

Cruttenden House

Cruttenden House — 2020 Maine St. — Colonial Revival — 1904 — Ernest Wood, arch.

One of the most picturesque corners in Quincy is created by the gracious landscaping, drives, and walks which adorn the grounds of the charming Cruttenden House. The classic European architectural features borrowed by the designers of colonial American homes are enhanced in their timelessness by the setting. That such a sophisticated property was once a swampy wilderness suitable only for hunting wildlife is a stiff exercise for the imagination.

But such was the case in the area known as "Lawndale," Quincy's second subdivision. In 1889 a syndicate comprised of Judge J.N. Carter, T.C. Poling, Gustave Bauman, Aldo Summer, and John Cruttenden purchased 45 acres south of Maine and east of 18th for the purpose of residential development.

Cruttenden was in the real estate business and had been instrumental in the development of Park Place (an extension of York Street running from 12th to 14th). Each member of the syndicate claimed parcels of the Lawndale area for themselves, most building homes there; Cruttenden chose the Maine Street corner at 21st.

Incorporated in the transitional interior treatment of the house are exquisite art nouveau leaded stained glass inserts, cherry living room woodwork and colonial mantel, matching quartered oak trim in the balance of the house, except in the master bedroom. This room, which now serves as a daughter's room, has delightful birds-eye maple wood trim matching the trim style in the rest of the house. The art nouveau headboard of the daughter's bed is also matching the bedroom woodwork and is a family heirloom.

Remaining with Cruttenden heirs until this past year, the residence is now becoming home to the Bernard A. Goggins family which owns and operates the "Heirloom Shop" at the rear of the grounds.

The shop is being operated for the 26th year. It was originally built by Cruttenden's son to house one of this country's greatest egg collections. The Goggins now handle fine imports from China and Russia, Llardo and other porcelains, pewter, crystal, gift and wedding items of all descriptions, antiques, and some prints. Their merchandising philosophy is "*a gift today — an heirloom tomorrow.*"

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