

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF BERKS,
THE CITY OF READING,
BERKS COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.
AND
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
PURSUANT TO 36 CFR PART 800.6 (a)**

WHEREAS, the County of Berks and the City of Reading, Pennsylvania, through the administration of the federal Community Development Block Grant Program for demolition will have an effect upon 29, 31, 33, 35, 35A, and 37 North Ninth Street, Reading; properties located in the Penn Commons Historic District which is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and has consulted with the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer (PA-SHPO) pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f); and

WHEREAS, the County of Berks used its Citizen Participation Plan to gain public comment and inform the public as well as consulting parties of the project; and

WHEREAS, after demolition, the vacant land will be utilized by the Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. for development of a new senior center funded in part by the federal Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the County of Berks, the City of Reading, Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. and the PA-SHPO agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of this demolition on historic properties.

STIPULATIONS

The County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc will ensure that prior to demolition of the buildings, the following measures are taken:

RECORDATION

Prior to demolition of 29, 31, 33, 35, 35A, and 37 North Ninth Street, the following recordation shall be completed for each:

1. A completed Pennsylvania Historic Resource Form including a description and history of the structure, the date of construction, the architect or builder, the chain of title, and other available historic information.

2. A written architectural description of the structure, including interior and exterior features.
3. Photographs that show all exterior elevations of the building, as well as any significant interior features. Photographs shall be labeled in pencil with the name and address of the property, date and view shown in the photographs. Photographs shall be taken with a 35 mm camera with black and white print film. Prints shall be 5" x 7". Negatives shall be housed in polypropylene sleeves, labeled with the same information as the photographs.
4. A U.S.G.S. Quadrangle 7.5 minute map showing the outline of the property associated with the building.

Upon completion of the recordation, the information shall be submitted to the PA-SHPO for approval and archival retention.

In addition, photographs shall be taken of the street scape and front elevations of the buildings. Prints shall be 8" x 10" in frames to form a display within the new senior center. As an alternative, 8" x 10" historic photographs in frames may be used.

SALVAGE

Architecturally significant resources from the buildings will be offered free of charge to local historic organizations.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

The County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc shall ensure that the design for new construction which may occur on the site is compatible with the historic and architectural qualities of the Penn Commons Historic District, which is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, in terms of scale, massing, color, materials, and set-back and is responsive to the recommended approaches to new construction set forth in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service), and that the design and specifications for the project are developed in consultation with the PA-SHPO and submitted to the PA-SHPO for approval.

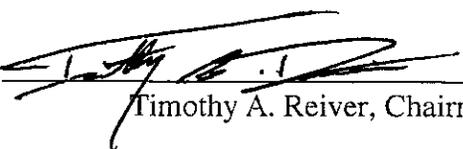
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Should the Pennsylvania PA-SHPO object within 30 days to any plans provided pursuant to this agreement, the County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. shall consult with the PA-SHPO to resolve the objection. If the County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. determine that the objection cannot be resolved, the County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc.

shall request further comments of the Advisory Council pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(e).

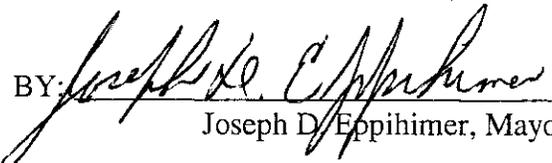
Execution of this Memorandum of Agreement by the County of Berks, the City of Reading, Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc., and the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer, and the subsequent implementation of its terms, provide evidence that the County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. have afforded the PA-SHPO the opportunity to comment on the demolition of 29, 31, 33, 35, 35A, and 37 North Ninth Street, and its effect on historic properties, and that the County of Berks, the City of Reading, and Berks County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. have taken into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: 
Timothy A. Reiver, Chairman

Date: 3/22/01

CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: 
Joseph D. Eppihimer, Mayor

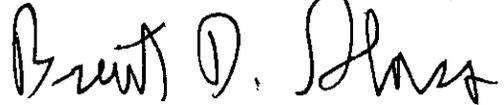
Date: 3/13/01

BERKS COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

BY: 

Date: 3/16/01

PENNSYLVANIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

BY: 
PA-SHPO

Date: 6/22/01