doctorates in dirt.

IN SOCIETY HILL, PHONE MARY DORAN



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245 Delancey Street



220 Delancey Street

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Signs & Portents

Observations on the way to the millennium

File under Paradox: Heading up Third Street towards Walnut one recent morning, we noticed a large male tatterdemalion stretched out sound asleep almost athwart the threshold of St. Paul's, his collection of rags and patches scattered about him. The former church now houses the Episcopal Community Services. Employees of this social service agency gingerly circumnavigated the prostrate figure on their way in to work. We asked one of them why ECS didn't do anything to resolve its own social service problem. "The police won't do anything," he responded. "So there's absolutely nothing we can do." Somebody eventually did something. An upright stovepipe now rises from the steam vent which made the sidewalk such an attractive slumberland, making it impossible to perch upon. God moves in mysterious ways. The sleeping gypsy moved to Third and Walnut.

On the decline of consumer marketing: More and more of the grocery and produce items in the 5th Street Super Fresh have no prices marked on their shelves.

On the invigoration of consumer marketing: (and the globalization of Society Hill): The Chef's Market now carries butters churned in Denmark, France and Finland.

Gilt by association: Don't worry, it wasn't a helicopter

heist. The now-restored cross and orb from atop the steeple of St. Peter's at Third and Pine was temporarily grounded by the parish for a needed regilding. Last regilded in the 1980's, the cross has since been mysteriously degilded. Some parishioners believe a bolt of lightning struck the steeple and devoured the thin golden coat. So when the cross was restored, a grounded wire was attached—conducting any subsequent bolts harmlessly back to God's green earth. Ben Franklin, a lightning buff as well as a practical inventor, would be proud of the precaution. The gilder's guild consisted of neighbor Jerry Deye and his associate, Peter Klosiewicz, who proved to literally have golden hands.

Incidentally, it seems church mice at St. Peter's are poor no more—since the successful fund drive just concluded. Libby Browne reported that over 100 parishioners and 100 outsiders donated half a million dollars to refurbish the church where Washington worshipped, the parish house where the homeless are fed and the graveyard where Stephen Decatur is interred under the Osage oranges from a tree seed sent back by Western explorers, Lewis and Clark.

What's in a name? An off-South Street tattoo parlor calls itself "Body Graphics" and claims Martina Navratilova and several Eagles football players as clients.

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CREATING BEAUTY SINCE 1967

Well bread: Attention sandwich lovers: We have two nominations for the neighborhood's best. 1. We wandered into Bix's the other noontime (named for jazz trumpet great, Bix Beiderbeck) The piped background music consists of lush jazz arrangements which make for a mellow lunch.

The attractive room is at 114 S 12th Street, a few doors below Chestnut, formerly occupied by the Odeon. We ordered a glass of Dock Street and a lamb sandwich (\$8). It was four-star eating: warm, machine-sliced but succulent roast lamb—redolent of garlic and flecked with rosemary—dipped in lamb gravy and served on a crisp baguette with a side of potato chips, alfalfa sprouts and a pleasant pickle. 2. Our second nomination goes to the tripe sandwich at funky George's Luncheonette in the Italian Market—on the west side of Ninth Street, two doors below Christian. The tender but chewy tripe is stewed in a savory gravy and served on a roll. We like it with raw onions and hot red pepper flakes, washed down with a bottle of cold Pepsi. All under \$5. It's an acquired taste, but, hey, get a life.

Auld Lang Syne: When we moved into the neighborhood over 25 years ago one of the favorite pastimes of the natives was wandering into houses in the construction phase and wondering what sort of asses were sinking so much money into such a woebegone neighborhood. It's a long time since new homes were abuilding down here. But some big new ones are now being finished on the 600 block of Addison, heretofore, one of the last parcels of undeveloped space in the area. Welcome, new guys. And do we have a tax assessor for you!

Auld Lang Syne II: (With apologies to The Inquirer's nostalgia columnist, Edgar Williams.) You probably have buckles on your loafers if you recall South Street's

Theater of the Living Arts when it was an honest-to-God legit theater presenting avant garde drama with a resident cast—many of whom, like Ron Liebman, Sally Kirkland, Lois Smith and David Hurst as well as artistic director André Gregory—went on to success on Broadway, Hollywood and TV. Our favorite performance was in Jean Giraudoux's "Poor Bitos" when a local post-deb-turned-actress doffed her soutien-gorge to represent the avatar of France—Marianne.

You're also Alzheimer-proof if you can recall Metropolitan Hospital at the Southwest corner of Third and Spruce—a mid-rise osteopathic center which later moved to 8th and Vine before it went to hospital heaven in New Jersey.... You're even more remarkable if you remember when the building was originally used by the Bayuk Cigar Company to roll out Phillis stogies.... And do you recall that pre-car-radio era when, if you needed a taxi you could walk to the Yellow Cab Garage at Third and Catherine maintained by Albert M. Greenfield, who was the capo di tutti capi of the cab company.

You're also a certifiable Old Original if you can remember Richardson Dilworth, then mayor of Philadelphia, walking his black poodle through the neighborhood on Saturday mornings in the mid-'60s and tipping his homburg to the ladies. He had a house of his own among us—next to the Athenaeum on Sixth Street—now a dental society headquarters.

(Share your memories of the pioneer era by mailing them to us at the address on the masthead.)

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The South St. Boulevardier

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So many places all compressed into so little space. Unlike Manayunk, Chestnut Hill or the Main Line, in our neck of the woods you don't need a car or SEPTA to get from one watering hole to the next. My current count of eateries on South Street stands at 42—with 15 of them offering serious food (well beyond hot dogs and bagels). An additional 17 (7 serious) are within one block north or south of South. These 58 establishments which serve Lebanese, Greek, French, Italian, Indian, Israeli, Japanese, Thai, Chinese and a variety of American cuisines could shame, in sheer prolixity, New York's SoHo, New Orleans' French Quarter or Boston's North End.

A recent treat was **Adrienne's at 530 South (829-9620)**. What I especially like about its dimly-lit atmosphere is the friendly bar service.

Further back in the large room, soft music and a spaciousness between tables give an air of comfort not present in the more frenetic spots and meat markets on the eastern end of the street. In winters, it's a cozy room; on pleasant spring nights the restaurant literally opens up its entire frontage to the lively street scene. It's the closest Philly can get to Upper East Side Manhattan café-style dining. The menu features light fare with an emphasis on seafood and pastas. Entrées are in the \$10 to \$16 range. Proprietors are **Adrienne and Wally Herter**—Society Hill residents themselves.

While the western end of South Street has been pretty ragged over the years compared with the more sophisticated face of the east end, things have been perking up—or to use a more apt metaphor—steaming up—with the appearance within the past year of several new espresso-cum-patisserie coffee houses—including the **South Caffé** and the **Supreme Bean**, both on the 600 block. They are now competing with **Starbucks**—which just recently opened its doors at the busy corner of 4th and South. This Seattle-based high-end mega-coffeehouse chain has joined the South Street coffee-bean scene.

The other big hits on the 600 block are the **AIDS Thrift Shops** at 629 and 631-33. These shops, by the way, welcome any and all donations of clothing and household artifacts to raise funds for the indigent stricken with the plague. If you'd rather acquire than deacquisition, you may find a pair of torn jeans, spectator shoes, a Hawaiian shirt, a lava lamp, a Judy Garland tape or maybe that Mission-style table you abandoned 20 years ago and now wish you still owned.

Browser's delight: **Tower Books** has added some bench space in the front of the store so you can curl up with the latest issue of *Historic Preservation* or *S&M Illustrated* without leaving the premises.

Newest South Street hue: Electric blue as on blueberry water ice. Just the thing to scarf down while rollerblading. Latest fashion for nymphets: Lumberjack boots with tire-tread soles.

—mostly Matt DeJulio

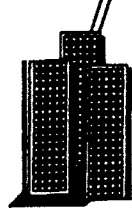
SHCA Neighborhood Action Phone Numbers

Clip and save for reference.

EMERGENCY	911 (& pray!)
Sixth District Police Station	686-3060
South St. Police Mini Station	922-6706
S.A.V.E. (auto sticker protection)	686-3063
Resident Parking Permit	977-7200
Parking Authority Enforcement:	
(9 am-5 pm)	977-7221
(evenings & weekends)	977-7223
City Hall	686-1776
Streets Dept. Customer Service	686-5560
Street Repair & Potholes	686-5508
Recycling Hot Line	1-800-807-3292
Recycling Office	686-5504
Streets Dept. Sanitation Division	685-6062
Bulk Trash Pickup	592-6060
Illegal dumping & litter enforcement	686-3082
Street lights	685-9184
Water inlet cleaning (storm drains)	592-6300
Anti-Graffiti Network	686-1569
SPCA (animal control)	426-6300
Fairmount Park Commission (trees)	685-1835
Historical Commission (Dr. R. Tyler)	686-4543
Councilman Joseph Vignola	686-3458
MISCELLANEOUS POLS	
W. Curtis Thomas (State Rep.)	232-1210
Vincent J. Fumo (State Senate)	468-3866
Thomas M. Foglietta (U.S. Rep.)	925-6840
Robert Borski (U.S. Rep.)	335-3355
Arlen Specter (U.S. Senate)	597-7200
Rick Santorum (U.S. Senate)	412-882-3205
COMMUNITY	
Society Hill Civic Association	629-1288
Society Hill TownWatch	625-9255
South St./Headhouse District	413-3713

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- Corner One Bedroom, city skyline views\$87,900
- One Bedroom, ~~SOLD~~ high floor, river views.....\$92,500
- Two Bedroom, headhouse square view.....\$119,900
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604-36 S. Washington Square

- Efficiency, Sunset view.....\$42,500
- Studio w/sleeping alcove, high floor over \$100,000 upgrades, highly customized, park view.....\$64,900
- One bedroom, south view, price to buy.....\$64,900
- One Bedroom, high floor park view with balcony, upgraded.....\$79,900
- Deluxe One Bedroom, park view, upgraded kitchen and bath, 1063 sq.ft.....\$79,900
- Highly Customized! One Bedroom & Den, high floor, upgraded kitchen, southeast corner.....\$159,900

Independence Place

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- One Bedroom with Alcove, 1.5 baths, eat-in kitchen, Society Hill views...\$109,900
- Two Bedroom & Two Baths, southeast view, excellent value.....\$149,900
- Completely reconstructed Two Bedroom/den 2.5 bath, highly customized kitchen & bath, double terrace river and southern views, over \$200,000 of upgrades.....\$379,900
- Spectacular Three Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Penthouse, large living room with terrace, full skyline view, gorgeous hardwood floors, modern kitchen, spacious master suite w/Jacuzzi tub & his & hers sinks over 2575 sq. ft. of luxury space.....\$550,000



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Newsletter for the Residents of Society Hill
Published by the Society Hill Civic Association
P.O. Box 3
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