



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman  
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**[ Battle of Baltimore / Patterson Point ] Map of Hampstead Hill . . .**

**Stock#:** 101457  
**Map Maker:** de Krafft  
**Date:** 1800 circa  
**Place:** Baltimore  
**Color:** Pen & Ink with Wash Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 15.5 x 9 inches including text  
**Price:** \$ 2,800.00



**Description:**

***One of the Primary Surveyors of Washington DC with Pierre L'Enfant and Andrew Ellicott Surveys the Giles Estate on Hampstead Hill***

***Future Site of the Battle of Baltimore***

Detailed hand drawn survey map of a parcel of land on Hampstead Hill, drawn by Charles de Krafft for Jacob W. Giles (1776-1851).

The map shows the area which was apparently the home of, or otherwise, owned by Jacob W. Giles a leading citizen of Baltimore. It is possible that this is the same Giles whose house appears just north of the terminus of Market Street at Perry-Hill Road on Warner & Hannah's 1802 [Plan of the City and Environs of Baltimore](#). Early details noted on the map reference Hempstead Hill Street and Mountenay's Neck, a strip of land which seems to have been between Old Town and Fells Prospect (Fells Point) on the earliest Baltimore maps.

The area in question would seem to be in or near today's Patterson Park. Prior to its becoming a park in 1827, Hampstead Hill, the highest point in the park, was a meeting point for the local Militia in the first decade of the 19th Century. As the British threat loomed over Baltimore in 1814, the Hill became a strategic point in the city's defense during the Battle of Baltimore. The extensive fortifications constructed here, including trenches and earthen berms, were part of a larger defensive strategy that proved decisive in the confrontation with British forces, including the construction of Rodgers Bastion, a redoubt that anchored the city's eastern defense line. When British troops advanced on September 13, 1814, they encountered a robust American force, bolstered by significant artillery. The unexpected strength of these defenses contributed to the British retreat and the subsequent American victory.



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“**Mountenay’s Neck**” was part of a patent of 299 acres originally granted to Alexander Mountenay, extending on both sides of the Hartford run into “old town,” this property, escheated by the Fells and others, was claimed by Mountenay’s heirs, and a good deal of litigation resulted.

The map was executed by Charles de Krafft, an eighteenth-century American draughtsman and surveyor whose career included the creation of at least 4 manuscript Revolutionary War Battle Plans. De Krafft served as one of the primary draftsmen for Pierre L'Enfant during the 1791 planning of Washington, D.C. and drafted a manuscript map of a part of the Ohio Valley for Thomas Jefferson, which Jefferson used to extra illustrate his personal copy of his *Notes on the State of Virginia* (See the biography section below for a full treatment of de Krafft's life and work.)

De Krafft's later life as a surveyor would take him from [upstate New York](#) to Philadelphia and the Baltimore area, as well as important engagements in Washington DC and in the survey Spanish West Florida and Mississippi Territory, following the signing of the Pinckney Treaty with Spain in October 1795.

Includes the following note:

#### ***A Map of Hampstead Hill***

*Within one mile of Market Street Bridge in the City of Baltimore on which is erected a dwelling house dairy and kitchen with a carriage house and two stables an elegant garden & very valuable Springs*

*Jacob W Giles*

#### **Charles de Krafft Survey Maps**

We note the following locations for surviving examples of survey plans by De Krafft:

- Bryn Mawr College
- Historical Society of Pennsylvania (MS collection 346, being a volume of his work; also, MS collection 25, the Chew papers)
- Library of Congress (two neat plans)
- William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan.

#### **Detailed Condition:**

Manuscript of ink and graphite with hand-applied color on late 18th or early 19th century water-marked paper.

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