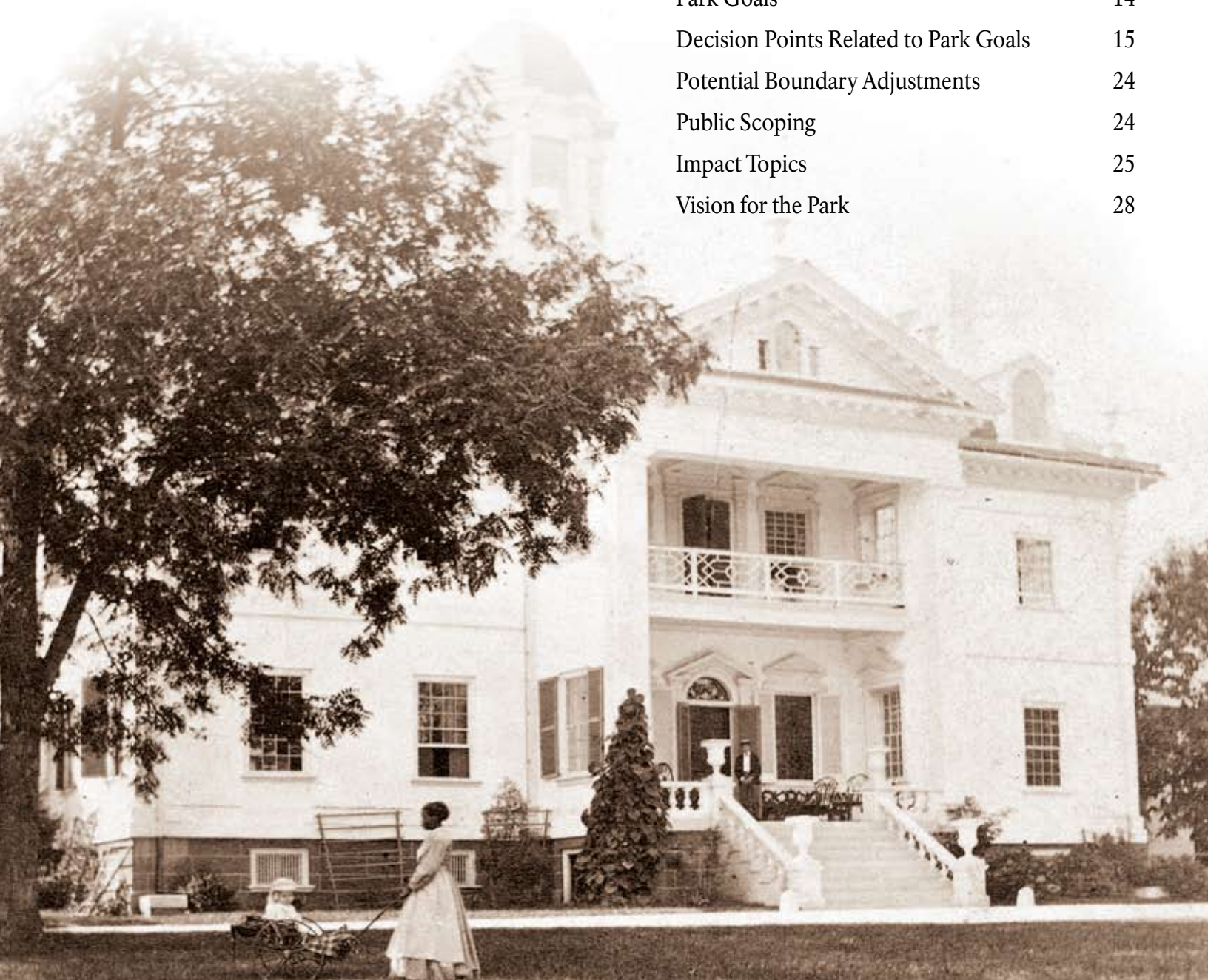


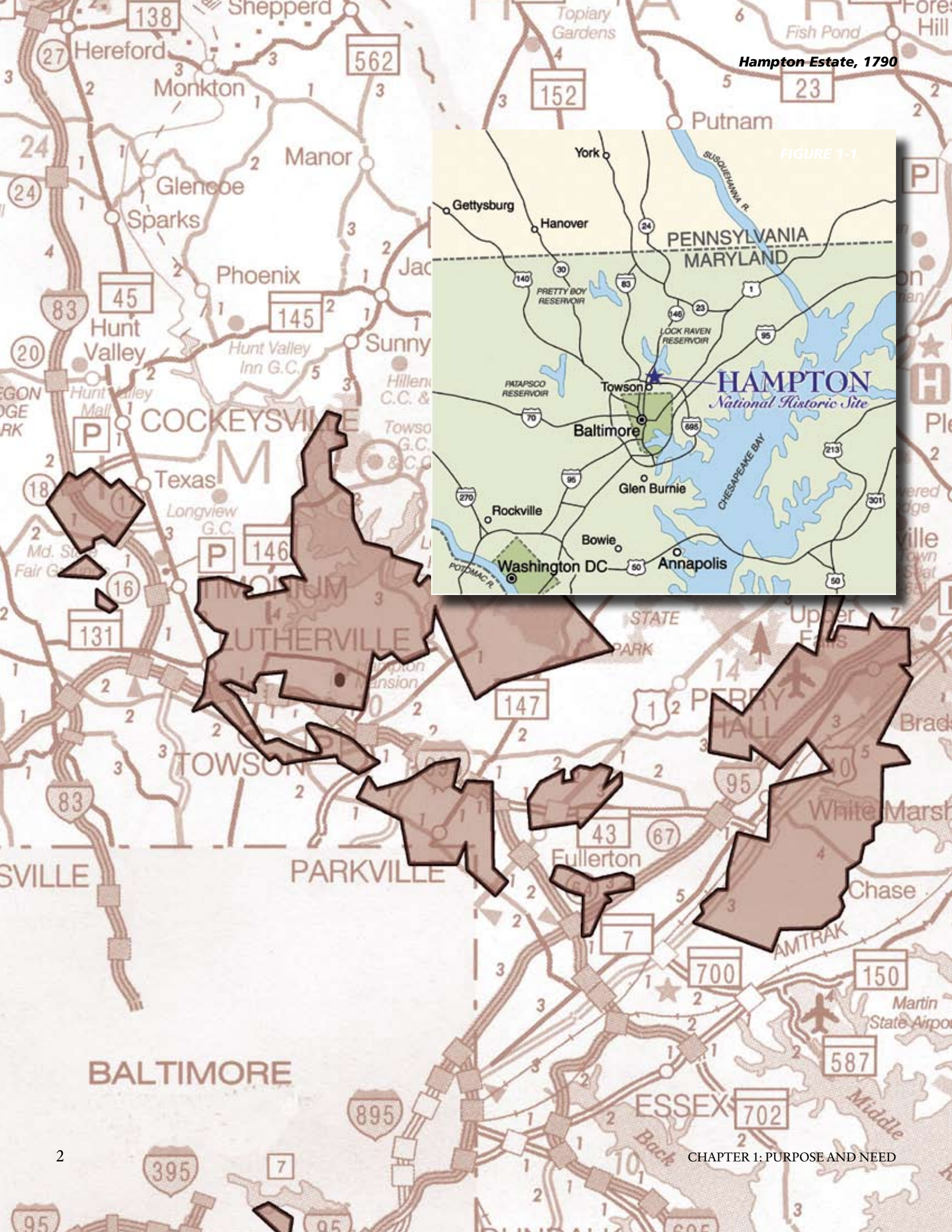
CHAPTER 1

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

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North facade of the mansion, c. 1872



Hampton Estate, 1790



INTRODUCTION TO THE PARK

Location and Access

Hampton National Historic Site (NHS) is a 62-acre unit of the National Park System, administered by the NPS in Baltimore County, Maryland, located approximately 13 miles north of downtown Baltimore (Figure 1-1).

It is the remnant of a 24,000-acre industrial and agricultural estate amassed and operated by one Maryland family—the Ridgely family—during more than 200 years of America’s development as a nation, from before the Revolutionary War until after World War II. The present site encompasses the family mansion, with its formal gardens and grounds, support buildings, and the original lower farm house, dairy, slave and servants’ quarters and other remains of the home farm, which supported the needs of the mansion and the workers in its immediate area.

Easily accessible from I-95, the park is bordered on the north, east and west by a quiet residential neighborhood built on land formerly belonging to the estate. Its southern boundary is formed by I-695, the Baltimore Beltway. Hampton Lane, a two-lane county residential road, bisects the park in an east-west direction. The mansion and its gardens are on the south side of the road and the farm is on its north side. Towson, the county seat of Baltimore County, and Goucher College, whose property was once part of the estate, lie to the south.

Historical Overview

Hampton reflects the evolution of American social history through the occupancy of one family and their large and diverse labor force from 1745 to 1948. Because the majority of surviving accounts, records, structures and objects were those of the Ridgely family, their story is the most obvious in what remains at the site, but the stories of the indentured, enslaved, and paid workers who made the estate function and their historic relationships to the property and family are equally as important. The Hampton saga began with Colonel Charles Ridgely’s (1702-1772) purchase of 1,500 acres in what was considered wilderness north of the city of Baltimore. This land had been named “Northampton” at the time the land grant was patented in the seventeenth century, possibly in honor of the area of

Northamptonshire in England. It was one of several parcels purchased by the Ridgely’s with “Hampton” as part of their name. On this land Colonel Ridgely established five separate areas for the production of tobacco, each with an overseer, indentured servants, and enslaved laborers. By 1750, Colonel Ridgely was one of Baltimore County’s wealthiest residents, supplementing his income by leasing agricultural fields to other planters and through the operation of a mercantile business in Baltimore. By 1757, he had purchased 10,000 acres elsewhere in the county and added 462 acres to the Northampton property.

In 1760, Colonel Ridgely and his two sons, Captain Charles and John, set up Northampton Furnace and constructed an iron works there. By 1762, they were selling tons of iron both locally and overseas. The Hampton enterprise combined the necessary components for a successful iron production business: a supply of ore and limestone; water power; a furnace, forge, and lime kiln; large tracts of woodlands for charcoal; and, ships that carried the iron and other raw materials to Europe. The farm supplied food and other necessities for the free laborers, indentured servants, and enslaved persons who worked as carpenters, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, cartwrights, millers, sawyers, and unskilled labor to support this largely self-sufficient enterprise.

When John Ridgely died in 1771, Captain Charles Ridgely (1733-1790) purchased his brother John’s share of the ironworks, thus acquiring two-thirds ownership of the enterprise that he had been managing since around 1765. Colonel Ridgely had earlier given 2,000 acres, including most of the Northampton tract, to Captain Ridgely and his bride. Agricultural production became diversified with wheat and other grains eventually surpassing tobacco as the main crops. Gristmills produced flour for the estate’s farms and communities. A sawmill was fed by 5,000 addi-

tional wooded acres purchased by Captain Ridgely along with quarries, orchards, and pastures for livestock.

During and after the American Revolution, earnings from commercial agriculture, speculation in coal and real estate and, most importantly, the sale of munitions and ironware to the Continental Army enabled the Captain to direct the building of the grand country house now known as “Hampton Mansion” and to buy thousands of acres of discounted Loyalist lands. Hampton, a striking example of Georgian architecture, was the largest private home in America at the time of its completion in 1790. Captain Ridgely chose as the site of the mansion one of the highest hills in the Dulaney Valley, at the southern end of the Northampton property, with dramatic views across his lands in all directions. At his death in 1790, Captain Ridgely, also known as “Charles, the Builder,” owned 92 enslaved persons and 24,000 acres, although it is likely that no more than half of that acreage was contiguous.

Captain Ridgely’s primary heir was his nephew, Charles Ridgely Carnan (1760-1829), a three-term Governor of Maryland, who received half the estate under the condition that he change his name to Charles Carnan Ridgely. Ridgely was a representative in the Maryland legislature 1790-95, senator between 1796-1800, and governor from 1816-19. He continued to increase the family fortune through his activities in banking, canal and railroad building, horse breeding, commerce, iron making, and commercial agriculture.

In his 40-year tenure in the mansion, Governor Ridgely acquired many important furnishings, including furniture, silver, paintings, textiles, and books. Taking advantage of the topography of the site, he ordered the creation of a terraced garden on the same scale as the mansion. He directed the installation of formal geometric designs (parterres) on the garden terraces and the primary tree plantings on the north and south lawns, taking care to frame the views of the home farm. As a result of his interest in scientific farming, the farm became a model among American farming operations.

Governor Ridgely was a major holder of enslaved persons. At the turn of the 19th century, indentured servitude was dying out and the work force at the Northampton furnace, where white indentured servants were originally in the majority, became predominately an African-Ameri-

can enslaved force. By 1830 the Northampton ironworks were in decline, and the site was abandoned in 1850. The technology and economics of iron making had changed, making Northampton’s machinery and methods of production obsolete. The forests that had supplied charcoal were depleted, and transportation costs compared unfavorably with those of furnaces built closer to urban centers. The furnace site was reclaimed for agriculture and farmed by the Ridgely’s—and later by their tenants—until 1923, when it was flooded by the expansion of Loch Raven Reservoir, which supplies water for the Baltimore metropolitan area.

When Governor Ridgely died in 1829, he owned over 300 enslaved people at Hampton, his other estates, and his city property. His will granted them freedom to the extent then allowed by Maryland law, freeing enslaved females between the ages of 25 and 45, males between the ages of 28 and 45, and younger slaves as they reached the allowable ages. In addition, Governor Ridgely’s will directed that children two years old or less accompany their mothers into freedom and that slaves older than 45 be taken care of by his heirs and rewarded for their labor.

Governor Ridgely’s son, John (1790-1867), inherited the Hampton mansion and 4,500 acres of adjoining land in 1829. Although the number of workers needed had diminished as tobacco had been largely replaced by much less labor-intensive grains, and the iron furnace had closed, John immediately purchased a new group of slaves. From the time when John took control of Hampton until 1864, when all its slaves were freed by the Emancipation Act of Maryland, labor on the estate was performed by a mixed work force of free whites and enslaved and free African-Americans.

It was John, third owner of Hampton, and his wife Eliza (1803-1867), who were largely responsible for the grounds as they are today, as well as for many of the furnishings and decorative arts currently on exhibit. Strongly influenced by their extensive travels in Europe, the works of architect and landscape designer Andrew Jackson Downing, and their personal interest in design, they continued to make improvements to the home farm, particularly during the 1840s and 1850s. Early structures were replaced with ornamental stone buildings, and other structures were remodeled to incorporate ornamental details. The new and refurbished buildings were expressions of the contem-

Captain Charles Ridgely



porary aesthetic known as the *ferme ornée*, described by its principal proponent, Downing, as combining “the beauty of the landscape garden with the utility of the farm.”

Because most of their crops were sold to northern states, the Ridgelys were economically linked with the North. Nonetheless, when the Civil War came their private sympathies were with the South. The Maryland Emancipation Act of 1864 had less economic impact on the Ridgelys than on some slave owners. Although the Ridgelys had continued the practice of slavery, free labor hired as needed had become less expensive for Hampton than a large permanent enslaved force, and slaves were already being freed as they reached the required age in accordance with Governor Ridgely’s will. Many of those freed by the will or the Emancipation Act remained at Hampton or worked the property as seasonal laborers. Tradition has it that some that left the estate helped to establish the community of East Towson in Baltimore County.

After the Civil War, the Ridgelys continued to cultivate the home farm, but set up a system of farm tenancy based on annual contracts for the remaining agricultural land. Rents were paid to the Ridgelys in either cash or a portion of the rented farm’s produce. Most of the tenants were white; however, one African-American was listed as a tenant and one of the Ridgelys’ former slaves became a farm overseer. The tenants found it difficult to pay their rent and make a reasonable living, and turnover was high. In many years following the war, the Hampton farm operation was barely profitable. The farming capabilities of

individual tenants and the lack of availability of labor during harvest, as well as prevailing market prices, may partially account for the poor profits.

Upon his father’s death in 1867, Charles Ridgely (1830-1872), who had in effect been managing Hampton since 1851, inherited the 4,500-acre property. He died only five years after his father, but his wife, Margaretta (1824-1904), remained and ran the estate for 30 years, concentrating on agriculture. Under her supervision, although the Ridgely fortunes declined, the garden continued to thrive, and several articles about it were published nationally.

Charles and Margaretta’s son, Captain John Ridgely (1851-1938), gained control of the mansion and its grounds, the home farm, and 1,000 surrounding acres when his mother died in 1904.

Each year brought a further erosion of the family fortune, with no major improvements made to the grounds after Margaretta’s death. In 1905, the family gave up its primary city residence and moved permanently to Hampton. John’s wife Helen (1854-1929) reduced elaborate plantings in the terraced garden, redesigning it for easier maintenance with fewer workers as funding and labor sources continued to decline. Also an author and artist, she managed the estate’s dairy and agricultural production.

In the 18th century, Hampton had been called “the house in the forest”, but by the end of the First World War, Baltimore and its suburbs were growing toward the formerly remote site. With agriculture in the area becoming increasingly less viable, Captain John Ridgely and his son, John Ridgely, Jr. (1883-1959), the last family member to own the mansion, organized the Hampton Development Company in 1929 and began to subdivide the family land and construct and sell houses on it. During the Great Depression, the high cost of maintaining the mansion and remaining grounds



led the family to sell some of its contents in order to finance its continued use.

One such sale led to the site's preservation. When the Mellon family arranged to purchase Thomas Sully's famous portrait of Eliza Ridgely for the National Gallery of Art after World War II, Hampton's dire financial situation attracted the attention of a group of leaders who were concerned about the lack of protection available for many of America's historic resources. In 1947, the Avalon Foundation, a Mellon family trust, provided \$90,000 to the Department of the Interior to acquire the mansion, some of its furnishings, 43.29 acres of surrounding grounds and buildings, and to make some essential repairs to the mansion.

At that time, the NPS faced an immense national backlog of needs for major repairs and development as a result of the diversion of federal funding and manpower to the war effort, and the explosion of visitation as Americans returned to the national parks once the war ended. NPS agreed to accept Hampton as a new unit of the national park system if a custodian could be found to manage the site. A cooperative agreement among the NPS, the Avalon Foundation, and the newly organized Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities (SPMA, now more commonly known as Preservation Maryland) was approved by President Harry

S. Truman in October 1947. Then Secretary of the Interior Julius Albert Krug officially designated Hampton National Historic Site in June 1948. This designation reflected a renewal of interest in historic preservation after the war. The group of prominent Americans who banded together to preserve Hampton went on to form the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

John Ridgely, Jr., and his second wife, Jane, moved from the mansion into the old lower house, home of the first Ridgely's at Hampton. Following work on the mansion, garden and grounds, the site was opened to the public in 1949. In 1953, NPS acquired an additional 2.118 acres, including the two stables. In October 1979, NPS assumed full administrative responsibility for the site. Upon the death of Jane Ridgely in 1980, NPS purchased the 14.02-acre farmstead north of Hampton Lane: the lower house, three other buildings (two that formerly housed enslaved people) and a series of outbuildings including the dairy, granary, mule barn, corn crib and other structures. The 2.1-acre cemetery was turned over to NPS in 1990 by SPMA, which had received it from the Ridgely's in 1953. A 50-foot right of way along the East Road, totaling one-half acre, was donated by a private owner in 2002. The site now totals 62.033 acres.

INTRODUCTION TO THIS DOCUMENT

This draft GMP/EIS was prepared in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA) of 1969 (P.L. 91-190), the Council on Environmental Quality's *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA* (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), NEPA procedural guidance provided by *Director's Order and Handbook 12* (2001), Sections 106 and 110 of the *National Historic Preservation Act*, *NPS Management Policies* (2006), the *General Management Planning Dynamic Sourcebook* (Ver.2, March 2008), and *Director's Order 28, Cultural Resource Management Guidelines*.

This document consists of five chapters and an appendix:

Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action consists of an introduction to the park, and the elements that direct park planning and decision making: the purpose for which the park was established, its national significance, and its mission; the goals associated with that mission; mandates specific to the park; a vision for the park; and the plan's decision points, or major questions to be answered. These components, along with park themes and fundamental and important resources and values, constitute the foundation on which planning is based.

Chapter 2: Alternatives present management options which express desired resource conditions and visitor experience both park-wide and for specific geographic areas of the park. Along with a "no action" alternative the two action alternatives for achieving the park's purpose and goals are presented. The "no action" alternative serves as the baseline from which the two action alternatives may be evaluated. Charts summarize actions and environmental consequences associated with each alternative. The NPS preferred alternative is also indicated.

Chapter 3: Affected Environment describes the present natural, cultural and socioeconomic environments, the visitor experience, and operations and maintenance aspects of the park that could be affected by implementation of any of the alternatives.

Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences describes the impacts that may result from implementation of each alternative, and any measures to mitigate those impacts.

Chapter 5: Consultation and Coordination summarizes public involvement and agency coordination during the planning process.

Appendices include the park's order of designation and Congressional testimony, relevant federal mandates and policies, and agency consultation letters.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PLAN

When adopted, this GMP/EIS will replace the park's current plan, which was published in 1983 and is now outdated. By law, a GMP/EIS is prepared and periodically updated for each unit of the national park system to help the public and NPS identify and understand the park's purpose, significance, themes, fundamental resources and values, resource conditions, necessary facilities, and visitor experiences the park should provide. GMPs provide the basic direction for park management and broad guidance to park managers as they make decisions that affect park's resources, facilities and visitors. A GMP's direction for resource preservation and visitor use is established in consultation with the public during the planning process. The NPS uses the GMP/EIS as the primary guide for management of a park for up to 20 years.

Development of a GMP/EIS requires consensus on the park's purpose, significance, mission, and park goals. An understanding of the park's purpose (the reason it was set aside and preserved by Congress) and its national significance helps focus efforts and funds on the resources that matter most. The purpose and significance of the park are reflected in park goals—the ideals that NPS strives to attain, and the conditions that must be met for the park to achieve them. Taken together, the purpose, significance, mission, and park goals set the general direction for the park. Along with the identification of fundamental resources and values of the park and condition assessments, these factors serve as the foundation upon which park planning and decision making are based.

Because there are different approaches that may allow a park to achieve its purpose, the process for developing a GMP/EIS requires the investigation of a range of alternative proposals. Three alternatives are presented in Chapter 2—including one that is identified as the NPS preferred alternative. Following public and agency consideration and comment, a final choice will be made about the planning direction reflecting the preferred alternative, a combination of the preferred alternative with elements of the other alternatives, or a new alternative. This selection will be considered for approval by the Northeast Regional Director of NPS upon the recommendation of the park's superintendent, and it will become the final GMP/EIS for the park. An approval of this plan does not

guarantee that the funding and staffing needed to implement the plan will be forthcoming. The implementation of the approved plan will depend on future appropriations and regional staffing priorities. Full implementation could be many years in the future.

To assist the public and the NPS to understand and assess the implications of adopting any one of the alternatives, an EIS has been prepared and presented in this document that analyzes the potential impacts of implementing any one of the alternatives on the natural, cultural, and human environments. The EIS has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA), as amended, and the implementing regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (40CFR 1500-1508) and NPS *Director's Order 12* and accompanying *Handbook Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis and Decision-*

making (2001).

FOUNDATION FOR PLANNING

The foundation statement is the basis for planning and management, and it concentrates on why a park was established. It describes a park's purpose, significance and themes, focusing future management and planning on what is most important about a park's resources and values. Those park resources and values that are "fundamental" to achieving the park's purpose and significance are identified, along with the legal and policy requirements that mandate a park's basic management responsibilities.

Establishment Of The Park

The mansion and the surrounding 43.29-acre grounds were established as Hampton National Historic Site by Order of Secretary of the Interior Julius Albert Krug on June 22, 1948. The order noted that:

...Hampton, near Towson, Maryland, built between 1783 and 1790 and one of the finest Georgian Mansions in America, has been acquired for the people of the United States through a generous gift to the Nation, and . . . the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments has declared that Hampton is of national historical significance as a splendid example of a great Georgian Mansion illustrating a major phase of the architectural history of the United States. . .

The order provided, "The administration, protection, and development of this national historic site shall be exercised by the National Park Service in accordance with the provisions of the act of August 21, 1935." That act, known as the Historic Sites Act, established "national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings and objects of significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States."

In 1978, U.S. Senator Charles Mathias, Jr., of Maryland proposed adding the 14.02-acre farm site to Hampton National Historic Site, recognizing its role in conveying the full significance of the park. The property contained the core of what had been the home farm, including the lower house (the oldest building on the Hampton Estate), three quarters (two known to have housed enslaved persons), a dairy, mule barn, granary, and other outbuildings. In his testimony in support of the legislation, Senator Mathias stated that:



The significance of the farm is, simply, that Hampton originally was not just the mansion and its immediate grounds; rather, it was a sprawling plantation . . . large venture, encompassing both agriculture and industry and the farm is an integral part of the enterprise. . .

Since 1948 Hampton has been the property of the American people as a national historic site. It is administered by the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities for the National Park Service. This arrangement has been eminently successful. Over the years it has provided the citizens of the Nation with a truly magnificent view of a late 18th century manor house.

And now—an exciting new development has taken place. The Hampton Farm is being offered for sale. We now have the opportunity to rejoin these two properties in one contiguous and grand Hampton National Historic Site. The acquisition of the Hampton Farm and its rehabilitation would have a dynamic effect upon the mansion as it is currently interpreted. The operation of a revitalized farm complex would dramatically help to transform Hampton from a site of primarily genealogical and architectural interest to what it really was—the centerpiece of a once vast estate, of which the farm was a major component.

Purpose, Significance And Mission Of The Park

One of the first steps in park planning is the drafting of the park's purpose and significance statements. For Hampton National Historic Site, these statements were based on the 1916 *Organic Act* by which Congress established the National Park System; the 1948 *Executive Order* and the 1978 legislative testimony of Senator Mathias, both referenced above; and ongoing scholarship. These statements form the basis of the GMP/EIS, and any decisions about the park's future must be weighed against them.

The purpose statement is the overriding factor for everything that is done in a park. It sets the parameters by which the park should be managed and used, creates a standard for appropriate decisions, and begins to define how to care for the park's special qualities and resources and to create

appropriate experiences for park visitors.

The *Organic Act of 1916* stated that the purpose of the National Park System is

To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

As a unit of the National Park System, Hampton National Historic Site is bound by this basic purpose. In addition, the park's specific purpose is defined as follows:

To preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources of this rare commercial, industrial and agricultural estate in the Chesapeake region; and

To stimulate understanding of how national events and social change are revealed in the site's resources and the interrelationships of the family and the workers who lived

and labored on the estate as it took shape and changed over the 18th and 19th centuries.

Significance statements describe the primary ideas, events, people, and resources that make a park important. A significance statement reflects the historical importance of the park and also its evolving role within the region and society. It places the site in a national context, identifying which of its resources and values are important enough to warrant national designation and support, ensuring that they will be protected and enhanced by management, operations and development decisions.

The period of significance, the span of time during which the property attained those resources and values, is identified in the site's documentation for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). For Hampton National Historic Site, this is from 1745 to 1948—with the greatest emphasis on the late 18th through the 19th century. That time period begins with Col. Charles Ridgely's purchase of the 1,500-acre Northampton tract and ends with the transfer of the mansion and 43 acres to the National Park Service.

Hampton National Historic Site's significance statements include:

Hampton National Historic Site, once the center of a vast Maryland land holding and a premier example

of Georgian architecture and landscape design, was a remarkable commercial, industrial and agricultural estate forged with indentured and enslaved labor. Hampton reflects a central irony in U.S. history—that a nation newly created on the principles of equality

- and freedom could accept the institution of slavery.
- **National events and social change**—the American Revolution, establishment of a new economy, slavery, the Civil War, Emancipation, and Reconstruction—are reflected by the site’s cultural resources, an unmatched and comprehensive assemblage of structures, landscape, museum collection, archives, and archeological and ethnographic resources preserved by one family over ten generations. This exceptional ensemble is an unusually complete chronicle that reveals the daily activities of the Ridgely family and the estate’s laborers, both free and enslaved, and illustrates 18th and 19th century history and design.
 - The 1790 mansion is one of the largest and most ornate late-Georgian houses in America. Hampton was the first national historic site recognized for its architectural significance.
 - The home farm and its domestic landscape are the core of what was once an immense estate. The farm includes rare surviving examples of slave quarters.
 - An important and internationally recognized collection of site-related furnishings, fine and decorative arts, and estate equipment represents the social and economic activities of the residents.
 - The 18th and 19th century landscape surrounding Hampton Mansion is rare and exceptional, reflecting English Renaissance landscape design principles with great integrity.
 - Written, photographic, and archeological records provide comprehensive documentation of the people and activities of the estate.

Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are the organizing framework under which interpretation of related natural and cultural resources is conducted. They represent the broad stories that integrate the collection of individual resources so that they may be viewed and understood in the context of the whole. Themes for the Hampton National Historic Site

are:

- The Hampton estate was created and evolved through the actions of diverse groups in a nation struggling to define its own concept of freedom. Hampton was built by wealth derived from agriculture, industry and commerce. Those endeavors were initiated and managed by the Ridgely family—one of the wealthiest and most prominent in the Chesapeake region—but were dependent upon the labor of their employees, indentured servants, and enslaved workers.
- The nature of the estate and the enterprises upon which it depended changed and evolved to reflect national events and trends. The Ridgely family owned and managed Hampton for more than 200 years. Over the course of that time, major economic, political and social influences, such as the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the emancipation of slaves, and the development of new technology, affected the profitability of agriculture and other enterprises supporting the estate, as well as, its designed landscape and interior spaces.
- Hampton’s structures, landscape, historic objects, archives, and archeological resources reflect the estate’s activities, its diverse communities and their inter-relationships. The design and placement of the ornate Georgian mansion, gardens and the estate outbuildings illustrate the social and economic differences and relationships among the people associated with the estate. The social structure and the diversity of communities are demonstrated by the contrast between the abundance of Ridgely family possessions and writings and the limited-existence of surviving artifacts and archives of the workers.

Fundamental Resources and Values

Park fundamental resources and values are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes, including opportunities for visitor enjoyment that warrant primary consideration during planning and management because they are critical to achieving the park’s purpose and maintaining its significance.

The following table was developed during the planning

Table 1-1: Fundamental Resources

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES	ANALYSIS and GUIDING PRINCIPLES
<p>Buildings, structures, landscapes, and associated archeological resources that are related to the historic Ridgely estate known as the “Hampton”</p>	<p>Importance</p> <p>There are 24 historic structures at Hampton National Historic Site, (NHS) reflecting the many activities that supported its role as a country estate and working farm, as well as the social and economic relationships of its people. These structures include the mansion (cited in the site’s designation as a premier example of Georgian architecture and design), slave and other quarters, orangery, stables, icehouse, outhouses, greenhouses, maintenance buildings, lower house, barns, and dairy. All but one of them dates from the 18th or 19th century. Both as an assemblage and individually they retain remarkable historic integrity. These structures are sited within the park’s cultural landscape, itself a complex collection of designed features, garden elements, and agricultural areas. The associated archeological resources, represent buried evidence of the development, uses, and modifications of structures and landscapes. The physical collection of structures and cultural landscape is primary to the park’s national significance, and all elements described here are considered contributing resources in the park’s National Register documentation.</p>
	<p>Current State and Related Trends</p> <p>There is exceptional historic integrity of the site representing the park’s period of significance—Hampton is a remarkable survival. Reforestation has masked boundaries and adjacent development has significantly affected view-sheds. Fortunately, the new trees somewhat screen the modern development. Several historic buildings (octagonal slave quarters and corn crib) are missing, and one has been reconstructed (orangery).</p>
	<p><i>The Facility Condition Index (FCI)</i> estimates the condition of park resources, such as a building or other structures. An FCI of less than or equal to 0.100 indicates an asset in good condition. One with an FCI greater than 0.10 but also less than 0.15 is in fair condition. One with an FCI greater than 0.151 or less than 0.500 is in poor condition. Assets with an FCI greater than 0.50 are in serious condition. Of Hampton National Historic Site’s twenty-four historic buildings, fourteen are in fair/good condition, seven are in poor condition, and three are in seriously poor condition.</p> <p><i>The Asset Priority Index (API)</i> is a measure of an asset’s value relative to a park’s primary purpose and significance. An API of 100 indicates an asset most important and most relevant; zero represents an asset with no relevance or significance to a park’s mission. Hampton NHS’s twenty-four buildings have an average API of 71, with the mansion scoring 100.</p>
	<p>Potential Future Threats</p> <p>Change in the surrounding suburban neighborhood is increasing potential for larger, more visible development. Additional threats include environmental and cultural damage from deer population and increasing air pollution and noise pollution from the Beltway, as well as increasing crime in the neighborhood. Changes in landscape or structures to accommodate handicapped access will have an adverse impact on resources. Current trend of relying on non-recurrent or donated funds to support basic maintenance and operations is not sustainable in the long term.</p>
	<p>Stakeholder Interest</p> <p>Historic Hampton, Inc. (HHI), the park friends’ organization and cooperating association, has provided hands on and financial support to park management, preservation, and educational programs for over fifty years.</p> <p>Hampton National Historic Site’s historic buildings (especially the mansion itself) and grounds have been identified as a destination for a number of tourism-related initiatives. Park staff has been involved with the Greater Baltimore History Alliance, a coalition of cultural institutions that seek to do joint marketing, collaborate on areas of interest, and promote historic attractions to the tourism community in a strategic manner.</p> <p>Hampton also has an active volunteer program; the majority of these people participate in interpretive programs in the mansion and lower house.</p> <p>Other stakeholders include the Hampton Improvement Association, the neighborhood group; Delta Sigma Theta, an African-American sorority with significant interest in the park’s African-American history, and as-yet unidentified descendants of Ridgely workers.</p>
	<p>Law and Policy Guidance</p> <p>Pertinent federal laws and NPS policy guidance on historic structures, archeology, and cultural landscapes described in Secretary of the Interior’s Standards of Director’s Order 28 on Cultural Resources and Director’s Order 28A on Archeology and NPS Natural Resource Guidelines. Although there are no federal natural resource designations in the park, the park does contain a small stream, important local bird habitat, and dozens of remarkable specimen trees, including multiple Maryland State Champions.</p>
	<p>GMP Issues</p> <p>Continued protection and appropriate uses of historic structures and treatment of landscape features. Continued expansion of interpretive themes to include the entire history of the site, including the stories of the enslaved and indentured living at Hampton; protecting the significant resources, enlivening the visitor experience; and increasing visitation.</p>

Table 1-1: Fundamental Resources

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES	ANALYSIS and GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Museum Collections and Archives	Importance The historic collections at Hampton National Historic Site represent more than 160 years of life and work on the estate, with a concentration on the period between 1790 and 1870. They consist of over 45,000 historic objects, 100,000 archival items and 30,000 archeological artifacts. Surviving in their original context, they greatly enhance understanding of trends in American history and culture and are specially mentioned in the park's National Register documentation.
	Current State and Related Trends The site's collections are stored in multiple locations at the site (many in significant historic structures) and several off-site facilities including Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine and the NPS Museum Resource Center of the National Capital Region. Problems with existing on-site storage spaces include small rooms, low ceilings, inconvenient door and window locations, radiators, duct openings, limited floor load capacities, unheated spaces, dirt floors, and insect and rodent infestations. Many of these conditions preclude efficient use of standard shelving and museum storage equipment. The NPS <i>National Museum Storage Strategy</i> specifically describes the Hampton situation and recommends consolidation of storage into no more than six on-site locations.
	Potential Future Threats Damage from lack of environmental control and pest issues are substantial threats to the collections stored and displayed in the historic buildings. These threats would be mitigated substantially by consolidating storage to climate-controlled facilities.
	Stakeholder Interest Academics, specifically historical researchers and decorative arts specialists, represent the major stakeholder group. There is tremendous research interest in the park's collections and archives. Lack of dedicated space and staff for researchers to utilize the collection is limiting access. These resources provide park staff and volunteers information for development of public programs and interpretation.
	Law and Policy Guidance Pertinent federal laws and NPS policy guidance on collections and archives as described in NPS <i>Management Policies</i> , NPS <i>Cultural Management Guidelines</i> , NPS <i>Museum Handbook</i> , and NPS <i>Natural Resource Guidelines</i> .
	GMP Issues Appropriate storage, research space, and integration with regional/national collections planning documents.
FUNDAMENTAL VALUES	ANALYSIS and GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Hampton reflects the American experience as lived by a cross section of social and economic classes, and facilitates understanding of the central role of slavery in shaping American history.	Importance Hampton National Historic Site reflects a central irony in U.S. history – that a nation newly created on the principles of equality and freedom could accept the institution of slavery. The spatial relationships and designs of structures and landscape delineate the social and economic relationships of different people within this microcosm of early American history. The unmatched assemblage of cultural resources associated with a formerly vast commercial, industrial and agricultural estate forged with indentured and enslaved labor stimulates understanding of these resources and the activities of the family and workers—paid, indentured and enslaved – who lived and labored on this estate as it took shape and changed over the 18th and 19th centuries. The resources and the lifestyle they reflect were made possible by the institution of slavery.
	Current State and Related Trends Interpretive facilities and programs are diversifying to reflect slavery in more comprehensive and explicit ways, including expansion of programs and exhibits at the farm complex and modifications to mansion programs and exhibits
	Potential Future Threats Sensitive and controversial nature of the subject matter, coupled with lack of resources to provide exhibits, publications, and programs, may lead to failure to appropriately convey this value.
	Law and Policy Guidance DO-75A encourages Civic Engagement as a framework for creating plans and developing programs.
	GMP Issues Potential reconstruction or rehabilitation of the Summer Kitchen and domestic service cluster, including the Octagonal Servants' Quarters (if continuing archeological and scholarly research is adequate for the Octagon's reconstruction) would facilitate expansion and diversification of interpretation to include more emphasis on African-American history, as would expanded interpretive media. Staffing to provide increased interpretation at the farm complex remains an operational issue.

Special Mandates and Commitments

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency joined with the State of Maryland, the Commonwealths of Virginia and Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and the Chesapeake Bay Commission in an agreement “to reduce and control point and non-point sources of pollution to attain the water quality conditions necessary to support the living resources of the Bay” (*Chesapeake Bay Agreement, 1992 Amendments*). This agreement established an interagency partnership committed to managing the Bay as an integrated ecosystem. The goal is to “provide for the restoration and protection of the living resources, their habitats and ecological relationships” (*1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement*).

The NPS, as a formal partner of the *Chesapeake Bay Program* (CBP), is part of a network of public agencies leading the effort to protect the Bay and its 64,000-square-mile watershed. In joining the CBP, the NPS agreed to contribute to the restoration, interpretation and conservation of the many valuable resources within the watershed. In 1994 the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the NPS signed the *Agreement of Federal Agencies on Ecosystem Management in the Chesapeake Bay*. Under this agreement, the NPS committed to work with the participating states, federal agencies and other CBP partners to manage the watershed as a cohesive ecosystem through the 26 national park units within it, including Hampton National Historic Site. Through a 1998 update known as the *Federal Agencies Chesapeake Ecosystem Unified Plan* (FACEUP), the NPS (including Hampton), and other federal agency partners recommitted to cooperative ecosystem management, watershed protection, living resources and habitat stewardship, nutrient and toxins prevention and reduction, and sustainability.

Overarching Guiding Regulations, Policies And Statutory Requirements

There are many laws, regulations, and policies that direct the NPS in the management of specific resources and programs at Hampton National Historic Site. The following five laws provide overall guidance for developing the alternatives and the compliance portions of this GMP.

National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1–4, et seq.) authorizes the NPS to promote and regulate the use of national parks, monuments, and reservations, by such means and measures as to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the land in such manner as would leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470) requires the NPS to identify, evaluate, and nominate historic properties to the National Register, and to preserve the archeological, architectural, and cultural values on these properties [Section 110(a)(2)]. Section 106 and Section 110 of the Act require the NPS consult with the State Historic Preservation Office to nominate eligible resources under its jurisdiction to the National Register of Historic Places.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91–190) established a broad national policy to improve the relationship between humans and their environment, and sets out policies and goals to ensure that environmental considerations are given careful attention and appropriate weight in all decisions of the Federal Government. This is the legislation, along with implementing policies and regulations, which requires and guides the preparation of this EIS.

National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (The Redwoods Act) requires that general management plans be developed for each unit in the national park system, and that the plans include, among other things, measures for preserving the area’s resources and an indication of the types and intensities of development associated with public use of a given unit, as well as any proposed boundary adjustments.

Additionally, *National Park Service Management Policies* (2006) and current NPS planning standards have also guided the preparation of this plan. This document can be viewed at www.nps.gov/policy.

MISSION STATEMENT AND PARK GOALS

An understanding of the purpose for which the park was established and what it is about the site that is nationally significant leads to a mission statement that describes what the park desires to accomplish. The park's mission statement is:

Hampton National Historic Site preserves an unmatched assemblage of cultural resources associated with a formerly vast commercial, industrial and agricultural estate forged with indentured and enslaved labor. The park stimulates understanding of these resources and the activities of the family and workers—paid, indentured, and enslaved—who lived and labored on this estate as it took shape and changed over the 18th and 19th centuries.

Park goals broadly articulate the ideals NPS will strive to attain at the park. They are expressed as desired future conditions for resources, visitor experience, facilities and visitor use, and partnerships. These goals were developed in consultation with the public and park stakeholders in a series of public meetings, workshops, and consultations from 1998 to 2007. The management alternatives in this GMP, detailed in Chapter 2, describe different ways these goals might be accomplished. Park goals, and the methods for ultimately achieving them, will shape the way the park will look and feel, and the way it will operate in the future.

Goal One: Cultural and Natural Resource Management

Historic structures, landscape, artifacts, archives, archeological sites, and natural resources are protected, preserved, and maintained in good condition, and made accessible where appropriate. Scholarly research contributes to knowledge about all of the park's cultural resources and history.

To achieve this goal, park managers and partners must understand the nature and significance of the park's resources, both as an ensemble on the site and also in a larger historical and geographical context. Historic and natural resources research, including archeology, both by NPS and other scholars, is a key to such understanding and to making well-informed decisions. Moreover, adequate

funding and staffing must be directed at the preservation and maintenance of the park's fundamental resources to ensure this goal is achieved.

Goal Two: Interpretation and Visitor Experience

The public understands and appreciates historical national events and social change through their experience of the site's outstanding collection of resources and through its stories.

To achieve this goal, park managers and partners must convey the broad context and full significance of the site to visitors, including stories associated with the mansion, its setting, the farm, the slave quarters, and the many people, free and enslaved, who lived and worked there. A variety of excellent interpretive experiences based on the site as it exemplifies history must be provided. From these experiences, visitors can make connections to their own interests and understand the historic resources and stories, and their relevance to today's society, in ways that are most meaningful to each individual.

Goal Three: Facilities and Visitor Use

Park visitors and staff enjoy high quality facilities accessible to all segments of the population. Administrative facilities are safe and efficient.

To achieve this goal, park managers and partners must make available safe, accessible and appropriate facilities to enable visitation and enjoyment of the park's resources. Visitor facilities need to be appropriate to the park's purpose and be convenient, yet not impair significant resources. Facilities need to efficiently support park operations and preservation activities. Events and recreational opportunities need to be consistent with the park's purpose and significance, and not harmful to park resources or the visitor experience.

Goal Four: Partnerships and Cooperative Actions

The park works cooperatively with public and private entities that support its mission to protect and interpret park resources.

Managers must build on the park's long history of activities with volunteers and support organizations, cooperating with private, local, state, and federal partners to protect resources and tell the stories of the site and its role in American history.

DECISION POINTS RELATED TO PARK GOALS

The following decision points reflect the underlying planning issues that the GMP addresses and the are the basis for the development of the alternatives presented in this GMP/EIS. They are organized according to park goals and were developed in consultation with NPS staff representing relevant disciplines, the public and park stakeholders during the scoping process, in a series of public meetings, workshops, and consultations from 1998 to 2007.

Resource Management

How should the park landscape be managed?

In its topography, the spatial relationships of its structures, and its major plantings, the core landscape of Hampton National Historic Site strongly conveys the high point of its development, clearly retaining its picturesque designed landscape with the falling garden of the late 18th century and the largely intact ferme ornee of the mid-19th century. However, the long, slow decline of the estate's fortunes following the Civil War led to a number of alterations and diminutions in the overall property.

After the Civil War, the loss of enslaved labor and the increasing cost of hired help led the family to streamline maintenance of the grounds immediately surrounding the mansion—most notably by simplifying the plantings in the parterres in about 1900. Following designation of what remained of the estate as a national historic site, the parterres were modified according to a design by Alden Hopkins in the colonial revival style.

The primary change in the estate was the sale of thousands of acres of land that surrounded what is today the 62-acre park, creating a context of suburban homes rather than Ridgely-owned farms. As late as the 1940s, the primary views from both the mansion and the lower house were of open fields extending to the horizon. What are now the park's boundaries were established as the family parceled off the surrounding lands. Decisions on the ultimate lot lines for the site were largely based on septic suitability for new houses rather than on features of the historic landscape. Today the boundaries, lined in most places by a dense tree screen, cut across once expansive meadows and orchards, constraining the space and limit-

ing the long views that characterized the site.

While the park still strongly exhibits its historic design framework, it also carries an overlay of modifications and additions to accommodate visitors and site maintenance—some not in keeping with the careful planning and formal design of previous eras. A parking lot for visitors was constructed about 1950 near the orangery. The original, historic entrance drive was closed and a new access road built across the west meadow in 1990 when modern buses proved too large to negotiate the historic entrance gates. A prefabricated steel building which now houses museum collection storage was added and screened with pines at approximately the same time.

Since these adaptations were made, a greater awareness of the importance of limiting modifications of the landscape to those necessary to protect the park's resources and support appropriate and accessible use by visitors has developed. The Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (Secretary's Treatment Standards) presents the primary guidance for preserving landscapes that are listed in or eligible for the National Register. The GMP considers alternative landscape treatments that meet those guidelines. Their definitions are summarized as follows:

- **Preservation**—The current form and character of historic structures and landscapes are retained through maintenance and repair. Changes that have accrued over time are kept, and current uses continue. Vegetation is protected from deterioration to the extent possible. This is the default treatment for all historic landscapes and structures for which no other treatment is recommended.
- **Rehabilitation**—Historic structures and landscapes are made available for interpretation, other forms of education and other uses through repair, alterations and additions. Their character is retained by preserving historic features, including changes that have acquired significance, and by replacing missing features.
- **Restoration**—Historic structures and landscapes are returned to their appearance at a particular period of time. Features from that period are preserved and those from other periods are removed. Missing

features for which there is substantiating evidence may be reconstructed.

- **Reconstruction**—No matter how well conceived or executed, reconstructions are contemporary interpretations of the past rather than authentic survivals from it. *The National Park Service will not reconstruct a missing structure unless “...there is no alternative that would accomplish the park’s interpretive mission; sufficient data exist to enable its accurate reconstruction based on the duplication of historic features substantiated by documentary or physical evidence rather than on conjectural designs or features from other structures; reconstruction will occur in the original location; the disturbance or loss of significant archeological resources is minimized and mitigated by data recovery; and reconstruction is approved by the Director.”* A structure will not be reconstructed to appear damaged or ruined. Generalized representations of typical structures will not be attempted. (NPS Management Policies (2006) 5.3.5.4.4)

How should historic structures be managed and maintained?

There are 24 historic structures at Hampton, reflecting the many activities that supported its role as a country estate and working farm. These structures include the mansion, slave and other quarters, orangery, stables, icehouse, outhouses, greenhouses, maintenance buildings, lower house, barns, and dairy. All but one of them—the 1910 garage—date from the 18th or 19th century. Both as an assemblage and individually they retain remarkable historic integrity.

A few important original buildings have been lost. The orangery, which burned in 1926, was reconstructed in 1975-76. Still missing are the octagonal slave/servants’ quarters, which burned in 1945; the corn crib, which burned in 1988; and the summer kitchen, formerly attached to the mansion, which was demolished by the NPS in 1950 due to its deteriorated condition.

The exteriors of Quarters A and greenhouse #1 have been restored to their appearance circa 1870. The mansion exterior has been restored with the exception of the summer kitchen, chimney caps and shutters. The exterior of the lower house has been restored, including reconstruction of the mid-19th century porch, and the building made handicapped-accessible. The interiors of the lower



house and stone slave quarters have been rehabilitated for interpretation. The structure that has served at different times as a chicken coop, garage, and dovecote is presently not in use, but is slated to house accessible restrooms.

Some of Hampton’s historic structures are being used for storage of collection items and some for maintenance materials, equipment and functions. Serving those purposes prevents their use for interpretation and can pose a threat to the structures’ integrity from fire and loading. Conversely, the historic structures that are empty are threatened with deterioration because of the difficulty in

obtaining funding to preserve buildings that do not have a designated function. As with the landscape, the GMP considers choices and recommends an approach for treatment of the site's structures in keeping with the Secretary's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* cited above.

The level of visitation that the mansion can support without damage to its resources (its carrying capacity) is constrained by the space needed to move people from room to room, by fire codes, and by security concerns that dictate the number of persons who can be overseen at a given time. With current staffing, approximately 100 people can tour the mansion in a day. A single commercial size bus group (45 people) may fill half the day's tours. Half-days are booked by schools or other groups approximately 85 times per year, and the mansion occasionally experiences days on which all tours are filled. With additional staffing and volunteers the park could accommodate more people while ensuring resource preservation. The GMP considers alternatives that disperse visitors to additional areas of the park, helping to ensure that the visitor capacity of the mansion is not exceeded.

How should the park's outstanding collections of site-related furnishings, fine and decorative arts, archives, ethnographic resources, and archeological artifacts be protected, maintained and used?

The multi-generational collections, surviving in their original context, are outstanding features of Hampton National Historic Site and greatly enhance its overall significance. It is largely these collections that have informed us of the history of the site and its people, and they hold the key to researching and telling its full story.

The museum collection contains almost 50,000 objects, including mansion furnishings, works of art, textiles, estate equipment, and garden furnishings. A majority of the items are original to the site, and the history of ownership of many of them is documented in the park's archives. Only 20% of the objects are on display at any time; the remainder is in storage at many different locations in the park, at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, and at the NPS Museum Resource Center of the National Capital Region. The diverse locations make the collection difficult for researchers to use and for curators to care for.

In many of the locations, environmental conditions are inadequate for the storage of historic artifacts because of excessive levels and fluctuations of temperature and humidity. These conditions subject the artifacts to mold and insect infestations, causing accelerated deterioration. Security and fire protection systems also are insufficient. Deficiencies are noted annually in Hampton's *Automated Checklist for the Preservation and Protection of Museum Collections*.

The park receives an average of 250 collections-related information requests a year, including about 50 on-site visits that entail use of the reference and genealogical files and library materials currently stored at the park. Approximately 24 of the annual requests require access to the archives stored in the rehabilitated granary at the farm. Demand for information is increasing as a result of partnerships with colleges and universities. The lack of a staffed research library and reference facility with adjoining archival storage means that undue amounts of scarce existing staff time are required to assist researchers and monitor use. Space to display, store, and care for the collections and provide for their use in research is inadequate.

A new collections storage facility for the park has been funded for construction as this GMP/EIS was nearing completion through the recently enacted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This facility is included in the no action alternative and is common to both of the action alternatives. It is expected to be constructed early in the implementation of this GMP/EIS. The facility will consolidate much of the collection in storage, provide office and research space for the collections and archives, and provide a museum quality environment and protection for its precious contents. It will be located between the administrative trailers and the current metal building.

How will archeological resources, both identified and unknown, be protected, maintained, and used?

Initial archeological studies indicate that the Hampton property was used for hunting and gathering but was not occupied by Native Americans on a permanent basis. Eighteen sites were excavated and studied in conjunction with ground-disturbing projects between 1966 and 1990. Results of these 18 investigations are summarized in *Archeological Overview and Reassessment* (King and Breckenridge 2000). Building materials, ceramics, oyster shells, animal bones, and household objects were found;

their types and distribution are indicative of short-term campsites.

Four additional archeological investigations conducted at Hampton between 1998 and 2001 to mitigate the effects of construction activities at the park are reported in *Hampton National Historic Site Archeological Survey* (Long and Kehs 2001). Artifacts observed include architectural materials, brick and tile drainage features, a stone retaining wall or step, and a brick and oyster shell path or road. Data from the survey itself have provided information on building construction, horticultural practices, landscape alteration and design, yard use, and the extent of prehistoric activity at Hampton.

Additional archeological research could help expand and diversify the interpretive focus of the park by increasing our knowledge of the people who lived and worked the property, as well as by providing information on buildings such as the Octagonal Servants' Quarters and landscape features. The survey identifies 28 areas with the potential to contain significant archeological resources, and recommends that a GIS map of these locations and all previous excavations at Hampton be produced prior to any future construction. It also recommends that a comprehensive archeological resources management plan be developed, and points out the need for sound research designs based on integrated archeological and historical data.

All of the park's 30,000 archeological artifacts are managed by NPS, and were stored, cleaned and cataloged at the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory until 2008, when they were returned to the park. Original field notes and documentation are stored at Hampton. This collection is expected to grow substantially.

Interpretation And Visitor Experience

What kinds of interpretive and other educational experiences should the park provide?

The term "interpretation," while commonly used by NPS, state and local parks, museums, and nature centers, sometimes causes confusion. For such institutions, the term is defined as an educational activity intended to reveal meanings and relationships through the use of original objects, firsthand experience, and illustrative media. Interpretation is fact-based and depends on the results of professional scholarship, but it does more than communicate facts. The aim is to provoke visitors to discover

for themselves the larger truths and personal connections that lie behind any set of facts.

Hampton was originally designated a national historic site for the quality of its architecture. Since it opened to the public in 1949, the primary focus for interpretation has been on the mansion, its occupants, its outstanding collection of fine and decorative arts, and its gardens. Its reputation and imposing presence guarantee that most visitors see the mansion, filled with the portraits and possessions of generations of the Ridgely family. Fewer visitors tour the other historic structures or the farm, with its slave quarters and working buildings that offer a striking contrast to the mansion and represent stories very different to those of the family.

Congressional language supporting designation of the farm in 1978 indicated that an expansion in focus was necessary. In addition to providing the familiar and well regarded programs and publications that interpret the mansion, the park must convey the larger significance of the site. Efforts have been made to diversify the interpretive story since the late 1980s, including the contracting of living history programs regarding African-American roles at Hampton and the recent introduction of exhibits in Slave Quarters B. The *Statement for Management for Hampton National Historic Site* (SFM, 1989) and the *Long Range Interpretive Plan for Hampton National Historic Site* (LRIP, 1993) recognized the need for an expanded presentation. The SFM set an objective to "manage and interpret the site so that visitors understand the history of the site in all its complexity, including the history of the Ridgely's, the operations of the estate, and the social hierarchy required for its support."

The farm complex is open and tours are available during the summer and by reservation throughout the year. Tours provide information about the historic context of the site, the economic enterprises that created and sustained the family's wealth, and the hundreds of people—enslaved, indentured, and free—who built and maintained the house and garden, labored in the iron works, forests and quarries, worked the farms, tended the racehorses and other animals, and accomplished the other labors that kept the estate running. However, efforts to expand the visitor experience to the farm have been limited by lack of staff and funds and by the farm's lack of restrooms.

It is the intent of NPS, with strong concurrence from the

State of Maryland, Baltimore County, local educators, and interested individuals, to interpret the full significance of Hampton. The GMP considers the development of new interpretive programs to accomplish that objective.

The interpretive themes set forth above in this chapter will influence the management and operation of the park. Decisions about which structures or parts of the site are open to the public; how structures and the landscape are preserved; and what tours, programs, and publications are most important to provide, are all linked to themes.

What are the best strategies for providing interpretation and other forms of education, and how should staff and operational resources be allocated to support them?

Except for brochures and the park web site, tours are presently the only means of providing any orientation to the park or its history. Information is limited by the lack of space for visitor reception and exhibits, as well as the constrained numbers of staff and volunteers. Many visitors do not have the opportunity to make choices about what they want to do or learn at the site, to pose for themselves a set of questions that would make their visit more meaningful, or to receive the knowledge they need to best enjoy and learn from their experience.

The permanent interpretive staff at the park consists of three positions to cover a seven day per week operation, with 50% of one of those positions devoted to visitor protection and safety. One or two seasonal employees augment this staff. Dedicated volunteers present approximately 60% of programs and tours, and are critically important to the park's ability to provide visitor services. The volunteer interpretation corps of about 15-20 persons contributes an average total of 40 hours each week.

Expansion of interpretation to the farm will require that new programs be developed and that the number of volunteer service hours be greatly increased. Additional staff time will be required for training and monitoring the volunteers. The GMP considers the allocation of staff and volunteers to the development and presentation of new interpretive programs. The details of interpretive programs such as tours, special events, interpretive media, and publications will be developed in subsequent implementation plans.

The State of Maryland, Baltimore County, and many or-

ganizations and individuals have demonstrated strong interest in the site's possibilities for becoming a more effective and widely used educational resource. The recent rehabilitation of part of the lower house provides classroom space but it only seats a maximum of 20 people, fewer than half a bus load. The GMP considers ways of integrating the farm into the typical visitor experience, as well as other means of increasing the use of Hampton for educational purposes. The details of educational programs will be developed by working closely with elementary and secondary schools and colleges.

How can Hampton's message reach a broader and larger audience?

Part of the mission of every national park is to interpret the relevance of its resources and history to all citizens. Hampton's landscape, artifacts, places, people, and events contributed in unique ways to the shared national experience and values of a diverse people. Yet the current profile of visitors is somewhat one-dimensional—the majority of the site's 30,000 annual visitors are adults, most are white, and most are from the region.

Regional and national tourism trends show that historic sites and museums are favored by leisure travelers and by the aging population. However, elder travelers increasingly prefer the use of tour buses rather than personal vehicles for leisure travel. Hampton is currently not considered a destination site by the larger tour operators, in large part due to lack of facilities to handle groups.

The GMP considers alternatives for attracting and benefiting a larger and more varied visitor population encompassing all ages, races and ethnic origins. Possible changes to park programs that could broaden audiences and increase visitation include:

Improvements to interpretive programs, the addition of topical tours and the opening of new areas of the site to visitors;

- Improved management and promotion of mission-related special events;
- A marketing initiative by Historic Hampton, Inc. (HHI), and other partners;
- Partnerships with organizations representing or serving minority populations;

- A student education program; and
- A new program of changing exhibits on site-related topics.

Facilities And Visitor Use

What are the appropriate type, mix and level of visitor uses?

A desire that is shared by the park and the community is to enliven the typical experience for visitors and to present programs and activities that attract and sustain visitation, involve the community, and generate interest and support for the site. The possibility of generating community

interest, support, and revenue has to be balanced against impacts to the site's cultural and natural resources, and the costs, including use of paid and volunteer staff time.

NPS Management Policies guide park managers in their decisions about special events and park uses. Because there is no way to protect Hampton's historic furnishings and objects without careful supervision of limited numbers of people at a time, the mansion is not used for private events. Public activities in the park, such as concerts and lectures, have potential value in advancing the park's mission by generating interest and support for the site and may be appropriate. The park is considering undertaking a study to evaluate the effects of different types and levels of food service to determine the feasibility of a concession for food service in compliance with new concession laws. The GMP considers ways of facilitating activities that are related to the purpose of the park, recognize the reasons for its significance, and do not impair the resources that make the site nationally significant.

What facilities are needed to support appropriate visitor use and experience?

Existing support facilities are inadequate and do not enable visitors to experience the park's cultural resources fully. Park entry and exit occur at a location with limited visibility of oncoming traffic, just west of a hill on Hampton Lane. The entrance drive, constructed in the 1980s, bisects the west field, detracting from the visitor's sense of the open fields that once surrounded the mansion. The main parking lot, accessed from that drive, is too small for the number of cars needing space daily, and the overflow parking area is down a steep hill from the mansion and orangery.

The visitor reception area is in the west hyphen, a one-sto-

ry room connecting the mansion's three-story main section with its two-story wing. The size of this room is only 320 square feet, with usable space significantly reduced by stairways, handicapped lift, and four inward-opening doors. Because the area can comfortably hold only 10 people, it is difficult to orient visitors to the site or to stage mansion tours. Full bus loads or classes cannot be contained in one place indoors, and there is no shelter for people who must wait outside. The park's museum shop, operated by HHI, occupies 360 square feet in the adjoining two-story addition, with productive use again constrained by stairways and multiple doors. The limited number of interpretive and other educational items that can be offered restricts the potential revenue stream. The bookstore is now handicapped accessible.

Restrooms are insufficient, and only those in the Orangery are handicapped accessible. It can take 45 minutes for a single bus load of visitors, ranging from 40 to 60 persons, to be accommodated—a particular problem for school groups with limited time. The site, in general, poses significant difficulty for physically challenged individuals because of its hilly terrain, uneven walking surfaces, and many-leveled mansion. Although most of the park's current programs are programmatically accessible through photographs, publications, and ranger-conducted activities, physical access for wheelchairs is only available to the orangery, the first floor of the mansion's west hyphen and main block, and the first floor of the lower house. Plans for access to the stone slave quarters are in development, but have not been implemented at the time of this plan.

It is a park and community desire to use the farm's historic structures and stories to broaden the context for understanding Hampton's complete history. However, achievement of this goal is impeded by the absence of facilities for visitors. The farm buildings are open for guided tours at limited times, but the farm has no restrooms. The narrow width of the single lane farm road and the sharp angle of its connection with Hampton Lane make it unsafe for buses and difficult for cars to maneuver, especially when two vehicles are there at the same time. The half-mile walk from the mansion to the farm involves hills and a road crossing. Those who walk down the East Road may find themselves sharing the road with cars. The alternative route, the mown path, is not accessible for everyone. Limited sight lines on Hampton Lane make crossing hazardous.

Addressing these needs through modifications has the potential to affect the park's cultural landscape. The GMP considers visitor support needs and alternatives for accommodating them with the least intrusion on the visual, cultural and natural resources of the site.

How can efficient administrative space be provided?

Offices for the park's administrative, interpretive, and curatorial staff have been moved from the basement of the mansion, which posed health hazards from radon, mold and mildew, to the modular buildings placed in the garden maintenance area. The small trailer used by the park's cooperating association and official friends group, HHI, is located next to the park's modular building.

As noted above, any new construction to deal with facilities' needs could have an impact on the park's cultural landscape, although the impact could be lessened by careful siting, incorporation into existing building clusters, rehabilitation of existing structures, and installation of dense plantings using plants listed in the park's *Cultural Landscape Report*. The GMP considers alternatives for providing needed administrative space efficiently and with the least intrusion and impact on the visual, cultural and natural resources of the site.

How can the impact of any potential new facilities on the surrounding neighborhood be minimized?

Neighbors of the site have expressed concern for the visual impression that potential new construction for visitor services, collections storage, and operational needs might present for the character of the neighborhood and for



Dining Room

Concern over the level of traffic that increased visitation could bring has also been conveyed. The GMP considers alternatives that achieve park goals with the least possible impact on the neighborhood.

Partnerships And Cooperative Actions

What roles should partnerships play in the development and operation of the park?

Hampton National Historic Site has been a partnership park from the time of its designation. It was managed for NPS by the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities, now commonly known as Preservation Maryland, from 1948 until 1979, and the park has continued to enjoy active affiliations with a number of organizations serving a variety of functions. NPS understands partnerships as a means to integrate the park with the community, making the park's resources and benefits more readily available to the public and generating awareness, caring, support, and advocacy for the park.

Hampton's existing partners are:

Historic Hampton, Incorporated, the park's cooperating association and official friends group, provides both hands-on and financial support of park goals for resource preservation and interpretation. The park has worked in partnership with HHI to coordinate and present special interpretive programs and to make Hampton-related archives available to researchers. The association operates the museum shop, offering theme-related reproduction items as well as books, and donates resulting revenues to support interpretation and resource management. HHI regularly facilitates grant requests on behalf of the park, including annual requests to Preservation Maryland and a variety of requests to local government, private foundations and individuals for such activities as restoration, museum object acquisition, implementation of furnishing plans, and educational programs. HHI completed a major

capital campaign in 1999 to match Maryland State Bond funds and funds from the Save America's Treasures program to rehabilitate the historic lower house and one of the slave quarters and provide Hampton's first classroom space, greatly enhancing the park's role as a resource for schools. The park and HHI work closely with the Maryland Office of Tourism Development, the Baltimore County Conference and Visitors Bureau, and Historic Towson, Inc., to promote the site.

Baltimore County funded replacement of the mansion's slate roof and associated repairs in 1997-98 (through a grant to HHI), preventing further damage from the leaking roof. County government views Hampton as an important educational and cultural resource that enhances the quality of life for residents and contributes to the positive image of the county. The Conference and Visitors Bureau provides information about the park to visitors to the county and to those who request information about the area. The Baltimore County Historical Trust has supported interpretive programming through funding and volunteer services.

Colleges and universities including Goucher College, Villa Julie College, Morgan State University, Towson University, and the University of Maryland, provide interns to conduct historical research, care for the museum collection, and assist with visitor services. Many interns have focused their research on topics in African-American history. The park cooperated with Goucher College, specifically, on a variety of research projects and grants, and has participated in grant proposals with the goals of making archival information more widely available and improving resource management.

Colonial Dames of America, Chapter One, furnished the mansion parlor to represent the period 1790 to 1829, using many Ridgely items including portraits by John Hesselius of the Ridgely's who built the mansion (Charles and his wife), painted around 1762. They are currently involved with funding the updating of scholarship related to the parlor.

The *Hampton Improvement Association*, which represents the residential neighborhood adjacent to the park, cooperates with the park in a neighborhood security patrol and shares information about local events and developments that might affect the historic setting.



Participants in the Hampton "My Doll and Me Tea" sport bonnets they created at this special event for children

The *Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory* catalogued and stored artifacts from excavations at the park until 2008, and provides professional support to Hampton's archeology program.

The *Maryland Historical Society* holds and makes available to researchers archival materials related to the Ridgely family and Hampton estate.

The *Maryland State Archives* also holds and makes available to researchers archival materials related to the Ridgely family and Hampton estate.

Preservation Maryland managed the park for thirty years, and has provided grants and other forms of funding to further research, interpretation, and resource preservation.

The *State of Maryland* cooperates with the park in multi-faceted partnerships. The State Legislature approved a bill in 1998 for a \$200,000 matching bond to

rehabilitate the lower house and stone slave quarters for use in interpretation and other educational programs. State agencies include the park in promotional materials for travel and tourism.

Volunteers contributed almost 10,201 hours to the park in fiscal year 2007.

- Interpretive volunteers greet and give guided tours.
- Curatorial volunteers catalog objects in the museum collection and care for them according to museum standards, conduct primary research, and assist with exhibit preparation and dismantling.
- Maintenance volunteers paint and repair fences and masonry work.
- The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland District III, particularly Hampton and Glen Arm chapters, provide funding and help maintain the landscape through work in the herb garden and parterres.

These interested citizens free park personnel to focus on critical public safety and maintenance needs and on additional interpretive efforts. Without volunteers, the park could not provide services on a daily basis. The GMP explores the roles of partnerships in the future of the park.

How can community and regional partnerships be developed and enhanced?

Hampton National Historic Site recognizes the importance of enhancing existing partnerships and building new ones with individuals, businesses, government agencies, and interested non governmental organizations. Such efforts can help to meet a number of needs. For example, Hampton National Historic Site is little known, even in the Baltimore/Washington region. It is an objective of the park to increase the number and diversity of visitors. While NPS is unable to market the park, it can reach out to a broader audience by working with certain local, state, and national organizations whose mission is the promotion of historic sites. Another example is the park's desire to expand its interpretive programming. Research conducted through partnerships with educational institutions can provide the basis for seminars, lectures, exhibits, and elementary and secondary school programs. These and some other potential affiliations and initiatives are described below.

African-American associations can offer support, expertise, and advocacy for the research and investigation needed to fully develop the interpretive themes and resources of Hampton. Significant interest and support

have already been received from a number of organizations focusing on African-American history, including donations from the Baltimore Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority. As the park's programs and facilities are improved, the site will become an important part of the regional heritage tourism scene. African-American themes and resources constitute one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry, and great opportunity exists to achieve that part of the vision for the park that calls for expanded and more diverse visitation.

Colleges and universities offer significant possibilities for research and information-sharing, as well as expanded internship programs. The park has a trove of untapped information for theses, dissertations, and field studies in architecture, landscape architecture, historic preservation, horticulture, and American studies.

Local schools present an audience eager for the educational opportunities the park intends to offer. Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County schools have indicated interest in the cooperative development of curriculum-related programs and in internships for high school students in resource preservation and history.

Museums and cultural institutions in the Baltimore area and further afield have missions, themes and collections that are similar to those of Hampton National Historic Site. The potential exists for shared research and educational initiatives, and for development of traveling exhibits.

Tourism organizations have the potential to address the site's relative obscurity. The Maryland Office of Tourism Development and the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development are resources for the promotion of heritage tourism. The Baltimore County Conference and Visitors Bureau can include the park in its promotional programs. State travel centers, rest areas, libraries, and numerous publications are excellent means of publicizing the park. Participation in consortium of sites that address special interests such as historic houses or with the State of Maryland in its heritage tourism initiatives can bring recognition and attention that the park would be unable to generate on its own.

Descendents of Hampton's workforce have a personal stake in the interpretation and preservation of resources at Hampton NHS with direct ties to the enslaved and paid workers of the historic estate. Descendents can participate in oral histories, support the annual symposium on topics relating to



slavery, and help the park develop new interpretative and educational programs related to their ancestors. The GMP explores strategies for widening partnership opportunities in the region.

POTENTIAL BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS

Hampton National Historic Site was established in order to preserve its cultural resources and to encourage an understanding of the way the social and economic structure represented by the estate influences current conditions and issues. Land surrounding the park was once part of the 24,000-acre Ridgely property. The view from the high point of the mansion was one of open fields, giving a sense of the extensive land holdings. Much of that original landscape context has been lost as fields have been converted to housing. Retaining what remains is essential for interpreting the interrelationships of the estate and fulfilling the park's purpose.

This GMP/EIS does not include proposals for any major boundary adjustments for Hampton National Historic Site, but provides for the possibility of minor boundary adjustments to help avoid additional degradation of the historic setting. An example of this was the acceptance by the park of the donation

of a 50 foot wide strip of property that was once part of a right of way on the eastern boundary. Such adjustments will be pursued by NPS only if there are willing donors or sellers.

PUBLIC SCOPING

The public scoping process for this GMP/EIS included discussions with public agencies and partners, neighbors and others who have an interest in the park. Internal NPS scoping included consultation with natural and cultural resource experts and staff and managers from the park, and the Northeast Region and Washington offices of the NPS. External scoping began with the publishing a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal Register, which asked citizens, organizations and agencies to identify any issues of concern, as well as ideas for the park's future. NPS conducted public meetings, discussion groups and briefings to solicit ideas on the public's vision for the future of the park. The dates and more information about these notifications and workshops are included in Chapter 5. Public Scoping has continued throughout the planning process.

As noted earlier, the decision points reflect the information gathered during this scoping session. Resource management issues, need for facilities and other topics identified during the meetings and discussions formed the basis for the decision points and the focus of this plan.

Internal and external scoping helped to formulate which resources and other values and associated impact topics are important to address in the GMP/EIS and which can be eliminated from further consideration because they are either not present or the

impact from the actions of the alternatives, is none to negligible. The impact topics retained for further analysis and those eliminated from further analysis are identified in the next columns.

IMPACT TOPICS

Topics Retained For Further Analysis

The analyses of potential environmental impacts of two action alternatives and the continuation of the current management alternative is located in Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences. The following criteria were used to identify which impact topics should be retained for further analysis in the GMP: resources cited in the establishing legislation and Congressional testimony; resources critical to retaining the significance and character of the park; resources recognized as important by laws or regulation; and other resources and values of concern which emerged from internal and external scoping.

The impact topics retained for further analysis include:

- **Cultural Resources** including historic buildings, cultural landscapes, archeological sites and ethnographic resources.
- **Natural Resources** including water quality and vegetation.
- **Socioeconomic Resources** relating to contribution to the local economy and land use.
- **Visitor Use and Experience** including the experience in the park, interpretive materials and programs.
- **Park Operations and Management** including operational efficiency, facilities, staffing and partnerships

Topics Eliminated From Further Analysis

During the scoping process, the following impact topics were initially considered, but then eliminated from further analysis because they are either not within the affected environment or would not be affected by any proposed action. Reasons for eliminating them are described under each impact topic.

Prime and Unique Farmland

Prime farmland is farmland with the best combination of physical and chemical qualities to sustain a variety of crops—such as food, oil seed, or trees—and can include farmland and forested land. Unique farmland is other

than prime farmland and has special characteristics such as soil quality, location and growing season for crops, such as certain commercially grown berries or apples. Both are treated and managed for high-yield production of high value food and fiber crops. There are no prime or unique farmlands within the boundaries of Hampton National Historic Site, as defined under the *Farmland Protection Policy Act* (7 U.S.C. 4201(c) (1)).

Floodplain and 100-Year Coastal Flood

Executive Order (EO) 11988: Floodplain Management requires that all federal agencies evaluate the potential effects of any action it may take in a floodplain. NPS compliance with *EO 11988* is guided by *Director's Order 77-2: Floodplain Management* and its companion procedural manual. There is no designated floodplain area within the boundaries of Hampton National Historic Site

Air Quality

Hampton National Historic Site is located in the Baltimore Metropolitan Region for air quality control purposes. Pollutants of primary importance to the park include ozone and particulate matter. Baltimore is a ground level ozone non attainment area. All of Maryland is in attainment for particulate matter. The actions proposed in this plan are expected to have less than minor impacts on air quality.

Wild and Scenic Rivers and National Natural Landmarks

Nationally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers are rivers that must be free flowing and possess “outstandingly remarkable” geologic, historic, cultural, natural or recreational resources. None of the streams flowing within the boundaries of Hampton National Historic Site are designated Wild and Scenic Rivers or eligible for such designation.

National Natural Landmarks (NNL) are nationally significant examples of the Nation’s natural history. The NNL program is intended to encourage preservation of sites which illustrate the geological and ecological character of the United States, to enhance the educational and scientific value of these sites, to strengthen appreciation of natural history, and to foster public interest and concern for the conservation of the Nation’s natural heritage. There are no NNL’s within the boundary of Hampton National Historic Site.

Wildlife and Their Habitats

The natural resources report for Hampton National Historic Site (1998) stated that the majority of the wildlife at the historic site consists of resident and transient bird and mammal species, with expected seasonal variation, common to the general suburban environment around Baltimore.

A resident population of white-tailed deer travels along the interstate noise wall and stream corridor near the farm. Other common suburban mammals found within the park include Virginia opossum, bat, red fox, gray squirrel, groundhog, eastern chipmunk, meadow vole, raccoon and a number of rodents and insects. None of the proposed actions for Hampton National Historic Site will alter the existing habitat or negatively impact wildlife within the boundaries of the park.

Rare, Threatened, Endangered or Special Concern Species and Their Habitats

The *Endangered Species Act of 1973* (Section 7) requires that a federal agency consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on any action that may affect federally-listed endangered or threatened or candidate species, or that may result in modification of their habitat.

On the basis of a site survey of the area and consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, it has been determined that no known federally or state-listed threatened or endangered species or ecologically critical areas exist in or adjacent to the park.

Geology, Topography and Soils

The Hampton mansion sits on top of a ridge overlooking the Dulaney Valley. The park falls away on all sides from there. Over the past 300 years, the top of the hill was leveled for the mansion and roads, garden terraces and fields have been carved out of the slopes falling away on all sides. None of the alternatives propose actions that will negatively affect the geology, topography or soils of Hampton National Historic Site.

Indian Trust Resources, Sacred sites and NAGPRA:

Secretarial Order 3175 requires that any anticipated impacts to Indian trust resources from a proposed action or project by Department of Interior agencies be explicitly addressed in environmental documents. The federal Indian trust responsibility is a legally enforceable fiduciary obligation on the



part of the United States to protect tribal lands, assets, resources and treaty rights, and it represents a duty to carry out the mandates of federal law with respect to American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes.

There are additional Executive Orders and Acts which protect Native American rights and resources. These include *Executive Order 13007: Indian Sacred Sites*, protecting and allowing access to Indian sacred sites; and the *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990*, a federal law providing for museums and federal agencies to return certain Native American cultural items—human remains, funerary objects, and objects of cultural patrimony—to lineal descendants, culturally affiliated Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

Based on consultation with the American Indian liaison for NPS, Northeast Region and review of the 2001 *Archaeology Survey*, there are no known Indian trust resources—protected tribal lands, sacred sites, graves, or objects—within the boundary of Hampton National Historic Site.

Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, provides that federal agencies achieve environmental justice by identifying and addressing, as



appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minorities and low-income communities. For the purposes of identifying low-income and minority populations, data from the *U.S. Census 2000* were utilized. The Hampton Census Designated Place (CDP) was identified as capturing the Hampton National Historic Site and was determined to be the area of effect for the purposes of Executive Order 12898. In 1999, the percentage of families in Hampton living below the poverty level was 0.4; for those with related children under 18 years of age it was 1.1. However, Hampton sits in a larger urban context. In the Towson CDP 7.7 percent of individuals live in poverty, and in the City of Baltimore the percentage is 22.9.

The racial composition of the Hampton CDP is 91.4 percent white, while the Towson CDP is 86.9 percent white, and the City of Baltimore is 64.3 percent African-American and 31.6 percent white. Since 1970, the number of white residents has changed very little; however, the county's net population growth after 1970 is largely attributable to an increase in the population of racial minority groups. While none of the proposed improvements identified under any alternative would result in any disproportionately adverse human health or environmental effect

on minority or low-income communities, this plan seeks to ensure that Hampton National Historic Site responds appropriately to these changing demographics.

Soundscape and Noise Management

Director's Order 47: Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management directs the NPS to preserve and/or restore, to the greatest extent possible, the natural soundscapes of national parks. Natural sounds are intrinsic elements of the environments that are often associated with national parks and park purposes. They are inherent components of the "...scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife" protected by the *Organic Act of 1918*.

Natural sounds exist in the absence of human-caused sound and are the aggregate of all the natural sounds that occur in a park, together with the physical capacity for transmitting natural sounds. Some natural sounds are also part of the biological or other physical resources of the park. Examples of natural sounds include winds in the trees, claps of thunder, and falling water.

Hampton National Historic Site sits within a completely suburbanized environment. In spite of a sound wall, traffic noise from Interstate 695 is very evident in the southern third of the park, particularly in the gardens and in the vicinity of the mansion. The farm area is not affected by the interstate noise, but receives some traffic noise from Hampton Lane, the public road that bisects the park, and smaller residential roads that surround the park. Although less 21st century noise would result in more appropriate historic scene, Hampton is not known for any particular natural soundscape. No action proposed in this plan is expected to substantially change the level of noise in the park or the community above current levels.

Health

In the past, concern about radon in the mansion basement has been a concern for park employees and managers. For many years, the park staff had offices in the basement of the mansion. Radon testing identified the level of radon to be of potential risk to employee and visitor health, which led first to the installation of a venting system in the mansion and then, when that proved inadequate, to the relocation of staff from the basement to a modular office structure. No action proposed in this plan is expected to substantially change the level of radon in

the mansion basement above current levels, thus, no use is proposed for the basement that would necessitate people spending extended periods of time in this space.

VISION FOR THE PARK

The vision for Hampton National Historic Site is derived from the park's foundation document, park goals, and the public scoping process. Vision statements describe ideals that the park seeks to achieve.

Interpretation is expanded and diverse.

The interpretive palette includes a broad range of Hampton's stories and resources, while those for which Hampton is now known continue to be interpreted. The focus of programming is expanded to "present all segments of Hampton's past."

Educational experiences involve children in their history, and provide special value for all visitors to the site.

Seminars, conferences and other educational programs are offered. We can "spur a passion in students to love history and want to preserve it."

There are more places to experience in the park.

More of the park's buildings, garden, and little known places are open and interpreted. The focus is broadened from the mansion to include the entire site.

The site's remarkable collection of historic structures is well preserved and demonstrates the park's commitment to historic preservation.

Hampton NHS includes a truly unique collection of historic buildings and structures that represent all aspects of the estate's operation and work force. The buildings are all preserved and maintained in excellent condition and interpretive programming draws on the presence and integrity of these remarkable survivals to share rich and diverse programming about the site's stories and significance.

The historic landscape is recognized for its quality and rarity.

The landscape of the mansion and farm is maintained at

a high level and fully interpreted. "The grounds are as impressive as the mansion."

The level of visitation is high and diverse.

Interpretive and other educational programming and events are planned to attract a wide spectrum of people. "The park is full of all kinds of people."

Community interest and involvement is strong.

Using the site flexibly and developing interesting events and activities are essential to community involvement and increased interest in and support for the site. "More choices are offered to the community that supports Hampton."

Support facilities, funding and staffing meet the operational and visitor service needs.

Adequate means and space for caring for the collection, offering scholarly access to the archives, and providing adequate, environmentally safe space for staff and volunteers are recognized as basic needs for sustaining the site. A visitor reception area enhances visitation and utilization of the park's resources by allowing for orientation and programming. Basic visitor facilities including restrooms and retail space are provided as appropriate.

There is adequate funding to move ahead and achieve goals for which there is widespread support.

Federal, state and private funding combine to support park functions.

There is adequate staffing to "make the site work."

Professional staff, skilled volunteers and partners all have mutually supporting roles to play.

Partnerships multiply the site's impact.

Building on current partnerships and seeking new partners who share the park's mission of interpretation and preservation, benefit the site, the partners, and the community.

There is better and more frequent communication of the value of the park and also of the way decisions about the site are made and the reasons for them.

The NPS recognizes this need for communication and builds support at every level.