

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Benson-Hammond House  
other names/site number Ann Arrundell Historical Society Headquarters AA-118

### 2. Location

street & number Poplar Avenue N/A  not for publication  
city, town Linthicum Heights  vicinity  
state Maryland code MD county Anne Arundel code 003 zip code 21240

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>          </u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 3/6/90  
Signature of certifying official Date  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

AA-118

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

**7. Description**Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

foundation brick

walls brick

roof metal

other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

The Benson-Hammond House, a 2½ story, 6 bay by 2 bay, 19th century brick dwelling, constructed in the Greek Revival style, is located in north Anne Arundel County, Maryland, at the northeast corner of the Baltimore-Washington International Airport. The main block of the house is brick, laid in common bond, and faces east. A frame, 2-story shed addition extends from the north end of the rear, west elevation of the main block. A 1-story wooden porch with a hip roof covers the central bays of the facade. Recently restored/renovated by the Ann Arrundell County Historical Society, the Benson-Hammond House was built in two stages. The earlier section, comprising the southern 3 bays of the house, consists of a 2-story, central passage plan dwelling constructed c. 1820 or c. 1830. Sometime after the Civil War, the house was lengthened 3 bays to the north. The half story appears to have been added at that time, reminiscent of the Greek Revival style. The frame ell addition was reconstructed in 1982, replacing a late 19th century one of similar dimensions. The main block of the house has a masonry foundation and no water table. There is a cellar under one-third of the house at the south end. The gable roof is covered with standing seam metal, painted brick red, as is the shed roof of the ell. There are three brick chimneys, two of which are flush gable end chimneys, and the third is a central one, marking the gable end of the earlier central passage section. There is a plain corbeled brick cornice. The house has recently been painted off-white as it was historically. Windows on the first and second stories are 6/6 sash with single course brick jack arches. The windows at the half-story level are small 6-pane windows. Much of the interior is intact, including the plaster walls and most of the interior trim.

See continuation sheet for  
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetBenson-Hammond House  
Anne Arundel County, Maryland

AA-118

Section number 7 Page 7.1GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Benson-Hammond House, an imposing 19th century, 2½ story brick structure, is situated in the northeast portion of the Baltimore-Washington International Airport property, in north Arundel County. It stands in the southwest corner of the intersection of Hammonds Ferry Road and Poplar Avenue, and faces east towards Hammonds Ferry Road. It is surrounded by post-World War II residential development to the north and east and by the BWI Airport to the south and west. The house is leased by the Airport (State Aviation Administration) to the Ann Arrundell Historical Society.

It was recently restored/renovated by the Ann Arrundell Historical Society using their own funds and some from the Maryland Historical Trust and the Anne Arundel County Office of Community Development. From a near ruinous condition, the Society has completed a careful restoration/renovation, maintaining and enhancing the original integrity of the house.

The main block of the house is 2½ stories and measures 6 bays by 2 bays, the overall dimensions being 19 x 58½ feet. It is constructed of brick laid in common bond. A frame, 2-story shed addition extends from the rear, west elevation, of the house at the north end.

The house was built in two stages. The earlier section, comprising the southern 3 bays of the house, consists of a 2-story, central passage plan dwelling constructed c. 1820 or c. 1830.<sup>1</sup> Sometime after the Civil War, the house was lengthened 3 bays to the north. The half story appears to have been added at that time, reminiscent of the Greek Revival style. The frame ell addition was reconstructed in 1982, replacing a late 19th century one of similar dimensions.<sup>2</sup>

The main block of the house has a masonry foundation and no water table. There is a cellar under one-third of the house at the south end. The gable roof is covered with standing seam metal, painted brick red, as is the shed roof of the ell. There are three brick chimneys, two of which are flush gable end chimneys and the third is a central one, marking the gable end of the earlier central passage section. There is a plain corbeled brick cornice. The house has recently been painted off-white as it was historically. Windows on the first and second stories are 6/6 sash with single course brick jack arches. The windows at the half-story level are small 6-pane windows.

The central three bays of the facade, east elevation, are covered by a wood porch with a hip roof. The roof is covered with standing seam metal, painted brick red, and is supported by four Doric columns. It covers the two main entrances into the house: the southern one enters into the earlier central passage section and the northern one into the later addition. This porch is a recent reconstruction of a similar, late 19th-century porch which had collapsed.<sup>3</sup>

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Anne Arundel County, Maryland

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Section number 7 Page 7.2GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The entrance into the central passage section is composed of a six-panel door with a box lock. It is surmounted by a five-pane transom and flanked by three-paned sidelights. This passage contains the stair and a rear door at the end of the hall/passage. The stair rises to the half-story level, with landings against the rear wall. It has been blocked at the second story. It consists of plain slender newel posts and square balusters.

There is a single room on either side of the passage at both the first and second stories.

The first story architrave trim in this section appears to date from the post-Civil War additions, with the use of bulls-eye corner blocks and a beveled ogee molding profile. The second story architraves, however, are earlier, with the use of a Greek Revival ogee and astragal profile. An original plain wooden mantel, with Greek Revival moldings supporting the shelf, is located in the second story, north room of this section. The one in the south room is a replacement. The two mantels on the first floor of this section are late 19th-century marbelized slate mantels, consistent with the architrave changes made to the first floor during that period.

The post-Civil War addition at the north end has an entrance in the southern bay of this addition. It consists of a six-panel door with a box lock and is surmounted by a three-pane transom. It leads into a single room with the rear of a boxed beaded board stair directly inside the door. The staircase is approached from the rear of the room. An opening immediately to the left upon entering this section connects it with the central passage section. A door, located at the foot of the stair on the west wall, provides access to the first floor of the ell. The stair rises to a landing on the facade, east wall, at the second floor. A door at the landing leads into the north room. There is an opening into the second floor of the ell on the west wall. A door leading to the stair passage which provides access to the half-story level is located on the south partition wall within the north room.

The architrave trim in the addition is very plain, consisting of plain boards with no cornerblocks. The chair rail is more elaborate - a beveled ogee profile.

The half-story level is presently unfinished; however, there is evidence that it was once finished with lath and plaster. Rafters are mitred at the top over the central passage section and are half-lapped and pegged over the north addition. At this level, evidence of two small gable end windows, now filled with brick, can be seen flanking the northern chimney of the central passage section.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.3

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Continuation Sheet

Benson-Hammond House  
Anne Arundel County, Maryland

AA-118

Section number 7 Page 7.3

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

An archeological investigation conducted in 1979 by the Archeological Services, Inc., found that there were two rear additions: one dating from the latter half of the 19th century, which was replaced by a smaller ell in the late 19th century. Also, two porch phases were found - a smaller and earlier one covering the entrance into the central passage section of the house, followed by a larger one covering the central three bays of the entire house. The latter was the one which was recently reconstructed for the restoration. The area surrounding the cellar entrance was also examined.

An earlier log house once stood southeast of the house. Other outbuildings also stood east and southeast of the house, none of which are extant.

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Footnotes

<sup>1</sup>Family tradition holds that Thomas Benson constructed this section in c. 1820. However, based on an architectural analysis of the house conducted in 1975, James Wollon, Jr., a restoration architect, has dated this section c. 1830.

<sup>2</sup>Interview with Mark Shatz, President, Ann Arrundell County Historical Society, December 14, 1983.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
architecture

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance  
c. 1820-c. 1870

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates  
N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person  
N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder  
unknown

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Benson-Hammond House is significant as an unusual and atypical 19th century brick farmhouse in northern Anne Arundel County, an area which was once predominantly farmland. Rapid post-World War II residential and industrial development combined with extensive highway construction have changed this area dramatically. As a result, few 19th century rural structures have survived, making the Benson-Hammond House an important visual and interpretive link with the north county's architectural, social, and economic past. The Benson-Hammond House is an unusual example of the Greek Revival style, with the c-1870 Greek Revival addition being constructed many years after the popularity of that style. Based upon a survey of the area, it is doubtful that the Benson-Hammond House represents the type nineteenth century farmhouse in northern Anne Arundel County.

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Benson-Hammond House  
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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): DOMESTIC/single family

Known Design Source: none

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Section number 8 Page 8.2

The Benson-Hammond House and the surrounding 2 acres are owned by the State Aviation Administration and are currently being leased to the Ann Arrundell County Historical Society. It was built in two stages, c. 1820 or c. 1830, and c. 1870. It is believed that the earlier portion of the house, a two-story central passage plan dwelling, was built by Thomas Benson, a farmer in north Anne Arundel County.<sup>1</sup> Sometime after the Civil War, Joseph Benson, the son of Thomas, added to the house, resulting in its present appearance.

Thomas Benson acquired the farmland, portions of three tracts - "Andover," "Buck's Luck," and "Addition to Timber Ridge" - in 1809 and 1815.<sup>2</sup> According to family tradition, the Bensons occupied a log house on the property before building the two story brick central passage plan dwelling.<sup>3</sup> In 1838 and 1854, these parcels were conveyed to his son, Joseph, who owned the farm until his death in 1882.<sup>4</sup> Joseph and his wife, Mary, expanded the modest farmhouse in c. 1870, to its present size in order to accommodate their growing family of 11 children.

In 1882, Joseph Benson died. In his will, he requested that the farm be split because he felt that his debts would exceed the worth of his personal property.<sup>5</sup> It was sold in 1887 for \$13,600.00 to John T. and Rezin Howard Hammond, prominent farmers and landholders in the vicinity.<sup>6</sup> One of Joseph Benson's daughters, Mary Susanna, was married to Rezin Hammond, father of John T. and grandfather of Rezin Howard, which may also explain why the Hammonds purchased the 152 acre farm. The grandson, Rezin Howard Hammond, apparently made his home there.

In 1947, the house and farm were purchased by the City of Baltimore from the estate of Rezin Howard Hammond to be developed as the then Friendship Airport. Thirty-one years later, the Ann Arrundell County Historical Society obtained a long-term lease from the State Aviation Administration (Friendship was purchased by the State in 1972) and began restoration/renovation of the house.

The Benson-Hammond House is significant for its vernacular architecture. Few brick 19th century houses, which incorporate an early 19th century dwelling, survive in north Anne Arundel County, an area which has grown rapidly since World War II as a suburban bedroom community for Baltimore and as a prime industrial park area. The few late 19th and early 20th century structures that do survive are primarily frame, two-story ell farmhouses that have been greatly altered.

The Benson-Hammond House is an unusual example of the Greek Revival style, with the c. 1870 Greek Revival addition being constructed many years after the popularity of that style. It is doubtful that this dwelling represented the typical 19th century farmhouse in north Anne Arundel County.

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While the existing (original and restored) character of the Benson-Hammond House holds the architectural significance described above, it nevertheless is situated on land belonging to the owner and operator of Baltimore-Washington International Airport, a major domestic and international facility. The current Master Plan for the Airport does not propose any actions which would affect the future of the Benson-Hammond House, however, as changes in Airport needs occur, the owner of the structure cannot guarantee its continuity in situ. The State Aviation Administration is quite cognizant of the perceived architectural and historical significance of the Benson-Hammond House and has demonstrated this awareness through the long-term (at nominal cost) lease with the Ann Arrundell Historical Society.

## Footnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Ann Arrundell County Historical Society, Inc., "Benson-Hammond House Restoration Project," unpublished paper, June 20, 1979, p. 1.
- <sup>2</sup> Anne Arundel County Land Records, Liber WNG No. 4, Folio 37, and Probate Records Box 123, Folder 57.
- <sup>3</sup> Ann Arrundell County Historical Society, Inc., p. 1.
- <sup>4</sup> Land Records, Liber WSG No. 23, Folio 15, and Liber WNG No. 4, Folio 37.
- <sup>5</sup> Will of Joseph Benson, Liber R.J.D. No. 1, Folio 486.
- <sup>6</sup> Land Records, Liber SH No. 31, Folio 608, and G.M. Hopkins, C.E., Atlas of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Fifth District, (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, C.E., 1878).

See footnotes for Section 8.

See continuation sheet No. 8.3

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

acreage of property 2.602 acres  
 JSGS quad Relay, MD

UTM References

A 

1	8
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3	5	7	0	9	0
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4	3	3	8	9	2	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet No. 10.1

Boundary Justification

The property is bordered by two roads and Baltimore Washington International Airport.

See continuation sheet

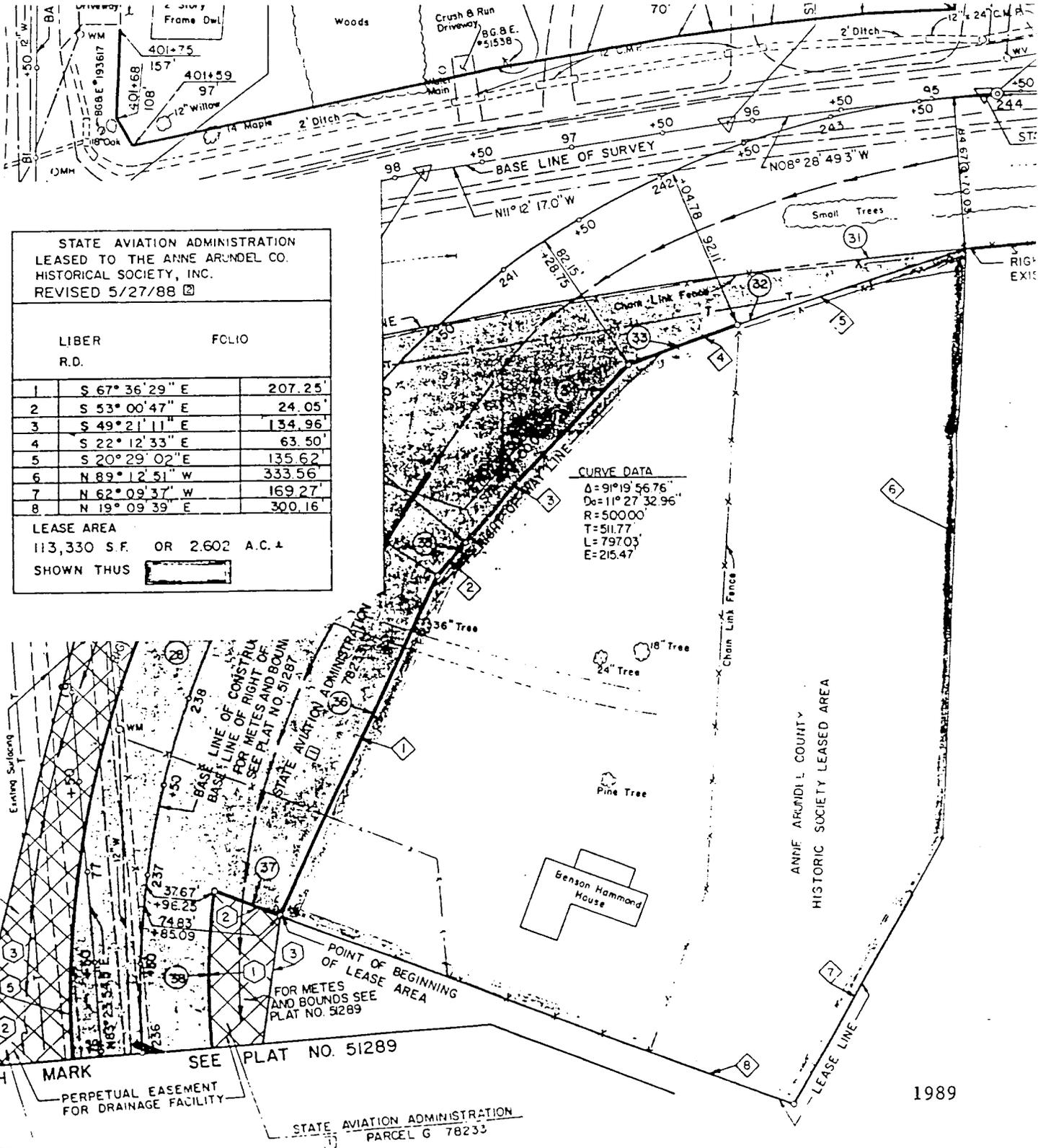
11. Form Prepared By

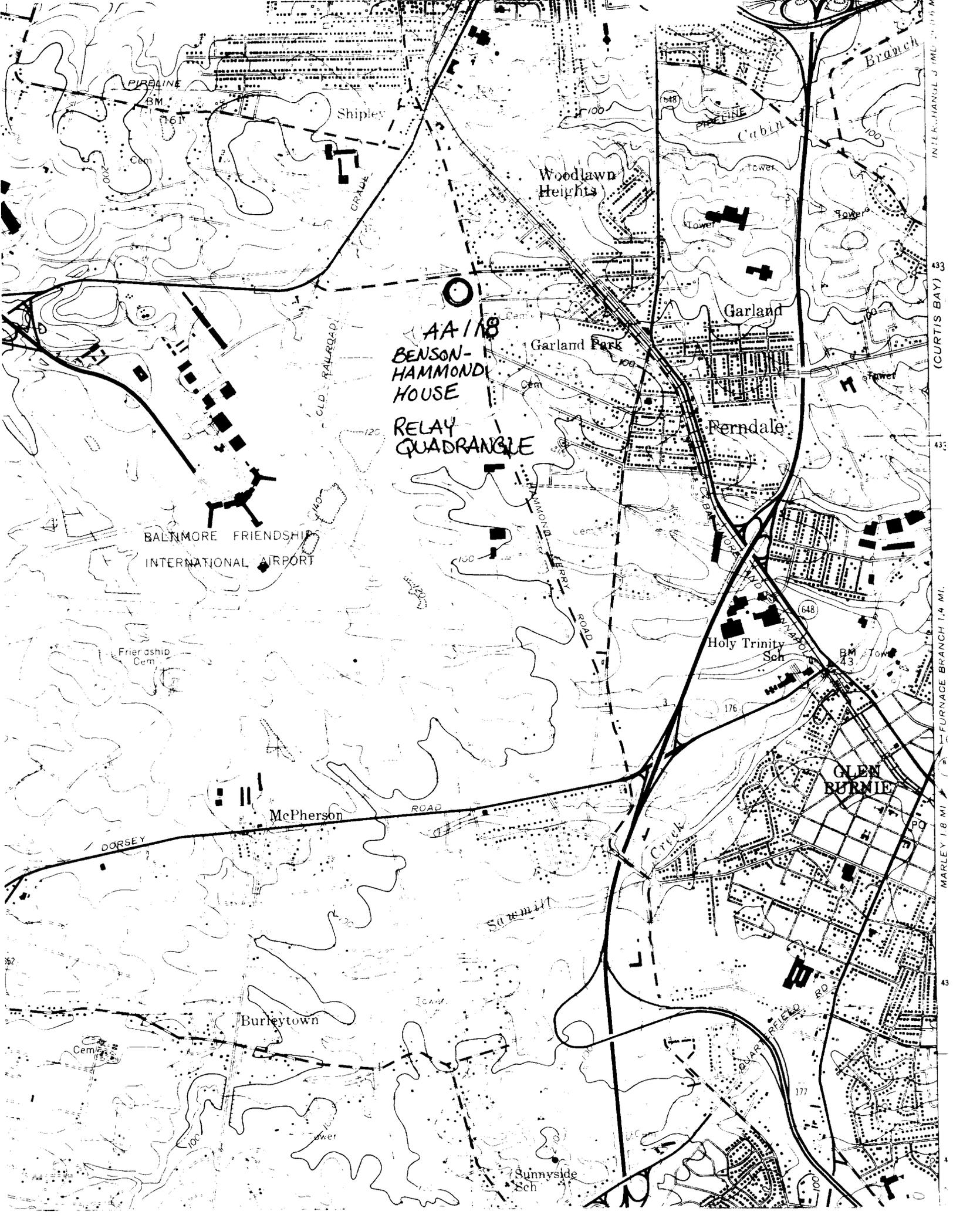
name/title Donna Ware  
 organization Anne Arundel Co. Office of Community Dev. date 1989  
 street & number Arundel Center telephone 222-1270  
 city or town Annapolis state Maryland zip code 21401

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Anne Arundel County, Maryland AA-118





PIPELINE  
BM  
76T

Shipley

Woodlawn  
Heights

Cabin  
Tower

Garland

AA 118  
BENSON-  
HAMMOND  
HOUSE

Garland Park

RELAY  
QUADRANGLE

Ferndale

BALTIMORE FRIENDSHIP  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Friendship  
Cem

Holy Trinity  
Sch

McPherson

GLEN  
BURNIE

DORSEY

Burleytown

Sunnyside  
Sch

INLET HANGAR 3 (ME 3) 0.0 MI  
433 (CURTIS BAY)  
432  
1.4 MI  
FURNACE BRANCH 1.4 MI  
1.8 MI  
43

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED  
A A - 118

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Cedar Farm

AND/OR COMMON

Benson-Hammond House (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Southwest corner of Hammond's Ferry Road and

Poplar Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Linthicum

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

024

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

\_\_DISTRICT

X PUBLIC

\_\_OCCUPIED

\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE lessee

X UNOCCUPIED

\_\_COMMERCIAL

\_\_PARK

\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_BOTH

X WORK IN PROGRESS

\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_OBJECT

\_\_IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_NO

\_\_MILITARY

X OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (State of Maryland)

NAME

Lessee: Ann Arrundell County Historical Society, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Dr. E. Roderick Shipley  
P.O. Box 836

CITY, TOWN

Severna Park, X VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21146

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Anne Arundel County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

South Street

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis,

STATE

Maryland 21401

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

AA-118

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Standing at the intersection of Poplar Avenue and Hammonds Ferry Road, the Benson-Hammond house has been abandoned for at least three decades. The Ann Arrundell County Historical Society has recently acquired a lease on the property and has begun restoration of the building for use as a museum and society headquarters.

The three-story house, built circa 1820, consists of two parts of similar depth, height and length attached end to end. The uniformity of the facade is broken only by variation in the spacing of the windows in the two sections. The front (east) elevation has six openings on each floor. The third floor windows are square and probably had six panes each; their tops are set just under the roof and projecting brick cornice. The second floor windows have 6/6 pane openings, surmounted by a flat arch. On the first floor there is a doorway in the center bay of the south section of the house and another in the south bay of the north section. The former has a transom light indicating that this was probably considered the main entrance to the house. A paint-line on the wall above reveals the shape of an earlier porch roof which covered only the doorway. The first floor windows had 6/9 pane sash.

A brick stack chimney projects above the gable roof at each end of the house. A third rises in the center between the two sections.

There are two windows on each of the three floors on the north gable end and no windows on the south end.

The original portico on the front of the house (see above) was replaced by a large porch which has since fallen down.

The first floor contains a parlor on the southeast end, a smaller sitting room and a dining room. The parlor originally had a white marble mantel and the sitting room a white slate mantel with brick hearth. Between the two rooms is a wide hall with a double front door with sidelights and transom. The stair to the second floor is in this hall; there is a closet beneath the steps.

The second floor has large bedrooms over the parlor and sitting room. An enclosed stairway rises from the dining room. Both this stair and the one in the hall continue to the third floor. All of the second floor rooms had wooden mantel shelves.

The third floor has three bedrooms and a smaller room that contained a clothes press.

The original rear wing formed an L and was three stories high with one room on each floor. The kitchen was on the first floor with bedrooms above. This wing has been destroyed.

A cellar exists only under the parlor third of the house. It contains hand-hewn timbers flattened on one side.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

AA-118

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1820

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Thomas Benson

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Benson-Hammond house is thought to have been built circa 1820 by Thomas Benson. It is much larger and more substantial than most other houses of the same period in northern Anne Arundel County. Although it contains none of the stylish detail found in the homes of the wealthy, it is a good example of what the middle class considered a proper dwelling for a prosperous farmer of the early to mid-19th century.

The house was built on land made up of two tracts, Bucks Luck and Andover. The property was called Cedar Farm because of the abundance of cedar trees in the area. The Benson family owned the house until December 19, 1887 when it and the second addition to Timber Ridge were sold to Rezin Howard Hammond and John Thomas Hammond for \$13,600.00. This transaction included 152 acres.

Rezin Howard Hammond was an eight generation descendant of Major General John Hammond (1643-1707) who became commander-in-chief of the militia of the Western Shore. Rezin Hammond died March 25, 1928, and the house remained in his estate until it was bought by the City of Baltimore for what is now BWI Airport.

The Ann Arrundell County Historical Society has undertaken the restoration of the Benson-Hammond house, beginning with its recent stabilization. When completed, the house will serve as headquarters and museum for the Historical Society. One room of the museum will serve as an airport transportation museum. The restoration involves the participation of the Linthicum-Ferndale Womens Clubs and several other civic associations and churches.

Historic archaeological potential exists for the 19th-century wing and outbuildings that once stood here.





Norththicium

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON

Friendship Tower

Simpley

Garland

BALTIMORE FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

AA 118  
Benson-Hammond house

Retain ground

4.98 acres

112

579

82

189

118

Holy Trinit

(18)



Benson-Hammond House

AA-118

Anne Arundel Co., MD

photo: Donna Ware

Feb. 1984

neg loc: Maryland Historical Trust

Facade: east elev.



Benson-Hammond House

AA-118

Anne Arundel Co., MD

photo: Donna Ware

Feb. 1984

neg loc: Maryland Historical Trust

Rear - west elev.



Benson-Hammond House

AA-118

Anne Arundel Co., MD

photo: Donna Ware

Feb. 1984

neg loc: Maryland Historical Trust

North elev.