

Tudor Hall
17 Tudor Lane
Bel Air MD 21015

Historic home of the Booths,
Maryland's famous family of
Shakespearian actors

Tours of the 1st Floor
By Reservation Only
April thru October

Reservations & Information

Center for the Arts
410-838-2177

Spirits of Tudor Hall

Spirits-of-Tudor-Hall@msn.com

<http://SpiritsOfTudorHall.blogspot.com>

Artwork by
Linda Delbridge

Spirits of Tudor Hall

Our Mission:

Spirits of Tudor Hall is a volunteer organization created in cooperation with Harford County Government, the Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation, the Center for the Arts, and the Booth Research Center of the Historical Society of Harford County for the initial purpose of establishing a tour guide program at Tudor Hall in order to open the house for public tours on a regular basis.

Tudor Hall was purchased by Harford County in 2006 and is managed by the Department of Parks & Recreation. Tudor Hall currently serves as a temporary home for the Center for the Arts, an organization dedicated to building a regional arts center in Harford County, Maryland.

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<http://SpiritsOfTudorHall.blogspot.com>
www.CenterForTheArtsHarford.com



Junius and Mary Ann Booth purchased a 150 acre farm in Harford County, Maryland, in the early 1820s. A two-story log house was moved from a nearby farm, and many of the Booth children were born in the log house, including Edwin and John Wilkes.



Junius and Mary Ann Booth built a Gothic Revival brick cottage based on a design by architect William Ranlett on the Booth Farm ca. 1851-1852. Junius died while on tour before the house was finished. Mary Ann and her children Rosalie, Asia, John Wilkes, and Joseph lived in the house that became known as Tudor Hall from ca. 1853-1857.





Junius Brutus Booth Sr. eloped from England with the young and beautiful Mary Ann Holmes in 1821 leaving behind a wife and son and a promising career on the British stage. Shortly after arriving in the United States, Junius appeared onstage in Richmond, Virginia, as Shakespeare's Richard III. For the next 30 years, he was one of America's best known and most admired tragedians.



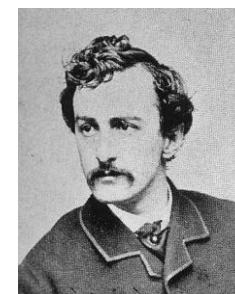
Mary Ann Holmes Booth was the mother of ten children, four of whom died in childhood. She was known for her beauty and elegance and her devotion to her often difficult husband and numerous children.



Edwin Thomas Booth followed in his father's footsteps to become one of the foremost actors on the American stage from the mid-1850s to the early 1890s. He was best known and best loved for his performances as Shakespeare's Hamlet. He founded a private club for actors, writers, and artists in New York City known as The Players. His suite at The Players is preserved just as he left it upon his death there in 1893.



Asia Sydney Booth wrote books about her father and her brothers Edwin and John Wilkes. She married comedian John Sleeper Clarke and was the mother of seven children two of whom became actors.



John Wilkes Booth was well on his way to following his father and older brother Edwin in a successful stage career when he assassinated President Abraham Lincoln in 1865 plunging both the nation and the Booth family into chaos and mourning. He was killed by Union soldiers in Virginia while attempting to escape after the assassination. His older brother Edwin supported the North during the Civil War.



Ella Harward Kyle Mahoney received Tudor Hall as a wedding gift from her first husband Samuel Kyle in 1879 and lived there until her death in 1948. She was a writer and artist and the mother of two daughters.