

SUPERINTENDENT’S ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine And Hampton National Historic Site FY2009

Gay E. Vietzke, Superintendent

This summary covers the highlights of fiscal year 2009 (October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009) for Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine and Hampton National Historic Site.

Introduction

Fort McHenry is known as the Birthplace of the National Anthem. ***“O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,”*** a large red, white and blue banner? ***“Whose broad stripes and bright stars . . . were so gallantly streaming!”*** over the star-shaped Fort McHenry during the Battle of Baltimore, September 13-14, 1814. The valiant defense of the fort by 1,000 dedicated Americans inspired Francis Scott Key to write “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Today, many scholars note that the concept of American identity originated in Baltimore with two the country’s most potent symbols – the flag and the anthem – both directly associated to Fort McHenry.

Hampton National Historic Site tells the story of people -- enslaved African Americans, indentured servants, industrial and agricultural workers, and owners. It is also the story of the economic and moral changes that made this kind of life obsolete. When it was finished in 1790, Hampton was the largest private house in the United States. Set among beautifully landscaped grounds and gardens as well as a remarkable collection of outbuildings and farm structures, it remains a remarkable showplace in which to relate how the nation changed over time.

FY 2009 was a year of tremendous accomplishment for both parks. Hampton continued to benefit from an extraordinary amount of project money, thanks particularly to the Flexible Park Base initiative that moved us closer to our goal of 100% historic structures in good condition and 96% of all museum deficiencies corrected. Visitation climbed again, due to a commitment to expanded and engaging programming coupled with solid special events. The park achieved 100% visitor satisfaction with the park experience and ranger-lead programs. At Fort McHenry, we began construction of the new Visitor Center – a milestone 40 years in the making! Despite all kinds of ripple effects at the park from the construction, we achieved 99% visitor satisfaction and continued an exceptionally high level of park programming and special events. We hosted a ceremony welcoming Michael Phelps back after his record-making Olympics, reenacting the flag ceremony with the Star-Spangled Banner. We also replaced the centerpiece of the historic fort – the flagpole – a much needed restoration project. Planning progressed of efforts to establish the Maryland Bicentennial of the War of 1812 Commission, and the park supported the newly created Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail with partnership coordination and development of the Advisory Council nominee package. It was a year of progress on many fronts!

Administration

FOMC and HAMP GPRA data was submitted on schedule. HAMP had a banner year, achieving ALL goals and exceeding seven. Of particular note are the visitor statistics citing 100% visitor satisfaction, 100% satisfaction with exhibits, 98% satisfaction with ranger programs and assistance from park employees, 100% satisfaction with outdoor recreation at the park, and 98% visitor understanding. HAMP also exceeded the goal for number of historic structures in good condition and number of museum standards met – thanks to the investment of flexible park base funds in these two areas. Hampton also has no continuation of pay hours, no employee injuries and exceeded the number of community partnerships estimated.

FOMC's visitor statistics were also exceptional, citing 99% overall visitor satisfaction, 100% satisfaction with assistance from park employees, 96% satisfaction with ranger programs, and 95% visitor understanding! FOMC also had no continuation of pay hours in FY2009.

For decades both Fort McHenry NMHS and Hampton NHS have maintained a close working relationship with the elected officials at the County, State and Federal level and this past year was no exception. The following highlighted events speak to the depth of interest and support that both parks enjoy.

On October 4th, Fort McHenry hosted a Star-Spangled Banner Salute to Olympic Gold Medalist, Michael Phelps. Senator Barbara Mikulski, Congressman John Sarbanes, Governor Martin O'Malley, Baltimore City Mayor Sheila Dixon, and Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith were among the elected officials who participated in the televised event at the park.

On January 17, 2009, President elect and Mrs. Obama and Vice President elect and Mrs. Biden made a "whistle stop" in Baltimore on their way to Washington for the Inaugural Ceremonies. At the request of Governor Martin O'Malley, Superintendent Gay Vietzke led the Pledge of Allegiance. Fort McHenry staff provided the Color Guard and a 30 x 42 foot replica of the Star-Spangled Banner was hung over the War Memorial plaza in Baltimore where the event took place. An estimated crowd of over 80,000 attended and the event was broadcasted live by all the national networks. The President-elect used the events of Fort McHenry for the basis of his speech. It was a day to remember!

On March 8, 2009, the Baltimore National Heritage Area was created, an effort in which the park had participated for many years. The park staff worked closely with the Mayor's staff to organize a press event in August announcing the Baltimore National Heritage Area designation. Senator Ben Cardin, Congressman John Sarbanes, Congressman Elijah Cummings, Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, and Mayor Sheila Dixon all participated in the public ceremony in historic Fells Point. The staff from Fort McHenry provided the Color Guard for this event.

On April 27th the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Visitor Center at Fort McHenry was well attended by local, state and federal officials. U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin, U.S.

Representative John Sarbanes, Retired U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon, Maryland Senate Delegate George Della, Maryland House Delegate Brian McHale and a number of other officials including Deputy NE Regional Director, Mike Reynolds, were present to turn the first shovelful of earth. Approximately 300 people, two newspapers and three television stations attended the event.

On July 17th, the park staff worked closely with the local delegation and hosted the Towson Chamber of Commerce for a Family Summer Evening Concert by Mood Swings at Hampton. County Executive Jim Smith attended along with many of his staff. Nearly 3,000 visitors from the all over the County enjoyed this concert.

In support of the efforts to plan for the celebration of the Bicentennial of the National Anthem and the War of 1812, U.S. Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger introduced a bill in the U.S. Congress to commission a commemorative coin. This bill passed in the House of Representatives but is still pending in the Senate.

Budget/fiscal

FORT MCHENRY FY2009

\$2,299,000	ONPS Base Funding
9,500	VIP Program Support
105,000	New Integrated Phone/Voice System
19,040	Equip. Replacement, Toro Lawn Mower
292,500	Transportation funds for Circulation – new VC project
880,780	80% Fee Demo Projects for Park
65,000	Emergency funds - Flagpole Replacement
44,250	Youth Intake Program and Education
25,000	PLC funds – Maintain Seawall Trail
566,000	Fire Suppression in 4 Fort Buildings, ARRA
57,000	Install Shutters and Storm Windows, ARRA
105,000	Improve Energy Efficiency, ARRA
15,000	Repair Solar Lights, ARRA

HAMPTON FY2009

\$1,218,000	ONPS Base Funding
20,000	Preservation of Museum Collections, FPB
359,000	Rehabilitate North Farm Cottage, FPB
52,000	Rehabilitate Spring House Ruin, FPB
52,000	Stabilize Historic Coal House Ruin, FPB
34,000	Rehabilitate Heart-Shaped Carriage Drive, FPB
228,000	Stabilize Stone Slave Quarters No. 3, FPB

34,000	Heating & Windows – Caretaker’s House, FPB
59,000	Improve Historic Structures, FPB
378,257	Resource Management Projects – 1-yr funds
914,000	Construct Collection Storage Building, ARRA

Personnel

FOMC/HAMP Park staffing was as follows:

Management

Park Manager	Gay Vietzke
Management Assistant	Laurie Coughlan

Administration

Administrative Officer	Lois Schwartz
Human Resources Assistant	Cecelia Neugebauer
Information Technology Specialist	John Schultz

Resource Management

Supervisory Horticulturist, Chief	Paul Bitzel
CR Manager/Compliance	Anna von Lunz
Student Trainee (Archives), SCEP	Julia Lehnert
Gardener	Michael Lynch
Museum Technician	Telia Shipowick
Museum Curator	Gregory Weidman
Archeologist, TERM	John Pousson
Museum Aid, Seasonal	Jessica Bulger
Laborer, Seasonal	Jamie Hicks
Laborer, Seasonal	Anthony Kikola
Motor Vehicle Operator, Seasonal	Amanda Klapka
Laborer, Seasonal	Laura Neugebauer
Registrar, Contractor	Debbie Patterson
Museum Tech, Contractor	Cora Provins

Maintenance

Supervisory Facility Operations Specialist	Gregory McGuire (sick leave all year)
Sup. Facility Op. Specialist, Acting Chief	Wayne Boyd
Automotive Mechanic	Garry Church
Preservationist	Lynn Hemmingson
Exhibit Specialist	John Holtzinger
Preservationist	Philip McCall
Tractor Operator	William Wagner
Facility Services Assistant, TERM	Victor Markland
Maintenance Worker, TERM	Nicholas Courtney

Maintenance Mechanic, TERM
Maintenance Worker, TERM

Timothy Phebus
Kirk Schilling

Laborer, Seasonal
Motor Vehicle Operator, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Motor vehicle Operator, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Motor Vehicle Operator, Seasonal

Chloe Ey
Richard Fuller
Kevin Gluth
Ryan Heaney
Kemp Knott
Jarvies Page
Rachel Troch
Mark Wilson

Law Enforcement

Sup. Park Ranger (Protection), Chief
Park Ranger (Protection)
Park Ranger (Protection)

Glen Clark
Frederick Apfel
William Curtis

Park Ranger (LE), Seasonal

Chad Kitchens

Visitor Services

Supervisory Park Ranger, Chief
Park Ranger (Interp./VIP Coord)
Park Ranger (Permits)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)

Vincent Vaise
James Bailey
Susan Knauer
Paul Plamann
Angela Roberts-Burton
James Rogers
Scott Sheads
KirbyLynn Shedlowski

Park Guide, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Guide, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal

Gerimi Belin
Tiera Carter
Shandrika Davis
Alan Gephardt
Toyy Glover
James Ronald Grissom
Shabray Hobson
Catherine Holden
Benjamin Kreshtool
Laura Marshallsay
Tyler Mink
Amato Mongelluzzo
Keith Parham
Robert Stewart
Sharneasha Street
Carol Van Natta
John Wilson

We converted three SCEPs to permanent positions in FY2009: Angela Roberts-Burton became a park ranger GS-025-5/7/9 at Hampton and Lynn Hemmingson and Phil McCall both became Preservationists (WG-9). All three are exceptional employees. Angela and Lynn represent underserved candidates in their fields.

We had two developmental details in the park this year. Wayne Boyd became the Acting Facility Manager in January 2009 and continues today in the year-long detail. Wayne also graduated from the National Facility Management Leadership Program in April 2009. He's doing an excellent job during Greg McGuire's continued absence. Anna von Lunz served as the Partnership Coordinator for the newly designated Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail for the year. Anna assembled the entire Advisory Council nomination package, coordinated with the CBPO, staffed meetings and developed a wide network of potential trail partners. She ended her work on the trail in October 2009.

FOMC and HAMP met their diversity goals for seasonal hiring and had one of the best summer crews in our history! We also initiated a truly successful ranger youth intake program in the summer of FY2009 that employed 5 high school students. We hope to add an additional four intakes for the summer of 2010. Of course, it is our hope that some of the intake participants will move into SCEP appointments and eventually careers with the NPS.

The Concession staff in the Northeast Region worked with park staff to advertise the new concessions contract for Fort McHenry in FY2009. Although the contract has not yet been awarded, this appears to be imminent. The contract will cover food service and retail in the new Visitor Center at the park.

FOMC and HAMP are part of the new Central MABO and we began to see how this new consolidated buying office will work, as our FY2009 purchases were brokered among many park and regional contracting staff. Over Seventy (70) Purchase Requests were generated which either initiated new purchases of goods and services or modified ongoing projects. These represented approximately \$2,446,364 between the two parks. Results of these contracts and purchases are highlighted throughout this report.

In the work of information technology, FY2009's most significant achievement was the installation of a new phone system that connects/consolidates communication for the both parks. We also upgraded the network lines at both parks to the new VBNS format increasing bandwidth, migrated all computers to the new DOI.net domain, and upgraded all computers to the newest versions of Symantec Anti-virus, M/S Office XP, and BelManage.

Maintenance and Facility Management

In FY2009, FOMC has continued exceptional development of new Admin/Education Center. All construction documents were completed on schedule, the construction contract was successfully advertised with 12 qualifying submittals (an excellent response). The general contract was awarded to Forrester Construction of Rockville, MV, and construction was initiated.

We successfully diffused a complex compliance situation focused on archeology through open and active conversation with NER staff and the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer. The park hired a TERM Archeologist to monitor all ground disturbance, and we are now nearing completion of all that work with truly positive outputs.

Final design documents for the exhibit plan and audio/visual treatment were completed and contractors were also been successfully hired to fabricate/produce those elements of the VC. Additionally, FOMC assisted the Friends of Fort McHenry in successfully applying for funding to support creation of an in-ground outdoor map of the Chesapeake for the VC's new plaza/courtyard – another interactive interpretive element for the new facility.

LEED points are documented and project registration completed. The project is on target for silver-level LEED certification. It may be possible to achieve gold if things continue as scheduled.

In May 2009, GWWO Architect John Gregg and Superintendent Vietzke were invited presenters at Cornell University's conference on Preservation and Sustainability. The collaborations on Hampton Mansion and Fort McHenry's new VC were highlighted.

We are scheduled for a "soft-opening" of the new VC in the fall of 2010. The "grand" opening with premiere of the new film and unveiling of the new exhibits is scheduled for March 3, 2011. March 3rd is the day "The Star-Spangled Banner" became our national anthem. Mark your calendars!

The parks received funding for five ARRA projects, and work got underway on all of these projects. They are: **Improve Energy Efficiency in Star Fort** at Fort McHenry (105K), **Purchase Solar Light Supplies** for Star Fort at Fort McHenry (15K), **Install Storm Windows and Shutters** in the Star Fort at Fort McHenry (74K), **Install Fire Suppression In Star Fort** at Fort McHenry (566K) and finally **Install New Collection Storage Facility** at Hampton NHS (929K).

Interpretation and Education

Fort McHenry NM&HS reached another benchmark in interpretation in FY'09. The year began with a major event honoring Olympian Michael Phelps in Oct. 2008. Over 10,500 people came to the site to hear interpretive programs and living history demonstrations. Ranger talks highlighting the importance of the flag and anthem to the Olympics were broadcast live coast-to-coast on TV.

The Fort McHenry Guard and park ranger staff performed a flag detail for President-Elect Barack Obama in the city of Baltimore in Jan. 2009 for 55,000 people. Superintendent Vietzke led the Pledge of Allegiance for the entire crowd and the park's Star-Spangled Banner graced City Hall plaza and was referenced in the President-Elect's remarks! In addition, seasonal Ranger staff formed a number of color guard details to represent the park and agency throughout the rest of the year, actively participating in such events as the annual Martin Luther King Jr. parade, Memorial Day service at Mount Auburn (oldest African-

American cemetery in Baltimore) and the inauguration of the new National Heritage Area in Baltimore City.

The number of interpretive demonstrations went up by 35%, the number of formal programs increased by 100 and the number of informal contacts increased by 74%. This is directly attributed to the Youth Intake program initiated this year. Five high school students, primarily from Baltimore City, were recruited and trained in informal Interp. and living history. They assisted with flag talks, provided orientation to visitors, greeted the tour boat, and performed fee compliance. In addition to interpretation, they also worked in cultural resources and maintenance.

This summer saw the introduction of a new program "Fort-Flag and Fire!" This event was held every Saturday in June, July and August. The program involves the large, replica "Star-Spangled Banner" flag and firing the fort's new 18-pounder cannon. Approximately 350 visitors attend each program. The park's Young Defenders program brought over 1,100 inner city students to the fort for educational programming. Annual Star-Spangled Banner Weekend event attracted 3,000 people, including the Governor of Maryland.

The park initiated its first teacher-to-ranger-teacher this year. Danielle Taylor mentored intake rangers, gave living history demonstrations, reviewed curriculum-based materials and provided additional ranger interpretive programs. Park staff did a commendable job in planning exhibits and a movie for the new visitor center scheduled to open in 2011. Seminars were conducted involving Ph.D. historians, planning meetings were held with contractor (Haley Sharpe). Interpretive staff worked with the Regional museum team to outline themes and plan new exhibits for the fort. The park revamped its Junior Ranger program. The new, colorful booklet proved a big hit and over 350 were distributed in the first two weeks. Park living history unit, the Fort McHenry Guard released its first CD of fife and drum music. Titled "O'er the Ramparts!" it is comprised of original music carefully researched from various archives.

This was also "the Banner" year for Hampton NHS. For the first time in the site's history, visitation **surpassed 44,000!** The number of formal programs has increased by 72%. More importantly, the number of visitors attending formal programs in the park doubled! Best of all, the overall GPR measure for visitor satisfaction for FY '09 was 100%. The addition on one new permanent interpreter, Angela Roberts-Burton proved vitally important in meeting operations. Cross training of staff at Fort McHenry proved essential in giving the park flexibility in shifting interpretive staff for large-scale events and large numbers of school visits. It should be noted that there was a 25% increase in the number of visiting school students.

The increase in overall visitation can be attributed to aggressive publicity efforts on the part of the park staff, working with the Towson and Baltimore County Chambers of Commerce, added special events, and more-effective use of the park's website. For example, the park, in conjunction with the Towson Chamber of Commerce hosted a concert-in-the-park event that attracted 3,000 visitors - many who had never before visited the park. To handle the increased numbers of visitors the park used Youth-Intake Rangers attend tours through the mansion,

thereby keeping visitors together. Additional volunteers were recruited and additional tours given to lower the number of visitors on each guided activity.

This year saw the implementation of the curriculum-based educational program "from Hampton to New Bedford." Planning began in FY 2008, however testing and evaluation were conducted in FY '09. This program is posted on the website and has been marketed to the Baltimore County and City school systems. The park expanded its interpretive options to include regular tours of the slave cabins, tenant farmers' quarters and farm complex. Telling the entire story of Hampton has not only attracted more visitors, it has changed the demographic. For example, the Great Blacks in Wax Museum and other tour companies that focus on African-American themes schedule regular tours to the site. Park interpretive staff spent a great deal of time planning and designing new exhibits for the farm complex. Permanent exhibits and displays will be installed in the Lower House (former Overseer's House) in the spring of 2010. In addition, the design of new waysides, the first in almost 35 years, will be finished in January 2010. A new long-range interpretive plan has been written and has undergone final review. This year saw the partial restoration of the formal gardens. Garden tours are now routinely scheduled at the site. In addition, one of the furnished interiors, the Parlour has been revamped to a higher level of accuracy. Volunteers played a crucial role in the operation of Fort McHenry NM&HS and Hampton NHS. In FY09, volunteers contributed 28,522 hours at Fort McHenry and 14,000 at Hampton. At the NPS valuation rate of \$17.55 per volunteer hour, this equates to a benefit to the parks of approximately \$746,261: more than 24% of the sites' operating budgets.

Volunteer Programs

Fort McHenry relies heavily on volunteers to assist with interpretation activities; in FY09, 60% of total volunteer hours at the Fort went toward interpretation. This year the Fort McHenry Guard, the park's volunteer living history unit, was instrumental in participating in a new weekend program titled "Fort, Flag and Fire!" Every Saturday during the summer visitors could attend a 20-minute tour of the fort, followed by a flag talk, followed by a cannon-firing by the Guard. Average attendance was 300 visitors per program.

- The Guard was featured on 12 major TV networks in October 2009 as part of a grand celebration honoring Michael Phelps.
- 2009 Northeast Region Enduring Service Hartzog Award winner Tim Ertel also led the Fifes & Drums of Fort McHenry to greater heights this year with a national release of a CD of War of 1812 music.
- The Guard participated in over 10 special events – including military tattoo ceremonies with the U.S. Navy, Army, a special July 4th weekend dedication of the park's new flagpole, and the annual Defenders' Day commemoration.
- Volunteers played an important role in delivering curriculum-based education programs to 1,000 Baltimore City school students as part of "Young Defenders!" program in September.

Fort McHenry has a total of 40 active volunteers who perform visitor services throughout the year – eight were added in FY 09. These volunteers serve in the Visitor Center, lead guided activities, patrol the park grounds and initiate visitor contacts in the historic fort. During

special events they assist in park operations by parking cars, providing crowd control and security details.

In conjunction with The National Aquarium of Baltimore, up to 200 individuals clean the wetlands adjacent to Fort McHenry NMHS four times per year. This activity is the hallmark of the park's annual Public Lands Day event.

2009 hit another benchmark for the VIP program at Hampton NHS. This was the first year that Hampton participated in National Public Lands Day, 15 volunteers came out to help plant trees and clear brush. Hampton was also the site of two Eagle Scout projects that helped the park eliminate invasive weeds.

Interpretively, volunteers played a key role in offering educational programs and on-site school activities in the park. This year saw a 40% jump in the number of school visits. On three occasions over 90 teachers and students came to the park at one time. Volunteers enabled the park to provide an "open house" for the mansion tours and activities at the farm site.

This past fiscal year saw an increase of student interns at the park. Most of the students worked directly with the division of interpretation- among projects completed by interns: an outline for the future development of a volunteer training manual, research on slavery, and the development of room guides for the mansion tour. Volunteers started to think of new ways to engage the parks younger visitors on mansion tours and developed an "I-Spy" program that features several items in a room that the child can look for, guess what it is, and discuss use and importance.

The park was host to several very large special events, including a summer concert on July 16, 2009 that saw over 2000 people visit the site, the volunteers were very important to the success of the day. Volunteer's Jim Manness and Todd Brown have dedicated 1 weekend a month for a blacksmith demonstration and their continued presence is popular with visitors of all ages. In December 2009 the park restarted a long time tradition of decorating the site for Yuletide. Volunteers from local garden clubs helped to decorate the site in preparation for the holiday.

Resources Stewardship

FY2009 has been a tremendous year of the advancement of resource protection efforts at both parks. An incredible number of projects were implemented at HAMP due to an influx of flexible park base funding for museum collections and historic structures. This included:

- Planning/preparation for installation of compact shelving in collections storage facility at FOMC
- Design for interpretive exhibits in Hampton Lower House, with installation scheduled for April 2010
- Development of 14 wayside exhibits interpreting historic architecture at HAMP
- Completion of a museum service contract with HHI for registration services
- Re-pointing and repairing of Slave Quarters 3
- Stabilization of the Coal House ruin

- Restoration of the Spring House ruin
- Rehabilitation of the Heart-shaped drive
- Execution of contracts and initial work for rehabilitation of the farm garage for use as public restrooms
- Completion of Historic Structures reports for the Ice House and Pump House

At Fort McHenry, the new fire suppression contract installed water to the historic star fort and a wet pipe suppression system in C Building. The project also paved the way for the ARRA project that will expand this protection to the other historic buildings in the Fort. Additionally, the Fort successfully replaced the primary flagpole with a historically accurate pole shaped on-site from a single tree transported from the Pacific west. The new pole was dedicated on July 4th.

In addition to these efforts, many other projects happened that contributed to the preservation and enhancement of park resources. These include:

Grounds Restoration

- Parterre One at Hampton was fully restored. Parterre Two was restored except for annuals.
- Extensive tree work was completed at both parks, much with public lands corps teams

Conservation/Collections Care

- Conservation of 1858 Italian marble sculpture of Julian White
- Appraisal of Bowie gun collection (FOMC) continued to a high level of detail
- Conservation of eight pieces of Hampton furniture collection at HFC
- Continuation of multi-year archives conservation project
- Installation of eight secure storage cases for silver and lighting collections; collections re-housed
- Installation of eight secure storage cases for ceramics collection; re-housing begun
- Conservation survey of objects slated for exhibition at new FOMC education center
- Contract to install new security for the HAMP Mansion was executed

Records/Standards

- Cataloging completed for nearly 20,000 archival items at Hampton, reducing backlog
- ACP standards met at Hampton increased from 62.11% to 79.88%
- Removal of collection objects from three substandard storage facilities at Hampton

Exhibits:

- Reinstallation of major period room in Hampton mansion (Parlour)
 - Wallpaper fabricated and installed
 - Carpet fabricated and installed
 - Period cornices surfaces analyzed and cleaned; reproduction cornices fabricated and installed
 - Upholstery and curtain material and trimmings fabricated; curtains fabricated and installed

Sofa conserved

Seating furniture reupholstered

- Design and install six exhibit cases for new temporary exhibitions gallery in North Portico
- Implementation of first changing exhibit: *The Romance of Nature: Eliza Ridgely & the Garden*
- Presentation of completely revised and enhanced Yuletide exhibition throughout Hampton mansion
- Installation of historically accurate, hand-blocked reproduction wallpaper in Northeast Bedchamber at Hampton
- Preliminary planning meetings held for revision/reinstallation of Star Fort exhibits at FOMC
- Installation of fiber optic lighting in fixtures and banisters in Parlour, Dining Room and Music Room at Hampton
- Reproduction of historic painted surfaces at Hampton; marbelizing baseboards in Great Hall and back stair hall; graining of woodwork in Slave Quarters
- Reproduction of four historic painted window shades for Drawing Room at Hampton
- Installation of 18-pound cannon at FOMC Water Battery exhibit

Planning Documents:

- 100% Draft of HAMP General Management Plan submitted to WASO with comments. RD/DRD briefed on document
- Collections Management Plan created for Hampton; compatible with FOMC CMP
- Emergency Operations Plan created for collections facilities at Hampton
- Structural Fire Plan created for collections facilities at Hampton
- Revised/updated Housekeeping Plan for Hampton mansion completed
- Design for rehabilitation of the FOMC star fort restrooms was completed
- An alternative transportation study was completed with Volpe Center exploring ways to encourage FOMC visitors to come by “circulator” or trolley from the downtown

Historic Structures:

- Restoration and Repatination of the Armistead and Orpheus statues at Fort McHenry
- Restoration of the historic kitchen ceiling in the Hampton Mansion
- Removal of a non-functional wheelchair lift and installation of an appropriate ADA ramp on the exterior of HAMP mansion
- Replacement of the interior wheelchair list inside the Mansion
- Execution of a contract to design fire suppression for both HAMP stables
- Repaving of the HAMP entrance road

Other Projects:

- Planning, drafting of text for new Hampton guidebook
- Printing of the HAMP 3-volume Cultural Landscape Report.

Resource and Visitor Protection

In FY2009, the Law Enforcement program kept very busy. At FOMC, 268 offenses were documented, with the majority of incidents relating to safety violations. The monetary loss

the government was documented at \$6500 for the year. At HAMP, 73 offenses were documented with a monetary loss to the government estimated at \$3200.

For 2009, the park made a commitment to improve the culture of safety at the park. A reconstituted safety committee began meeting regularly, comprised of four employee members and three management members. Clearly staff welcomes the chance to have a more effective method of bringing safety issues to the attention of management and to help develop solutions to the issues. Some examples of the program's work this year includes:

- MSDS binders were updated and Right-to-Know stations were added in both parks.
- 20 employees completed biannual CPR training in two separate sessions.
- 18 employees attended the SHARPS (Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention System) self-defense courses in two separate sessions.
- On-line Fire Extinguisher course set up for entire staff.
- H1N1 posters posted and briefings held throughout both parks.
- Eye Wash Stations replaced and augmented.
- The Star Spangle Stride walking program was initiated in October 2009 with approximately 1/3 of the staff participating.

Fee collection from Entrance Fees and Interagency Pass sales totaled \$428,000 with the heaviest months being April through October, a seven-month high activity period. Interestingly, FOMC sold a record 3300 Interagency Senior Passes, as the visiting Senior population recognizes the good value of the Senior Pass. Though HAMP does not charge an entrance fee, their personnel also sold \$900 in Interagency Senior and Annual Passes. All monies collected are processed through the FOMC fee office as well as Anonymous Cash Donations from both parks. Donations totaled \$15,000 from both parks.

Fee collection personnel that were trained and certified as fee collectors numbered 17 to include Permanent Interpretive Park Rangers, Seasonal Park Rangers, Seasonal Park Guides, and Visitor Use Assistants.

The Fee Department is also responsible for issuing Special Use Permits. During FY'09, 35 permits were issued for FOMC, and 12 were issued for HAMP. Activities ranged from military reenlistment, promotion, retirement, and change of command ceremonies, weddings, meetings and luncheons, receptions, VIP training exercises, commercial film, commercial photography, garden parties, Friend's fundraisers, Baltimore County Gala, and Big Band Concert.

Partnerships

Partnership projects at both FOMC and HAMP continue to expand and improve, providing all sorts of positive benefits to both places.

Relations with Historic Hampton, Inc. are extremely strong. All elements of the Centennial Challenge projects from FY2008 budget are now complete with extraordinary results! The park received letters from HHI members who can see our tremendous progress and are re-

engaged and ready to do more together. HHI hosted several memorable fundraising events – the Madeira party was of special note. This really is a renaissance!

A new and truly exciting partnership with Baltimore County has emerged in FY2009 at Hampton. The County Executive appointed Superintendent Gay Vietzke to his new advisory Council on Tourism and that has led to serious conversations and funding for a joint visitor contact station at the park. This is likely to become a reality in the next year or two. Moreover, 2009 was the 350th anniversary of Baltimore County. Hampton hosted one of the county's 12 "signature" events during FY2009 focused on kids and the history of surveying in the County. On December 3, the park will also host the County's final culminated event with over 1,000 guests, many elected officials, and fireworks. The event will far exceed anything we initially envisioned!

Joint strategic planning in FY2009 has led to improvement of governance and coordination issues with the Friends of Fort McHenry. A new formal agreement with the Friends was fully executed over the summer. This agreement includes a mutually beneficial work plan – a first for the Friends. The introduction of a professional administrator in FY2009, housed at the Fort, has encouraged better communication, more professional/productive board meetings, and a better sense of mutual purpose.

In March, the Baltimore National Heritage Area was designated in the Omnibus bill. Gay Vietzke is an active member of the Executive Committee of the NHA's board, and provided administrative assistance in obligating FY2009 NPS funds for initial activities. FOMC actively supported the dedication ceremony for the NHA in August and has provided training for NHA staff and PR for a number of their initiatives. This is shaping up to a tight and really exciting partnership. ARD Buddy, Maryanne Gerbauckas, attended the dedication ceremony and spoke on behalf of the NPS.

Gay Vietzke has been appointed Baltimore City's chair for "Visitor Experience" by the Mayor's office for Baltimore's Star-Spangled 200th planning efforts. Additionally, Gay has been asked to co-Chair the Maryland Bicentennial committee on Education by the Governor's War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Gay has also been contacted by numerous NPS sites with 1812 stories and by the NPS Chief Historian to provide leadership on commemorative activities now being planned for 2012-2014. Gay has also been part of a strong Baltimore-U.S. Navy partnership that is developing that will invest \$40 million in a national tour of tall ships and great hulls that will begin in (June 2012) and end (September 2014) in Baltimore.

FOMC staff worked closely with Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO) staff during the initial year of the Star-Spangled Banner NHT (STSP). FOMC Cultural Resource Specialist, Anna von Lunz, was detailed to the Trail as the "Partnership Coordinator" during FY2009, preparing all the STSP Advisory Council nominee information. Park staff reviewed content for the new STSP website, temporary exhibit, and initial brochure. Park staff also attended many planning meetings and briefings, coordinated with Maryland's National Scenic Byways efforts that overlay the trail, and supporting other complimentary efforts in the greater Chesapeake.

A number of new partnerships also were initiated including the FOMC efforts with the National Anthem Celebration Foundation and Hampton's collaboration with the Rhode Island School of Design. Both parks were highlighted by Maryland Public TV during the Ken Burns blitz, bringing many new visitors to both sites.

Gay Vietzke was also asked to be an instructor for the new Superintendents' Academy on partnerships.