



SPRING 1981
NEWSLETTER

SPRINGFIELD
PRESERVATION
TRUST

5th ANNUAL BUS TOUR

The magnificently detailed, honeymoon home of Samuel Bowles III and his wife, Elizabeth Hoar Bowles will be open to the public on May 17th, between 11AM and 4PM, as part of the celebration of the fifth annual Springfield Preservation Trust Historic House Tour.

This 1884 home is a wonderful example of stick architecture and has been carefully painted to highlight the numerous fine architectural details. Bowles followed in his father's footsteps as editor and publisher of the Republican and the house remained in the Bowles Family until 1961 and the present owners Kenneth and Marian Ralph acquired title of the house in 1978. From its Crescent Hill location the Bowles House has a fine view of downtown Springfield.

Also featured on the House Tour will be the Coe House on Harvard Street representing the McKnight Historic District, The William H. Parks House on Forest Park Avenue which is the first Mission Revival style house ever open to the public in Springfield. The Bryan House on Temple Street which was once the home of the publisher of the original Good Housekeeping magazine, and the former home of Elizabeth D. Hall Paige built at the turn of the century on Long Hill Street and is now occupied by Joseph and Mary Napolitan.

Guided busses will leave hourly, starting at 11AM until 4PM, from Classical High School on State St. where there is parking behind the school. The cost is \$5. per ticket. Anyone who wishes to may also drive themselves, maps will be provided with the purchase of tickets. Tickets and other information can be obtained from MOCCA, Cornell Galleries and Metro Arts on Hampden St. No tickets will be sold at the Tour Houses.

On the day of the Tour four area restaurants will give a generous discount on meals of 10%.

These restaurants are:
Mr. Magoo's- 90 Worthington St.
Theodore's- 201 Worthington St.
Two Mattoon- 2 Mattoon St.
Ichabod's- 25 Fort St

"DIM" WITS DESTROY PERIOD LIGHTING

Bill Malloy

During a recent visit to St. Paul Minnesota, my family toured a large area in the city which has a historic district similar to our local districts. One striking feature was the well maintained 1920's period street lighting. This is the product of good government and neighborhood activism.

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TRUST SETS GOALS

After several months of study The Springfield Preservation Trust Board of Directors adopted a purpose and set of goals for the organization.

They are as follows:

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Springfield Preservation Trust is to encourage the preservation, use and appreciation of Springfield's historically and architecturally significant built environment.

GOALS

Educate the community to the value of older buildings as reusable physical resources, as important contributors to the urban fabric, and as vital links for historical continuity.

To provide a resource center for persons seeking information on restoration and maintenance techniques.

To publish a newsletter to keep members and the community informed of the Springfield Preservation Trust activities and of issues vital to preservation.

To operate a speaker's bureau to explain the purposes, procedures and rewards of preservation, to outline the goals of the Springfield Preservation Trust, and to discuss current preservation issues and activities.

To arrange educational events which heighten awareness and appreciation of the built environment.

To maintain publications and media exposure to publicize the purpose goals and activities of the Springfield Preservation Trust, and to recognize significant preservation efforts in Springfield.

Acquire, rehabilitate and resell properties that are threatened with demolition, further deterioration, or architecturally inappropriate alterations.

To set an example of how older buildings can be treated with sensitivity towards their historic and architectural value.

To show the public the advantages of preserving older buildings and to enhance appreciation for their significance.

To demonstrate the possibilities inherent in the existing building stock.

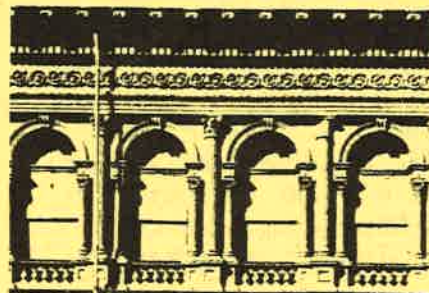
To provide a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization.

Maintain an awareness of and respond to preservation issues.

To monitor public and private activities which may have an impact on the historic built environment.

To organize educational, political, or legal responses to issues important to the community in the area of preservation.

In order to better achieve the purpose and goals, the board hopes to locate office space and hire an executive director in the coming year. Such an expansion will require a major fundraising effort. The board will be attempting to raise approximately \$30,000. to finance SPT activities and \$20,000 to augment the restoration Revolving Fund. This fundraising activity will involve increasing general and business memberships, special projects and seeking government and corporate grants.



173 BAY STREET DONE !!

Jim Boone



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The Springfield Preservation Trust's second project, 173 Bay Street is completed and looking beautiful. A total restoration by experts Robert Smith, Ron Ardizoni's Team, Johnson Electric, Lodigiani Plumbing and Marty Johnson have turned this house into a show case. Everything from roof to walls, ceilings, floors and new plumbing and heating have been done.

This project is a continuation of the Trust's desire to both get back on the market seriously deteriorated, vacant buildings and to set an example for what quality workmanship can do for an old house.

To celebrate the completion of 173 Bay Street, an Open House for all Trust members and the general public will be held on May 31, 1981 from 1-5PM. Come and see what your organization is doing and bring a friend.

If you know of anyone looking for for a high quality house for a reasonable amount - this may be the place for you. The house is on the market for \$32,900. Remember 120 Westminster Street, our first house, sold the day after the Open House!!

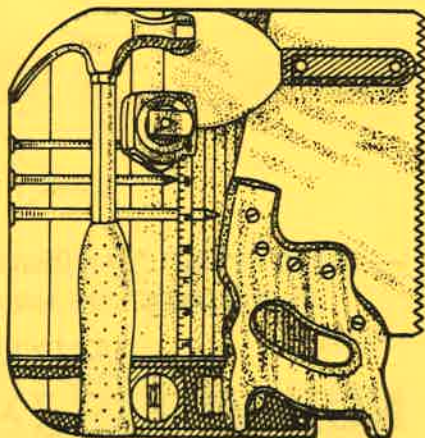
We are proud of 173 Bay Street -
Come and see it May 31.

In the early 1960's, the neighborhood pressured the city not to use the Federal money available for urban lighting. That program made huge sums of money available to improve lighting with the goal of 'safe streets'. At the same time some St. Paul neighborhoods opted for the new lights.

The result was that each neighborhoods' desires were fulfilled and with excellent planning, the old street lights were taken down and stored for use as replacements in the neighborhoods where they opted to keep the period lighting.

In Springfield, the Federal money was used and all period street lights were removed and thrown away. The replacement lights which not only throw light on the street but in my case the back wall of my front bedroom, are now being systematically turned off as a cost saving measure. In addition, police studies indicate that lighting has NO effect on street crime.

Unfortunately, the restoration of the old period lighting would be to costly to be practical but would be a tremendous asset to our historic areas! As preservationists, we should always be ready to shed light on saving such assets from destruction.



SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER

NEW RESTORATION PROJECT

The Springfield Preservation Trust is offering a reduced membership for those buying Tour tickets this Spring. Each Tour ticket price of \$5.00 will be credited towards an annual membership, so that for as little as \$5.00, YOU can be a member. This offer is for a period of time between May 17 and June 15.

Your membership, your support and talents are very important to us. If you enjoy the tour, consider joining the Trust so that we can do more in such community-wide preservation activities. We also need your ideas, comments and suggestions: please note them on the membership form below. We will have a Membership Table at the Tour so that we will be available to respond and, hopefully, to accept your membership dues.

Eleanor Dashevsky and
Faye Dixon

Jim Boone

The Board of Directors of the Springfield Preservation Trust has voted to purchase and restore the property at 134 Buckingham St. This house is vacant, vandalized and completely gutted. It stands on a large lot at the corner of Buckingham and Bay Streets, on a lovely park.

The house has been vacant since 1976. The former owner intended to restore it but only got as far as gutting it. The house will be a two family dwelling.

Because of the extremely bad condition, no private developer or individual could afford to bring this building back to life. In the Trust's continuing efforts to work in one specific area and to rescue the worst cases, this house will be another example of what can be done to preserve and revitalize our historic neighborhoods.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

- Student \$5
- Individual \$10
- Family \$25
- Patron \$25
- Supporting \$50
- Benefactor \$100

() Credit my Historic House Tour ticket towards my membership.

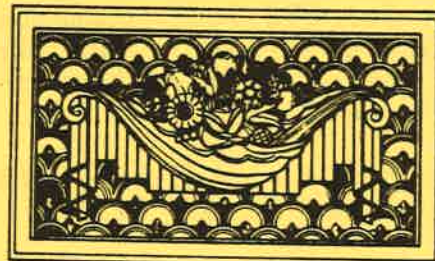
Suggestions, comments and ideas please?

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Mail to: Springfield Preservation Trust, Inc.
7 Stockbridge Street
Springfield, MA 01103



This newsletter was produced by Glenn and Mary Jane Cratty.

