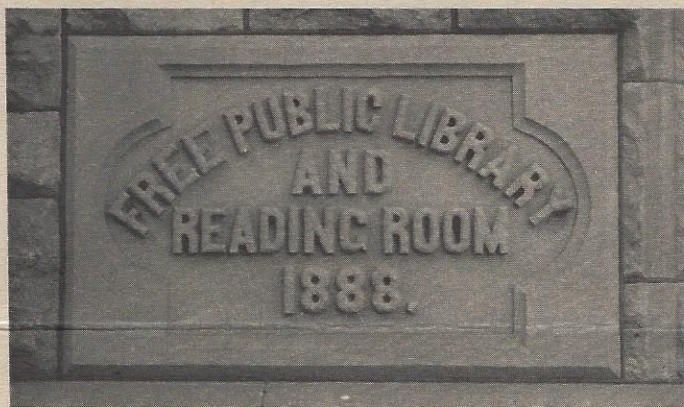


MS AND PROJECTS AT GA

Cornerstone Centennial Celebration

The Gardner Museum is planning on a gala celebration of the 100th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of our historic building, on Monday afternoon, May 30 (Memorial Day) at 3 PM, immediately after the Quincy Park Band Concert in Washington Park, under the direction of Carl Landrum, scheduled at 2 P.M. Our celebration will be held on a more modest scale, as we don't plan on 500 singing school children and 5,000 citizens, as they had on that day in 1888! But the Band will play music popular in the 1880's, a Male Quartet will sing as they did then, there will be short speeches (really just remarks), and dignitaries will be present. After the brief recognition of the event, everyone assembled will be invited into the Museum for punch and cookies, and to view our current exhibit, LOUIS SULLIVAN: UNISON WITH NATURE. We think that the band concert and our centennial celebration will make a fun family afternoon, and we hope to see lots of Quincyans there!

—G.M.I.



Phase II: The Centennial Project

After the successful completion of our \$100,000 Phase I Project to start the renovation and improvement of our near 100-year old building, we have now planned Phase II: The Centennial Project. It is scheduled, officially, to start on Memorial Day, May 30, 100 years after the laying of the cornerstone, and to finish on June 24, 1989, 100 years after the dedication of the completed building! It is also estimated at \$100,000, and consists of 10 separate mini-projects. They can be completed independently of each other, unlike Phase I, when all work was related, and needed to be done as one project. Although May 30 is the "kick-off" date, we have told our members and friends of our plans, and, to date, have received over \$16,000 in cash and pledges.

Here are the details of our 10-part program: (1) Air-conditioning the first floor galleries - \$6,700, (2) Finish carpeting first floor galleries - \$5,600, (3) Creation of new South Gallery on the first floor, under the office, including construction, lighting, display panels, shelves, storage areas and carpeting - \$30,000, (4) Finishing of 1929 annex, first floor, for workshop/educational program area, service kitchen, display spaces - \$8,000, (5) Air-conditioning second floor galleries - \$11,600, (6) Carpeting second floor galleries and stairs - \$10,000, (7) Lighting balance of second floor galleries - \$2,000, (8) Exterior restoration and painting of all woodwork in original colors - \$14,000, (9) Treating major windows for energy efficiency - \$9,000, and (10) Exterior repointing of stonework, as needed - \$3,100.

The Museum welcomes pledges as well as cash, payable any time before the June 24, 1989 final date of the campaign.

If you haven't seen what we did with the first \$100,000, please call and schedule a visit - we would be pleased to show you, and the small amount of work that has been started on Phase II: The Centennial Project.

—G.M.I.

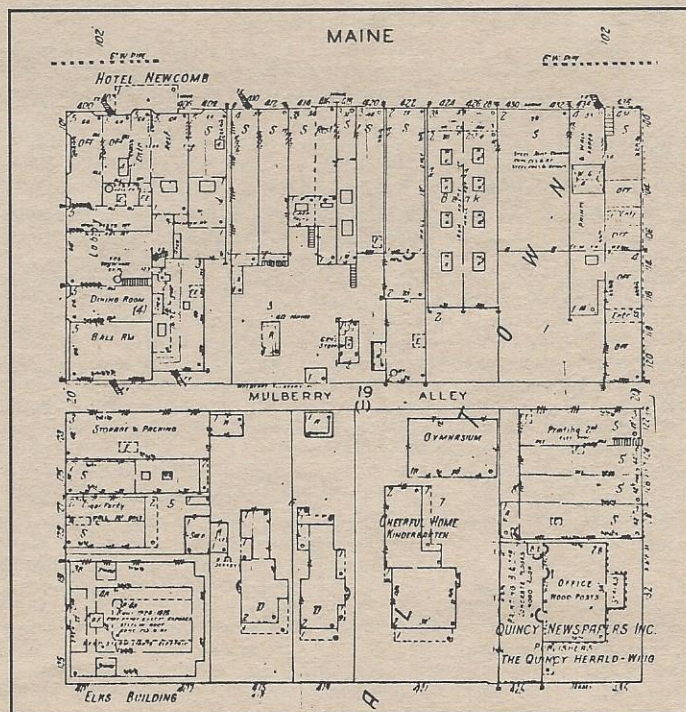
GMAD Helps Local Groups

The Gardner Museum is helping to support two projects of two local agencies; the first concerns the recently exposed stenciled plaster at the Young Women's Christian Association building, the Wells-Morgan house at 421 Jersey, and the other is the acquisition of microfilm copies of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Atlases by the Quincy Public Library.

For the YWCA, the museum is underwriting the travel expenses for two professional consultants to come to Quincy and to prepare estimates for reproducing the mid-19th Century stencils on canvas that would cover and protect the original plaster surface. The identity of the stencil artist is unknown. Museum officials are raising the money needed, as the YWCA has no extra funds.

For preservationists and architectural historians, Sanborn Atlases have become invaluable research tools for documenting building additions and locating demolished structures and out-buildings. The illustration below of the block south of Washington Park, is from the 1927 Quincy Atlas and shows in detail the house west of the Wells-Morgan house and the Wells Buildings, where the Mercantile Bank is now located, and the old Congregational Church used by Quincy Newspapers at Fifth and Jersey. In our library, the museum has the 1897 and 1927 editions, but the microfilm copy will include earlier volumes, back to 1883, and updated ones through the 1950's. The museum is providing one half of the funding for the Quincy Public Library to purchase this complete "building history" of Quincy and make it available to interested researchers. Prints from the microfilm can be made for a nominal charge at the Library.

—J.W.G., III



Block South of Washington Park, 1927