New Life in the Old Town...

FRIENDS' CO-OP:
Before and After

Right: Life as the Friends found it—
crowded rooms, no space for belon-
gings, deteriorating walls, primitive
heating facilities.

(Reed Kingbury photo)

Far Right: Keeping clean is difficult
without proper facilities. Rehabilitated
houses will have automatic laundry
in basement.

(Reed Kingbury photo)

Far Left: One of the original three-
story brick structures stripped down
for the works.

(Theodore Stanford photo)

Left: The face-lifting process—new
wall and new windows replace a dis-
lapidated shed-awning.

(Charles Perry photo)

Right: One cooperates—teaches
other how to make a bookcase.

(Elonore Perry photo)

Far right: A cooperates and
applies his color scheme.

(Elonore Perry photo)

Far left: House in foreground sports
the new look; rear building will
get treatment soon.

(Charles Perry photo)

Left: A kitchen planned to make
housework pleasant, with cabinets
built to measure for the cooperatives.
Cost of refrigerator and stove is in-
cluded in monthly payments.

(Charles Perry photo)

Years of idea, discussions, negotiations and, last not
least, hard labor finally came to a happy ending in De-
cember when the first families moved into the rehabilitated
apartments of the "Friends Project," at 5th and Brown
Streets.

Redevelopment through rehabilitation, cooperative own-
ership, and self-help labor to replace cash down-payments
are the outstanding features of this most-written-about
housing development in Philadelphia.

A part of the East Poplar Redevelopment Area, the
"Quaker block" is adjacent to the Redevelopment Au-
thority's Penn Towne. It will be set off from the new
designed Reading Railroad by a park strip. The Friends
have an option on other blocks in the neighborhood.

Whoever wants to see new life in the old town should
betake himself to 8th and Fairmount and look at the
results of what a few years ago appeared to many an
almost hopeless undertaking.

When the total block is completed, there will be 97
apartments, 50 with one bedroom, 29 with two bedrooms,
18 with three bedrooms, and two with four bedrooms each.
The large units have been selling like the proverbial hot
cakes, but 24 one-bedroom and eight two-bedroom units
are still to be had.