

A HOME FOR THE ARTS

Built in 1899, the Georgian-styled Mansion at Strathmore is home to intimate artistic programs presented by Strathmore. The acoustically superb Dorothy M. and Maurice C. Shapiro Music Room, charming Gudelsky Gallery Suite, scenic Gudelsky Concert Pavilion, and enchanting Sculpture Garden are designed for audiences of diverse interests and tastes.



THE MANSION TODAY

Today Strathmore attracts visitors from around the world to its performances, signature exhibitions, teas, weddings, educational events, and outdoor concerts. The Mansion is comprised of a spacious conference room, charming gift shop, intimate music room, picturesque art galleries, and administrative offices for Strathmore and its resident partners. With the 1996 Mansion renovations and the 2005 opening of the Music Center, Strathmore became one of the DC Area's principal arts campuses.

The Mansion's dynamic spaces make it a unique venue that hosts a variety of events including:

- Concerts & Recitals
- Afternoon Tea
- Visual Art Exhibitions
- Weddings, Showers & Parties

Visit www.strathmore.org to learn more about the history of music and art at Strathmore, the gift shop, tea, and many other programs and performances in art, music, dance, and education.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Strathmore recognizes people of many sovereign Indigenous Nations have resided in this region. We respectfully acknowledge the rich culture and contributions of all Indigenous communities—past, present, and future.



MANSION AT STRATHMORE

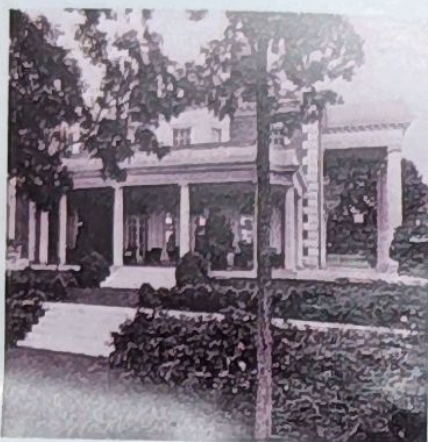
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STRATHMORE



HISTORY OF THE MANSION AT STRATHMORE



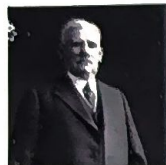
STRATHMORE

HISTORY OF THE SITE

In 1694, Lord Baltimore granted Thomas Brooke, Jr., the tract of land where Strathmore is now located. Early ownership and use of the land is not well-known until the 1800s, when a toll road, completed in 1823, was built to connect Georgetown and Frederick Town. One of its tollgates stood at the intersection now known as Strathmore. The intersection was shown by an 1878 map, located on the site. The Oyster family operated a stagecoach business at this location.

THE OYSTER YEARS

In 1899, James and Emma Oyster purchased the property. The architect, John H. Clark, Jr., designed the house. The house was a summer home near Washington, and hailed it as "a conspicuous ornament to the landscape." James Oyster was as well-known as his handsome mansion. When Oyster passed, Washington elite, including President Coolidge, attended his funeral and flags across DC flew at half-mast.



The Mansion's prominent architecture fit Captain James Oyster well. A prominent Washington figure, he was part of every presidential inaugural committee from President Cleveland to President Coolidge.



When the Oysters lived in the Mansion, it was a frame house built from a wooden skeleton. The rear entryway, then a carriage entrance, and the Corinthian pillars remain today.

THE CORBY YEARS

The Oysters sold the house and 99 adjoining acres to Charles and Hattie Corby in 1908. The Corby family enjoyed the house as a summer retreat until 1912, when they contracted Charles Barton Keen to make extensive modifications. Newly wrapped in its brick Georgian façade, the Mansion became the Corby's year round residence in 1914.



Charles & Hattie Corby

Through the years, the family acquired adjoining parcels of land until the Mansion was surrounded by 2,560 acres—including areas now occupied by Garrett Park Estates, the Greenbelt-Strathmore Metro station, and Holy Cross Academy. Known to locals as the "Corby Farm," the Mansion's grounds had a fully operational dairy farm complete with barns, stables, greenhouse complex, private golf course, and many other outbuildings. After Charles' passing in 1926, Hattie Corby remained in the residence until she passed away in 1941.



Charles Corby and his brother William patented machinery and techniques that later revolutionized the baking industry. Their bakery was later sold to Continental Baking Company, maker of Wonder Bread.

WAR CENTER, RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, AND OFFICE

In 1942, Filipino president Manuel Quezon used the Mansion as a temporary governmental headquarters and a World War II operations center for the former Commonwealth of the Philippines.

Land records show that, in 1943, two parcels of the original Corby estate, including the Mansion, were conveyed to the sisters directing St. Mary's Academy. The sisters received the Mansion fully furnished—down to the tableware. The sisters converted the house into a convent and school: Saint Angela's Hall.



The present-day Shapiro Music Room journeyed from organ room, to chapel, to administrative office before being transformed into a permanent venue for the performing arts.

Having constructed new schools and residences nearby, the sisters sold the Mansion and its remaining 30 acres to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in 1977 for use as its temporary headquarters.

BECOMING STRATHMORE

In 1979, ASHA relinquished the Mansion and 11 acres of land to Montgomery County, Maryland. The house was renamed Strathmore Hall, after the newly established nonprofit organization, and the Mansion with its surrounding grounds were developed as Montgomery County's first center for the arts. After extensive restoration, the Mansion at Strathmore opened its doors to the public on June 21, 1983.

A CAMPUS FOR THE ARTS

Strathmore dedicated the Gudelsky Concert Gazebo to celebrate its fifth anniversary in 1988. In 1996, the Mansion closed for a \$3.2 million renovation that created the Gudelsky Gallery Suite, and a four-story addition that houses the Lockheed Martin Conference Room, an expanded Shop at Strathmore, and new administrative offices. In addition to exterior improvements, the 1996 renovation saw the addition of a sculpture garden, which features pieces along a path winding through 16 acres of landscaped grounds.

The Mansion currently consists of the 100-seat Dorothy M. and Maurice C. Shapiro Music Room, Lockheed Martin Conference Room, Shop at Strathmore, first floor galleries, Gudelsky Gallery Suite, and Gudelsky Outdoor Concert Gazebo.

In 2005, Strathmore opened its state-of-the-art Music Center down the hill from the Mansion. The Music Center features a 1,976-seat concert hall and music education center, making Strathmore a leading comprehensive arts campus for the region.

1700

1800

1900

2000

1694: First record of the property—Gov. Thomas Brooke, Jr., received the land from Lord Baltimore.

1899: James and Emma Oyster purchased the land to build a summer home.

1908: Charles and Hattie Corby purchased the Mansion from the Oyster Family.

1943: Sisters of the Holy Cross opened Saint Angela's Hall, a convent and school.

1979: Montgomery County, Maryland, received the Mansion and its surrounding land for cultural advancement.

1996: The Mansion closed for a \$3.2 million renovation that created new galleries and offices.

1942: The Filipino government, under President Manuel Quezon, set up WWII operations.

1977: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association opened its temporary headquarters.

1983: The Mansion opened its doors as Montgomery County's first performing arts center.

2005: The Music Center opened its doors with a 1,976-seat concert hall and a modern education center.