

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION NEWS

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The Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Inc.

McSHERRY, BLUM AND SACHS HONORED AT ANNUAL MEETING

A restored portrait of Chief Judge James McSherry, first President of the Maryland State Bar Association, was unveiled at the Foundation's annual Term of Court ceremony and reception on October 19, 1995. President Sheila K. Sachs and Treasurer Marc P. Blum each received the Foundation Award of Achievement for dedication and outstanding service. The proceedings also served as a stated meeting of the Bar Association of Baltimore City, the fifth consecutive year the Foundation and Association have jointly sponsored the event. The observance began in Ceremonial Courtroom 400 and continued with a wine and cheese reception in the second floor Criminal Courts Lobby, both in the Mitchell Courthouse.

Chief Judge Robert I.H. Hammerman welcomed the audience with humorous remarks. Association President Albert J. Matricciani, Jr. and Foundation President Sheila K. Sachs both noted the rich and continuing tradition of the event and the Mitchell Courthouse itself as it approaches the centennial of



McSherry family members surround the restored portrait of Chief Judge James McSherry.

the laying of its cornerstone in Spring, 1996. Sheila Sachs and Marc Blum received their awards from Foundation President-Elect Joseph K. Pokempner.

Numerous members of the McSherry family were present when Judge James F. Schneider traced the history of the portrait of Chief Judge James McSherry as well as the distinguished legal career of the famous jurist. Almost 80 years after Judge McSherry's death, he remains one of the most prolific authors of reported opinions of the Court of Appeals. The number of his written contributions may soon be rivalled, however, by the number of his descendants who

have succeeded him with careers in the law. Several generations of McSherry family members and attorneys surrounded the unveiled portrait.

Judge Mabel E. Houze Hubbard closed the Courtroom 400 proceedings by citing diverse poets and philosophers as they commented on new beginnings. The historical concept of beginning a new Term of Court each Fall is an apt metaphor for embarking on the second century of the Mitchell Courthouse and the second decade of the Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Inc.

FOUNDATION CONTINUES PORTRAITS PROJECT

Baltimore's Circuit Courthouses house a distinguished collection of oil portraits of the City's leading lawyers and jurists. Your Foundation has played the leading role in restoring, framing and displaying many of these portraits.

In 1995, the restored portrait of Chief Judge James McSherry was unveiled at the Annual Meeting and Term of Court Ceremony.

The most ambitious portrait project of the year was the fundraising campaign to commission portraits of Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. and his widow, Juanita Jackson Mitchell. Known as the "101st Senator" for his enormous impact on national civil rights legislation, Clarence Mitchell was recognized in 1985, when the former Courthouse West was renamed in his honor. His wife had a distinguished career in the private practice of law and civic activities, especially the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Mitchell portraits project was inaugurated by Judge John Carroll Byrnes and is chaired by Joseph Aston. Artist Simmie Knox will execute the oil paintings. He painted the portrait of Justice Thurgood Marshall which hangs in Ceremonial Courtroom 400.

When they are completed, the Mitchell portraits will hang in Courtroom 215 of the Mitchell Courthouse. Their presentation is projected for the 1996 Annual Meeting and Term of Court Ceremony.

FOUNDATION FINDS COURTHOUSE ANTIQUES

Baltimore's Circuit Courthouses contain a large amount of antique furniture and artifacts, not all of which are documented. Ann Fisher, a professional appraiser, took a complete inventory of the Windsor chairs which are located in numerous courtrooms and offices in both courthouses. The Windsor chair is said to have originated in royal use at Windsor Castle in England, but they were most fully developed and popularized in the American colonies and the young United States. Our courthouses contain 471, which have now been inventoried and labeled.

When the offices of the Register of Wills were renovated, a large and historic floor safe was identified from the early years of this century. Two important desks located in the Clerk's Office were saved from being discarded when Patricia Bertorelli, Chief Deputy of Operations, and Judge John Carroll Byrnes noted their quality and history. The desks have been earmarked for restoration.

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

The Museum of Baltimore Legal History acquired memorabilia of the City's rich legal traditions as a result of the generosity of several donors in 1995. Judge Meyer M. Cardin gave photographs of Governors Theodore McKeldin and J.

Millard Tawes and Judge Herman Moser. The Jewish Historical Society donated memorabilia of Judge Eli Frank and Eli Frank, Jr. A framed photograph of the Supreme Bench in 1981 was donated by Judge Peter Ward. George Parkhurst presented antique, glass-front bookcases and books. Ruth Rifman, widow of Judge Avrum Rifman, contributed photographs of Judge Helen Elizabeth Brown, Maryland's first female jurist, and memorabilia of Judge Rifman. Judge Edwin J. Wolf donated a photograph of Supreme Bench Chief Judge Samuel K. Dennis.

John Sondheim, Director of the Pratt Library's Maryland Room, presented a collection of the Archives of Maryland, journals of court and other proceedings in Colonial Maryland. Those volumes are now housed in the 5th floor conference room of Courthouse East.

FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

The Foundation has four membership categories: Supreme Bench Society (former members of the Circuit or spouse), Court of Chancery (Officer, Member of Board of Directors or Board of Governors), Bailiffs Inn (former Circuit Court law clerk) and General Court (all other friends of the Foundation). Dues are a modest \$10 annually and may be sent to the Foundation, c/o Mrs. Sheila Peter, Room 264 Courthouse East, 111 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO COURTHOUSES

Improvements to the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. Courthouse in 1995 reached from the first floor to the roof. The new roof was the most major project. Completed in the fall at a cost well over \$1 million, the roof will provide relief from periodic leaks. Motorists and pedestrians on St. Paul Street share our satisfaction in the project's completion, having regained the use of the sidewalk and all lanes of the street.

The newly-refurbished Jury Assembly rooms are both handsome and conducive to efficient jury system operation. Television monitors on both levels enable educational videos, juror court assignments and a jury orientation film to be shown. While the renovations were underway, jurors were housed in the St. Paul Street lobby. At completion of the project, the Baltimore City workers who had accomplished the renovations and court employees joined in a celebration.

On the first floor of the Mitchell Courthouse, a new domestic relations master hearing room and office were created by combining several smaller rooms. The new quarters will be occupied by newly-appointed Master Brenda Clarke.

In Courthouse East, the offices of the Register of Wills were completely renovated. The facelift included new furniture, carpeting and painting. As part of the reconfiguration of space, the office of Register Mary W. Conaway was moved. New computers and telephone system advanced operating efficiency in tandem with the physical improvements.



Administrative Judge Joseph H. H. Kaplan and court employees celebrate the new Jury Assembly rooms.



Renovated offices of the Register of Wills.

FOUNDATION ELECTS NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Inc. is a charitable organization established to support the preservation of Baltimore's circuit courthouses, to operate the Museum of Baltimore Legal History and to foster growth in the collections of the courthouses and museum.

The Board of Governors is composed of:

Mr. Harold Adams	Ms. Sandy Hillman
Herbert J. Belgrad, Esq.	Mr. John Paterakis, Jr.
Ms. Nancy Brennan	Thomas P. Perkins, Esq.
Thomas J. D'Alesandro, III, Esq.	George L. Russell, Jr., Esq.
Eugene M. Feinblatt, Esq.	Mr. Walter Sondheim
Mr. Raymond Haysbert	

The Officers are:

Continuing Term 1994-96

President: Sheila K. Sachs, Esquire
 President-Elect: Joseph K. Pokempner, Esquire

For Officer Term 1995-96

First Vice-President: Patrick A. Roberson, Esquire
 Second Vice-President: Walter Schamu, A.I.A.
 Treasurer: Marc P. Blum, Esquire
 Secretary: Hon. John Carroll Byrnes
 At-Large: Hon. Albert J. Matricciani, Jr.

Directors elected for the term 1995-98

Francis B. Burch, Jr., Esquire	Mark Pollak, Esquire
Hon. Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman	Sheila K. Sachs, Esquire
Marcella A. Holland, Esquire	Walter Schamu, A.I.A.
Hon. Patricia C. Jessamy	Hon. Stuart O. Simms
Ms. Betty Jean Murphy	Ferrier Rose Stillman, Esquire
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Ex-Officio Members of the Board of Directors

Chair, Supreme Bench Society: . Hon. Robert B. Watts
 Chair, Bailiffs Inn: Christopher W. Nicholson, Esq.
 Chair, Chancery Court: James K. Archibald, Esq.

They join the existing Directors:

Peter F. Axelrad, Esquire	Hon. Joseph H.H. Kaplan
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Hon. John Carroll Byrnes	Joseph K. Pokempner, Esquire
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James R. Eyster, Esquire	Kenneth L. Thompson, Esquire
Lisa A. Gladden, Esquire	Hon. Thomas Ward
Louise M. Gonzalez, Esquire	Hon. Martin P. Welch
Andrew Jay Graham, Esquire	

MEMORIAL SERVICES HONOR DECEASED

The annual memorial services of the Bar Association of Baltimore City honored 29 Baltimore lawyers who died in 1994. Proceedings were held on May 24, 1995 in Ceremonial Courtroom 400 and adjourned to a wine and cheese reception. Friends, family members and colleagues gave brief remembrances of each of the deceased. Chief Judge Robert I.H. Hammerman, Association President Alison L. Asti, Memorial Committee Chair Joseph K. Pokempner, Judge Marvin J. Garbis and Judge Albert J. Matricciani, Jr. contributed remarks.

Those honored were:

LEROY S. APPLEFELD
JOHN W. AVIRETT
JACOB BLUM
SIDNEY BLUM
C. HAMMOND BROWN
WALTER S. CALWELL
JOSEPH H. COLVIN
KENNETH H. EKin
BARRY S. FRAME
HON. ROBERT J. GERSTUNG
EVERETT F. GOLDBERG
NORMAN J. HALLAM
WILLIAM J. KEATING
HARRY K. LOTT
CHARLOTTE M. MONAGHAN
M. BERNARDINE MYLES
HON. CHARLES E. ORTH
MARGARET J. PECORA
LAURENCE PERIN
WALTER P. REESE
EMMA S. ROBERTSON
WALTER SAMUELSON
IRVING SCHWARTZMAN
MELVIN S. SILBERG
MITCHELL STEVAN
WILLIAM M. TOADVINE
SAMUEL A. TUCKER
DEBRA WOODRUFF
PAUL P. ZAWICKI