

First Friday Noontime Forum Series
“Continuing the Growth and Prosperity of Downtown Lancaster”

Highlights – February, 2011

The Delight & Diversity of Lancaster Architecture—Part 1

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- In 1794 Trinity Lutheran Church located on South Duke St. was the tallest structure in Lancaster.
- The transformation of historic properties over the years is amazing— there are gray areas in historic preservation.
- Civic engagement is missing when proposals are made to demolish historic buildings. As a result what we have received in return are inferior in design, they lack character and are mundane.
- The 1970s provided energy conservation designs that were focused on the need to conserve energy.
- The fabric of the City is lost with poor design and the use of inferior materials.
- Setting and keeping the bar high when it comes to design is difficult; however, not insurmountable.
- The community needs to build a public voice to do something about the decisions being made—the issues relating to design need to be moved in a different direction.
- By and large, economic constraints are driving design.
- Sustainable cities still exist—Lancaster City is a fine example.
- The Public needs to become informed about good design so they can speak in an informed manner.