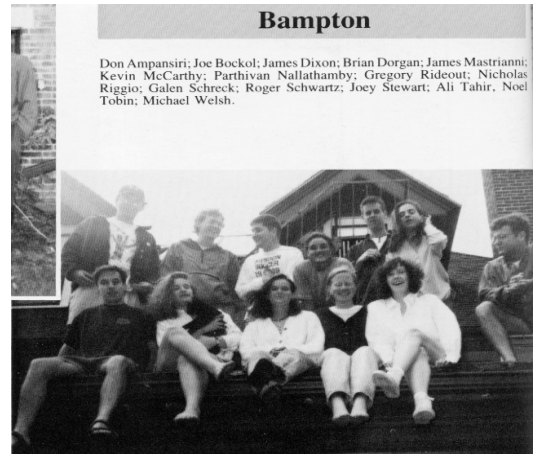


The Bampton Project

A Retrospective on
Bampton House And A
Tribute to The Loyal
Alumnus Who Made It
Possible



Don Ampanisiri; Joe Bockol; James Dixon; Brian Dorgan; James Mastrianni; Kevin McCarthy; Parthivan Nallathamby; Gregory Rideout; Nicholas Riggio; Galen Schreck; Roger Schwartz; Joey Stewart; Ali Tahir, Noel Tobin; Michael Welsh.



By Karl A. Brautigam, III - Hobart Class of 2004



HOBART COLLEGE

Hobart Deans Office
Smith Hall - First Floor
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Geneva, New York 14456-3387

Phone: (315)781-3300

Web Site: <http://www.hws.edu/academics/deans/hobart/index.asp>

HOBART COLLEGE

Hobart
Heritage



Table of Contents

“Bampton House: A Tribute to James W. Bampton ’32 and the Brennan Family: An Homage To The Two Families and Many Generations Who Made This Possible”
A Foreword by Karl A. Brautigam, III - Hobart College Class of 2004

Basic Facts About Bampton House & 720 South Main Street

Chapter 1: A New Beginning: The Brennan Family Moves to 720 South Main

Chapter 2: James W. Bampton: Notable Alumnus of Hobart College

Chapter 3: Induction of Bampton House Into the HWS Residential Education System: 720 South Main Gets a New Name and a New Face

Acknowledgements/A Word of Thanks

Appendix A – Documents, Articles, and Clippings

Appendix B – Photographs



Foreward

I've been fortunate to live in Bampton House for the past two years and will spend my senior year there, as well. It is a great house with room for 15 students with 6 bathrooms. The fact that it is an honors/leadership house (with a required GPA of 3.0) to live there attracts students with similar personalities and lifestyles.

Dean Capraro (who is the Advisor to Bampton House) encouraged me to write a historical perspective on the house that could be used as an article for the *Hobart Heritage Newsletter* after I presented him the idea of doing a project on the origins of Bampton House. Thus, my research into the house started. A much shorter, more concise version of what follows can be found in the newsletter.

The perspective is about the house, and of course, any history of a house is not about the bricks and mortar but about the people connected with the house.

I've conducted interviews with several former occupants of 720 South Main Street who fondly remember their times living in the house. I've also talked to people involved in making Bampton House what it is today. The appendices contain the transcripts of these interviews and provide for interesting and enlightening reading.

The theme running through the research from old files, newspapers, magazine articles, interviews, etc. is what a giant of a man Mr. James Bampton '32 was in business, college, and community affairs, philanthropy, and family. This is not only a history of Bampton House, 720 South Main Street, but more importantly, a tribute to Mr. Bampton.

I want to thank everyone who gave their time and energy to make this historical perspective possible. The appendices (which include many pictures, articles, and documents) make up most of the research I undertook.

Again, all of the men who have had the good fortune to live in Bampton House owe a great deal to Mr. James W. Bampton '32 and the founders who made this house possible.

Karl A. Brautigam, III
Hobart College - Class of 2004
June 3, 2003

Basic Facts About Bampton House

Year Built: 1924

Architecture: Tudor/Jacobean

Original Owner: William J. Brennan, Sr.

*Owners:*¹

William Brennan (1924-1956)

Nona Brennan (1956-1969)

Marguerite Brennan Lynch (1969-1972)

Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy's Happiness House (1972-1986)

Hobart & William Smith Colleges (current occupant) (1986-Present)

Quick Facts:

- Purchased by the Colleges in 1986 from Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy's Happiness House
- The house is built in the Tudor style and has similarities to The Grant House (located at 816 South Main Street). The sills and lintels are of white stone and the front entrance is rounded in the Jacobean style with white stone surround.²
- Originally owned by William Brennan, the President, Treasurer, and General Manager of the Geneva Foundry.
- Idea for Hobart Honors & Leadership House conceived by former Hobart Dean Joseph Healy and President Emeritus Carroll Brewster.
- Mary Brewster, Carroll Brewster's wife, selected the furnishings (which still exist today in the Bampton living room) from the Stickley Company.

· Bampton's one stipulation of the gift was that the house was to never be a coed residence.

· Named in honor of James W. Bampton, Hobart College Class of 1932 and Honorary Degree Recipient (LLD) in 1968. Bampton was a long-time trustee and was first elected as alumnus trustee in 1957. Eventually, he was made an honorary trustee for his many years of service to the Board. He passed away in 1999.

· Honorary trustee, honorary degree recipient, and William Smith College alumna Barbara Lynch Springstead (William Smith Class of 1957) lived in this house. She was the granddaughter of William Brennan Sr., the original owner of the house. She married Ralph Springstead '47 who is the retired Chairman & CEO of Savings Bank of the Finger Lakes (now known as First Niagara Bank).

· Joan Lynch (William Smith Class of 1961) also grew up in this house with her sister, Barbara. She is currently the retired Assistant Director of Social Services at Geneva General Hospital and was active in Little Theater at William Smith College.

Footnotes:

¹ - Information provided courtesy of the Geneva Historical Society Registers, 1924-2003

² - Information provided courtesy of the Geneva Historical Society
(www.genevahistoricalsociety.com)