

# SPRINGFIELD PRESERVATION TRUST

NEWSLETTER

\* Summer 1982 \*

## WALLACE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF SPT

Members of the Springfield Preservation Trust elected Laurence R. Wallace as president for the 1982-83 year at the annual meeting held on May 5th in the Community Room of the Hotel Worthy.

Elected as vice presidents were Robert S. McCarroll, Education; James A. Boone, Restoration; David W. Sanborn, Advocacy; and Stephen W. Wallace, 2nd vice president for Advocacy. John Bellows was elected Treasurer.

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## MASS. HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT ENABLES

### TRUST TO SURVEY NORTH, SOUTH ENDS

Springfield Preservation Trust has been awarded a grant of \$5,000 for a survey of historical and architectural resources in Springfield's North End and South End by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

In announcing the grant on July 15th, SPT president Laurence R. Wallace stated:

"Award of this grant by the Massachusetts Historical Commission is welcome evidence of the growing esteem in which SPT is held, by both the private and the public sectors."

SPT must match the grant with another \$5,000, bringing the cost of the survey to a total of \$10,000.

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## HOUSE TOUR --

### A SPECTACULAR SUCCESS

The sixth annual tour of historic houses sponsored by the SPT on May 16th enjoyed an unprecedented success, with public participation more than doubling over 1981.

Co-chairmen Elaine Godek and Beverly Lynch reported at the June 3rd meeting of the board that 900 people took the tour with all but the last of six busses filled to capacity.

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1111 main street  
springfield, mass. 01103

FEDERAL BUDGET SLASH THREATENS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

The Springfield Preservation Trust has joined with 109 concerned Massachusetts organizations in an effort to persuade Congress to restore \$30 million tagged for historic preservation programs in the 1983 fiscal year. The funds have been cut from the proposed budget by the Reagan administration.

Spearheaded by the Society for the Preservation for New England Antiquities, the group, called the Massachusetts Coalition to Preserve America's Heritage, is urging citizens to contact their senators and representatives on behalf of restoration of the budget cuts.

According to Dave Sanborn, vice president of advocacy, it is imperative for SPT members to write or phone their congressional representatives and advise them of their support for this issue.

"It is critical for members of Congress to understand that federal support of state historic preservation offices has established an effective partnership of government, corporate, private and volunteer efforts to identify, preserve and economically develop the nation's architectural resources. In Massachusetts alone since 1976 there has been a \$250 million investment in the restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings -- \$200 million of which have come from the private sector.

"Total elimination of federal support in the FY 83 budget would eliminate:

- additional National Register nominations;
- the mechanism to administer tax incentives for the rehabilitation of historic buildings;
- state involvement in resource protection programs;
- grants to communities of historic property surveys, such as the one awarded to SPT to survey the North and South Ends of Springfield; and
- grants for the restoration of historic properties.

"I therefore urge every member of the SPT to contact his senator and congressman and support restoration of these funds to the budget."

Dave Sanborn has contacted Senators Edward M. Kennedy and Paul E. Tsongas, and Congressmen Edward M. Boland and Silvio O. Conte to represent the SPT position. Senator Tsongas and Congressman Conte have responded with pledges of support for restoration of the budget cuts.

Where to write or phone? See Page Three.

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RESTORE FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS! CONTACT:

Senator Edward M. Kennedy  
109 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-3121

Senator Paul A. Tsongas  
437 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-3121

Cong. Edward P. Boland  
1883 Main Street  
Springfield, MA 01101  
733-4127

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MASS. HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT AWARDS \$5,000 -- Continued

The SPT survey will investigate the designated areas street by street and building by building. It will identify dwellings and commercial buildings whose historical or architectural interest renders them suitable for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Each structure will be photographed, and researched for its pedigree -- who lived there, who worked there, and what occupations were carried on there? An individually documented survey sheet, plus a photo, will be compiled for each structure.

The survey will begin this fall and require a year to complete. Results will be forwarded to the Mass. Historical Commission.

As originally proposed, the survey would have included two other hitherto unsurveyed Springfield neighborhoods centering on Pine and Central Streets, and a portion of the McKnight District not yet identified as a historic district.

However, the Historic Commission notified the SPT board that due to budget cuts the Commission would be unable to fund the larger survey.

Coordinator for the project is Bob McCarroll, vice president for education. The grant application was prepared by board members Claudia Elferdink and Ed Lonergan.

Members of the SPT who have information to impart that will aid in the survey on buildings in the North End or South End are requested to call Ed Lonergan days at 739-3871 xt 25, or evenings at 732-1265.

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DATE SET FOR

FALL FOLIAGE TOUR

TO BERKSHIRES

HOUSE TOUR A SPECTACULAR SUCCESS

-- Continued

October 3rd is the date to enter on your calendars for the SPT third annual Fall Foliage Tour. Shaker Village in Hancock is the destination, and due to the number and variety of exhibits, it will be the only stop.

A chartered bus will depart on Sunday morning for Shaker Village, where 20 buildings will be open for inspection. Return will be late Sunday afternoon.

Included in the price will be transportation, light refreshments, and all admissions. Tickets will cost \$15. for members; \$20. for non-members.

Lunches may be purchased at Shaker Village, or it is suggested that travellers bring a box lunch.

Since only one bus will be chartered, advance reservations will be required.

For reservations call Bob McCarroll, 736-0629 after 5:00 PM. Bob will have tickets available at the pot luck family picnic on August 8th.

The tour grossed \$5,317 in ticket sales. Expenditures covering the hiring of busses, posters, tickets and miscellaneous expenses were \$602.75, leaving a net to the SPT of \$4,715.25.

The co-chairmen attributed the success of the tour to strong advance publicity in newspapers and television. And, added Elaine Godek, "the historic house tour is becoming known as a unique and fascinating way of viewing some of Springfield's marvels of architecture and of rehabilitation."



MEMBERSHIP FORM

- Student \$10
- Patron \$50
- Individual \$15
- Supporting \$100
- Family \$25
- Benefactor \$200

Any suggestions, comments, ideas?  
Do you have special areas of interest?

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Mail your check to:

Springfield Preservation Trust  
1111 Main Street  
Springfield, MA 01103



SPT ELECTS -- Continued

Elected to the board of directors were Hilton Abbott, Ed Crowley, Faye Dixon, Claudia Elferdink, Lois Guckin, Sandy Hoke, Ed Lonergan, Pat Mallette, Peter Picknelly, Tony Restivo and Marilyn Sutin.

Elected to the newly created advisory board were Ellie Dashevsky, Elaine Godek and Beverly Lynch, all immediate past directors.

The directors meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Community Room of Forest Park Branch Library at the corner of Belmont Avenue and Oakland Street. Board meetings are open to the membership.

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE SPT FAMILY PICNIC!

The SPT's annual pot luck family picnic will be an event of Sunday August 8th at the home of Mike and Elaine Godek, 8 Bellevue Avenue (corner of Belmont Ave.). The picnic will take place from 2:00 to 6:00 PM.

Picnickers are requested to contact Elaine for reservations, which are required although there is no charge for the function. Each family will contribute one dish to the feast, with Elaine co-ordinating the menu. Families will provide their own liquid refreshments.

All members are invited to attend.

BUCKINGHAM STREET HOUSE NOW  
BEING READIED FOR OCCUPANCY

The SPT's current restoration project, the Breck house at 134 Buckingham Street, is in the final stage of completion. It is expected that the house will be ready for sale on September 1st.

An editorial in The Daily News on June 15th lauded the project for the federal tax credit which SPT will pass to the owner, and also because the owner will gain a special bonus -- a piece of Springfield's history absolutely free.

Jim Boone, vice president for restoration, is in charge of the rehabilitation.

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL, SPT, COMBINE  
TO OFFER WORKSHOP  
ON PRESERVATION TAX INCENTIVES

Springfield Preservation Trust joined on May 13th with Springfield Central, Inc. to offer a three-hour workshop on Tax Incentives for Historic Preservation. Held at Springfield Central's offices at 338 Worthington Street, the workshop attracted 47 participants from the professions of accounting, realty and architecture, as well as city officials, members of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, owners of historic buildings, and other property owners.

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SPT, SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL OFFER TAX INCENTIVES WORKSHOP

-- Continued.

Organizing the workshop were Dave Sanborn, vice president for advocacy, and Sandy Hoke, immediate past vice president for education.

The seminar illuminated the benefits of ERTA, the Economic Tax Recovery Act of 1981, under which certified historic structures are favored by investment tax credits above all other rehabilitation work. Taken off the individual's final federal income tax liability, the ITC reduces the obligation by 25%, dollar for dollar. An additional benefit to the investor is a 15-year straight-line schedule of depreciation. Stringent rules governing the validity of ITC-claimed restorations were also presented.

Those presenting various aspects of the topic included Antoinette Tomasik of the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission; William Finch and Joseph Orphant of the Massachusetts Historical Commission; Herb Eisenberg of Eisenberg Associates, Boston; William F. Malloy of Hegarty, Malloy, Sagalyn & Battista, attorneys; Richard J. Callahan, CPA, of Coopers & Lybrand; James S. Hughes and William Haynsworth of Boston Financial Technology Group, Inc.; and David Sanborn of Brooks, Mulcahey & Sanborn, attorneys.

Thanks to the provisions of ERTA, in an opinion expressed by Dave Sanborn, such otherwise uneconomic projects as the revitalization of the Indian Motorcycle Building may be made viable for re-use.

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PRESERVATION  
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NONPROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SPRINGFIELD, MA  
PERMIT NO. 219

Published quarterly for members of the SPT.

1111 Main Street  
Springfield, MA 01103

Editor: Pat Mallette