

## History



GLEN COVE  
MANSION

HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Around the turn-of-the-last-century, scores of wealthy Americans seeking a retreat from the urban industrial life built grand estates for themselves. These magnificent mansions were surrounded by acres of landscaped grounds. Often modeled after English country houses, many of these properties were the work of America's foremost architects and landscape designers. The north shore of Long Island was a popular location for the country estates of wealthy New Yorkers, which became an important part of Long Island architectural history.

These estates are an important part of Long Island's architectural and cultural heritage, creating the storied "gold coast." Only a few remain today, however. Post-war inflation, the advent of property and income taxes, the expense of maintenance and large staffs, and the need for higher density use of prime land brought about the destruction of large estates during the past few years.

Originally known as The Manor, the 1910, 55-acre estate of John and Ruth Pratt was considered by Country Life Magazine as one of the "best twelve country houses in America." Designed by the noted architect Charles Adams Platt (1861-1933), the brick Georgian mansion set in pastoral surroundings was an integral part of the many glamorous estates, which once comprised Long Island's Gold Coast.

Entering the stately two-story Portico entrance, visitors are greeted by an elegant, Baroque double staircase, imported paneling and antique fixtures that impart a feeling of being enveloped in a wonderful bygone era.

The gracious lifestyle is still available at Glen Cove Mansion as each guest is greeted with the same warm tradition set forth by the Pratt family in 1910. John Pratt, who passed away in 1927, was an attorney and an executive with Standard Oil Company. Ruth Baker Pratt was the first Republican Congresswoman from the state of New York. She represented New York City's "Silk Stocking" district. Ruth and her family maintained the estate until her death in 1965.

Since 1967, additions and conservation under skilled supervision have succeeded in creating one of the premier hotel and conference centers in the country. Since 1985, Glen Cove Mansion Hotel and Conference Center has been recognized numerous times as one of the "Ten Best Conference Centers in the United States" by the readers of Corporate Meetings and Incentives magazine, and has also been the recipient of Corporate Incentive & Travel MAGAZINE'S annual "Award of Excellence." In addition, Glen Cove Mansion Hotel and Conference Center was recently awarded its first "Gold Key" Award and "Gold Platter" Award for excellence in food and beverage by Meetings & Conventions magazine, one of the top meeting trade publications nationally.