

A GLANCE at the INNER HARBOR TIMELINE

Mention a visit to Baltimore, and the city's bustling Inner Harbor may well lead the conversation - and with good reason. Now considered the crown jewel of the city's active tourism industry, it is an attraction all by itself. The redevelopment of the Inner Harbor, once an industrial port, led the way for revitalization projects all over the city, making Baltimore a national model for urban renewal. Following is a chronology of the redevelopment efforts that helped build Baltimore into the attractive destination it is today.

- **1959**

Downtown Baltimore's renaissance begins with development of the 33-acre Charles Center, a mid-town site between the city's retail and financial districts. The success of this \$200 million urban renewal project heralds the city's redevelopment of the 240-acre Inner Harbor. 1963 Mayor Theodore McKeldin's inaugural address establishes the redevelopment of the Inner Harbor as his top priority.

- **1964**

Voters approve the first bond issue (\$52 million) for Inner Harbor redevelopment. In addition, more than \$14 million in city bond issues and \$47 million in federal grants will eventually be approved for acquiring and clearing land surrounding the harbor basin.

- **1968**

The demolition and clearing of land surrounding the harbor basin begins. The News American, McCormick Spice Company, Baltimore Copper Paint Company and Christ Lutheran Church are the only buildings left standing.

- **1973**

The USS Torsk submarine, which sank the last Japanese warship in World War II, is brought to Pier 4 The public wharf is completed along the harbor's west shoreline, including a new bulkhead, brick promenade, park benches and an information kiosk. The first new building in Inner Harbor Project 1 opens - Christ Lutheran Church's John L. Deaton Medical Nursing Center.

- **1975**

The IBM Corporation completes its new office building on Pratt Street, overlooking the Inner Harbor. Paddleboat rentals begin along the north shoreline, quickly becoming one of the harbor's most popular recreational activities. Homesteading begins in the Old Otterbein section of Inner Harbor West. A 625-car parking garage opens at the corner of Pratt and Gay Streets.

- **1980**

The Rouse Company completes Harborplace, a festival marketplace featuring small shops and restaurants in two glass-enclosed pavilions. The Hanover Square apartments open on Conway Street, providing 199 apartments for the elderly. Equitable Bank Center opens at Charles and Pratt Streets. The Holocaust Memorial is dedicated at the corner of Water and Gay Streets.

- **1986**

The Harbor Court Hotel, featuring 200 rooms, 165 luxury condominium apartments, shops and a garage with 900 spaces, opens on Light and Lee Streets. Tall ships from around the world visit the Inner Harbor on the 10th anniversary of their bicentennial visit. Baltimore's Summer of Sail celebration attracts the largest number of visiting tall ships outside New York and the Statue of Liberty rededication festivities. Lady Maryland, a 72-foot replica of an 1800 Chesapeake Bay Schooner, is completed as a floating classroom for Maryland students.

- **1992**

Oriole Park at Camden Yards celebrates its grand opening. Light Rail begins service from Timonium to Cromwell Station in Glen Burnie, greatly expanding public transportation to and from the city.

- **1994**

Festival Hall is demolished to make way for the \$151 million Convention Center expansion. Canadian Football League (CFL) is brought to Baltimore to play at Memorial Stadium. Babe Ruth Museum announces its plan to expand into Camden Station. Baltimore Harbor Endowment begins selling personalized bricks to finish a 7.5-mile promenade rimming the Inner Harbor from Waterfront Park in Canton to the Museum of Industry in South Baltimore. Oriole Park at Camden Yards receives the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Honor Award.

- **1996**

National Museum of Dentistry opens on University of Maryland at Baltimore campus.

- **1997**

Hard Rock Cafe opens in the Power Plant in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. The Baltimore Convention Center expansion is completed, tripling its size to 1.2 million total square feet - with 300,000 square feet of exhibit halls. Newly redesigned Holocaust Memorial is dedicated.

- **1998**

PSINet Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens, opens. ESPN Zone - the world's first - opens in the Power Plant. Marriott Waterfront Hotel breaks ground. Port Discovery, the Children's Museum in Baltimore, opens. The Hippodrome Theatre renovation project begins, ultimately gaining \$27 million in state funding and \$5 million in private funding. The project encompasses three historic landmark buildings - the Western National Bank, the Eutaw Savings Bank and the original Hippodrome Theatre - and a newly constructed building at the corner of Baltimore and Eutaw Streets.

- **1999**

National Historic Seaport opens, modernizing the 300-year-old port and celebrating Baltimore's rich maritime heritage with a new tourist attraction.

- **2000**

National Katyn Memorial, a monument to the 15,000 Polish Army officers and civilian professionals who died at the hands of the Soviets in 1940, is dedicated at Inner Harbor East Circle.

- **2001**

Marriott Waterfront hotel opens. Top of the World Observation Level closes early in the year for major renovations and reopens in May with a brand new look.

- **2003**

PSINet Stadium is renamed M&T Bank Stadium. Hampton Inn & Suites Inner Harbor opens.

- **2004**

USS Constellation celebrates her 150th anniversary with a host of special events and free festivities. The new \$8 million, 8,000-square foot, state-of-the art Baltimore Visitor Center opens on the West Shore of the Inner Harbor, offering a wide range of information resources and services. The Maryland Science Center completes a major expansion and renovation, with new exhibitions added on all levels, including a permanent hall showcasing dinosaurs and earth sciences, a dedicated gallery for housing temporary exhibitions, and upgrades to the IMAX Theater. The Hippodrome Theatre at the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center opens - a world-class venue showcasing touring Broadway shows and the best of the performing arts.

- **2005**

Harborplace celebrates its 25th anniversary. Baltimore is named a top-10 up-and-coming destination by Frommer's, the world leader in travel guides.

- **2006**

The Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park and Museum features a re-creation of the first marine shipyard and marine railway operated by African Americans, as well as a fabulous restoration of the oldest remaining industrial building on the waterfront.

- **2008**

Registry for College and University Presidents holds their 16th Annual Seminar; it is the most attended seminar!