

**NOMINATION OF THE HANAUER-ROSENBERG HOUSE  
TO BE DESIGNATED AS A CITY HISTORIC LANDMARK**

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

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**HANAUER-ROSENBERG HOUSE - HISTORIC NOMINATION STAFF REPORT**

**Name of Property** ..... Hanauer-Rosenberg House  
**Address of Property** ..... 417 Lockhart Street  
**Year of Construction**.....1888  
**Property Owner**..... City of Pittsburgh  
**Nominated by:**..... Matthew Falcone  
**Date Received:**..... 15 May 2020  
**Parcel No.:** ..... 8-D-149  
**Ward:**..... 23rd  
**Zoning Classification:**..... R1A-VH  
**Neighborhood**..... Deutschtown  
**Council District:**..... 1-Wilson

**FORMAL ACTION REQUIRED BY THE HISTORIC REVIEW COMMISSION:**

1. Act on the Preliminary Determination of Eligibility for Historic Designation (1 July 2020)
2. Conduct a public hearing for the Historic Designation (5 Aug 2020)
3. Review the Report prepared by staff for the property in question, and make a recommendation to the City Council on the Historic Designation (5 Aug 2020)

**FORMAL ACTION REQUIRED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION:**

4. Conduct a public hearing for the Historic Designation (11 Aug 2020)
5. Review the recommendations of the Historic Review Commission and make a recommendation to the City Council on the Historic Designation (25 Aug 2020)

**FORMAL ACTION REQUIRED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:**

6. Conduct a public hearing (23 Dec 2020)
7. Review the recommendations of the Historic Review Commission and the City Planning Commission and take action on the Historic Designation

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**FACTS**

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1. On 15 May 2020, the staff of the Historic Review Commission received an application for the nomination of the Hanauer-Rosenberg House to be designated as a City Historic Structure.

2. **Description of the Hanauer-Rosenberg House** (as extracted from the nomination form)

417 Lockhart St. is a three (3) story, brick rowhouse with a flat rubber roof, parapet, and metal corbelling at the cornice. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor windows are (1/1) with stained glass transoms, continuous stone lintels, and continuous stone sills. The 2<sup>nd</sup> story has two, (1/1) windows with stone voussoirs above them and stone lug sills. Cartouches separate 417 & 415 Lockhart St. and scroll engraving exists above the doorway. The entryway is comprised of eight-paneled double doors with stained glass door lites and a stained glass transom that prominently features the number “16” (the house number when constructed). A small wooden porch is shared between 415 Lockhart and 417 Lockhart. Windows on this floor are (1/1) with stained glass transoms, segmental arches above them, and stone lug sills below. The raised basement is delineated from the rest of the house by its sandstone composition, which is interrupted by a rectangular, three-paned stained glass window.

417 Lockhart St. was built in the Richardsonian Romanesque style, which is shown in its rough-cut stone ornamentation and raised basement, terra cotta entrance ornamentation, medallions, belt course, the brick archway above the first floor window, rounded bricks that create columns flanking third floor windows, and rounded bricks at the front entrance.

3. **History of the Hanauer-Rosenberg House** (as extracted from the nomination form)

Caroline Nelson had 415 through 419 Lockhart Street built between 1888 and 1889 while members of the Kaufman family of Cedar Avenue had 421 and 423 Lockhart Street built at the same time. Caroline Nelson was the wife of William Nelson, Pittsburgh’s first stained glass manufacturer. William Nelson made stained glass in Pittsburgh between 1852 and 1892 and worked in an era from which little construction documentation remains. His stained glass that remains in at least two houses in the row is his only known surviving work in Pittsburgh. The Nelson family lived in the Woods Run section of Allegheny City, and rented 417 Lockhart Street to tenants. The earliest occupants of the house were Hugo Rosenberg, a merchant, and Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg, who founded the National Council of Jewish Women, its Pittsburgh section, and other Pennsylvania sections while living in the house. The Rosenbergs were socially prominent, and Pittsburgh social directories noted that Pauline Rosenberg received guests at 417 Lockhart Street on the first and second Wednesdays of each month. Rosenberg also hosted meetings of the Pittsburgh Women’s Club at the house and frequently had out-of-town guests at the house who were prominent state and national members of progressive causes particularly related to education, immigration, women’s rights, and the Jewish community. Notably, Rosenberg’s Columbian Council (the National Council of Jewish Women – Pittsburgh Section) letterhead lists her home at “16 Liberty Street, Allegheny, Pa.” as her official contact for correspondence related to organization business (letter included in supplementary material).

The house at 417 Lockhart Street was used as a rooming house in the early 20th century, as middle-class families moved out of its immediate neighborhood. The house may have been at its most

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crowded in 1940, when it was home to 12 people. The house was then owned and occupied by Joseph and Helen Seifert, who had bought it from the Nelson family for \$7000 in 1921.

The house at 417 Lockhart Street was originally known as 16 Liberty Street. The house was re-numbered 417 when the North Side's modern street numbering system was put in place in 1899. Liberty Street became Lockhart Street in about 1909, when Pittsburgh city government changed a number of street names to avoid duplication that resulted from Pittsburgh's 1907 annexation of Allegheny City (now the North Side).

**4. Significance of the Hanauer-Rosenberg House** *(as extracted from the nomination form)*

The *Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances, Title 11, Historic Preservation, Chapter 1: Historic Structures, Districts, Sites and Objects* lists ten criteria, at least one of which must be met for Historic Designation. The nominator is of the opinion that the Accamando Center meets several of the criteria as follows.

2. *Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, and the United States*

417 Lockhart Street is directly associated with Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg. Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg was born in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania in 1863 to prominent proponent of education Henrietta (Lehrberger) and Meyer Hanauer. She was educated at Pittsburgh's Central High School, belonged to Rodef Shalom Congregation (Western Pennsylvania's oldest Jewish congregation and one instrumental in shaping the national Reform Judaism movement), and married Hugo Rosenberg.

In Allegheny City & Pittsburgh Rosenberg served on the Boards of Allegheny General Hospital Ladies Auxiliary, Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs, was president of Pittsburgh's Woman's Club, Civic Club, Needlework Guild, Free Kindergarten Association, Tenement House and Public Bath Committee, Personal Service Society among many other organizations. In 1896, Rosenberg played a leading role in founding the Columbian School & Settlement (later known as the Irene Kauffman Settlement House whose work is continued on through the Hill House Association and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh), which advanced the civic, intellectual, and social welfare of the surrounding community. She was also involved in the local women's suffrage movement. Rosenberg attended Barnard College and Columbia University and upon her return to Pittsburgh played an instrumental role in advocating for Pennsylvania's 1903 Juvenile Court Act, created a local branch, and brought the first parole officer to Pittsburgh.

Although Rosenberg's involvement and leadership had a considerable impact on Pittsburgh, it was her efforts founding, shaping, and leading the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) that had a state, national, and international impact. Prior to the founding of the NCJW, no such organization existed on a national level for Jewish women. Indeed, at this time Jewish women were barred from taking a lay or religious leadership position at temple, were excluded from clubs and organizations, were denied a formal Jewish education, and were confined to the household as their purview.

Without the existence of a national organization, Hannah G. Solomon of Chicago was asked to organize the participation of Jewish women in the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. When it was discovered that participation would consist of pouring coffee and other hostess duties, Solomon and her recruits (which included Rosenberg) walked out. During the course of the Exposition the women founded the NCJW, the first such national organization of its kind to exist in the world. It was at the convention that Rosenberg delivered her notable speech that called into question the passive role that women were permitted to play in addressing contemporary social issues and advocated for a stark change. As Rogow notes, the speech was not only exceptional in its content but that it was delivered at all. As Jewish women were not permitted to address their communities, scant few had experience in public speaking.

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After the Exposition, Rosenberg played an instrumental role in establishing NCJW's national presence as well as helped mold how the organization functioned. Referred to as the "Pennsylvania State President" she was responsible for organizing every section in the Commonwealth (Pittsburgh, where she served as president; Oil City; Altoona; Scranton; Philadelphia; Bradford; as well as Youngstown and Washington, D.C.). Rosenberg also served as the NCJW's first vice president and chaired several of NCJW's national committees, including a pivotal chairpersonship of the constitutional committee, which established the framework by which the organization functioned. The first constitution of its kind in the world, it would serve as a model internationally for other Jewish women's organizations (specifically, the Union of Jewish Women Workers founded in 1902, the Juedischer Frauenbund founded in 1904, the International Council of Jewish Women & its affiliates, founded in 1923). Rosenberg also had a hand in forming NCJW's Immigrant Aid Society and the Committee for Jewish and Non-Jewish Blind (today known as the Pennsylvania Association of the Blind), both of which still exist today, in different forms, providing benefits statewide.

In 1905, Rosenberg assumed the presidency of NCJW and oversaw one of the most difficult transitional periods of the organization's history. Prior to her presidency the organization was primarily a coalition of local sections each independently focused on a variety of self-directed initiatives. Under Rosenberg's presidency the NCJW became centralized (fees on sections were levied to support nationally-important work) and its immigrant aide work, for which the Council was to be nationally and internationally known, rose to prominence. Because of this, the NCJW established itself as the undisputed leader in efforts to address the 'white slave trade' (sex trafficking) so much so that the Federal Government sought their help in addressing this issue. To facilitate this growing work, the NCJW founded the Department of Immigrant Aid and upon invitation, established a permanent office at Ellis Island as well as every other entry point for immigrants throughout the country.

The NCJW model to address sex trafficking was distinguished for the breadth and comprehensiveness of its approach. Leaflets distributed throughout Eastern Europe warning of the dangers of sex trafficking, the NCJW contact information was provided, and then they met immigrants dockside to escort them to family, or settlement house, in America. These efforts were so successful at addressing sex trafficking that the NCJW were granted a personal audience by the King & Queen of Spain for commendation. Similarly, in 1907 the NCJW won a gold medal at the Jamestown International Exposition and also won the Grand Prix at the Paris International Exhibition for their immigrant aide work. At the latter, Rosenberg was awarded a special diploma (which at the time was equivalent to the Legion of Honor for women) in recognition for her work and accomplishments. Rosenberg's work and that of the National Council of Jewish Women (particularly the Pittsburgh Section) have been repeatedly recognized and

417 Lockhart Street is located in Pittsburgh's Deutschtown neighborhood, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as an established local historic district with the City of Pittsburgh. It is identified as a contributing building to both of those districts. 415, 419, 421, and 423 Lockhart Street are all identical buildings to 417 Lockhart Street, having been built at the same time and today hold differing degrees of integrity. The public school immediately across the street that existed during Rosenberg's residency at 417 Lockhart Street, no longer exists and has been replaced with a small rowhouse development. Other houses within the neighborhood are largely row homes, 2-3 stories tall, and are made of brick or wood. Allegheny Commons, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and as a City of Pittsburgh historic district, remains at the end of the Lockhart St.

Unfortunately very few, if any, other buildings that have a connection to Rosenberg's life, work, and the National Council of Jewish Women remain today. The other most likely candidates would be the second Rodef Shalom Temple (formerly located on 8th Street, in downtown Pittsburgh), where the NCJW-Pittsburgh Section regularly met and held meetings (demolished in the 1960s, currently a parking lot), 707 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. which was the first Council Headquarters building (demolished,

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currently a parking lot). Other buildings that were associated with the NCJW-Pittsburgh Section's work also no longer remain. The Irene Kaufmann Settlement House (1835 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.) was demolished and replaced in 1972 with a late modernist building and the Home for Working Girls (4815 Center Ave.) has also been demolished and replaced with a contemporary shopping plaza.

The other two known residences of Rosenberg were 1123 Western Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. (demolished, currently a parking lot) which belonged to her brother and where she briefly stayed when she was elected to be president of the NCJW. The other is the former Schenley Hotel in Oakland, where Rosenberg regularly stayed after returning to Pittsburgh.

In March 2020 the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission awarded a State Historic Marker recognizing Rosenberg's work and accomplishments. On April 24, 2020 the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office determined the Hanauer-Rosenberg residence eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places also because of its association with Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg.

**5. Integrity**

417 Lockhart Street contains a high degree of integrity, particularly on the exterior facades. Some interior features were modified over time, particularly during the period when it was used as a boarding house. These modifications largely include painting over the interior woodwork and replacing or modernizing ancillary areas of the house (e.g. cellar, bathrooms) and its mechanical systems. Despite these modifications, the house still conveys a feeling of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in that the exterior remains intact as do the interior floor plans and features, particularly the first floor which would have been the only area of the house accessible to visitors during Rosenberg's lifetime.

**6. Photos**



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Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg. Undated. From Rauh Jewish Archives at the Heinz History Center.  
Source: [http://www.jewishfamilieshistory.org/photo/pauline-rosenberg/?post\\_id=5751](http://www.jewishfamilieshistory.org/photo/pauline-rosenberg/?post_id=5751)



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honored since.



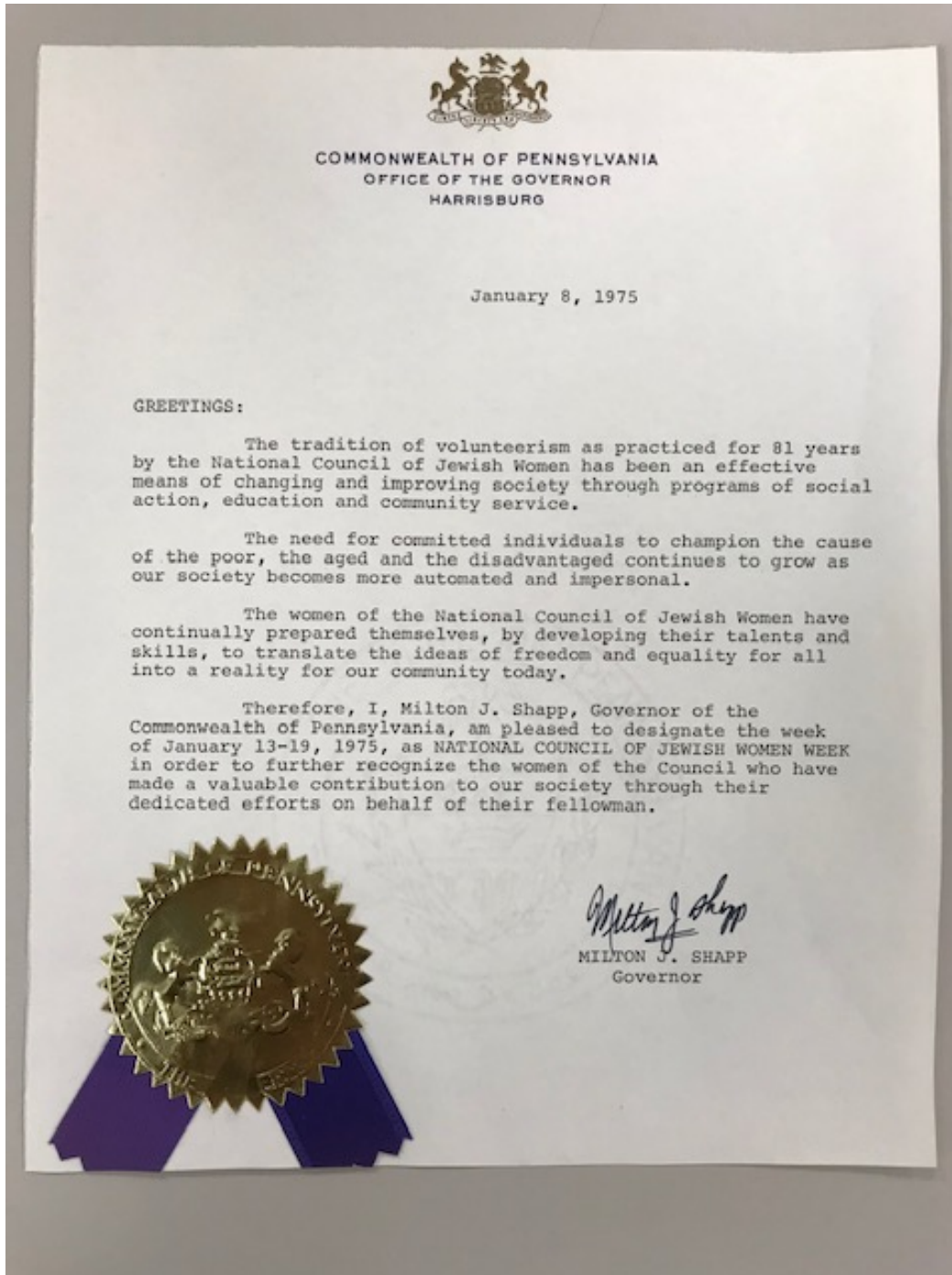
City of Pittsburgh Proclamation, National Council of Jewish Women. January 1989.

Council of Jewish Women (particularly the Pittsburgh Section) have been repeatedly recognized and

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Proclamation, National Council of Jewish Women. January 1975.



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**8. Recommendation of the Historic Review Commission**

The Historic Review Commission held a public hearing regarding the designation of the Hanauer-Rosenberg House. On 5 August 2020 the Commission voted to recommend to City Council that it designate the Hanauer-Rosenberg House as historic

**9. Recommendation of the City Planning Commission**

The City Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the designation the Hanauer-Rosenberg House. On 25 August 2020 the Commission voted to recommend to City Council that it designate the Hanauer-Rosenberg House as historic.

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**10. Meeting Minutes**

**HRC MINUTES – JULY 1, 2020 – PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING**



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Pittsburgh HRC – July 1, 2020

***Hanauer-Rosenburg House***  
***417 Lockhart Street***

***Historic Nomination***

**Owner:**  
Matthew Falcone

Ward: 23rd

Lot and Block: 8-D-149

**Nominator:**  
Matthew Falcone

Inspector:

Council District:

Nomination Received: 5/15/20

**National Register Status:    Listed:                    Eligible:**

**Proposed Changes:** Nomination for historic designation.

Discussion:

1. Ms. Quinn makes a short presentation on the property. She states that the nominator found that the property is significant under **Criterion 2**, identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States, and that the property does retain integrity.
2. The Commission discusses the nomination.

Motion:

1. Mr. Green moves to confirm the viability of the historic nomination based on the listed criteria.
2. Ms. Loysen seconds.
3. Ms. Aguirre asks for a vote; all are in favor and motion carries.

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**HRC MINUTES – AUGUST 5, 2020 RECOMMENDATION**

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Pittsburgh HRC – August 5, 2020

**Hanauer-Rosenburg House**  
**417 Lockhart Street**

*Historic Nomination*

**Owner:**  
Matthew Falcone

Ward: 23rd

Lot and Block: 8-D-149

**Nominator:**  
Matthew Falcone

Inspector:

Council District:

Nomination Received: 5/15/20

**National Register Status:**    **Listed:**                    **Eligible:**

**Proposed Changes:** Nomination for historic designation.

Discussion:

3. Ms. Quinn makes a short presentation on the property. She states that the nominator found that the property is significant under **Criterion 2**, identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural, archaeological, or related aspects of the development of the City of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic region, or the United States, and that the property does retain integrity.
4. Ms. Aguirre asks for public comment; there is none.
5. The Commission discusses the nomination.

Motion:

4. Mr. Green moves to make a positive recommendation based on the listed criteria.
5. Ms. Hill seconds.
6. Ms. Aguirre asks for a vote; all are in favor and motion carries.

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**PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES –AUGUST 25, 2020**

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2. DCP-HN-2020-00373 Hanauer-Rosenberg House, Historic Nomination

Ms. Quinn made presentation in accordance with the attached staff report. Ms. Quinn informed that structure sits in a dense, urban, and largely residential street in Pittsburgh’s historic Deutschtown neighborhood (listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well a City of Pittsburgh historic district). She also informed PC about a history of construction and use Hanauer- Rosenberg House. Ms. Quinn explained the criteria for designation and integrity standards. Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission support the positive recommendation for historic nomination of subject building. Chairwoman called for questions and comments from the public.

Mr. Matthew Falcone from Preservation Pittsburgh supported the nomination of structure and asked PC commissioners to approve a positive recommendation. He underlined the uniqueness of structure and its impact on surrounding neighborhood. 3

There being no comments from the Commissioners, the Chairwomen called for the motion.

MOTION: That the Planning Commission of the City of Pittsburgh provides a positive recommendation to City Council for the nomination of Hanauer- Rosenberg House DCP-HN2020-00373 for listing as a City –designated historic site.

MOVED BY: Ms. Burton-Faulk

SECONDED BY: Ms. Dick IN FAVOR: Mondor, Burton-Faulk, Mingo, Deitrick, Dick, O’Neill

RECUSED: OPPOSED MOTION CARRIED