

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

VLR 6/6/7
NRA 6/8/7

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hampton City Hall
other names/site number DHR Number 114-5142

2. Location

street & number 100 Kings Way not for publication
city or town Hampton vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Hampton (independent city) code 650 zip code 23669

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Virginia Department of Historic Resources Date _____
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title [Signature] Date 6/25/07

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT Sub: city hall

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: _____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT

walls CONCRETE

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1938-1939

Significant Dates 1938, 1939

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Williams, Coile and Pipino—architect; Muirhead Construction Company--builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia department of Historic Resources

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property 0.27 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	380414	4098405	2		3		4			

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian
 organization _____ date 27 March 2007
 street & number P O Box 7638 telephone 757 / 623 . 3456
 city or town Norfolk state VA zip code 23509

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner
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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Ambika Condo LLC, c/o Raj Randeria
 street & number 245 Granby Street telephone 757 / 623 . 6200
 city or town Norfolk state VA zip code 23510

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

Section 7 Page 1

7. Description

Architectural Description Summary:

The Hampton City Hall is an Art Deco-style city hall building situated within the City of Hampton, Virginia. Constructed in 1938-1939, the building was designed by the Newport News, Virginia architectural firm of Williams, Coile and Pipino and constructed by Muirhead Construction Company of Richmond, Virginia. It is concrete construction clad in brick veneer topped with a flat roof surrounded by a parapet. The building has two stories resting on an elevated basement story. There is a projecting entrance at the south end of the west façade with stylized limestone pilasters and monumental stair flanked by stepped cheek walls with stylized limestone coping. In 1962, the building was converted for use as a Juvenile Courts and Probation Office. An addition was designed by the architectural firm of Rancorn, Wildman and Krause and constructed by W. M. Jordan, contractors, to the east and north of the original building, and the interior was reconfigured to serve the court and office functions. The building is currently undergoing renovation for conversion for use as condominiums. This building is nominated for National Register of Historic Places listing under Criterion C, Architecture, for the period 1938-1939. The building is representative of Public Works Administration architectural projects of the 1930s New Deal era.

Architectural Description:

The Hampton City Hall was constructed in 1938-1939 and was designed by the architectural firm of Williams, Coile and Pipino of Newport News, Virginia. Muirhead Construction Company of Richmond, Virginia was the contractor tasked with the construction of the building. The building was designed in the Art Deco style with a prominent projecting entrance situated near the south end of the main building. The building has a general rectangular footprint. It is constructed of concrete clad in brick veneer laid in common bond with limestone details and a flat roof behind a parapet. The building is two stories resting on an elevated basement. An addition was made to the building in 1962, designed by the architectural firm of Rancorn, Wildman and Krause and constructed by W. M. Jordan, contractor of Newport News, Virginia.

The building's entrance comprises limestone stairs flanked by stepped cheek walls with limestone caps. The caps are fluted and have canted corners. The entrance façade is marked by stylized fluted columns flanking the double-leaf replacement entrance doors and glass block window. There is a stylized Art Deco motif panel surrounding the City of Hampton seal above the double-leaf doors and decorative transom. Surmounting the panel is the glass block window. A limestone stringcourse marks the top of the stylized columns. Above this stringcourse is a centrally-placed limestone panel with raised "Hampton City Hall" covered by a panel. Flanking this panel are relief motifs illustrating Hampton's history and primary economic function; the settlement of the region depicting the first landing with Indians and Colonial settlers, and a waterman and ship, respectively. The parapet above the panels is stepped limestone. There is a remnant of a copper flag pole base centrally placed on the parapet above the entrance. The brick walls flanking the pilasters and entrance feature raised brick courses forming horizontal banding. There are vertical elongated Art Deco light fixtures applied to the walls flanking the entrance.

The main building is set back from the entrance approximately fifteen-feet from the entrance façade. The main building

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

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has a horizontal emphasis with raised brick banding and limestone watertable and string course. The building also features a simplified limestone coping on the parapet. The windows are evenly spaced and comprise replacement metal awning windows. There is a date stone on the west façade at the south corner below the watertable with “Erected 1938” etched into the limestone.

The addition made in 1962 has similar style and characteristics to the original building. Situated on the east and north walls, the addition is two stories with a raised basement. There is a projecting entrance on the south elevation near the east that is one-story with a raised basement. The entrance features a recessed double-leaf door surmounted by a glass block window. The addition features brick quoins, watertable, stringcourse and limestone coping on the roof parapet.

The interior of the building was renovated in 1962 to accommodate the Juvenile Courts and Probation Office. The renovation included a reconfiguration of office space within the original building and the replacement of windows and doors. In addition, floor and wall treatments were removed in some rooms and hallways. The hallway is generally U-shaped within the building on each story to connect the original building with the addition. The renovation included the addition of suspended ceilings, wall-to-wall carpet, and wall-boarded walls. The areas within the addition were made to accommodate the court function and feature large courtrooms.

Despite the renovations and later addition, the main building retains high integrity as originally built in 1938. Original spaces include the foyer within the projecting entrance of the building. The foyer features terrazzo floors and stairs, wrought-iron railings on the stair, and polished stone wainscoting on the walls. On the first story, there are some stone wainscoting and door surrounds that have been retained immediately adjacent to the foyer. Visible above a suspended roof in the room just north of the foyer is a stylized fret motif along the ceiling. The lavatories in the building appear to also be original to the initial construction. They feature tiled floors and wainscoting and marble stall dividers.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

Section 8 Page 3

8. Statement of Significance

Historic Statement Summary:

The Hampton City Hall was constructed from 1938 to 1939, and is an example of Art Deco government architecture. The building was designed by the architectural firm of Williams, Coile and Pipino of Newport News, Virginia. Funding for the erection of the building was provided by the Public Works Administration (PWA) in the form of \$24,545.00 in a grant and \$30,000.00 in a government loan. The contract for the building's construction was awarded to William Muirhead Contractor of Richmond, Virginia. The design of the building was approved by the PWA and the City of Hampton in 1938 and construction began in September, 1938. The building was formally occupied in May, 1939. The building served its function as a city hall facility until 1962 when it became the Juvenile Court and Probation Office. The building is currently vacant and is under renovation for conversion for use as condominiums. This building is nominated for National Register of Historic Places listing under Criterion C, Architecture, for the period 1938-1939. The building is representative of Public Works Administration architectural projects of the 1930s New Deal era.

Historic Statement:

During the Great Depression, the United States Federal Government created programs to employ the great number of unemployed and provide infrastructure improvements within the United States. The program was called the New Deal, created in an effort to help the United States recover from the Great Depression. In 1935, the Works Progress Administration was created in the second New Deal proposal to appropriate funds for federal-funded building projects. Within President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal program building projects had been primarily for federal functions, but changes within the program allowed for loan and grant allocations for a limited number of non-federal projects. In 1938, the Public Works Administration Appropriation Act within the Works Progress Administration made funding available for additional non-federal projects and created the Public Works Administration PWA, which took over many of the building projects formerly executed under the Works Progress Administration. The PWA employed 9 million people in public projects, including the construction of schools, hospitals, bridges, roads, and airports. The total expenditure of the PWA was \$2 billion and it funded the construction of or made additions for 1873 buildings.¹

City and town hall building projects were quite commonly funded by the PWA. By 1939, 206 of the 1492 buildings approved and under construction using PWA funds were city and town halls. The estimated funds provided by the PWA for the construction of these buildings were just under \$30 million. Most of the funding came directly from grants or allotments.² Within Virginia, there were forty-one buildings that were either constructed or had additions made that were funded by the PWA. Of the forty-one buildings, twenty-seven new buildings were erected and fourteen additions were made. The total expenditure for construction within Virginia through the PWA program was \$2,364,774.³

Approval for the funding of the Hampton City Hall building was made by the PWA based upon need, technical problems, ability to employ the unemployed, and public concern for a project.⁴ Another aspect considered was the equitable distribution of projects across the country.⁵ The general design and character of the building was at the discretion of the locality, state or federal agency administering the project, though final approval was required of the PWA. Guidelines for design were established within the PWA were based upon regional heritage and function. There was no prescribed

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**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

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building style that the locality or architect was required to select, and the primary focus of the project was on cost-effectiveness and soundness of construction.⁶ Materials and ornament were to be selected for each project depending on the location and ability of finding builders and crafts-people to execute the work.⁷

The architectural styles of the buildings that were funded by the PWA range from interpretations of the Colonial style to the modern Art Deco style that gained popularity in the early 20th century. Within the PWA’s collection of illustrated buildings, a pattern appeared to develop in regards to the selection of style within the seven regions the PWA established for the review and funding of projects. For those states that were settled by the English first in the nation, a Colonial-inspired building style was selected, while for the Midwest regions, more modern styles were selected since the architectural heritage was more vernacular. For regions with a Spanish influence, Spanish-Colonial-inspired style buildings were erected. In addition to regional architectural style selection, there appeared to be a pattern for building style within the type of project. Large projects, such as city halls for large cities exhibited modern styles, while their smaller counter-parts were more Colonial-inspired.⁸ Libraries tended to have more traditional styles, while recreational facilities, such as auditoriums and swimming pools had a more modern style.

For the erection of the city hall, the City of Hampton was granted \$30,000.00 and loaned \$24,545.00 from the PWA. The building drawings once approved by the City of Hampton had to be approved by the PWA prior to the commencement of construction. The Art Deco style was selected for the building, though the origins of the selection are unknown. The term Art Deco was not coined until 1966, and the style was often called the “modern classic.” The local newspaper, Daily Press, published a commentary on the building style upon the announcement of the building’s appearance. The Daily Press editorial noted that Hampton was the “nation’s oldest continuing English-speaking town...” and that the building would not be in character for this Colonial city. They called the selection of the style “...an unforgivable crime” and that the style should not be used within Hampton or within the region.⁹ There was concurrence among the Hampton City Council members regarding the use of a more traditional Colonial style, but the mayor was quick to note that costs would increase with a redesign of the building.¹⁰ At some point, no further action on design was made after the July City Council meetings, and the Art Deco style of the original building concept was retained.

The architectural style of the building is Art Deco, which was predominant in the 1930s and 1940s. Found mostly on commercial, industrial and institutional architecture the building style was employed by architects as a modern approach to the application of decorative style to buildings. The style derives from a synthesis of modern machine-age styling and ancient architectural and decorative sources. The building style also derives a hierarchy of the exterior by emphasizing entrance elements with stylized architectural elements.¹¹ The Hampton City Hall building exemplifies Art Deco characteristics of the period and reflects the Art Deco style trend of the period.

In July 1938 the City of Hampton approved the design concept for the city hall building. The building rendering showed a similar building to the one constructed. The concept drawing was made in response to the grant of funds for the erection of the building by the commissioned architectural firm. Following the approval of the building concept, the Hampton City Council met repeatedly to select a site for the location of the building. By July 15, 1938 a site was selected on King Street (currently Kings Way) of 144 feet wide by 245 feet deep. The cost of the land was \$20,000.00. At the same meeting on July 15, 1938 the architecture firm of Williams, Coile and Pipino was formally employed to draw up plans and specifications for the two and one-half story building.¹² In late August 1938, the contract for the construction of the

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**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

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building was awarded to Muirhead Construction Company of Richmond, Virginia for the low bid of \$54, 260.00.¹³

Building construction began shortly after acquisition of the site. There were three frame dwellings on the site and the first of the three was demolished within days of the site acquisition. The foundation was laid out by the contractor on September 6, 1938. At the commencement of construction the estimate completion time of the construction of the building was estimated to be seven months.¹⁴ The building was completed in late May, 1939 and the offices of the police department and other city functions were moved to the building over a couple of weeks. A formal open house was conducted the weekend of late May.¹⁵

The City of Hampton occupied the building until 1962 when the building was renovated by Rancorn, Wildman and Krause for use as the Juvenile Courts and Probation Office. An addition was made to the building to accommodate the court function and the main building was used for offices. The contractor of the renovation was W. M. Jordan of Newport News, Virginia. The building was in use until the turn of the 21st century when it was sold for development as condominiums.

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**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

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9. Major Bibliographical References

- “Another Meeting Today to Select City Hall Site.” Daily Press. July 7, 1938.
- Badger, Anthony J. The New Deal: The Depression years, 1933-1940. Chicago: Ivan R. Dee Publishers, 2002.
- Bayer, Patricia. Art Deco Architecture: Design, Decoration and Detail from the Twenties and Thirties. London: Thames and Hudson, 1992.
- Breeze, Carla. American Art Deco. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 2003.
- “City Hall Plans Get Approval of Hampton Council.” Daily Press. August 10, 1938.
- “Councilmen Meet Monday to Settle City Hall Matter.” Daily Press. July 8, 1938.
- “Foundation Work on City Hall to be Started Today.” Daily Press. September 6, 1938.
- Hamburstaff, D. P. “Closer Coverage.” Daily Press. April 30, 1939.
- “Hampton Council Defers Selection of City Hall Site.” Daily Press. July 6, 1938.
- “Hampton Council to Purchase North King Street Site for Proposed \$57,000 City Hall.” Daily Press. July 16, 1938.
- “Hampton New City Hall has Modern Facilities, Luxurious Appointments.” Daily Press. April 30, 1939.
- “Hampton’s New City Hall that PWA Funds Changed from Dream to Reality.” Daily Press. July 3, 1938.
- Heinemann, Rondal Lynton. Depression and New Deal in Virginia. Ph.D. diss., University of Virginia, 1968.
- “Please Hampton!” Daily Press. July 3, 1938.
- Public Works Administration. America Builds: the Record of the PWA, Public Works Administration. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1939.
- Short, Charles Wilkins. Public Buildings: Architecture under the Public Works Administration, 1933-39. Washington, DC: U.S.G.P.O., 1939.
- Short, Charles Wilkins. Public Buildings: Architecture under the Public Works Administration, 1933-39, Volume 1. Washington, DC: U.S.G.P.O., 1939; reprint New York: Da Capo Press, 1986.
- Williams, J. Kerwin. Grants-in-Aid under the Public Works Administration: A Study in Federal-State-Local Relations. New York: Columbia University Press, 1939.
- “Work will begin on City Hall in Hampton September 6.” Daily Press. August 30, 1938.

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**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The Hampton City Hall is situated at 100 Kings Way, Hampton, Virginia. It is denoted as the City of Hampton Real Estate Assessor's Office as Parcel 02J235-00-00000.

Boundary Justification

The parcel is historically associated with the property during the period of significance reflecting the current boundaries of the parcel.

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**Hampton City Hall
Hampton (independent city), Virginia**

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Additional Documentation

1. Hampton City Hall
2. Hampton (independent city), Virginia
3. Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian
4. October 24, 2006
5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia
6. West facade (VA_Hampton_CityHall1.tif)
7. Photograph Number 1

1. Hampton City Hall
2. Hampton (independent city), Virginia
3. Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian
4. October 24, 2006
5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia
6. West façade—Date stone detail (VA_Hampton_CityHall2.tif)
7. Photograph Number 2

1. Hampton City Hall
2. Hampton (independent city), Virginia
3. Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian
4. October 24, 2006
5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia
6. First Story—Foyer and Stairwell—View southeast (VA_Hampton_CityHall3.tif)
7. Photograph Number 3

1. Hampton City Hall
2. Hampton (independent city), Virginia
3. Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian
4. October 24, 2006
5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia
6. First Story—Foyer—View east (VA_Hampton_CityHall4.tif)
7. Photograph Number 4

1. Hampton City Hall
2. Hampton (independent city), Virginia
3. Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian
4. October 24, 2006
5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia
6. First Story—Hall—View northeast (VA_Hampton_CityHall5.tif)
7. Photograph Number 5

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¹ Williams, J. Kerwin, "Grants-in-Aid under the Public Works Administration: A Study in Federal-State-Local Relations," (New York: Columbia University Press, 1939), 56.

² Public Works Administration, "America Builds: the Record of the PWA, Public Works Administration," (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1939), 283.

³ Short, Charles Wilkins, "Public Buildings: Architecture under the Public Works Administration, 1933-39," (Washington, DC: U.S.G.P.O., 1939), 685.

⁴ Williams, 106-107 and 117-118.

⁵ Ibid., 109.

⁶ Short, IX.

⁷ Short, X.

⁸ Regional styles also influenced style selection.

⁹ "Please Hampton!" Daily Press. July 3, 1938

¹⁰ "Hampton Council Defers Selection of City Hall Site." Daily Press. July 6, 1938.

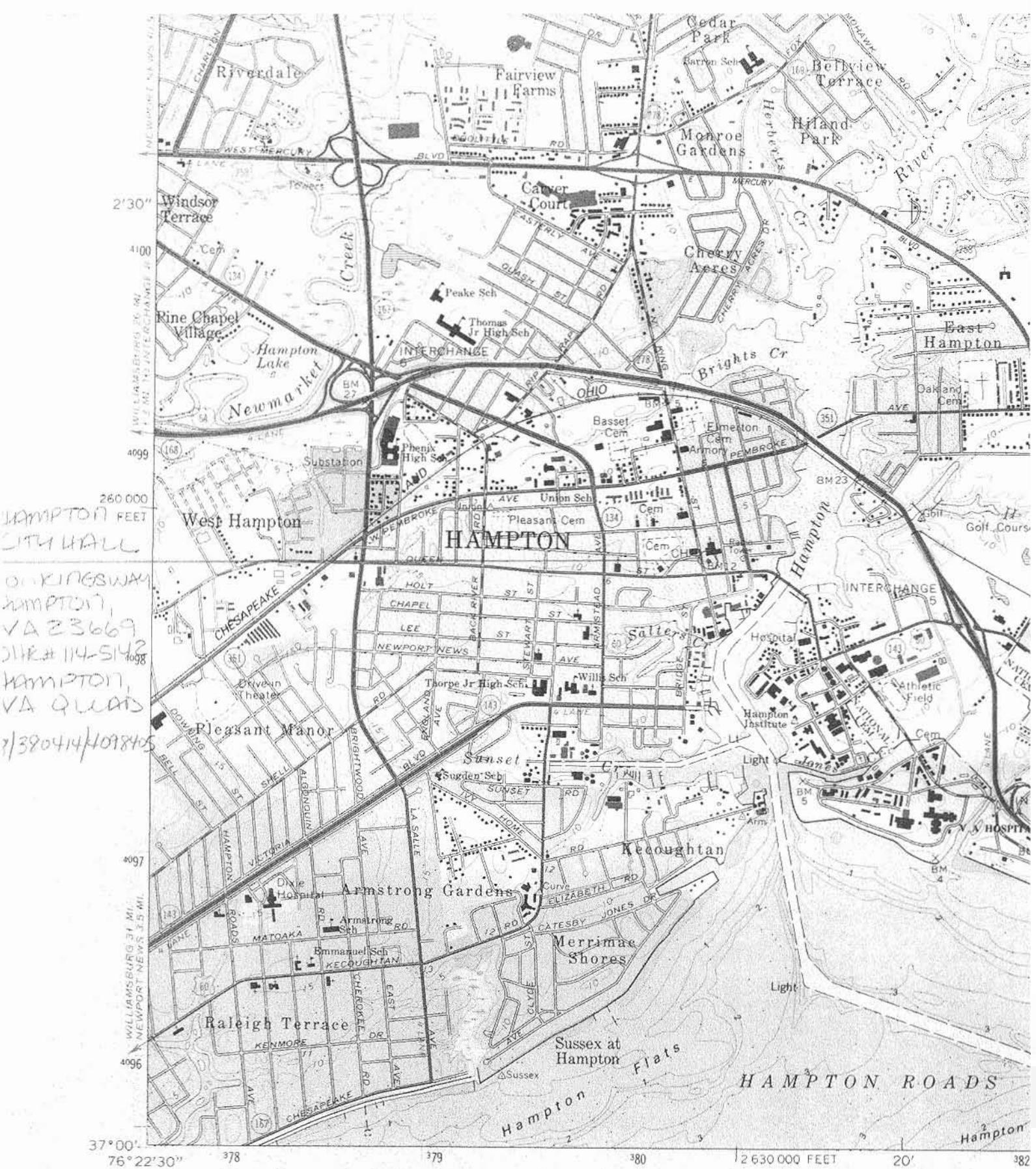
¹¹ Bayer, Patricia, "Art Deco Architecture: Design, Decoration and Detail from the Twenties and Thirties," (London: Thames and Hudson, 1992), 18-19.

¹² "Hampton Council to Purchase North King Street Site for Proposed \$57,000 City Hall." Daily Press. July 16, 1938.

¹³ "Foundation Work on City Hall to be Started Today." Daily Press. September 6, 1938.

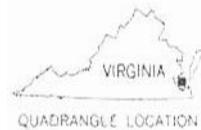
¹⁴ "Work will begin on City Hall in Hampton September 6." Daily Press. August 30, 1938.

¹⁵ "Please Hampton!" Daily Press. July 3, 1938



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 and the National Ocean Service in cooperation with
 Commonwealth of Virginia agencies
 Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1964
 Bathymetry compiled by the National Ocean Service from
 tide-coordinated hydrographic surveys. This information
 is not intended for navigational purposes
 Mean low water (dotted) line and mean high water (heavy solid)
 line compiled by NOS from tide-coordinated aerial photographs
 Apparent shoreline (outer edge of vegetation) shown by light solid line



MN