



# American Heritage



## Merit Badge Worksheet for the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site

This worksheet will help you complete the merit badge requirements and prepare for your visit to the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site (TR Site). You will still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

The work space provided for each requirement should be used by the Scout to make notes for discussing the item with his counselor. Each Scout must do each requirement.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**You must submit completed worksheet two weeks prior to your museum visit.**

Contact: Education Director, Mark Lozo: mark\_lozo@partner.nps.gov, 716.884.0095

**In accord with BSA policy, all scouts must be supervised by an adult during their visit.**

1. Read the Declaration of Independence. Pay close attention to the section that begins with "*We hold these truths to be self-evident*" and ends with "*to provide new Guards for future security.*" Address the importance of the Declaration to all Americans.

Rewrite that section in your own words.


2. You will complete BOTH options (a) and (b) for this requirement.

- a. Research former President Theodore Roosevelt . Also choose one of the following private citizens to research: labor leader John Mitchell, educator Booker T. Washington, social reformer Jane Adams, or conservationist John Muir. Find out about TR's and your person's accomplishments and compare the contributions each has made to America's heritage.

1. Political Leader:

Accomplishments & Contributions: Use this link, <http://www.nps.gov/thri/theodorerooseveltbio.htm>


2.. Private Citizen:

Accomplishments & Contributions: This is a helpful link. Scroll to the middle of the page:  
<http://www.nps.gov/thri/people.htm>


b. The TR Site is a National Historic Landmark. What is the mission and vision of the TR Site? (Hint: look on the museum's web-site at TRSite.org ) How does it help make positive changes in Western New York and America?

Mission/Vision:


How:


Discuss how the TR Site is related to events or situations from America's past. Example: assassination of President William McKinley, inauguration of TR.


3. Do the following:

- a. Select a topic that is currently in the news. Pick a current world event based on ONE OF the following categories: immigration, labor reform, conservation/environmentalism, urban poverty, racial or social inequality, role of the United States in foreign affairs.

**Fill out these sections, and be prepared to discuss this requirement during your visit to the TR Inaugural Site for Merit Badge Day.**

Describe to your counselor what is happening.


Explain how this event today is related to or affected by the events and values of America's past.


- b. For each of the following, describe its adoption, tell about any changes since its adoption, and explain how each one continues to influence Americans today: the American flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, the national seal, the national motto, and the national anthem.

The Flag:

Adoption	
Changes	
Influence today	

The Pledge of Allegiance:

Adoption	
Changes	

Influence today	

The National Seal:

Adoption	
Changes	
Influence today	

The National Motto:

Adoption	
Changes	

Influence today

The National Anthem:

Adoption

Changes

Influence today

- c. Research your family's history. Find out how various events and situations in American history affected your family. If your family immigrated to America, tell the reasons why. Share what you find with your counselor.

**Fill out these sections, and be prepared to discuss this requirement during your visit to the TR Inaugural Site for Merit Badge Day.**



4. You will complete options BOTH (a) and (b) for this requirement.

**Fill out these sections, and be prepared to discuss this requirement during your visit to the TR Inaugural Site for Merit Badge Day.**

a. The TR Site is a National Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places.

Explain what is meant by the National Register of Historic Places:


Describe how a property becomes eligible for listing.


Make a map marking the points of the following places of historical interest. Make a list of why these places are significant in Western New York history.

- TR Site
- The Buffalo History Museum
- Assassination site of President McKinley
- Former site of the Milburn Mansion (what is there now?)
- The site of the former Pan American Exposition



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5. You will complete option ONLY (b) for this requirement.

- b. Read the provided biography of President Theodore Roosevelt. What contributions did he make to America's heritage? Tell some things you admire about this individual and some things you do not admire. Use this link, <http://www.nps.gov/thri/theodorerooseveltbio.htm>


Explain why you think this person has made a positive or a negative contribution to America's heritage.


6. Discuss with your counselor the career opportunities in American heritage.

For some possibilities, see: <http://www.nps.gov/caha/parkmgmt/upload/NPS-employment-opportunities-1.pdf>


Pick one that interests you and explain how to prepare for this career.

Career


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Discuss what education and training are required for this career.

Education


Training


**Requirement resources can be found here:**

[http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/American\\_Heritage#Requirement\\_resources](http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/American_Heritage#Requirement_resources)

## Resources

### Scouting Literature

*American Business, American Cultures, American Labor, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Genealogy, Journalism, Law, and Scouting Heritage* merit badge pamphlets

### Books

- Bjornlund, Lydia. *The U.S. Constitution: Blueprint for Democracy*. Lucent Books Inc., 1999.
- Carnes, Mark, ed. *Past Imperfect: History According to the Movies*. Holt and Company, 1995.
- Finlayson, Reggie, ed. *We Shall Overcome: The History of the American Civil Rights Movement*. Lerner Publishing Group, 2002.
- Freedman, Russell. *Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence*. Holiday House, 2002.
- Hoose, Phillip M. *We Were There, Too!: Young People in U.S. History*. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2001.
- Jaffe, Steven H. *Who Were the Founding Fathers? Two Hundred Years of Reinventing American History*. Henry Holt and Co., 1996.
- Kassinger, Ruth. *U.S. Census: A Mirror of America*. Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers, 2000.
- McIntire, Suzanne, ed. *American Heritage Book of Great American Speeches for Young People*. Wiley, 2001.
- Panchyk, Richard. *Keys to American History: Understanding Our Most Important Historic Documents*. Chicago Review Press, 2009.
- Time Magazine editors. *Time America: An Illustrated History*. Time, 2007.
- Torricelli, Robert, and Andrew Carroll, eds. *In Our Own Words: Extraordinary Speeches of the American Century*. Kodansha International, 1999.
- Wilson, Richard Guy, ed. *A Guide to Popular U.S. Landmarks as Listed in the National Register of Historic Places*. Franklin Watts Inc., 2003.
- Zeinert, Karen. *Free Speech: From Newspapers to Music Lyrics*. Enslow Publishers, 1995.

### Periodicals

#### American History and Civil War Times

Website: <http://www.historynet.com>

#### Early American Life

Telephone: 440-543-8566

Website: <http://www.ealonline.com>

#### Preservation

Telephone: 202-588-6388

Website: <http://www.nationaltrust.org/magazine>

### Organizations and Websites

#### Academy of Achievement

Website: <http://www.achievement.org>

#### America Singing: 19th Century Song Sheets

Website: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amsshtml/amsshhome.html>

#### America's Library

Website: <http://www.americaslibrary.gov>

**The American Family Immigration History Center**

Telephone: 212-561-4588

Website: <http://www.ellisland.org>

**American Memory**

Website: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

**American Veterans (AMVETS)**

Toll-free telephone: 877-726-8387

Website: <http://www.amvets.org>

**Family Search Internet Genealogy Service**

Website: <https://www.familysearch.org>

**Genealogy.com**

Website: <http://www.genealogy.com>

**HistoryNet.com**

Telephone: 703-771-9400

Website: <http://www.historynet.com>

**The Lester S. Levy Sheet Music Collection**

Johns Hopkins University

Website: <http://levysheetmusic.mse.jhu.edu>

**Library of Congress**

Telephone: 202-707-5000

Website: <http://www.loc.gov>

**National Constitution Center**

Telephone: 215-409-6600

Website: <http://constitutioncenter.org>

**National Park Service**

Telephone: 202-208-3818

Website: <http://www.nps.gov>

**National Register of Historic Places**

Telephone: 202-354-2211

Website: <http://www.nps.gov/nr/>

**Smithsonian Institution**

Telephone: 202-633-1000

Website: <http://www.si.edu>

**U.S. Census Bureau**

Telephone: 301-763-4636

Website: <http://www.census.gov>

**U.S. Government Printing Office**

Telephone: 202-512-0000

Website: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>

**U.S. History.org**

Website: <http://www.ushistory.org/us/>

**The White House**

Telephone: 202-456-1414

Website: <http://www.whitehouse.gov>

**Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)**

Website: <http://www.vfw.org>