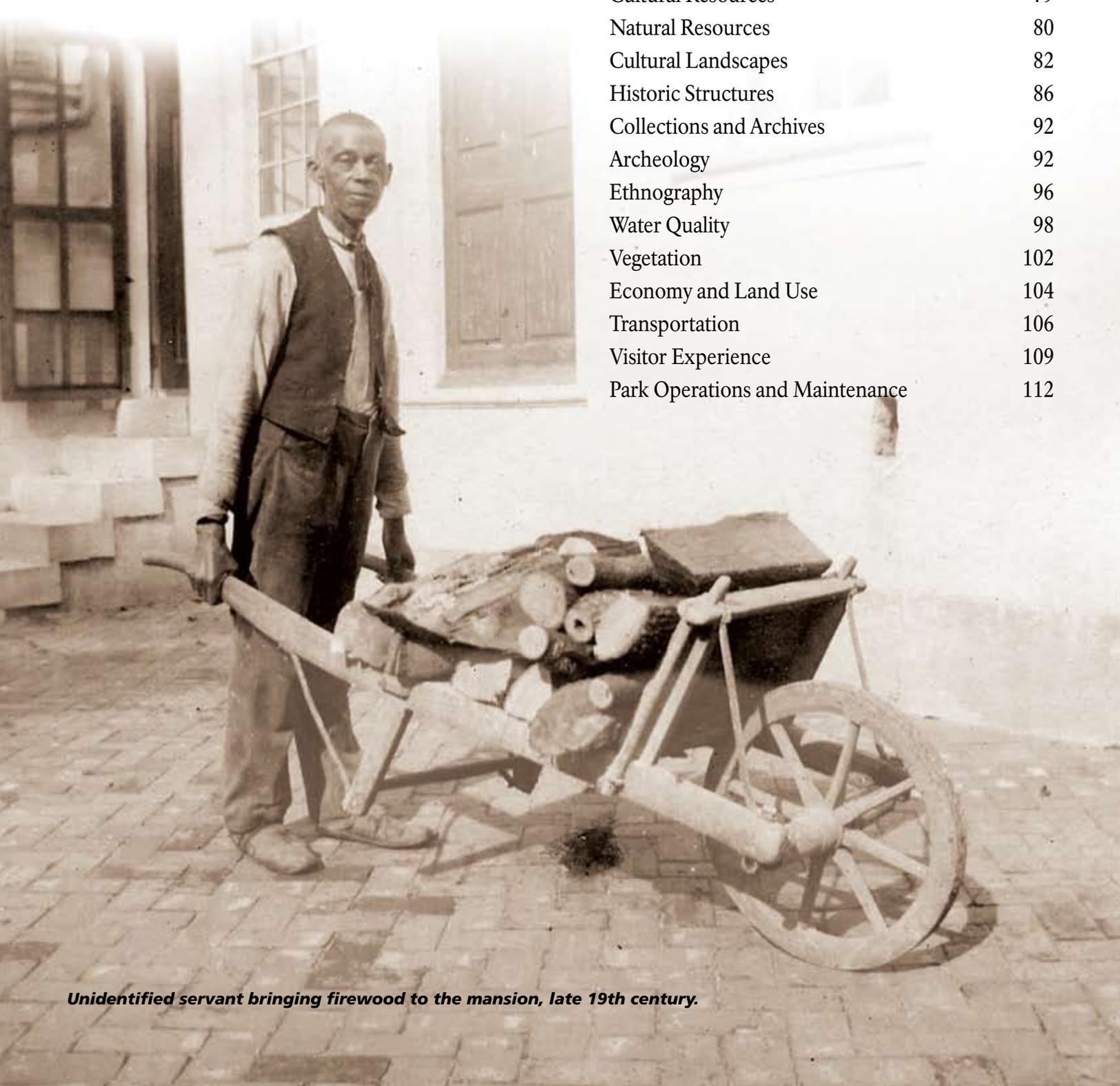


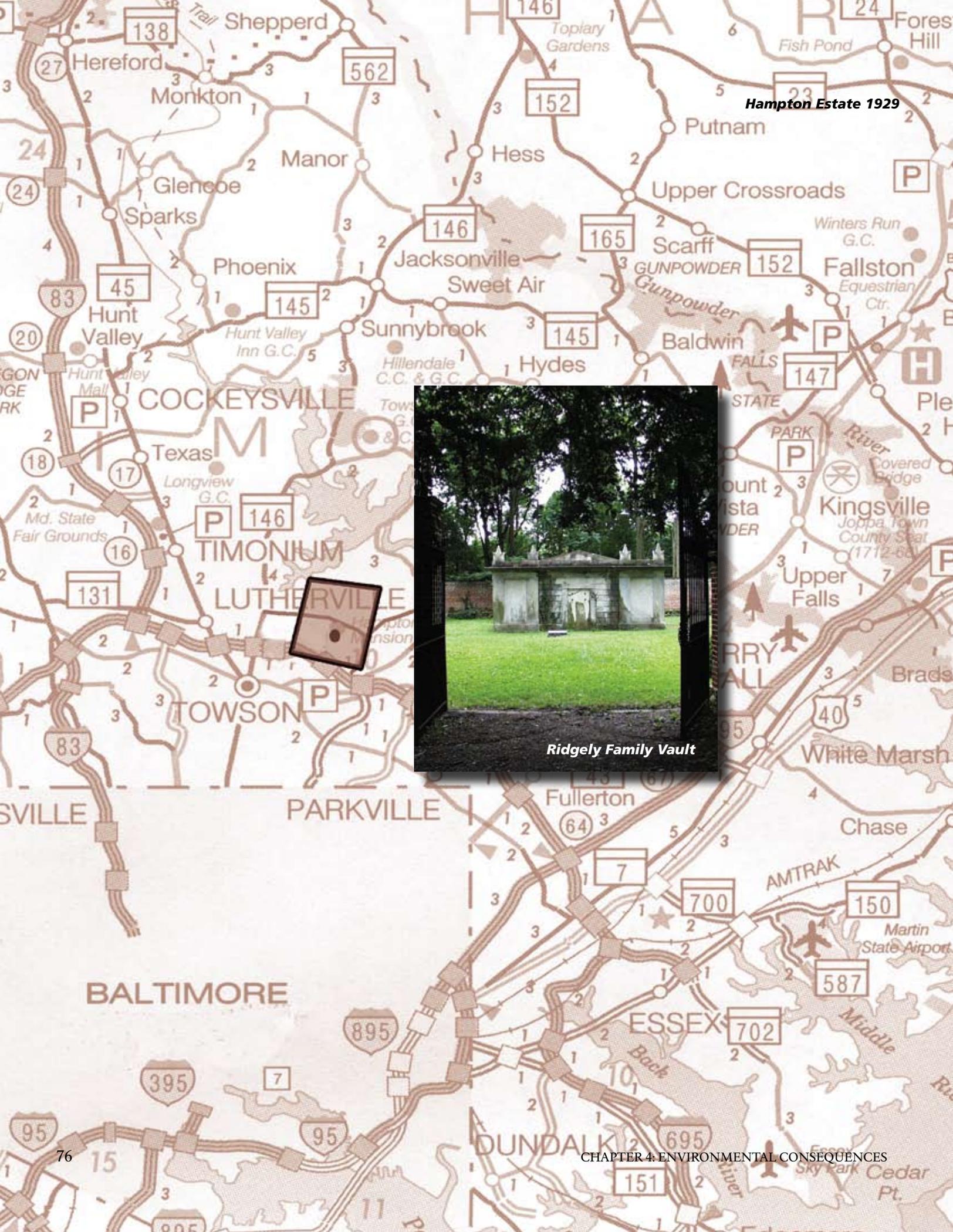
CHAPTER 4

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

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Unidentified servant bringing firewood to the mansion, late 19th century.



Hampton Estate 1929



Ridgely Family Vault

INTRODUCTION

NEPA requires that environmental documents discuss the environmental impacts of a proposed federal action, feasible alternatives to that action, and any negative environmental impacts that cannot be avoided if a proposed action would be implemented. In this case, the proposed federal action would be the adoption of a GMP for Hampton NHS.

General management plans are programmatic, long-range documents and the actions described in the alternatives are often general in nature and not necessarily site specific. The general nature of the alternatives dictates that the analysis of impacts is also general. Consequently, the impacts of these actions are analyzed in qualitative rather than quantitative terms. Thus, although the National Park Service can make reasonable projections of likely impacts, the environmental impact statement (EIS) presents an overview of potential impacts relating to each alternative. This EIS will serve as a basis for the preparation of more in-depth NEPA documents to assess subsequent developments or management actions. The next chapter, Consultation and Coordination, includes a summary chart of potential activities requiring review under NEPA and Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, for the preferred alternative.

This chapter analyzes the potential environmental impacts of implementing the three alternatives on various impact topics related to cultural and natural resources, visitor use and experience, park operations and management, and the socioeconomic environment and constitutes the EIS for the plan. The analysis is the basis for comparing the beneficial and negative impacts of implementing the alternatives. For the purposes of analysis, it is assumed that all of the specific actions proposed in the alternatives would occur during the period of the plan's implementation.

This EIS generally analyzes the several actions outlined in each alternative set forth in Chapter 2 of this plan. Following the approval of the GMP, additional compliance would be required prior to implementing any facility or landscape development actions included in the alternatives. Appropriate detailed environmental and cultural compliance documentation would be prepared in accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* and the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, both as amended, meeting requirements to identify and analyze

impacts to potentially affected resources.

This chapter begins with a description of the methods and assumptions for analyzing impacts, including potential cumulative impacts and impairment of park resources. Then, environmental consequences of each alternative are presented. All of the selected impact topics are assessed for each alternative. The existing conditions for all of the impact topics that are analyzed are identified in Chapter 3 of this GMP.

Alternative I—Continuation of Present Practices, serves as the benchmark against which the action alternatives (Alternatives 2 and 3) are measured. The two action alternatives are compared to Alternative 1 to identify the incremental changes that would occur as a result of changes in park facilities, uses, and management.

Methods And Assumptions For Analyzing Impacts

Overall, the NPS based its impact analysis and conclusions on a review of the existing literature and the professional judgement of subject matter experts within the NPS and other agencies, consultations with partners—especially Historic Hampton, Inc. and the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO—and staff insights and professional judgment.

Since a number of evaluations and assessments have been completed for Hampton National Historic Site in recent years, the GMP has correlated the findings and recommendations from these reports to describe the resources, generate the alternatives and evaluate the impacts. To the greatest extent possible, the alternatives are consistent with the recommendations identified in the *Archeological Overview and Assessment* (2000), *Archeological Survey* (2001), *Business Plan* (2006), *Collections Management Review* (1998), *Collections Management Plan* (1995 and 2009), *Collections Storage Plan* (1993), *Cultural Land-*

scape Inventory (2001), Cultural Landscape Report (2006) Long Range Interpretive Plan (2009), Natural Resource Report (1993), Park Asset Management Plan (2008), Park Asset Management Plan—Implementation Plan (2008), Pest Management Report (1992), Statement for Management (1989), Water Sampling Report (1999) and the recommendations from the Core Operations Workshop (2006).

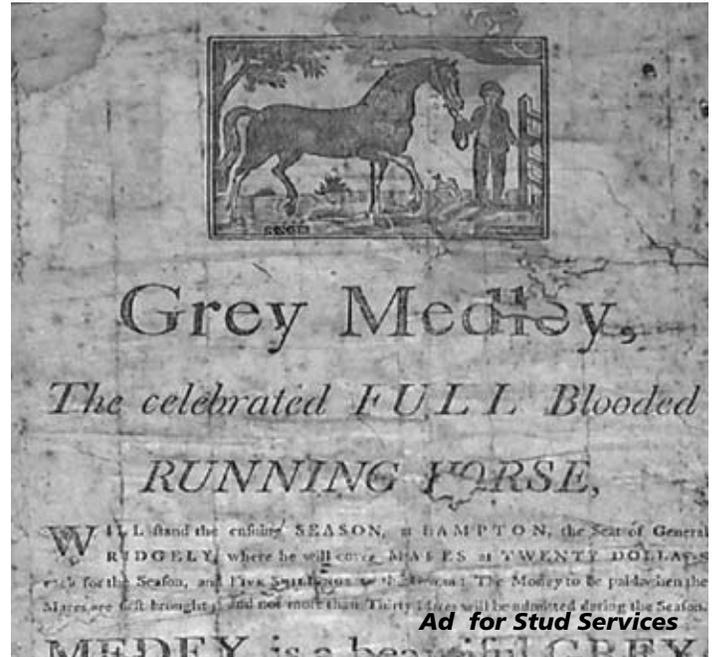
As required by the NEPA, potential impacts are described in terms of type (positive or negative and direct or indirect), context (site-specific, local or regional), duration (short- or long-term) and level of intensity (negligible, minor, moderate or major). Cumulative impacts are also assessed. Where necessary and appropriate, this document suggests mitigating measures to minimize or avoid impacts. The following definitions are used throughout the impact analysis.

Impact type refers to the beneficial or positive change in the condition or appearance of a resource or a change that moves the resource toward a desired condition, or negative change that detracts from the condition or appearance of a resource or a change that moves the resource away from a desired condition. Direct impact that is caused by an action and occurs at the same time and place or indirect impact that is caused by an action but is later in time and place or farther removed from distance, but still reasonably foreseeable.

Impact context refers to the setting within which an impact may occur. In this document, cultural and natural resource impacts are limited to a specific site within the park (*site specific*) or impact the park as a whole (*local*). Socioeconomic impacts either affect businesses or individuals located mostly within or adjacent to the park (*local*) or affect businesses or individuals within Baltimore County and the larger community (*regional*).

Impact intensity refers to the degree or magnitude to which a resource would be beneficially or negatively impacted. Each impact is identified as *negligible*, *minor*, *moderate*, or *major*. Because the level of intensity varies by impact topic, intensity threshold definitions are provided separately for each impact topic. And once again, because this is a programmatic document, the intensities are expressed qualitatively not quantitatively.

Impact duration refers to how long an impact would last. The planning horizon for this general manage-



ment plan/environmental impact statement is approximately 20 years. Unless otherwise specified, in this document the following terms are used to describe the duration of the impacts: Short-term impact would be temporary in nature, lasting one year or less, such as impacts associated with construction. For the purposes of the socioeconomic analysis, short-term impacts would last less than three years. Long-term impact would last more than one year and could be permanent in nature, such as the loss of soil due to the construction of a new facility. Although an impact may only occur for a short duration at one time, if it occurs regularly over time the impact may be considered to be a long-term impact. For the purposes of the socioeconomic analysis, long-term impacts would last more than three years and may be permanent.

The NPS has consulted with numerous individuals, partners and public agencies in the development of the GMP/EIS and will continue to consult with the public, partners and agencies as it is implemented. As project-specific actions called for by the approved plan are implemented, further consultation with public agencies, additional analysis of impacts and more detailed environmental assessments may be prepared as appropriate. These documents would be tiered from this EIS.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

In this EIS, impacts on cultural resources are described in

terms of type, context, duration, and intensity, which would be consistent with the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) that implement the NEPA. However, this document is not being used to comply with Section 106, as this is a policy level document that does not detail actions to the degree of specificity necessary to make a determination of effect. Please note that the actions and topics are addressed only where there is potential impact. The selected cultural resources impact topics include historic structures, cultural landscape, collections, archeological resources and ethnographic resources.

Hampton National Historic Site will fully comply with 36 CFR 800, regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for compliance with Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act* in the future when projects are detailed to the level of specificity that a determination of effect could be identified. A list of potential actions that would likely require Section 106 consultation is provided in Chapter 5.

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to cultural resources, the thresholds of change for the intensity of the impact are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts result from actions that impact a pattern or feature of an historic structure or cultural landscape at the lowest levels of detection, barely perceptible, and not measurable, with neither negative or positive consequences.

Minor impacts result from actions that impact a pattern or feature of an historic structure or cultural landscape, would be perceptible and measurable, but would be slight and localized. In terms of collections, the alteration would impact a few items in the collection. Negative impacts would not diminish the overall integrity of the structure or landscape and would not degrade the usefulness of the collection for future research and interpretation. In terms of archeological resources, disturbance of a site results in little, if any, loss of integrity or the disturbance results in maintenance and preservation of the site.

Moderate impacts result from actions that impact one or more character-defining patterns or feature(s) of an historic structure or cultural landscape and would be perceptible and measurable. In terms of collections, the alteration would impact the condition and long-term pres-



ervation of many items in the collection. Negative impacts would not diminish the integrity of the structure or landscape to the extent that its National Register eligibility is jeopardized and would not diminish the usefulness of the collection for future research and interpretation. In terms of archeological resources, disturbance of a site does not result in loss of important information potential or diminish the integrity of the site to the extent that its National Register eligibility is jeopardized.

Major impacts result from actions that impact the majority of the character-defining pattern(s) or feature(s) of an historic structure or cultural landscape and would be substantial, discernible and long-term. In terms of collections, the alteration would impact the condition and long-term preservation of the collection as a whole. Negative impacts could diminish the integrity of the structure or landscape to the extent that it is no longer listed on the National Register and would destroy the usefulness of the collection for future research and interpretation. In terms of archeological resources, disturbance of a site is substantial and diminishes the integrity of the site to the extent that it is no longer listed on the National Register. Alternatively, the disturbance is an intervention to preserve a site.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Analysis of impacts to natural resources was based on

research, knowledge of the area's resources, and the best professional judgment of planners, engineers and scientists who have experience with similar types of projects. Information on the area's natural resources was gathered from several sources, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management, and the park's natural resource data base.

In this EIS, potential impacts on natural resources are described in terms of context, duration, and intensity and the definitions of impact intensity for selected impact topics including water quality and vegetation.

Socioeconomic Environment

The assessment of impacts to the transportation systems were limited to the area between Providence Road to the east, Dulaney Valley Road to the west, I-695 to the south and St. Francis Road to the north. Baltimore County land use maps were reviewed and consultation with the county zoning office was conducted to determine the local zoning designation of the adjacent land uses. Updated county demographic data were used where available; otherwise, demographic data were based on the 2000 Bureau of Census data to determine the demographic composition of the local area.

Existing and projected traffic volumes and levels of service for Hampton Lane, Providence Road and Dulaney Valley Road were obtained from the Baltimore County Transportation Planning office. Figures relating to traffic noise and air quality were obtained from the Maryland State Highway Administration's *Environmental Assessment/Section 4(f) Evaluation and Finding of No Significant Impact for I-695*.

A number of site visits, discussions and evaluations were used to identify issues regarding parking and site ingress and egress with NPS staff from Hampton National Historic Site and the Northeast Regional Office and from the Federal Highway Administration. Factors that were considered in developing options in the alternatives included resource protection, safety and security, access for visitors and emergency vehicles, parking, community traffic interface, and the neighborhood context.

Professional expertise and judgment of staff from the NPS and the Maryland Office of Tourism Development, Baltimore County's Conference and Visitors Bureau, and Historic Towson, Inc. identified economic impacts to the broader community. Economic data, historic visitor use data, expected future visitor use, and future developments within the park and neighboring areas were used for a qualitative analysis comparing the impacts of alternatives.

Visitor Use and Experience

Analysis of visitor use and experience was based on research and the best professional judgment of NPS staff and consultants who have experience with similar types of projects. Information on park visitors is based on interviews with park and HHI staff, a traffic study, discussions with county and state tourism agencies, and published sources on the internet.

In this GMP/EIS, potential impacts on visitor use and experience are described in terms of context, duration, and intensity. The definitions of impact intensity for the selected impact topics are included in tables at the beginning of the section.

Park Operations and Management

With the assistance of HHI and NPS staff from the Northeast Regional Office, Museum Services Center and Historic Architecture program, the park staff analyzed the impacts of existing and one-time funding, staffing organization, facility management and partnership development. The analysis utilized information from the NPS resource information data bases, NPS policies, reports and proposals, and discussions with preservation, interpretation and management partners.

Cumulative Impact Analysis

A cumulative impact, described in the Council on Environmental Quality's regulation 1508.7, are incremental impacts of the action when added to other current and reasonably foreseeable actions, regardless of what agency (federal or non federal) or person undertakes such other action. Cumulative impacts can result from individually actions taking place over time.

Cumulative impacts consider all changes to the environment, whether direct or indirect, whether from the proposed action or from other federal, non-federal or private actions. Although these impacts may be indi-

vidually imperceptible, impacts accumulate over time from one or more sources and can ultimately result in the degradation of important resources. When considering cumulative impacts it is important to consider the impacts of activities being planned or undertaken outside the park, and how those actions impact resources.

Cumulative impacts were determined by combining the impacts of the alternatives with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions then assessing the relative contribution of the alternative to the overall cumulative impact. Cumulative impacts are considered for all alternatives, and are presented within each impact topic discussion. In defining the contribution of each alternative to cumulative impacts, the following terminology is used:

Imperceptible—The incremental effect contributed by the alternative to overall cumulative impacts is such a small increment that it is impossible or extremely difficult to discern.

Noticeable—The incremental effect contributed by the alternative, while evident and observable, is still relatively small in proportion to the overall cumulative impacts.

Appreciable—The incremental effect contributed by the alternative constitutes a large portion of the overall cumulative impact.

Findings on Impairment of Park Resources and Values
As stated in NPS Management Policies 2006 section 1.4.7:

“Before approving a proposed action that could lead to an impairment of park resources and values, an NPS decision maker must consider the impacts of the proposed action and determine, in writing, that the activity will not lead to an impairment of park resources and values. If there would be an impairment, the action must not be approved.”

As stated in the NPS Management Policies 2006 section 1.4.5:

“The impairment that is prohibited... is an impact that, in the professional judgment of the responsible National Park Service manager, would harm the integrity of park resources or values, including the opportunities that otherwise would be present for the enjoyment of those resources or values...”



An impact to any park resource or value may, but does not necessarily, constitute an impairment. An impact would be more likely to constitute impairment to the extent that it affects a resource or value whose conservation is:

- 1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation or proclamation of the park, or
- 2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for enjoyment of the park, or
- 3) identified as a goal in the park’s general management plan or other relevant NPS planning documents as being of significance.”

Impairment may result from NPS activities in managing the park, visitor activities, or activities undertaken by concessionaires, contractors, and others operating in the park. A determination on impairment is made for each impact topic related to natural and cultural resources in the Conclusion section at the end of the Environmental Consequences chapter. Impairment determinations are not made for socioeconomic topics, or visitor use and experience (unless impacts are resource based) because impairment findings relate back to park resources and values, and these impact areas are not generally considered to be park resources or values and according to the Organic Act, cannot be impaired in the same way that an action can impair park resources and values.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to cultural landscapes, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts result in change to a pattern or feature of a cultural landscape at the lowest levels of detection, barely perceptible and not measurable, with neither negative nor positive consequences.

Minor beneficial impacts result in preservation of small areas of the cultural landscape.

Minor negative impacts result in change to a pattern or feature of a cultural landscape, would be perceptible and measurable, but would be slight and localized. Slight alternations to any of the characteristics that qualify the landscape for inclusion in the National Register may diminish the integrity of the landscape.

Moderately beneficial impacts noticeably enhance preservation and protection of the landscape as a cohesive entity.

Moderately negative impacts result in change to one or more character-defining pattern(s) or feature(s) of a cultural landscape and would be perceptible and measurable. It could change the characteristic(s) of the landscape that qualify it for inclusion on the National Register and diminishes the integrity of the landscape as a whole, but does not jeopardize the landscape's National Register eligibility.

Major beneficial impacts substantially enhance protection and preservation of the landscape.

Major negative impacts change the majority of the character-defining pattern(s) or feature(s) of a cultural landscape and would be substantial, discernible and long-term. It could diminish the integrity of the landscape to the extent that it is no longer listed on the National Register and would destroy the usefulness for future research and interpretation.

Alternative 1

(No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

There would be no change to the large-scale topographic features. Less than two acres around the formal garden would be disturbed during construction and most of the impacts would disappear within a year as ornamental plantings increase in vigor, the lawns get reestablished and the construction debris is removed. The historic patterns in the upper parterres of the formal garden would be rehabilitated. These initial short-term, minor negative impacts would be overshadowed by the long-term, moderate beneficial impacts.

Rehabilitation of the dovecote/garage would have short-term minor negative impacts due to trenching for utilities and general construction. Regrading and replanting the lawns would erase these impacts within a year.

The new collections management facility would be larger than any other building west of the mansion and would be visually dominate the cultural landscape of the, historic service area. New sidewalks and road modifications would be required to service the front entrance and loading docks in the new building. Extensive grading and/or new retaining walls would be required to meet grades of the existing roads and parking lots and accommodate surface drainage requirements. The extent of the intrusion of this modern building and its visual domination of the historic service area is unknown until the grading and engineering plans are completed for the road, parking lots and new building; however with what is known now, construction of this new structure would have long-term, negative and moderate impacts.

Cumulative Impacts

Since the first Ridgely settled at Hampton, the family acquired, sold, or transferred property as their fortunes changed. At the height of its operation, the Hampton estate encompassed approximately 24,000 acres. When transferred into the national park system, the estate had shrunk to a little over 63 acres. All that remains of the formerly vast estate are two small parcels on opposite sides of a commuter route bounded by a six-lane interstate highway and suburban development. Over the past 200 years, the small villages and isolated farmsteads that once covered the surrounding landscape have given way to sprawling bedroom communities serving Baltimore and Washington, D.C. The rapid growth in the greater

Baltimore region and the construction of I-695 has contributed to the deterioration of the pastoral setting that the Hampton estate once enjoyed. The noise wall along the south side of the park has mitigated some of the noise from the interstate; however, traffic on I-695 can still be heard throughout the park.

Small villages and isolated farmsteads gave way to small-scale, small lot suburban developments in the early to mid-20th century. These developments of modest structures separated by woods are now being replaced by substantially larger buildings that have cut down wooded lots and developed open fields to accommodate larger, single-family homes and new community institutions with multiple buildings, roads and parking lots. Overall, this loss of the historic rural landscape has a long term, moderate and adverse impact on cultural landscapes in the region.

Alternative 1 preserves a small part of the rural landscape that once covered the surrounding hills and provides a visual respite from interconnected modern development, now and in perpetuity. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to cultural landscapes from the surrounding development plus Alternative 1 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 1 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides benefits to cultural landscapes through the park's preservation efforts.

Conclusion

- Implementation of Alternative 1 would result in short-term, minor negative impacts on the cultural landscape due to construction and long-term, moderate negative impacts from intrusion of new modern buildings into the historic setting. Long-term beneficial impacts would result from the rehabilitation of an important historic feature of the cultural landscape and the improved health of the plants.
- The contribution of Alternative 1 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides benefits to cultural landscapes through the park's preservation efforts.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of cultural

landscape resources in the park.

ALTERNATIVE 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Similar to Alternative 1, the topography would remain unaltered with negligible impacts. This alternative includes the most extensive rehabilitation of the formal garden and the west field and the reconstruction of two missing historic features: the corn crib and summer kitchen. These actions would result in short-term, negative impacts due to ground disturbance and materials storage from construction and long-term beneficial impacts from rehabilitation and reconstruction of critical elements in the cultural landscape.

This alternative would have a more extensive rehabilitation effort of the ornamental and native plantings along the property boundaries. This would result in a long-term, minor beneficial impact from increased vigor of the plants resulting in improved screening of neighboring properties.

Modification of the alignment and cross section of the existing farm lane, relocation of the mansion-side visitor entrance drive and construction of new parking lots, paths and service roads would result in less than five acres of new paving in total. As with other construction activities, there would be short-term, minor negative impacts and, in this case, long-term, moderate negative ones from increasing modern paving in highly visible locations near the mansion and the farm.

Construction of a new administration and visitor services building would have a long-term, moderate negative impact on the cultural landscape. The construction of a second potentially even larger modern building, in addition to the collections facility, would create an even greater visual intrusion into the cultural landscape of the historic service area and the mansion itself.

Rehabilitation of the west field after relocating the road and rehabilitation of the historic orchard would result in long-term, minor beneficial impacts. The view towards the mansion, across the lawn and framed by trees is the iconic image of the antebellum mansion. The orchard frames the view and restores an element that has been missing from the cultural landscape for almost a century.

Short-term, minor negative impacts to the cultural land-

scape would also results from the reconstruction the summer kitchen and the corn crib due to ground disturbance and materials storage during construction. Since the structures would be placed on areas already disturbed, the cultural landscape impact (less than an acre) would be negligible.

Cumulative Impacts

As described above, there is a long term, moderate and adverse impact to cultural landscapes from loss and alteration of landscapes and landscape features throughout the region.

Alternative 2 would rehabilitate all the existing cultural landscapes in the park, especially in places visible from Hampton lane like the orchard and the home farm. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impacts to cultural landscapes from the surrounding development plus Alternative 2 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 2 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in most cases, provides a benefit to cultural landscapes through the park's preservation and rehabilitation efforts, which would help to offset some of the overall adverse cumulative impact. Of all the alternatives, Alternative 2 would provide the greatest benefit to preservation of cultural landscapes.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would have the greatest long-term negative impacts on the cultural landscape due to introduction of the second large, new, modern NPS building into the historic setting.
- The contribution of Alternative 2 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in most cases, provides a benefit to cultural landscapes through the park's preservation and rehabilitation efforts, which would help to offset some of the overall adverse cumulative impact.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative

would not likely result in impairment of cultural landscape resources in the park.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Similar to Alternatives 2, the topography would remain unaltered and would have negligible impacts.

This alternative includes more rehabilitation of the formal garden than called for in Alternative 1, but less than identified in Alternative 2. The increase would not be substantial, so the negative impacts would be similar to that identified for Alternative 2: short-term, minor and negative due to construction. Long-term impacts would be moderate, less than Alternative 2, since the rehabilitation effort would be more limited in scale and scope.

As identified in Alternative 2, there would be long-term, minor beneficial impacts from the rehabilitation of ornamental and native plantings along the boundaries. This would result from improved vigor of the plants and therefore more screening of the neighboring properties.

Similar to Alternative 2, a small portion of the fields (less than one acre) along the farm lane and Hampton Lane would be graded and paved to provide adequate turning radii, safe road shoulders and new paths and crosswalks. This modification of the alignment and cross section of the existing farm lane and construction of a new path and crosswalk along Hampton Lane would have long-term, minor negative impacts to the cultural landscape due the increase of paving in this highly visible location.

The impacts relating to the relocation of the existing entrance road, from its current location in the middle of the west field to the edge of the park property and construction of new paths, parking lots and service drives connecting park operations and visitor service facilities with the historic buildings and gardens, would be less than identified for Alternative 2. The alignment of the new entrance drive and the configuration of parking lots would be different from those in Alternative 2, since there would be no new administration and visitor services building, rather, these operational features would be housed in existing buildings. There would still be short-term, minor negative impacts from ground disturbance and materials storage during construction and long-term, minor



to moderate negative impacts from the intrusion of the relocated parking lots, road and pathways into the cultural landscape. The extent of the impact could be significantly lessened with sensitive site design, screening and materials selection.

The same short-term, minor negative impacts to the cultural landscape from ground disturbance and materials storage, as identified for Alternative 2, would occur during the reconstruction of the summer kitchen and the corn crib. Construction of a small contact station in the mansion side Support Zone and reconstruction of the corn crib would have additional construction-related short-term, minor negative impacts. There would also be long-term, moderate beneficial impacts as the corn crib would be returned to the cultural landscape and the visitor contact station on the mansion side would break up the view of the collection building—making it appear more like a cluster of out buildings.

Cumulative Impacts

As described above, there is a long term, moderate and adverse impact to cultural landscapes from loss and alteration of landscapes and landscape features throughout the region.

Alternative 3 would preserve major portions of the cultural landscapes in the park, more areas than under Alternative 1 but would not rehabilitate cultural landscapes as in Alternative 2. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to cultural landscapes from the surrounding development plus Alternative 3 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 3 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides a benefit to cultural landscapes through the park’s enhanced preservation efforts which would help to offset some of the overall adverse cumulative impact. Alternative 3 would provide more beneficial impact on cultural landscapes than identified in Alternative 1, but less than that identified in Alternative 2.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would have short-term, minor to moderate negative impacts due to construction and long-term, minor to moderate beneficial impacts from reconstructing the corn crib.
- The contribution of Alternative 3 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides a benefit to cultural landscapes through the park’s enhanced preservation efforts which would help to offset some of the overall adverse cumulative impact.

- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of cultural landscape resources in the park.

HISTORIC STRUCTURES

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to historic structures, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts result in change to a pattern or feature of a historic structure or group of structures at the lowest levels of detection—one that are barely perceptible and not measurable, with neither negative nor positive consequences.

Minor beneficial impacts result in preservation of a portion of a historic structure or group of structures.

Minor negative impacts result in change to a pattern or feature of a historic structure or group of structures, would be perceptible and measurable, but would be slight and localized. Slight alterations to any of the characteristics that qualify the landscape for inclusion in the National Register may diminish the integrity of the landscape.

Moderately beneficial impacts noticeably enhance preservation and protection of the landscape as a cohesive entity.

Moderately negative impacts result in change to one or more character-defining pattern(s) or feature(s) of a historic structure or group of structures and would be perceptible and measurable. It could change the characteristic(s) of the landscape that qualify it for inclusion on the National Register and diminishes the integrity of the landscape as a whole, but does not jeopardize the landscape's National Register eligibility.

Major beneficial impacts substantially enhance protection and preservation of the landscape.

Major negative impacts change the majority of the character-defining pattern(s) or feature(s) of a historic structure or group of structures and would be substantial, discernible and long-term. It could diminish the integrity of the landscape to the extent that it is no longer listed on the National Register and would destroy the usefulness for future research and interpretation.

The corn crib and summer kitchen proposed for recon-



struction in Alternatives 2 and 3 are critical for interpretation of the work and workers—enslaved and free, that supported the estate. They would substantially add to the park's ability to tell the important stories of enslaved and free workers and how their daily lives were lived at Hampton. Should further research provide for the reconstruction of the octagonal slave's quarters, that building would also serve critical interpretive purposes. Reconstruction is generally discouraged under applicable policies unless there would be substantial documentation for guidance and they would serve a critical interpretive purpose. Considerable historical evidence exists for two of these buildings and additional research is needed for the third. A plan would be developed and implemented to research and protect archeological resources at these

sites. Full consultation with the SHPO and ACHP, as may be required, would be conducted regarding reconstructions proposed in Alternatives 2 and 3.

ALTERNATIVE I (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 1, historic structures would continue to be used for park operations. Some short-term, minor negative impacts would occur during the construction process from storage of equipment and materials. Additional long-term, moderate negative impacts would occur from structural changes to insure safety and accommodate modern uses, as well as, impacts from concentrating public use into portions of the mansion and the farmhouse without additional investment to mitigate this use.

The rehabilitation of the dovecote/garage into restrooms would have both short-term minor negative impacts due to storage of equipment and supplies and the construction process itself. However, there would be long-term, major beneficial impacts by rehabilitating the front facade and providing a handicapped accessible restroom for the farm side of the park.

The construction of the new collections management facility would have short-term minor negative impacts from construction related activities. The introduction of a modern, large building into the historic service area would have long-term, moderate negative impacts on the historic structures already there. The scale of the building is substantially larger than any other single building and the existing structures are tucked along the slope. This new building would be located further out into the west field, changing the spatial relationship of the historic service building group and the service build cluster in relation to the mansion. However, the new building has been designed to echo the historic building materials and design details from the structures at Hampton NHS in an attempt to blend in with the historic scene.

Cumulative Impacts

The greater Baltimore region has grown tremendously and the immediate Towson area has experienced rapid encroachment of residential and commercial development. Over the past 75 years, this rapid growth has resulted in the demolition and/or substantial alternation of many historic buildings in the region. In the community imme-



diately surrounding the park, what was once agricultural fields has first changed to modestly scaled suburban development and, in recent years, is gradually being replaced with much larger single-family homes. Overall, this loss of historic buildings and historic fabric has a long term, moderate and adverse impact on historic structures in the region.

Alternative 1 preserves the historic buildings in the park in their existing condition and would continue to do so in perpetuity. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to historic structures from surrounding development plus Alternative 1 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 1 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides benefits to historic structures through the park's preservation efforts.

Conclusion

- Overall, Alternative 1 would result in short-term and long-term moderate negative impacts due to concentrated public use without additional mitigation investment and structural changes required to accommodate this use safely.
- The contribution of Alternative 1 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides benefits to historic structures through the park's preservation efforts.

- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of historic structures in the park.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, modern uses, to the greatest extent possible, would be removed from historic structures and concentrated in a new operations facility and a few other structures, including the dovecote/garage and the farmhouse. Short-term, minor negative impacts would result from the process of rehabilitation for interpretation in those buildings identified for interpretation and long-term, moderate negative impacts would occur from structural changes required to insure safety and accommodate modern uses in the farmhouse and other buildings selected for park operations use. Long-term, moderate to major beneficial impacts would result from reducing the number of historic buildings used for park operations and visitor services and increasing the number used for interpretation. This alternative would rehabilitate the largest number of historic structures for interpretation and provide public access to the largest number of historic structures in the park.

Short-term, minor impacts to the Mansion would result from the reconstructing the summer kitchen. Short-term negligible impacts could occur in other historic structures selected to store materials and equipment during the reconstruction of the corn crib and octagonal slave quarters (should further research deem it feasible) and during the rehabilitation of the dovecote/garage. The reconstruction of the missing corn crib and summer kitchen and the potential reconstruction of the missing octagonal slave quarters would provide a long-term, minor beneficial impacts individually. However, the cumulative impact would have a more significant beneficial impact because these elements of the mansion reflect underrepresented or entirely missing aspects of the historic core of this plantation.

The construction of a new multi-purpose park operations building would have a long-term, moderate negative impact on the complex of the historic service buildings because it significantly increases the scale of a single structure, where smaller, more dispersed structures were historically constructed. It also reduces

the visual dominance of the Mansion. This new operations and visitor services complex provides a long-term, minor beneficial impact by removing the temporary administration buildings from the middle of the west field and by integrating four separate modern buildings into a single visual mass. This would provide efficient and adequate space meeting up-to-date health, safety and power requirements. The impact could be further reduced through sensitive site planning, architectural design and screening.

Cumulative Impacts

As described above, there is a long term, moderate and adverse impact to historic structures from loss of historic buildings and fabric occurring in the region.

Alternative 2 would rehabilitate all the existing historic buildings in the park and, if adequate information is available, would reconstruct some missing historic outbuildings around the home farm and the mansion. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to historic structures from surrounding development plus Alternative 2 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 2 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in most cases, provides a benefit to historic structures through the park's preservation and reconstruction efforts. Of all the alternatives, Alternative 2 would provide the greatest benefit to preservation of historic structures which would help to offset some of the overall adverse cumulative impact.

Conclusion

- Overall, Alternative 2 would result in short-term negligible or minor negative impacts from the construction process and moderate beneficial impacts from rehabilitation of historic structures and moderate negative and beneficial impacts from construction of operational and visitor facilities that meet expands the impact of modern buildings into the historic setting, while meeting park needs and modern health and safety codes.
- The contribution of Alternative 2 to the total

cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in most cases, provides a benefit to historic structures through the park's preservation and reconstruction efforts.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, operational and visitor services activities would be met by adapting historic structures and NPS buildings to modern park needs. Short-term, negligible impacts would result from storing equipment and materials during the rehabilitation effort. Long-term, minor to moderate negative impacts may result from the structural and safety modifications needed to support these modern needs in historic structures not originally constructed for these purposes. Moderate beneficial impacts to the long-term preservation of the structures would result from the investment of upgraded systems and infrastructure to these buildings, increased structural integrity and occupancy of the buildings. This alternative would adoptively reuse more historic structures for operations and visitor services and require less investment in new construction and on-going operational costs than identified for Alternative 2. This alternative would rehabilitate more historic structures and provide public access to the more historic structures than identified in Alternative 1, but fewer than Alternative 2.

Short-term, minor negative impacts to the Mansion and farm buildings would result from reconstruction of the summer kitchen and corn crib, and potentially the octagonal slave quarters (should further research determine that it would be feasible), due to storage of equipment and supplies and the construction process itself. However, the long-term impacts would be moderately beneficial as the reintroduction of these missing historic elements would restore the historic massing and spatial relationship of the groups of buildings associated with the Mansion and the farm.

The construction of a small visitor contact station on the mansion side in the Support Zone would have short-term, minor negative impacts because of storage of equipment and supplies and the construction process itself. The long term impact would be less than the large new head-

quarters proposed in Alternative 2, but would still have long term, minor negative impacts, as it would be a small new structure. If designed sensitively, the visitor contact station might also help reduce the impact of the collections storage building by helping it appear like a cluster of smaller service structures. This would provide a long term beneficial impact.

Cumulative Impacts

As described above, there is a long term, moderate and adverse impact to historic structures from loss of historic buildings and fabric occurring in the region.

Alternative 3 would preserve all the existing historic buildings in the park and would rehabilitate several of them to house park operations and visitor services. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to historic structures from surrounding development plus Alternative 3 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 3 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some cases, provides a benefit to historic structures through the park's preservation and rehabilitation efforts which would help to offset some of the adverse cumulative impact. Alternative 3 would provide more beneficial impacts on historic structures than Alternative 1, but less than that identified in Alternative 2.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would balance long-term, minor to moderate negative impacts from construction activities with long-term, minor to moderate beneficial impacts on that provide buildings more able to meet park needs and modern health and safety codes. This alternative would require the most compromises of historic structures to house administrative and operational needs in order to avoid development of a large new operations building.
- The contribution of Alternative 3 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible, and in some

cases, provides a benefit to historic structures through

the park's preservation and rehabilitation efforts which would help to offset some of the adverse cumulative impact. The actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of historic structures in the park.

COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to collections and archives, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts would impact the collections or its constituent components at the lowest levels of detection, barely perceptible and not measurable, with neither negative nor positive consequences.

Minor beneficial impacts would stabilize the current condition of the collection or its constituent components to minimize degradation.

Minor negative impacts would be perceptible and measurable and would impact the integrity of a few items in the collection or its constituent components, but not degrade the usefulness of the collection or its constituent components for future research and interpretation. Slight alterations to any of the characteristics of the collection that qualify its related resources for inclusion in the National Register may diminish the integrity of the collection and its constituent components.

Moderate beneficial impacts would improve the condition of the collection and its constituent components from the threat of degradation.

Moderate negative impacts would be perceptible and measurable and would impact the integrity of most items in the collection and destroy its usefulness for future research and interpretation. It could change one or more of the characteristic(s) of the collection that qualifies it for inclusion on the National Register and diminishes the integrity of the resource and its related collection, but does not jeopardize the National Register eligibility of the resource related to the collection.

Major beneficial impacts would substantially secure



Drawing Room

the condition of the collection as a whole or its constituent components from the threat of degradation.

Major negative impacts would be substantial, discernible and permanent and would affect the integrity of most items in the collection and destroy its usefulness for future research and interpretation. It could severely change one or more of the characteristic(s) of the collection that qualify its related resource for inclusion on the National Register and would diminish the integrity of the resource to the extent that it is no longer eligible for listing on the National Register.

Museum collections are important for their historic, scientific, artistic and interpretive value. For the purposes of this plan, impact analysis for the museum collection focuses on the storage and management of the collections, which include historic artifacts, archeological specimens removed from the ground, photographic and archival collections, and art and fine furnishings.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 1, construction of a dedicated collections management facility, designed to meet all current museum storage, access, and research standards for collections and consolidate storage of the majority of Hampton collections from multiple park and off-site locations provides long-term, major beneficial impacts relating to resource preservation, security, and accountability. The artifacts and archives would be fully accessible on-site to staff and scholars for program development and independent research. This alternative most fully meets the goals of the *National Museum Storage Strategy* (2006) which specifically recommends consolidation of Hampton's museum storage facilities to as few locations as possible. It should be noted that the National and Northeast Museum's *Collection Storage Plans* initially recommended using the existing metal building and pole barn for storage on site, however, assessments of these structures since the completion of these plans by Northeast Museum Services, indicates replacing them with a purpose built facility, rather than retrofitting the existing structures, would be more cost effective and would provide better security and environmental control for the museum collections (*Hampton Collections Management Plan* 2009). There may be short-term, negligible impacts related to the moving and reorganizing of museum collections in order to achieve the desired consolidation in the new collections facility.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts that relate to museum collections for this alternative would be noticeable because they would be stored in buildings with adequate environmental control and would provide adequate working space meeting up-to-date safety and health codes.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 1 would have long-term, moderate beneficial impacts on museum collections. The benefits of this alternative are carried

over into Alternatives 2 and 3 as a common action.

- Cumulative impacts for this alternative would be notifiable.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of museum collections in the park.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

In Alternative 2, many additional artifacts would be displayed in the increased number of historic furnished interior spaces and exhibits housed in restored historic structures. Since exhibits would rotate artifacts from storage to exhibition and back to storage, installation of necessary systems, regular monitoring of the environment, and the use of reproduction artifacts would be required. Improvements in the environmental conditions of the exhibits would have long-term, moderate beneficial impacts.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts that relate to museum collections for this alternative would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would have long-term, moderate beneficial impacts on museum collections in storage and for those on exhibit.



- Cumulative impacts for this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of historic structures in the park.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

In Alternative 3, many additional artifacts would be displayed in historic furnished interior spaces or interpretive exhibit spaces, but perhaps not quite as many as identified for Alternative 2. The long-term beneficial impact of improved controls and environmental control in exhibits described in Alternative 2 would still be required. These changes would have similar beneficial impacts to those described in Alternative 2.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts that relate to museum collections for this alternative would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would have the same long-term, moderate beneficial impacts on museum collections and for the collections on exhibit as identified in Alternative 2.



Ridgely Family Cemetery

imperceptible.

- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of historic structures in the park.

ARCHEOLOGY

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to archeological resources, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts would change the archeological resources at the lowest levels of detection, barely perceptible and not measurable, with neither negative nor positive consequences.

Minor beneficial impacts would preserve a small area or group of sites.

Minor negative impacts would be slight, but perceptible and measurable and would impact a limited area of a site or group of sites. Slight alterations to any of the characteristic(s) that qualify the site(s) for inclusion in the National Register may diminish the integrity of the site(s). *Moderate beneficial impacts* would noticeably enhance the preservation and protection of the site or group of site(s).

Moderate negative impacts would be perceptible and measurable and could change one or more of the characteristic(s) of the site(s) that qualifies it for inclusion on the National Register. It would diminish the integrity of the site(s), but does not jeopardize its National Register eligibility.

Major beneficial impacts would substantially enhance the preservation and protection of the site or group of site(s).

Major negative impacts would be substantial, discernible and permanent. It could severely change one or more of the characteristic(s) of the collection that qualify the site(s) for inclusion on the National Register and would diminish the integrity of the resource to the extent that it is no longer eligible for listing on the National Register.

Any change in archeological features would be irreparable and considered negative and of permanent duration;

generally, the National Park Service promotes the policy of not disrupting archeological features as the best method of preservation. Negative impacts to archeological resources most often occur as a result of activities that cause ground disturbance, soil compaction, increased erosion, or lead to unauthorized surface collection or vandalism. Beneficial impacts to archeological resources can occur when patterns of visitor use or management action are removed from the vicinity of archeological resources so they are avoided, thus helping to preserve them. In this way, incompatible activities that would otherwise continue to degrade areas of archeological sensitivity are reduced or stopped. Direct impacts can occur as a result of grading, trenching, or other activities that damage the configuration of an archeological site. Indirect impacts can occur as a result of increasing visitor activity or management action in the vicinity of an archeological site, leading to threats such as artifact collection, accelerated soil compaction, and erosion. The intensity of impact to an archeological resource would depend upon the extent of the effect on characteristics of the resource that qualify it for listing on the National Register.

A Phase I archeological survey for Hampton National Historic Site identified primary clusters of archeological resources and areas where archeological resources are not present. One of these other areas included the general area around the existing metal building and pole barn. This is the proposed site for the new operations/visitor services building and for the relocated entrance road. Many of the proposed ground disturbing actions identified in Alternatives 2 and 3 could be sited so as to avoid other primary clusters, thus obviating the need for (most) extensive testing and monitoring.

Before any major projects go into the design phase, further archeological analysis would be done to identify archeological resources and to develop strategies that would document, preserve and protect them as required in Section 110 of the *National Historic Preservation Act*.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 1, the short-and long-term impacts to archaeological resources would be negligible for most of the park, since little ground disturbance would occur

other than construction of the new collections management facility (see above). In addition, no actions are proposed that would change the current type, rate or pattern of deterioration to archeological resources, mitigate impacts from current circulation and concentration of public use, or stabilize known archeological sites. The conversion of the dovecote/garage into public restrooms would require excavation to bring water to the building, resulting in a short-term, minor negative impact. Preliminary proposals recommend trenching in the existing road or in previously excavated areas to minimize damage to archeological resources. Regardless of the final proposal, the impacts would be monitored and documented as mitigation to potential damage and, when finished, the area would be returned to its previous appearance.

Rehabilitation of the formal garden would have negligible impacts from demolition of the existing planting beds, removing root balls and other ground disturbing activities. This garden has been dug up and the plantings completely replaced at least once or twice since the mid-19th century. As with the trenching for the dovecote/garage, the impact of this rehabilitation would be monitored and documented as mitigation.

Installation of interpretive panels throughout the park would have negligible impacts due to the extremely small area disturbed by each sign. Should research or subsequent ground disturbing activity identify archeological resources, all impacts could be avoided by use of stands that do not penetrate the ground at all.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that relate specifically to archeological resources would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 1 would result in negligible impacts to archeology.
- Cumulative impacts for this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of archeological resources in the park.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, short-term, minor negative impacts and negligible long-term impacts would result from construction activities associated with the reconstruction of the summer kitchen and the corn crib and the rehabilitation of the dovecote/garage into restrooms. Since these areas have been disturbed before, impacts to archeological resources would be limited to ground disturbance and compaction from equipment use, materials storage and construction. All ground disturbing activity would require archeological monitoring and documentation during construction.

Rehabilitation of the formal garden would have negligible impacts from demolition and rehabilitating parterres, paths and specimen plantings. The formal garden and associated planting areas have been dug up and the replaced during the NPS tenure and these proposed actions would not dig below the area already compromised. All ground disturbing activity would require archeological monitoring and documentation during rehabilitation.

Installation of interpretive panels throughout the park would have negligible impacts due to the extremely small area disturbed by each sign. Should future scholarship identify archeological resources at a location identified for a post, all impacts could be avoided by moving the post or using stands that do not penetrate the ground at all.

The construction of the new operations and visitor services headquarters and the Hampton Lane path and farm road projects would have short-term, minor negative impacts and moderate long-term impacts to archeological resources. While the project would be located in areas that have already been disturbed on the surface, the extent of the foundations, retaining walls and grading is extensive and the potential for digging into previously undisturbed soil is high. As with all other ground disturbing activity, all construction would be mitigated through testing, monitoring and documentation.

The relocation of the visitor entrance drive on the Mansion side would have short-term impacts similar to the other construction projects, The archeology survey has shown this general area to have a low likelihood for

archeological resources. Consequently, impacts to archeological resources would be limited to ground disturbance and compaction from equipment use, materials storage and construction. As with all other ground disturbing activity, all construction would be mitigated through testing, monitoring and documentation.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that relate specifically to archeological resources would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would have short-term, minor negative and long-term, moderate impacts to archeological resources. Of the three alternatives evaluated, this alternative would have more impact to these resources than Alternative 1 and Alternative 3.
- Cumulative impacts for this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of archeological resources in the park.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, short-term, minor negative impacts and negligible long-term impacts would result from construction activities associated with the reconstruction of the summer kitchen and the corn crib. Since these areas have been disturbed before, impacts to archeological resources would be limited to ground disturbance and compaction from equipment use, materials storage and construction. All ground disturbing activity would require archeological monitoring and documentation during construction.

Rehabilitation of the formal garden and installation of interpretive panels throughout the park would have negligible impacts, similar to Alternative 2, from demolition and rehabilitating parterres, paths and specimen plantings. All ground disturbing activity would require archeological monitoring and documentation during rehabilitation.

The Hampton Lane path and farm road projects would have the same short-term, minor negative and negligible long-

term impacts to archeological resources as identified in Alternative 2. The relocation of the visitor entrance drive on the Mansion side would have the same short and long-term impacts as identified in Alternative 2. As with all other ground disturbing activity, all construction would be mitigated through testing, monitoring and documentation.

The construction of a small visitor contact station on the mansion side in the Support Zone would have short-term, minor and long-term moderate negative impacts to archeological resources. Although a portion of this area has already been disturbed, the area identified for new construction has not been disturbed to the depth required for new foundations. Consequently, while the short-term impacts would be limited to ground disturbance and compaction from equipment use, materials storage and construction, the potential for impact from the new foundation is greater. As with all other ground disturbing activity, all construction would be mitigated through testing, monitoring and documentation.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that relate specifically to archeological resources would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would have the same short-term negative impacts and a similar potential for long-term negative impact to Alternatives



1 and a smaller one than identified for Alternative 2.

- Cumulative impacts for this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of archeological resources in the park.

ETHNOGRAPHY

Certain important questions about human culture and history can only be answered by gathering information about the cultural content and context of cultural resources. Questions about contemporary peoples or groups, their identity and heritage have the potential to be addressed through ethnographic resources. As defined by the National Park Service, an ethnographic resource is a site, structure, object, landscape, or natural resource feature assigned traditional legendary, religious, subsistence, or other significance in the cultural system of a group traditionally associated with it.

Ethnographic resources are considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as traditional cultural properties when 1) they are rooted in a community's history and are important for maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community, and 2) they meet National Register criteria for significance and integrity. Often such communities are American Indian nations or groups, and in the case of Hampton, such groups of people appear to have traveled through the area while hunting or conducting other activities. An important community with special ties to Hampton National Historic Site would be that of African-Americans, particularly those descended from the enslaved people who once inhabited the estate.

Impacts to ethnographic resources occur as a result of changes in the physical characteristics of, access to, or use of resources, such that the cultural traditions associated with those resources are changed or lost.

Beneficial impacts can occur when intrusive facilities, or visitor or management activities, are removed from a traditional use area or when ecological conditions are improved at a gathering area such that the traditionally used resource would be enhanced.

Negative impacts occur when physical changes to a traditionally used resource or its setting degrade the resource

itself, or degrade access to or use of a resource.

Short-term impacts represent a temporary change in important ethnographic resources such as vegetation used for traditional foods or temporarily restrict access to an important resource, and if they do not disrupt the cultural traditions associated with that resource for a noticeable period of time.

Long-term impacts involve a change in important vegetation or cultural features, or addition of a new facility or visitor use that would change the physical character of or access to a resource for a noticeable period of time. This period of time would vary by resource type and traditional practitioners. These long-term changes would disrupt cultural traditions associated with the affected resource, but the disruption would not alter traditional activities to the extent that the important cultural traditions associated with the resource are lost.

Permanent impacts involve irreversible changes in important resources such that the ongoing cultural traditions associated with those resources are lost.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under this alternative, NPS would continue to preserve and interpret the extant stone slave quarters at the farm property—one telling the story of the experience of the enslaved at Hampton in the 1850s and the other interpreting post-emancipation stories and the tenant farmer experience. Additionally, archival research and documentation for the enslaved and post-Civil War African-American communities and other worker groups who contributed to Hampton would continue under all alternatives. There would be no short-term negative impacts and minor, long-term beneficial impact to ethnographic resources from this alternative would result from expanding the programs and efforts of the park to attract a wider audience and groups who have a traditional associations with the park.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that relate specifically to ethnographic resources would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Implementation of Alternative 1 would have no short-term and minor long-term, beneficial impact.
- Cumulative impacts for this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in any of the alternatives would not result in impairment of park ethnographic resources.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, NPS would continue to interpret the two extant slave quarters at the farm, and identified in Alternative 1. However, both structures would be more thoroughly fitted out with historically appropriate furnishings to create a more accurate and immersive historic experience inside the structures and in the immediate environs. Additionally, the octagonal slave quarters that once stood next to the Mansion (should further research demonstrate feasibility) and the summer kitchen that was actually attached to the Mansion, would be reconstructed to ensure the stories of the enslaved who lived and worked in the Mansion were fully told on that side of the property. Additionally, archival research and documentation for the enslaved and post-Civil War African-American communities and other worker groups who contributed to Hampton would continue under all alternatives.

There would be no long-term negative impacts to ethnographic resources, similar to Alternative 1; however, Alternative 2 would offer long-term, moderate beneficial impacts through the rehabilitation, reconstruction and augmentation of interpretation of the conditions of enslaved African-Americans living and working at Hampton.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts in Alternative 2, that relate specifically to archeological resources, would be noticeable as there would be more attention paid to the lives and conditions of enslaved workers.

Conclusion

- There would be no negative impacts and



Slave Quarters at Farm

implementation of Alternative 2 would have a greater long-term, beneficial impact to ethnographic resources than Alternative 1 but less than identified for Alternative 3.

- The cumulative impact of this alternative would be noticeable.
- Impacts from the actions contained in any of the alternatives would not result in impairment of park ethnographic resources.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under all alternatives, NPS would continue to interpret the two extant slave quarters at the farm, and identified in Alternative 1. However, both structures would be more thoroughly fitted out with professional exhibits to evoke the historic scene and more fully engage the visitor with the complicated stories associated with slavery and race at Hampton. Additionally, the octagonal slave quarters that once stood next to the Mansion (should further research demonstrate feasibility) and the summer kitchen that was

actually attached to the Mansion, would be reconstructed to ensure the stories of the enslaved who lived and worked in the Mansion were fully told on that side of the property. Archival research and documentation for the enslaved and post-Civil War African-American communities and other worker groups who contributed to Hampton would continue under all alternatives.

Under all three alternatives, there would be no long-term negative impacts to ethnographic resources. Alternative 3 offers long-term, moderate beneficial impacts through the rehabilitation, reconstruction and augmented interpretation of slave quarters. There would be a greater focus on interpretative programming and outreach in Alternative 3 that would expand the potential for attracting new audiences and traditionally associated groups more than identified in either Alternative 1 or 2.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that relate to ethnographic resources in Alternative 3 would be noticeable because the opportunity for interaction and the intent to attract a wider audience would be greater than identified in either Alternative 1 or 2.

Conclusion

- There would be no negative impacts and implementation of Alternative 3 would have a greater long-term, beneficial impact to ethnographic

resources than Alternative 1 and Alternative 2.

- The cumulative impact of this alternative would be noticeable.
- Impacts from the actions contained in any of the alternatives would not result in impairment of park ethnographic resources.

WATER QUALITY

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to water quality resources, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts would not affect wetland function and water resource quality or the effects to the resource would be below or at the lower levels of detection. No negative or beneficial long-term effects to wetland function, riparian vegetation or water resource quality would occur and any detectable effects would be slight.

Minor impacts to wetlands or water resource quality would be detectable and relatively small, would likely be short-term, and the effects would be localized. The action would affect a few individuals of plant or wildlife species within an existing wetland or riparian area within the park. The change would require considerable scientific effort to measure and have barely perceptible consequences to wetland or riparian habitat function.

Moderate impacts would change an existing wetland area function or water quality, but the impact could be mitigated by the creation of artificial wetlands or the restoration of riparian habitat. The action would have a measurable effect on plant or wildlife species within an existing wetland or riparian area, but all species would remain indefinitely viable within the Hampton National Historic Site.

Major impacts would have drastic and permanent consequences for an existing riparian wetland function or water resource quality, which could not be mitigated. Wetland and riparian species dynamics would be upset, and species would be at risk of extirpation from Hampton National Historic Site.

Two types of impacts are analyzed: impacts as a reflection of increased impervious surface and storm water and

impacts to the small stream system emanating from the spring inside the dairy. The stream runs 442 feet from the dairy eastward to a concrete enclosed culvert. Its banks include narrow bands of palustrine forested, broad-leaved deciduous riparian wetland areas (no greater than 10-12 feet at the eastern boundary). This stream is approximately 3 feet in width with an approximately 50 foot riparian buffer, and only minimal floodplain is directly associated with it. The condition and function of stream riparian systems require consideration of hydrologic, vegetation, and erosion/deposition (soils) attributes and processes.

Potential impacts on water resources may include direct, indirect, temporary and permanent impacts. An example of a direct impact on water resources would be the alteration of a drainage pattern or streambed to accommodate road construction. An example of an indirect impact on water resources would be the increase in pollutants in a stream from spilled automotive fluids adjacent to a new road. Temporary impacts would occur during the implementation phase of the project, short-term impacts would be those that occur for up to one year, and long-term impacts would occur after full implementation and for the duration of the action.

Moderate to major hydrological impacts might arise from a project that imposes flood hazards on other properties, or decreases water available for aquifer recharge thus affecting well-water supplies. Major impacts on stream hydrology might result from uncontrolled runoff that causes erosion and subsequent sedimentation of downstream water bodies, especially if grading would occur during the rainy season or adjacent to bodies of water or drainage-ways. Modified drainage patterns might also create substantial changes to stream flow velocities. If a project incorporates extraction of water from an aquifer, a moderate to major effect might result if there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a reduction in the local groundwater table.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

All maintenance activities that have potential for negative impacts on wetlands or streams would be conducted in accordance with Maryland's *Nontidal Wetlands Protection*

Act (COMAR 26.23).

Construction of the collections facility would include extensive design to meet state and federal environmental regulations for water quality and additional runoff from new construction. The addition of an additional 5,000 square feet of building and approximately 10% increase in parking and roads would be offset by the removal of the HHI trailer. The exact change in drainage pattern and new water management structures is not known because they have yet to be designed; however, the commitment is to no net change in water quality or runoff, although there is likely to be a long-term, moderate negative impact in the west field.

Consultation with the Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 404 of the *Clean Water Act* may be required. Consultation with the Maryland Department of the Environment would be in accordance with the *Maryland Coast Facilities Review* (COMAR 26.22.01), the *Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program* (COMAR Title 27) and the *Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act* (COMAR 26.23). Consultation with Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management would be recommended pursuant to the *Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program* and *Article 9, Section 14-331, Protection of Water Quality, Streams, Wetlands and Floodplains* for protection of these resources in Baltimore County.

Cumulative Impacts

Development of substantially larger homes next to the park that increases the impervious surface could change drainage patterns and water quality in the farm stream and in the drainage channels along the edge of the western field. Most of the impact would be downstream from the park and due to the topography of the park no surface flow would cross park lands; however, increased volume could cause periodic flooding within park property.

It is anticipated that even with the potential for drainage changes from the new NPS building, the contribution of Alternative 1 to the overall cumulative impact would be imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 1 would have

long-term, moderate negative impact to water quality.

- The cumulative impact of this alternative to this overall cumulative impact would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of water quality in the park.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, the farm lane would be widened by 2 feet, half of the length realigned and all reinforced without change to the appearance of the existing surface. In addition, the entrance road on the mansion side would be relocated to the western edge of the property, new parking areas developed and the existing entrance drive and parking area. The new entrance road would likely be 30% longer than the existing one and the new parking area would be expected to accommodate 20% more vehicles than the current visitor, staff and overflow parking lots. There would also be an increased footprint for the operations and visitor service building. Subtracting the rehabilitated areas in the west field, less than two acres would be changed from field or lawn to impervious surface. Some of the potential increase in surface runoff could be mitigated through the use of pervious paving and retention structures.

Generally, short-term, minor negative impacts would be expected from road and parking area development and long-term, minor negative impacts would be expected due to the increase in impervious surface. Some of these negative impacts would be mitigated through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction, by following state management policies for wetlands and by using drainage management techniques like pervious paving.

Consultation with the Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 404 of the *Clean Water Act* may be required. Consultation with the Maryland Department of the Environment would be in accordance with the *Maryland Coast Facilities Review* (COMAR 26.22.01), the *Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program* (COMAR Ti-

tle 27) and the *Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act* (COMAR 26.23). Consultation with Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management would be recommended pursuant to the *Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program* and *Article 9, Section 14-331, Protection of Water Quality, Streams, Wetlands and Floodplains* for protection of these resources in Baltimore County.

Cumulative Impacts

As described above, there is a long term adverse impact to water quality from development in the region.

Alternative 2 would construct new impervious surfaces and drainage retention mechanisms so that no additional volume would drain into the existing streams and channels. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to water quality from surrounding development plus Alternative 2 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 2 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would have short and long-minor negative impacts.
- The cumulative impact of this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of water quality in the park.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, the farm lane, parking lots and entrance road would be altered similarly to that identified in Alternative 2. The footprint for the mansion side visitor contact station would be smaller with more opportunities for management of runoff than posed by Alternative 2, but would still have a long-term-minor negative impact. Subtracting the rehabilitated areas in the west field, less than one and a half acres would be changed to impervious surface.

Generally, short-term, minor negative impacts would be expected from road and parking area development and long-term, minor negative impacts would be expected due

to the increase in impervious surface. Some of these negative impacts would be mitigated through the use of BMPs during construction and by following state management policies for wetlands and by using drainage management techniques like pervious paving.

Consultation with the Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 404 of the *Clean Water Act* may be required. Consultation with the Maryland Department of the Environment would be in accordance with the *Maryland Coast Facilities Review* (COMAR 26.22.01), the *Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program* (COMAR Title 27) and the *Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act* (COMAR 26.23). Consultation with Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management would be recommended pursuant to the *Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program* and *Article 9, Section 14-331, Protection of Water Quality, Streams, Wetlands and Floodplains* for protection of these resources in Baltimore County.

Cumulative Impacts

As described above, there is a long term adverse impact to water quality from development in the region.

Alternative 3 would construct new impervious surfaces and drainage retention mechanisms so that no additional volume would drain into the existing streams and channels. Therefore, although the overall cumulative impact to water quality from surrounding development plus Alternative 3 is adverse, the contribution of Alternative 3 to the total cumulative impact is imperceptible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would have some short and long-term minor negative impacts,

slightly less than Alternative 2 and more than identified for Alternative 1.

- The cumulative impact of this alternative would be imperceptible.
- Impacts from the actions contained in this alternative would not likely result in impairment of water quality in the park.

VEGETATION

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to vegetation resources, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts would not affect vegetation or the effects would be at or below the level of detection, would be short-term, and the changes would be so slight that they would not be of any measurable or perceptible consequence.

Minor impacts to vegetation would be detectable, although the effects would be localized, and would be small and of little consequence to anything outside the park. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset any negative effect, would be simple and successful.

Moderate impacts to vegetation would be readily detectable, long-term and localized, with consequences to vegetation in the park and immediate surroundings. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset any negative effect, would be extensive and likely successful.

Major impacts to vegetation would be readily detectable, long-term and localized, with consequences to vegetation in the park and immediate surroundings. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset any negative effect, would be extensive and likely successful.

The majority of the vegetative communities at Hampton National Historic Site are cultivated domestic landscapes, non-native, and deliberately and intensively managed as part of the cultural landscape. The uncultivated forested edges on the south and northeast borders are inundated with non-native and sometimes invasive plants. Hampton provides open space for recreation in this rapidly urbanizing, suburban community.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

A small portion of the formal garden would be rehabilitated as outlined in the *Cultural Landscape Treatment Plan* and more detailed garden rehabilitation plans. This would increase plant vigor and remove hosts for disease, exotic species and invasive plants, resulting in long-term, minor beneficial impacts.

Construction activity would result in negligible short-term ground disturbance that would last for a year, ending once the lawns become reestablished and the construction materials removed. Substantial effort would be made to monitor and protect the historic vegetation. The increase in impervious surface relating to the new collections facility and its associated roads and paths would have a long-term, minor negative impact.

Cumulative Impacts

There would be an imperceptible cumulative impacts to vegetation under Alternative 1.

Conclusion

- Alternative 1 would have both long-term, minor beneficial and negative impacts to vegetation.
- The contribution of Alternative 1 to this overall cumulative impact would be imperceptible.
- This alternative would not likely result in impairment to vegetation in the park.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2 although there would be additional construction, the construction impacts would remain short-term and negligible because of their short duration and substantial effort would be made to monitor and protect the historic vegetation. The construction of the new administration and visitor services facility would have a long-term, minor negative impact from the loss of less than five acres of lawn to impervious surface.

The rehabilitation of the entire formal garden would restore the historic vegetation pattern, increase plant vigor and remove hosts for disease and invasives. This would have a long-term, moderate beneficial impact.

Rehabilitation of the native communities and ornamen-



tal plantings would have long-term, minor beneficial impacts by removing dead and diseased vegetation, enhancing interpretive views and providing more vigorous and dense screening between the park and adjacent landowners. Removal of invasive exotic plants on park property and outreach to neighbors would also have long-term, minor beneficial impacts by reducing sources of invasive species.

Cumulative Impacts

There would be an imperceptible cumulative impact to the vegetation from the actions of this alternative.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would have long-term, moderate beneficial impacts to vegetation in the park.
- Alternative 2 would have an imperceptible cumulative impact.
- Impacts from the actions contained in these alternatives would not likely result in impairment of the vegetation and the cultural landscape in the park.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, there would be the same short-term, negligible impacts related to construction, as there were in Alternative 2. There would be the same level of effort expended to monitor the historic vegetation, to maintain their quality and to protect the park's cultural landscape during construction as identified in Alternative 2. There would also be negligible impacts from the loss of lawn areas during the new construction of the orangery and the road projects.

Rehabilitation of the native communities and removal of invasive exotic plants would have the same long-term, minor beneficial impacts identified in Alternative 2. This alternative would rehabilitate less of the formal garden than identified in Alternative 2, but more than in Alternative 1. This change in management focus would still have long-term, minor beneficial impacts on the vegetation due to restoration of historic patterns, increase plant vigor and removal of disease hosts and invasives.

Cumulative Impacts

There would be an imperceptible cumulative impact to the vegetation from the actions of this alternative.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would have long-term, minor beneficial impacts to vegetation.

- Alternative 3 would have an imperceptible cumulative impact.
- Impacts from the actions contained in these alternatives would not likely result in impairment of the vegetation and the cultural landscape in the park.

ECONOMY AND LAND USE

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Existing directional signs would be in character, appearance and placement the same as other directional signage along I-695, Hampton Lane and other regional roads. The main ones on I-695 would bring visitors directly to and from the site without passing the town center or any commercial area. Since there is no food at the park and the access routes from the main road are short, visitors would get on I-695 and leave the area to get food and drink. This would limit time at the site and same day return visits.

Hampton-oriented souvenirs, books and other items are supplied by the bookstore and are not found in local shops. Given the normal visitor travel patterns and the lack of marketing and product coordination between the park and local community, this would provide visitors with very little opportunity to see what the local community has to offer in terms of shops, restaurants or other amenities before or after their visit.

There are no private or public plans to significantly change the type or density of development adjacent to the park. Alternative 1 would have negligible impact on the existing or future use of land in the immediate vicinity.

Consequently the greatest contribution Hampton makes to the local economy would be through wage taxes and supplies. Given these factors, the actions under Alternative 1 would have a negligible impact on the regional economy or local land use.

Cumulative Impacts

There would be an imperceptible cumulative economic or land use impact in this alternative.

Conclusion

- Overall, the impact of Alternative 1 would be negligible.
- There would be an imperceptible cumulative economic or land use impacts for this alternative.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

New directional signs would be in character, appearance and placement the same as other directional signage along I-695, Hampton Lane and other regional roads. The main ones on I-695 would reroute visitors past a small, but growing commercial area near the interstate. Plans to work with the town would provide information to visitors about food and drink available in the immediate area. This could expand time spent at the site, same day return visits and increase visitor spending in the town modestly.

These collaborations with the town, county and state agencies and business organizations could increase marketing and product coordination between the park and local community. This could increase the presence of Hampton-oriented souvenirs, books and other items in the bookstore and in local shops, thereby increasing visibility of the site in the community and the community to site visitors. This increased collaboration could give visitors a reason to go into the local commercial center and see what the local community has to offer in terms of shops, restaurants or other amenities.

There are no private or public plans to significantly change the type or density of development adjacent to the park. Increased collaboration with local and state agencies and business groups would include expanding outreach to local developers to maintain the character of the surrounding community.

In implementing Alternative 2, the park has the potential to draw an additional ten to fifteen percent more visitors to the park. However, the additional visitors would likely be primarily school groups with some additional tour groups, individuals and families. The school groups would take advantage of the expanded interpretation and would not likely be visiting stores and restaurants in the community. Consequently, even though there would be a substantial increase in visitation, the impact on the local economy would be negligible.

The increase in staffing and base funding in this alternative would increase the contribution Hampton makes to the local economy through wage taxes and supplies. Although there is an increased involvement with the community, the actions under Alternative 2 would have a long-term, minor beneficial impact on the regional economy or local land use.

Cumulative Impacts

The increase in attendance and improved information about food and shopping in the local community could impact local businesses. The increased conversations with builders and developers could increase the likelihood that compatible building would occur. These discussions and outreach efforts with local business interests and home builders would have an imperceptible cumulative economic or land use impact in this alternative.

Conclusion

- Overall, the impact of Alternative 2 would be long-term, minor and beneficial.
- There could be an imperceptible cumulative economic or land use impact in this alternative.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

New directional signs would be in character, appearance and placement the same as other directional signage along I-695, Hampton Lane and other regional roads. The main ones on I-695 would reroute visitors past a small, but growing commercial area near the interstate. Plans to work with the county would provide information to visitors about food and attractions available in the immediate area. Plans to explore options, impacts and funding for food and drink at Hampton National Historic Site are included in this alternative. Depending on the outcome of this study, this could either expand time spent at the site and severely limit the need for same day return visits and decrease visitor spending in the town modestly, or it could remain the same as described in Alternative 2.

These collaborations with the county and state agencies

and business organizations could increase marketing and product coordination between the park and local community. This could increase the presence of Hampton-oriented souvenirs, books and other items in the bookstore and in local shops, thereby increasing visibility of the site in the community and the community to site visitors. This increased collaboration could give visitors a reason to go into the local commercial center and see what the local community has to offer in terms of shops, restaurants or other amenities.

There are no private or public plans to significantly change the type or density of development adjacent to the park. Increased collaboration with local and state agencies and business groups would include expanding outreach to local developers to maintain the character of the surrounding community.

In implementing Alternative 3, the park would also have the potential to draw an additional ten to fifteen percent more visitors to the park. However, the additional visitors would likely be primarily school groups with some additional tour groups, individuals and families. The school groups would take advantage of the expanded interpretation and would not likely be visiting stores and restaurants in the community. Consequently, even though there would be a substantial increase in visitation, the impact on the local economy would be negligible.

The increase in staffing and base funding in this alternative would increase the contribution Hampton makes to the local economy through wage taxes and supplies. Although there is an increased involvement with the community, the actions under Alternative 3 would have a long-term, minor beneficial impact on the regional economy or local land use.

Cumulative Impacts

Depending on the results of the study of food service at the park, the increase in attendance could reduce the numbers of visitors patronizing local businesses or it could be similar to that described in Alternative 2. The increased conversations with builders and developers would be similar to Alternative 2 and could increase the likelihood that compatible building would occur. Either way, these discussions and outreach efforts with local business interests and home builders would have an imperceptible cumulative economic or land use impacts in this alternative.

tive.

Conclusion

- Overall, the impact of Alternative 3 would be long-term, minor and beneficial.
- There would be an imperceptible cumulative economic or land use impacts for this alternative.

TRANSPORTATION

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to transportation resources, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts on transportation access and safety would not be affected, or the effects would be at low levels of detection and would not have an appreciable effect on the public health or safety.

Minor impacts would be detectable and would likely be short-term, but would not have an appreciable effect on transportation access and safety. If mitigation were needed, it would be relatively simple and would likely be successful.

Moderate impacts would be readily apparent and long-term, and would result in substantial, noticeable effects to transportation access and safety on a local scale. Mitigation measures would probably be necessary and would likely be successful.

Major impacts would be readily apparent and long-term, and would result in substantial, noticeable effects to transportation and safety on a regional scale. Extensive mitigation measures would be needed, and their success would not be guaranteed.

In 1962, construction on I-695 was completed, and between 1966 and 1971, the Beltway was widened to six lanes to accommodate the regional growth of the Baltimore area. In 1999, construction was again begun to widen the Beltway from six lanes to eight lanes. I-695 was one of the major infrastructure changes that have induced a transformation in the built environment around Hampton.

There are traffic safety and access impacts for Hampton National Historic Site and for the surrounding neighborhood under all alternatives. Hampton Lane bisects the

site creating a barrier for easy and safe passage by visitors, particularly pedestrians. This barrier also impedes the interpretation of the farm site as there is limited access for buses and a safe pedestrian crossing is lacking. Safety is compromised since emergency vehicles and buses are oversized for the farm road. The turning radii, width, and bearing capacity are currently deemed insufficient to meet the basic safety requirements for such vehicles. The existing driveways are in need of sight line improvements to increase safe exit from and entrance onto Hampton Lane from both sides of the site.

Short-term, minor negative impacts are those that might be encountered during construction and would include momentarily stopping traffic to allow safe entrance of an oversized vehicle, or temporarily closing a single lane while pipeline would be laid. Long-term moderate to major beneficial impacts would include permanent widening and reorientation of an entrance drive to allow safe exiting with good sight lines.

During consultations, the SHPO supported widening the farm road for safety considerations. Consultation with the SHPO also included discussion of the entry and egress to the mansion side. Under all of the alternatives an MOA should be signed with the SHPO to ensure that consultations are carried out during the design development and implementation phases of internal road and parking design.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 1, impacts affecting the transportation and circulation patterns would be long-term, minor to moderate and negative, because there would continue to be physical and safety barriers to crossing from the mansion side to the farm site, inhibiting the interpretive mission and permitting crossings between the sites. Emergency access and access for tour and school buses would be constrained. Currently, visitors walk along the park roads and cross Hampton Lane onto the farm lane and continue on towards the farm house. There are no signs or road markings to indicate the crosswalk. Large groups are escorted by their chaperones and at times, by

NPS rangers. While these measures help, they are not adequate and the danger of accidents would continue to be very real for visitors crossing the road and walking along the park roads.

The existing alignment and cross section of the farm lane is inadequate for modern emergency vehicles and tour buses. In the dry weather when the ground is hard, these longer vehicles can navigate the turns; however, when the ground is soft, there is a danger of getting stuck.

Cumulative Impacts

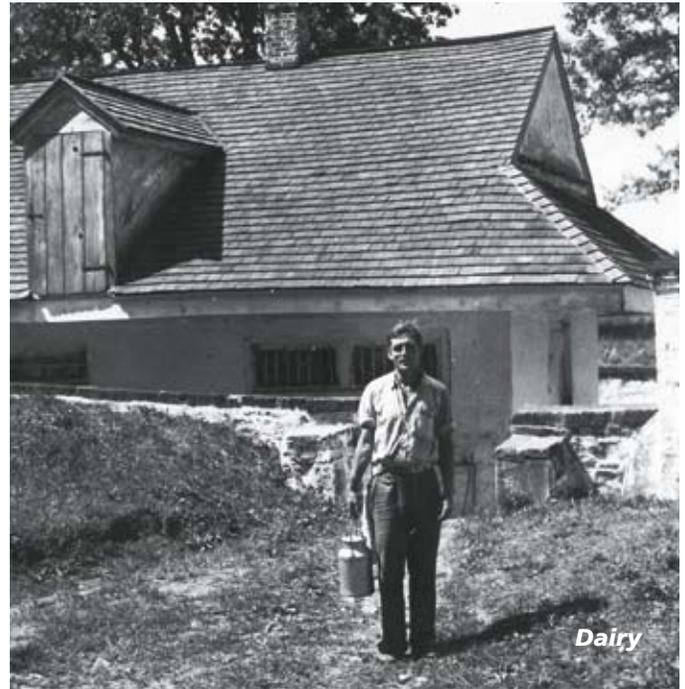
The volume, speed and periodic congestion along Hampton Lane have increased due to the residential and commercial growth in Towson and the surrounding communities and from the construction of I-695. I-695 has transformed the area by providing access to the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. metropolitan areas. The Baltimore County Department of Public Works and the Maryland DOT are initiating a major road construction effort to improve local roads, access ramps to the interstate and widen I-695 by one lane adjacent to the park. While construction is not expected to extend beyond the existing noise wall or the state's right-of-way along Hampton Lane, these projects will increase the capacity of all these roads and therefore increase traffic volume and noise in the region. Overall, while these projects will relieve traffic congestion, the overall increase in traffic volume and noise has a long term, moderate and adverse impact on the region.

Alternative 1 maintains the existing programs and the existing visitation and circulation patterns and would not impact regional transportation levels or patterns. Therefore, although the overall cumulative level of the existing transportation patterns and levels plus that identified for Alternative 1 is adverse, Alternative 1 makes an imperceptible contribution to the total cumulative impact.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 1 would result in long term, minor to moderate, negative impacts due to the safety issues going unaddressed.
- The cumulative transportation impacts for this alternative would be imperceptible.

Alternative 2



Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, impacts affecting the transportation and circulation patterns would be long term, minor to moderate and beneficial, because the and safety barriers to crossing from the mansion side to the farm site, inhibiting the interpretive mission and permitting crossings between the sites would be addressed. Emergency access and access for tour and school buses would be corrected and pathways within the park would be separate from vehicle roads. In addition, there would be signs or road markings to indicate the crosswalk.

Under Alternative 2, the level of impacts from visitors travel from the major travel routes to the park would not change and would continue to be negligible. The majority of park visitors would enter from the Providence Road I-695 exit. Visitors would first use the farm road to enter the park and then all of them would use the relocated NPS entrance to get to the mansion. The relocated mansion-side entrance would move 100 feet closer to the western boundary. Given the location of I-695 (within ¼ mile) and the level of traffic on Hampton Lane—an increasingly busy and major county collector route, the change of access and circulation patterns within Hampton National Historic Site would be negligible. To minimize any impact

on neighbors, buses and excessive numbers of cars would be parked near the mansion, where they currently park.

Park visitation is expected to increase by 10–15% over the life of this GMP. Even with the most optimistic visitation scenarios, the increase in total number of vehicles would be 700 vehicles per year or less than 5 additional vehicles per day. Under Alternative 2, there would be a substantial increase in foot traffic throughout the park, and especially between the farm and the mansion. This crossing of Hampton Lane would be considerably improved and safer. This new construction would increase the number of visitors using the paths and would reduce pedestrian and vehicle incidents. Alternative 2 would provide the safest pedestrian crossing of all the alternatives. The increased emphasis on safety and new construction would reduce the negative impact to negligible and provide a minor, beneficial and long-term impact.

Cumulative Impacts

As identified in Alternative 1, there is a long term, moderate and adverse impact from changing transportation levels and patterns in the area.

Alternative 2 would change the access route to the park and modify existing entrances to the home farm and the mansion. Although the changes in park programs would increase annual visitation to Hampton NHS, the total number of cars and buses from the park would remain less than 2% percentage of the hourly and daily loads on Hampton Lane and a barely measurable percentage on I-695. Therefore, although the overall cumulative level of the existing transportation patterns and levels plus that identified for Alternative 2 is adverse, Alternative 2 makes an imperceptible contribution to the total cumulative impact.

Conclusion

- Overall, the impact of Alternative 2 would be a long-term, minor beneficial impact.
- The cumulative transportation impacts for Alternative 2 would remain imperceptible.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, impacts from visitors travel into and

within the park would remain the same as described in Alternative 2. The majority of park visitors would enter from the Providence Road I-695 exit, as they would in Alternative 2. Visitors would first use the farm road to enter the park and then all of them would use the relocated NPS entrance to get to the mansion. The relocated mansion-side entrance would move 100 feet closer to the western boundary. Given the location of I-695 (within ¼ mile) and the level of traffic on Hampton Lane—an increasingly busy and major county collector route, the change of access and circulation patterns within Hampton, National Historic Site would continue to be negligible. As in Alternative 2, buses and excessive numbers of cars would be parked near the mansion, where they currently park to minimize any impact on neighbors.

Park visitation is expected to increase by 10- 15% over the life of this GMP. Even with the most optimistic visitation scenarios, the increase in total number of vehicles would be 700 vehicles per year or less than 5 additional vehicles per day. As described in Alternative 2, the impact for this alternative would remain negligible.

Under Alternative 3, there would be a substantial increase in foot traffic throughout the park, and especially between the farm and the mansion. This crossing of Hampton Lane would be improved and safer. This new construction would increase the number of visitors using the paths and would reduce pedestrian and vehicle incidents. This alternative would provide a safer crossing than Alternative 1, and a slightly less safe one than Alternative 2. Under this alternative, the impact would remain minor and beneficial.

Cumulative Impacts

As identified in Alternatives 1 and 2, there is a long term, moderate and adverse impact from changing transportation levels and patterns in the area.

Alternative 3 would change the access route to the park and modify existing entrances to the home farm and the mansion in the same manner as described in Alternative 2. Although this alternative would have the greatest increase in annual visitation to Hampton NHS of all the alternatives, the total number of cars and buses from the park would still remain less than 5% percentage of the hourly and daily loads on Hampton Lane and a barely measurable percentage on I-695. Therefore, although the overall cumulative level of the existing transportation patterns and levels plus

that identified for Alternative 3 is adverse, Alternative 3 makes an imperceptible contribution to the total cumulative impact.

Conclusion

- Overall, the impact of Alternative 3 would have minor beneficial impacts.
- The cumulative transportation impacts for Alternative 3 would remain imperceptible.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to visitor experience, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts would not affect visitors, or changes in visitor use and/or experience would be below the level of detection. Any effects would be short-term. The visitor would not likely be aware of the effects associated with the alternative.

Minor impacts to visitor use and/or experience would be detectable, although the changes would be slight and likely short-term. The visitor would be aware of the effects associated with the alternative, but the effects would be slight. Visitor satisfaction would remain stable.

Moderate impacts to visitor use and/or experience would be readily apparent and likely long-term. The visitor would be aware of the effects associated with the alternative and would likely be able to express an opinion about the changes. Visitor satisfaction would begin to either decline or increase as a direct result of the effect.

Major impacts to visitor use and/or experience would be readily apparent and have important long-term consequences. The visitor would be aware of the effects associated with the alternative and would likely express a strong opinion about the change. Visitor satisfaction would markedly decline or increase.

The category of visitor experience includes what visitors do (visitor use), know, feel, and sense while in or around the site, interpretation (programs and media that communicate historical themes to public audiences), and education (programs and media that communicate these themes to organized groups, especially school groups). There would be considerable overlap among these three

subsets, and they are analyzed together in the category of visitor experience. The alternatives presented are intended to improve the quality of the visitor experience and to increase opportunities to tell the full range of stories of the Hampton National Historic Site, rather than to generate greater raw numbers of visitors. Under all three alternatives, *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) accessibility would be improved as funding became available.

There are two general sources for predicting the consequences to visitor experience of the various alternatives: experience and research. A vast reservoir of experience has accumulated for the more than 90 years of operations of national parks and the experiences of other parks, museums, and similar sites. These experiences are directly observed by planners who have worked in parks, and are shared formally in conferences and publications and informally through personal contacts. The accuracy of predictions based on experience would be substantially enhanced by formal research.

A short-term negative impact to visitor experience might involve closing a room to tours for a few days while an existing exhibit would be dismantled, cleaning and repairs take place, and a new exhibit would be installed. An example of a long-term negative impact to visitor experience would be a decision to limit access to a structurally vulnerable building to the public or even professional researchers in order to preserve the original flooring.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 1, bus tours, school tours and other groups would continue to be oriented outdoors or in the farmhouse. Negative impacts to the visitor interpretation and experience would be moderate and long-term, as interpretation of the full range of stories, including those on the farm side and particularly relating to the stories of labor and slavery, would remain challenged by the lack of facilities and staff, limited access to the farm site, and the lack of adequate accessibility as required by the ADA. Services for groups would continue to be severely limited in inclement weather.

Cumulative Impacts



Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, impacts to the visitor experience would be long-term, moderate to major and beneficial, as considerable improvements to physical access, staff, and information would be facilitated. Visitor comfort would also be served as there would be accessible and adequate facilities for getting out of the inclement weather, and restrooms would be provided on both the mansion and farm sides. All visitors would begin their experience in a single location—the visitor services area that would be part of the new administrative headquarters; visitors would be lead out into the property from that starting point—offering the most consistency of orientation among all visitors. This alternative also offers the most fully developed historic experience, as visitors would step back in time as they experience a restoration of the park’s primary resources.

Negative impacts to interpretation would be short-term and minor during the rehabilitation process, but the long-term impact would be moderate and beneficial since interpretive programs would focus on the historic buildings, their settings and their historic uses and would often be self-guided and self-explanatory.

Additional items on exhibit or the representation of artifacts in historic context would be a long-term, minor to moderate beneficial impact.

Cumulative Impacts

As identified in Alternative 1, there is a long term, moderate and beneficial impact from changing visitor use levels and audiences in the area.

Alternative 2 would modify the interpretive themes and experiences available to visitors at both the home farm and the mansion to include stories of all the people who lived and worked at Hampton, enslaved, indentured and free. It is anticipated that these changes would increase annual visitation to Hampton NHS. Therefore, while Alternative 2 would echo the changing visitor use levels and patterns in the region, the activity at Hampton NHS would only make an imperceptible contribution to the total cumulative impact.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would

The Maryland Office of Tourism has launched a map and guide highlighting Underground Railroad stories in the state and has been promoting the Baltimore region as a destination for people interested in African-American history and the causes, conditions and lasting impacts of enslavement that form a part of our nation’s history. Overall, these projects will increase visitation levels to historic sites and broaden their audiences that would have a long-term, moderate and beneficial impact on the region.

Alternative 1 would maintain the existing programs and visitor experiences that have limited focus on these broader interpretive stories. Therefore, this alternative would have imperceptible cumulative impact on visitor levels and experiences at historic sites in the region.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 1 would provide the least benefit to visitor experience and interpretation of the three alternatives discussed in this document. This alternative would have long term, moderate negative impacts.
- In Alternative 1, the park contribution to the overall cumulative impact would be imperceptible.

Alternative 2

provide an improved visitor experience and interpretation, above the levels described in Alternative 1 and equal, though distinctly different to that described in Alternative 3. Alternative 2 would have short term, negative impacts and a moderate beneficial impact.

- The park would contribute the greatest amount to the overall cumulative impacts, which are noticeable and negative, under Alternative 2 than under either Alternative 1 or Alternative 3.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, beneficial impacts to the visitor experience would be moderate to major and long-term, as considerable improvements to physical access, staff, and information would be facilitated. Visitor comfort would also be served as there would be accessible and adequate facilities for getting out of the inclement weather, and restrooms would be provided on both the mansion and farm sides. Visitors would have maximum choice, planning their own visits from one of two visitor contact stations located at the corn crib on the farm side or small visitor contact station on the mansion side in the Support Zone, both imagined as staffed stations. This alternative would seek to create multiple opportunities for visitors to make meaningful connections between Hampton’s stories and their own experiences, truly bridging the past and present.

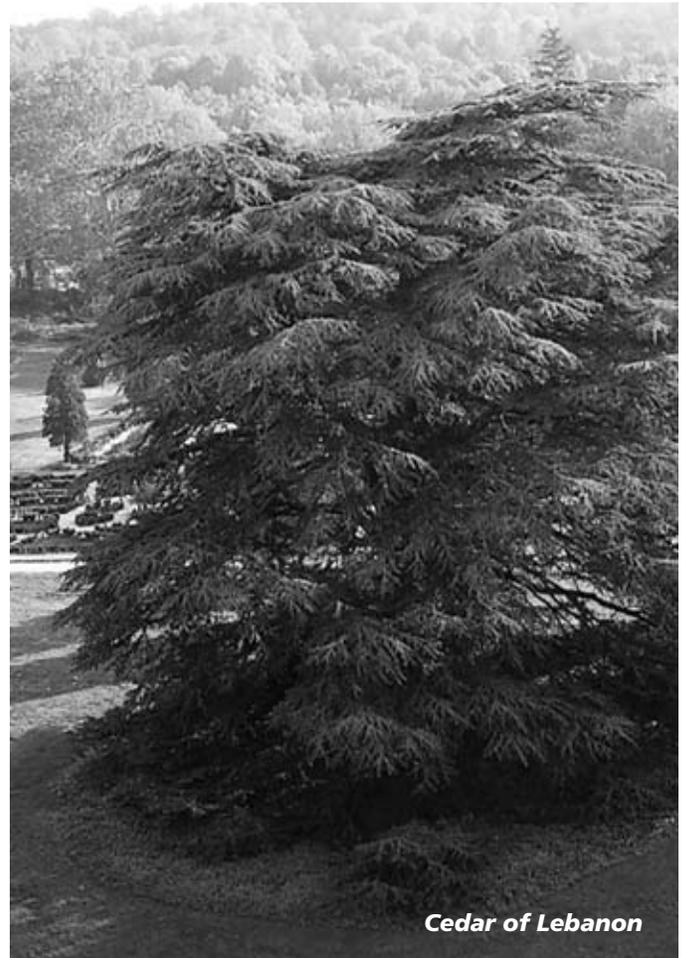
Negative impacts to interpretation would be short term and minor during the rehabilitation process, but the long-term impact would be moderate and beneficial since interpretive programs would utilize historic buildings for programming and interpretation.

Additional items on exhibit or the representation of artifacts in historic context would be a long term, minor beneficial impact.

Cumulative Impacts

As identified in Alternatives 1 and 2, there is a long-term, moderate and beneficial impact from changing visitor use levels and audiences in the area.

Alternative 3 would reconfigure the visitor experience at



both the home farm and the mansion to include stories of all the people who lived and worked at Hampton—enslaved, indentured and free—as well as, the broader context of the family as a leader in the industrialization of the region and as a site where some of the most critical issues facing our nation during the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries were evident. The visitor experience would include a greater variety of interpretive media oriented to the needs and interests of a wider audience. It is anticipated that these changes to the interpretive programs and visitor experience would increase annual visitation to Hampton NHS would substantially widen the audience coming to the park. Therefore, Alternative 3 would not only echo the changing visitor use levels and patterns in the region, but Hampton NHS would also make a noticeable contribution to the total cumulative impact by becoming a major

destination for this new regional tourism initiative.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 would provide an improved visitor experience and interpretation, above the levels described in Alternative 1 and equal, though distinctly different to that described in Alternative 2. Alternative 3 would have long term moderate beneficial impact.
- This alternative would make a noticeable contribution to the total cumulative impact by becoming a major destination for this new regional tourism initiative.

PARK OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

For purposes of analyzing potential impacts to park operations and maintenance, the thresholds to change for the intensity of an impact from an action (alteration) are defined as follows:

Negligible impacts would not affect park operations or the effect would be at or below the lower levels of detection. No effects would occur to energy requirements and conservation potential or the effects would be below or at the level of detection and would not be long-term.

Minor impacts would be detectable, but would be of a magnitude that would not be appreciably negative or beneficial. The effects to energy requirements and conservation potential would be detectable and likely short-term. Any effects would be small and if mitigation were needed to offset potential negative effects, it would be simple and successful.

Moderate impacts would be readily apparent and would result in a substantial negative or beneficial change in park operations in a manner noticeable to staff and the public. The effects to energy requirements and conservation potential would be readily apparent and likely long-term. Any effects would result in changes to energy requirements and conservation potential on a local scale. If mitigation measures were needed to offset negative effects, they could be extensive but would likely be successful.

Major impacts would be readily apparent and would result in a substantial negative or beneficial change in park operations in a manner noticeable to staff and the public. The effects to energy requirements and conser-

vation potential would be readily apparent and likely long-term. Any effects would result in changes to energy requirements and conservation potential on a local scale. If mitigation measures were needed to offset negative effects, they could be extensive but would likely be successful.

The impacts on administration and operations were determined by examining the effects of changes on administration and operational efficiency, facilities, and staffing and the role of partnerships in preservation and alternatives. Operational efficiency, for the purpose of this analysis, refers to adequacy of the staffing levels and quality and effectiveness of the infrastructure used in the operation of the park in order to adequately protect and preserve vital park resources and provide for an effective visitor experience.

Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 1, the administrative, maintenance and security functions would continue to operate under sub-optimal conditions and long-term negative impacts would be moderate. Administrative offices and the park partner offices would continue to occupy modular structures in the west field with all its major maintenance needs and limited connectivity issues. NPS staff would continue to be located throughout the park with limited phone and internet service. This alternative provides for the lowest staffing levels, the least service, and least investment in sustainable technologies. It also has the lowest operational cost.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that affect park operations and maintenance would be negligible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 1 would provide the least efficient model for park operations and the lowest level of park maintenance.
- The cumulative impacts with this alternative would be negligible.

Alternative 2

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 2, impacts to the administrative, maintenance and security infrastructure would be long-term, moderate to major, and beneficial as collections would be consolidated to several on-site facilities and under better climate control; research space would be provided; staff and partner offices would be in a single consolidated location; and staff would be able to respond to on-site needs in a more flexible and efficient manner. Because staff would be housed on-site, they would be able to more quickly respond to unexpected or emergency needs. The creation of a new operations and visitor services building would increase operational costs; however, the new structure could be designed for optimum operational efficiency and energy savings to reduce this impact, and would eliminate energy inefficient modular structures now in use. Alternative 2 proposes the greatest staffing for the park and the greatest operational cost.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts that affect park operations and maintenance would be negligible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 provides the most resources towards operation and maintenance of the park, the most service to the public, and the most intensive level of park maintenance at the greatest cost. Efficiency would be improved due to an investment in connectivity and infrastructure upgrades in technology. The impacts would be long-term, moderate to major and beneficial.
- The cumulative impacts with this alternative would be negligible.

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Direct and Indirect Impacts

Under Alternative 3, beneficial impacts to the administrative, maintenance and security infrastructure would be moderate to major as collections storage would be consolidated under better climate control and protection. Staff offices would be distributed between a rehabilitated historic structure for administration and the collections management facility, however, staff would still be able to respond to on-site needs in a more flexible and efficient manner than in Alternative 1. The need to maintain two small visitor contact sta-

tions—one on each side of the road— would have minimal to moderate operational costs and would require more interpretive staff. This alternative requires more staffing and operational expenses than Alternative 1, but less than Alternative 2. It would be also the medium choice for general efficiency of operation, but by providing substantial additional service, would be an improvement over Alternative 1.



Corn Crib



Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impacts with this alternative that affect park operations and maintenance would be negligible.

Conclusion

- Overall, implementation of Alternative 3 provides increased resources towards operation and maintenance of the park and a better level of park maintenance than current operations. The cost would be believed to be justified due to these improvements without being the most expensive scenario. Efficiency would be improved due to an investment in connectivity and infrastructure upgrades in technology.
- The cumulative impacts with this alternative would be negligible.

UNAVOIDABLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS

There would be no unavoidable negative effects for Alternative 1.

The potential for unavoidable negative effects for Alternative 2 and 3 would include loss of historic integrity arising from rehabilitation efforts to solve existing safety and access problems into historic structures and along roads or during the process of stabilization or rehabilitation in historic structures or in the cultural landscape. Every effort would be made to avoid negative effects though use

of Best Management Practices during the identification, construction and monitoring phases. In situations where a negative effect is identified through the design phase, consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust, State Archeologist, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Maryland Department of the Environment, and Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management would be initiated by the park.

Careful consideration must be given to changing and removing elements that may have acquired historical significance since 1867. Environmental assessment at the time of design and implementation of such plans would better quantify possible impacts and identify potential mitigation, and any unavoidable short-term impacts that would occur during construction. These impacts would likely occur in the form of fugitive dust, construction noise and construction equipment traffic on Hampton Lane.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

NPS is required, through the Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1), to “promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known

as national parks, . . . by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of said parks, . . . which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as would leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” The short-term use of the resources must be balanced with the maintenance and productivity of the park’s cultural, historic and natural resources.

If Alternative 1—Continuation of Present Practices would be implemented, the public would not receive a long-term benefit from the interpretive and historic resources at Hampton National Historic Site and the full

potential of the site would not be realized.

Under Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 (the Preferred Alternative), short and mid-term impacts to adjacent land uses at the farm property and along the western boundary of the mansion side of the park could occur until a vegetative buffer could be established or improved.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

Potential irreversible and irretrievable commitments of the park’s natural, historic and cultural resources include loss of unrecovered archeological resources and the integrity of the historic cultural landscape. Loss of historic elements from periods subsequent to 1867 due to rehabilita-