

CHAPTER 5

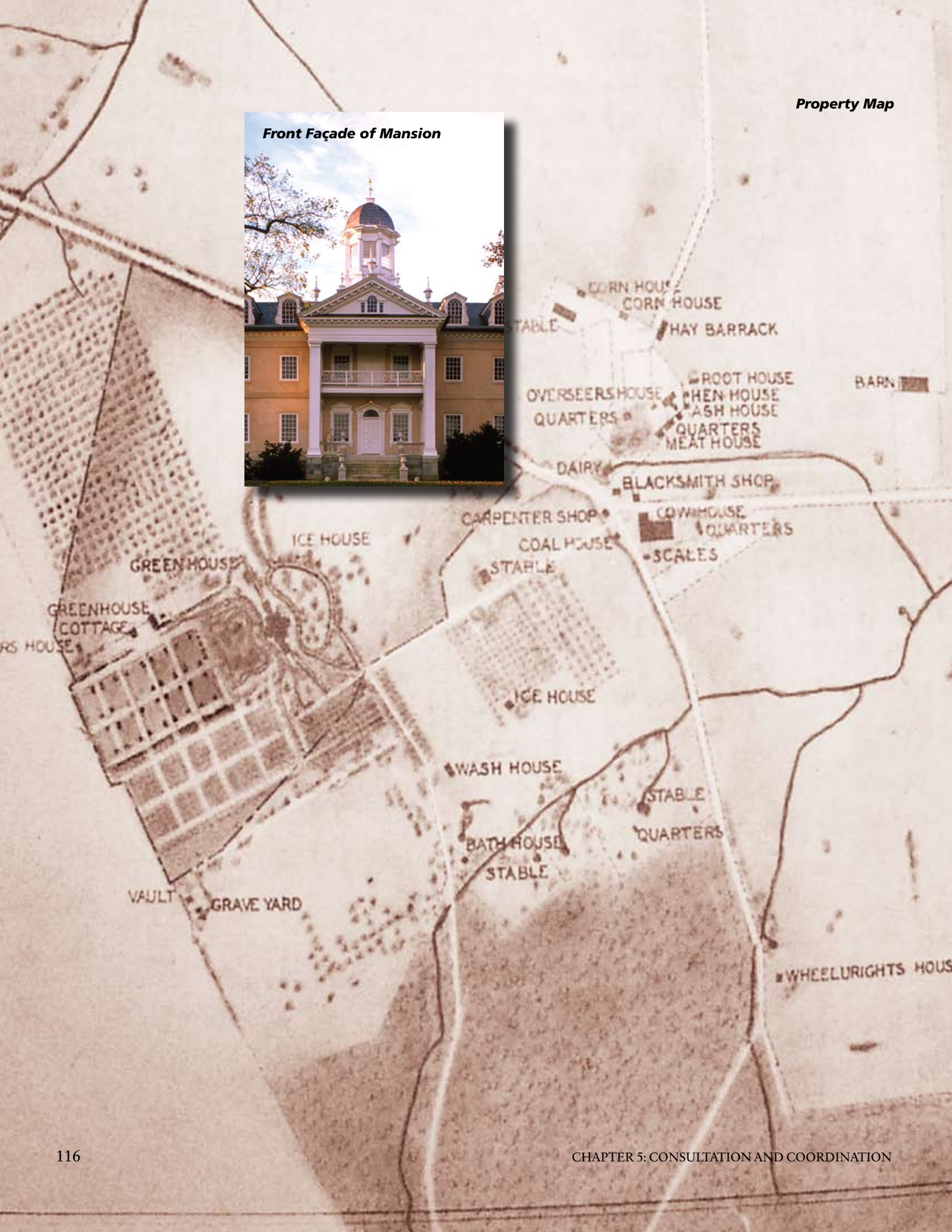
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Stone slave quarters and ash house behind the lower house, Hampton Farm, c. 1897.

Front Façade of Mansion



PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS

The development of a General Management Plan (GMP) for Hampton National Historic Site began with a public scoping process that continued throughout the planning process. The National Park Service (NPS) published a *Notice of Intent to Prepare a GMP/EIS* in the Federal Register, and asked citizens, organizations and agencies to identify any issues of concern, as well as ideas for the park's future. The NPS conducted public scoping meetings to solicit ideas on the public's vision for the future of the park. This was accomplished through public workshops and discussion groups; by reaching out to organizations that might have expertise or insight to offer; through newsletters, the media and the Internet; and through additional public meetings and briefings. Scoping and public involvement are one of the hallmarks of a general management planning process, that help define issues, shape the issues and keep the decision-making process open and accessible.

At the same time, the NPS collected and studied information about the park and its surroundings. Based on the results of scoping and research, concepts for the park were drafted, addressing future development, preservation, interpretation, visitor use and operations. The purpose of developing concepts is to synthesize the results of scoping and research and to clarify what are the most important decision points. The concepts were presented to the public in a workshop, by newsletter and on the park's web site. After public comments were received, these concepts were revised. The revised information was again presented to the public in a workshop, a newsletter and on the park's web site.

Following additional comment and NPS consideration, three alternatives were developed and are described in this GMP/EIS. The document indicates which of the alternatives is preferred by the NPS. This preference is not a final choice, since the preferred alternative frequently is modified by the results of further public comment and additional agency review.

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

A *Notice of Intent* was published in the Federal Register in Volume 63, No. 159 on August 18, 1998. This notice initiated the scoping process for the Hampton National Historic Site GMP/EIS. Public scoping, however, has been a continuous process which has informed the GMP/EIS throughout the planning process.

In June 1998, *Newsletter #1* was published and placed on the web. It described the general management planning process, providing an overview of the park and describing how interested citizens and partners could become involved. The park's resources, significance and mission were introduced in subsequent public workshops that Fall. In small groups, participants identified and discussed goals for the park and issues for achieving the goal at a public workshop on September 16 and again on October 27 in 1998. Materials from the workshop and comments of the participants were transcribed and distributed to the participants through a letter and posted on the park's website In January and February 1999. Recipients of the newsletter and users of the web site were requested to send any comments they had on the workshops or summary materials to the park.

These workshops and public comments were used to develop four draft planning concepts for the future of the park. These were presented at a public workshop on April 15, 1999, presented in *Newsletter #2* in May 1999 and posted on the park website in June 1999. In small groups at the April workshops, participants discussed each concept and wrote comments on the general proposal and specific components of the alternative. As with the previous postings and mailings, recipients were requested to send their comments to the park for consideration and further development of the alternative proposals.

Due to the extensive comments received by the public and park staff, revisions were made and additional detail provided for the four concepts. This information was published in a *Newsletter #3* published in September 1999, and the information also was presented on the park's web site shortly after. A public workshop to discuss the revised concepts was held on September 16, 1999.

Over the next several years, these revised alternatives were further refined and are presented here in this draft GMP/EIS. To reacquaint the public with the process and ideas of the alternatives, a follow-up open house was held on March 30, 2008 at Hampton National Historic Site.

A series of presentations and discussions have been held with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) during the entire planning process. Initially part of the public scoping meetings, the Maryland SHPO has been frequently consulted during the past two years as specific rehabilitation projects have been developed for the mansion and the gardens. In addition, additional conversations have been held regarding options for collections storage off site and at the park.

Following additional work by the planning team and review by the Washington and Northeast Regional office of the NPS, a preferred alternative was selected and this Draft GMP/EIS completed and published. This draft document reflects and synthesizes the multitude of productive public discussions that have been held since the beginning of the project.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND REGULATIONS

Implementing a final GMP/EIS entails compliance with all applicable laws, policies, regulations and executive orders, as outlined in Chapter 4 of this GMP/EIS. Both formal and informal consultations with appropriate local, state and federal agencies have been conducted during this planning process.

Cultural Resources

The NPS is mandated to preserve and protect its cultural resources through the Organic Act of August 25, 1916, and through specific legislation such as the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Cultural resources are managed in accordance with these acts and with Chapter 5 of *NPS Management Policies* (2006) and *Director's Order 28, Cultural Resources Management Guidelines*.

Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act* requires that federal agencies that have direct or indirect jurisdiction take into account the effect of undertakings on National Register listed or eligible properties and allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment. The NPS would work with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council to meet the requirements of 36 CFR 800 and the recently signed *2008 Programmatic Agreement* among the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, the Advisory Council, and the NPS. This agreement requires the NPS to work closely with the Maryland SHPO and the Advisory Council in planning for new and existing NPS areas.

The agreement also provides for a number of activities that are eligible for the streamlined process, for specific actions that are not likely to have an adverse effect on cultural resources. The actions may be implemented without further review by the Maryland SHPO or the Advisory Council, provided that NPS internal review finds the actions to meet certain conditions. Undertakings, as defined in 36 CFR 800, not specifically excluded in the programmatic agreement must be reviewed by the Maryland SHPO, the Advisory Council, and others as appropriate before implementation. Throughout the process there would be early consultation on all potential actions relating to implementation of the GMP/EIS, as required.

The NPS will complete an assessment of effect on cultural

resources before implementation of any of the proposed actions. This is necessary to document any project effects, outline actions proposed to mitigate any effects, and document that the proposed action flows from the GMP. All implementing actions for cultural resources would be reviewed and certified by cultural resource specialists consistent with NPS agreements and policies.

Prior to any ground-disturbing action by NPS, a profes-

planning process.

At key points in the planning process the Maryland SHPO has been consulted on this project. In March 1998, a letter was sent to the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer regarding development and implementation of the GMP. Since then, meetings with the SHPO, and park staff have been held regularly including three times

TABLE 5-1: Actions Requiring Consultation and/or Review

Potential Actions	Compliance Requirements
Rehabilitate cultural landscape	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP
Rehabilitate formal garden	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP
Construct interpretive orchard	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP
Construct new multi-use building	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP
Relocate or improve drives and rehabilitate landscape	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP
New construction or reconstruct corn crib, octagonal slave quarters (if further research demonstrates feasibility), and summer kitchen	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP
Rehabilitate historic buildings for interpretation or adaptive use for operations	Review with SHPO and/or ACHP

sional archeologist would determine the need for archeological activity or testing evaluation. Any such studies would be carried out in conjunction with construction and would meet the needs of the SHPO, Advisory Council and the NPS.

Section 110 of the *National Historic Preservation Act* requires the NPS to identify and nominate to the National Register of Historic Places all resources under its jurisdiction that appear to be eligible. Historic areas of the national park system are automatically listed on the National Register upon their establishment by law or executive order. Hampton's National Register documentation was updated during the course of the GMP

in 1999, twice in 2000 and three times since then, including one early in 2008. To date, no specific concerns have been raised concerning the identification and evaluation of historic resources related to the findings and recommendations contained in the draft *General Management Plan*. The draft GMP/EIS will be reviewed by the SHPO as part of the public comment process.

The table above identifies actions contained within the Draft GMP/EIS that would likely require review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and under the current *Programmatic Agreement* by the Maryland SHPO and/or the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation.

Natural Resources

Section 7 of the *Endangered Species Act* requires all federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to ensure that any action authorized, funded or carried out by the agency does not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or critical habitat. In October 1998 a letter was sent to the Maryland Heritage and Biodiversity Conservation Program and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if any threatened or endangered species exist in or near the park. Follow-up letters were sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Heritage Service in January 2003.

A response dated November 23, 1998 noted that except for transient individuals, no federally proposed or listed endangered or threatened species are known to exist within the above referenced area. It also noted that additional consultation could be conducted through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest, Wildlife and Heritage Service, Wildlife and Heritage Division (MD DNR). A letter from that agency dated May 7, 1999 noted that there are no records indicating the presence of Federal or State rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals within the park.

Due to the lengthy planning process, a second letter was sent to MD DNR and USFWS to verify these determinations in January 2003. No letter was received in response; however a telephone call was received from USFWS in early summer of 2003 verified the original determination that there were no records indicating the presence of federal or state rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals within the park. A follow-up letter was sent in November 2009 to reverify that no federally listed species have been identified since the original inquiry and response. USFWS will have an opportunity to review this Draft GMP/EIS during the public comment period.

At the beginning of the project, a series of meetings and telephone calls were held with the Baltimore County Planning Department to discuss transportation related issues. The ideas and concerns were incorporated into the alternatives. Subsequently, a follow-up letter was sent on January 2003 to verify their support and identify issues that were raised by the GMP. No response has been received and the Planning Department will have an opportunity to review this Draft GMP/EIS during the public comment period.

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