



# Springfield Preservation Trust

## S P T

JULY 2012

### 40<sup>th</sup> Mattoon Street Festival & Events

2012 marks the 40th year of the Mattoon Street Arts Festival, the 40th anniversary of the Quadrangle-Mattoon Historic District (the city's first historic district!), and the 40th birthday of the Springfield Preservation Trust. There are several special events happening in conjunction with this year's festival.



On Saturday, September 8, the **S a t u r d a y** Walking Tour will be led by Henry Duffy, curator of the **A u g u s t u s** **S a i n t -** **G a u d e n s** **N a t i o n a l** Historic Site. Mr. Duffy will

be talking about Saint-Gaudens' work in Springfield, particularly the Puritan statue which now stands in Merrick Park. The tour begins at 10:30 at the Springfield Museums' Welcome Center on Edwards Street. Admission is \$5.00 per person, but is free for members of the Springfield Museums or the Armoury-Quadrangle Civic Association (AQCA). The tour ends around noontime.

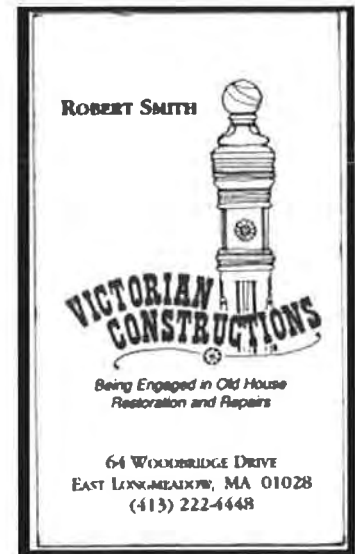
Also on Saturday, the Mattoon Association is partnering with the Springfield Preservation Trust to put on a wonderful and varied home tour. At least six different homes on Mattoon and Elliot streets will be open to view. This is a rare treat to sneak a peak inside these wonderful urban Victorian homes. The tour will run from 1:00 to 4:00 on Saturday afternoon. Ticket prices are \$15 in advanced and \$20

the day of the tour. Proceeds and expenses will be split between the Trust and the Mattoon Association.

On Sunday, the Hidden Gardens of Mattoon Street will be on view from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This is a self-guided tour to the many nooks and crannies of gardens behind several of the townhouses on the street. Tickets will be \$5.00 per person, but free for people who attended Saturday's home tour and retained their tickets.

All weekend long there will be screenings of a video being created to document the formation of the historic district and detailing how the street has evolved since the 1870's. There will be strolling, unamplified musicians and other street performers. And, of course, the festival itself will feature more than 90 artisans from around New England displaying their handmade wares. This is a great opportunity to get holiday shopping done early or to pick up a little personal treat.

The festival and all related activities happen rain or shine. The festival is open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, September 8 and 9. There is ample parking in the downtown lots and on nearby streets. Admission to the festival is always free.



Visit [www.MattoonFestival.org](http://www.MattoonFestival.org) for more information.

**Summer Fundraiser**

Sixty members and friends attended the 2012 Garden Party on June 24. It was hosted by John Murray and Carl



Standen at 208 Longhill Street, their 1912 stucco Arts &



Crafts style home designed by G. Wood Taylor. Guests milled about the beautiful house and yard with its pool and

great view while enjoying music provided courtesy of neighbor David Neill.

Special thanks go to Bob Holbrook, who organized the party, and to Denise Moccia, who organized the raffle. We wish to also thank the following people and organizations who generously donated items for the affle: Betty Boggis, Big Y; Suburban Companies;

Becky George, Greenfield Chamber of Commerce; Tina D'Agostino, City Stage; Melissa Pinkerton, Six Flags Friends; and Trudi Fernandes. As always, Al dente catering did a great job.

**Spring Homes Tour**

The Trust broke new ground with its May 6 tour featuring six homes developed following World War II. Tour goers enjoyed the spacious homes, some of which had wonderful views of woods or Watershop Pond.



Thanks go to homeowners Marilyn Sutin and Brian Ferriter, Rita Bell, Ray Chapdelaine, Katherine and Camille Porter, David and Carol Meehan, and Kathleen and Peter Krupczak.

**Preservation Awards Ceremony**

The annual Historic Preservation Awards Reception was held May 30 in Center Court of Tower Square, 1500 Main Street. Photographs of award winning properties were on display from May 19 until June 2.




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The event honored owners who have made contributions towards preserving and renovating buildings in the city.

Melva McLaurin for 90 Dartmouth Street;

Austin and Barbara Kenefick for 27 Atwater Terrace;



Recognized were:

Demetrios Panteleakis for 52 Westminster Street;

David Klimas for 294 Island Pond Road;

Concerned Citizens of Springfield for 115 Sumner Avenue;

Steve and Liz Shultis for 80 Maple Street;

Bob McCarroll for 27 Mattoon Street;

Don Courtemanche for 220 Maple Street;

Old Time Corporation for 238 Maple Street;

Sacred Heart Church for window restoration;

Nicholas and Yvonne Kintgios for 54 Atwater Terrace;

Austin and Barbara Kenefick for 27 Atwater Terrace;



Borinquen Apartments LLC for 2772-2778 Main St;

First Resource Management for 196-200 Locust Street, 270-274 Locust Street, 48 Fort Pleasant Avenue, 926 Worthington Street, and 95 Federal Street.



*The Edward Sims Award for Residential Stewardship* recognized David Hall for 2 Glen Road

*The George Pooler Award for Residential Rehabilitation* honored David

Finn and Kelli Moriarty for 63 Atwater Terrace.

Thanks to Kathleen Pellegrino, Trudy Fernandes, and Michael Marcinkewich for their work on the event.

### Update, 77 Maple

Peter Hamm has completed, with his usual high quality, the "last" funded work for now.



See you at Brimfield  
May 8-13 July 10-15 September 4-9  
At the Brimfield Antique Center

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The project consisted of:

- Restoration of West (Front) cornice.
- Removal of some old downspouts on the West facade.
- Restoration of 3 more Windows.
- Application of Lexan (security glazing) to 10 of the restored Windows, which allows us to show-off more of our completed work.
- Miscellaneous other small items.

And, that's it for now. Further fundraising, now being organized, for any more construction work to proceed. Prior to the final building-the-units phase, we need to finish the "shell", or "envelope", with Window, Door, and Porch restorations, roof touchups, masonry and painting work, etc., along with some remaining structural repairs. Stay tuned.

### Curiosities at 77 Maple St.; The Moved Chimneys:

At the rear of the Main building, 2 chimneys were "moved", leaving behind weakened floors.

Here's my guess on what happened. The Female Seminary was built with windows across the back, some of whose locations can still be seen. A tiny, 1-story ell would have been a "service entrance", and provided access out to the privies. Chimneys for fireplaces / stoves were near the rear corners. As the building was converted to residential use (1840s), a large, 2-story ell (now our "main ell") was added, for kitchen / laundry uses, servants' rooms, a rear stair, and, before long, indoor plumbing. This covered the rear windows. Ah, but, there was enough space for a rear window near each rear corner --- where the chimneys were. So, they moved-over the chimneys a few feet, closer to the middle of the rear area.

Well, for all that work, they cheated on the floor framing! In front of each fireplace is a hearth, the well-known masonry "pad" to catch most sparks etc., which otherwise would land on wood. But that hearth, 5-feet wide, leaves a big gap in the floor framing.

So, on each side of the hearth is a small beam called a trimmer. Between those is a header, which holds-up the hearth on one side, and the intermediate floor joists (the regular, tiny beams, every 16") on the other side. So, the trimmers carry a lot of weight. It was all nice-and-neat.

But then they moved-over the chimneys' locations, about half-a-hearth in distance. They simply cut the interfering trimmer, gave it a tiny bit of support, and extended the hearth over. An undersized header-extension was put in, connected to a regular joist as the new "trimmer".

This flimsy set-up has sagged considerably, and some of the minimal supports have failed completely. To fix this, we'll do some "sisters", to avoid a more-drastring removing of existing framing. Sistering is a way of strengthening existing framing, in place, by adding new framing members next to existing ones, usually by spiking / bolting. Support at the sisters' ends needs to be suitably improved. We'll cut the original header, sistering joists at each side of the "new" hearths, to become proper trimmers. Similar sistering will be done to get proper headers. All this will be done with the floors jacked-up as close to level as we can get. And yes, I'm enjoying figuring this out.

That's the last "major" structural item to be fixed. Beyond that, I have a list of minor structural "touchups", and then we'll be 'bout set. It's a shame the building was gutted-out by the previous owner, but it sure does help with this kind of work.

### Advertising

If you are interested in advertising in our newsletter, the cost is \$35 per issue for a business card size ad. Contact [jimboone@hotmail.com](mailto:jimboone@hotmail.com) if you would like to join the group of advertisers that support the Trust and want to have our members as customers.

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## Enewsletter

In an effort to reduce operating costs, the printed newsletter will only be mailed to currently paid Springfield Preservation Trust members. If you are a currently paid member and wish to help reduce expenses, please consider opting to receive the Trust newsletter by email only. You can sign up for the enewsletter at [www.springfieldpreservationtrust.org](http://www.springfieldpreservationtrust.org); just fill out your name and email address under the eNews Sign-Up banner on the left side of the page.

You can also find us on FaceBook, [www.facebook.com/PreserveSpringfield](http://www.facebook.com/PreserveSpringfield)

## Membership

If you haven't already done so, please consider renewing your membership today. The dollars received from membership support projects such as the renovation of 77 Maple St, educational events that support preservation activities, and advocating for the preservation of Springfield's built environment.

Monthly meetings of the Springfield Preservation Trust are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at the Mason Wright Retirement Center, 74 Walnut Street. All Trust members are welcome.

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