



THE FRIARY ON THE SEVERN

1604 WINCHESTER ROAD

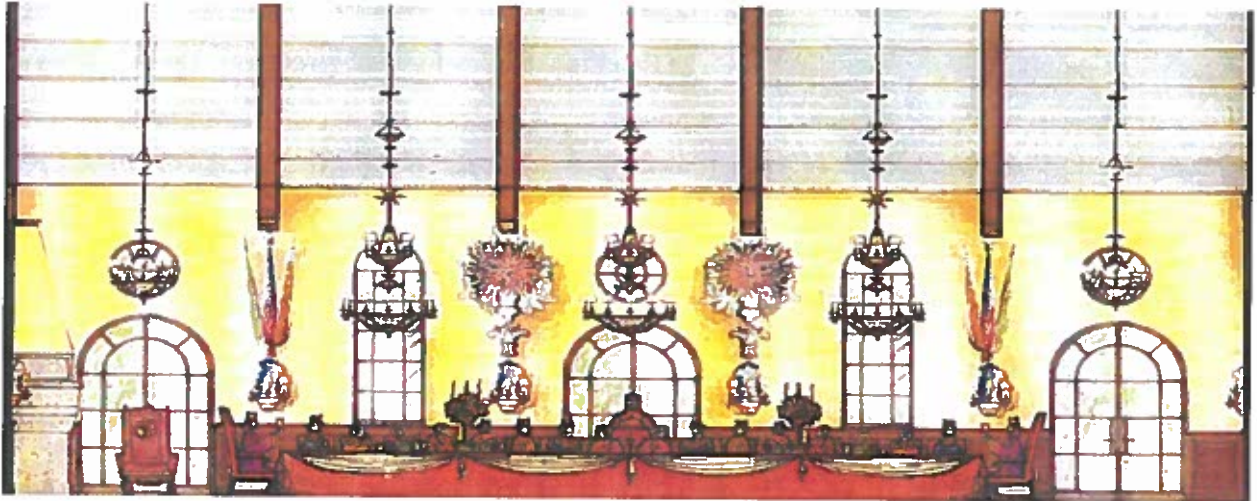
ANNAPOLIS, MD

A Brief History...

The tract of land on which The Friary now stands has a wonderfully vivid history. The land, originally patented in 1660 by William Hopkins exchanged hands many times before the prominent Hammond family of Annapolis retained the property. They held it until 1827. Between 1827 and 1920 the land surrounding was divided into smaller tracts and sold. Meanwhile, The Friary property was held between 1858 and 1920 by Samuel Lucas. It was said that during slavery, the point was a major stopover for the underground railway due to an extensive tunnel system. There is evidence of such tunnels today.

E. Bartlett Hayward acquired the property on which the manor now sits in two separate purchases, one in 1911, and the other in 1920. He solicited William Molting and James Wyatt as architects to build the brick Georgian style mansion. At the time, William Molting was known as "Dean of Baltimore Architects". The firm of Wyatt & Halting designed such prominent buildings as the Baltimore Court House, Fifth Regiment Armory, the Keyser Office Building and part of Johns Hopkins University, all in Baltimore.. In Washington, DC, the firm designed the War Risk Insurance Building, occupied by the Veterans Administration after World War II. The firm also designed some of the finest homes in the fashionable Roland Park section of Baltimore. James Wyatt enjoyed a long and successful career, and at the time of his death, was the oldest architect in practice in Baltimore. Both James Wyatt and William Molting were Fellows of the American Institute of Architects.

boarding school. For two years it thrived, but the costs of maintaining the estate couldn't be met by just tuition. Dermot Nee repurchased the estate only to resell it again in just a few months. Dermot Nee sold the property to the Capuchin Franciscan Friars in 1950 for \$80,000. For 34 years the property (called Saint Conrad Friary) was maintained by the Capuchin Monks as they trained for their vocation. Dramatic decline in the number of "novices", entering the order made it financially unwise for the Capuchins to retain the property. It was sold to a local investor, Mr. Robin Thompson, in November, 1983.



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TIMELINE OF A UNIQUE HISTORY

1) THE LAND: 1660-1922

- The tract of land on which the Friary was built was patented in 1660 by William Hopkins
- After many exchanges, the land became the property of the Hammond Family of Annapolis prominence until 1827.
- Between 1827 and 1920 the land was divided and sold.
- From 1858-1920, it was held by Samuel Lucas.

It is said that during slavery, it was a major stopover for the underground railway due to an extensive tunnel system - there is evidence of such a tunnel today.

- E.Bartlett Hayward bought it in 2 separate purchases in 1911 and 1920

2) THE GEORGIAN MANSION AND THE MAN WHO BUILT IT: 1922-1945

Hayward, prominent factory owner from Baltimore solicited architects William Nolting (known at the time as the "Dean of Baltimore Architects") and James Wyatt to build the Georgian style mansion. Hayward's company, the Bartlett Hayward Company, made a fortune milling metal products and casting shell casings during WWI. His partner, Dr. Charles Connelly of Frederick ran

actively involved in the preservation of the manor house and historical heritage of the estate.

- In 1989, it was sold to the Japanese government and it became the Yokohama Academy, a boarding school for young Japanese high school boys. Community opposition forced the school to close and it sat unoccupied for several years.

- In November 1999, Richard P. and Martha Ellison of Alexandria, VA bought the mansion. Martha was an opera singer and was planning to turn the chapel into her private recital hall. The Ellisons contracted Annapolis architect Chuck Anthony to design a major renovation of the Friary. The project was started and then abandoned because of financial issues. The property was abandoned and listed for sale with 25 bedrooms. A family of raccoons took residence in the dilapidated mansion until a rainy day of April, 2002...