

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION NEWS

The Baltimore Courthouse & Law Museum Foundation, Inc.

Volume 14

Centennial Year 2000 Edition
Robert D. Anbinder, Editor

Mitchell Courthouse Centennial Celebrated

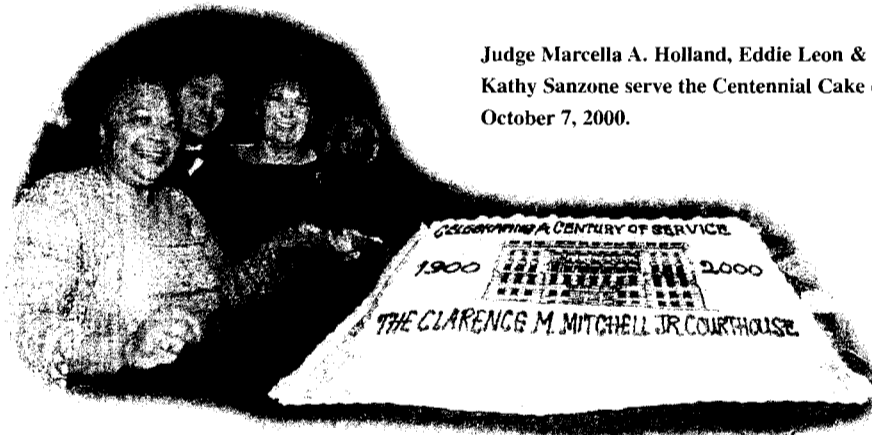
Nearly 1,000 persons celebrated the centennial of the Mitchell Courthouse on October 7, 2000, capping a year long anniversary, which left a lasting imprint on both the Courthouse and the public. Much of the Gala took place under the newly restored ceiling of the St. Paul St. Lobby.

On June 30th, 2000, a new cornerstone was inscribed, and a tree planted dedicated to all court clerks and other staff of the Bench and Courthouse.

A video celebrating the history and architecture of both courthouses was produced by the University of Baltimore's Dr. Jonathan L. Shorr. *The Daily Record* published a Centennial Book which included the histories of both buildings, historical surveys of Baltimore law firms and law clubs, and profiles of preeminent members of the Bench and Bar of the 18th & 19th Centuries. A major feature of the Centennial Celebration was the selection, by a distinguished panel, of 48 preeminent members of the Bench and Bar of the 20th Century, whose biographies were also published in the Centennial Book. A permanent Memorial to these preeminents has been installed on the fifth floor of Courthouse East.



Peter Martin, Chairman of the Board, Provident Bank, Frank Conaway, Clerk of the Court, Lois A. Fenner McBride, Chair, Cornerstone Ceremony, Mary Conaway, Register of Wills, Judge John Carroll Byrnes, Centennial Chair, Philip Sherman, Chair, City Bar History Committee, Charles Mackey, former Superior Court Clerk



Judge Marcella A. Holland, Eddie Leon & Kathy Sanzone serve the Centennial Cake on October 7, 2000.

A. J. Heller's Exciting Courthouse Plans!

Since Judge Ellen M. Heller became Administrative Judge in September, 1999, the following projects have been undertaken:

Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., Courthouse

All public corridors and entrances of the Mitchell Courthouse are being renovated. A Design Advisory Committee (DAC) was appointed which included Judges John Carroll Byrnes, Joseph H. H. Kaplan (C.J.), Marcella A. Holland and M. Brooke Murdock. Working with Roger Katzenberg, Kann and Associates, and the Foundation corridors have been repainted, wainscoting has been placed in the corridors, lighting has been enhanced, floors have been re-tiled, and the St. Paul Street lobby was returned to its former glory.

A new "quiet" jury waiting room was created. Emergency lighting is being installed for emergency evacuations.

Outside the courthouse, Baltimore City has agreed to remove the bird debris from all window areas with air conditioners and to install screening to prevent further accumulations.

Courthouse East

All public corridors have been repainted in Courthouse East and the elevator lobbies will be repainted. New light fixtures will be placed in all elevator lobbies. In addition, the first floor lobby will be redone with new painting schemes on the ceilings and new lighting. It is anticipated that the current wooden framing on the Medical Office will be replaced with a brass frame complementary to that currently affixed to the windows of the adjacent United States Post Office. A plexiglass and brass barrier will be installed, replacing the temporary barriers that currently exist outside of the Medical Office and United States Post Office.

Building Accessibility

Pursuant to the settlement plan approved by Judge Andre Davis of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland in *Reid v. Glendening*, all public bathrooms will be made accessible and there will be new entrances to both courthouses on Fayette Street. These renovations should be completed within the coming year. New signage will be placed in both buildings.

Security Stations

New security stations for Sheriffs will be constructed at all public entrances to the courthouses and should be installed during the next year. It is anticipated that at the Calvert Street entrances of the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., Courthouse and Courthouse East, there will be an information kiosk and an information specialist assisting visitors.

Family Division

During the past year, the Family Division Judges have moved into new courtrooms and chambers. Support staff, including staff from the Clerk's office, the Office of Child Support, the State's Attorneys Office and the Trust Department are moving into new quarters. The corridors of the new Family Division will feature pictures painted by local school children under the direction of staff from the Maryland Institute for Art. Large murals produced by students of the Maryland Institute will welcome visitors and staff at both the entrance and in the halls outside of the Courtrooms. A portrait of the late Judge Robert B. Watts will be hung.

Long-Term Restoration

In order to address urgent health and safety needs, as well as to develop a proposal for the long-term restoration and renovation of both courthouses, a Task Force was appointed consisting of prominent individuals in both the public and private sector in engineering, law, architecture, and government service. In February 2001 a proposal was sent to Governor Parris Glendening for need-

ed work that would address health and safety problems. The Task Force report requested funding for an in-depth needs assessment for the long-term restoration of these courthouses. Without a major "overhaul," the Courthouses cannot continue to meet the legal needs of the community.

RENOVATION NEWS 14 YEARS OLD

This annual Newsletter is celebrating its 14th year. It has chronicled courthouse life, particularly "home improvements," since it was first published in 1987. It has reported the continuing efforts to restore the magnificent Mitchell Courthouse and improve the aesthetics of Courthouse East. Those efforts, under the leadership of Judges Joseph H.H. Kaplan and Ellen M. Heller, Administrative Judges, with the support of this Foundation, the Circuit Court Bench, the City and State, the Bar Association of Baltimore City, and the Monumental City Bar Association, have produced very substantial improvements in both courthouses including the restored Criminal Courts (Calvert Street) lobby and skylights, improved Jury Assembly rooms and Juvenile Court spaces, renovated Ceremonial Courtroom 400, a restored Supreme Bench Courtroom 600, the beautified Marriage Room, the creation of a state of the art "courthouse within a courthouse" on the second floor of Courthouse East, the new Family Division complex on the first floor of Courthouse East, refurbishment of most courtrooms and chambers, the restoration of the Mitchell Courthouse St. Paul Street Lobby, and, most recently, dramatic upgrades of the interior public spaces in both buildings.

During most of those years, lawyer Randolph C. Knepper has been the editor. Foundation President Leech has accepted Randy's resignation "with great regret and profound thanks."

The interim editor is Robert D. Anbinder, Esq with assistance from Charles M. Blomquist, Esq.

FOUNDING SECRETARY RETIRES

One of the "founding fathers" of the Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Judge John Carroll Byrnes, has retired as Secretary of the Foundation, after 15 years of service. Judge Byrnes said he did so to "move over and allow new voices to be heard on behalf of our historic courthouses." Glenn Grossman, Esq. was elected as his successor in May 2000. Byrnes is credited with a number of initiatives to encourage public support of the courthouses. In addition to establishing the Foundation in 1986 and its library several years later, he initiated this annual newsletter, the annual Term of Court Ceremony and Reception, organized the several membership units of the Foundation, and its annual meetings and helped organize the 1987 U.S. Constitution Bicentennial Ball and the Courtroom 400 restoration. Byrnes also collaborated closely with Administrative Judge Kaplan in the influential Richter Cornbrooks Gribble consultant study and with Bench Historian Judge James F. Schneider and City Bar History Committee Chair Philip Sherman, Esq., to increase the excellent portrait collection. He led the effort to commission the portraits of Clarence M. and Juanita Jackson Mitchell and acquire the portrait of Judge Joseph C. Howard.

The publication of the current Courthouse brochure came about in a conversation with a fellow juror while Judge Byrnes served as foreman of a jury. The juror, Kenneth Karlic, a designer, agreed to design a brochure if the judge would compose it. This is one of three courthouse related publications involving the judge. He was also the principal editor and co-writer of *Histories of the Bench & Bar of the 20th Century* published in celebration of the City's Bicentennial in 1997. This was followed in 2000 by the Centennial Book which commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Mitchell Courthouse, a celebration which he chaired from 1998 through 2000. Many of the judge's efforts,

including assembling multiple archival albums of photographs, clippings and memorabilia for future historians, were undertaken as chair of the History Project of the Bench, Bar and Foundation. He will be succeeded as Chair by Judge Stuart R. Berger. Judges Marcella A. Holland and Joseph P. McCurdy are continuing Bench archival activity.

Judge Byrnes also enjoyed assembling what may be the most extensive Baltimore-themed art collection in existence. Scattered throughout the Jury Assembly, Grand Jury and petit jury rooms, it includes more than 200 pieces, many from his own collection. "I saw this as an opportunity to encourage pride in our City," he said. He credits every retired judge since the late Judge Robert B. Watts with the tradition of contributing to the Jury Room Art Program. Kathy Birrane has succeeded him as chair of the Art Committee of the Foundation. Judge M. Brooke Murdock has succeeded Judge Byrnes as art coordinator on the Bench.

Byrnes credits his secretary Carol Shay for making it possible for him to be active in the Foundation. Mrs. Shay was honored at the May 2000 annual meeting.

New Court Administrator Appointed

The Circuit Court Bench welcomed Larry D. Reiner as its new Administrator on March 8, 1999. Larry has 18 years executive experience in leadership, management and administrative change in diverse public agencies. He earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Certificate in Judicial Administration at the University of Southern California in 1980 and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology at Fresno State University in 1978. Larry was Administrator of Civil Court Operations, Jury Commissioner and Clerk of Court in the Superior Court of California, County of San Luis Obispo, California from October 1997 to August 1998.

The Task Force For The Restoration of the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. Courthouse & Courthouse East

Administrative Judge Ellen M. Heller has organized The Task Force for the Restoration of the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. Courthouse & Courthouse East. The Task Force members are:

Judge Ellen M. Heller

Task Force Co-Chair

Howard S. Downing, Jr., AIA

Richter Cornbrooks Gribble, Inc.

Willard Hackerman, President

Whiting-Turner, Inc.

Kimberly Bowen Morton, Exec. Director

Baltimore Center for the Performing Arts

Mark Pollak, Esq.

Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering

George L. Russell, Jr., Esq.

Law Offices of Peter Angelos

Matthew Zimmerman, Esq.

Past President, Bar Association of Baltimore City

Frederick W. Puddester

Task Force, Co-Chair

Budget Director

Johns Hopkins University

William R. Gluck, PE

Maryland Department of General Services

Jeanne Hitchcock, Deputy Mayor for

Inter-Governmental Relations

Baltimore City

J. Darrell Peterson, Esq.

Monumental City Bar Association

Roger D. Redden, Esq.

Piper, Marbury, Rudnick & Wolfe

Judge James F. Schneider

U.S. Bankruptcy Court, and Bench Historian

On February 20, 2001, the Task Force proposed a \$4,000,000 program to remediate short-term courthouse needs. The 2001 General Assembly authorized only \$400,000 which may be used to develop a long-term plan. A.J. Heller believes a comprehensive plan addressing HVAC, electrical, space reconfiguration and windows might cost as much as \$200,000,000.

The Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum and Law Museum Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 to encourage citizens to share in the opportunity to work with the Judges and the City in Courthouse restoration and beautification, placement of appropriate art, improved maintenance and support for the Museum of Legal History. Specifically, the Foundation:

Encourages grants and budget commitments from the city, state and federal governments, and contributions from private individuals and foundations.

Solicits memorabilia, historical artifacts and appropriate furnishings and art work.

Invites the involvement of lawyers, volunteer docents, historians, curators, preservationists, engineers, architects, artists, community leaders and interested private citizens.

The Officers:

President	Sidney G. Leech, Esq.
President-Elect	Ward B. Coe, III, Esq.
First Vice-President	Lois A. Fenner McBride, Esq.
Second Vice-President	Debra Phillips, A.I.A.
Treasurer	Marc P. Blum, Esq.
Secretary	Glenn M. Grossman, Esq.
Executive Secretary	Hugh J. Marbury, Esq.

The Advisory Board of Governors:

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Herbert J. Belgrad, Esq.	John Paterakis, Jr.
Hon. Meyer M. Cardin	George L. Russell, Jr., Esq.
Hon. Thomas J.D' Alesandro, III	Dean John Seibert
Dean Donald Gifford	Walter Sondheim
Raymond Haysbert	Otis Warren

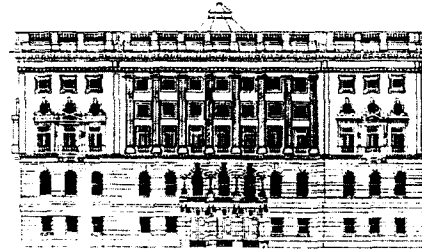
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Members of the Bar Who Died In 1999:

Diane C. Birk	William Hughes	Hon. Herbert F. Murray
Frank J. Blair	Charles E. Jones	Alan H. Murrell
Joseph Y. Brattan, III	Hon. Joseph O. Kaiser	Patrick A. O'Doherty
Charles P. Brown	Sigmund R. Kallins	Robert C. Prem
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Bennett G. Gaines	Gerson B. Mehlman	

The Centennial Memorial on the Fifth Floor of Courthouse East



We honor here these preeminent judges and lawyers who lived and died in the 20th century and made extraordinary contributions to the law and the public good:

Edwin G. Baetjer, 1868-1945	William D. MacMillan, 1896-1974
Rignal W. Baldwin, 1902-1986	William L. Marbury, 1901-1988
Joseph Bernstein, 1897-1972	Thurgood Marshall, 1908-1993
Charles Joseph Bonaparte, 1851-192	Clarence W. Miles, 1897-1977
Carroll Taney Bond, 1873-1943	Clarence M. Mitchell, 1911-1984
Frederick W. Brune, 1894-1972	Juanita Jackson Mitchell, 1913-1992
Joseph R. Byrnes, 1900-1971	Alan Hamilton Murrell, 1902-1999
Bernard Carter, 1834-1912	Emory H. Niles, 1892-1976
W. Calvin Chesnut, 1873-1962	Reuben Oppenheimer, 1897-1982
Harry A. Cole, 1921-1999	Philip B. Perlman, 1890-1960
Samuel King Dennis, 1874-1953	John P. Poe, 1836-1909
Charles H. Dorsey, 1930-1995	J. Gilbert Prendergast, 1909-1973
H. Vernon Eney, 1908-1980	Norman P. Ramsey, 1922-1993
Eugene M. Feinblatt, 1919-1998	Albert C. Ritchie, 1876-1936
Eli Frank, 1874-1958	John C. Rose, 1861-1927
Francis X. Gallagher, 1928-1972	Frederick J. Singley, 1912-1988
Hall Hammond, 1902-1991	Simon E. Sobeloff, 1894-1973
Henry David Harlan, 1858-1943	Morris Ames Soper, 1873-1963
Charles McHenry Howard, 1870-1942	Isaac Lobe Straus, 1871-1946
William A.C. Hughes, 1905-1966	Robert F. Sweeney, 1926-1999
Frank A. Kaufman, 1916-1997	Roszel C. Thomsen, 1900-1992
Solomon Liss, 1915-1988	R. Dorsey Watkins, 1900-1986
Arthur W. Machen, 1827-1915	Robert B. Watts, 1922-1998
Arthur W. Machen, 1877-1950	Harrison L. Winter, 1921-1990

This memorial is a gift of

The Bar Association of Baltimore City The Baltimore Courthouse & Law Museum Foundation The Monumental City Bar Association
and
The Judges of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City