

## SOME HOMES TO NOTE

(1) **37 George Street (1896)** was designed in the Colonial Revival style by Frederick Newman for his residence. Newman came to Springfield in the early 1880s and soon set up his own architecture office. He designed numerous downtown office buildings, including the Court Square Building. Colonial Revival (1890s-1990s), America's most enduring style, began after the 1876 Centennial Celebration renewed interest in early architecture. Revival houses often have multi-pane windows, fan lights, and classically detailed doorways.



(2) **357 Maple Street (c.1865)** is a Carpenter Gothic cottage first owned by George Reynolds, a prominent contractor and landscaper. One of his major local projects was the grading and laying out of roads in Forest Park. The house stayed in the family until the 1960s. Originally a smaller house, it was enlarged over the years. The elaborate porches were added after the turn-of-the-century. The board and batten on the upper level is characteristic of the style.

(3) **400 Maple Street (1929)** is Springfield's only example of the French Provincial style, which was popular between the two world wars. Designed by Boston architect John Barnard, it cost \$45,000 to build. Its first owner was Clarence Schoo, who came to the city in 1920 and founded the General Fibre Box Company.

(4) **237-239 Mill Street (1852)** is a reminder of the industrial origin of the area. This simple brick house was built as a double tenement for the Ames Paper Company which was located nearby on the Mill River.

(5) **185 Mill Street (1905)** was built for Solomon Griffin, managing editor of the *Springfield Republican*. The local architectural firm of Kirkham and Parlett designed the Tudor Revival style house. The stable for the house still exists to its east and is now used for offices. Tudor Revival (1900s-1940s) is second only to Colonial Revival in longevity. It harkens back to medieval English architecture with half timbering, stucco, diamond-pane windows, and elaborate chimneys.

(6) **7 Crescent Hill (1888)** is a fine example of the Shingle style, which featured plain shingles as wall cladding. The Boston firm of Hartwell and Richardson, which also designed Classical High School, designed this house for Harriet Southworth. The Shingle Style (1890s-1900s) spread across the nation from posh summer resorts in the Northeast. Leading architects molded what has been called "the most original American style."



(7) **4 Crescent Hill (c.1865)** is the carriage house of a large brick mansion which stood where the new condominiums now stand. The estate was designed by Calvert Vaux, the influential New York architect. The carriage house itself cost \$8,000--no small amount in its day. The house was demolished during the great depression to lessen the owner's taxes.

## HISTORY

In 1822, David Ames, Sr. opened this section of Maple Street to provide improved access to his paper factory on the Mill River. A few years later, he had a house built on the street as a wedding present for his son David, Jr. Over the next one hundred years, the area was developed with houses for Springfield's business and civic leaders.

The Maple Hill Historic District was designated in 1977. Its homes reflect styles popular between the 1820s and the 1920s and can be best seen during a stroll through the area. Because there is no parking on the major streets, park on George Street to begin a walk through a hundred years of America's changing tastes in residential architecture.

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## A Guide to Maple Hill Springfield's 19th Century "Gold Coast"



The Springfield Preservation Trust, Inc.

3 blocks to  
State Street

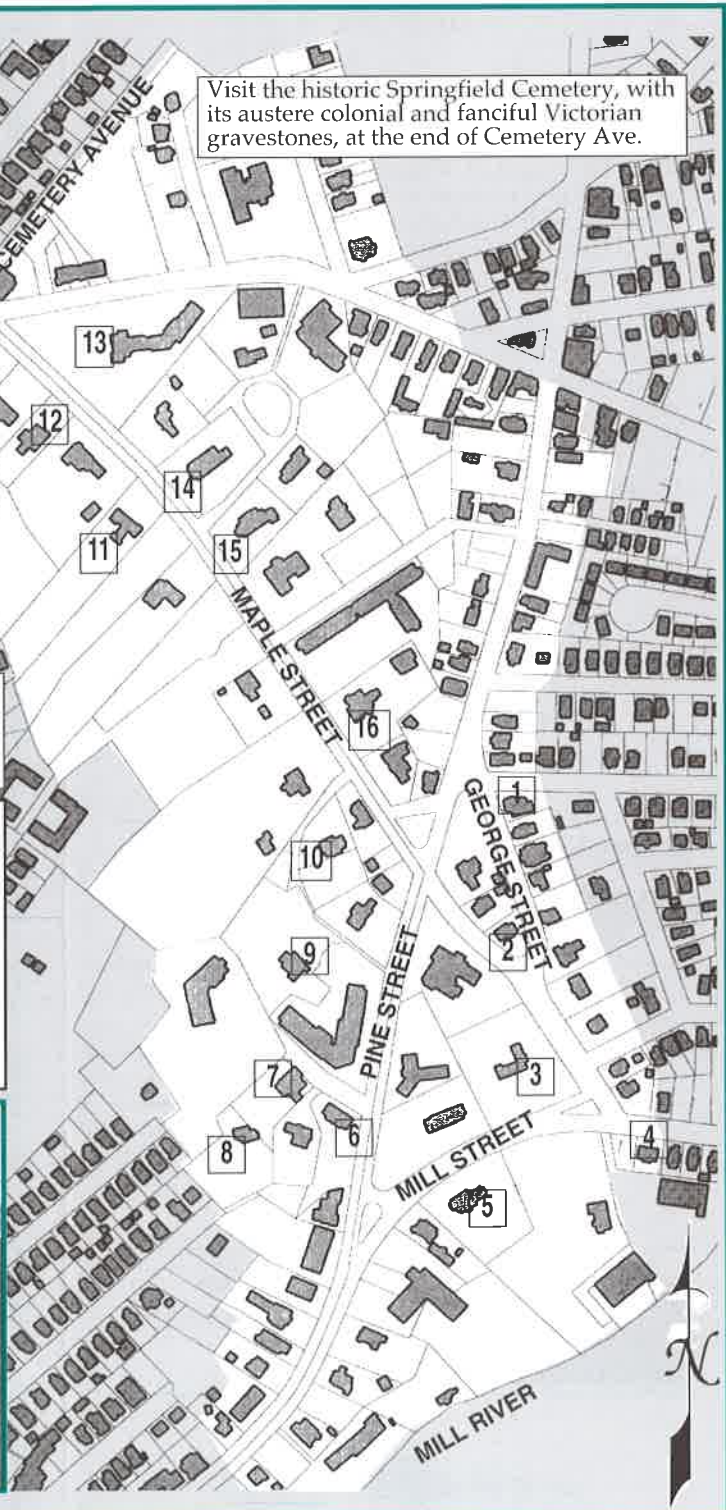
Visit the historic Springfield Cemetery, with its austere colonial and fanciful Victorian gravestones, at the end of Cemetery Ave.

The Maple Hill Historic District lies along Maple Street, beginning one half mile south of State Street. From Downtown, it can be reached by foot, car or bus B13.

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(8) **5 Crescent Hill (1897)** was designed by the local architectural firm of Gardner, Pyne, & Gardner in the Queen Anne style (1880s-1890s), the style most considered "Victorian." Irregular massing of house and roof, decorative shingles, and porches with turned columns and spindles are hallmarks of this English import. The original owner was George Merriam, son of the founder of the world famous G & C Merriam company. Merriam worked at the family business as an essayist and biographer. The house remained in the family until the 1940s.

(9) **3 Crescent Hill (1849)** was called "one of the finest 19th century houses in America" by prominent architectural historian Henry Russell Hitchcock. It was designed by Henry Sykes for John Mills, an attorney and politician, who served as a State Senator and State Treasurer. He was also a vice-presidential candidate on the Free Soil Party, an antislavery ticket. The picturesque Italian Villa style (1840s-1870s) was loosely based on rural houses of Italy. It is characterized by decorative eave brackets, bay windows, and wide porches or elaborate door hoods.

(10) **1 Crescent Hill (1884)** was built for Samuel Bowles, III, the third generation of his family to publish the *Springfield Republican*, founded in 1824. The house was designed in the Stick style by Springfield architect Eugene Gardner. Stick houses (1860s-1880s) emphasizes walls as important decorative elements whereas other styles applied decoration to doors, windows, eaves and porches. Note the vertical and horizontal boards on the walls of this house.

(11) **250 Maple Street (1928)** is another design of Boston architect John Bernard. It was built for attorney Edwin Gardner and is an impressive example of the Tudor Revival style.

(12) **220 Maple Street (1873)** is one of Springfield's few examples of the High Victorian Gothic Style. It was designed by the noted Boston architectural firm of Ware & VanBrunt and was built by Springfield master builder Chauncey Shepard. Calvin Loomis was the first owner.

(13) **201 Maple Street (1844)** was built for Homer Foot, a successful hardware merchant on Main Street, and remodeled by Andrew Wallace, co-founder of the Forbes & Wallace Department Store. The original house was designed by Simon Sanborn, another of Springfield's master builders for the first half of the 19th century. Local architect E.J. Parlett designed the turn-of-the-century renovations which cost \$30,000.



(14) **241 Maple Street (1827)** was one of the first houses on Maple Street hill. It was constructed by Chauncey Shepard for David Ames, Jr., whose father was the first superintendent of the U.S. Armory and then ran a paper-making company. His two sons carried on the business. After the Civil War, the house was extensively remodeled by a second generation of Ames owners.

(15) **263 Maple Street (1928)** is a good example of the Georgian Revival style, a subcategory of the Colonial Revival style. It was designed by Max Westhoff, who worked on many upscale homes of the city. The original owner was Phelps Brown, president of Wico Electric Company.

(16) **313 Maple Street (1884)** is one of the largest mansions still in Springfield. It was built for Julius Appleton, a paper manufacturer. Eugene Gardner, Springfield's most prolific 19th century architect, was the designer. The carriage house was recently rebuilt according to old photographs.