

T-68

## Hampden

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

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***Last Updated: 04-05-2004***

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Hampton

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER South of Island Creek Road, South, .7 mile S.W. of its intersection  
with Island Creek Road, North

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY/TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Trappe

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Maryland

24

Talbot

041

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

## OWNERSHIP

## STATUS

## PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☐ PUBLIC☒ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☒ BUILDINGS☒ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ NO☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Thomas T. Firth, Jr.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Hampton

CITY/TOWN

Trappe

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21673

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Talbot County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY/TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland

21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FILE

CUT COPY RECORDS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

---

hampton, located on Island Neck overlooking a cove of Trappe Creek to the east, is a 1½-story, L-shaped brick dwelling with a five-bay facade. On its north side is a three-bay kitchen wing, also of brick. A log smokehouse also stands on the property.

The foundation walls of the house are built of stone to grade and English bond brick to the water table. The walls are Flemish bond to the second floor level and common bond in the gables. Rubbed and gauged brick lintels are employed on the east facade while segmental arches are used on the west. Segmental arches are used over the basement windows, which have vertical bar grills (20th century).

The east facade has a central entrance with original molded frame and wide, paneled door. A good 19th century porch (remodeled in the third quarter of the 20th century) extends across the three center bays of this facade. On the first floor the four windows have 12/12 sash and louvered shutters. The three dormers have 6/6 sash.

On the south gable end there are two windows on both floors. These are enlargements of small closet windows similar to those still existing at White Marshes (T-105).

The west facade has a central entrance opposite that on the east and two windows to the south of it. To the north of the door is the ell, containing one window on the west, with original sash. Between the ell and the south gable is a glass porch. The shed roof of the ell extends high into the gable roof, leaving room for only two dormers on this slope of the roof.

The kitchen is three bays long, and set back from the east facade of the house the depth of the cellar entrance. A porch extends across the bulkhead and kitchen; there is a similar porch across the back. The north gable has been totally reconstructed, along with some of the east and west facades. This wing appears to be a later addition, possible dating from the late 18th century.

The floor plan of the main house consists of a central stair hall with parlor on the south and dining room on the north. The ell, now used as a den, is west of the dining room and has access through that room. The kitchen is connected by a portion of the bulkhead.

The parlor was paneled on all walls before the cupboards flanking the fireplace were removed. Above the fireplace are two horizontal raised panels between fluted pilasters. The arrangement of panels on the other walls is interesting. Between the paneled window seats are two panels below the chair rail. Above these are one long horizontal panel with two vertical panels above, the same size as those below the chair rail. There is a bold, four-part cornice. The original doors have two large panels with chair rail in the middle rail, as at Troth's Fortune (T-50) and Boston Cliff (T-14).

The stair hall has paneled dado with plaster above. The stair is paneled and has three turned balusters per step with four balusters in place of a newel.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

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## (DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

In the dining room only paneled window seats remain from the early period. Unlike those in the parlor, the jambs are fluted, like those at White Marshes and Troth's Fortune. The corner fireplace has a circa 1835 mantel, otherwise the dining room is very plain.

Exposed quarter-round molded ceiling joists are the chief feature in the den. It has a diagonal fireplace that shares the stack with the diagonal fireplace in the dining room. Book shelves are a recent addition.

On the second story the parlor chamber has paneling over the fireplace and one closet and paneled window seats. Originally the paneling extended across the entire fireplace wall.

Hampden has been superbly restored and is maintained in superior condition.

West of the kitchen is the small log smokehouse in a good state of repair.

Hampden is situated in the center of agricultural land, still farmed today as it has been since the house was constructed.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Hampden is like Compton (T-146) and Boston Cliff (T-122) in plan and like White Marshes (T-105) and Troth's Fortune (T-50) in date and detail. It is one of the best survivals of early 18th century work in Talbot, retaining most of its original exterior and interior detail. Hampden represents the dwelling of a well-to-do planter of 1720-40, and is an interesting combination of vernacular form and early Georgian interior design.

The Martins, builders and owners of Hampden, were a very large and influential family in Talbot County. They married other prominent families, including the Dickinsons, Stevens, Bowdies, Ennals, Seths, Thomases, Lloyds and Goldsboroughs. They owned most of the farms and woodlands in Island Creek Neck. The strength of the family is also reflected in their achievements in the civic and political arenas. The first Thomas Martin was elected a Vestryman in 1692 when old Whitmarsh Church was laid out in St. Peter's Parish; for 200 years a Martin served in this capacity. Dr. Ennals Martin (1758-1834) was a doctor in the War for Independence and later an outstanding physician in the county. The Honorable William Bond Martin (1780-1834) was a circuit court judge, as was James Lloyd Martin, who was also a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. The Honorable Daniel Martin (1780-1831) was twice elected Governor of Maryland.

Many generations of Martins lie buried at Hampden, though today there are no stones to mark their graves. Around the turn of the century, when Hampden had fallen into bad repair, the Martin descendants had the stones moved to Spring Hill Cemetery in Easton. The oldest of these, and one of the oldest in the county, is that of Elizabeth Day Martin, dated 1676; she was the first mistress of the plantation called Hampden.

Thomas Martin of Dorsetshire, England, came to Talbot County in 1663, and acquired 200 acres of land, part of Edward Lloyd's "Hier Dier Lloyd." He built a house on the tract, on Dividing Creek, a branch of the Choptank River. It is said he named his plantation for a friend in England, John Hampden. However, the property has also been known as "Hier Dier Lloyd" and "Long Farm." It is again called Hampden at the present time.

This first Thomas Martin married Elizabeth Day, who died in 1676. Martin died in 1705, leaving Hampden to their son Thomas II (Will 1/169). The latter died in 1715 and devised the farm to his sons, Thomas III and John, but John seems to have died without heirs, and his moiety went to his brother. The 1715 inventory of Thomas II includes a chest of drawers with mirror, two feather beds, a best walnut table and six leather chairs, as well as considerable pewter. Thomas III married his cousin, Jean Thomas, in 1717; it is possible that this generation built the present main house.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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(SIGNIFICANCE CONTINUED)

The next inheritance went to Thomas Martin IV, whose wife was Mary Ennals of Dorchester County. Martin died in 1781 and bequeathed silver, furniture and thirty-eight Negroes to his son Joseph, as well as the home farm of Hampden. Joseph married Juliana Stevens, daughter of John Stevens of nearby Compton; at his death the farm went to their son, John Stevens Martin.

The first sale of Hampden came in 1842, when John Stevens Martin sold the property to his cousin, Edward Martin (Deed 57/457). By the latter's 1848 will (10/3), Hampden was passed to his son, James Lloyd Martin, who sold it to another cousin, Thomas W. Martin, in 1805 (Deed 62/47). Thomas W. was the last of the Martins to own the property.

In 1937, 177½ acres were sold to T. T. Firth and his wife, Caryl (Deed 240/54). They in turn deeded it to their son, T. T. Firth, Jr. and his wife, Nancy, in 1965 (407/385). The younger Firths have made Hampden their home and restored it to its former beauty while making necessary additions for modern living.



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Mrs. Virginia Ritter, "Judith's Garden," Oxford Road, Oxford, Maryland 21654.

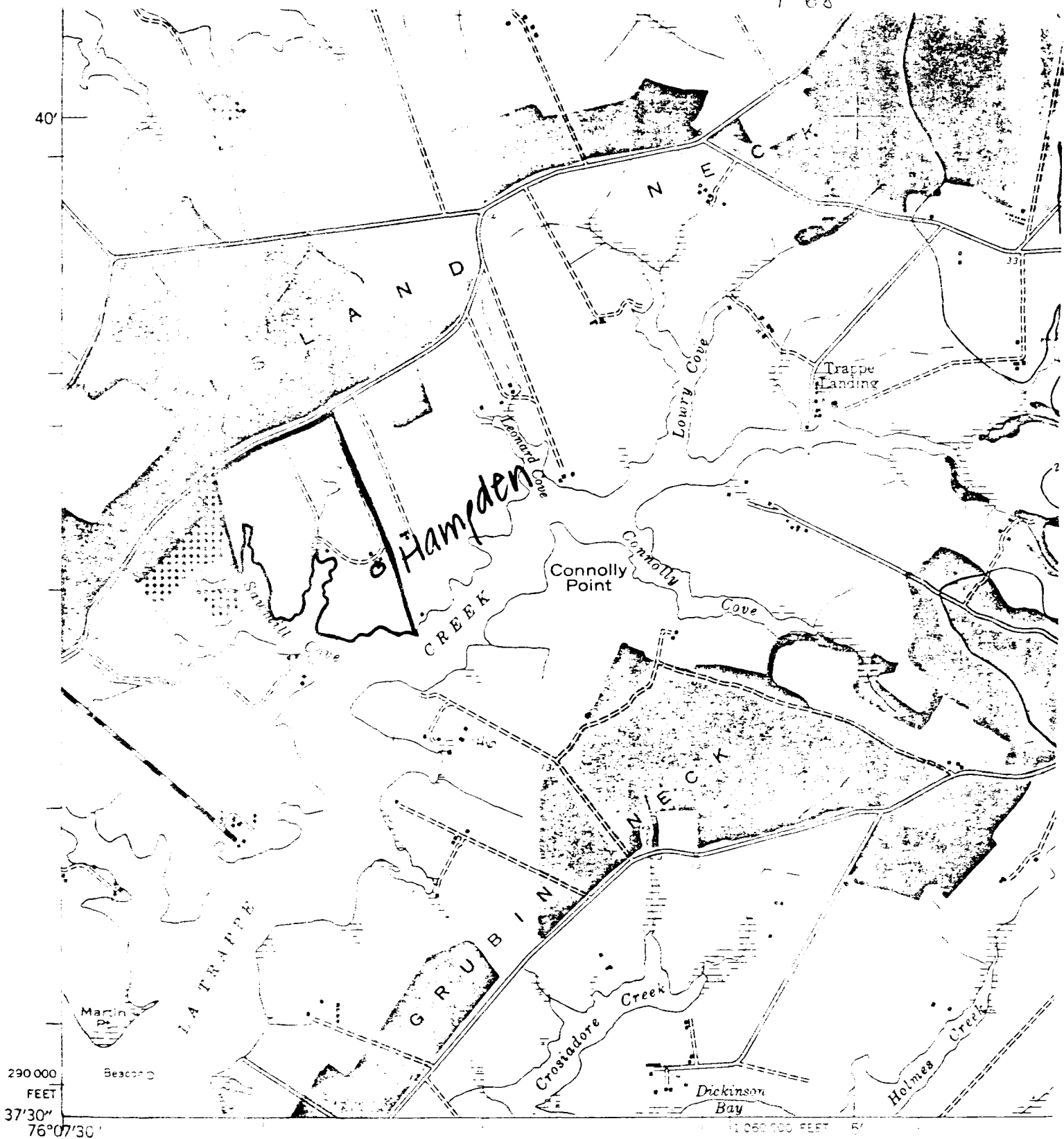
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Tilghman, Oswald. History of Talbot County, Maryland. Vol. I. Reprint.  
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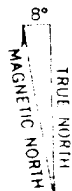


EX) Mapped by the Army Map Service  
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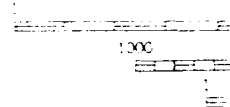
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
and by plane-table surveys 1942. Aerial photographs taken 1942

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum.  
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system.  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, are shown.

Trappe  
Quad



APPROXIMATE MEAN  
DECLINATION, 1942





14 x 1.94

75% 68

T-68

Hampden

Trappe, Md.

Michael O. Bourne (?)

circa 1968-72

East facade



T-68

Hampden

Trappe, Md.

Michael O. Bourne (?)

circa 1968-72

View from South

Ch. 2

Illus. 8



Hampden

T-68



*J. Tyler Campbell*  
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

old photo -