

Hampton National Historic Site



Junior Ranger Book



Welcome to Hampton National Historic Site!



The history of the Hampton estate began in 1745 when Colonel Charles Ridgely purchased a 1,500 acre tract of land in Northern Baltimore County. The expansion of property continued until it spanned 25,000 acres, much different than the 63 acres it is today. At one point it was one of the largest plantations in Maryland, with more than 500 enslaved persons forced to labor here. The Ridgely family lived on the property up until 1948 when the mansion and part of the remaining property was sold to the National Park Service. Hampton was originally preserved for its outstanding achievement in architecture, however architecture is not the only story of Hampton. The people who lived and worked at Hampton have many stories to tell. Six generations of Ridgely family members lived at the estate, along with indentured servants, enslaved peoples, paid laborers and tenant farmers. Throughout the junior ranger activities you will learn all about the different people and places that make Hampton special.

What is a Junior Ranger?

A junior ranger is someone who helps the park rangers and volunteers preserve a national park site. Junior Rangers can do this by being good steward of the park, setting an example for park visitors by following Leave No Trace principles and educating others about what they learned when they return home.

So as you **explore** Hampton National Historic Site be sure to **learn** about the people who lived here and remember to **protect** the site so you and others can visit again soon.

Please complete the number of activities of how old you are, or complete them all if you're feeling ambitious!

Explore. Learn. Protect.

BINGO

Welcome to Hampton National Historic Site! As you find your way around the grounds, keep an eye out for these sites and mark them off as you go. Try to find two Bingos and if you're feeling ambitious, try to find them all!



Symmetry in Architecture

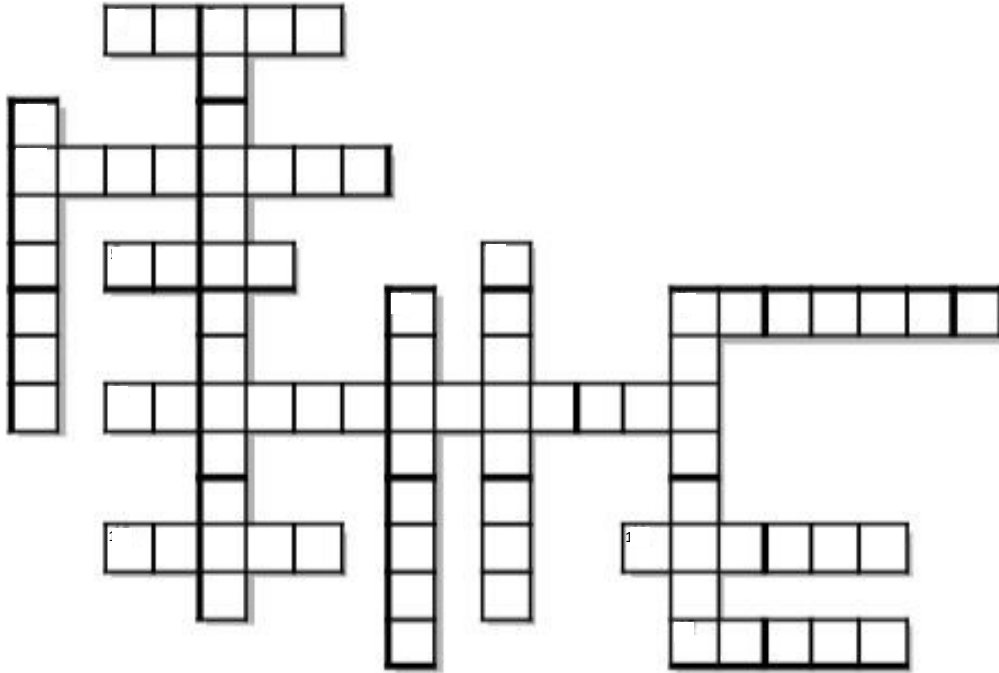
The Ridgely's mansion was built in the Georgian architectural style, which prized symmetry as a main component. The mansion's example of this unique architectural style led to the designation of the house and grounds as a National Historic Site.

Below, you see half of the mansion. Please fill in the other half, making sure it is symmetrical as the original house is.



Crossword Puzzle

Complete the crossword puzzle using the information you can find on exhibits all around the site.



ACROSS

- 1) Hampton grew from 1,500 to 25,000 _____ of land between 1745 and 1829.
- 4) The _____ was a special greenhouse used to grow fresh oranges and lemons all year.
- 5) The _____ on top of the lower house was meant to call enslaved workers into or out of the fields.
- 8) _____ was a festive event that took place during the harvest. These events often included enslaved workers from neighboring plantations.
- 9) The dairy had a natural _____ system to keep milk and butter from spoiling.
- 10) _____ were the "tractors" of the 19th century, used by enslaved workers and tenant farmers to pull plows.
- 11) After slavery was abolished in Maryland, _____ farmers worked on the Ridgely's land.
- 12) Hampton's enslaved families lived in tight, crowded quarters and children likely slept on _____ mattresses.

DOWN

- 2) The site of the house was originally called _____.
- 3) The Ridgely's owned race horses such as Grey Medeley, _____ and Tuckahoe.
- 6) Surviving home farm buildings like the Dairy, Mule Barn and Slave Quarters preserve the core of Hampton's _____ past.
- 7) In the winter, enslaved and paid workers collected ice from the property to place in the _____.
- 8) At Hampton's height, _____ of enslaved workers labored to make this a self sufficient and profitable estate.

Clue Box:

RidgelysFolly PostBoy Agrarian Tenant Bell Acres Husking
 IceHouse Refrigeration Hundreds Straw Mules Orangery

Behind the scenes: Cook Dinah Toogood

Learn about who worked here! Enslaved woman Dinah Toogood

Please read and do the exercise on the following page.

When the Ridgelys wanted to have ice cream in summertime, they might have told their head cook Dinah Toogood to make it for them. Dinah was an enslaved worker at Hampton for most of her life, until she was freed by Emancipation in 1864. She worked as the head cook from the 1840s to the 1860s.

Dinah's husband Nick was also enslaved on the estate and likely worked cutting ice off of ponds and lakes, moving it, and stacking it in the ice house for the Ridgelys.

Dinah was known as a "fine cook," and would have needed a lot of ice during the summertime to help keep food cold. She probably sent one of her assistants or a house servant to the Icehouse to bring back ice for her.

Dinah and Nick left a few years after Emancipation to start a new life in Baltimore City. The couple had four children, all of whom did not survive childhood, and subsequently moved to the neighborhood now known as Seton Hill. Nick was a spiritual leader among the enslaved Black community at Hampton, and he passed away in 1879 at the age of 92. Dinah survived him by three years, passing away in 1882.



Ice cream as it would have been served to the Ridgelys in the 1800s.

The Ice House

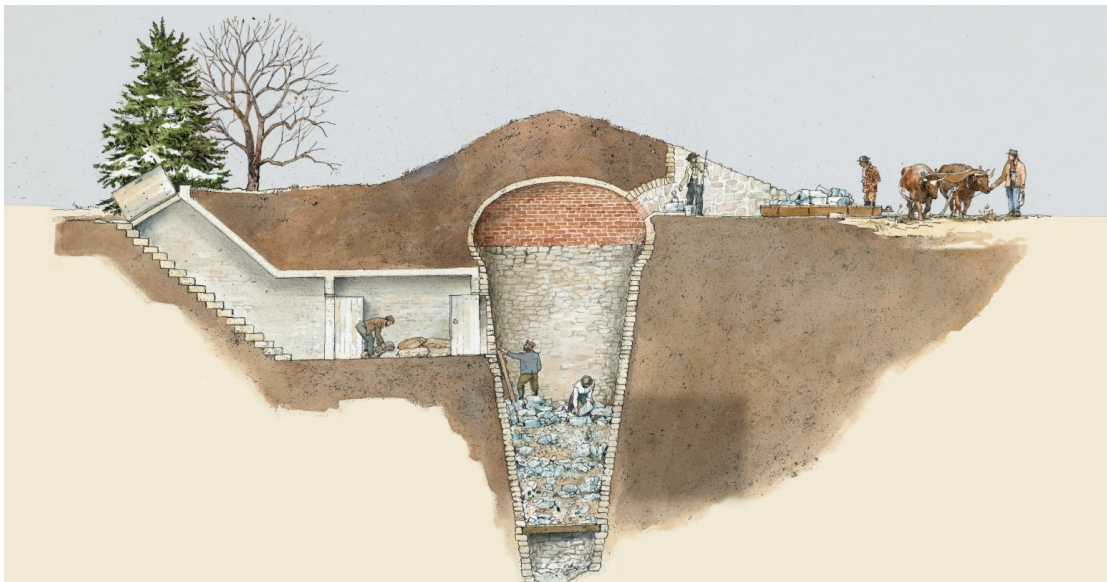
Today we are lucky to have refrigerators that keep our food cold all year round, but there was no such thing 200 years ago, and so people used blocks of ice instead. This wasn't a problem in the winter, but imagine trying to find ice in the summertime! One solution was to build an icehouse, like the one in front of you. Please visit the ice house in front of the mansion and answer the following questions.

Questions:

Why did the ice house have two openings?

Who did the work to make sure the Ridgelys had ice in summertime? Do you think those people got to use some of the ice for themselves?

What kind of food would you want the most if you had lived 200 years ago and didn't have an ice house to keep your food cold?



Word Search

Please complete this word search using the words beneath. The words go forward, backward, diagonal and upside down.

S T A B L E S E V V G L S C I
I E T A P W S S U N M L S E P
X C R R G U T S L R A Z J N M
Y N U C O K L D L V F H J S Y
V D O H A X S H E G K E N U R
C I E I Y N J Q B E W S D S E
V C G X T U U N K B V B A T G
I N O I T A R E G I R F E R N
E M B F R Q P M U L C Z V T A
W L A T K K Y I B C Q H E A R
Q I E N S Q I R C N U N J P O
F R X V S X D Q J N A G R Q R
S R P L P I Z P X N A H C B N
Q O F K A Q O N T D F M H C B
Y R I A D Q Q N R Y S O E N M

Emancipation

Orangery

Bell

Refrigeration

Dairy

Slave Quarters

Stables

Census

Acres

Icehouse

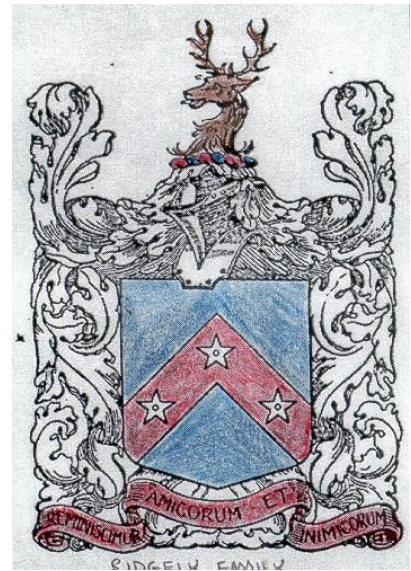
Tenant

Mansion

Draw a Family Coat-of-Arms

Many wealthy families from this time period had a family coat-of-arms that symbolized social stature as well as family alliances. A family crest is a part of the Coat-of-Arms and is usually an animal. The Ridgely's family crest is a stag's head, which they used on plates, windows, carriages and even the uniforms that enslaved persons forced to labor in the mansion would wear. The stag's head crest does relate directly to the family motto "*Cave Cervum*," which literally means "fear the stag" in Latin. You can still see many deer on the site today.

You can see the Ridgely family coat-of-arms to the right. What is important to you and your family? What might you put on your family's emblem?



Draw what you would put on your family Coat-of-Arms below.

A large empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to draw their own family coat of arms.

Meet the people who worked here: Caroline Davis Brown and Thomas Brown

Before the Civil War, enslaved workers at Hampton ran the Dairy, taking care of the cows, making the butter and cream, and cleaning all the churns and crocks. Caroline Davis Brown was an enslaved worker who was brought to Hampton with her whole family when she was four years old. She eventually became the head dairymaid, in charge of running the Dairy for many years. Caroline transitioned to being a paid servant and continued to work at the estate as a dairy worker after emancipation. Caroline was known for keeping up the high standard of "Hampton butter," and was missed when she left her post.

After being freed in 1864, Caroline married Thomas Brown, who also worked for the Ridgelys. Thomas was a paid servant for Eliza "Didy" Ridgely White at her townhouse in Baltimore, and later became the head waiter at Hampton until after the turn of the 20th century.

Caroline and Thomas had three daughters and the family lived near Hampton on the edge of Towson in the 1880 census. In the 1900 census, Thomas is listed as living at Hampton but it is believed Caroline was no longer living.



Thomas Brown working as Head Waiter in Hampton Dining Room c. 1897.

The Dairy

This building helped keep dairy products cold, long before there were refrigerators. Having a dairy meant that the Ridgelys always had fresh milk and butter for their meals, a major luxury 200 years ago. The Ridgelys also sold most of their dairy products as a way of making money. So take a peek inside the building and answer the following questions.

Where do you think the butter and milk were stored?

Now walk around the outside of the building. Where does the water inside the building come from?

What are some of the chores involved in making milk and butter? Why do you think these items were once considered a luxury?



Hampton National Historic Site



Junior Ranger Pledge

“I, _____, am proud to be a National Park Service Junior Ranger at Hampton National Historic Site. I promise to appreciate, respect, and protect all national park areas. I also promise to continue learning about the landscape, plants, animals and history of these special places. I will share what I learn with my friends and family.”



RANGER SIGNATURE

DATE