

Historic Building on Locust Street Becomes New Home for Ozzie Perez Hair Salon

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Hair stylist Ozzie Perez has moved to a new location at 2026 Locust Street, a Frank Furness-style building, designed by architects Hazlehurst & Huckel, and built in the latter part of the 19th century. Perez's salon retains many of the original architectural details including a fireplace. The Philadelphia Historical Commission lists the architectural style as Northern European Gothic Townhouse, brick and brownstone with a cornice of copper copiz. In 2001, the mansard roof, dormer, cornice, masonry lintels and sill, and wood windows were restored.

According to an article by Sandra Tatman, retired Executive Director of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia, the architectural firm of Hazlehurst & Huckel was established around 1881 by Edward P. Hazlehurst, formerly with Frank Furness, and Samuel

Huckel, formerly with Benjamin D. Price. The firm designed several important residences, churches, and institutional buildings in the Philadelphia area, including the Manufacturers' Club at 1409 Walnut Street, a commission they won in a competition in 1887.

In 1900, Huckel won the commission to remodel Grand Central Station in New York, and moved there so the firm was disbanded. Compilations of the work by the firm include *Architecture Through a Camera, Photographic Reproductions of Designs Executed by Hazlehurst & Huckel, Architects*, (1894), which includes a photo of 2026 Locust Street; and *Philadelphia and Popular Philadelphians*, (1891). The editors of the latter book commented, "The firm has acquired a high reputation for the beauty and reliability of its plans, and has successfully executed some of the most important undertakings in this city and vicinity."

Researching this article

Conducting research at The Philadelphia Historical Commission at 1515 Arch Street is a simple process once you arrive. (Getting to the building requires navigation through construction blockades and various crosswalks with brief pedestrian signals.) Inside the building, a guard requires you to sign in, get a tag, and enter through controlled gates. The office is located on the 13th floor, behind a locked door. A friendly receptionist greets researchers,



Architectural details feature a leaded glass fan light.

takes your request, clears a table and chairs, and promptly brings you the file you request. Paper still rules in this office. After you have reviewed the file, the receptionist will copy needed pages for you. Once you have found some clues from the paper file, you will have some search terms to use online at home to find additional interesting information.

"Alternate Facts"

In the PHC file, I found a page showing 2026 Locust, copied from *Architecture Through a Camera, Photographic Reproductions of Designs Executed by Hazlehurst & Huckel, Architects* (1894), but no date of completion of the building. Several real estate websites list the date as 1817. But a close reading by CCQ production editor Bill West called that date into question, since it preceded the architects' births and careers by several decades, according to biographies written by Sandra Tatman. Hazlehurst was born in 1853 and quit the University of Pennsylvania (Class of 1876) at the end of his sophomore year to work for architects T. P. Chandler and Frank Furness. Huckel was born in 1858, graduated from Central High School in 1879, studied painting, and worked for Benjamin D. Price, church architect and purveyor of imitation stained glass.



Salon owner Ozzie Perez stands by the ornate original mantel inside the salon's new location.

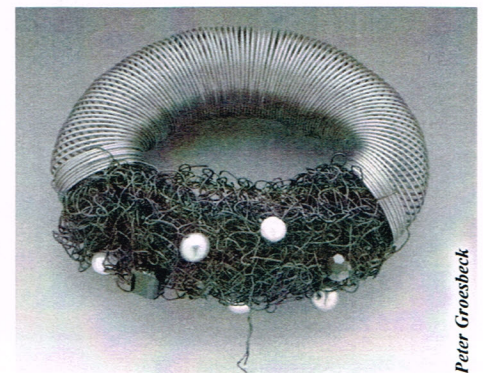
Shop Talk

Jewelry Designer Opens Pop-up Shop in December

Accessories designer Diane Litten will be showing and selling her creative jewelry in a pop-up shop at 1116 Pine Street December 5 to 31; hours are 1 to 6 pm. Her newest wire design can be either worn as jewelry or placed as sculpture on a table or wall. This piece is now at the Museum Store at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

Her jewelry has been exhibited and sold at Snyderman-Works Galleries, Joan Shepp, the Philadelphia Art Alliance, the Cosmopolitan Club of Philadelphia, the Wayne Art Center, and other venues in the U.S.

—Bonnie Eisenfeld



Peter Groesbeck