

Welcome to our house here at Hancock's Resolution

We are **Mamie and Harry Hancock**, the last descendants of Stephen Hancock to live in this house. Born in the late 1800's, we chose to continue living "the old way". We never installed electricity in the house nor running water, even though Harry lived until 1962. In Harry's will he asked that the property go to an historic preservation organization.

Mamie (born 1869)

Harry (born 1872)

Uncle Harry always said you can't miss something you never had.



This is the largest surviving building on Hancock's Resolution, dating to circa 1785. The “one-room plan” middling planter's home of the late 18th century was this size or smaller.

It measures 24 by 22 feet and is a two-story house with a gambrel roof. Our ancestor Stephen Hancock, Jr., a veteran of the Revolutionary War, built it in about 1785 using native ferruginous sandstone, locally referred to as “ironstone”.



This building and wooden additions added later remained in our family until 1962. The stone section is one of the few existing 18th century stone dwellings in Anne Arundel county.



The **corner cabinet** is “**original**” to the house and always stood in this corner. We know this because the chair rail behind the cabinet was never repainted.

The **cabinet** shares most of the improvements that are found in the house, including similar dentils, interior color, and the combing of the exterior paint. It also has quite fancy shelves.

The dishes in the cabinet are from the family.

The desk was made by a master craftsman. Family records show that Stephen’s second wife, Linda Ridgely Hancock, was given a gown and this desk by her father when she married.



You are looking at **one of the best examples of an untouched interior in the Mid-Atlantic region** due to the few modifications made over the years. Most of the plaster, the hand-split laths to which the plaster is attached, the Federalist styled wood trim, and the floors are original. Some major ceiling holes were replastered due to years with a leaky roof. The paint scheme is very close to the original.



This cradle, known as a **twin cradle**, was donated by the family.



The quilt on the bed was pieced by the daughters of Rhoda Virginia Hancock Cook.

Essentially everything, including some cooking was done in this room. It likely contained a bed with a trundle under, as well as the cabinet.

The fireplace has gone through at least 3 periods of development.

1st: The oldest is indicated by the outside course of brick. It was large and not very efficient, allowing heat to escape up the chimney and smoke to spread through the room. A pot hung from a trammel rod in the center.

2nd: You can see the “Rumford fireplace installed in the early 19th century. More heat now came into the room and more smoke went up the chimney.

3rd: The final generation is indicated by the piece of tin on the floor. On top of it stood a freestanding iron stove. Warmth in the far corners of the room at last.



The mantelpiece, wood doors, and molding are typical of the Federal Period (1780's-1830's). The Hancock's made the woodwork somewhat better than was usual in a farmhouse. The “crossed” mantelpiece, raised door panels, dentils (only “ghosts” remain), and the “combing” of the paint, indicate they desired something better than the average farmhouse of the period. Behind the second door are stairs leading to the **second-floor bedrooms which are not open to the public.**



The 2nd floor of the Main House

The main part of the second floor is the room with the fireplace. According to the family, the children slept here. There are 2 bedrooms at the back of the house. The room on the right was for the parents. The room on the left was the “Preacher’s” room. The Methodist circuit rider stayed there when traveling his circuit. The stay was usually a fortnight (two weeks). He provided local Church services in the spread-out rural area.



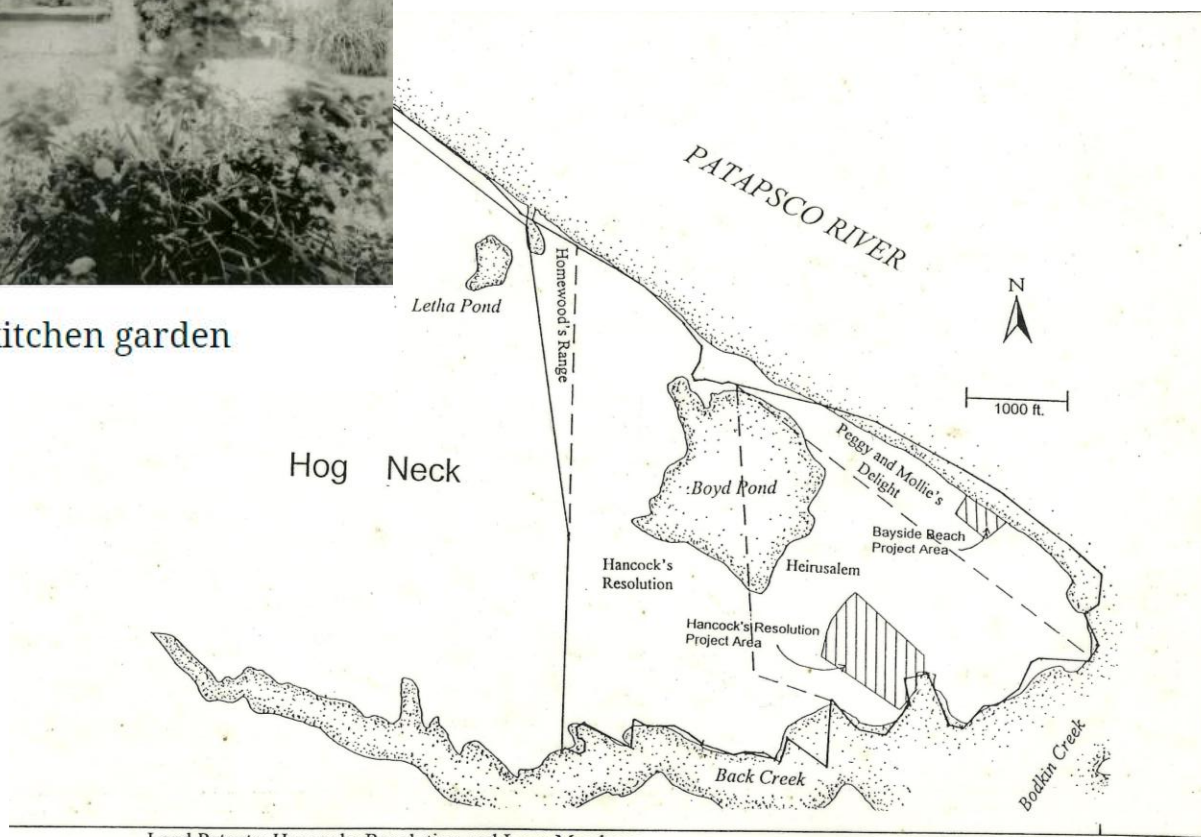
The **oldest door** on this floor (formerly the exterior entry door of the main house) is the one leading to the “new” kitchen. The unfinished upstairs of the kitchen was used for storage and a temporary bedroom for visitors spending the night.

Over the years the kitchen has been in several places. By the mid-1850s a new kitchen was built closer to the house. The new two-story kitchen was built using board and batten siding which is whitewashed every fall. A one-story hyphen was added later which joined the new kitchen to the ironstone house.





1898 The porch looking down on the kitchen garden



Land Patents: Hancock's Resolution and Long Meadows

2. 1730's- Hancock's leased property here.
- 1760's- Heirusalem and Peggy and Molly's Delight were bought
- 1790- Homewood's Range and Hancock's Resolution bought
- Long Meadows- entire property later renamed this