

CONTRACTOR'S LIST

If you know a skilled craftsman that you would recommend, please let us know.

Please include:

- ~Name of Contractor
- ~Category of work
- ~Phone/Email/website

Send information to
jimboone@hotmail.com

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jimboone@hotmail.com

SPT BOARD MEETINGS

SPT members are welcome to attend

When
Third Wednesday of each month at
6 PM.

Where
Currently these meetings are virtual. Please
email info@springfieldpreservation.org for
more information.

Where
Currently these meetings are virtual. Please email info@springfieldpreservation.org for more information.

NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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VISIT SPRINGFIELD PRESERVATION TRUST ONLINE

www.springfieldpreservation.org Instagram: springfieldpreservation www.facebook.com/preservespringfield

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ABOUT THE SPRINGFIELD PRESERVATION TRUST

SPT believes historic preservation is an important part of making Springfield a great place to live, work, and visit. Historic Preservation is crucial to tourism and economic development and creating a unique sense of place. It's a means of creating jobs, attracting investment, generating tax revenue, and supporting small business.

The mission of the Springfield Preservation Trust (SPT) is to preserve and protect historic buildings and neighborhoods in Springfield, MA, which have architectural, historic, educational, or general cultural significance. SPT believes historic preservation is an important part of making Springfield a better place to live. Preservation is crucial to tourism and economic development and creating a vibrant community. It creates jobs, attracting investment, generating tax revenue, and supporting small businesses. For 49 years, SPT has been an independent voice supporting historic preservation. We organize tours, host events to showcase how our old buildings can be part of our modern lives, and advocate for historic places in Springfield unique. We've helped pass legislation on the state and local levels to protect historic places. Our online resources help homeowners with restoration and educate the public about historic older homes. These activities have helped save and restore Springfield's three historic districts, ensuring them for future generations to enjoy.

SUMMER 2021

image above is
74 Walnut Street the
headquarters of Springfield
Preservation Trust.

SUPPORTERS

Development | Residential | Military

PRESERVATION AWARDS 2021

SPT plans to host the Annual Preservation Awards Ceremony in November. If Covid-19 persists it will be switched to virtual ceremony. This ceremony will honor individuals and organizations that have helped restore and preserve historic places in Springfield.

Nominations for restored buildings will be accepted until July 10. Please email info@springfieldpreservation.org with the owners contact information, name of the nominee and contact information, the Springfield address of the nominated historic building, year erected, current use of the building, and any additional information you think the Trust should know. Please provide a description of the work that has been done or why a stewardship award is deserved. Visit springfieldpreservation.org/preservation-awards to see examples of winners from previous years.

2022 SPRINGFIELD PRESERVATION TRUST CALENDAR

The 2022 calendar will premiere this year at Mattoon Street Arts Festival scheduled for September 11-12, 2021. The Springfield Preservation Trust will be 50 years old in 2022 and the calendar will reflect its incredible history of promoting preservation, education, and advocacy throughout the years. With plenty of photographs and information about some of our successes and losses, this historical calendar will be something everyone wants to own! Thank you to all of our generous sponsors!



MEMBER ONLY: WILLYS-OVERLAND TOUR

On May 13, 2021 Davenport Companies invited the Springfield Preservation Trust members to tour the building. There were two full tours and the Trust would like to thank Davenport Companies for this opportunity!



Image Courtesy of Bill Malloy

Springfield Preservation Trust, Inc.
74 Walnut Street
Springfield, MA 01105

SUPPORTERS

Beate Bolan &
Matthew Forte

~

Stephen Bosworth &
Karen A. Merchant

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as a supporter in the
SPT Quarterly Newsletter?

Become a member at the
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Visit
[springfieldpreservation.org/
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HISTORIC PLACES OF SPRINGFIELD 45 PEARL STREET, SPRINGFIELD, MA

Article Courtesy of Derek Strahan/Lost New England

The mid-19th century was a time of considerable growth for Springfield, leading to the opening of many new streets in the downtown area, including Pearl Street. This house, located at what would eventually become the corner of Mattoon Street, was the first to be built on the new street. It was completed in 1847 as the home of Abel Howe, a mason who evidently designed and built it himself. The exterior was built of brick, and it featured a square, Italianate-style design, with a flat roof and wide overhanging eaves above the third floor.

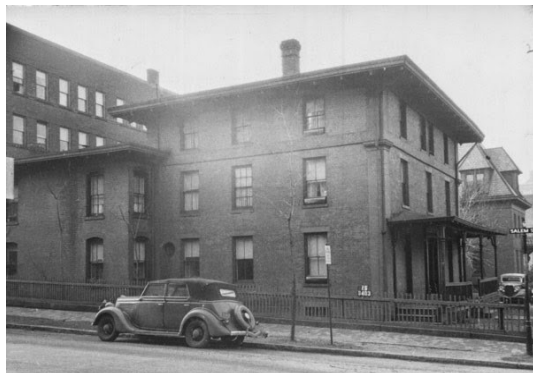
Howe lived here until at least the early 1850s, but by the end of the decade he had moved to a house nearby on Salem Street. Throughout the rest of the 19th century, the house had several different upper middle-class residents, including Dr. Nathan L. Buck, a physician who also had his medical practice here. By 1885, the house was owned by Mary Shaw, who continued to live here until her death in 1906 at the age of 83.

Throughout this time, Springfield's growth had continued unabated, and Pearl Street, which had once been at the outer fringes of downtown, was now in the heart of the city. Many of the large single-family homes in downtown were either demolished, converted into commercial use, or rented out as boarding houses. The latter was the case for this house, which had 24 boarders living here by 1910. Nearly all were unmarried men in their 30s and 40s, and most held working-class jobs such as a carpenter, plumber, painter, tile layer, bookkeeper, and several chauffeurs, salesmen, and machinists.

It was still in use as a boarding house when the WPA photo was taken around 1939. Up until this point, though, the exterior of the house had retained much of its original appearance. However, in 1948 it underwent a major renovation to convert it into a commercial property. The porch was replaced by a new storefront, the overhanging waves were removed, a third story was added to the rear section, and many of the first floor windows were bricked up, among other alterations. The building is still standing today, but because of these changes its exterior bears little resemblance to its original appearance. Despite this, though, it survives as one of the oldest buildings in the area, and it is a remnant of the many upscale homes that once lined this block of Pearl Street.

THANK YOU BOB MCCARROLL!

The Springfield Preservation Trust has received from Bob McCarroll another Qualified Charitable Distribution which has allowed us to fund our advocacy/community engagement coordinator for FY2022. The Trust appreciates your donation to continue our advocacy efforts!



45 Pearl Street WPA Image



45 Pearl Street Image Courtesy of Derek Strahan



Image Courtesy of Jen Rao

My name is Jennifer Rao. I grew up in the Long Island and New Jersey areas, but, as a little girl, I spent many holidays and vacations visiting my grandparents here in Western Massachusetts. On those car trips, I remember marveling at the grand historic architecture of our Northeast cities. Throughout my childhood, I enjoyed trips to historic house museums, living history museums, and antique shows; and watching “This Old House” with my parents. Thus began a lifelong love of historic architecture and antiques.



Image Courtesy of Elizabeth Lawton

I am pleased to become a member of the SPT Board to be of service in its important work to preserve the historic architectural treasures of this City. Just as many European cities have prospered by preserving their historic architecture, I believe that preservation can define and sustain our City as well. My choice of Springfield as my new home, and my investment in the City, stand as a testament to the value of the early efforts of the SPT and my neighbors to preserve our City.

WELCOME ELIZABETH LAWTON TO THE SPT BOARD

Elizabeth Lawton has lived in an 1870 townhouse on Maple Street in Springfield since July 2011. She grew up in New York city suburbs and throughout her high school and college years worked in historic houses and museums. She attended Purchase College, majoring in Medieval and Renaissance Art and Medieval and Modern Architecture, minoring in Psychology and graduated in 1998 with a BA in Art History. She has worked in the professional liability insurance industry for over twenty years, once upon a time as a Lloyd's of London underwriter, most recently as an independent contracting online administrative assistant. Her first contact with SPT was in 2010 when she started dating Steven Shultis (a Springfield native, lifelong resident and former SPT board member.) Many of their first dates were at SPT activities; attending the 2011 SPT annual meeting and serving as house captains and guides for SPT tours.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Image Courtesy of WPA



Image Courtesy of WPA

SECOND SATURDAY WALKING TOUR: SPRINGFIELD PAST & PRESENT-A HISTORICAL LOOK AT THE GRANDEUR OF CHESTNUT STREET

Join local historian Derek Strahan for a walking tour that will explore the days when Chestnut Street was lined with grand 19th century mansions. With the help of historic maps and photographs, Derek will tell the stories of these long-lost houses and the famous artists, publishers, military leaders, and business tycoons who once lived in them. Meet and buy your ticket no later than 10:30 am on July 10. Additionally, the next walking tour for August 14 will be revealed.

"VOICES FROM THE GRAVE " CEMETERY TOUR

Due to the Covid-19 we postponed cemetery tours last year. Our eighth annual Cemetery Tour on **Sunday, October 17th** at Springfield Cemetery, 171 Maple Street. Docent-led groups will visit costumed interpreters at the graves. From 1-4pm for a 45 minute tour. Ticket information will be coming soon. Space, is limited and we expect to sell out.

MORE EVENTS COMING SOON

Events for the summer and fall will be added to the Trust's website. Through the creation and donation of DIF Design, the Trust has a brand new website. Ben Murphy, Kira Holmes, Stephen Davis, and the entire SPT board also supported this project. Check our website <https://springfieldpreservation.org/> , Facebook page, Instagram pages, or call SPT at 413-747-0656 to learn about eventd. Additionally, if you have program ideas please email info@springfieldpreservation.org .

