

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
New YorkCOUNTY:
New York

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

4-27-62

1. NAME

COMMON:

Hamilton Grange National Memorial

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Hamilton Grange

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

287 Convent Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

New York

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE:

New York

CODE

036

COUNTY:

New York

061

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Check One)

- ☐ District ☒ Building
☐ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☒ Public
☐ Private
☐ Both

Public Acquisition:

- ☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☒ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
in progress

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

Yes:

- ☐ Restricted
☒ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural
☐ Commercial
☒ Educational
☐ Entertainment

- ☐ Government
☐ Industrial
☐ Military
☒ Museum

- ☒ Park
☐ Private Residence
☐ Religious
☐ Scientific

- ☐ Transportation
☐ Other (Specify)

Comments

4. AGENCY

National Park Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

North Atlantic Region

CITY OR TOWN:

Boston

STREET AND NUMBER:

150 Causeway Street

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

New York City Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

31 Chambers Street

CITY OR TOWN:

New York

STATE:

New York

CODE

036

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal☐ State☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
New YorkCOUNTY:
New York

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☒ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☒ Moved	☐ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hamilton Grange, designed by John McComb, Jr., was built in 1801-1802 on the brow of a pleasant wooden hill overlooking the Hudson River, in what is now the Harlem Heights section of New York City. Hamilton had a total of 32 acres of woods and open fields. He lived in the house with his large family only two years, until July 11, 1804, when he died after a duel with Aaron Burr.

The Grange stands today crammed in between an apartment house on one side and a church on the other and amid busy thoroughfares, stately brownstone homes, schools, and museums. It is a fine example of early 19th Century architecture. In design, the house is simple and dignified. It is a two-story frame structure with brick-filled walls and partitions. The present foundation dates from 1889 when the building was moved from the original site. All exterior walls appeared to have been wood sheathed and finished with horizontal siding. Windows are double or triple hung, and all seem to be original. However, the two exterior doors facing the street were moved to their present location when the building was used ^{as} a chapel. Framing consists of heavy hewn timbers combined with sawn joists and studs. Split-wood lath was applied to studs and ceiling joists and covered with three coats of plaster. Pine tongue and groove board floors seem to be original, with much patching and renewing. Present interior stairs are a replacement- when the house was moved. There has been a resetting of doors and introduction of new ones. The original balustrade above the cornice of the front porch roof has disappeared. The building needs considerable stabilization and some restoration to use and interpret it on the present site. The house is not furnished and only contains temporary exhibits and National Park Service administrative facilities.

Boundary: Commencing at a point 78.3^{ft.} north of W. 141st St. and; Running north along Convent Avenue for 46.9 ft. and Running east and parallel with W. 141st St. for 100 ft. and Running south and parallel with Convent Ave. for 46.9 ft. and Running west and parallel with W. 141st St. for 100 ft.

S E I N S T R U C T I O N S

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☐ 18th Century | ☐ 20th Century |
| ☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | ☒ 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1801-1804

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☒ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☒ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | <u>History</u> |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape Architecture | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Literature | ☐ Theater | |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Military | ☐ Transportation | |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Music | | |
| ☐ Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hamilton Grange, the only house ever built and owned by Alexander Hamilton, is one of the very few Federal Period houses still standing in the city of New York today and the only one remaining which can be definitely attributed to John McComb, Jr., of New York City Hall fame.

A small, neglected, and nearly forgotten home, the Grange stands today as a major link with Hamilton, one of America's greatest statemen and patriots. On the battlefield and in the halls of government, Hamilton fought to build a strong new nation. He stands among our Founding Fathers as one who worked at creating and in establishing a sound financial basis for the new Government.

But it is Hamilton as the family man, that the Grange really memorializes. The loss of political power was a bitter experience for the ambitious Hamilton. In his disappointment he turned increasingly to private life for his satisfactions- to the building of a long neglected law practice, stronger family relationships, and a home in the country. The Grange was very important to him even though he was unable to spend much time there as he wished. He named the house in honor of the ancestral seat of the Hamilton family in Scotland. He cherished the Grange as a place of refuge from the buffetings of a hostile world, a place where he could find a "sweet" asylum from care and pain. One of his major joys was the creation of a garden on his new estate.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mongin, Alfred, Historic Structures Report, Hamilton Grange, Federal Hall National Memorial, 1963.

Bevin, Newton P., Historic Structures Report, Architectural Data Section, Hamilton Grange. National Park Service, 1964.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 49 ' 20 "	73 ° 56 ' 55 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		Zone 18		
SE	° ' "	° ' "		4519-360 N		
SW	° ' "	° ' "		588-690 E		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.71

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Ricardo Torres-Reyes, Historian		DATE: 4/75
BUSINESS ADDRESS: North Atlantic Region		
STREET AND NUMBER: 150 Causeway		PHONE: 223-3778
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Mass.	CODE: 025

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ None

State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☒ National ☐ State ☐ Local

Gennis J. Drabelle 9/29/76
Federal Representative Signature Date

SPECIAL ASSISTANT

Title

TO A/S FW

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

CHIEF
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/25/77

ATTEST:
Keeper of The National Register

Date 3-24-77

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Item number 8

After Hamilton's death, the family, according to his wishes, remained at the Grange. Thirty years later, Mrs. Hamilton sold it and moved to Washington, D. C. Subsequently the property changed hands many times and much of the land was sold. In 1889, a Mr. Cotting bought the Grange, moved the house 100 yards south-east of its original location, and donated it to St. Luke's Episcopal Church. In the process of moving the house, the front and rear porches were removed. The house was used as a temporary chapel while a new church building was under construction next to it; later it served as the rectory. In 1924 the house was bought by George F. Baker, Sir., and J. P. Morgan, who donated it to the American Scenic and Preservation Society. Finally, in 1962, the Society donated the house to the Federal government and it became a national memorial the same year.

The State of New York owns the land on which the house sits. In its present location the house is turned 90° from its original orientation to the street.



ROUTING AND REVIEW SLIP

THE ENCLOSED NOMINATIONS ARE ROUTED TO YOU FOR YOUR PROFESSIONAL REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE CORRECTNESS AND ADEQUACY OF THE STATEMENTS AND EVALUATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN, SUPPLYING ADDITIONAL OR CORRECTIVE INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE. REVIEWER WILL SIGN HIS NAME HEREON FOR LATER REFERENCE IF NECESSARY. USE ADDITIONAL SHEET FOR COMMENT IF NEEDED AND ATTACH HERETO.

NOMINATED PROPERTY: HAMILTON GRANGE N. MEM.

FROM AREA OF: _____

1 PA for CHIEF ARCHEOLOGIST:

I regret that it is not on the original site, but I concur with the nomination. The "statement" of significance needn't recapitulate Hamilton's significance - just the house's!

SIGNED:

Jackson W. Moore, Jr.

2 PD EA CHIEF HISTORIAN:

Statement of significance is long.
Concur with Smiley

SIGNED:

WPL

3 PC CHIEF HISTORICAL ARCHITECT:

NPS will move house once again to give it a more compatible setting. House is important not the land although it is within original Hamilton boundary. It is only house standing which can be definitely contributed to John McComb of NY City Hall fame

SIGNED:

W. A. Judd

4 PC REGISTRAR, LCS

PR KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER:

G. O. Meek
Registrar, LCS
Tel: 343-2532

☐ RECOMMENDED FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
☒ ENTERED ON THE LCS 3-24 1975

INT: 4937-74 REGISTRAR LCS

PLEASE RETURN TO REGISTRAR, LCS BY

APR 7 - 1975 197

NAME OF PROPERTY Hamilton Grange STATE N.Y.

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7

Description:

Please expand per attached "Howto"
P. 12

8

Statement of Significance:

Please expand see p 13-14

9

Bibliography:

10

Geographical Data -- Acreage:

UTM Reference(s):

Verbal Boundary Description:

What are the
boundaries of the NHS? Sketch map
would be helpful.

12

Certification:

Photographic Coverage:

Map Coverage:

Other:

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

on the National Register staff, telephone

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Charles A. Bennett
Chief, Branch of Registration

Date:

1.9.76

INT:2105-74

Property Hamilton Grange National Memorial
State New York Working Number 8.11.75.1528

TECHNICAL

Photos 1
Maps 1

~~SHPO sign.~~
~~#12 date marking~~
~~staples in file~~

CONTROL

pl
8.14.75

HISTORIAN

already in Register
TO BE MOVED, AGAIN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Elvish
8-26-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

It only cost \$460,000 to buy
and work on the thump to
begin with → that means we've put over
\$1 million dollars into 1 house!

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Colle
12-31-75

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry _____

Send-back 1.9.76
Re-submit 10.8.76

Entered _____

INT:2106-74

Property Hamilton Grange National Memorial

State New York

Working Number NPS

Already on NR
4-27-1962

NEW YORK

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

CONTROL

See phone report. The site is in pretty bad shape, so there's not much to say on the form.

HISTORIAN

OK
Livengood
19 Nov 76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

OK
Leavitt

3.7.77

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

OK
Cole
3.21.77

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Hung
3.23.77

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit

INT:2106-74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

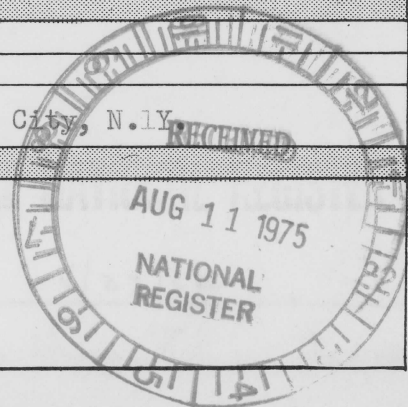
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE New York	
COUNTY New York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: Hamilton Grange National Memorial			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Hamilton Grange			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 287 Convent Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: New York			
STATE: New York	CODE 36	COUNTY: New York	CODE 061
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: National Park Service			
DATE OF PHOTO: August, 1968			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, 26 Wall Street, New York City, N.Y.			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View of front of the building			



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
New York	
COUNTY	
New York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Hamilton Grange National Memorial
AND/OR HISTORIC: Hamilton Grange

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
287 Convent Ave.
CITY OR TOWN:
New York
STATE: New York CODE 36 COUNTY: New York CODE 067

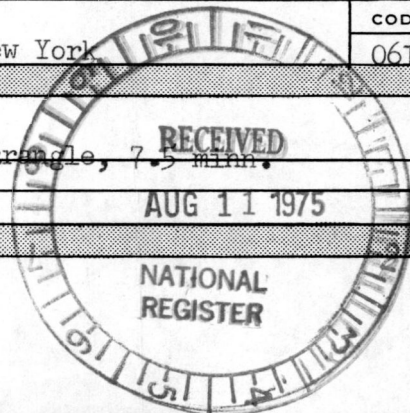
3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
U.S. Geological Survey (Central Park Quadrangle, 7.5 min.)
SCALE: 1:24000
DATE: 1956-66

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

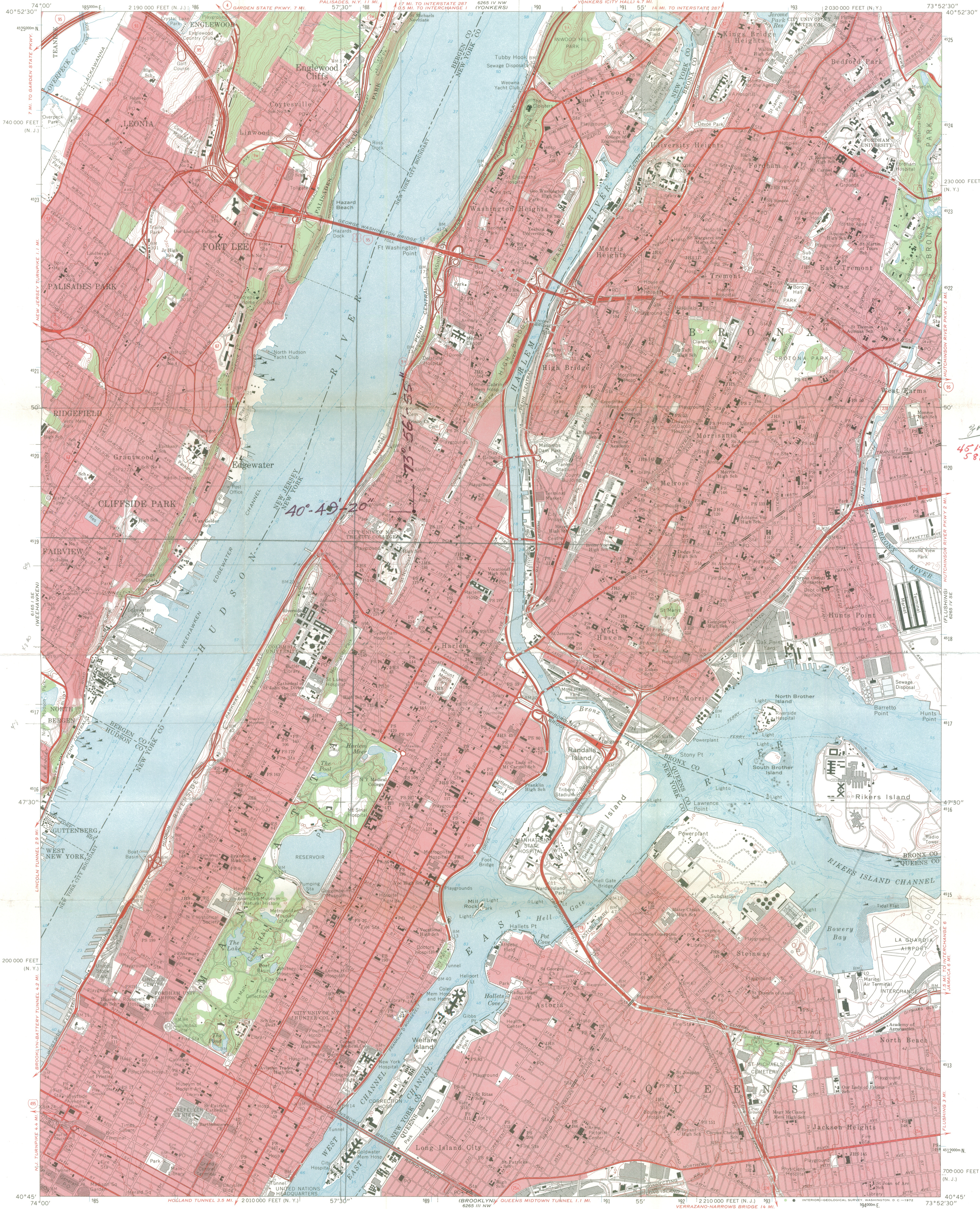
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



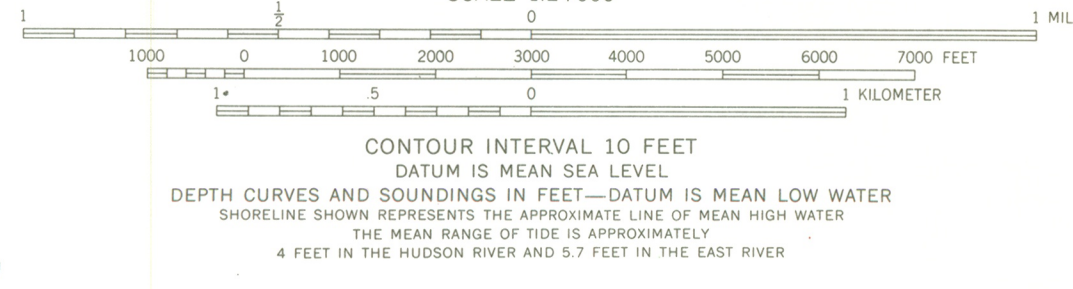
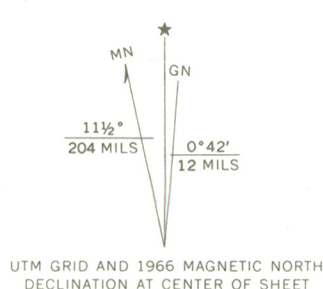
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CENTRAL PARK QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 HARLEM 15' QUADRANGLE



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Revised in cooperation with New York
Department of Transportation
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and New Jersey Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods and from USC&GS Charts T-4567,
T-5089, T-5264, T-5278, T-5448, T-5449, T-5451, T-5452, T-5453, T-5458,
and T-5778. Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1954 and planetable surveys 1956.
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 226, 274, 745,
746, and 747 (1966). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on New York coordinate system, Long Island zone,
and New Jersey coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CENTRAL PARK, N. Y. - N. J.
SW/4 HARLEM 15' QUADRANGLE
N4045-W7352.5/7.5

1966

AMS 6265 IV SW-SERIES V821



NYC
Advisory Council on
Historic Preservation
1522 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

SEP 20 1978

L. J. Hovig
Acting Regional Director
North Atlantic Region
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
15 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Dear Mr. Hovig:

On September 5, 1978, the Council received a determination from the National Park Service that the proposed repairs at Hamilton Grange National Monument located in New York City would not adversely affect that National Register property. The Executive Director does not object to your determination.

A copy of your determination of no adverse effect, along with supporting documentation and this concurrence, should be included in any assessment or statement prepared for this undertaking in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and should be kept in your records as evidence of your compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320).

Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,


Signed

Myra F. Harrison
Assistant Director
Office of Review
and Compliance

DATE 19 N 76

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

AM
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Ricardo Torres

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

^{Atlantic}
~~Northeast~~ Region NPS

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Hamilton Grange National Memorial

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

The house is almost impossible to photograph from any other angle.

NPS has no definite plans to move the house; however it cannot be restored on the present site because of the buildings that are built right next to it. Those in the neighborhood, such as the church which once owned it, are strongly opposed to any suggestion of moving it. NPS has no site in mind. There are some restoration plans, but of course, not including the side porches.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

S. Liveness

TITLE

OFFICE



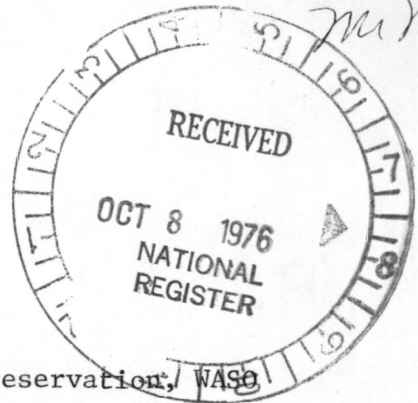
IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30 NAR(PH)

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NORTH ATLANTIC REGION
150 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

May 6, 1976



Memorandum

To: Assistant Director, Park Historic Preservation, WASH

From: Associate Regional Director, Planning and Resource
Preservation, North Atlantic Region

Subject: National Register Forms

We enclose the following National Register Inventory-Nomination forms with the additional information requested by the National Register Office. In some cases it was necessary to prepare a new form, but using the same 1972 forms, as previously arranged with the National Register Staff.

1. Grant's Tomb NM
2. Sub-Treasury Building NM
3. Hamilton Grange NM
4. Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace NHS
5. John F. Kennedy NHS
6. Atwood-Higgins House, Cape Cod NS
7. Highland Golf Course, Cape Cod NHS
8. Statue of Liberty NM
9. Sagamore Hill NHS

F. Ross Holland, Jr.

F. Ross Holland, Jr.



Enclosures

MEETING REPORT

OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PROJECT:

LOCATION OF MEETING:

DATE:

STAFF MEMBER:

DIVISION:

PARTICIPANT:

ORGANIZATION:

PHONE:

Problems

REPORT:

~~What if not listed in FR as NHL?~~

is on NHL list, not in NHL micro file, nothing
on nom. form says it's on NHL!

Questions: Resolved

Hamilton Grange: on St property
NPS nom. + FEE Simple!

F + S

on NPS properties if the nom. form
checks "Both" for ownership it should
be written as F & P. We follow the
form as best we can.

ABOUT YOUR VISIT: Hamilton Grange National Memorial is located at Convent Ave. and West 141st St. You can reach it by 8th Ave. IND subway to West 145th St., or Broadway bus to West 145th St. and Convent Ave. Visiting hours are from 9 to 5 daily. The park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Inquiries regarding the area should be directed to the New York City National Park Service Group, 26 Wall St., New York, NY 10005.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities to protect and conserve our land and water, energy and minerals, fish and wildlife, park and recreation areas, and for the wise use of all those resources. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

☆GPO: 1973-543-501/21 REPRINT 1973

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 25 cents

new york

Hamilton Grange

npd

National Memorial

New York Co.

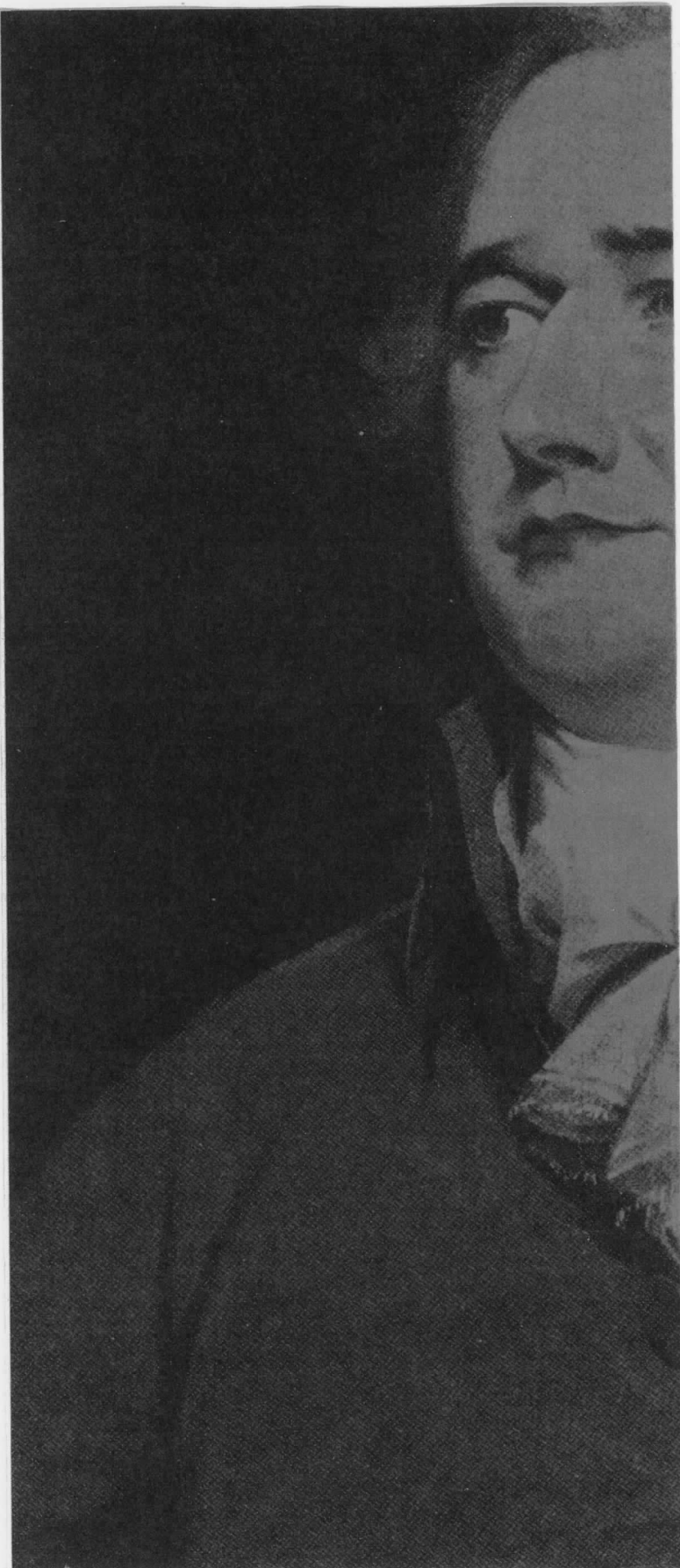
served as adviser to the President on international affairs as well, suggesting solutions to delicate situations involving Britain and France to avoid serious confrontation. It was during this time that the relationship between Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson—already strained by disagreement over the degree of centralization desirable at the national level—was ruptured, because Hamilton was an avowed admirer of British administration and finance while Jefferson was an enthusiastic supporter of the “democratic idealism” of the French Revolution.

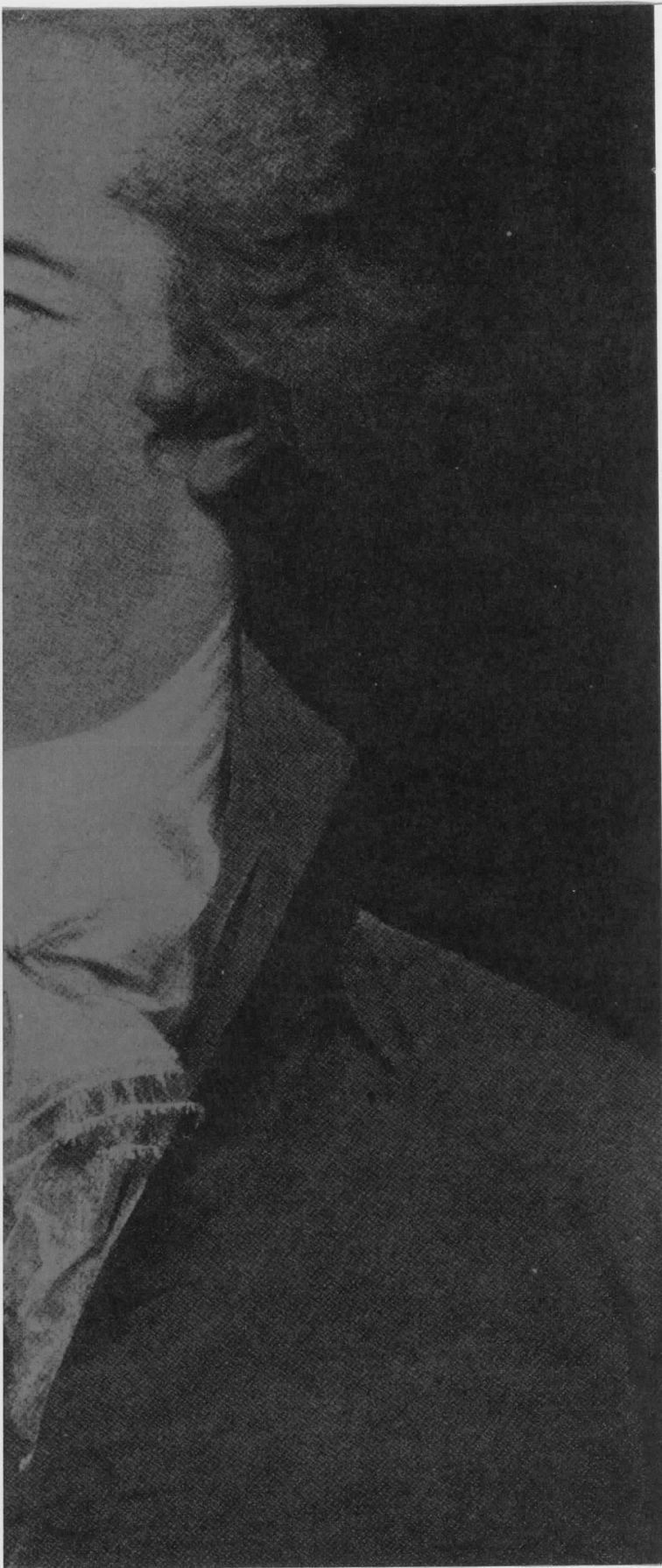
In 1798, when the United States was faced with the threat of a war with France, Hamilton was commissioned a major general in the army. Two years later, when war had been averted and the tension somewhat relieved, Hamilton returned to the practice of law. His career of public service to his country had come to an end.

HAMILTON'S HOME AND FAMILY: During the Revolutionary War, Hamilton had married Elizabeth Schuyler, from a prominent upstate New York family. In the years that followed, they raised eight children. Because of his private law practice and his varied activities in business and government, the Hamiltons found it difficult to settle into a permanent home, and they lived at various addresses in lower Manhattan near Hamilton's offices.

Finally, in 1800, he purchased 16 acres of land in what is now Harlem; later he purchased the adjacent 16 acres. In 1801-2 he had a house built on the brow of a hill. He hoped that country life would provide an atmosphere in which his children could grow up healthy and happy and where he could work peacefully and still be able to travel to his Wall Street office and up the Hudson Valley on business. He called his new home the Grange, after the home of his grandfather, Alexander Hamilton, Laird of the Grange, in Ayreshire, Scotland. The architect of the house was John McComb, Jr., who also designed the present City Hall and other prominent buildings in New York City.

In design, the house is simple and dignified. It is a two-story frame structure with brick-filled walls and partitions. The brick filling was recommended by Hamilton's father-in-law, Gen. Philip Schuyler, to keep out vermin.





The timber came from Schuyler's Albany estate. Just as construction of the house was beginning, Hamilton's eldest son Philip was killed in a duel defending his father's political views. This great family tragedy was partially alleviated by the birth of another son a year later, when they were moving into the Grange.

For the next 2 years, the Hamiltons were busy settling into their new house, completing the furnishings, and improving the grounds. Hamilton continued to conduct part of his business and political activities from the Grange. Then in July 1804, tragedy struck again. This time it was Hamilton himself who fell mortally wounded in a duel with his political rival, Aaron Burr.

After Hamilton's death, the family, according to his wishes, remained at the Grange. Thirty years later, Mrs. Hamilton sold it and moved to Washington, D.C. Subsequently the property changed hands many times and much of the land was sold.

In 1889, a Mr. Cotting bought the Grange, moved the house 100 yards southeast of its original location, and donated it to St. Luke's Episcopal Church. In the process of moving the house, the front and rear porches were removed. The house was used as a temporary chapel while the new church building was under construction; later it served as the rectory.

In 1924, the house was bought by George F. Baker, Sr., and J. P. Morgan, who donated it to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society. The Society set up a trust fund of \$50,000 for the permanent maintenance of the Grange as a memorial to Hamilton. Finally, in 1962, the Society donated the Grange to the people of the United States. It was accepted by and established under the National Park Service as a national memorial. It is one of the very few Federal Period houses still standing in the city today. The present condition of the house attests to the fine workmanship of the period. Eventually, the National Park Service will restore the house as nearly as possible to its appearance in Hamilton's time. When this work is completed, Hamilton Grange will take on greater meaning as a reminder of one of the great men of our early history.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON

From the painting by John Trumbull.
Courtesy National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Hamilton Grange, a small and nearly forgotten home, stands today as a major link with Alexander Hamilton, one of America's greatest statesmen and patriots. On the battlefield and in the halls of government, Hamilton fought to build a strong new nation. He stands among our Founding Fathers as one who worked at creating and gaining acceptance for the Constitution and in establishing a sound financial basis for the new Government.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON, THE PATRIOT: Born in the British West Indies in 1755 or 1757 (the exact date is unknown), Alexander Hamilton, encouraged and assisted by friends, came to America in 1772. Several months after his arrival, he entered King's College (now Columbia University) in New York. At that time, New York was seething with dissatisfaction and unrest over British violations of both the civil rights of the colonists and the economic privileges they had been accustomed to exercise. Hamilton attracted favorable attention through his writings and speeches in support of the colonial cause.

With the outbreak of the American Revolution, Hamilton entered military service as an artillery officer. His talent and courage were shown in the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Trenton, and Princeton. These traits, along with his personal charm, brought him to the notice of Gen. George Washington, who appointed him aide-de-camp, a post he held until the summer of 1781. Hamilton again saw combat in October 1781, when he personally led an infantry assault on one of the main British redoubts at the Battle of Yorktown.

HAMILTON, THE STATESMAN: At the conclusion of the American Revolution, Hamilton studied law, completing the requirements for entrance to the bar in a few months. Although he was now qualified to practice law, his great interest in politics led him into public service. In 1782 he was appointed tax collector of New York, a post that gave him an opportunity to exercise those skills in financial matters which were to have such a great influence on his later being selected as first Secretary of the Treasury.

Alexander Hamilton was given greater scope for demonstrating his ability as a New York delegate to the Congress of the Confederation. Here he gained first-hand knowledge of the shortcomings of such a loosely organized form of government. Under the Articles of Confederation, each State was sovereign and independent of any real direction from a central body. There could be no possibility of a strong foreign policy as long as each State was required to deal individually with the much stronger nations of

Europe, and there could be no unified economy as long as each State printed its own currency and tried to pay its own debts. In terms of trade, each State dealt with the others as if they were foreign countries, setting up tariff walls and negotiating trade treaties. Perhaps it was this chaotic state of the economy more than anything else that prompted Hamilton to support the growing movement for governmental reorganization. It certainly was obvious to him that a unified country could negotiate more European trade benefits than the weakly divided States could possibly arrange. But he also was strongly convinced that, politically, only a unified nation could survive, and that mutual interdependence bred strength to withstand foreign aggression and domestic disintegration.

The efforts of Hamilton and others led to the calling, in 1787, of a convention to meet in Philadelphia to amend the Articles of Confederation. The majority of the delegates realized that more than amendment was necessary if the Confederation was to survive—an entirely new system of government was needed. Thus the Constitutional Convention came into being.

The Constitution of the United States was completed in the autumn of 1787 and ready to be submitted to the States for ratification. The pamphlet war began, with Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay taking the leading roles as advocates of the new Federal system and defenders of the new Constitution. The product of their efforts was the Federalist Papers; the result was the acceptance of the Constitution by the requisite nine, and eventually all 13, States.

Upon creation of the executive branches of the Government in 1789, Hamilton was appointed the first Secretary of the Treasury. An advocate of a strong central government, he provided a sound financial basis for the country by devising a plan for funding the national debt, and by establishing a national bank, the mint, and national credit.

Although Hamilton held the post of Secretary of the Treasury in President Washington's Cabinet, his interest and influence were not limited to financial matters. He

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