



Delaware Avenue Neighborhood Tour of Homes

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Photo by Fred Schrock for Buffalo Tours

Mark your calendars! The TR Site will join forces with Preservation Buffalo Niagara's Buffalo Tours again this summer to present the **Delaware Neighborhood Tour of Homes**. This totally unique tour experience is set for **Saturday, June 25th**. Thanks to the special collaboration between the two organizations, tour participants will get a rare glimpse inside the magnificent homes of Buffalo's Golden Age on Delaware Avenue and Oakland Place. Several of these gilded age treasures are now public buildings but others are still private residences, carefully restored and adapted to fine modern living in the 21st century. This unique tour of homes will feature all-new offerings in a self-guided, "go at your own pace" experience with highly trained docents in each of the locations.

The tour sites will be open from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Begin the tour at the Theodore Roosevelt Site, 641 Delaware Avenue and then stroll back in time to the grandeur that was Buffalo's heyday. As a special treat, the TR Site will serve complimentary lemonade and cookies all day. Tickets are \$25 (\$20 for members of either organization) and can be purchased at the TR Site, the Market Arcade at 617 Main Street or call (716) 852-3300.

Included in the tour cost is a **lecture by architectural historian Martin Wachadlo** on the history and architecture of the Delaware neighborhood, which will include intriguing insights on the homes that will be toured. The lecture will be held on Wednesday, June 15th at 5:30 pm at the TR Site. Tickets for the tour will be sold that evening. Due to the nature of the tour, ticket sales are limited. The tour was a complete sell-out last year and we hope to repeat that success.



The National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference is coming to Buffalo in October! See the article on page 3 for details on how the Site is participating.

Published by the
Theodore Roosevelt
Inaugural
Site Foundation

641 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
716 884 0095
www.trsite.org

Letter from the President

New Strategic Plan Places Focus on “Issues of the Day and Today”

I am both delighted and humbled as I assume the role of board president of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation. I am also filled with excitement and enthusiasm as I look at what the Site now has to offer our visitors and our Western New York community.

When we approved our last strategic plan in 2003, a major renovation of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site was still in the planning stages. June 2009 marked the completion of the largest construction endeavor at 641 Delaware Avenue since the Wilcox Mansion’s restoration in the late 1960s. Numerous physical improvements were made at the TR Site and an all-new visitor experience was created.

Our strategic plan for 2011-2016 sets forth a blueprint for our future. By necessity, our focus during the last several years has been on the renovation and transformation of the Site. The centerpiece of that transformation has been an all-new visitor experience. Numerous interactive exhibits transport one back to the excitement of Buffalo’s heyday and the Pan-American Exposition as well as the drama of September 1901. You can now follow TR as he arrives in Buffalo, contemplates the major issues he will face, takes the oath of office, and begins his presidency. Following a guided tour, visitors have the opportunity to learn from the past on their own and see how history is relevant in their lives by considering the challenges and opportunities presented by the same issues today.

This approach is innovative in a museum setting and groundbreaking for an historic house museum.

Since our reopening in June 2009, on-site attendance has increased by 25% and admission revenues by more than 30%. When you peruse the new strategic plan, you will learn

about our concept for attracting even more visitors and for advancing the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt as the first modern president who demonstrated the courage to address difficult issues with which we continue to grapple today—environmental conservation, immigration and urban poverty, race and social inequalities, big business and labor, and the role of the U.S. in global affairs.

These issues are still vitally important today, regularly in the news, and can serve as building blocks for study, discussion and action during the course of the next five years as the Site expands its existing programs and creates new offerings featuring one of the five issues each year for the next five years. Given our resources, we will not attempt to do this on our own. Key to success in this endeavor is the outreach we will undertake. Our expectation is to partner with a wide range of organizations which already focus on these issues, integrating the Site into what others are doing through collaborative programs and the use of our new carriage house gallery by the initiative partners.

The strategic plan will be available in the next several weeks. I hope each of you will take the time to read it thoroughly and thoughtfully. It will be available online at www.trsite.org. For those who prefer a paper copy, a limited number of copies will be available at the Site. If you can’t access our website or are unable to visit the Site in person, please contact Executive Director Molly Quackenbush (molly_quackenbush@partner.nps.gov or 716/884-0095) and we will be glad to mail you a copy. We are also interested in knowing what you think about both the plan and the issues initiative.

STANTON H. HUDSON, JR.

PRESIDENT

THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL SITE FOUNDATION



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THE BULLYTIN is an official publication of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation. The Site is supported, in part, with funds from the National Park Service and Erie County. In keeping with Theodore Roosevelt’s concern for conservation, this newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Foundation Board Elects New President and Trustees



*TR Site Foundation Board of Trustees
President Stanton H. Hudson, Jr.*

Stanton H. Hudson, Jr., APR, Fellow PRSA, was elected President of the Board of Trustees of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation at its February meeting. A trustee since 1994, Hudson has contributed to the Site in numerous ways including serving as chairman of the marketing committee and vice chairman of the recent capital campaign. In 2002, Hudson received the TR Site Foundation's President's Award for his outstanding service.

The founder and principal of Hudson & Associates Public Relations Counselors, Hudson has nearly 40 years experience advising institutions with whom he works on how to build strong, long-lasting, and mutually beneficial relation-

ships with key stakeholder groups and individuals. During his career, he has held senior management positions with M&T Bank, Blue Cross of Western New York, the American Lung Association of New York State and the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System and served as Assistant Professor and Director of a graduate program in Communication and Leadership at Canisius College.

Hudson also has served in volunteer leadership capacities with more than forty nonprofit organizations at the local, regional and national levels. An accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), he has received numerous local and national awards recognizing his body of work and life-long commitment to volunteerism and community service.

At its February meeting, the Foundation also elected three new trustees. **George F. Bellows, Esq.**, an attorney with Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, will serve as board secretary continuing the long tradition of the law firm's support of the Site. Also elected were **Kevin Kelly**, President of Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts, Inc., and **Barbara H. O'Neill, Esq.**, Associate Counsel with the New York State Commission on Public Integrity.

TR Site Participates in National Trust Conference



Excitement is mounting in the community as the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference draws closer and the Site is thrilled to be playing an active role in the conference.

First and foremost, our proposal to present an education session has been accepted! *The Historic House Museum for the 21st Century - Introducing New Approaches for Engagement & Relevancy* will use the TR Site's recent experience as a case study, highlighting the multi-year process and collaborative nature of the effort to transform our tour and exhibits, from the

perspective of the board, staff and the exhibit design firm.

The Site will be one of just a few stops on a *Buffalo Overview* bus tour, which is being coordinated by Preservation Buffalo Niagara/Buffalo Tours, offering us the opportunity to highlight both the historic Wilcox home and the carriage house addition to a new audience. We'll also have the opportunity to interact with conference attendees at a booth Site staff and volunteers will man in the conference's Exhibition Hall at the Convention Center.

Activities we're offering during the conference's free time include walking tours of the Allentown neighborhood and half-price admission to the Site. Regional and national organizations are also holding affinity meetings and programs in our carriage house. Finally, Buffalo hospitality will be front and center as volunteers from the Site's Costume Resource Center, in partnership with the Buffalo Niagara International Airport Ambassadors, greet visitors as they arrive for the conference.

The conference is a wonderful opportunity for our region and the Site to shine!

Summer Events at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site

641 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202, 716-884-0095, trsite.org

Allentown Neighborhood Walking Tours 2011



Allentown, one of Buffalo's most captivating neighborhoods, is a favorite spot for visitors to glimpse a variety of urban residences from cottages to mansions, historic sites and landmarks, restored and adapted buildings, and the works of some of the world's famous architects including Eliel & Eero Saarinen; H. H. Richardson; McKim, Mead & White; and Joseph Silsbee. Local architects, such as Green and Wicks, Eisenwein and Johnson, Richard A. Waite, Franklin W. Caulkins, and Henry H. Little, are also represented in the area.

The Walking Tour Committee of the Theodore Roosevelt Site will offer three walking tours in this fascinating area this summer. All tours will begin and end at the TR Site and **reservations are required**. Please stop by or call the Site (716-884-0095) before 4:00 pm on the day before the tour to make a reservation. Payment is due at time of reservation. The cost of each tour is \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers. A tour with lunch at the Site on the specified days is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers.

First Tour: Karpeles to Karpeles

Buffalo is fortunate to have two Karpeles Manuscript Museums housed in restored and adapted churches which are in close proximity. Viewing both museums and strolling past some of Buffalo's most famous buildings will provide a delightful and entertaining walk. Admission to both museums is free and we will be spending part of the tour in each facility.

Friday, July 1, 10 am with lunch at the Site. Reserve by Wednesday, June 29

Tour only: Friday, July 8, 10 am; Sunday, July 10, 1 pm; Friday, July 15, 10 am; Friday, July 22, 10 am

Second Tour: Main and North Pearl

This tour will contrast the 19th century churches, commercial buildings, and many restored sites on the west side of Main Street with the burgeoning 21st century Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus across the street. Then, North Pearl Street, a wonderful example of a prosperous Victorian-era streetscape, one block west of Main, will transport you to the 1870s.

Friday, July 29, 10 am with lunch at the Site. Reserve by Wednesday, July 27

Tour only: Friday, August 5, 10 am; Sunday, August 7, 1 pm; Friday, August 12, 10 am; Friday, August 19, 10 am

Third Tour: Allentown Parks

This tour will explore two urban residential park settings dedicated as parklands in 1854 and 1866 and displaying beautifully restored homes in the varied styles of the 19th century. The restored home of the only Buffalo native to reside in the White House and the oldest building in Buffalo are also included on this walk.

Friday, August 26, 10 am with lunch at the Site. Reserve by Wednesday, Aug. 24

Tour only: Friday, September 2, 10 am; Friday, September 9, 10 am; Sunday, September 11, 1 pm;
Friday, September 16, 10 am

Family Day at the TR Site!

Saturday, July 16, 2011

1:00-4:00 pm

**Half-price admission all day!
(Doors open at noon, last tour at 3:30.)**

"For unflagging interest and enjoyment, a household of children, if things go reasonably well, certainly makes all other forms of success and achievement lose their importance by comparison."
—Theodore Roosevelt, 1913

America of the early 20th century thrilled at the latest report of TR's six children and their "White House Gang" of friends, a rambunctious brood who always seemed to be up to something. If the nation wondered what they would do next, TR himself was

unperturbed. He was as likely to be in the midst of the hijinks as supervising. He always found time to enjoy the company of family. Come spend an afternoon at the TR Site with your own family! Explore the Site for half-price admission. Children can try out our new Junior Ranger activity booklet to win a prize. Story time, Victorian games and crafts, and a quintessential Rooseveltian pastime, the point-to-point walk, round out the day. Bring the whole family for a fun and relaxing day!



National Park Service

Teddy Bear Picnic

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Cost: \$5 per person
(includes picnic lunch - grilled hot dog, snack & beverage)**

Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens

2655 South Park Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14218

By reservation only. Please call the TR Site, 884-0095.



It's Teddy Bear Picnic time and we're joining forces again with our special friends at the Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens. What a beautiful place to have a picnic!

Mama Earth's Kitchen Band Show will start the afternoon off right with a special show that uses music and song to help spread the message of respect towards all of Earth's creatures. Mama Earth sings about composting, gardening, hiking, bird-watching, fossil hunting, and recycling. We know Theodore Roosevelt would heartily approve of her show! A visit from Buffalo Clown Alley, yummy picnic food, games, stories and other good things will also be part of the fun.

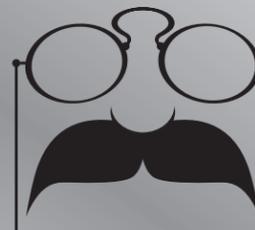
Teddy Bear Picnic is a fun day for all – mom, dad, grandparents, and friends. Get your team together and don't forget a blanket to sit on and your favorite teddy! Special thanks to Young Audiences of Western New York and Fisher Price for their generous support of this event.

"Tee" Time

Please join us for the TR Site's 4th annual golf outing on Monday, June 13 at the Buffalo Tournament Club. Tee times beginning at 12 noon. The cost is \$85 per person which includes golf, cart, lunch, TR logo golf towel, prizes, souvenir photo and a steak dinner with open bar. For further information or to register, please contact Assistant Director Janice Kuzan at janice_kuzan@partner.nps.gov or call 716.884.0095. Hope you can make it!



**THEODORE
ROOSEVELT
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The generosity of our contributors provided funding for the Carriage House Addition, the Historic Home Renovations and the Education Initiative. We are most grateful for their kind support.

2006-2010

The Donor Plaque for the Capital Campaign, which is similar to this listing, now hangs in the Carriage House. Our thanks to each and every contributor!

Recognition Awards Presented



Award winners Margaret Jacobucci and Thomas E. Brydges

The Site "family" - trustees, staff and volunteers - gathered at a reception on May 12 to join in fellowship and honor two special people who have made outstanding contribu-

tions to the Site. Board President Stanton Hudson presented the Foundation's **President's Award** to **Thomas E. Brydges**. Tom just retired from the TR Site Foundation board after serving twelve years as secretary. A partner at Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, Tom is the fourth attorney from the firm to serve as board secretary. Tom's thoughtful counsel and good nature have been tremendous assets during major initiatives such as the 2001 centennial conference and the recent construction project, as well as in helping maintain the ongoing professionalism of Site operations. This year's **Barbara Berryman Brandt Volunteer Award** was presented to **Margaret Jacobucci**. Margaret joined the volunteer corps in 2005 and has taken the Site by storm! As chairman of the Walking Tour Committee, she has introduced new tours, trained numerous volunteer guides, and is involved with the Site's plans for the National Trust Conference this fall. Margaret also divides her time between the Costume Resource Center, where she took the lead in digitizing the entire costume collection; the Research Committee; and assisting at special events. Congratulations to both Tom and Margaret!

SAVE THE DATE!

M&T Bank to be Honored

Plan to join us on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 for the Site's annual Anniversary and Awards Dinner. The Theodore Roosevelt Award for Exemplary Citizenship and Service will be presented to M&T Bank. The Site is honored to count M&T Bank as one of its earliest supporters forty years ago and is appreciative of M&T's continued interest and generous assistance.

This year's event will be held at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center and will commemorate the 110th anniversary of Roosevelt's presidential inauguration in the Buffalo home of Ansley and Mary Grace Wilcox. We will also celebrate another milestone - the 40th anniversary of the Site's opening to the public as a historic house museum. A special guest at the dinner will be none other than Theodore Roosevelt himself, portrayed by TR reenactor, Joe Wiegand. Wiegand brings TR to life with an unparalleled grasp of history and an uncanny way of quickly convincing you that you are in the company of the great Rough Rider President. His performance is one not to be missed.

The Theodore Roosevelt Association Police Award will also be presented that day. TR Site Foundation Vice-President Karen Gaughan Scott is chairing the event. Watch for an invitation in August or call for further details.



Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, assisted by former TR Site Foundation President Lawrence D. Seymour (left) and current President Stanton Hudson (right), helped dedicate two new exhibits on March 18.

Behind-the-Scenes Tour Series Receives National Recognition

The TR Site has been awarded an Honorable Mention in the Heritage Advocate Award competition, sponsored by Heritage Preservation, a national non-profit organization, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal agency. One of six organizations to receive this distinction, the TR Site's new Behind-the-Scenes tour series was selected as an outstanding project that educates the public about the risks faced by collections and the importance of appropriate care to protect these treasures.

The path to this recognition began in May, 2010, when Curator Lenora Henson attended a Raising the Bar Workshop in Baltimore, Maryland, sponsored by Heritage Preservation and IMLS. She subsequently used tips from the workshop to develop a new Behind-the-Scenes tour series at the TR Site.

All Behind-the-Scenes tours are led by Henson and start by bringing participants into the collections storage area. Visitors then enjoy an exclusive and "up close" look at artifacts relating to the tour's specific theme. Tour content also includes detailed discussion of collections management issues and challenges. The series has proven very popular and reaction to the tours has been enthusiastic. More information and the 2011 tour schedule can be found at: <http://www.trsite.org/content/pages/behind-the-scenes>.

"The two award winners and six honorable mentions came from large cities and small towns," said Lawrence Reger, President of Heritage Preservation. "In every case, their commitment to their collections and enthusiasm for involving their communities will serve as an inspiration to other museums and libraries across the nation."

The Heritage Advocate Awards are part of *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action*, a multi-faceted national initiative of the



Participants in the first-ever Behind-the-Scenes tour of the TR Site were fascinated by the framed items during their visit to the collections storage area.

IMLS. Museums, libraries and archives in the Mid-Atlantic and in the Midwest were invited to attend workshops at which experts worked with participants on ideas for media relations, public outreach and fund-raising on behalf of collections care. Public fascination with conservation can be an untapped resource; the goal of the workshops was to demonstrate how to use conservation issues to broaden funding and public appeal. In order to encourage participants to put what they learned into action, all were encouraged to conduct a project at their home institution, with the most successful receiving this award. First place was awarded to the Missouri State Museum in Jefferson City, Missouri, and the Muscote Farm in Katonah, New York.

Thanks to Grant Funding, TR Site Sends Six to Conference

Earlier this year, the TR Site was awarded a \$750 GO Grant, which allowed five staff members and one volunteer/intern to attend *Museums in Conversation 2011*, the annual conference jointly sponsored by Museumwise and the Museum Association of New York. Not only was this the first time that the TR Site sent more than one representative to *Museums in Conversation*, it was also the first time that the conference came to Buffalo. In fact, a record number of museum professionals from across the state attended this year's conference to spend three days learning from each other and exchanging ideas.

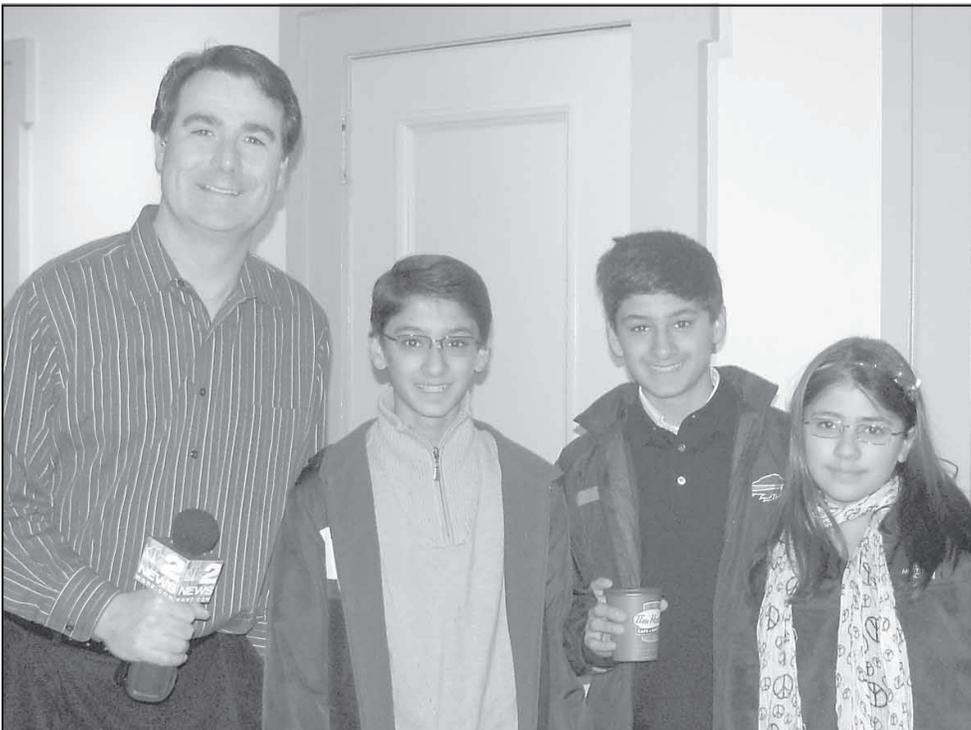
In addition to attending the conference, the names of several TR Site staff members could be found on the list of presenters. Executive Director Molly Quackenbush, Cura-

tor Lenora Henson, and Education Director Mark Lozo hosted a half-day workshop called "Stepping Off the Cliff: Making Interpretive Change Happen" at the TR Site; they shared some of the lessons they learned from the recent re-interpretation initiative with a sold-out crowd. Henson also facilitated a session called "Designing a Mutually-Beneficial Intern Experience."

The GO Grant is one of a series of grants offered by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) to help museums and historical societies strengthen and develop their institutions while working with their communities. Administered by Museumwise, GO Grants make it easier for organizations to access professional assistance and improve their institutions by defraying travel and registration expenses.



On March 27, 2011, the Site's sixth biennial Theodore Roosevelt Public Speaking Contest winners were Fiza Batool, Niagara Falls High School (center), first place; Gabriel Chen, Sweet Home High School (left), second place; and Simon Nash, Hutchinson Central High School of Buffalo (right), third place. Congratulations to all three and the many other excellent competitors.



WGRZ Channel 2's Kevin O'Neill (left) visited the Site to highlight our exciting new exhibits. Here he greets Bhaskar, Kathan, and Ariya Roberts.

Quick Notes

- Join us during the **Allentown Art Festival** on June 11 & 12. The Site will again be offering half price admission and selling lemonade and cookies on the front lawn.
- A limited number of spaces are still available for the Site's **annual fall trip** set for September 18 – 22. This year we'll travel to the beautiful Hudson River Valley. Tour highlights include West Point, FDR Home and Library, Eleanor Roosevelt's Val-Kill, Vanderbilt Mansion, Olana State Historic Site and the Culinary Institute. For full details, please contact Assistant Director Janice Kuzan at the Site, 716-884-0095.
- A Victorian Christmas note – the Site presented Visitors' Choice Awards to the **Smallwood Garden Club** for decorations in the Morning Room and to the **Hamburg Garden Club** for the Rotating Exhibit Room. **Smallwood Garden Club** also won the Curator's Choice Award. Congratulations to these two clubs and to all participating clubs for their exceptional work.
- The Site was honored to once again host **naturalization ceremonies** on February 22, presided over by Hon. William M. Skretny. Nineteen new citizens from 15 nations of origin participated.

Thanks to our Mother-Daughter Tea Supporters

The TR Site provided the perfect antidote to "spring fever" during the Mother Daughter Tea. Spring flowers, beautiful china teacups and an array of really luscious, and very different, tea sandwiches and specialty sweets set the stage for another amazing vintage fashion show. As always, TR Site volunteers provided all the special touches that make this such a unique and memorable event.

Many thanks to our generous sponsors:
Dessert Deli
Reeds/Jenss

And to:
Hodgson Russ
Anthony Paul Salon
Elaine's Flower Shoppe



Molly and Sarah Denman are all smiles as they model their new spring bonnets.



Fun for all generations! Karen Troiano enjoyed the Mother-Daughter Tea with daughter Isabella and mother-in-law Susan English.

Thank You to the Following Supporters

Received between 1/14/11 and 4/26/11

Annual Fund

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Mr. & Mrs. Kirby & Sue Snyder

Rough Rider - \$75.00

Mr. & Mrs. Hugh & Peppy McLean

Mr. & Mrs. Rik Whitaker

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wisniewski

In order to provide maximum space in *The Bullytin* for programming and event information, memberships at the Rough Rider level and above will now be recognized in this publication. All memberships are truly appreciated and will continue to be acknowledged with a personal letter from the TR Site. Thanks to each and every member for your interest and support!

Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site

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*The National Park Service has officially begun observances of the American Civil War Sesquicentennial, and one of the first events passed through Buffalo! Lincoln portrayer Fritz Klein retraced Lincoln's route from Springfield to Washington, stopping in Buffalo on February 17. Here he addresses a crowd of over 300 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo, flanked by an honor guard of the 155th NY Re-Enactor Regiment. He also appeared at Buffalo School 81 earlier in the day.
Photo by Dave Schafer, NPS.*