

City-Owned Hotel Looking For New Owner

By Angela Jackson, *WBAL-TV*, November 11, 2009

The historic Inn at Government House on North Calvert Street in Mount Vernon might soon be owned by a Baltimore-based business.

The Baltimore Development Corporation says that while no redevelopment agreement has been signed yet, negotiations are under review for the operation and development of the 119-year old hotel that has served government officials and their guests for decades. Earlier this year, the BDC issued a Request for Proposals for the purchase, lease or operation of the facility.

The Inn at Government House consists of three connected buildings with a combined square footage estimated at 18,093 square feet. According to the city's website, the facility was last renovated in 1985 and was restored to its original 19th century splendor. At that time, it was opened to the public and has served as the official guest house of the city since then.

The Inn at Government House has been financially unstable for a decade, according to Baltimore City Councilman Bill Cole. The representative, who serves the Mount Vernon area, added that all three buildings need a ton of work.

The brownstone mansion was built at a cost of \$40,000 and was designed by Charles Carson. Carson also designed the Masonic Temple and the Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church.

A BDC spokesperson said the Inn is open for business as usual. Repeated call and visits to the Inn have gone unanswered.

Cole said that at some point, the buildings might close for renovation work, but there are currently no plans to shut them down.