

Preservation Society of Pawtucket

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PSP Mission Statement:

The PSP, through educational programs and community service, shall discover, memorialize, and preserve the history and architecture of Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

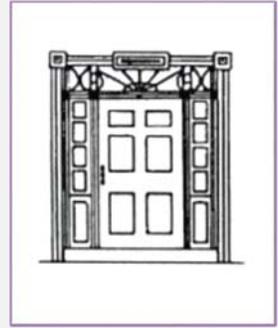
Updates

We have had an active and productive summer, and have very much enjoyed meeting many new people. Thank you to everyone who has participated in our tours, lectures, and advocacy efforts in the past few months!

Our walking tour series included eight neighborhoods, two cemeteries, and Slater Park. We had eighty people on eleven tours, and are planning to offer at least some of them next year.

We hosted four lectures: URI Master Gardener Jeff Rossi gave a wonderful talk on herb gardening and highlighted the medicinal garden at the Reuben Mason House on Putnam Pike in Chepachet, Rui Almeida spoke about the re-use of mill buildings in post-industrial America and the importance of creating public spaces, Morgan Grefe spoke about the history of Pawtucket in the 19th century within the context of the Hose Company Number 6 building, and Ann Norton gave us an overview of Art Deco architecture with a particular focus on City Hall and Shea High School.

Since learning that the owner of the Hose Company Number 6 wants to demolish the building to make room for a new dollar store, we have actively encouraged the community to express their support for keeping the building. In these situations, it is public



Visit our New Website

Our [website](http://Pawtucketpreservation.org) has just been updated. You can find all of our walking tour notes, a list of historic marker houses, and more.

2018 Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will also be our 40th birthday party! All the details will be shared soon.

Amazon Smile

Your purchases on Amazon can help us. On your first visit to smile.Amazon.com, you will be asked to select an organization to support. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate .5% of purchases to the organization you select.

Follow us on Facebook

Our [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PreservationSocietyofPawtucket) has real-time updates and bits of information that you might find interesting.

outcry that often has the most influence, and we are glad to know that so many people love the building. While it isn't the city's only Queen Anne fire station, it contributes so much to the historic fabric of the Darlington neighborhood. We believe that destroying the building would cause irreparable damage to the physical and social character of that area. The demolition delay has expired and plans for the building are still unknown.

With the help of Ken Postle of the Blackstone Valley Historical Society, we discovered the c.1896 bronze bell hanging in the belfry of the Oak Grove Cemetery lodge building. This bell was made by the Blake Bell Company, and is a valuable historical item. The lodge building itself has been neglected and regularly vandalized for at least several years, and we have asked city officials to give it the care and attention it deserves.

We have sold and vacated the Baker-Hanley House on Park Place. The Samaritans of Rhode Island now own the building and are renovating it for their purposes. We no longer have a physical office location and have been holding meetings at the Pawtucket Library. We are in the process of digitizing the society's records. The money from the building sale has been deposited into an endowment fund which will be used to support our operations and programming.

Advocacy

Through various advocacy efforts, we hope to highlight properties that are in need of attention. We're keeping an eye on the following:

Hose Company Number 6 (636 Central Avenue)
Mitchell-Arnold House (41 Waldo Street)
George Fowler House (72 Mineral Spring Avenue)
Oak Grove Cemetery Lodge
Slater Park Friendship Garden
Pawtucket City Hall Tower
John H. Crawford House (15 Laurel Street)

You can read more on our website at [Properties to Watch](#). If you would like us to add others, please let us know.

Marker Program

We have recently revised our marker program criteria and application process. Please see our [website](#) to download the application form.

The goals and objectives of the Marker Program are:

- To identify and recognize historically and architecturally significant structures
- To raise public awareness of, and appreciation for, said structures
- To encourage historically sensitive changes to structures in the City of Pawtucket

Any building or structure located in Pawtucket that contributes to the historic character of the city will be considered. It will be evaluated for historical relevance, date of construction, architectural significance and integrity, landscaping, and contribution to the neighborhood.

The following four houses have recently qualified for historic marker plaques.

43 Armistice Street, T. Stewart Little House

The house was designed in 1929 by Monahan and Meikle for T. Stewart Little, the President of the John W. Little Company (John Watson Little was Stewart's father), on Exchange Street. Before this house was built, Stewart Little lived next door, at 55 Armistice, which was designed by R.C.N. Monahan.



131 Mulberry Street, Frank Dupuis House

This very large house was built in 1914 and was originally at 40 Beech Street. It was moved to this site to be saved from demolition during the construction of I-95. Frank Dupuis was the founder of today's Dupuis Oil Company. The architectural style is a variation of American Foursquare.



67 Cedar Street, Potter-Collyer House

The Potter-Collyer House at 67 Cedar Street was built in 1863 as a one-and-a-half story timber-frame cottage with a gable roof, a style popular in Pawtucket during the mid-19th century. Subsequent expansions significantly altered the floor plan, but the original Gothic bargeboards have remained. Elisha O. Potter, a machinist, built the house and four years later sold it to Samuel S. Collyer who became the Chief of the Pawtucket Fire Department in 1874. The house was moved 400 feet from its original location on the west side of Pine Street in 1962 during the construction of I-95. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.



83 Glenwood Avenue

The house at 83 Glenwood was built c. 1927 and by 1930 was occupied by Milton Orlando Black (1900-1972). Milton worked as the classified advertising manager at the Pawtucket Times. His father was Charles Orlando Black, the treasurer of the Times, while Milton's grandfather David was the newspaper's proprietor. David Orlando Black (1846-1916) was the former owner of the Providence Evening Telegram. He purchased the Pawtucket Times in 1890 and commissioned the building on Exchange Street.



Getting Our Bearings

We have spent a great deal of time and effort this past year getting organized, in terms of operations and communications. We've revised our mission statement, our by-laws, our marker program criteria, and our website. Switching our email account to Google saved us money and gave us the ability to manage our constituent and mailing lists more efficiently.

Our decision to become a donor-supported organization, rather than member-supported, was perhaps not properly explained. We know that many people want to financially support historic preservation in Pawtucket, and we also want that to continue. Organizations traditionally offer exclusive benefits to those who pay membership dues. We have not been able to offer exclusive membership benefits, and if we don't offer all programs to everyone, we can't expand our constituency base. We now offer all programs to the entire community, and individuals who support us with time, goods, and services are recognized as sponsors, in addition to those who support us financially. As a result, our mailing list has steadily grown, many new people have attended our events, and we're building a community to support our mission.

Goals

We would like to hear your ideas for specific topics to be highlighted in next season's programs and activities. Our ideas so far include a walking tour of Central Falls, a lecture on the importance of historic districts, and a Blackstone River boat tour.

Our 2018 Annual Meeting will be a 40th anniversary celebration. We are making plans for an event in Slater Park and we hope you will plan to join us. More details will be shared when they are confirmed.

We do not intend to use funds from the Baker Hanley House sale to support the Spaulding House; this would quickly drain our finances and we'd be left with a house that we still can't afford. We are currently investigating the options to make the Spaulding House a revenue-positive asset, and will share our plans when they are settled. Neither Betty Johnson nor the Pawtucket History Research Center were able to establish a long-term financial plan for the house, and the PSP has faced a significant financial burden since acquiring it. To be clear, we love the Spaulding House and are awed by Betty's dedication to the house and to her research. We are devoted to finding a solution that sees the house properly preserved and cared for while also maintaining the financial health of the PSP.

Annual Appeal

We hope you will continue to support us by participating in our programs, attending our events, expressing your moral support for our efforts, and of course by making a financial donation. If you have an interest in joining our board, please let us know.

We are grateful that you all have stayed with us through some very difficult times. We've come through the Spring and Summer feeling encouraged and invigorated. We are on our way to once again being a Preservation Society that serves all communities in Pawtucket, and we're hoping you'll help keep us on that path. As always, your financial support keeps us in business, and your moral support keeps us going.