

Bostwick House

Long-Term Plan and Vision

December 9, 2025



Introduction

Aman Memorial Trust is a long-term nonprofit partner assisting the Town of Bladensburg with the restoration and reimagining of the 1745 Bostwick House, a historic mansion, and its eight-acre site.

Goals

- Preserve one of the oldest surviving historic mansions in the region.
- Create a community events center for receptions, events, and meetings with exhibit space, a wine-tasting café, outdoor dining, picnic, and recreation areas
- Create an economic magnet by activating the entire Bostwick site as a dynamic community and heritage attraction

Summary

With funding from the State of Maryland, the Town of Bostwick engaged Encore Sustainable Design to conduct a condition survey of Bostwick House and develop a scope of work and budget to restore the Mansion as a community events center.

That condition survey is being expanded to include the outbuildings and grounds. These condition surveys will serve as the basis for a comprehensive plan and budget for the property's restoration and reimagining.

This Long-Term Plan and Vision include:

1. The Bostwick House mansion has the potential to become a significant Placemaking opportunity as an events center with exhibit space, and an exciting historical story of early life in the surrounding area in Bladensburg from the 1700s
2. The Stables as a wine tasting café with outdoor dining, picnic, and recreation areas
3. Other outbuildings adapted for a variety of uses, including additional meeting space, art exhibits, workshops and demonstrations, music events, studio space, restrooms, and storage
4. Improvements to the grounds to accommodate parking, large outdoor concerts, festivals, picnicking, and seating areas with attractive period landscaping.
5. Full-time project management, event management, and outreach.
6. Develop a Friends of Bostwick and ongoing partnerships and support from Prince George's County, the State of Maryland Legislature, MD DHCD, MHAA, MHT, University of Maryland, ATHA, MNCPPC, Anacostia Watershed Society, and others in the community
7. Investigate the feasibility of constructing multi-family housing on the upper portion of the property adjacent to the school and on the former roller rink site
8. Develop a budget and fundraising strategy

Long-Term Plan and Vision

These issues are summarized below.

1. The Bostwick House mansion as an events center with exhibit space
 - The large room on the ground floor will be used for receptions and meetings, the two middle rooms will be used for event preparation and storage, and the kitchen area will be renovated as a serving kitchen and restrooms.
 - The rooms on the second floor will be restored with original antiques and furnishings, a boardroom for meetings, casual rooms for events, and exhibition space.
 - The third-floor rooms will be used for HVAC equipment and for storage.
 - The Washhouse will be used for storage and a backup serving kitchen.
 - The front porch and lawn terraces will be used for large events.
- 2 The use of the Stables as a wine tasting café with outdoor dining, picnic, and recreation areas for community events and activities
 - The Stables building will be restored as a café with a wine tasting bar, a dining area, storage, a food preparation area, restrooms, an office, and exhibit space.
 - The area around the Stables will be restored for terrace dining
 - The Town and Aman would engage in planning outdoor activities that would engage the community and promote the Bostwick House for community events.
3. Other outbuildings, including restrooms and storage
 - The chicken coop will be demolished or restored for exhibit space.
 - The barn will be demolished or restored for terrace dining
 - The garage will be demolished or rebuilt as restrooms
4. Improvements to the grounds, including landscaping and parking
 - The landscaping will be restored as practically possible.
 - Parking will be installed on the South side with space for 100 cars
 - Access for food trucks, delivery or trash removal trucks

5. Project Management

An advisory group will be established with representatives from the Town, Aman Memorial Trust, MNCPPC, the County, the State, ATHA, the University of Maryland, the Anacostia Watershed Society, and other stakeholders.

A lease or management contract will be negotiated between the Town and a private operator who will manage the property

- It may be a lease like the Town's lease to Mango Café
- Possible candidates include:
 - Boyd Cru – has a wine tasting room in Savage, MD
 - Narcisso – sells wine from Hyattsville, MD
 - Robin Hill Winery – has a winery, wine tasting bar, dining, and picnic area. It hosts weddings and events in southern Prince George's Co.
(Note: Some wineries grow their grapes, but others purchase them. A long-term hope is that someday there will be grapevines at Bostwick.)
- Others – A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be prepared and distributed to seek an experienced tenant-operator

The managers will establish a website to post information about the Bostwick House facility and book reservations.

6. Connections to the Town, County, State, MNCPPC, University of Maryland, ATHA, Anacostia Watershed Society, other stakeholders, and the community

Bostwick will host events and exhibits, and display artwork reflecting:

- The history of Bostwick House
- The history of Bladensburg and the surrounding communities
- The Battle of Bladensburg
- Benjamin Stoddert – the first Secretary of the Navy (former owner)
- The University of Maryland's Dept of Historic Preservation
- The Anacostia Watershed Society
- Community organizations and residents
- Cultural and Community events with other partners

7. Investigate the feasibility of constructing multi-family housing on the upper portion of the property adjacent to the school and on the former roller rink site.

8. Budget and fundraising

- The State of Maryland provided \$500,000 to the Town of Maryland for the conditions survey and for exterior stabilization improvements. Most of these funds have been expended to complete the stabilization of the property,

- Encore Sustainable Design estimated the cost of the improvements needed to restore Bostwick as an events center at \$3 - \$4 million
- Preliminary estimates of the cost of improvements needed for the outbuildings and grounds are \$1 - \$2 million.

Conclusion

Bostwick House can be a vibrant community events center in a beautiful, restored historic mansion in a wooded setting. It can host a wide variety of events for residents of the Bladensburg and Prince George's County communities.