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MASTER PLAN FOR THE PRESERVATION
AND USE OF SAGAMORE HILL
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

AUGUST 1963

MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGANORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The Service thus established shall

- . Promote and regulate the use of
- . The Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations hereinafter specified
- . By such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations

Which purpose is

- . To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and
- . To provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as shall
- . Leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

From an Act to Establish a National
Park Service. Approved August 25, 1916.

August 1963

THE PARK

Twenty-nine miles east of New York City in the gracious estate country of the north shore of Long Island lies the small village of Oyster Bay. A few miles east of the town, in an area where he had vacationed as a boy, young Theodore Roosevelt purchased 153 acres of land in 1880. Here, four years later, was to begin the construction of his home on the land that was, by then, known as Sagamore Hill.

Sagamore Hill was the permanent home of Theodore Roosevelt and his family from the time of its construction in 1884, when he was 26 years old, until his death in 1919. Sagamore continued to be the home of Mrs. Roosevelt and other members of the family until her death in 1948. During his 35 years at Sagamore Hill, Theodore Roosevelt went forth to serve his country in the New York Assembly, on the United States Civil Service Commission, as president of New York City's police board, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Army in the Spanish American War, as Governor of New York and, finally, as Vice-President and President of the United States. After the presidency, he stayed very much in the public eye during the Bull Moose campaign and during World War I; and, he was almost certain to be the Republican candidate for the presidency in 1920 had he lived.

It was at Sagamore that three of his children were born, where all six of them grew up, and it was here that TR led the children on hikes through his wooded acres or took them boating on the Sound. It was at Sagamore, too, that a continuous stream of dignitaries came to visit the ebullient Roosevelt, and for seven years it was the summer White House.

The rambling Victorian house set amongst the open fields and woods is the central focus of the area. Within the house, in its easy informality, are found the numerous mementos, souvenirs, gifts and commemorative objects that are so thoroughly emblematic of the vigor and energy of this unusual man. Here are found, amongst his large and widely scattered library, the abundant literary works of the naturalist, hunter, world traveler, historian, philosopher and statesman that was Theodore Roosevelt.

Foreword
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Sagamore Hill is one of three areas of the National Park System that Roosevelt lived in and called home. The brownstone house in New York City where he was born and where he spent 14 years of his life and his North Dakota ranch to which he made numerous pilgrimages are rich in association with Roosevelt, but Sagamore above all other places was his beloved home.

Revised September 1963

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THE MISSION

...of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site is to present the story of Theodore Roosevelt and his family at Sagamore Hill, related within the context of the significant national events associated with him.

...of the National Park Service is to manage the Historic Site so that it will fulfill its Mission effectively and permanently.

Approved: _____
Director Date

August 1963

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MASTER PLAN
FOR SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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FOR SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
MISSION 66 Edition

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} filed separately

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General Park Information

August 1963

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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Chapter 1, Objectives and Policies
Significant Resources
Significant Values
Preservation & Use Policies
Guidelines

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Date 8/13/63

Recommended: Franklin R. Mullaly (by phone)
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Date 8/19/63

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Date AUG 22 1963

APPROVED: A. CLARK STRATTON
Director

Date Sept. 19, 1963

August 1963

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Objectives and Policies
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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

VOLUME I

Chapter 1, Objectives and Policies

SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

The significant resources of Sagamore Hill are composed of the house, its furnishings, the outbuildings, the grounds and the surrounding woodlands. These comprise the visible evidence of the historic essence which we are trying to recapture.

The house, an interesting example of Victorian architecture, tells us something of the age in which Theodore Roosevelt lived, signifying those Victorian virtues of "solidity, first of all, dignity, hospitality, comfort, the social stability of the owner, and permanence". But it is the furnishings, the hunting trophies, the mementos, gifts and other memorabilia within the house that gives Sagamore Hill its distinctive flavor and charm, for these objects have the ability - as few other things could - of giving an interesting and intimate insight into the many faceted - but always vigorous - life of Theodore Roosevelt.

The grounds and forests signify Roosevelt's love of space, beauty and nature and as the setting for his rambles and outdoor activities with his family, friends and the constant stream of notables that made the pilgrimage to Sagamore Hill, they complete the significant resources of the area.

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SIGNIFICANT VALUES

The resources of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site translated into human values, impart to the visitor the unusual variety and scope of the life of one of our great historic figures who, however, seems distinctly modern and timeless as great men always do.

Here, against the backdrop of his home and family life, the visitor will gain a heightened awareness of the remarkable life of this man, his family tragedies, his boundless energy, his remarkable history of public service, his inquiring mind, his fabulous energy, his love of home and family, his interest in clean government and in the history of man and his institutions, in his love of nature and the out-of-doors, in his concern for the conservation of natural resources, and a host of other things that made the man great.

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GENERAL PRESERVATION AND USE POLICY

Public Law 87-547, signed July 25, 1962, authorized the establishment of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, placing an acreage limitation of 90 acres to be accepted by the Secretary as a donation from the Theodore Roosevelt Association. In addition \$500,000 was donated by the Association to the National Park Trust Fund Board "...for purpose of the two historic sites", (Sagamore Hill and Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace). The area was officially deeded to the United States on July 8, 1963.

Sagamore Hill had been operated from June 16, 1953 until its transfer to the Federal government by the Theodore Roosevelt Association as a house museum. This has included guided and self-guiding tours of the various rooms of the house; and several rooms on the third floor have been devoted to exhibits relating to members of the Roosevelt family. No particular developments have been undertaken to interpret the grounds other than a trail to the pet cemetery.

The manner in which Sagamore Hill has been maintained, refurbished and interpreted is a credit to the Association and its staff. Development has been limited to a county access road, parking area, canteen, gift shop, paths and modest landscape plantings. The ice house has been converted to a comfort station, and changes within the house include provision for administrative office space. Some of the outbuildings are used for purposes other than those for which they were originally built.

In planning for the preservation and use of Sagamore Hill, the National Park Service will restrict modern intrusive developments to the minimum needed to handle visitation efficiently in terms of road access, visitor parking, visitor orientation and comfort facilities, concessions and foot access. To the extent that these developments can be removed or screened from the historic scene, the Mission of the Service will be furthered. This emphasizes the importance of considering the acquisition of the W. Emlen Roosevelt property, adjacent to Sagamore Hill, as a site for park development. This would accord with the general preservation and use policy of preserving and/or restoring and reconstructing Sagamore Hill to approximate its condition during the historic period.

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Interpretation of Sagamore Hill will be expanded to include not only the house but the grounds and, to make use of exhibits, audio-visual techniques and other interpretive methods as research warrants. Restoration of the grounds to their general appearance during the historic period will give greater validity to their interpretation.

The inclusion of Old Orchard in the lands deeded to the United States by the Theodore Roosevelt Association poses the problem of its use. The mansion and grounds of 3.86 acres were carved from that part of the Roosevelt estate containing the orchard. Old Orchard was built by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., who was, in his own right, a person of considerable historic importance. The mansion has been unoccupied since 1960, but it is structurally sound and well maintained. It should be used for administrative and museum purposes. This would include storage of museum specimens and exhibits on the Roosevelt family such as are presently housed on the third floor of Sagamore Hill.

The concessions presently found at Sagamore Hill (a canteen and gift shop) serve an important function, and they should be maintained and operated by a non-profit organization such as the Theodore Roosevelt Association. They should, however, be removed from the present location as being inconsistent with the over-all preservation and use policy.

Sagamore Hill is a wood and brick structure susceptible to fire damage. In addition it contains priceless furnishings, objects and memorabilia that could not be replaced once lost, whether through fire, theft or any other cause. The mansion at Old Orchard and the existing or projected visitor and staff accommodations also require adequate fire protection as do the meadows and forests of Sagamore Hill. These factors indicate the necessity of a carefully conceived plan of fire and theft protection.

Continued study on boundary matters will be necessary: to determine how the "estate type" atmosphere of Sagamore Hill can be perpetuated; to decide if, or how much, extra land should be acquired to permit removal of present modern intrusive developments from the grounds of Sagamore Hill; and to make certain any inholdings within the present boundary are acquired.

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GUIDELINES

1. Sagamore Hill - the house, grounds and forest - shall be preserved or restored as nearly as possible as it was during the historic period, consistent with the needs of development, protection and visitor use.
2. The interpretive theme shall be the story of the life of Theodore Roosevelt and his family at Sagamore Hill.
3. Interpretation will be primarily as an exhibit - in place with preliminary orientation and background information at a visitor contact station supplemented by personal services, park literature, self-guiding trails and other pertinent interpretive methods, including museum treatment at Old Orchard.
4. An interpretive trail system, commemorative of Theodore Roosevelt's love of nature and his perambulations with his children and friends on the estate, shall be established.
5. Operation of the area to suggest the farming and outdoor activities Theodore Roosevelt engaged in shall be considered as part of the preservation and restoration complex.
6. Marking or partial or complete reconstruction of the stable, the lodge, and the barn; Mrs. Roosevelt's garden house; the garden and other missing structures and features shall be considered following adequate historical research.
7. Existing outbuildings, in place during the presidential years such as the ice house, shall be returned to their original use condition during that time.
8. Eventual relocation of the present necessary parking area and concession buildings shall be effected in connection with future grounds restoration.

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9. Sagamore Hill will be a day-use area with no provision for general camping or picnicking. Limited outdoor luncheon facilities will be provided, primarily for school groups.
10. Boy Scout camping in the woods of the estate (a traditional use during Theodore Roosevelt's time) will be continued at a controlled site but restricted primarily to those local groups that have used it in the past so as to prevent undue deterioration of the grounds.
11. The Boone and Crockett Club (founded by Theodore Roosevelt) shall continue to use the Gun Room at Sagamore Hill for their library, possessions and memorabilia under a documented cooperative agreement.
12. The Advisory Committee from the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Association shall be consulted on matters relating to the preservation, development and management of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in accordance with the Act.
13. A program of comprehensive research will be instituted which will make possible the recreation and interpretation of the way of life at Sagamore Hill. Special emphasis will be placed on an oral history project.
14. The program of cataloguing, storage and care of museum objects and historical records shall be continued and enlarged.
15. Old Orchard will be developed primarily for visitor use, including provision as practicable for museum exhibits, an audio-visual room, library and park offices, with use for quarters limited to the rear wing.
16. Adequate protection for the site shall be provided to guard against fire, theft and vandalism.
17. An admission charge will be made for entrance to the Site.
18. Housing for the staff will be provided as circumstances warrant.
19. The Site will function initially under published delegations of authority as a Group "A" organization.

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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Volume III, General Park Information
Section A, Park Origin

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ACCEPTED BY: Franklin B. Kullback Date 10/13/63
Superintendent

June 1963

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Section A, Park Origin and Land Status

Following the death of Theodore Roosevelt in 1919, Mrs. Roosevelt continued to live at Sagamore Hill for nearly 30 years. After her passing, the house, its contents and the Roosevelt estate of 83 acres were purchased by the Roosevelt Memorial Association, now the Theodore Roosevelt Association. Since that time, the Association has placed asbestos shingles on the roof, installed a fire alarm system and modern heating plants, repainted, replastered and repaired the house and have generally done an excellent job. Operated as a house museum by the Association, the area was developed for public visitation by the construction of the present entrance road, parking field, canteen and souvenir shop.

In December of 1960, Mr. Oscar S. Straus, President of the Theodore Roosevelt Association wrote to Director Wirth asking for a discussion of the Association's turning over of Sagamore Hill and Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace to the National Park Service. Following various discussions and a field investigation report, the area was recommended for inclusion in the National Park System. Legislation was introduced which came to fruition during the 87th Congress and was signed into law by President Kennedy on July 25, 1962.

The legislation called for not more than 90 acres of land to be acquired by the Federal government by donation from Theodore Roosevelt Association. It further provided that "...the National Park Trust Fund Board may accept from the Theodore Roosevelt Association \$500,000 and such additional amounts as the Association may tender from time to time...", this money being used only for the purposes of the two historic sites established pursuant to this Act. However, nothing in the Act limits the authority of the Secretary of the Interior under other provisions of law to accept in the name of the United States donations of property.

Upon transfer of the above lands and money, the Secretary of the Interior is directed to establish Sagamore Hill and Theodors Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Sites. Establishment took place on

Included within the proposed boundaries is the Sagamore Hill Road, owned and maintained by Nassau County.

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Volume III, General Park Information
Section B, Vicinity Data

Prepared by: Donald W. Humphrey Date 6/6/63
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Section B, Vicinity Data

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site lies in the incorporated town of Cove Neck, Nassau County, New York on the north shore of Long Island near its western end. Cove Neck is a completely residential, estate-class town. The nearest commercial facilities are at Oyster Bay, a distance of 2.8 miles to the west.

Sagamore Hill is 29 miles from New York City. Many of the visitors would approach the area from New York City and access is good via the Long Island Expressway. Visitor traffic would leave the expressway at the Hicksville interchange and proceed north on State 106 to Oyster Bay. The route from Oyster Bay over East Main Street and Cove Road is signed. Commercial transportation via bus and railway is available to Oyster Bay. Access by boat is also possible but not a practice.

Other Public Areas

The graves of Theodore and Mrs. Roosevelt are located in the Cove Neck Cemetery on the road between Sagamore Hill and Oyster Bay.

The Audubon Society has set aside a tract of land nearby as a nature sanctuary. Recreation facilities, private and public are varied and numerous on the western end of Long Island as one would expect from its proximity to New York City. No attempt is made here to enumerate them.

Cove Neck is located in an area of glacial drift and outwash north of the Harbor Hill moraine which traverses the north shore of Long Island in an east-west direction. The uneven and locally precipitous nature of this moraine has created an indented shoreline characterized by numerous coves and necks. The topography, plus these features and proximity to New York City early made this a favorite estate area for wealthy New Yorkers, first as a summer playground, later for year around homes.

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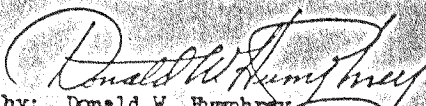
Aside from small public areas the land is nearly all private and is used primarily for residential purposes, although locally removal of sand and gravel occurs. Farming also is practiced locally but the important farming areas are on the flat outwash plains generally to the south and east.

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MASTER PLAN
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Section C, Public Use Data


Prepared by: Donald W. Humphrey Date 6/6/63
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Section C, Public Use Data

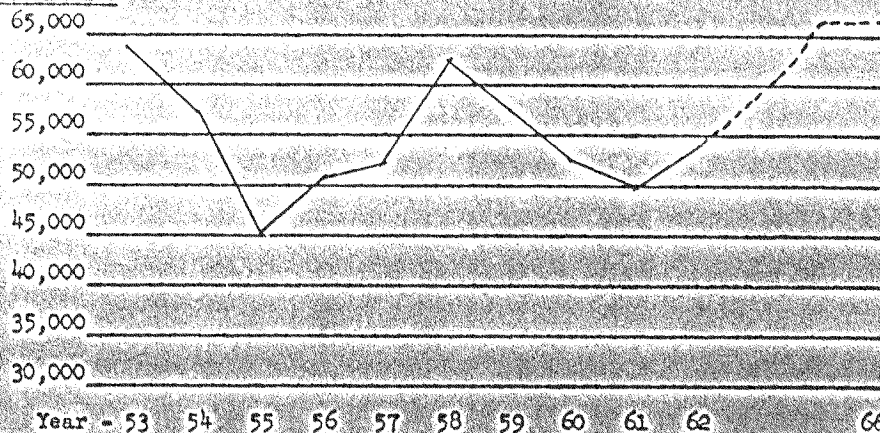
Visitation at Sagamore Hill under the Theodore Roosevelt Association is tabulated only by paid attendance. Since there is no charge for children under 12 and since school groups comprise about 15% of the total visitation, it seems fair to assume that actual visitation is at least twice the paid attendance. Sagamore Hill opened on June 16, 1953 and since that time has had a total paid attendance of 547,946 through 1962. This is an average of 54,795 per year with no perceptible trends apparent. (See visitation graphs.)

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Paid Attendance

ANNUAL PAID VISITATION 1953* - 1962

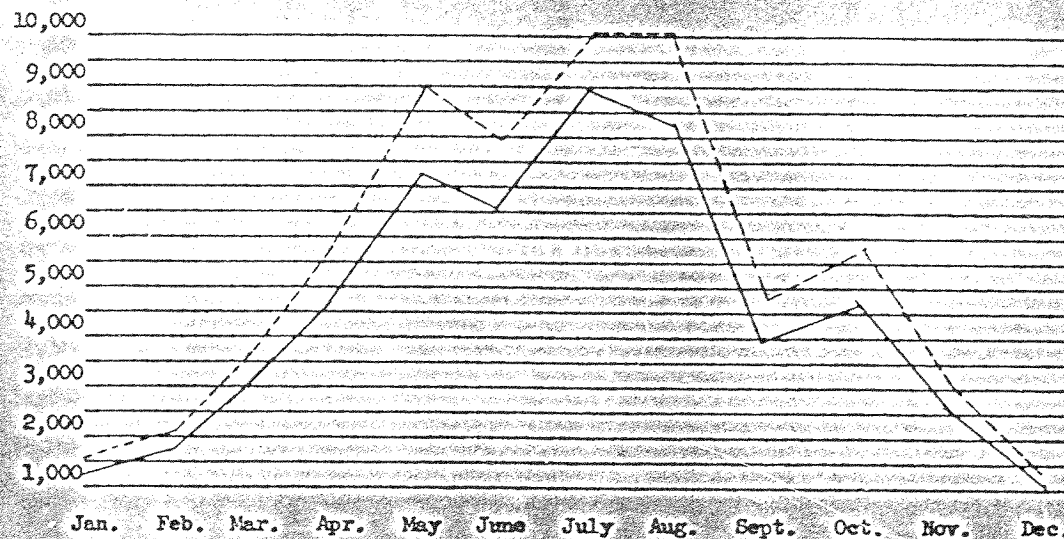


*Sagamore Hill opened to public on June 16, 1953.
(See G-14 for explanation.)

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Table - Statistics used in projecting 1966 monthly paid visitation are based on a projected annual paid visitation of 65,000 by 1966. This projection assumes the monthly visitation staying about the same with some increase in spring and fall tour groups. Total visitation would increase the spring and fall ratio because of the increase of non-paying school groups during these months.

Paid Attendance



---Projected 1966 monthly paid visitation based on present paid attendance.

____, Paid attendance by month for 1962.

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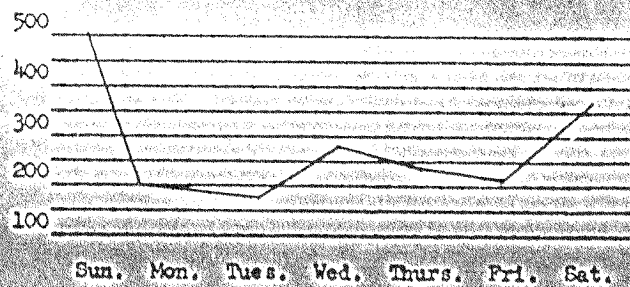
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WEEKLY VISITATION* - August, 1962

Paid Attendance



*School groups in late spring and early fall cause
weekday increase.

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Camping

Boy Scout camping in the wooded area of the Roosevelt estate has been a traditional use dating back to the time of Theodore Roosevelt. No facilities exist for camping. Annual Scout campers total about 375 and use is usually during the months of May, June, October and November.

Duration of Stay

Sagamore Hill is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except during winter (especially December and January) when the house is not open until 11:00 a.m. Visitation is heaviest in the afternoon during the winter.

Visitors to Sagamore Hill come expressly to view the area. It is not located on a main thoroughfare. It is a day use area with about an hour spent in the house and with additional time spent on the estate grounds. The visitation chart shows a peak in August with subordinate peaks in May and October. The first represents normal summer visitation, the latter represent school, and other tour groups.

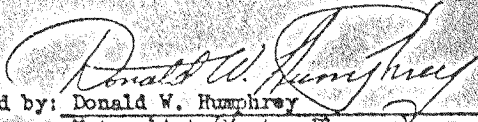
Weekly visitation during the summer and probably during the winter show a predominance of weekend visitation. Weekday visitation increases with tour groups.

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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Volume III, General Park Information
Section D, Natural History
and Historical Background


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Date 6/6/63

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Superintendent

Date _____

June 1963

Section D, Natural History

As an historic area, natural history is important primarily as it affects the historic theme. Sagamore Hill is located on a rolling and scenic morainal landscape overlooking Long Island Sound. The east end of the estate is wooded with deciduous trees representing the oak-chestnut forest type of which, of course, the chestnut is no longer represented.

These trees are large and the forest setting is attractive. Shrubs, herbs and flowering plants occur. Wildlife consists of forest birds of considerable variety both as residents and migrants, and waterfowl and shore birds are found along Cold Spring Harbor. Squirrels and cottontails occur and were hunted by Theodore Roosevelt as a boy. He was familiar with all of these features and led his children and guests on jaunts, afoot and on horseback; through the woods to the harbor. It is in this light that the natural history is significant.

History

History is the crux of Theodore Roosevelt National Historic Site. The visible evidences of historical importance are the Roosevelt House at Sagamore Hill, the furnishings, books and memorabilia within the house; the ice house, chicken coop, garden and other remaining features and structures of the presidential era, and the grounds and setting. Various structures of the historic era are now gone, principally among which was the stables.

Sagamore Hill was built by Theodore Roosevelt in 1884-85, and remained his permanent home until his death on January 6, 1919. From 1901 through 1909 Sagamore Hill was the Summer White House, and throughout Roosevelt's eventful life the house was a mecca for national and international figures from every walk of life. The house stands today little changed from the time a half-century ago when it was the home of a distinguished American and his devoted family.

Theodore Roosevelt knew the Oyster Bay countryside from boyhood. In 1874, when he was fifteen, his father established the family's summer

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residence there. The boy spent long summer vacations exploring the fields and woodlands on Cove Neck, the peninsula just east of Oyster Bay, where he would one day build his home.

In 1880, on his twenty-second birthday, and four months after his graduation from Harvard, Roosevelt married Alice Lee. Two months later he acquired the first of three deeds to a total of 155 acres on Cove Neck. Later, he sold 28 acres to his older sister, Anna, and 32 acres to an aunt, keeping the balance of 95 acres.

Roosevelt did not immediately build a home on his newly-acquired estate. For the next several years he read for the law, published his first historical work, The Naval War of 1812, and entered the political arena as Republican State Assemblyman of the 21st district. At twenty-three he was the youngest member of that body.

By autumn of 1883, Roosevelt was ready to begin the construction of the home at Cove Neck. The first of the buildings, a lodge and a stable, were to be completed by February 1, 1884. But, before the final agreement for the construction of the main house was signed tragedy struck, Theodore's wife died, only hours after the birth of their first child, a daughter. Earlier that same day, and in the same house, Roosevelt's mother had died.

Determined that his child, Alice, should have a suitable home Roosevelt signed a contract for construction of the main house at Cove Neck. While the house was under construction, its young owner was spending most of his time in the Badlands of the Little Missouri, working the cattle ranch he had established there.

When the young stockman came back East to support the Republican cause in the election of 1884 the house at Cove Neck was not finished. After Cleveland's Democratic victory at the polls in November, Theodore was glad enough to get away to his frontier home, although by Christmas he was back in New York for a hectic round of politics and some intensive writing before he headed West again in April. By summer he was back in New York and this time he returned to a new home of his own. In late June 1885, Roosevelt moved into the Cove Neck house for the first time.

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The house was a solidly-built Victorian structure of frame and brick, the wood siding on the upper floors a mustard color, the bricks red and the trim green. There was room for a large family here, with ten bedrooms on the second floor and two more, in addition to the maids' rooms, on the third. If the house was not a beautiful one, it was roomy, comfortable, and well built.

In late August, with sister Anna and little Alice comfortably settled at Cove Neck, Roosevelt went back to the Badlands for less than a month. He was soon back in New York where he volunteered his services in the gubernatorial contest then getting under way. His political activities did not prevent him from enjoying to the fullest his first autumn in the new home at Cove Neck. Polo and hunting to hounds gave him the action his restless body demanded, and he counted a broken arm a small price for the pleasure he took in "Frank", his jumper. From time to time in this fall of 1885, he was seeing Edith Kermit Carow, whom he had known from his childhood. In November they were secretly engaged but set no definite marriage date. With Edith preparing for a voyage to Europe and Roosevelt's departure for the Badlands in the spring of 1886 they were not to meet again for many months.

Roosevelt spent the spring and summer in the Badlands and returned East in October. As he returned East from this trip an era in his life was ending. His western days were over save for occasional hunting visits to the frontier home where he had acquired so much of the outlook and character which would become increasingly evident in the years of his maturity.

Following his unsuccessful campaign for the mayoralty of New York in the fall of 1886, Roosevelt went to England. In London, on December 2, 1886, he married Edith Carow. In the spring of 1887 the couple arrived at Sagamore Hill. Here, except for absences imposed by his public career, the Roosevelts spent the rest of their lives. For two years after his return to Sagamore Hill Roosevelt busied himself in writing and in playing host to the scores of visitors from every walk of life who were attracted to the young squire of Sagamore Hill.

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The life of a country gentleman did not last long, for in 1889 Roosevelt was named a member of the United States Civil Service Commission, the first major step in a life of distinguished public service. Throughout his career--as President of the Police Commission of the City of New York, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, as Lieutenant Colonel of the famed Rough Riders, as Governor of New York, as Vice President, and as Chief Executive, Sagamore Hill was the home to which TR always returned. It was on the wide piazza of Sagamore Hill that Roosevelt was formally notified of his nominations as Governor of New York in 1898, as Vice President in 1900, and as President in 1904. Of Sagamore Hill, Roosevelt, in 1906, wrote to his daughter Ethel:

After all, fond as I am of the White House and much though I have appreciated these years in it, there isn't any place in the world like home--Sagamore Hill, where things are our own, with our own associations, and where it is real country.

At Sagamore Hill were born three Roosevelt children of his second marriage: Theodore, Jr., Kermit, and Ethel. The younger sons, Archibald and Quentin, were born in Washington.

It was as the Summer White House that Sagamore Hill became best known to the American people. The doings of the Roosevelts and their kin, and the comings and goings of national and international figures filled reams of copy filed by the correspondents who maintained a summer vigil at Sagamore Hill. The President himself could frequently be seen joining the children in their games or taking the boys for a hike or a swim, chopping wood, riding horseback, or striding across the fields and through the woods he loved. Occasionally there would be a mournful procession of children, led by the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, to the small animal cemetery to lay away a family pet.

Not only was Sagamore Hill the center of the day-by-day administration of the country's affairs during the summer, but it had more than its share of dramatic events of national and international importance. One was on the August day in 1905 when Roosevelt met separately the envoys of warring Russia and Japan in the library at Sagamore Hill, and then brought them face-to-face to inaugurate the conference that ended in the Treaty of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on September 5, 1905.

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With Roosevelt's retirement from office, and when his campaigning days were over, Sagamore Hill became more than ever the sanctuary of the devoted family. Even out of office Colonel Roosevelt held a high place in the hearts and councils of his countrymen. From Sagamore Hill, in the twilight of his life, he pressed for American preparedness in the world conflict that had broken out in the summer of 1914. When America did go in, Roosevelt saw his four sons go to the front while he himself went to Washington to rouse the nation for the task ahead.

The war brought Roosevelt his greatest personal tragedy when his young son Quentin, an airman, crashed to his death behind German lines. The blow of Quentin's death, added to infirm health brought on by a near brush with death in his expedition to Brazil in the winter of 1913-14, was taking a heavy toll of the once-robust Teddy. Even then he was considered by many to be the certain Republican candidate, and inevitable victor, in the 1920 election. Death decreed otherwise. On January 6, 1919, Roosevelt died peacefully in his sleep at the age of sixty.

Archeology

No important archeological remains of the prehistoric or aboriginal eras are known to occur. Archeology is of importance, however, in ascertaining the location of certain structures of the historic period.

Status of Research

A good deal of research has been done on the life of Theodore Roosevelt, and much is known of his life at Sagamore Hill. This is so because of the comparative recency of his life and because of the numerous documentary devices that were in use by the time of his life. Photographs, movies, transcripts of records, deeds, etc., etc., make possible very detailed research.

In spite of the above, much research is needed to properly interpret the area. We need to know the arrangement and content of the various rooms. We need to know more about TR's activities at Sagamore. We need to know the location, shape and purpose of various outbuildings and features now altered or destroyed. All these and others are necessary to assure the best possible job of interpretation.

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Protection
Page 1

MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Volume III, General Park Information
Section E, Protection

Prepared by: Donald W. Humphrey
Naturalist (Master Planner)

Date 6/6/63

ACCEPTED BY: _____
Superintendent

Date _____

June 1963

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Protection
Page 2

Section E, Protection

Vegetative Cover

The grounds of Sagamore Hill are in meadows, lawns and forest. The house itself is surrounded by landscaped lawns, set in meadows with woods primarily in the Smith's Field area and at the eastern end of the property. The forest is deciduous and composed of several species of which various oaks are the most important.

Forest Fire Control

Forest fires are a danger usually only during the dry spring period, or possibly in the fall, when leaves are dry. No fires have occurred during the ten years the area has been administered by the Theodore Roosevelt Association.

Building Fire Control

Building fire protection is provided for by an alarm system installed by the Great American Fire Insurance Company. A pump house and an 100,000 gallon storage tank can supply water at the rate of 500 gallon per minute. In case of emergency, there is direct contact with the local fire departments through the fire protection system.

Forest Insects and Diseases

The above are not known to present any problems at the present.

Grazing and Browsing Control

These are not pertinent at present and would not be unless milk cows or other domestic stock are introduced into the interpretive program. Roosevelt had several cows at Sagamore Hill.

Soil and Moisture Conservation

This is not generally a problem and might be in the future only in connection with trail construction and Boy Scout Camping. The latter is practiced at the crest of a hill and has resulted in denudation of understory vegetation. Correction would be in terms of administrative and developmental decisions.

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Other Vegetation Protection or Related Conservation

In restoring the grounds to the approximate state of the presidential years will require removal of certain interim landscaping developments which are foreign to the Roosevelt era.

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Volume III, Section F
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Agencies
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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Volume III, General Park Information
Section F, Concessions and Other Agencies

Donald W. Humphrey
Prepared by: Donald W. Humphrey
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Date 6/6/63

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Volume III, Section F
Concessions and Other
Agencies
Page 2

Section F, Concessions and Other Agencies

Concessions

The Theodore Roosevelt Association, a non-profit organization, presently runs a small canteen and souvenir shop. These are the only concessions. The canteen serves sandwiches and light snacks only. Picnic tables are supplied adjacent to - and for the use of - patrons of the canteen.

Services Provided Outside of Park

All other visitor services are provided outside of the park. Stores and cafes occur in Oyster Bay. Overnight accommodations are found in several places in the general vicinity.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site lies in the rural estate area of the northwestern shore of Long Island. The hilly, sandy outwash of the Falmouth moraine provides its setting. Along Long Island Sound, this terrain has created a shoreline characterized by necks, coves, spits and bays. Much of the land is in old growth deciduous forest.

The area surrounding the Site is primarily estate land of the incorporated town of Cove Neck. At Oyster Bay, 2.8 miles west, are large sand and gravel quarries.

LOCATION

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site lies in the incorporated town of Cove Neck, New York in Nassau County on Long Island. It is located in Section _____, Township _____ North, Range _____ East and is depicted on the _____ Quadrangle sheet, edition _____, published by the U. S. Geological Survey. It is at longitude _____ latitude _____.

ACCESS

The primary visitor approach to the area will be from the New York City area. Access is good via the Long Island Expressway, leaving it at the Hicksville Interchange and proceeding north on State Route 106 to Oyster Bay. Route 106 also intersects 8 other east-west Long Island traffic arteries including the Hempstead Turnpike, the Northern State Parkway, the Pathway Turnpike and the Sunrise Highway. From Oyster Bay, one turns left onto East Main Street to Cove Neck Road which leads to the Sagamore Hill Road. The route is signed from Oyster Bay.

Oyster Bay may be reached by both bus and train service, and ferry connections tie the north shore of Long Island to Bridgeport and New London, Connecticut.

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SURROUNDINGS

Population Centers. New York City, 29 miles to the west of Sagamore Hill has every conceivable service available. The population of the New York metropolitan region is nearly 16,000,000 people.

According to the 1960 census, Nassau County has a population of 1,100,171 and Oyster Bay Township, in which the Historic Site is located, has a population of 290,055. The nearest urban centers are Hicksville (50,405), 10 miles to the south and Huntington, in adjacent Suffolk County (666,784) about 7 miles to the east.

Nassau County and Suffolk County have increased in population in the amount of 93.3% and 141.5% respectively from 1950 to 1960. Hicksville was not listed in the 1950 census.

Characteristics. The general area immediately surrounding Sagamore is estate country along Long Island Sound. Quarrying for sand and gravel occurs at Oyster Bay and farming is important south and east of the Palisades moraine.

Land Use. Land adjacent to the Site is primarily in estates. This implies that the area is fairly well wooded with many small areas of large, old growth timber. The estate use is compatible with the purpose of the Historic Site. The town of Cove Neck has a two acre zoning limitation on building lots. With the exception of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park in Oyster Bay and an Audubon Society nature sanctuary adjacent to the public cemetery in which Theodore Roosevelt and his wife are buried, the land is mostly private.

Features of Interest. Features of interest in the immediate vicinity include the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park in Oyster Bay, the Roosevelt graves and the Audubon area. On western Long Island, generally, there are many recreational features and sights of interest as one would expect from its proximity to New York City.

THE PURPOSE OF THE HISTORIC SITE

....is to present the spirit and image of Theodore Roosevelt, his family and the significant events associated with him during his years at Sagamore Hill.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

....is to preserve, manage and interpret the physical manifestations of Sagamore Hill in such a manner as to faithfully preserve their physical appearance as they existed during the Roosevelt era, and to make the area meaningful to the visitor in such a way as to impart to him an awareness of, and intimacy with, Theodore Roosevelt in all his many facets, private and public.

SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

The significant resources of Sagamore Hill are composed of the house, its grounds, and the surrounding woodlands. These comprise the visible evidence of the historic essence which we are trying to recapture.

The house, an interesting example of Victorian architecture, tells us something of the age in which Theodore Roosevelt lived; signifying those Victorian virtues of "solidity, first of all, dignity, hospitality, comfort, the social stability of the owner, and permanence". But it is the furnishings, the hunting trophies, the mementos, gifts and other memorabilia within the house that gives Sagamore Hill its distinctive flavor and charm, for these objects have the ability - as few other things could - of giving an interesting and intimate insight into the many faceted - but always vigorous - life of Theodore Roosevelt.

The grounds and forests signify Roosevelt's love of space, beauty and nature and as the setting for his rambles and outdoor activities with his family, friends and the constant stream of notables that made the pilgrimage to Sagamore Hill, they complete the significant resources of the area.

SIGNIFICANT VALUES

Translated into human values the resources of Sagamore Hill have the peculiar ability of opening a door to an era in our history that while not remote is nevertheless quaint. These values are centered about a man, however, who seems distinctively modern or timeless as great men always do. Through his visit to the area, the visitor will begin to comprehend the life of the man, his family tragedies, his boundless energy, his remarkable history of public service, his inquiring mind,

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his fabulous energy, his love of home and family, his interest in clean government and in the history of man and his institutions, in his love of nature and the out-of-doors, in his concern for the conservation of natural resources, and a host of other things that made the man great.

OBJECTIVES

Character

Sagamore Hill was the home base of Theodore Roosevelt and his family from the time of the construction of the house in 1884 until his death in 1919. During those 35 years he went forth from Sagamore Hill to serve his country in the New York Assembly, on the United States Civil Service Commission, as president of New York City's police board, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Army in the Spanish-American War, Governor of New York and finally as Vice-President and President of the United States.

It was at Sagamore that three of his children were born, where all six of them grew up, and it was here that TR led the children on hikes through his wooded acres or took them boating on the Sound. It was at Sagamore, too, that a continuous stream of dignitaries came to visit the ebullient Roosevelt, and for seven years it was the summer White House.

The rambling Victorian house set amongst the open fields and woods is the central focus of the area. Within the house, in its easy informality, are found the numerous mementos, souvenirs, gifts and commemorative objects that are so thoroughly emblematic of the vigor and energy of this unusual man. Here are found, amongst his large and widely scattered library, the abundant literary works of the naturalist, hunter, world traveler, historian, philosopher and statesman that was Theodore Roosevelt.

The deciduous forest and expanse of fields and lawns frame the house and preserve the feeling of Roosevelt's era.

Preservation

Preservation objectives will foster the maintenance and protection of the character of Sagamore Hill - the house and contents, the grounds and forest - as it existed during the Roosevelt era and, more particularly, the presidential years.

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Visitor

The interpretive theme is the story of Theodore Roosevelt and the people and events associated with him during his Presidency at Sagamore Hill, particularly during the presidential years. The interpretive program will build upon this theme by giving the visitor a first-hand acquaintance with the Roosevelt home, with the particular phase of our culture which it represents, with the significance of the contents of the house, and with the life and times of Roosevelt as they are reflected against this background.

Staff

The staff objectives relate to administration, interpretation, protection and maintenance of the area. This implies research to implement the interpretive program. It means adequate cataloguing, and storage and maintenance of museum objects. It means fire and theft protection for the house, outbuildings and grounds, as well as visitor protection. It means sufficient staff to adequately carry out the above objectives.

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GUIDELINESThe Land

1. Sagamore Hill - the house, grounds and forest - shall be preserved or restored as nearly as possible as it was during the presidential years, consistent with the needs of development, protection and visitor use.
2. Operation of the area as a "gentleman's farm", such as Theodore Roosevelt maintained, shall be part of the preservation and restoration concept.
3. Restoration of the stable, the lodge, and the barn; Mrs. Roosevelt's garden house; the garden and other structures and features of the presidential years shall be undertaken following adequate historical research.
4. Existing outhouses, in place during the presidential years such as the ice house, shall be returned to their original use or condition during that time.
5. Eventual relocation of the present parking area and concession buildings, which impose upon the historic scene, shall be effected.
6. The interpretive theme shall be the story of the life of Theodore Roosevelt during his residency at Sagamore Hill with particular emphasis on the presidential years.

The Visitor

1. Interpretation will be primarily as an exhibit - in-place but with preliminary orientation and background information at a visitor contact station, and expanded treatment for the more interested visitor through park literature, self-guiding trails and other pertinent interpretive methods.
2. An interpretive trail system, commemorative of Theodore Roosevelt's love of nature and his perambulations with his children and friends on the estate, shall be established.
3. Sagamore Hill will be a day-use area with no provision for camping except as noted below. Picnicking will not be encouraged but should be permitted where circumstances warrant (i.e., school groups bringing their lunch).
4. Day Scout camping in the woods of the estate (a traditional use during

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Theodore Roosevelt's time) will be continued, but restricted to local groups so as to prevent undue deterioration of the grounds.

11. Hunting will not be allowed.
12. The Boone and Crockett Club (founded by Theodore Roosevelt) shall continue to use the Gun Room at Sagamore Hill for their meetings and for their library, possessions and memorabilia.
13. The Theodore Roosevelt Association shall be consulted in the establishment of an Advisory Committee for matters relating to the preservation, development and management of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site.

The Staff

14. A program of historical research shall be undertaken which will, among other things, aim at the accumulation of information necessary to permit the restoration of all three floors of the house to their condition during the presidential years.
15. Historical research shall also be undertaken to gather together the recollections of servants, family and family acquaintances of the events and prevalent conditions of Sagamore Hill during the presidential years.
16. A program of cataloguing, storage and care of museum objects and historical records (which includes all the furnishing of the house) shall be undertaken. This shall include:
 - A. A furnishings plan for the house for the presidential years.
 - B. Provision for periodic inspection; particularly for the care of the paintings, books, fabrics and other objects subject to deterioration.
 - C. Provision for storage of the study collection not actually on display, in such a manner that they may be made available for study by serious students.
17. The Park will function under published delegations of authority as a Group "A" organization.
18. Careful consideration shall be given to the acquisition and use of the Old Orchard for park headquarters, seasonal or permanent housing, museum storage space and specialized exhibits such as presently occur on the third floor of the Sagamore Hill home.

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19. Recruitment of the present Theodore Roosevelt Association employees of Sagamore Hill should be given first consideration in staffing.
20. Adequate protection for the house and the objects therein shall be provided to guard against fire, theft and vandalism.
21. The sale of tickets, orientation and information services shall be removed from the Roosevelt home and placed in a visitor contact station.
22. Housing for the permanent staff will be provided as circumstances warrant.

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Analysis of Existing
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THE LAND

LEGAL FACTORS

Establishment

In December of 1960, Mr. Oscar E. Straus, President of the Theodore Roosevelt Association wrote to Director Wirth asking for a discussion of the Association's turning over of Sagamore Hill and Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace to the National Park Service. Following various discussions and a field investigation report, the area was recommended for inclusion in the National Park System. Legislation was introduced which came to fruition during the 87th Congress and was signed into law by President Kennedy on July 25, 1962.

The legislation called for not more than 90 acres of land to be acquired by the Federal government by donation from Theodore Roosevelt Association. It further provided that "....the National Park Trust Fund Board may accept from the Theodore Roosevelt Association \$500,000 and such additional amounts as the Association may tender from time to time....", this money being used only for the purposes of the two historic sites established pursuant to this Act. However, nothing in the Act limits the authority of the Secretary of the Interior under other provisions of law to accept in the name of the United States donations of property.

Upon transfer of the above lands and money, the Secretary of the Interior is directed to establish Sagamore Hill and Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Sites. Establishment took place on _____.

Land Status

The exact acreage to be donated by the Theodore Roosevelt Association is not presently set due to various negotiations. Under the terms of the Act it may not exceed 90 acres and may be several acres less than that figure.

Two small inholdings occur within the proposed boundaries. Both are of less than an acre. One is owned by Nassau County, the other by Philip Roosevelt. It is expected that both will be donated to the Federal government. The Sagamore Hill Road is owned and maintained by Nassau County. Depending upon final boundary determinations a private road may be partly within the area.

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Jurisdiction

It is assumed that the Service will have proprietary jurisdiction.

Leases, Permits, Easements, etc.

Essex County has a right-of-way for its Sagamore Hill Road. No other leases, etc. are known to exist.

Water Rights

Water for Sagamore Hill is pumped from a well on the property. Storage capacity is 100,000 gallons. Water rights are riparian.

SPECIAL FEATURES

See Significant Park Resources of the Preservation and Use Objectives.

TERRAIN

Sagamore Hill ranges from sea level to 180 feet plus above sea level. The Roosevelt home is located on the highest point of the hill near the west end of the property. From this point the land drops off both east and west to Cold Spring Harbor and Oyster Bay Harbor respectively.

VEGETATION

The Historic Site lies in the oak-chestnut forest region of which the chestnut is no longer represented.

The east end of the property is in large, second growth timber of which oaks are most prominent, with hickories, yellow poplar and other deciduous species present. Old fields, meadow and landscaped lawns occupy the remainder of the property.

WILDLIFE

Wildlife consists of forest birds of considerable variety both as residents and migrants, and waterfowl and shore birds are found along Cold Spring Harbor. Squirrels and cottontails occur and were hunted by Theodore Roosevelt as a boy during early vacations on Cove Neck. He was familiar with all these features and led his children and guests on jaunts through the woods to the Harbor. It is in this light that natural history is significant.

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CLIMATE

See Climatological base map.

SOILS

Soils are composed of sand and gravel with lesser admixture of clay. They are well drained. Bedrock surfaces are deeply buried by overlying glacial deposits.

LOCAL PROTECTIVE CONSIDERATIONS

Forest fire danger is low. Poison ivy is fairly common in wooded sections.

RESEARCH

No Service research is now being done.

THE VISITORNumber

(Visitation Graph)

Origin

Visitation to Sagamore Hill is predominately from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut but with visitation occurring from all corners of the United States and from abroad. Exact figures of visitor origin as they relate to distance in miles from the site is not known.

Types

Family groups make up a large percentage of total visitation. School groups are, however, significant during the late spring and early fall months.

Frequency and Duration of Visits

Sagamore Hill is a day use area with the visitation period being usually two hours or less.

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Analysis of Existing
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ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

The interpretive theme is the story of Theodore Roosevelt and the people and events associated with him during his residency at Sagamore Hill, particularly during the presidential years. The interpretive program will build upon this theme by giving the visitor a first-hand acquaintance with the Roosevelt home, with the particular phase of our culture which it represents, with the significance of the contents of house, and with the life and times of Theodore Roosevelt as they are reflected against this background. Natural history is important only as it relates to the above.

Day Use

Entrance, Information and Orientation

The visitor parks at the parking lot, follows the foot path past the gift shop and canteen to the ticket desk at the house where he may purchase his ticket and receive information on the house tour.

INTERPRETATION

Visitor Center

None presently exists.

Tours

Special tour groups and school groups may receive guided tours through the house.

Picnicking

Several picnic tables are provided in conjunction with the canteen. School groups who bring lunches are allowed to picnic in the open field adjacent to the parking lot.

Recreational Activities

None

Food and Drink

The canteen, operated by the Theodore Roosevelt Association serves light lunches. Oyster Bay has cafes.

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Analysis of Existing
Conditions
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Service Facilities

These facilities may be found at Oyster Bay and in other nearby communities. The Association operates a souvenir and gift shop.

Overnight Facilities

None. These must be found in communities outside the Historic Site. Boy Scout camping for local scouts is a traditional use on the estate.

THE STAFF

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The area has not yet been established as an administrative unit of the National Park System and consequently has no staff. The Theodore Roosevelt Association provides 4 full-time employees for the area.

CONCESSIONERS AND OTHER AGENCIES

The Theodore Roosevelt Association (a non-profit organization) operates a canteen and gift shop on the premises of the Historic Site. This is taken care of by their regular staff.

STAFF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Two small cottages, besides Sagamore Hill and Old Orchard, occur on the Site. Both are occupied at present.

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THE LAND

LEGAL FACTORS

Land Status

See Analysis of Existing Conditions. Inholdings should be acquired if they are not included in the transfer from the Theodore Roosevelt Association to the Federal government.

SPECIAL FEATURES

See Significant Park Resources of Preservation and Use Objectives.

TERRAIN

Terrain should have little direct effect on future development. It would, however, have a bearing on possible future land acquisition.

VEGETATION AND LANDSCAPING

It will be a function of the National Park Service to return the estate to its approximate condition during the presidential years. This implies landscape management: clearing of fields gone back to forest, removal of species foreign to the Roosevelt era, and possible vista clearing.

WILDLIFE

Wildlife should be protected and encouraged at Sagamore Hill since it was a feature noted and appreciated by Theodore Roosevelt (he was an ardent amateur ornithologist and his status as a conservationist is well known).

SPECIAL PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS

Several important museum objects have been pilfered from Sagamore Hill either by visitors or by breaking and entering. An efficient alarm system or other adequate protection is needed.

CLIMATE

Climate has a direct effect upon visitation with an abrupt fall-off during the winter months and a noticeable pick-up in the early spring which increases through the summer and declines gradually through the fall.

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SOILS

If Boy Scout camping is to continue, provision for it should be made to prevent undue compaction and possible erosion of soil.

RESEARCH

Considerable research is needed to implement an effective interpretive program. A furnishings plan for the presidential years is needed. Restoration of the third floor of Sagamore Hill will depend upon this and other research.

Architectural research is needed for the reconstruction and restoration of various outbuildings. Archeological research is needed to thoroughly locate the site of outbuildings and other features.

Historical research is needed to document the significant aspects of Theodore Roosevelt's life at Sagamore Hill. Historical research should include the documentation of the recollections of people who knew Theodore Roosevelt during his residency at Sagamore Hill. A number of these, including some of his descendants, are still alive. Events of the day-to-day life of the Roosevelt family need to be known.

Research could affect development if it is proved that present development encroaches upon important historical sites, which seems likely in the ~~case~~ of the vegetable and cut flower garden.

THE VISITOR

VISITOR CHARACTERISTICS

Establishment of the National Historic Site at Sagamore Hill, with its resultant publicity, is likely to increase visitation initially. For projected visitation see the graphs in Analysis of Existing Conditions. Other projections on visitor characteristics are not attempted here.

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

Visitor activities, and developments necessary for these activities, should contribute to the fulfillment of the purpose of the Historic Site as described under the Preservation and Use Objectives.

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Day Use Activities

INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION

The visitor should be given initial orientation and information at some point exterior to the Roosevelt home so that he may be properly prepared for the house tour before entering the house. This is particularly true for school groups. This would mean removal of the ticket sales from the house, and the provision of a place for sale or distribution of literature. Continuance of fee collection is planned but this should be for the entire area, not just the house.

THE INTERPRETIVE SYSTEM

The interpretive system should carry out the interpretive theme. It should be designed to:

1. Orient the visitor to the significance of Sagamore Hill.
2. Provide for a meaningful tour of the house by using the history of the rooms and the objects therein to tell the story.
3. Provide for the proper interpretation of the estate grounds and forest through conducted tours and/or self-guiding trails, tying the features of the estate to Roosevelt's life.
4. Provide meaningful park literature.
5. Handle tour groups expeditiously and coordinate the educational use of the area by school groups.
6. Make use of continuing research to better the program.
7. Use audio-visual techniques to give immediacy to the interpretive program.

These are covered under the appropriate headings.

VISITOR CONTACT STATION

A visitor contact station should be provided to serve the following purposes:

1. Provide for sale of tickets to the area.
2. Provide for information and orientation through personal contacts, exhibits and the sale and/or distribution of literature.

3. Provide sanitary facilities to replace those presently in the ice house.

It may prove desirable to further:

4. Provide auditorium space for the showing of documentary films on Roosevelt's life as well as for other audio-visual programs.
5. Provide exhibit space for exhibits now on third floor of Sagamore Hill or other exhibits.

OLD ORCHARD

If Old Orchard is used for exhibit rooms, No. 5 above would be provided for here. Other uses of Old Orchard would be administration, library, museum storage and possibly quarters.

WALK TRAIL SYSTEM

Reconstruction and restoration of outbuildings, gardens and other features of the estate will necessitate a system of pedestrian circulation for proper interpretation. This would entail a tour of the grounds and a trail through the woods to Cold Spring Harbor.

THE HOUSE TOUR

The tour system of the house should be designed to:

1. Facilitate movement of people to avoid congestion or unnecessary backtracking.
2. Provide for a maximum number of people on tour at any one time.
3. Clearly interpret the many facets of Roosevelt's life through pertinent reference to the furnishings, books and other objects within the house.
4. Avoid damage to the contents of the house through vandalism, overcrowding or thoughtlessness.

PICNICKING

Past experience has indicated the need for some kind of facility to accommodate school groups who bring their lunches. They could be accommodated as in the past without making picnicking a general public use.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

No recreational sporting activities are planned.

PERSONAL SERVICES

None available or planned. These services are available in nearby communities.

Overnight ActivitiesOVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

Apart from the possibility of continued Boy Scout camping, no overnight use will be made of the area.

ORGANIZATION

The Historic Site will operate as a Group "A" administrative unit. The Superintendent's office will coordinate all staff functions and activities. Technical assistance will be coordinated, supplied or supplemented by the Northeast Regional Office and the Eastern Office of Design and Construction in such matters as research, interpretation, landscaping, development plans, construction and related functions. Liaison will also be maintained with the New York City areas.

LAND MANAGEMENTPROTECTION

The staff (male) will serve as needed for building and forest fire control. In addition cooperative agreements should permit the use of local governmental fire fighting equipment in case of emergency.

Flora and animal life should be protected and periodic checks should be made of buildings and grounds.

MAINTENANCE

Routine maintenance will be performed by the Memorial staff. This will require such things as the following:

1. Maintain a clean, fresh appearance in the interior of the house.
2. Maintain all historic structures in a manner suggested by their historic use.

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3. Maintain the estate grounds and landscaping, gardens, fields and forests so as to retain the historical aspect.
4. Keep the area free from litter and signs of vandalism.
5. Keep visitor facilities in a clean and sanitary condition.
6. Maintain in good repair all trails, paved surfaces, signs and directional markers.
7. Periodic check of all utilities.

VISITOR SERVICES

INFORMATION

Information and orientation and ticket sales will be handled at a visitor contact station by staff members.

INTERPRETATION

The park historian and other qualified personnel will be responsible for the conduct of interpretive tours, audio-visual programs and other aspects of interpretation.

SAFETY

First aid equipment will be in supply. Safety hazards along trails, in buildings and elsewhere will be remedied as they occur.

STAFF FACILITATING SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION

Staff offices will be supplied at Old Orchard. This office will be operational the year around and supervised by the Superintendent. (Should exhibit rooms be open all year?)

TRAINING

The training activities will be the responsibility of the Superintendent. Seasonal employees shall be trained immediately upon reporting for duty and be supervised on the job by the historian.

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PLANNING

This will be done in cooperation with the Northeast Regional Office and the Eastern Office of Design and Construction as planning relates to the development of the Historic Site.

PLANNING RESPONSIBILITIES

Planning relations, under guidance of the Superintendent, shall be the responsibility of the entire staff.

PROGRAMMING

Delegation of programming shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent.

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(SUPERSEDED)

MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The Service thus established shall

- . Promote and regulate the use of
- . The Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations hereinafter specified
- . By such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations

Which purpose is

- . To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and
- . To provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as shall
- . Leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

From an Act to Establish a National
Park Service. Approved August 25, 1916.

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Foreword
Page 1

THE PARK

Sagamore Hill was the home base of Theodore Roosevelt and his family from the time of the construction of the house in 1884 until his death in 1919. During those 35 years he went forth from Sagamore Hill to serve his country in the New York Assembly, on the United States Civil Service Commission, as president of New York City's police board, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Army in the Spanish-American War, Governor of New York and finally as Vice-President and President of the United States.

It was at Sagamore that three of his children were born, where all six of them grew up, and it was here that TR led the children on hikes through his wooded acres or took them boating on the Sound. It was at Sagamore, too, that a continuous stream of dignitaries came to visit the ebullient Roosevelt, and for seven years it was the summer White House.

The rambling Victorian house set amongst the open fields and woods is the central focus of the area. Within the house, in its easy informality, are found the numerous mementos, souvenirs, gifts and commemorative objects that are so thoroughly emblematic of the vigor and energy of this unusual man. Here are found, amongst his large and widely scattered library, the abundant literary works of the naturalist, hunter, world traveler, historian, philosopher and statesman that was Theodore Roosevelt.

The deciduous forest and expanse of fields and lawns frame the house and preserve the feeling of Roosevelt's era.

June 1963

Foreword
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THE MISSION

of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site is to present the spirit and image of Theodore Roosevelt, his family and the significant events associated with him.

of the National Park Service is to preserve, manage and interpret the physical manifestations of Sagamore Hill in such a manner as to faithfully preserve their physical appearance as they existed during the Roosevelt era, and to make the area meaningful to the visitor in such a way as to impart to him an awareness of, and intimacy with, Theodore Roosevelt in all his many facets, private and public.

Approved: _____ Date _____
Director

June 1963

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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SACAGONE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Chapter 1, Objectives and Policies
Significant Resources
Significant Values
Preservation & Use Policies
Guidelines

Prepared by: Donald W. Humphrey Date _____
Naturalist (Master Planner)

Recommended: FRANKLIN R. MULLALLY Date AUG 9, 1963
Superintendent

Recommended: _____ Date _____
Regional Director, Northeast Region

APPROVED: A. CLARK STRATTON Date 9-19-63
Director

MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

VOLUME I

Chapter 1. Objectives and Policies

SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

The significant resources of Sagamore Hill are composed of the house, its grounds, and the surrounding woodlands. These comprise the visible evidence of the historic essence which we are trying to recapture.

The house, an interesting example of Victorian architecture, tells us something of the age in which Theodore Roosevelt lived; signifying those Victorian virtues of "solidity, first of all, dignity, hospitality, comfort, the social stability of the owner, and permanence". But it is the furnishings, the hunting trophies, the remnant, gifts and other memorabilia within the house that gives Sagamore Hill its distinctive flavor and charm, for these objects have the ability - as few other things could - of giving an interesting and intimate insight into the many faceted - but always vigorous - life of Theodore Roosevelt.

The grounds and forests signify Roosevelt's love of space, beauty and nature and as the setting for his rambles and outdoor activities with his family, friends and the constant stream of notables that made the pilgrimage to Sagamore Hill, they complete the significant resources of the area.

June 1963

SIGNIFICANT VALUES

Translated into human values the resources of Sagamore Hill have the peculiar ability of opening a door to an era in our history that while not remote is nevertheless quaint. These values are centered about a man, however, who seems distinctively modern or timeless as great men always do. Through his visit to the area, the visitor will begin to comprehend the life of the man, his family tragedies, his boundless energy, his remarkable history of public service, his inquiring mind, his fabulous energy, his love of home and family, his interest in clean government and in the history of man and his institutions, in his love of nature and the out-of-doors, in his concern for the conservation of natural resources, and a host of other things that made the man great.

June 1963

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Objectives and Policies
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GENERAL PRESERVATION AND USE POLICY

The Mission of the National Park Service at Sagamore Hill has already been stated. In short it is to preserve and interpret the area in such a manner as to give the visitor a heightened appreciation of the life of Theodore Roosevelt, his family and outstanding events in which he participated while residing at Sagamore Hill.

Sagamore Hill has been operated since June 16, 1963 by the Theodore Roosevelt Association as a house museum. The manner in which it has been maintained, interpreted and preserved is a credit to the Association and its staff. Furthermore, it has operated at a profit during this period. The land consists of the entire Roosevelt property of 80 acres. Development has been limited to a public access road, parking fields, a souvenir shop, a canteen, modest landscape plantings and a gravel trail from the house to the pet cemetery.

June 1963

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Development at Sagamore Hill should be restricted to the minimum amount necessary to handle visitation efficiently as it relates to parking, orientation and foot access. Restoration of outbuildings, gardens, and other appurtenances of Sagamore Hill during the presidential period should be undertaken following carefully documented research.

Preservation of the historic scene as it was during the presidential years should be given priority as representing the high-water mark of Theodore Roosevelt's public life.

The National Park Service will generally continue to interpret Sagamore Hill as it is now interpreted. Additions and expansions to the interpretive system should be added as research and other considerations of development and desirability warrant.

Alarm systems for fire and theft are necessary for Sagamore Hill. The existing fire alarm system should be analyzed by Service experts and a burglar alarm system installed.

The lands on which Sagamore Hill are situated appear to be adequate for preservation and interpretation at present and for the foreseeable future. Maintenance of the "estate" atmosphere surrounding Sagamore Hill is very important and while it seems likely that this will not be altered in the foreseeable future, nonetheless the Service should consider this problem and that of future land acquisition as a long range possibility. In particular it should consider acquisition of the 16.998 acres belonging to W. Helen Roosevelt as a development site to keep all developmental intrusions off the immediate vicinity of Sagamore Hill. Zoning in the incorporated town of Cove Neck, in which Sagamore Hill is situated, requires a minimum building lot size of two acres.

Old Orchard is an area of 3.86 acres of land carved out of the Sagamore Hill property. Upon it is situated the mansion of John Roosevelt. Though it has been unoccupied since 1960, it is in excellent condition and should be considered for acquisition for such uses as headquarters, exhibits, storage of museum objects and seasonal or permanent quarters.

The canteen and souvenir shop presently operated by the Theodore Roosevelt Association could well continue to be operated by them, or another non-profit organization, as a concession.

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Two small inholdings, one owned by Nassau County and the other by Philip J. Roosevelt, if not included in the transfer of title from the Theodore Roosevelt Association, should be acquired as expeditiously as possible.

June 1963

GUIDELINES

1. Sagamore Hill - the house, grounds and forest - shall be preserved or restored as nearly as possible as it was during the presidential years, consistent with the needs of development, protection and visitor use.
2. Operation of the area as a "Gentlemen's Farm", such as Theodore Roosevelt maintained, shall be part of the preservation and rehabilitation concept.
3. Restoration of the stable, the lodge, and the barn; Mrs. Roosevelt's garden house; the garden and other structures and features of the presidential years shall be undertaken following adequate historical research.
4. Existing outhouses, in place during the presidential years such as the ice house, shall be returned to their original use or condition during that time.
5. Eventual relocation of the present parking area and concession buildings, which impose upon the historic scene, shall be effected.
6. The interpretive theme shall be the story of the life of Theodore Roosevelt during his residency at Sagamore Hill with particular emphasis on the presidential years.
7. Interpretation will be primarily as an exhibit - in-place but with preliminary orientation and background information at a visitor contact station, and expanded treatment for the more interested visitor through park literature, self-guiding trails and other pertinent interpretive methods.
8. An interpretive trail system, complementary of Theodore Roosevelt's love of nature and his perambulations with his children and friends on the estate, shall be established.
9. Sagamore Hill will be a day-use area with no provision for camping except as noted below. Picnicking will not be encouraged but should be permitted where circumstances warrant (i.e., school groups bringing their lunch).
10. Boy Scout camping in the woods of the estate (a traditional use during Theodore Roosevelt's time) will be continued, but restricted to local groups so as to prevent undue deterioration of the grounds.
11. Hunting will not be allowed.

June 1963

12. The Boies and Crockett Club (founded by Theodore Roosevelt) shall continue to use the Gun Room at Sagamore Hill for their meetings and for their library, possessions and memorabilia.
13. The Theodore Roosevelt Association shall be consulted in the establishment of an Advisory Committee for matters relating to the preservation, development and management of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site.
14. A program of historical research shall be undertaken which will, among other things, aim at the accumulation of information necessary to permit the restoration of all three floors of the house to their condition during the presidential years.
15. Historical research shall also be undertaken to gather together the recollections of servants, family and family acquaintances of the events and prevalent conditions of Sagamore Hill during the presidential years.
16. A program of cataloguing, storage and care of museum objects and historical records (which includes all the furnishing of the house) shall be undertaken. This shall include:
 - A. A furnishings plan for the house for the presidential years.
 - B. Provision for periodic inspection; particularly for the care of the paintings, books, fabrics and other objects subject to deterioration.
 - C. Provision for storage of the study collection not actually on display, in such a manner that they may be made available for study by serious students.
17. The Park will function under published delegations of authority as a Group " " organization.
18. Careful consideration shall be given to the acquisition and use of the Old Orchard for park headquarters, seasonal or permanent housing, museum storage space and specialized exhibits such as possibly occur on the third floor of the Sagamore Hill home.
19. Personnel of the present Theodore Roosevelt Association employees of Sagamore Hill should be given first consideration in staffing.

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20. Adequate protection for the house and the objects therein shall be provided to guard against fire, theft and vandalism.
21. The sale of tickets, orientation and information services shall be removed from the Roosevelt home and placed in a visitor contact station.
22. Housing for the permanent staff will be provided as circumstances warrant.

June 1963

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MASTER PLAN
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE
OF
THEODORE ROOSEVELT BIRTHPLACE
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
MISSION 66 EDITION

The Service thus established shall

- . Promote and regulate the use of
- . The Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations hereinafter specified
- . By such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations

Which purpose is

- . To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and
- . To provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as shall
- . leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

From an Act to Establish a National
Park Service. Approved August 25, 1916.

May 1963

Foreword
Page 1

THE PARK

A reconstructed mid-19th Century brownstone house stands at 28 East 20th Street in downtown New York. In the original, Theodore Roosevelt was born in 1858, and in it he lived until the fall of 1862 when he was fourteen. Next door, to the west, is the home of his uncle, Robert E. Roosevelt.

The neighborhood, once fashionable for residential purposes, has changed into a typical urban wholesale-commercial and light manufacturing district.

May 1963

THE MISSION

of Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace
National Historic Site is to
enhance visitor understanding
of and appreciation for the
social and intellectual heritage
of Theodore Roosevelt, and to
recreate in part the setting in
which the young Roosevelt began
formulating his principles, ideals
and ambitions.

of the National Park Service is to
so preserve, administer and inter-
pret this Park as to fulfill the
Park Mission.

May 1963

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NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
MISSION 66 EDITION

Chapter 1, Objectives and Policies
Significant Resources
Significant Values
Preservation & Use Policies
Guidelines

Prepared by: David A. Kimball Date _____
Interpretive Planner (Historian)

Recommended: _____ Date _____
Superintendent

Recommended: _____ Date _____
Regional Director, Northeast Region

APPROVED: _____ Date _____
Director

May 1963

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MASTER PLAN
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THEODORE ROOSEVELT BIRTHPLACE
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

VOLUME I

Chapter 1. Objectives and Policies

SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES

First among the resources of the Site is the reconstructed birthplace. In the original house, Theodore Roosevelt was born and spent his childhood. Here he developed the interests and ideals which characterized his life: the passion for physical fitness and the active life; the will to overcome physical handicaps; the interest in natural history and the out-of-doors; the enthusiasm for books and history; the sense of duty and the patriotism.

The first and second floors of the birthplace have been refurnished, in large part with original family pieces. The remainder of the house and the house next door provide exhibit space, offices and, on the fourth floor, an auditorium with stage and projection booth. There is a library and a large collection of exhibit items pertaining to Theodore Roosevelt.

May 1963

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SIGNIFICANT VALUES

Theodore Roosevelt is one of those rare individuals whose character, personality and ideals were such as to have a lasting influence upon the United States. He also earned a peculiar affection and regard from the American people.

At Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site, the visitor will find the setting in which this man was born and raised recreated at least in part. The visitor will also find a host of items, illustrative of Theodore Roosevelt's later years; his accomplishments and their results. From the setting and the displays, the visitor will gain a better knowledge of Theodore Roosevelt's early years, an enhanced appreciation for the character and ideals inculcated during those early years, and increased understanding of the accomplishments of the man in whom they came to fruition.

May 1963

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Page 4

GENERAL PRESERVATION AND USE POLICIES

Public Law 87-547, approved July 25, 1962, provides that when the sites and structures known as the Theodore Roosevelt House situated at 28 and 26 East Twentieth Street, Sagamore Hill, and a portion of the endowment fund of the Theodore Roosevelt Association in the amount of \$500,000 have been transferred to the United States, the Secretary of the Interior shall establish Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace and Sagamore Hill National Historic Sites. The Secretary may accept additional amounts from the Theodore Roosevelt Association. The Act states that the Secretary shall, upon establishment of the Sites, consult the Theodore Roosevelt Association in the establishment of an advisory committee or committees for matters relating to the preservation, development and management of the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace and Sagamore Hill National Historic Sites.

The birthplace will continue as a day use area. No further development will be undertaken.

First aid and fire protection will be provided, and the Holmes electric protection system will continue in use. The Site staff will cooperate with city police and fire departments.

The interpretive theme will be Theodore Roosevelt's birth and early years in this house, development of his social and intellectual identity and the effect of this development on him as exemplified by his career in public life.

As the basis of the interpretive program, the refurnished rooms of the birthplace will be retained. The Site will be interpreted through a balanced program utilizing refurnishings, museum exhibits, and other appropriate interpretive facilities and devices.

May 1963

GUIDELINES

1. A thorough, comprehensive program of historical research will be undertaken to secure data on the house, its furnishings and Roosevelt's life in it.
2. The library will be retained; only books pertinent to the Park story will be acquired for addition to it.
3. The auditorium will continue to be used for orienting school groups. Consideration will be given to developing a more varied film program.
4. The emphasis of the museum displays will be placed on Roosevelt's family backgrounds and childhood, with only enough displays on his later life to illustrate the characteristics, ideals and interests developed during his years in this house.
5. Sale of interpretive literature will continue to be handled by the Theodore Roosevelt Association or by a cooperating agency, at the option of the Association.
6. The National Park Service will encourage city planning and traffic authorities in any effort to provide visitor parking in the vicinity.
7. Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site will function within the framework of the approved Master Plan and under published delegations of authority as a unit of the New York City group under the jurisdiction of a multiple superintendency primarily as a Group "C" organization as defined in the Administrative Manual.

May 1963