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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on what was once known as Little Scotland Plantation near the mouth of the Hampton River, the 200-acre campus of the Hampton Institute contains the following buildings of historic and architectural significance:

Mansion House was the original plantation residence for Little Scotland. This two-and-one-half-story stucco over brick house was built sometime in the early 19th century (c. 1828), and has been altered and enlarged with numerous additions over the years. The house is painted white with black trim. Mansion House has served as the home of Hampton's presidents since the school's founding.

<u>Virginia Hall</u> was designed by Richard Morris Hunt and constructed in 1873. It is an imposing four-and-one-half-story red brick structure, built to contain "a chapel with seating for four hundred people, an industrial room for the manufacture of clothing, and for instruction in sewing in all its branches; a dining room able to accommodate two hundred and seventy-five boarders; a large laundry and kitchen, besides quarters for twelve teachers and sleeping rooms for one hundred and twenty girls." Virginia Hall has a typical picturesque High Victorian exterior with a variety of rooflines, polychromy and surface textures, and an almost monumental scale. The building had a T-shaped plan before the construction of Cleveland Hall in 1901; this large addition was connected to the central rear wing of Virginia Hall, thus creating an "H" plan. One architectural historian has termed Virginia Hall "a typical, well articulated Victorian building."<sup>1</sup>

Academic Hall, also designed by Richard Morris Hunt, was completed in 1882. It is actually the second Academic Hall since the original one, designed by Hunt as well, was destroyed by fire. The new hall is a two-story building with a cruciform plan, hipped roof, broad hipped dormers and segmental arched openings. When Hunt was commissioned to design the building, the president of the Institute told him "make building strong and plain--no attempt at ornament."

<u>Wigwam</u> - The enrollment of Indians at Hampton necessitated the construction of additional dormitory space. The Wigwam, completed in 1878, is believed to have been designed by Charles D. Cake, superintendent of all early construction at the school. It is a rather simple red brick structure, 35 by 95 feet, and three stories tall with basement. The building is characterized by bands of black brick, segmental arched openings, and a two-story central wooden porch on both north and south sides of the building. The low gable roof is supported by exposed bracing. Upon returning to Hampton, his alma mater, in 1879, Booker T. Washington assumed charge of the Wigwam. Preservation work is currently in progress.

<sup>1</sup>William B. O'Neal, <u>Architecture in Virginia: An Official Guide to Four</u> <u>Centuries of Building in the Old Dominion</u> (New York: Walker & <u>Company, Inc., 1968), p. 65.</u> <u>Continued</u>

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Hampton Institute was founded by Samuel Chapman Armstrong, a Civil War general who, in 1866, was appointed an agent of the Freedmen's Bureau. Armstrong was impressed with the black troops he had led, with what he called "the excellent qualities and capacities of the freedmen," and he determined that they "deserved as good a chance as any people." He convinced the American Missionary Association to purchase a 150-acre estate for the new school, and the Hampton Normal and Industrial Institute opened in April, 1868, with 2 teachers and 15 students.

Hampton was to train selected young men and women "who should go out and teach and lead their people, first by example ... and, to these ends, to build up an industrial system for the sake not only of self-support and intelligent labor, but also for the sake of character." Hampton would train both hand and mind: self-help and skilled labor--in addition to mental and moral training--would in time raise a people who had forcibly been denied both physical and mental freedom.

Since its founding, Hampton Institute has been a leader in the education of black youth. The Institute served as a model for the numerous black industrial schools subsequently founded to aid the freedmen. Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskeegee Instutute, was himself a graduate of Hampton. In this century Hampton has advanced from primarily a vocational school to a fully accredited liberal arts college with an international faculty and student body, and a curriculum responsive to the intellectual and social commitments of our own day.

Notable early campus buildings at Hampton include a particularly fine Romanesque Revival chapel; Virginia and Academic Halls, both designed by Richard Morris Hunt; and Wigwam, a dormitory built in 1878 to house the Institute's sizable population of Indian students. A historic district has been drawn to include these and other sites and structures significant in the early development of Hampton.

	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL	REFERENC	CES						
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Form	10-300a
(July	1969)

STATE

COUNTY

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

### **INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

#### (Continuation Sheet)

Virginia

Hampton FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description (page 1)

Hampton Institute

Memorial Chapel - The Marquand Memorial Chapel, designed by J. C. Cady, was dedicated on May 20, 1886. This Romanesque Revival chapel is built of brick, red brick on the exterior with cream-colored brick walls within. The body of the church is a single story, topped with a clerestory with a hipped roof. An impressive tower stands 150 feet tall and contains the chimes, an illuminated clock, and a wrought-iron spiral staircase. The original church pews, built by the students of Hampton to seat a congregation of a thousand, are still in place.

The college cemetery and the Emancipation Oak also deserve mention. Many of the first Indian students at Hampton are buried in the small campus cemetery, their graves marked by simple carved stones. Samuel Chapman Armstrong also rests here. Under the boughs of the historic Emancipation Oak, with a limb-spread some 98 yards in circumference, the Emancipation Proclamation was read to Hampton residents in 1863. In its shade the first classes at Hampton were taught. This tree, together with Memorial Chapel, whose clock tower has told the time of day for three quarters of a century, are the historical symbols of the Hampton Institute.

The campus of Hampton Institute is open to visitors on the Hampton tour.

Boundaries: The proposed Hampton Institute historic district includes those structures and sites mentioned above. The original campus buildings are clustered relatively close together, though later accretions do fall within the proposed district. Cleveland Hall, Ogden, and the Administration Building have little historical significance in the development of Hampton, but these buildings are compatible in scale and design with the earlier structures, and thus appear within the district boundaries.

Boundaries are as follows: Beginning at the shoreline of the Hampton River due west of Academic Hall, thence northwest along the shoreline to Tyler Street extended, thence northeast on Tyler Street to Huntington Road, thence south to Ogden Circle, thence northeast on Frissell Avenue to a point halfway between Wigwam and Armstrong Hall, thence southeast to Armstrong Avenue, thence southwest to Huntington Road, thence southeast to Marshall Avenue, thence southwest to Academic Hall, the line veering away from Marshall Avenue, then running so as to encompass the Academic Hall but deleting the parking lots, returning to Marshall Avenue, then due west and returning to the Hampton River shoreline. Emancipation Oak and the College cemetery are indicated on the map, but do not fall within the district proper.

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#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

### INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

COUNTY Hampton FOR NPS USE ONLY

Virginia

STATE

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (page 1)

Hampton Institute

#### History

Samuel Chapman Armstrong, a brigadier-general during the Civil War, was appointed an agent of the Freedmen's Bureau upon the termination of that conflict, and in March 1866 took charge of a large camp of Negroes in and about the village of Hampton, Virginia. Armstrong made his headquarters in an old mansion on the shore of the Hampton River, where he increasingly turned his thoughts toward the need of industrial education for the freedmen.

General Armstrong, the son of missionaries, had grown up in Hawaii and had witnessed first hand the development of the Hilo Manual Labor School for native Hawaiian boys, where students paid their tuition expenses by working at carpentry, housework, gardening, etc. Armstrong set out to discover ways in which young Negro men and women might be trained as teachers and leaders of their people. A combination of mental and manual training, he determined, exactly fitted the needs of the situation.

In 1867, Armstrong wrote to the American Missionary Association and recommended that the estate upon which he was living, comprised of some 150 acres, be purchased for the foundation of an industrial school for Negro teachers. The estate was secured and the Hampton Normal and Industrial Institute was opened in April 1868. "A great institution was gradually upbuilt," one historian has written, "and its successful administration has had a profound effect on the educational life of America."<sup>1</sup>

To Samuel Chapman Armstrong, the aims of the Institute were clear:

"to train selected Negro youth who should go out and teach and lead their people, first by example, by getting land and homes; to give them not a dollar that they could earn for themselves; to teach respect for labor, to replace stupid drudgery with skilled hands; and, to these ends, to build up an industrial system for the sake not only of self-support and intelligent labor, but also for the sake of character. And it seemed equally clear that the people of the country would support a wise work for the freedmen."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Samuel Atkins Eliot, "Armstrong, Samuel Chapman," <u>Dictionary of American</u> Biography, 1943, I, 360.

<sup>2</sup>Samuel Chapman Armstrong, <u>Twenty-Two Years' Work of the Hampton Normal</u> <u>and Agricultural Institute</u> (Hampton, Va.: Normal School Press, 1893), p. 6.

Continued



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Hampton

ENTRY NUMBER

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DATE

COUNTY

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

#### INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

#### (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (page 2)

Hampton Institute

Hampton was to be coeducational (in Armstrong's words: "The women of the race deserve as good a chance as the men"<sup>3</sup>), and the first conditions for admission were simple: "sound health, good character, age not less than 14 or over 25, ability to read and write intelligibly, knowledge of arithmetic through long division, intention to remain throughout the whole course of three years, and to become a teacher."

The first classes at Hampton were held in a left-over military barracks. There were 2 teachers and 15 students. The girls lived in the wooden barracks, the boys in tents, until the first dormitories were completed. Students were charged \$10 per month for room and board, and worked at various trades and jobs to pay these fees; indeed, many of the early school buildings at Hampton were constructed by students. Tuition expenses were met by private contributions. In 1870, Hampton Institute was incorporated by a special act of the State of Virginia and began to enjoy some State, and later Federal, aid.

It is interesting to note that, in addition to its commitment to black education, Hampton for many years also educated small groups of Indians. In 1878 a group of 17 young Indians, former prisoners of war at Fort Marion, Florida, were brought to Hampton, the only school that responded favorably to Lt. Richard H. Pratt's appeals for their further education. (Pratt later founded the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania.) By 1899 there were nearly a thousand students at Hampton, and of these 135 were Indians.

The Hampton Institute soon became a model for other normal and industrial schools established during Reconstruction. Hampton alumnus Booker T. Washington returned to the Institute as a member of the faculty in 1879 and from there, in 1881, went to Alabama to found the Tuskeegee Institute.

Samuel Chapman Armstrong, in the "Hampton Plan," had described and advocated what he believed to be essentials of education: education of head, heart, and hand alike--"Education for Life," as Hampton's motto came to be known. In a letter to General Armstrong dated June 4, 1874, William Lloyed Garrison expressed a belief that is timely today as well: "the whole country ought to feel a deep interest in the success not only of Hampton Institute, but of every similar experiment to confer the blessings of a good education upon a race so long denied the means of light and knowledge...."

<sup>3</sup><u>Ibid</u>, p. 8.

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 7,8 PAGE 1

### 7. DESCRIPTION

At its April 20, 1976 meeting, the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission reduced the Hampton Institute Register boundaries to encompass only the 15 acres which contain the major buildings that are most associated with the origins of the institution. This action was taken so as to alter the Register boundaries, nominated by the Landmarks Commission in September 1969, which delineated 200 acres so that they coincide with those boundaries established in the National Historic Landmark nomination report of January 9, 1974.

The adjusted boundaries exclude approximately 185 acres containing about 100 buildings on the Institute's campus including modern academic buildings such as Armstrong Hall, the Armstrong Slater Building, the Library, and Williams Recreation Center, as well as the Armstrong Athletic Field and numerous structures used for faculty and student housing. The new boundaries emphasize the importance of the five major edifices that signify the beginnings of the university: Virginia Hall, Mansion House, Memorial Chapel, Academic Hall, and the Wigwam. All but the last of these buildings, the Wigwam, have been previously discussed in the 1969 nomination report by the Landmarks Commission staff.

"The Wigwam - "The enrollment of Indians at Hampton necessitated the construction of additional dormitory space. The Wigwam, completed in 1878, is believed to have been designed by Charles D. Cake, superintendent of all early construction at the school. It is a rather simple red brick structure, 35 by 95 feet, and three stories tall with basement. The building is characterized by bands of black brick, segmental arched openings, and a two-story central wooden porch on both north and south sides of the building. The low gable roof is supported by exposed bracing. Upon returning to Hampton, his alma mater, in 1879, Booker T. Washington assumed charge of the Wigwam. Preservation work is currently in progress." (Carol Ann Poh, "Hampton Institute," National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form, January 9, 1974).

Other buildings included within the 15 acres, though not of particular historical significance, are Cleveland Hall, Ogden, and the Administration Building.

#### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

Addition to paragraph 3 so that the first sentence reads:

"Other notable early buildings on the grounds include the Memorial Church, a particularly fine Romanesque Revival structure designed by J.C. Cady in 1886, and the Wigwam, completed the next year and believed to have been designed by Charles D. Cake."

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET #3 ITEM NUMBER 9, 10 PAGE

### 9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Poh, Carol Ann, "Hampton Institute," National Register of Historic Places Inventory -Nomination Form, January 9, 1974, on file at the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

#### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References	:	A-	18/380960/4097850
		B	18/380950/4097540
		C-	18/380620/4097550
		D-	18/380630/4097860

Boundary Description:

The 15 acres comprising the historically and architecturally significant portion of Hampton Institute are bounded by a line beginning at a point on the eastern shore of the Hampton River, approximately 100' SW of intersection of Shore Road and Tyler Street;

thence extending approximately 500'NE to intersection of Tyler Street and Huntington Road;

thence extending approximately 300' SE to intersection of Huntington Road and Frissell Avenue at Ogden Circle;

thence extending approximately 500' NE along Frissell Avenue;

thence extending approximately 300' SE to Armstrong Avenue, cutting across the block between Frissell and Armstrong Avenues;

thence extending approximately 200' SW along Armstrong Avenue to intersection of said avenue with Huntington Road;

thence extending approximately 400' SE along Huntington Road to 4ts intersection with Marshall Avenue;

thence extending approximately 300' SW along Marshall Avenue;

thence extending approximately 150' SE, then approximately 150' SW, then approximately 100' NW, then approximately 50' due W, then approximately 100' NW - thus encompassing Academic Hall, but excluding the surrounding parking lots;

thence extending approximately 100' SW to shore of Hampton River; thence extending NW along shoreline to point of origin.

