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Commercial Real Estate

Historic mansion-turned-office building heads to auction



The historic McCabe Mansion in Govans is headed to auction in March.

AJ BILLIG AUCTIONEERS



By Melody Simmons – Senior Reporter, Baltimore Business Journal

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Story Highlights

- McCabe Mansion at 5209 York Road will head to auction this month with a \$400,000 opening bid.

- The 151-year-old historic building generates \$200,000 in gross annual rent from 23 tenants.
- Col. Lawrence McCabe built the mansion after the Civil War and constructed major railroad infrastructure.

A stately, 151-year-old mansion-turned-office building in Govans will soon hit the auction block.

McCabe Mansion at 5209 York Road is headed to auction this month. The marble-and-brick structure, part of which was built in 1875, is today a commercial building with nearly two dozen tenants and gross annual rent of \$200,000, [according to an auction listing](#) from AJ Billig, which is handling the sale.

The auction will open online on March 25 and close at noon on March 27 at the property site, according to the listing. A deposit of \$50,000 is required to bid, and the opening bid has been set at \$400,000. Property records show the three-story building is owned by 5209 York LLC, which bought it in 2014 for \$450,000.

McCabe Mansion is marked by its two-story Greek Revival columns and French doors that face York Road. The structure was built by the late Col. Lawrence McCabe, a bridge and tunnel builder, who helped create the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tunnel and bridge at St. Paul Street and North Avenue. McCabe also built a large part of New York's subway system and was contracted to work on the development of the Holland Tunnel in New York, according to a 1977 application for historic status filed with the city's Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation panel.

The mansion sits at the corner of York Road and McCabe Avenue and carries a historic designation that dates back to its origin as a residential manor home built after the Civil War. The structure is nearly 24,000 square feet and has been modernized and expanded with additions since it was first built. It was formerly used as the Seitz Funeral Home.

Today, the mansion is zoned for commercial use and has about 50 office suites and garages that are leased to 23 tenants, resulting in gross monthly rents totaling \$19,665. The property also has a surface parking lot and two garage bays.

"There is also an excellent opportunity for comprehensive redevelopment for a variety of commercial and residential uses," the AJ Billig flyer states.