

## **AMERICAN FOUR-SQUARE**

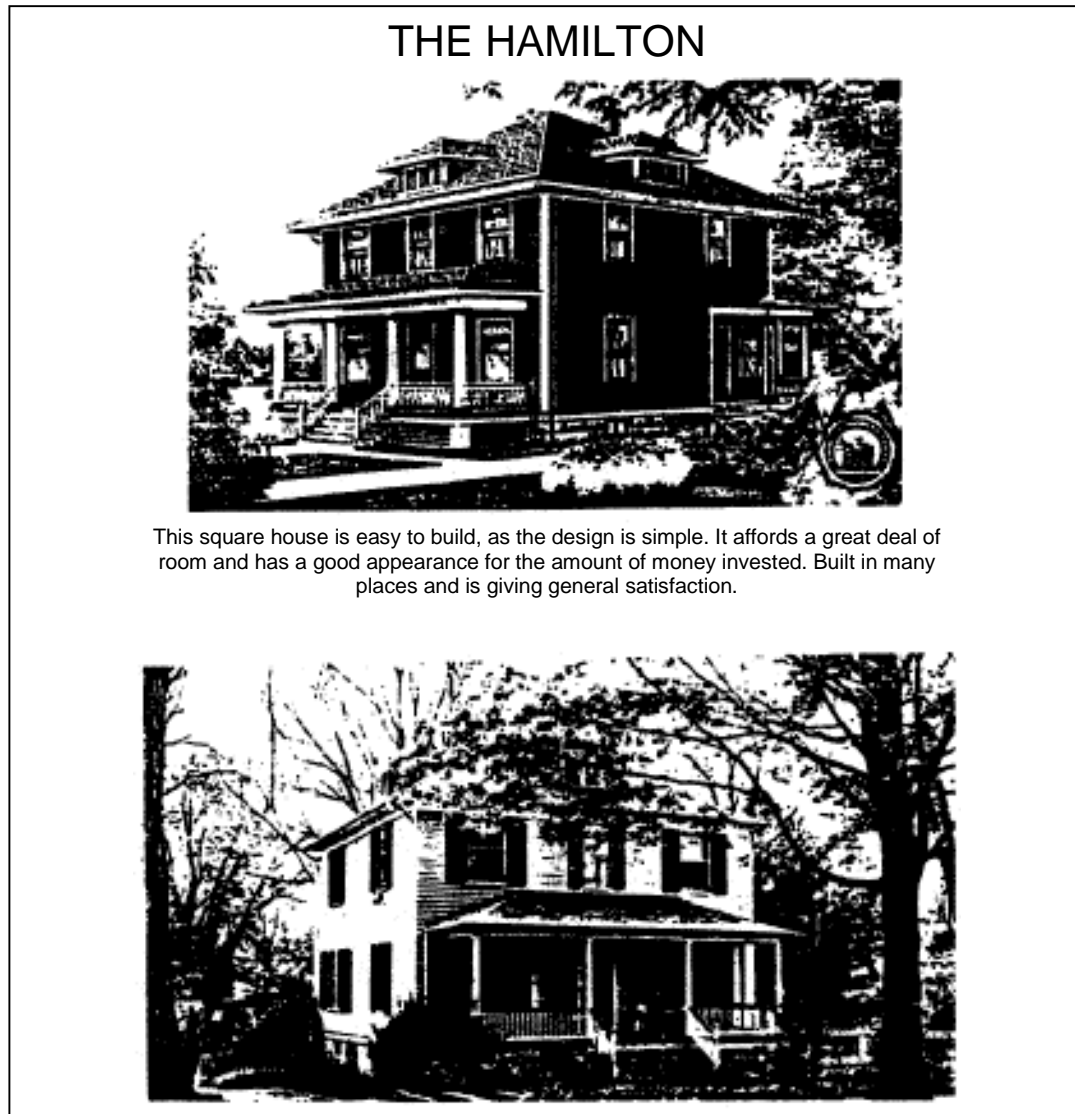
The American Four-Square style is identified by its square shape and by its hipped roof. It is usually two stories with a full-width, one-story porch. Often, the front of the hipped roof has a prominent dormer windows. This type of structure was one of this country's most popular house forms from the late 1890s through the 1920s. More elaborate examples may have classical details such as columns for porch supports and modillion blocks in the cornice.

Examples of the American Four-Square style in the Kensington Historic District are located at: 10310 Freeman Place, 10221 Montgomery Avenue, 10225 Montgomery Avenue, 10304 Montgomery Avenue, and 3910 Washington Street. These residences exhibit hipped roofs with symmetrical facades and front porches. Large dormers pierce the roofline of each of the dwellings, a typical feature of the American Four-Square style.



**Figure 24:** Photograph of 3910 Washington Street.

The American Four-Square style house located at 3806 Baltimore Street is believed to be “The Hamilton” from the Sears, Roebuck and Company mail-order house catalog dating from 1908, 1922-1913, and 1916-1918. The eight-room and one-bath square house has a full-width front porch with a hipped roof supported by columns, and the main roof features hipped gable dormers.<sup>2</sup>



**Figure 25:** Illustration from Houses by Mail and Photograph of 3806 Baltimore Street.

<sup>2</sup> Stevenson, Katherine Cole. Houses By Mail. Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1986, p. 264.