

# **PART ONE: FOUNDATION FOR PLANNING**

## *Introduction*

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, the home of President Theodore Roosevelt, is located in Oyster Bay, New York, on the north shore of Long Island in Nassau County. The property is set in a terrain dominated by the coves and necks of Long Island Sound. The Roosevelt home is a large Queen Anne- style house, once surrounded by a working farm that included a garden, pasture, and agricultural fields providing fruits and vegetables for the family, and hay and feed for the livestock. As a national historic site, Sagamore Hill today continues to embody Theodore Roosevelt's ideals of home, country, family, and love of nature. It also reflects Roosevelt's efforts to blend his political and personal life, the result of which was a more portable Presidency that increasingly used emerging communication technologies.

In 1962 Congress passed Public Law 87- 547 establishing both Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site in New York City and Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in Oyster Bay, New York. The legislation authorized the National Park Service to accept the donation of the properties from the Theodore Roosevelt Association (TRA) along with a \$500,000 endowment to support the management and operation of the properties. The Theodore Roosevelt Association continues to play an advisory role in the management of the endowment and is among the park's primary partners.

## *Purpose & Need for the General Management Plan*

A comprehensive management plan is needed for Sagamore Hill, because no such complete and formally approved plan exists. Since the park's establishment as a unit of the National Park System in 1962, the types of visitors and the way in which they experience the site have changed. A great deal more is now known about how Theodore Roosevelt and his family lived, worked, and played at Sagamore Hill. The same is true of how this place was shaped by and reflected Roosevelt's personal philosophy on the American Ideal - - much of which is not yet adequately represented at the park.

The main function of a general management plan is to provide a clear definition of the park's purpose and management direction that will guide and coordinate all subsequent planning and management. The general management plan takes the long view: 15 to 20 years into the future. In

accordance with federal law, all parks within the National Park System must operate under an approved general management plan. This ensures that park managers carry out, as effectively and efficiently as possible, the mission of the National Park Service, which states:

*The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.*

The GMP describes and explains the resource conditions that should exist and the visitor experiences that should be available at Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. The plan is a policy- level document that provides guidance for park managers. It is not detailed, specific, or highly technical in nature. The GMP provides a consistent framework for coordinating and integrating all subsequent planning and management decisions concerning the park. All other park plans tier off of the GMP.

After the GMP is adopted, the park's five- year strategic plan will be updated to lay out near- term goals and management actions consistent with the GMP. When funds become available to begin the design of facilities or to undertake other specific actions that are consistent with the GMP, then site- specific planning, research, and technical environmental analysis will be performed. The more specific undertakings will be subject to federal and state consultation requirements, and the public will be involved throughout the process.

The four basic elements required of National Park Service GMPs (by Public Law 95- 625) are:

- Measures for **preservation** of the area's natural and cultural resources.
- Types and general intensities of **development** associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and costs.
- Identification and implementation commitments for visitor **carrying capacities**.
- Potential **boundary** modifications and the reasons for them.

## *Planning Issues*

Consultation among the public, the planning team, and park staff identified the following list of substantial planning issues that must be addressed in the GMP.

### **Resource Management**

Throughout most of its history as a National Park Service unit, Sagamore Hill NHS has been treated primarily as a cultural resource, with limited consideration given to its natural resource values. The GMP will develop strategies to enhance natural resource management.

Since Sagamore Hill opened to the public in the 1950s, its character has changed from its original configuration as a working farm and woodland to a more park-like commemorative setting. Its agricultural roots are no longer evident, making it difficult for park visitors to grasp this distinctive aspect of its history on Long Island's North Shore. The GMP will suggest physical and operational changes to recapture the historic agricultural character of the landscape.

The park's museum collection, a nationally significant collection with direct associations to the park's other cultural and natural resources, is not adequately stored or protected. Furthermore, collections management efforts are hindered by cramped quarters, inadequate space for future growth, inefficient equipment configuration, and environmental problems. The current main storage room is located in the basement of the Theodore Roosevelt Home. Curatorial offices had to be relocated to Old Orchard in fall 2003 due to mold growth. Neither the basement office nor the Old Orchard curatorial space provides sufficient space for existing staff or necessary and adequately climate-controlled work space for management of the collections. Space for researchers is also lacking. Also, stored collections are dispersed across a number of locations on the property. The GMP will identify options for improving collection storage and workspace.

### **Visitor Use & Experience**

Sagamore Hill NHS was established to interpret the spirit and image of Theodore Roosevelt, his family, and significant events associated with him during his years at Sagamore Hill. However, current park facilities limit the interpretive potential of the site by focusing mostly on the home, rather than the property as a whole. In concert with the Long-Range Interpretive Plan (LRIP), the GMP will revisit and offer recommendations regarding the visitor experience and interpretive emphasis.

In 1993, the typical visitor experience at the park changed. Tours of the Roosevelt Home, which had previously been self-guided, became ranger- or docent-led, with strict limitations placed on the number of participants per tour (14). Now visitors often have to wait an extended period of time to tour the home, or sometimes are unable to tour the home at all. Few well-developed programs or facility-based alternatives exist for visitors. Some may leave without having had the opportunity to appreciate the significance of the site and, as a result, may leave uninformed and dissatisfied with their experience. There are also space and program limitations for organized groups, especially school groups. The park does not have adequate space for curriculum-based programs, which need to be age-appropriate, interactive, and learner-based. As noted above, the GMP will revisit and offer recommendations regarding the visitor experience and interpretive emphasis.

In January 2004, Old Orchard reopened to the public after an extended period of rehabilitation. New interpretive exhibits focusing on Theodore Roosevelt's life and legacy are available for visitors. However, the relatively remote location of the facility in relation to the rest of the current visitor experience presents additional challenges to operations and circulation. The GMP will consider strategies to better integrate Old Orchard into the overall visitor program and park operations.

Sagamore Hill is located in the metropolitan New York area, which is home to a very large, ethnically and economically diverse population. However, Sagamore Hill does not seem to attract a diverse audience. The GMP will consider strategies to broaden the park's audience.

### **Park Operations & Facilities**

Facilities for visitor services and park operations present a variety of issues. Visitor service facilities are dispersed across multiple locations, making them inefficient to staff and confusing for the visitor. Likewise, administrative space exists in numerous locations, also leading to operational inefficiencies. Finally, a number of park operations activities (e.g., interpretive offices, collection storage, and kitchenette) continue to be located in the Roosevelt Home, even though they are not considered appropriate uses for that structure. The GMP process will include an evaluation of facility needs and will result in recommendations to improve operational efficiency, ensure resource protection, and enhance the visitor experience. **Any GMP facilities recommendations will be subject to NPS budgetary constraints and asset management strategies. Recommendations may also include the phasing of any proposed development scheme.**

The current maintenance facility, located in a historic six-bay garage, is functionally inadequate and does not comply with federal workplace health and safety standards. An appropriate facility is needed to meet the established operational and resource management needs of the park. The GMP will consider the development of a new maintenance facility for the park.

### **External Factors**

Across the country, there are numerous institutions, historic sites, and monuments associated with Theodore Roosevelt. Desired relationships between Sagamore Hill and these sites have not been clearly defined and may present interesting opportunities. The GMP will consider ways to maximize the potential benefits from working in partnership with other Theodore Roosevelt-related sites.

There are now a number of regional heritage tourism and alternative transportation initiatives under development in the vicinity of the park. Because Sagamore Hill is a major attraction in the area, the park has been approached to participate. The GMP will offer guidance for Sagamore Hill's potential participation in these new initiatives.

### ***Purpose and Significance***

The park's purpose and significance statements, which are based on the park's authorizing legislation and its legislative history, form the foundation of the general management plan. The purpose statement explains why the park was established as a unit of the National Park System, while the significance statement defines the park's place within its broader context.

### **Park Purpose**

Sagamore Hill preserves in public ownership and interprets the structures, landscape, collections, and other cultural resources associated with Theodore Roosevelt's home in Oyster Bay, New York to ensure that future generations understand and appreciate the life and legacy of Theodore Roosevelt, his family, and the significant events associated with him at Sagamore Hill.

### **Park Significance**

Theodore Roosevelt bought land in Oyster Bay in 1880, where he built his family home and lived until his death in 1919. Throughout his life, Roosevelt attracted national and international figures from every walk of life to this home. Sagamore Hill was the summer White House between 1902 and 1908.

## *Interpretive Themes*

Interpretive themes express the key concepts that characterize the park resources and are based on the park's significance statement. The themes are conceptual—connecting to larger ideas, meanings, and beliefs—rather than a simple listing of important topics or a chronology of events.

### *Sagamore Hill as Family Home: A Private Place for a Public Man*

Sagamore Hill was Theodore Roosevelt's home—his primary residence and the place where he lived his married life and reared his children. The property was his personal center, and a place for renewal, and reflects his way of life and great love for family and home.

This theme interprets the constants in Roosevelt's life and the ideals that he tried to nurture and preserve as the world evolved around him. It discusses the tension between public and private facets of life at Sagamore Hill, and explores the ways in which public figures and their families adjust to official responsibilities while providing for their need for private time.

Sagamore Hill was first and foremost a home for Roosevelt's family and staff, nestled among the homes of his relatives, in a community comfortable with friends. In Roosevelt's own words, it was the house "on the top of the hill, separated by fields and belts of woodland from all other houses" looking "out over the bay and the Sound." Filled with tangible expressions of his interests—his collections and mementos—it is a reflection of his robust, enthusiastic, and adventurous life and this nation's exuberant confidence as they entered the 20<sup>th</sup> century together.

While the presidential years are significant in the exploration of this theme, "A Private Place for a Public Man" also interprets the many years when the Roosevelts lived at Sagamore Hill without official obligations. Sagamore Hill remained an influence on the Roosevelts' lives from its inception to their deaths, and Roosevelt himself used Sagamore Hill as a sanctuary from which to write many of his books.

As Roosevelt himself suggests, Sagamore Hill is much more than a single building and its contents. It is a property with gardens, fields and woods, beachfront and bay, wild and domestic animals, sunsets and thunderstorms. It is the progression of seasons—"the snows and bare woods of winter; the rush of growing things and the blossom-spray of spring; the yellow grain, the ripening fruits and tasseled corn...and the sharp fall winds that tear the brilliant banners with which the trees greet the dying year.'" For Roosevelt and his family, Sagamore Hill represents

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<sup>1</sup> *The Works of Theodore Roosevelt*. Memorial Edition. 359-360. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1923-26.

the “strenuous life,” the activities that drew the family outside and entertained them inside.

Life at Sagamore Hill reflected Roosevelt’s character, rekindled his mind, re-centered his spirit and, in his own words, occupied his heart. “I wonder,” he asked his wife the afternoon before he died, “if you will ever know how I love Sagamore Hill.”

***The Presidency in a Changing World—Sagamore Hill as the Summer White House***

During the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt (1901- 1909), the world, the United States, and the community of Oyster Bay all changed rapidly. Life at Sagamore Hill, as the Roosevelt residence outside Washington, D.C., reflects how change affected society and how Roosevelt harnessed change to redefine the office of President.

This theme focuses on society and the presidency, and how both changed during Roosevelt’s time as president. Sagamore Hill becomes a lens through which change can be illustrated, studied, and given context.

It also provides an introduction to stories of Roosevelt’s activist approach to the presidency and leadership. On an international level, it highlights events that accompanied the emergence of the United States as a world power. On a local level, it traces the impact of a modern presidency superimposed on a small community. It explores the technologies that made a portable presidency possible, complete with increased news coverage and media attention.

***Theodore Roosevelt’s Legacy and Relevance—Sagamore Hill as Catalyst***

Theodore Roosevelt’s leadership had far-reaching impact on many facets of national and international life, including government, diplomacy, conservation, and literature. Sagamore Hill offers opportunities to focus on his career and his legacies, examining the meaning and relevance of his contributions over time.

This theme focuses on Roosevelt’s achievements and legacies. It dissects the myths that have emerged and offers a more balanced view of his leadership. It examines the ways in which he redefined the presidency, raised the stature of the United States, and influenced national and international history. It traces the evolution of public policies that he embraced (conservation, for example) as well as those that he did not

champion (among which were racial equality). It examines his concept of citizenship and participation in the responsibility of civic duty.

To adequately interpret this theme, programming must encourage use of the park as a forum on civic responsibility and as a catalyst for dialogue as well as a symbol of Roosevelt's public leadership. Public attention and dialogue should be invited on- and off- site.

### *Visitor Experience Vision Statement*

In considering what the sum of the visitor experience at Sagamore Hill should be, the planning team reviewed the purpose and significance of the site, gathered input from our partners and the public, and arrived at the following vision statement. This vision for the visitor experience at Sagamore Hill should be considered common to all alternatives but would be addressed in different ways and to varying degrees under each alternative.

People visiting Sagamore Hill both virtually and in person experience a place that reflects the ideas and actions of Theodore Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. They understand its national significance not only as a President's home and the summer White House but also as a unit of the National Park System. Through well-developed orientation media, they are offered the information they need to explore the site.

In all of its programming (on- site, outreach, web- based), the park invites its audiences to discover the many dimensions of Theodore Roosevelt and his life and times. Using a variety of techniques that allow the park to reach a wide range of audiences, Sagamore Hill encourages people to think critically as they learn about the site and apply what they learn within the context of their own life and times. Ideally, people who experience this place will continue their personal quest for knowledge and broaden their participation in civic life. At the end of their experience, people are invited to reflect on their visit.

### *Park Goals*

Goals articulate the ideal conditions that park managers strive to attain in perpetuity. In brief, the goals for Sagamore Hill National Historic Site assert that the site be protected, that the park audiences be informed and satisfied, and that the park work with others to foster stewardship.

Following are specific goals for Sagamore Hill National Historic Site (not listed in priority order):

#### **Resource Management**

- Park resources are preserved and maintained in good condition, and in a manner that supports a balanced approach to cultural and natural resource management.

#### **Visitor Services/ Visitor Experience**

- Visitors traveling to Sagamore Hill experience well- marked routes with good directional signage, multiple transportation options, and a clear sense of arrival upon entering this National Park site.
- At Sagamore Hill, pathways and circulation within the park are well-marked and easy to navigate.
- Visitors receive orientation to Sagamore Hill that helps them understand the opportunities available at the park and provides an overview of the park's significance, the relevance of Theodore Roosevelt today, and the park's place in the National Park System.
- All people have opportunities to experience authentic, tangible resources that help them understand, draw inspiration from, and examine the larger meanings, concepts, themes, and stories about Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, Theodore Roosevelt, and his legacy.
- A wide range of interpretive offerings, educational materials, and outreach programs are available to meet the learning needs and styles of individuals, families, and organized groups.
- The park uses established and emerging technologies to provide new opportunities to enhance the visitor experience (both on- site and virtually) and to attract new audiences.

### **Research**

- The park encourages and disseminates scholarship that contributes to the continuing dialogue about and understanding of Theodore Roosevelt, his contributions and accomplishments in the context of U.S. and world history, and his legacy.
- Students and scholars have access to opportunities for research in an environment that offers accessible, appropriate, and dedicated space.

### **Partnership**

- The park strengthens its network of partners and works cooperatively to preserve and interpret Sagamore Hill NHS within the context of U.S. history, and in relationship to the network of Theodore Roosevelt-related sites and organizations.
- The greater park community is engaged on a broad variety of issues affecting the park in an effort to generate effective public participation and better-informed decisions.
- The park continues and expands upon its positive working relationships with the Oyster Bay community.
- The park and its primary park partners – the Theodore Roosevelt Association, the Friends of Sagamore Hill, and the Sagamore Hill Volunteers – actively contribute to their collective success.

### **Operations**

- The park and its partners actively pursue park goals in a flexible and cost-effective manner, recognizing any budget constraints that may be evident during the life of this plan.
- The park provides a safe and healthy environment for both employees and visitors to the park.
- The park capitalizes on existing and emerging technology to increase efficiency and enhance overall park operations.

### *Park Partners*

#### **Theodore Roosevelt Association**

The Theodore Roosevelt Association (TRA) was founded in 1919 and chartered by Congress in 1920 to preserve the memory and ideals of the 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. The TRA is a national, member-based organization having nearly 2,000 members representing all 50 states and

several foreign countries. The national Association also includes a number of local chapters, including the Friends of Sagamore Hill.

The purpose of the Theodore Roosevelt Association of Oyster Bay, New York, is:

- to perpetuate the memory and ideals of Theodore Roosevelt, the 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, for the benefit of the people of the United States of America and the world;
- to instill in all who may be interested an appreciation for and understanding of the values, policies, cares, concerns, interests, and ideals that Theodore Roosevelt held;
- to preserve, protect, and defend the places, monuments, sites, artifacts, papers, and other important physical objects associated with Theodore Roosevelt's life, work, presidency, historical legacy, and current interpretations of his varied beliefs or actions; and, in general,
- to do all things appropriate and necessary to insure that detailed and accurate information regarding Theodore Roosevelt's great and historic contributions is made available to all persons.

The TRA purchased Sagamore Hill in 1950 and opened it to the public in 1953. In 1963, the TRA donated Sagamore Hill and the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace to the American people and created a \$500,000 endowment for the sites. The TRA continues to play a role in the administration of the endowment. In addition to its involvement with Sagamore Hill, the TRA has been instrumental in the development or protection of a number of related commemorative and historic sites, including Theodore Roosevelt Island National Monument in Arlington, Virginia; Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site in Buffalo, New York; Bulloch Hall in Roswell, Georgia, the family home of Martha “Mittie” Bulloch Roosevelt, Theodore’s mother; and Pine Knot, the Roosevelts’ rural retreat outside of Charlottesville, Virginia. The TRA was instrumental in the accumulation of two major Roosevelt- related archival collections: the Theodore Roosevelt Collection at Harvard University, and the Theodore Roosevelt Association Film Collection at the Library of Congress.

Additionally, the Theodore Roosevelt Association holds annual meetings, offers lectures and symposia on many facets of the life and times of Theodore Roosevelt, and presents several public service awards that reflect the public spirit of the man.

### **The Friends of Sagamore Hill**

A chapter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association, the Friends of Sagamore Hill is dedicated to preserving and protecting the only presidential site on Long Island. Its mission revolves around four major activities: fund-raising, advocacy, volunteer recruitment, and staging special events in support of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. The organization currently has about 170 dues-paying members.

### **Sagamore Hill Volunteers**

The park has benefited from the work of a long-standing and dedicated corps of volunteers who support many aspects of park operations. While the total number of volunteers varies, the park typically has between 40 and 60 active volunteers each year. Most come from the local community, but some travel long distances to support the park's efforts. The majority of volunteer hours are devoted to visitor services and interpretive programming, followed by collections management. Volunteers have also participated in administrative support, maintenance, and resource management.

At Sagamore Hill, the volunteers are represented by a Volunteer Advisory Board that meets bimonthly. Communication between volunteers and park staff is enhanced by the production of a monthly newsletter, *The Rough Writer*. The park provides formal training to its volunteers as needed.

### **Eastern National**

Eastern National is a cooperating association that operates sales outlets in more than 130 national parks and other public trusts. Cooperating associations are federally recognized not-for-profit associations whose purpose is to help educate park visitors about the National Park System through the sale of educational products and to support park programs and projects not readily achievable using federal funds and personnel. Eastern National has been serving Sagamore Hill since 1996.

### ***Regional Context***

Sagamore Hill is located in the incorporated village of Cove Neck in the town of Oyster Bay (Nassau County), approximately 30 miles east of New York City, on the north shore of Long Island. The area is suburban in character and is home to numerous private estates. The site is bordered on all landward sides by large-lot residential and estate development. To its east, the site ends at a sandy beach at Cold Spring Harbor on Long Island Sound. The nearest urban centers are the hamlet of Hicksville (pop. 41,260), 10 miles south, and the hamlet of Huntington (pop. 18,403) in Suffolk County, seven miles to the east. The site is primarily accessible by

private vehicle, although cab service from nearby train stations and marinas is available.

The Oyster Bay area is served by a number of transportation routes including the Long Island Expressway (I- 495), the Northern State Parkway, and state routes 25, 106, and scenic 25a. The area is further served by the Long Island Railroad, providing commuter rail service to New York City. The closest railroad stops are located in the hamlet of Oyster Bay (a spur line) and in the hamlet of Syosset. The hamlet of Oyster Bay boasts two sizeable marinas with a combined total of more than 100 slips and 200 moorings. The marinas and the Oyster Bay train station are located within three miles of Sagamore Hill NHS.

LaGuardia and John F. Kennedy Airports in Queens and MacArthur International Airport in Islip are the nearest airports.

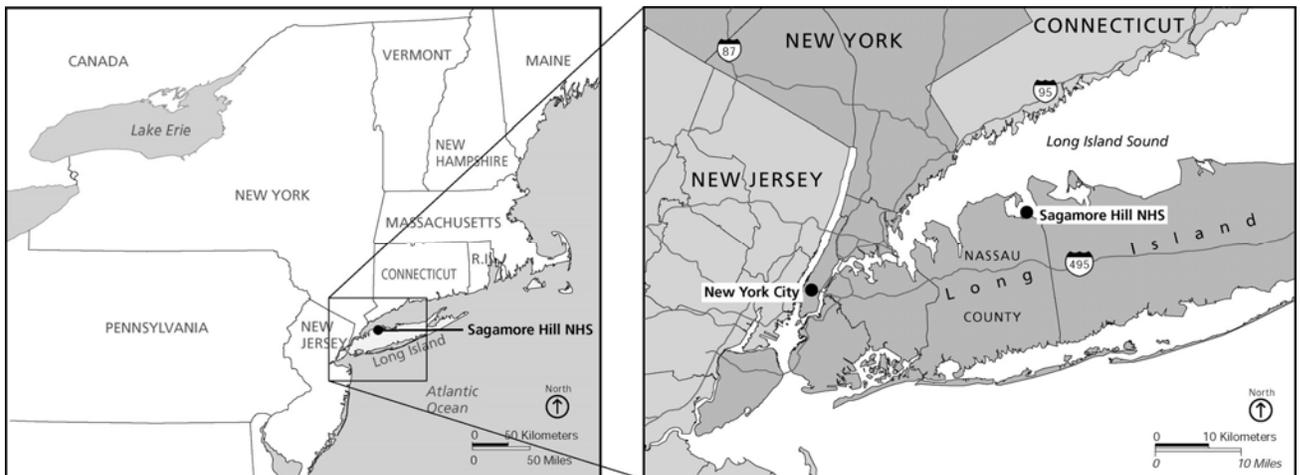


Figure 1-1: Locus Map

### *Historical Overview*

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site is significant for its association with Theodore Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, and the Roosevelt family; for its embodiment of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival architectural styles; and as a notable property associated with America's country estate movement. The site's period of significance, 1884- 1948, reflects the tenure of President Roosevelt and First Lady Edith Carow Roosevelt, who together shaped and managed the public, domestic, agricultural, recreational, and natural landscapes that comprise Sagamore Hill. The period also encompasses the construction of Old Orchard, a second home erected on the property by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. and his family.

Sagamore Hill, as the home of the Roosevelt family, embodied the ‘strenuous life’ Theodore Roosevelt valued in both private life and public policy. Sagamore Hill nurtured and advanced Roosevelt’s interest in natural history and the environment. His choices concerning his property— the uses of the land, the activities embraced, the management of the landscape, and implementation of technologies — reflect the personal conservation ethic that inspired the conservation policies Roosevelt would promote and implement throughout his public life.

As Roosevelt’s main residence from the age of 28 until his death at 60, Sagamore Hill was his home during important periods, including his position as a member of the U.S. Civil Service Commission (1889- 1895), President of the Board of Police Commissioners in New York City (1895- 1897), Assistant Secretary of the Navy (1897- 1898), Governor of New York (1898- 1900), and Vice President (1901) and President of the United States (1901- 1909). A notable event in diplomatic history occurred during the summer of 1905 at Oyster Bay, when Roosevelt hosted envoys from Russia and Japan for negotiations to end the Russo- Japanese War. This resulted in the Treaty of Portsmouth on September 5, 1905 for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize. During the presidential years of 1902- 1908, Sagamore Hill served as the summer White House and as a family retreat from Washington life during the rest of the year.

A more detailed historic context statement appears in Appendix B of the plan.

### *Associated Sites Outside Project Boundaries*

A number of related sites associated with Theodore Roosevelt’s life and legacy are located within the immediate vicinity of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site as well as across the country.

Among the local resources are Youngs Cemetery, where Theodore Roosevelt and his wife Edith are buried; Christ Church, where the family worshipped; the Moore Building, which provided administrative office space for aides in the Roosevelt White House during summers in Oyster Bay; and the Oyster Bay Railroad Station, from which Theodore Roosevelt would often commute to New York City.

Farther afield, Sagamore Hill maintains a relationship with related national park units in New York State, including the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site in New York City and the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site in Buffalo. Other sites commemorating Theodore Roosevelt within the National Park System include Theodore Roosevelt National Park in Medora, North Dakota;

Mount Rushmore in Keystone, South Dakota; Theodore Roosevelt Island in Arlington, Virginia; the Roosevelt Arch at Yellowstone National Park; and the White House. Theodore Roosevelt also created a number of significant NPS units through the Antiquities Act.

### *Fundamental Resources and Values*

With so many resources and with the constraints of limited staff and funding, managers at Sagamore Hill must frequently prioritize resource protection activities, deciding which resources receive treatment, and how much staff and funding can be allocated for such purposes. As a part of developing its resource management strategy, each park is required to identify the resources that directly relate to its park purpose and contribute to its national significance.

The following fundamental resource values table was developed during the planning process and reflects the input of the planning team and other NPS resource management professionals.

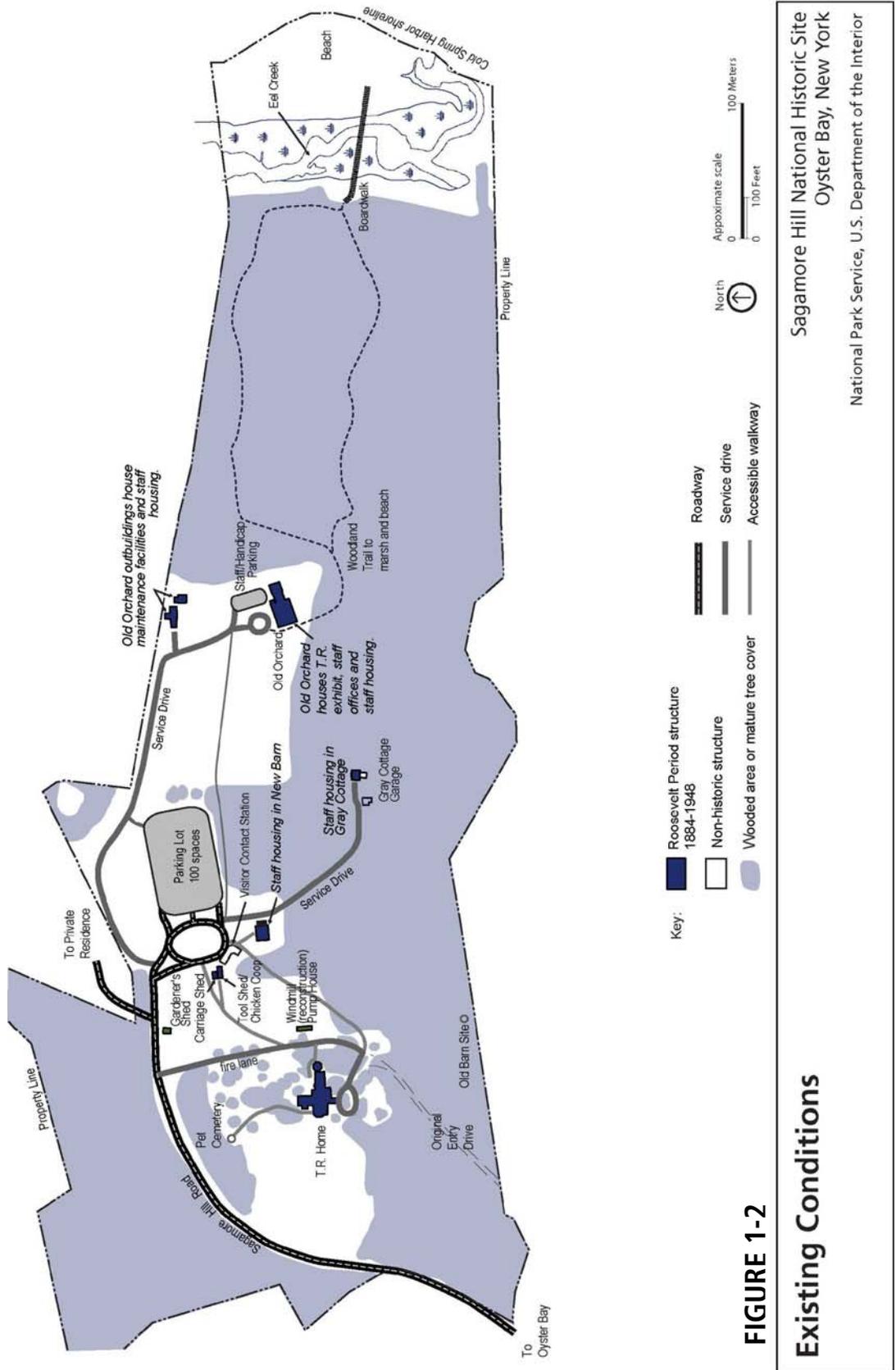
**Table 1- 1: Sagamore Hill National Historic Site Fundamental Resource Values**

Fundamental Resource	Analysis and Guiding Principles
<p><b>Sagamore Hill – Theodore Roosevelt’s home and working estate</b></p>	<p><b>Importance:</b> Sagamore Hill was the home of Theodore Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, and his family. The site served as the summer White House from 1902 to 1908. Though Roosevelt died in 1919, his widow and other members of the Roosevelt family remained in residence until 1948. The 83- acre historic site includes the Theodore Roosevelt Home and associated cultural landscape, historic farm buildings, and archeological resources. Also located within Sagamore Hill are Theodore Roosevelt Jr.’s home, Old Orchard, as well as a 34- acre natural area including woodland, salt marsh, tidal creek, and beach on Cold Spring Harbor.</p> <p><b>Current State and Related Trends:</b> Based on the National Park Service’s Facility Condition Index, the Theodore Roosevelt Home is considered to be in good condition. Work to update the mechanical systems in the Theodore Roosevelt Home has been programmed in the NPS Line Item Construction Program. The Theodore Roosevelt Home is furnished to the Roosevelt family period and is open for guided tours year- round. Though some changes were made to accommodate visitors in the early 1950s, the Theodore Roosevelt Home remains largely intact.</p> <p>Facets of Sagamore Hill’s cultural landscape are rated as being mostly in fair condition, though the main garden path is considered to be in poor condition. The park has opened up some of the landscape that had become overgrown and now manages these areas as meadow or open field. Despite these efforts, the site’s historic agricultural character is not readily evident. The park’s adjoining neighbors have raised concerns about the prospect of extensive landscape clearing, objecting to the possible opening of views to and from their properties.</p> <p>The outbuildings associated with the Theodore Roosevelt Home are also largely considered to be in fair condition, though the Gardener’s Shed and the New Barn are considered to be in poor condition. All of these structures are managed as cultural resources by the park. The New Barn and Gray Cottage are used for staff housing. The remaining outbuildings are used for storage.</p> <p>As the historic core of the park, the landscape surrounding the Theodore Roosevelt Home and its associated outbuildings possesses the highest archeological potential. The sites of two former structures—the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn—are also considered important archeological sites.</p>

Fundamental Resource	Analysis and Guiding Principles
	<p><b>Potential Future Threats:</b> The heating and ventilation systems in the Theodore Roosevelt Home have had a negative effect on the historic fabric of the building. Likewise, the electrical system is outdated and unable to support basic maintenance functions (e.g. vacuuming) and visitor amenities (e.g. improved lighting). Some of the electrical system dates back to the Roosevelt period raising concerns about the threat of fire.</p> <p>A number of features introduced after the Roosevelt period have intruded on the cultural landscape, including the introduction of specimen trees and other plantings, the parking area, and commemorative features. In some areas of the park, non- native invasive plant species have encroached upon the cultural landscape. The potential for future landscape rehabilitation is somewhat limited by local desire to maintain a substantial vegetative screen along the park’s boundary.</p> <p>Some of the site’s historic outbuildings have been altered or expanded to accommodate changing needs. In particular, the New Barn was altered in the late 1940’s to accommodate a residence and garage. The historic outbuildings are an important facet of the agricultural character of the site.</p> <p>The Stable and Lodge was the first building constructed on the site in 1885. The building was destroyed in a 1944 fire. The location of the building is well-documented and should be marked and interpreted so that visitors can better appreciate the historic configuration of Sagamore Hill. The Old Barn, the only building on the property at the time of Roosevelt’s purchase, collapsed circa 1905 and was replaced with the New Barn a few years later. The Old Barn site also offers interpretive values that are not now represented.</p> <p><b>Stakeholder Interests:</b> The Theodore Roosevelt Association (TRA) was chartered by Congress in 1920 to preserve the memory and ideals of Theodore Roosevelt. The TRA purchased Sagamore Hill in 1950 and opened it to the public in 1953. In 1963, the TRA donated Sagamore Hill and the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace to the American people and created a \$500,000 endowment for these sites. The TRA continues to play a role in the administration of the endowment. Historically, the TRA has represented the interests of the Roosevelt family at Sagamore Hill. Sagamore Hill is located in the middle of a residential neighborhood with some development immediately adjacent to the park. Both Sagamore Hill and adjacent neighbors have an interest in maintaining some vegetative screening to limit views into and out of the park.</p> <p><b>Laws and Policy Guidance:</b> Sagamore Hill is located within the village of Cove Neck, which provides fire and police protection to the park. Sagamore Hill is also located within New York State’s designated coastal zone management area. All proposed activities for Sagamore Hill must be consistent with the state’s coastal zone management program policies.</p> <p><b>GMP Issues:</b> Better integrating the house and landscape into visitor experience; rehabilitating historic structures and landscape to improve the visitor experience; minimizing impacts to historic fabric; improving natural resource management in the park; improving operational efficiency.</p>
<p><b>Museum and Archival Collections</b></p>	<p><b>Importance:</b> Sagamore Hill National Historic Site is one of many sites, museums, and libraries that maintain significant collections of material related to Theodore Roosevelt. Acknowledging the significance of the museum collection, Congress specifically acted to preserve the site “together with the furnishings and other contents of the structures” in order “to preserve in public ownership historically significant properties associated with the life of Theodore Roosevelt.” The park’s collection includes over 93,000 items. Most of the museum collection consists of the original furnishings purchased and used by the Roosevelt family during Theodore Roosevelt’s life. Because of this direct association, the collections convey a powerful story about Theodore Roosevelt and his values and provide a unique way of understanding the Roosevelts’ family life at Sagamore Hill through material culture. The archival collection includes historic photographs, family letters, household records, photo albums, and scrapbooks.</p> <p><b>Current State &amp; Related Trends:</b> The park’s museum and archival collections are located in a number of locations within the park. A large portion of the collection had been stored and cared for in the basement of the Theodore</p>

Fundamental Resource	Analysis and Guiding Principles
	<p>Roosevelt Home until a persistent problem with mold forced the park to relocate it. Now a portion of the museum and archival collection are stored on the second story of Old Orchard. While environmental conditions at Old Orchard are considerably better, they are not ideal for collections management. Appropriate space to use and care for the collection is not available.</p> <p><b>Potential Future Threats:</b> Under existing circumstances, the park’s museum collection is not adequately protected. To ensure the long- term protection of the collection, appropriate climate- controlled space sufficient to accommodate museum and archival storage, curatorial work space, and secure space for researchers is needed.</p> <p><b>Stakeholder Interests:</b> As part of the larger Sagamore Hill estate, the park’s museum and archival collections have the same stakeholder interests described above. In addition, the collections are also of interest to Theodore Roosevelt scholars and other researchers. Annually, there are hundreds of requests from writers, scholars, and the general public for historic photographs, documents, and general information that can be found only in the park’s archives.</p> <p><b>Laws and Policy Guidance:</b> Pertinent federal laws and National Park Service policy guidance are described in NPS Management Policies, NPS Cultural Resource Management Guidelines, and the NPS Museum Handbook.</p> <p><b>GMP Issues:</b> Ensuring appropriate long- term storage and protection of the park’s collections; expanding use of park’s collection in interpretive and educational programming.</p>
<p><b>Old Orchard</b></p>	<p><b>Importance:</b> Old Orchard was the home of Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. (1887- 1944) and his wife Eleanor, who lived on the property until her death in 1960. Old Orchard was constructed in the late 1930s and is an example of an early to mid- 20<sup>th</sup> century estate on Long Island. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. was a Brigadier General in the US Army, served in both World Wars, and received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service during WWII. Old Orchard sits on about four acres within the boundary of the Sagamore Hill property. It consists of a main house, a foreman’s cottage, a six- bay garage, and a cold cellar. Old Orchard is considered to be a contributing historic feature at Sagamore Hill based on most recent determination for the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p><b>Current State and Related Trends:</b> Based on the National Park Service’s Facility Condition Index, the main house at Old Orchard – also referred to as the Old Orchard Museum – is in good condition. The building houses the park’s administrative offices and a multi- room interpretive exhibit. A substantial proportion of the park’s museum collection has recently been relocated from the basement of the Theodore Roosevelt Home to the second floor of Old Orchard. The first floor of the building is handicapped- accessible via the rear of the building and also offers accessible public restrooms.</p> <p>The Foreman’s Cottage is considered to be in fair condition. The cottage is presently used for staff housing. The garage is considered to be in good condition and currently houses the park’s maintenance function and a small apartment.</p> <p><b>Potential Future Threats:</b> Efforts to preserve the historic interior layout of Old Orchard have made it difficult to accommodate some functions. For example, though Old Orchard offers an improved environment for collections storage, compared with the basement of the Roosevelt Home, it is not ideal. An appropriate, climate- controlled space cannot be created within Old Orchard without affecting its historic interior. Likewise, the building cannot accommodate a large program space without an addition.</p> <p>The Old Orchard garage is not considered an appropriate location for the maintenance function, and the garage is not large enough to accommodate many facets of that operation. It does not comply with OSHA guidelines pertinent to ventilation, work space, and other safety issues. The maintenance operation also poses a hazard to the historic building in that it elevates the risk of fire or other damage.</p> <p><b>Stakeholder Interests:</b> As part of the larger Sagamore Hill estate, Old Orchard has the same stakeholder interests described above.</p> <p><b>Laws and Policy Guidance:</b> As part of the larger Sagamore Hill estate, Old Orchard has the same laws and policy guidance described above.</p>

Fundamental Resource	Analysis and Guiding Principles
	<p><b>GMP Issues:</b> Improve the integration of Old Orchard into the overall visitor experience; consider opportunities to use Old Orchard to support more efficient park operations; ensure the long- term protection of the park’s museum and archival collections, identify opportunities for appropriate, on- site education and program space.</p>
<p><b>Woodland/Marsh/ Beach</b></p>	<p><b>Importance:</b> Approximately 34 of the total 83 acres are comprised of an oak- tulip woodland and beach/salt marsh/tidal creek complex. A ½ mile loop trail leads to a boardwalk across the salt marsh to a beach on Cold Spring Harbor. The rugged quality of this woodland area is emblematic of Roosevelt’s love of nature and the outdoors – an important facet of the ‘strenuous life’ embraced by the Roosevelt family. At one time the Roosevelt family maintained boat and bath houses near this location. At one time, this area of the park was designated a National Environmental Study Area (NESA) by the National Park Service.</p>
	<p><b>Current State and Related Trends:</b> The woodland consists of oak- tulip tree forest that is threatened by invasive species, such as the Norway maple (<i>Acer platanoides</i>) -- though to a lesser degree than other woodland areas at Sagamore Hill. Within these tracts, such non- native species are mostly associated with forest edges adjacent to developed areas or with man- made trails. Though threatened, these forests could probably be restored to their original healthy condition through appropriate management.</p> <p>Based on the National Park Service’s Facility Condition Index, the nature trail is considered to be in fair condition, and the boardwalk is considered to be in good condition. Park rangers can provide handicapped access to the beach by transporting visitors via the park’s electric carts.</p>
	<p><b>Potential Future Threats:</b> Views along the northern portion of the woodland trail have been compromised by adjacent development that is visible through the existing vegetation. The introduction and spread of non- native invasive species could also compromise the natural and cultural values in this area of the park. Waterfront development on adjoining properties may be having an effect on Sagamore Hill’s beach front and tidal creek areas.</p>
	<p><b>Stakeholder Interests:</b> As part of the larger Sagamore Hill estate, the woodland, marsh, and beach have stakeholder interests similar to those described above. The abutting Oyster Bay NWR has overlapping jurisdiction up to the mean high- water line.</p>
	<p><b>Laws and Policy Guidance:</b> As part of the larger Sagamore Hill estate, the woodland, marsh, and beach have the same laws and policy guidance described above.</p>
	<p><b>GMP Issues:</b> Improve the integration of the woodland and beach/salt marsh/ tidal creek complex into the visitor experience; ensure long- term protection of the park’s natural resources.</p>



### *Related Plans and Programs*

The following planning efforts and community initiatives are taking place within the vicinity of Sagamore Hill, concurrent with the National Park Service's preparation of Sagamore Hill's GMP.

**Long Island North Shore State Heritage Area (LINSHA):** LINSHA was created by state legislation in 1998 to preserve, protect, and enhance the cultural, historical, and natural resources that define the North Shore of Long Island. The heritage area includes all of the area on Long Island from Interstate 495 (the Long Island Expressway) or State Route 25—whichever is farther south—north to the Connecticut state line in Long Island Sound. Included are all or part of seven towns (Brookhaven, Huntington, North Hempstead, Oyster Bay, Riverhead, Smithtown and Southold) and the City of Glen Cove in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

In April 2005, the State Heritage Area Planning Commission issued a final plan. Pending final approval by the 65 municipalities within its boundary, LINSHA will become one of 16 state heritage areas in New York State. The long- term goals identified for the heritage area include:

- identify, conserve, and promote natural, cultural, and historic resources;
- foster public understanding, appreciation, and use of these diverse resources;
- maintain and improve recreational opportunities for residents and visitors;
- focus economic development efforts on tourism and adaptive reuse of historic structures; and
- enhance community character and quality of life for residents and visitors.

The plan outlines specific objectives for advancing these long- term goals and suggests strategies and policies to guide their implementation.

**US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR):** The Oyster Bay NWR on the north shore of Long Island consists of high- quality marine habitats that support a variety of aquatic-dependent wildlife. The refuge's waters and marshes surround Sagamore Hill NHS. Subtidal (underwater up to mean high- tide line) habitats abound with marine invertebrates, shellfish, and fish. Oyster Bay NWR and Sagamore Hill NHS intersect at the mean high- tide line. The Oyster Bay NWR does not encompass any land- based resources or facilities. USFWS has completed a draft comprehensive conservation plan for Oyster Bay NWR and other refuges on Long Island. The aggregate of USFWS units on Long Island is referred to as the Long Island Complex and the

primary purpose of each refuge in the Complex is to protect and benefit wildlife.

**Passport to Historic Oyster Bay:** A consortium of some 13 community groups organized “Passport to Historic Oyster Bay” summer weekends, centered on events taking place in and around the hamlet of Oyster Bay. A Theodore Roosevelt- themed guided walking tour of the hamlet was made available, and an expanded audio tour including all aspects of the community’s history was introduced in September 2004. The Passport program supported a limited trolley service that traveled a six- mile loop from Sagamore Hill to Planting Fields State Historic Site, with additional stops at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center, The Waterfront Center, historic downtown Oyster Bay, and the Long Island Railroad Station. The trolley service operated on five weekends during the summer season. In 2005, the group reduced its level of programming to joint marketing and promotion. The trolleys were not included in the 2005 summer program due to limited ridership the previous season.

**Oyster Bay Main Street Association:** The Oyster Bay Main Street Association originated as part of the Main Street National Trust network, a professional membership program for organizations involved in commercial district revitalization and historic preservation. The association is actively engaged in planning and advocating for historic preservation, economic restructuring, urban revitalization, and job creation. Its mission is to create and promote a healthy economy and an attractive hamlet, while maintaining its historic character and integrity. The Oyster Bay Main Street Association is one of the key local institutions spearheading the Passport to Historic Oyster Bay program.

**Oyster Bay Hamlet Plan:** Adopted by the Oyster Bay Town Board in May 2002, the comprehensive master plan for Oyster Bay Hamlet calls for enhancing the physical appearance and economic climate of the downtown; protecting the water quality of Oyster Bay Harbor; maintaining shell fishing and maritime industries; promoting the hamlet’s historical significance; establishing traffic and parking strategies; and providing community services, activities and events.

**Island Properties, LLC:** Island Properties LLC is a real estate/community development firm with significant holdings, including some 70 properties, in the hamlet of Oyster Bay. In June 2002, Island Properties released a document outlining its vision for redeveloping the hamlet. Their development proposal would be guided by the following principles: improved parking in downtown area; a more family- friendly downtown;

thriving business community; improved “walkability” and public transportation; protected natural resources and historic character; and enforcement of parking, zoning, and public safety regulations.

**Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary:** Established in October 1923 by Emlen and Christine Roosevelt to honor their cousin, the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary is the National Audubon Society's oldest songbird sanctuary. Surrounding Theodore Roosevelt's gravesite, its 12 wooded acres protect a wide range of wildlife, including 125 species of birds. The Sanctuary is also home to numerous conservation projects such as census projects relating to breeding birds, winter birds, and waterfowl and work with endangered species such as harriers and terns. The sanctuary also offers a trailside museum and nature center and a well- developed, curriculum- based slate of programs for school children.