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ADMIRAL FELL INN HISTORY

The Admiral Fell Inn on Fell's Point's historic waterfront has risen from humble beginnings. William Fell, a Quaker from Lancaster, England who arrived in Old Baltimore in 1726, imported the flavor of Britain – most notably in the neighborhood's street names (Shakespeare, Thames, Fleet and Philpot, among others). In the "point" as Fell's 1,100 acres was known, there were some 350 early buildings, many pre-dating 1800 (an additional 200 others pre-date the Civil War).

The Anchorage, a legendary seaman's hostel was established in 1889 by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Port Mission to "maintain under Christian influence a boarding house for seamen, a home-away-from-home, a social and recreational center where the seafarer might find safe refuge while in port."

In 1929, the Young Men's Christian Association converted the expanded Anchorage into a 105-bed Seaman's YMCA with rooms so small that it was nicknamed "the doghouse." Lodging was provided to as many as 50,000 sailors a year, and by the end of World War II, the cost of a dormitory-style room had risen to fifty cents a night; a single room cost \$1.25 per night. This "home-away-from-home" continued to provide lodging through the mid-1950's.

Baltimore's bustling port was central to Maryland's economy until the early 20th century. When the role of sailing ships declined in the 1930's, the community of Fell's Point began to deteriorate along with it. The waterfront became a tough enclave of back-door saloons. Many of the properties were condemned in 1965 to make way for a new highway, I-95.

A grassroots effort by community members to halt the destruction of one of Baltimore's only intact historical neighborhoods, resulted in the designation of Fell's Point as Maryland's first National Historic District. Federal funds for construction of the new highway were disallowed and Fell's Point was spared.

The cellars of the interconnected buildings of The Anchorage were turned into a cider and vinegar bottling factory known as the Vinegar Works. After the plant's closing in the mid-1970's, the buildings remained unoccupied until the Inn was created in 1985.

Now an internationally acclaimed luxury hotel, The Admiral Fell Inn offers intimate elegance – amidst the still-bustling working waterfront community. The Inn, which consists of seven different buildings, some dating back to the 1770's and 1780's was chosen as a charter member of the National Trust for Historic Hotels of America.