

SPRINGFIELD PRESERVATION TRUST

Quarterly Newsletter

FALL 1987



One of the city's oldest residences is tucked away on a quiet street on Maple Hill.

Anniversary Reception

This is the fifteenth year of the incorporation of the Springfield Preservation Trust. The Trust will celebrate its anniversary by a semi-formal reception in the ornate lobby of the Paramount Theatre on Sunday, November 22 between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Members will receive invitations in the mail. Also invited will be all those who have given "work, wisdom, or wealth" over those fifteen years including past board members, house tour participants, and project sponsors. Circle your calendar to join your fellow preservationists at the party of the year!

At Home in Maple Hill Walk-In Tour

The sun shone brightly on September 27 as more than three hundred people viewed homes in the Maple Hill Historic District. This tour, the fourth At Home Tour since 1984, highlighted a baker's dozen of houses in the Maple Street area, which was designated a historic district ten years ago. Houses represented Federal, Italianate, Stick, Queen Anne, Shingle, Colonial Revival, and Tudor Revival styles.

Once again, Bank of Boston sponsored the tour. The Trust would like to thank the bank as well as the participants who share their homes: John and Ruth Chake, Debby Day, Robert and Patricia Duquette, Herbert Menzel and Wayne MacDonald, Leslie Clement, Richard and Natalie Ryall, Sandra Cummings William and Jane Shawn, Philip and Michelle Brady, Pat and Dina Lyman, and Ted Jarrett — for having shared their homes.

Any members who would like a copy of the tour booklet should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Trust at 979 Main Street, Springfield.

City Council Acts to Protect Railroad Station and Hotel Charles

In good measure as a result of lobbying efforts by the Trust to the Mayor and the City Council, the Urban Renewal plan for the railroad station and the Hotel Charles has been amended. Any developer who wants to demolish any part of these National Register buildings will have to come before the City Council with a definite request.

The Board of SPT is gratified with the support shown by the city government for preservation of these important historic buildings in downtown Springfield.

Architectural Booklet Now Available

The *Guide to Springfield Residential Architecture* is finally complete. This 36-page guide to local architectural styles from the 1800's through the 1980's will be distributed free of charge to Trust members as well as sold publically. The publication, which marks the fifteenth anniversary of the Trust, will be a lasting legacy of the Trust's commitment to appreciation and preservation of the built environment. Assistance in producing this booklet was through funds donated by Studio One Architects and Monarch Capital Corporation and through in-kind services by O'Malley Printing, the Springfield Newspapers, and Doherty-Tzoumas Marketing.

Preservation Issues Candidate Survey

The Trust mailed out a survey to all School Committee and City Council candidates asking their positions on issues that are important to the Trust. Self-addressed, stamped envelopes were included, and follow-up phone calls were made to non-responders. Below you will find the questions and each candidate's response.

1. The City Council is currently on record requiring any proposed demolition of an part of the Railroad Station or the Hotel Charles, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places, to come to City Council for approval. Would you feel it was important enough to save all of this fine old landmark to require a developer to save all of both buildings in order to be chosen as preferred developer?

2. There are six historic districts in the City of Springfield now. Do you favor the enlargement of existing historic districts and the creation of additional historic districts, provided there is public support for them?

3. Much rehabilitation work has been done in the Hollywood section of the South End. Buildings have been demolished to create parking and open space. Should it be determined that there is room for more housing units on the site, would you favor that they be built in a style and scale that is appropriate to the area, such as was done on Mattoon Street?

4. The city owns numerous properties of historical or architectural significance. Would you favor an ordinance requiring the city on disposition of these properties to:

a. obtain an historical assessment of the property by the Springfield Historical Commission, and

b. impose restrictions in the deeds of significant properties to assure their preservation.

5. Currently the Springfield Historical Commission has seats that are designated for representatives of the Springfield Board of Realtors, the Historic Society, and area architects. In 1982 the City Council requested through Home Rule legislation that a seat be designated for the Springfield Preservation Trust. This legislation was passed. Do you favor the implementation of this legislation by voting a seat on the Historic Commission to the Springfield Preservation Trust?

6. In the past, Community Development Block money has been used in part to support the preservation and restoration of historic buildings. Do you favor the continued use of CDBG money for this purpose?

7. The ordinance governing Quadrangle-Mattoon Street Historic District exempts the properties of both the Quadrangle and the Roman Catholic Church from the restrictions otherwise applicable to properties within the historic district. Do you favor removal of the exemption?



Historic Restoration

Sanford H. With

City Council Candidate Responses

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
William Boyle	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bernard Cohen	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Robert Collamore	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-
William Foley	**	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Mary Hurley	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y
Morris Jones	Y*	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	N***
Robert Markel	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mitch Ogulewicz	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Antonette Pepe	Y	Y	***	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kateri Walsh	N †	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N***

NO RESPONSE WAS RECEIVED FROM:

McCollum, DiMonaco,
Baymon, Keough, Santaniello, Ravosa.

- *if possible
- **would not commit at this time
- ***they are already maintaining the historic value of their building
- ****other problems in the neighborhood are more important at this time

****if not used as an excuse not to build affordable housing
† I think it is important to get something started there. I would hate to discourage a developer by that requirement. Perhaps both properties will be developed separately.

School Committee Candidate Responses

	1 a.	b.	c.	2	3
Craig Brown	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ray DiPasquale	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ed Friedman	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Candace Lopes	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	Y
Gerald Phillips	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

NO RESPONSE FROM O'Donnell.

*If consistent with maintenance safety and sound fiscal management.

Candidate Questions

1. Springfield has a very fine stock of older architecturally significant schools.

a. Do you support the retention of architectural detail on buildings, rather than their removal, i.e. cornices, windows, decorative work.

b. Do you support the inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places any school that qualifies?

c. Do you believe that the maintenance and upkeep for all of our old and new schools should be a priority?

2. A new school is being built on the edge of the McKnight Historic District which is both on the National Register of Historic Places and is a local Historic District. Would you support the idea that the school building should be architecturally compatible with the Historic District that it is next to?

3. Currently the curriculum for all students includes a section on Local Springfield History. Would you support the expansion of that curriculum to include a section on architectural styles in Springfield and their appreciation?

Bowdoin Street Property Sold: Phil and Jim Thanked

In October the white 1890's Colonial Revival House the Trust moved to Bowdoin Street was bought by a couple who intend to live there and complete the restoration within the year. They have begun restoring the porches and exterior clapboard, and rehabing the interior.

The house was given to SPT by the Martin Luther King Community Church. Last spring Hicks Movers transported it to Bowdoin Street. Foundation work was then done by Clayton Siegal and site work by Pat Liquori. The Trust put in utilities, the basement slab, and replaced the roof. Funding was provided by the SPT revolving fund and supplemented by Community Savings Bank through Steve Robinson. Funds from the City of Springfield Facade Grant program were used for portions of the exterior restoration.

Trust Officers Phillip Burdick and James Boone deserve great praise and thanks for their talented and generous efforts in seeing this huge project to its successful conclusion.

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Annual Meeting and Picnic

The annual meeting and pot-luck picnic was held on Sunday, August 23 at the home of Elaine and Mike Godek. Election of board members and officers for the 1987-1988 year was held. Officers are Phil Burdick, President; Jim Boone, Vice President for Advocacy; Bob McCarroll, Vice President for Education; Lisa Sotak-Cooper, Clerk; and Marilyn Sutin, Treasurer. The position of Vice President for Restoration was left vacant because all revolving funds are tied up in the Bowdoin Street house. Board members elected were John Bellows, Jim Boone, Phil Burdick, Leslie Clement, Steve Haddad, Roger Harris, Bob McCarroll, Ed Pomeroy, Dave Premont, Anne Rice, Ed Sims, Dan Sotak-Cooper, Lisa Sotak-Cooper, Marilyn Sutin, Sandi Vella, Teri Ward, and Sanford Wilk.

SPT Calendar

Fifteenth Anniversary Reception
November 22

Meetings at 7:30 p.m.

November 4 at Burdick's, 5 Ridgewood Terrace

December 2 Forest Park Library

January 6 Forest Park Library

This newsletter is published by and for the members of the Springfield Preservation Trust, Inc.

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