

PART FOUR: ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Introduction

In conjunction with the *Draft General Management Plan*, the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, which requires the evaluation of potential impacts resulting from federal actions or lands involving federal jurisdiction.

The alternatives outlined in this document establish overarching management guidelines for Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. The general nature of the alternatives dictates that the analysis of their impacts also be general. Thus, although the National Park Service can make reasonable projections of likely impacts, these projections are based on assumptions that may eventually prove to be inaccurate. As a result, the environmental impact statement (EIS) is **programmatic** and presents an overview of potential impacts relating to each alternative. This EIS will serve as a basis for the preparation of more in- depth National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents to assess subsequent developments or management actions.

Impact topics were selected for analysis by determining which park resources or related elements would be affected by actions proposed under the three alternatives; topics were also chosen to address planning issues and concerns. Resources and environmental concerns that would not be appreciably affected by any of the three alternatives were eliminated from further consideration and comparative analysis and have been discussed in the previous section.

Methodology for Analyzing Impacts

The planning team based this impact analysis and conclusions largely on the review of existing research and studies, information provided by experts in the National Park Service and other agencies and organizations, and the professional judgment of the Sagamore Hill staff. It is important to remember that where necessary and appropriate in all the alternatives, the planning team suggests mitigating measures to minimize or avoid impacts.

Effects can be direct, indirect, or cumulative. Direct effects are caused by and occur at the same time and place as the action. Indirect effects are caused by the action and occur later or farther away, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Cumulative effects on the environment result from

the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or nonfederal) or person undertakes such other action.

Cumulative effects can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions taking place over a period of time.

Impact duration refers to how long an impact would last. For the purposes of this document, the planning team used the following terms to describe the duration of the impacts:

Short-term – The impact would last less than one year, normally during construction and recovery.

Long-term – The impact would last more than one year, normally from operations.

Cultural Resources

In this impact analysis, cultural resources consist of cultural landscapes, historic buildings and structures, archeological sites and resources, and museum collections and archives. Effects on cultural resources are described in terms consistent with the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The National Park Service intends to comply with requirements of NEPA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Council on Environmental Quality regulations require that the impacts of alternatives and their component actions be disclosed. Consistent with those regulations, the analysis of individual actions includes identification and characterization of impacts. Characterization includes a discussion of the type (beneficial or adverse), duration (short-term, long-term, or permanent), and intensity of impact. See Table 4-1 for the criteria that define the impact intensities for cultural resources.

An adverse effect occurs when an impact alters, directly or indirectly, any character-defining feature of a cultural resource that qualifies it for inclusion in the National Register, e.g., diminishing the integrity of the resource's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Adverse effects also include reasonably foreseeable effects caused by the actions proposed in the alternatives that would occur later in time, be farther in distance, or be cumulative (36 CFR Part 800.5, *Assessment of Adverse Effects*). A determination of *no adverse effect* means there is an effect, but it would not in any way diminish the character-defining features of the cultural resource that qualify it for inclusion in the National Register.

CEQ regulations and the NPS *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis and Decision Making* (Director's Order #12) also call for a discussion of the appropriateness of mitigation, as well as an analysis of the effectiveness of the mitigation in reducing the intensity of a potential impact, e.g., from major to moderate or minor. Any resultant reduction in intensity of impact due to mitigation, however, is an estimate of the effectiveness of mitigation under NEPA only. It does not suggest that the level of effect as defined by Section 106 is similarly reduced. Although adverse effects under Section 106 may be mitigated, the effect remains adverse.

The Section 106 analysis is not intended to fully meet the requirements of Section 106, but is based on currently available information. A formal finding of effect for the undertaking (implementation of the alternative) on cultural resources, based upon the criteria of effect found in the Advisory Council's regulations, will be made when the documentation requirements for a finding are available prior to taking action to implement the alternative. (See Table 5-1 for actions requiring Section 106 review.)

Natural Resources

The impact topic of natural resources includes discussions of the effects on the integrity of natural systems and features, including soils, topography, vegetation, wildlife, threatened and endangered species, and water resources, wetlands, and floodplain. To conduct the analysis, research reports were consulted and information on known resources was compiled. Where possible, locations of sensitive resources were compared with the locations of proposed developments and modifications. The analysis is qualitative in nature. Predictions about short- term and long-term site impacts were based on previous studies and in consultation with subject- matter experts.

See Table 4-1 for the criteria that define the impact intensities for natural resources, including threatened and endangered species.

Visitor Experience

The discussions of the visitor experience in this document cover the effects on visitors' ability to experience the park's primary resources and their setting and to access educational and interpretive opportunities. Information gathered in a visitor use survey was used along with public input during the planning process to evaluate the potential impacts on visitors of each alternative. See Table 4-1 for the criteria that define the impact intensities for visitor experience.

Park Operations

The discussions of the impacts on park operations in this document focus on circulation and access, facilities, staffing and volunteers, and staff housing. See Table 4-1 for the criteria that define the impact intensities for park operations.

Socioeconomic Resources

The discussion of socioeconomic effects consists of the effects of each alternative on the local and regional economy. See Table 4-1 for the criteria that define the impact intensities for socioeconomic resources.

Table 4-1: Criteria for Impact Intensities

	Natural Resources	Cultural Resources	Park Collections	Visitor Experience	Park Operations	Socioeconomic Resources
Negligible	Impact localized and not detectable, or at lowest levels of detection	Impact barely perceptible and not measurable without any perceptible consequences, either adverse or beneficial	Impact is barely measurable with no perceptible consequences, either adverse or beneficial, to museum collections	Impact barely detectable, not in primary resource areas or would occasionally affect a few visitors	Impact not detectable, no discernible effect on ability to provide services, to manage resources, or to operate the park	Impact not detectable, no discernible effect on socioeconomic environment
Minor	Impact localized and slightly detectable but would not affect overall structure of any natural community	The impact would be perceptible or measurable, but would be slight and localized within a relatively small area. The action would not affect the character or diminish the features of a NRHP eligible or listed site, and would not have a permanent effect on the integrity of any such resources	The impact would affect the integrity of few items in the museum collection but would not degrade the usefulness of the collection for future research and interpretation	The impact slight but detectable not in primary resource areas or would affect few visitors. Would be perceived as negative by visitors or would inhibit the achievement of visitor experience	Impact slightly detectable but would not obstruct or improve overall ability to provide services, to manage resources, or to operate the park	Impact slightly detectable but would not affect overall socioeconomic environment
Moderate	Impact clearly detectable; could appreciably affect individual species, communities, or natural processes	The impact would be perceptible and measurable. The action would change one or more character-defining features of a cultural resource, but would not diminish the integrity of the resource to the extent that its NRHP eligibility would be entirely lost	The impact would affect the integrity of many items in the museum collection and diminish the usefulness of the collection for future research and interpretation	The impact would be readily apparent, somewhat negative or somewhat beneficial, in primary resource areas or would affect many visitors. The impact would be perceived as negative by visitors or would inhibit the achievement of visitor experience	Impact clearly detectable and could appreciably obstruct or improve the ability to provide services, to manage resources, and/or to operate the park	Impact clearly detectable and could have an appreciable effect on the socioeconomic environment
Major	Impact highly noticeable and would substantially influence natural resources, e.g. individuals or groups of species, communities, or natural processes	The impact on cultural resources would be substantial, discernible, measurable, and permanent. For NRHP eligible or listed resources, the action would change one or more character-defining features, which could result in diminishing the integrity of the resource to the extent that it would no longer be eligible for listing in the national register	The impact would affect the integrity of most items in the museum collection and destroy the usefulness of the collection for future research and interpretation	The impact would be severe in primary resource areas, or would affect most visitors. Would be perceived as negative by visitors or would inhibit the achievement of visitor experience	Impact would have a substantial, highly noticeable, potentially permanent influence on the ability to provide services, to manage resources, or to operate the park	Impact would have a substantial, highly noticeable influence on socioeconomic environment
Notes	¹ Cultural Resources refer to historic buildings and structures, cultural landscapes, and archeological resources.					

Impact Topics Dismissed from Further Consideration

The National Environmental Policy Act requires that agencies consider whether a number of different possible issues require detailed analysis as impact topics. They cover a wide variety of topics ranging from air quality to threatened and endangered species to socioeconomic conditions. While some of these topics will be examined in greater depth in this section of the document, others have been dismissed from further analysis. The following is a discussion of the mandatory impact topics that NPS considered initially but did not analyze further, either because they were irrelevant to the alternatives, would have negligible impacts, or required no more detailed work in order to understand their impacts.

Air Quality

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site is located in an area of non-attainment for ozone and PM 2.5. Some alternatives call for the construction of new facilities. Construction could increase fugitive dust from soil exposure and disturbance. However, this effect would occur only during construction and would be localized. Water and dust control agents would be applied during construction as necessary. Park managers do not expect significant long-term increases in visitation over current counts, with little change in vehicular traffic. As a result, increases in vehicle emissions would be negligible and have little impact on local air quality. Because no perceptible long-term impacts would result from any proposed actions, and no cumulative impacts on air quality are anticipated, this impact topic was eliminated from further evaluation.

Climate Change

On a global scale, changes in climate are associated with the increase in levels of greenhouse gases produced by the burning of fossil fuels and the removal of vast tracts of vegetation, primarily tropical rainforests. Increased use of fossil fuels within the park would occur primarily as a result of increased visitation and the associated use of fossil fuel-burning vehicles. Because park managers do not expect a significant long-term increase in visitation, the effect of additional vehicle emissions on climate change is not evaluated further. The addition of new structures on the property would also contribute to the consumption of fuel for heating and cooling. Any new structures would be constructed to meet standards and guidelines for energy efficiency and other facets of sustainable design and would minimize the consumption of fossil fuels.

Conformity with Local Land Use Plans

The existing and proposed land uses of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site are in compliance with local land use plans. In addition, no conflict is expected with existing state planning efforts. The implementation of the draft plan or any of the analyzed alternatives is not expected to conflict with local plans.

Energy, Natural or Depletable Resource Requirements, and Conservation Potential

None of the alternatives would result in the extraction of resources from Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. Under all alternatives, conservation principles would be applied to ensure the maintenance of the park's natural resources.

Environmental Justice

All federal agencies are required to incorporate environmental justice into their missions by identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs and policies on minorities and low- income populations (Executive Order 12898). The planning team eliminated this impact topic from further evaluation, because none of the alternatives presented in this document would result in disproportionately high adverse environmental effects on minority or low- income communities. There are no air or water pollution effects that would affect human health. Economic impacts from employment, associated income and construction are expected to be modest, but beneficial. There would be no change in land use in the surrounding area that could affect minority or low- income communities.

Geology

Northwestern Long Island is underlain by Mesozoic and Cenozoic sedimentary rocks, but the bedrock in the vicinity of Cove Neck is approximately 600 feet below the ground surface (Soren and Simmons 1987). The surficial geology of Long Island is essentially composed of mud, sand, gravel, and boulders transported from the north by glacial advances during the Wisconsin Stage of the Pleistocene Epoch (Isachsen et al. 2000:169). The Harbor Hill moraine, on which Sagamore Hill is located, consists of loamy sand glacial till over stratified sand and gravel outwash (Wulforst, 1987).

Park managers anticipate that the level of development proposed in the alternatives would have no perceptible effects on the geology of the park. Therefore, this impact topic has been eliminated from further evaluation.

Sacred Sites and Indian Trusts

No known sacred sites (Executive Order 13007) or Indian trust resources (ECM95- 2) are involved in the plan or proposals. The Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the Stockbridge- Munsee Community of Wisconsin have identified the lands of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site as being within original Delaware territory. This group is considered a “traditionally associated people.” The planning team initiated the consultation process with various representatives of the Delaware Nation in February 2005. As of this date, tribal representatives have raised no concerns or issues regarding sacred sites; therefore the planning team eliminated this impact topic from further evaluation.

Natural Ambient Soundscapes

The alternatives outlined in this document could affect noise levels on a site- specific or local basis. During construction of facilities or landscape rehabilitation efforts, for example, noise levels could be expected to increase in the site vicinity due to equipment use. However, this would be a short- term increase. Park development would occur primarily in a suburban area where it would not be unusual to hear machinery on occasion; therefore it would not be a major variance from current noise levels.

Facility operation under any alternative would not result in an increase in noise over the long term. The primary noise source would continue to be outdoor maintenance activities surrounding the new facility. Because the facility would be located in a developed area, maintenance activities would not represent a major variance from current noise levels.

Because any impacts on noise levels would either be short- term or not a major variance from current noise levels, this impact topic was eliminated from further evaluation.

Natural Lightscapes

Generally, the park is closed after dark and has few night programs. Park management limits the use of night lighting to levels required to ensure public safety around park facilities and secure its resources. The alternatives presented in this document propose neither an extension of the park hours into the evening nor a significant increase in night programs. Because the alternatives would not cause a perceptible change in the natural lightscape, this issue was eliminated from further evaluation.

Prime and Unique Agricultural Lands

According to the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, the park contains soils that are categorized as Prime Farmland. Further, New York State has identified soils within the park to be “Farmland of Statewide Importance.” When Theodore Roosevelt purchased the land that would become Sagamore Hill, it was already in agricultural production. Much of the historic development of the site took place in areas possessing prime agricultural soils; as a result a considerable amount of prime agricultural soil was disturbed during the site’s period of significance. The Roosevelt family continued to farm Sagamore Hill, sustaining the prior use and operation of the property. The cultivation of agricultural fields at Sagamore Hill continued through the 1930s but declined significantly and eventually ceased in the early 1940s. Many of the former agricultural fields have gone to succession. This plan does not propose any alteration of lands that had been in agricultural production.

Impairment of Resources

In addition to determining the environmental consequences of the alternatives, National Park Service management policies require that potential effects be analyzed to determine whether proposed actions would impair the resources of the unit.

The fundamental purpose of the National Park System, established by the Organic Act and reaffirmed by the General Authorities Act, as amended, begins with a mandate to conserve resources and values. National Park managers must always seek to avoid or minimize, to the greatest degree practicable, adverse impacts on resources and values. However, these laws give the National Park Service management discretion to allow impacts when necessary and appropriate to fulfill the purposes of a park, as long as the impacts do not constitute impairment of the affected resources and values. Although Congress has given the National Park Service this management discretion, it is limited by the statutory requirement that the National Park Service must leave the resources and values unimpaired unless a particular law directly and specifically provides otherwise.

A prohibited impairment is an impact that, in the professional judgment of the responsible National Park Service manager, would harm the integrity of contributing resources and values. This would include the opportunities that otherwise would be available for the enjoyment of those resources or values. An impact on any contributing resource or value may constitute an “impairment,” most likely if it affected a resource or value whose conservation would be (a) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation or proclamation of the park, (b) key to the

natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities to enjoy it, or (c) identified as a goal in the park's general management plan or other relevant National Park Service planning documents. Impairment might result from National Park Service activities in managing a park, visitor activities, or activities undertaken by concessionaires, contractors, and others operating in the park. A determination on impairment is made as a concluding statement for each alternative and for the actions common to all alternatives in the discussion of environmental consequences.

Impacts of Actions Common to All Alternatives

Resource Management

Under all alternatives, the park would implement a long- range inventory and monitoring program for both cultural and natural resources. This would offer major long- term benefits by enabling the park to establish standards and protocols for maintaining desired resource management conditions and give it the means to adequately assess and evaluate change as it occurs and take any necessary actions to mitigate negative effects or simply adjust management practices to enhance desired results.

The park would also undertake a formal survey and re- marking of the park boundary. This too would have a major long- term beneficial impact on resource management. A metes and bounds survey of the property would enable the park to better protect the overall integrity of its resources. It would also provide better inform its neighbors as to where the park begins and ends.

The park would also take steps to foster greater stewardship of the resources of Sagamore Hill on the part of its neighbors and the larger Oyster Bay community. This effort would be of moderate long- term benefit to the park in support of resource management. Working with the park's neighbors as well as the larger Oyster Bay community to instill a deeper appreciation of the park's cultural and natural resources would be a positive step in maintaining good park/community relations. In order to gain wider support for the park, efforts to engage the community and encourage their involvement with the park would be essential.

Cultural Resources

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Under all alternatives, the park would take steps to control non- native invasive species. This action would offer a major long- term benefit for Sagamore Hill's cultural landscape. The control of non- native invasive

species would figure prominently in efforts to rehabilitate features of Sagamore Hill's cultural landscape in support of interpretive objectives. For instance, the "creep" of non- native invasive species such as *Phragmites spp.* threatens to dramatically change the historic character of the marsh and other wetland areas in the park.

Under all alternatives, the park would pursue the development of a new maintenance facility located on park property. This proposed facility would be large in scale but would be sited and landscaped in a manner that limits its visibility from the park's historic core and adjoining properties. This effort would have a minor long- term adverse impact on the park's cultural landscape under Alternatives 1 and 3. Under Alternative 2, the maintenance facility would be developed in combination with the collections storage facility, making for a larger structure. Under Alternative 2, this development would have a moderate long- term adverse impact on the park's cultural landscape.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Under all alternatives, the heating, ventilation, and electrical systems at the Theodore Roosevelt Home would be upgraded. This action would be of major long- term benefit to the Theodore Roosevelt Home, further securing it and preserving its contents. Upgrading the electrical system also would make housekeeping more efficient and effective.

Under all alternatives, the park would relocate the maintenance facility from the Old Orchard Garage to a new facility. The removal of the maintenance function would reduce the threat of fire and other types of damage associated with this type of use. This effort would be of major, long- term benefit for the preservation of this historic structure.

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Under all alternatives, the park would pursue the development of a new maintenance facility on park property. The new facility would be one of the largest structures on the property and would be sited in a manner that limits its impact on the park's archeological resources. Further study in support of the project would be necessary.

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Under all alternatives, the park would develop and implement an access policy for the museum and archival collections. This action would be of moderate long- term benefit to collection and archival management. The development and implementation of such a formal policy and procedures would make the requirements of access and the responsibilities of users clear to members of the public seeking access to the collection and

archives. Making such expectations clear and ensuring that they are met would have a beneficial effect on the overall security of museum and archival collections.

Under all alternatives, the park would identify or develop dedicated space for researchers. Different means by which to achieve this action would be explored under each of the planning alternatives. Overall, this action would have a moderate long- term positive effect on collection management. Having a dedicated work space for researchers in close proximity to the primary collection storage and curatorial work area would enhance the park's ability to secure and preserve the collection.

Natural Resources

Under all alternatives, the park would expand its cooperative efforts and partnerships to support public programming and park operations. These efforts would be of moderate long- term benefit to natural resource management. Through working with cooperating natural resource management organizations, the park would be able to expand its resource management capacity. These efforts could also include an interpretive dimension that would educate the public regarding the value of the park's natural resources and foster stewardship.

Under all alternatives, the park would take steps to control non- native invasive species. This action would offer major long- term benefits, such as protecting the park's wetlands from encroachment, improving the ability of native flora to thrive, and maintaining the critical mass necessary to ensure the health of plant and animal communities.

Under all alternatives, the park would pursue the development of a new maintenance facility on park property. This would require some clearing of successional woodland growth to accommodate the new facility and associated maintenance yard. The level of clearing is expected to be marginal amounting to approximately one acre or less. This effort would result in a minor short- term impact to the park's vegetation and wildlife. Some grading may be required, resulting in a minor long- term impact to the topography in the immediate vicinity of the any proposed new facility. Heavy equipment brought in to clear the site and construct the new facility may have a minor short- term adverse impact on local soils.

The park would rehabilitate the woodland trail and boardwalk. This action would be of moderate, long-term benefit for natural resources in proximity to the boardwalk and trail. The woodland trail and boardwalk would delineate a clear pedestrian pathway through the woods, across the marsh and onto the beach. By concentrating pedestrian traffic along

formally delineated pathways, impacts to the larger resource (e.g. damage to vegetation and soil compaction) would be minimized. These amenities must be maintained in good condition so that the pathway is clearly denoted and safe for public use.

Visitor Use and Experience

Under all alternatives, the park would expand its cooperative efforts and partnerships to support public programming and park operations. This effort would result in a moderate long- term benefit to the visitor experience. Cooperative programming and management efforts would enable the park to offer a more diverse schedule of activities and events related to its cultural and natural resources. Likewise, off- site walking tours would be offered in conjunction with numerous community- based partners including the Theodore Roosevelt Association, Oyster Bay Main Street Association, and the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary. The diversity of programming would enhance the visitor experience and invite repeat visitation.

The park would rehabilitate the woodland trail and boardwalk. This action would be of moderate long- term benefit to Sagamore Hill’s visitors, enabling them to access the beach on Cold Spring Harbor – an important interpretive component of the visitor experience. The trail and boardwalk must be maintained in good condition for ease of access and public safety.

The park would also take steps to screen views from the woodland to adjoining properties, as feasible. Currently views to adjacent development on the north side of the Sagamore Hill property disrupt the natural setting along the woodland trail. Efforts to screen the development from view using native vegetation would be of moderate long- term benefit and would improve the visitor experience along the woodland trail.

The park would work with state, county, and local officials to locate and install highway signage directing visitors to Sagamore Hill. The park would also place signage along Sagamore Hill Road to welcome visitors and help them locate the parking area. These efforts would be of moderate long- term benefit. Improved directional signage along the interstate, state, and local roads would enhance the public’s ability to locate the park. Through language or graphics, signage would more clearly identify Sagamore Hill with Theodore Roosevelt, the National Park Service, or both. Signage would be similar to directional signage found along local roads and would be modest in scale.

The park would also support efforts to encourage the development of reliable transportation from the Oyster Bay and Syosset railroad stations to Sagamore Hill and other area attractions. This could be of moderate long-term benefit to the park. Improvements to public transportation linking transportation hubs to Sagamore Hill and other local attractions would make the park more attractive to a relatively untapped audience in the metro New York region: the many New York City residents who rely exclusively on public transportation.

VISITOR ORIENTATION

Under all alternatives, local directional signage would offer visitors arriving by car the option of traveling through the hamlet of Oyster Bay. This would be of moderate long-term benefit to park visitors, acquainting them with the hamlet in advance of their visit to the park. Visitors who stop in the hamlet would have access to a walking tour guide and other materials linking the Roosevelt family to the larger community. Visitors who learn about the relationship between the family and the hamlet during their tour of Sagamore Hill would have a better understanding of the park's larger context.

EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Under all alternatives, the park would assess interpretive activities and programs to ensure that they are consistent with the park's purpose and primary themes. This action would be of moderate long-term benefit to visitors in that it would ensure that activities and programming at the park reinforce the public's understanding and appreciation of the significance of Sagamore Hill.

Park Operations

FACILITIES

Under all alternatives, the park would identify or develop dedicated space for researchers. Different means to achieve this action would be explored under each of the planning alternatives. Overall, this action would be of moderate long-term benefit for park staff. Having a dedicated work space for researchers in close proximity to the primary collections storage and curatorial work area would improve the staff's ability to monitor the work space more effectively and efficiently.

Under all alternatives, the park would pursue the development of a new maintenance facility and yard to achieve sufficient and appropriate space to support the park's maintenance function. The facility would accommodate a garage and workshop space, material and equipment storage, as well as maintenance staff offices, break room, and locker room. The new space would meet health and safety requirements for such a

facility. Relocating the park's maintenance function from the Old Orchard garage to a newly constructed, appropriately scaled facility would enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the maintenance operation.

This new facility would be significantly larger than its predecessor and would require additional custodial and maintenance support. Though designed and constructed using the best practices for sustainability, there would be additional energy requirements to operate the facility.

Though maintenance costs and requirements may be higher, the overall result of this effort would be of major long- term benefit to the park's operation.

STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS

Under all alternatives, numerous proposed activities would require additional support on the part of the park's staff or may suggest that additional staff, contracted labor, or additional volunteers would be needed to carry out the proposals effectively. Under all alternatives, the park would take steps to control non- native invasive plant species and would also attempt to expand upon cooperative efforts and partnerships. Both of these proposed actions would require the additional attention and oversight of the park's staff.

Socioeconomic Environment

Under all alternatives, local directional signage would offer visitors arriving by car the option of traveling through the hamlet of Oyster Bay. The park would also continue to pursue collaborative programming efforts in surrounding communities such as village walking tours. These efforts could be of minor long- term benefit to the local economy. Directing visitors arriving by car through the hamlet of Oyster Bay could have a positive, though modest, commercial effect. As they travel through Oyster Bay, visitors would have the opportunity to see what the hamlet has to offer in terms of shops, restaurants, and other amenities and may decide to stop before their visit to Sagamore Hill or return after their visit. Offering guided tours and other collaborative programming in the hamlet could likewise further familiarize visitors with its amenities.

The park would also support efforts to encourage the development of reliable transportation from the Oyster Bay and Syosset railroad stations to Sagamore Hill. This could be of minor long- term benefit to the local economy. The Oyster Bay train station is located in the hamlet within easy walking distance of shops and restaurants and could generate additional foot traffic on the main commercial streets, leading to increased patronage of local establishments.

Adjacent Land Use

Under all alternatives the park would locate signage along Sagamore Hill Road to acknowledge the visitors arrival at the park and help them locate the parking area. The new signage would have a negligible impact on the character and appearance of Sagamore Hill Road, would be similar to directional signage found along local roads, and would be modest in scale. The new signage would offer the moderate long- term benefit of alleviating visitor confusion resulting in wrong turns into private driveways.

Cumulative Impacts

Some significant local and regional heritage tourism initiatives are underway on Long Island. Community, cultural, and business leaders in the hamlet of Oyster Bay are working cooperatively through the Chamber of Commerce and the Oyster Bay Main Street Association to promote local historic and cultural attractions and enhance the local economy. Through the “Passport to Oyster Bay” program, local events and attractions are actively promoted through brochures and other media. Sagamore Hill currently participates in this program and under all alternatives would continue to do so. As the home of Theodore Roosevelt, Sagamore Hill is perhaps the best- recognized site in the Passport program and experiences the highest visitation. Its continuing support and participation in the program would be of moderate long- term benefit to local heritage tourism initiatives and commerce.

Likewise, Sagamore Hill is located within the state- designated Long Island North Shore Heritage Area (LINSHA), which encompasses the entire north shore of Long Island. In April 2005, the state heritage area planning commission issued a final plan. Pending its final approval by the 65 municipalities within its boundary, LINSHA will become one of 16 state heritage areas. Similar to its local counterparts, LINSHA would seek to preserve and promote regional cultural attractions in support of maintaining and enhancing the region’s quality of life and enhancing the regional economy. Because it is the only National Park unit located in the heritage area, the active participation of Sagamore Hill in such an initiative could bring both positive and negative impacts for the park. For instance, a substantial increase in visitation to the park could result in carrying capacity issues that may be mitigated by the facilities proposed under some alternatives. On the other hand, participation in LINSHA might also result in opportunities to broaden the park’s audience.

Unavoidable Adverse Effects

No unavoidable adverse effects would result from proposals under Actions Common to All Alternatives.

Non- impairment of Resources

Under Actions Common to All Alternatives, the park's resources or values would not be impaired, because there would be no major adverse impacts on a resource or value whose conservation is (1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, (2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for visitor enjoyment, or (3) identified as a goal in the park's *General Management Plan* or other relevant National Park Service planning documents.

Impacts of Actions Associated with Alternative 1

Beyond what is described above as “Impacts Common to All Alternatives,” the impacts associated with Alternative 1 are described below.

Cultural Resources

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Under this alternative, there would be little change associated with the park’s cultural landscape, which would continue to be preserved; efforts to manage hayfields and meadows would continue. Commemorative park furnishings such as Quentin Roosevelt’s memorial would be preserved and maintained. Other park furnishings (e.g., benches, light fixtures) would be upgraded gradually as pieces required replacement.

Many features such as specimen trees and other plantings that are not illustrative of the Roosevelt period would remain. Roosevelt- period features such as the gardens would not be replaced. Management of the cultural landscape under this alternative would maintain a steady state with no further introductions of inappropriate landscape features. As with the specimen trees and other plantings installed after the Roosevelt family tenure, the flagpole and Quentin Roosevelt’s memorial are commemorative features not considered part of the cultural landscape. However, under this alternative they are maintained. The impacts of these actions on the cultural landscape would be negligible.

Eventually, all park furnishings would be upgraded so that their design is consistent across the park and sensitive to the historic character of the site. Over time, all park furnishings would complement the overall character of the historic landscape. This action would be of minor long- term benefit to the park’s cultural landscape.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Under this alternative, historic farm structures would be preserved and maintained. Some structures such as the New Barn and the Ice House have been altered and no longer appear as they did during the Roosevelt tenure. Management of historic structures under this alternative would maintain a steady state with no further deterioration of historic structures. The impact of this proposal on these historic structures would be negligible.

The volunteer break room for park staff and volunteers would remain at the Theodore Roosevelt Home, where it was first established in the 1950s. Although employees take great care to ensure that food items are properly stored and appliances are used appropriately, this use still poses a danger to the long- term preservation of the structure. This represents a minor

long- term adverse impact on the park's ability to protect the Theodore Roosevelt Home.

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Under this alternative, the park would continue to house a portion of the collections, formerly stored in the basement of the Theodore Roosevelt Home, at Old Orchard. This would be of moderate long- term benefit to the park's collections. Storage conditions in the Theodore Roosevelt Home, while never ideal, began to deteriorate further with the development of a chronic mold problem. Old Orchard offers an improved climate for museum storage and consolidates a significant portion (but not all) of the park's holdings in a single location. However, space at Old Orchard for collections storage is extremely limited. Collection management offices will also continue to be located at Old Orchard.

The park would make the Old Orchard conference room available to researchers wishing to use the collection. This would be of moderate long- term benefit for park collections for a number of reasons. Having a work space for researchers in close proximity to the primary collection storage and curatorial offices would enhance the park's ability to secure and preserve the collection. This would in turn improve the staff's ability to monitor the workspace more effectively and efficiently. However, there are times when this space may be unavailable to researchers, because it will also have to function as curatorial workspace for care of the collection.

Natural Resources

The preservation of the cultural landscape in its current configuration would have a negligible impact on local wildlife. The current landscape configuration offers a diversity of habitat types. The successional growth that has emerged since the end of active agricultural use of the property offers foraging and nesting habitat for some bird species, such as the wood thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) and Baltimore oriole (*Icterus galbula*), and habitat values for other fauna as well, including spotted salamanders (*Ambystoma maculatum*) and box turtles (*Terrapene carolina*).

The park would continue to use open fields in the park to accommodate overflow parking. This could have a moderate short- term adverse impact on some nesting species of turtles and other terrestrial reptiles.

Visitor Use and Experience

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Under this alternative, there would be little to no change in what visitors experience at the park. The overlay of commemorative landscape features such as specimen tree plantings, the flag pole, and the Quentin Roosevelt

memorial would continue to make it more difficult for visitors to understand and appreciate the agricultural and domestic nature of the property during the Roosevelts' tenure. Though somewhat altered in appearance, the historic farm structures retain their utilitarian appearance and remain on their original sites, which helps reinforce the character of the cultural landscape.

ORIENTATION

Under this alternative the park would retain the current Visitor Contact Station as the primary visitor contact facility. However, the current Visitor Contact Station does not offer sufficient space to allow for orientation exhibits or audio/visual presentations, nor does it allow for staging space to accommodate large tour groups (e.g., a busload of school children). Under this alternative, these deficiencies would persist.

EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Under this alternative, the park would continue to use off- site locations for special programs. Special program offerings under this scenario would be limited, as appropriate space and staff resources would not be consistently available. It would be difficult to offer such programming on a regular basis.

Park Operations

FACILITIES/ OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Under this alternative, some facilities- related issues persist. While this alternative calls for the relocation of a large portion of the collection from the basement of the Theodore Roosevelt Home to Old Orchard, the space at Old Orchard was not specifically designed to accommodate the collection and is not entirely climate- controlled. The consolidation of museum storage, curatorial offices, and a space for researchers in Old Orchard would enhance operating efficiency for the staff. However, there is little or no room for curatorial work space and associated equipment. The Old Orchard conference room would perform triple curatorial duty as a storage area, curatorial workspace, and research room, which could lead to conflicts of use. Other functions, such as staff meetings and TelNet use would also continue in this space. This effort would be of minor long-term benefit in improving the park's operational efficiency.

STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS

Under this alternative there are no changes that would appreciably improve or negatively effect existing management regimes.

Socioeconomic Environment

This alternative does not propose any changes that would have an impact on the socioeconomic environment beyond those described under “Common to All Alternatives.”

Unavoidable Adverse Effects

No unavoidable adverse effects would result from proposals under Alternative 1.

Non-impairment of Resources

Under Alternative 1, the park’s resources or values would not be impaired, because there would be no major adverse impacts on a resource or value whose conservation is (1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, (2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for visitor enjoyment, or (3) identified as a goal in the park’s *General Management Plan* or other relevant National Park Service planning documents.

Impacts of Actions Associated with Alternative 2

Beyond what is described above as “Impacts Common to All Alternatives,” the impacts associated with Alternative 2 are described below.

Cultural Resources

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Under this alternative, selective landscape would be preserved and some missing features would be replaced. Actions would include minor clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone, the removal of post- Roosevelt period specimen trees and plantings, the stabilization/preservation of engineering features, and the reintroduction of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles. This would result in a more evocative rendering of the park’s historic cultural landscape but would not be intended as a restoration.

As part of the effort to rehabilitate selected features of the cultural landscape, the park would replace a portion of the cutting and vegetable garden, a major feature of the historic cultural landscape. The cutting and vegetable garden was central to the management of the property and provided the family with fresh fruits, vegetables, and cut flowers. It was representative of how the working farm operated as a self- sustaining entity.

Under this alternative the park would remove and relocate commemorative park furnishings. Commemorative pieces like the flagpole and Quentin Roosevelt’s memorial were installed after the Roosevelt family tenure and were never part of the site’s historic cultural landscape. Their relocation to a more appropriate location would alleviate confusion and improve the overall sense of this historic place.

Under this alternative, the existing parking area would be reduced in size, enabling the rehabilitation of portions of the historic landscape and minimizing the impact of the parking area (a non- historic, non- contributing feature) on the historic scene.

Under this alternative, the park would mark and interpret the sites of the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn. This effort would enhance the visitor’s comprehension of the historic relationship among structures and functions on the property.

The park would also expand its program offerings to include regular tours of the grounds. However, this would result in a more intensive use of the grounds. Regularly used routes that cross fields may need to be better

delineated in order to limit any resource degradation in the areas that adjoin them (e.g. trampling vegetation, soil compaction). This effort would bring more visitors into the cultural landscape, highlighting it as an important facet of the park, and possibly fostering greater stewardship of it as a resource. However, in the absence of mitigating measures, more intensive use of the grounds could result in moderate long- term adverse impacts.

The accumulation of these efforts would result in moderate long- term benefits for the management of the park's cultural landscape.

Under this alternative, the park would rehabilitate the New Barn to create a new visitor orientation facility, including a minor addition to facilitate public access. The addition to the New Barn would be minor in scale and would not significantly change the look and feel of this area, which would still include a contemporary structure. The addition would not be visible from the Theodore Roosevelt Home. The New Barn's exterior would be restored to its appearance during the Roosevelt family's tenure.

The park would also introduce a uniform system of informational and interpretive signage. Signage in the park would be redesigned to be compatible with the historic setting and context and would be carefully located to balance the need and opportunity to inform the visitor with the desire to protect and enhance the cultural landscape.

These efforts would result in minor long- term benefits for the management of the park's historic cultural landscape.

Under this alternative the park would improve the Visitor Contact Station constructed in the 1950s, which would continue to house the bookstore and restrooms. The building sits in what was historically the farmyard and is not considered to be a contributing element in the historic setting. This effort would have negligible impact on the park's cultural landscape.

Also under this alternative, the park would construct a new collections storage facility in combination with the proposed new maintenance facility on park property. This combined facility would be significantly larger than the proposed maintenance facility alone but would be sited and landscaped in a manner that limits its visibility from the park's historic core and adjoining properties. This effort would have a moderate long-term adverse impact on the park's cultural landscape.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Under this alternative the park would create a new visitor orientation facility in a rehabilitated and modestly expanded New Barn. The appearance of the New Barn was altered toward the end of Mrs. Roosevelt's time, when it was converted to staff housing and a garage. The exterior rehabilitation would restore the New Barn to its appearance during the site's historic period. The proposed addition would be minor in scale and is needed for the adaptive reuse of the building as a visitor facility and for access to the second story. The proposed addition would be designed and constructed in compliance with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. The rehabilitation of the exterior of the New Barn would be of major long-term benefit for the preservation of this historic structure.

Under this alternative, the park would rehabilitate the first floor of Old Orchard garage for use as program space. The exterior of the Old Orchard garage would retain its current appearance; the interior would be rehabilitated as education and program space, which would be a more appropriate use of the historic structure and would reduce the threat of fire and other types of damage associated with its use as a maintenance facility. This effort would be of long-term major benefit for the preservation of this historic structure.

The park would relocate the staff/volunteer break room from the Theodore Roosevelt Home to a more appropriate location. Removing this use from the Theodore Roosevelt Home would support efforts toward long-term protection by reducing the danger of a kitchen fire and removing foodstuffs from the building. This effort would be of moderate long-term benefit for the preservation of this historic structure.

Under this alternative, the historic farm buildings would be preserved. The Gardener's Shed, Carriage Shed, and Tool Shed/Chicken Coop would all be rehabilitated for park use. The rehabilitated Gardener's Shed would be used to house interpretive media to enhance the visitor's understanding and appreciation of this historic setting. These efforts would be of moderate long-term benefit for the preservation of these historic structures.

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES AND RESOURCES

Under this alternative, selective landscape rehabilitation and preservation would incorporate minor clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone, removal of post-Roosevelt-period specimen trees and plantings, preservation of engineering features, reintroduction of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles, and rehabilitation of

portions of the vegetable and cutting gardens. Though the removal of trees and woody materials often results in ground disturbance, less than one acre of land is expected to be affected by this proposal. Further archeological study and mitigation would be necessary. Without appropriate mitigation measures, this effort could have a minor long- term adverse impact on archeological resources in the vicinity of the work being completed.

The park would create a new visitor orientation facility in the rehabilitated New Barn. To accommodate access to the second story and meet the building's mechanical needs, a minor addition is required. The addition would cause disruption of soils in the historic core, which could have an impact on any archeological resources present. Further study and mitigation (e.g. data recovery and documentation) would be necessary before construction begins. Without appropriate mitigation measures, this effort could have a minor long- term adverse impact on archeological resources in the vicinity of the New Barn.

The park would also mark and interpret the sites of the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn. The sites are considered archeological resources. Highlighting their location could make them vulnerable to destructive activities like "pot hunting" (amateur archeological exploration). Public education to encourage good stewardship of archeological resources and more vigilant monitoring of the sites could minimize such activities. This effort could result in minor long- term adverse impacts on these archeological resources.

The park would also introduce a uniform system of informational and interpretive signage designed to be sympathetic with the historic setting and context. Before introducing or relocating new signage within the historic core, possible impacts to archeological resources would need to be assessed and mitigated if necessary. This effort could result in minor long- term adverse impacts on archeological resources within the vicinity of signage locations.

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Under this alternative, the park would construct a new collection storage facility in combination with the proposed new maintenance facility. A new facility constructed specifically for collection management would offer sufficient and appropriate climate- controlled space to consolidate the park's museum and archival storage in a single location. In addition to storage space, the new facility would offer curatorial offices, curatorial workspace, and research space in a single location. The storage facility

would be designed and constructed taking into account the specific needs of the collection.

The combination of collections storage with a maintenance facility is not unusual in the National Park System. Precautions would be taken in design and construction to ensure that the maintenance function would not have a negative impact on collection storage.

The new collection storage facility would be of major long- term benefit to the management of the park's collections.

Natural Resources

Under this alternative, selective landscape rehabilitation would incorporate minor clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone; removal of post- Roosevelt- period specimen trees and plantings; preservation of engineering features; and the reintroduction of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles. Changes to the overall relationship of field to forest would be negligible. There would be limited impact on existing habitat and native community types. These efforts would have a minor long- term adverse impact on the park's vegetation and wildlife.

This alternative also calls for the replacement of a portion of the cutting and vegetable gardens. Conflicts could arise, in that the garden would be an attractive source of food to local wildlife, yet it is unlikely that such local diners would be welcome. Park managers would have to consider appropriate means to discourage such foraging. This effort is likely to have minor long- term adverse impacts on the park's wildlife.

Under this alternative, the existing parking area would be reduced in size, and overflow parking would be accommodated off- site with shuttle service to the park on an as- needed basis. The reduction in size of the parking area would result in removal of asphalt and an expansion of green space. Historically, this area would have been agricultural fields or orchard. Overflow parking would be located off- site and would no longer have an impact on the park's fields. This effort is likely to have a minor long- term benefit for the park's vegetation and wildlife.

The park would expand its program offerings to include regular tours of the grounds, resulting in their more intensive use. Regularly used routes that cross fields may need to be better delineated to limit any resource degradation in the areas that adjoin them (e.g. trampling vegetation, soil compaction). If mitigating steps are not taken, this proposed activity could

have moderate long- term adverse impacts on the park's vegetation and wildlife.

Visitor Use and Experience

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Under this alternative, proposed selective landscape rehabilitation would incorporate minor clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone; removal of post- Roosevelt- period specimen trees and plantings; preservation of engineering features; and the replacement of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles.

Many facets of the selective landscape rehabilitation would not be obvious. However, though minor, these landscape changes would contribute to an accumulation of factors including the replacement of a portion of the cutting and vegetable garden, the preservation of historic building exteriors, and the resurfacing of park pathways that would offer an experience that is more evocative of the site's history than is currently available. Overall, the proposed rehabilitation of the cultural landscape would result in a moderate long- term benefit to the visitor experience at the park.

Apart from the overall rehabilitation of the cultural landscape, the replacement of a portion of the cutting and vegetable garden would be an easily noted departure from the existing conditions and would offer the visitor a glimpse into the self- sustaining, agricultural nature of the property. This effort also would be of moderate long- term benefit to the visitor experience at the park.

Under this alternative, the park would construct a collection storage facility in combination with the proposed new maintenance facility. Due to its proposed location, the general public would see little of this new facility. However, researchers who make use of the collection would experience a significant improvement. This effort would be of minor long- term benefit to the visitor experience at the park.

ORIENTATION

Under this alternative, the park would create a visitor orientation facility through the minor expansion and rehabilitation of the New Barn. The reuse of the New Barn to accommodate a visitor orientation function augments the existing visitor contact station and offers a more complete visitor orientation experience.

Visitor amenities in the New Barn would now include opportunities for viewing an orientation exhibit and audio- video presentation before

launching into their park visit. Visitor services staff would still be available to answer questions, but much about the park's purpose, significance, and daily programming would be addressed by other media. The proposed new space also offers a sheltered environment for the assembly of tour and school groups. This effort would result in major long- term benefits for visitor orientation.

The nearby Visitor Contact Station would be upgraded and would continue to house restrooms and the bookstore. Though the facility would be upgraded, its function would not change from the status quo. Visitors would continue to visit the park's bookstore in this building, and restrooms would also continue to be located here. However, contact with a park ranger would not always be available here; often the bookstore would be staffed by Eastern National personnel. Though they are in close proximity, multiple buildings accommodating these basic visitor services could cause confusion and frustrate some visitors. Despite that possibility, this effort would result in minor long- term benefits for visitor orientation.

Under this alternative the park would improve its web- based programming by creating a more interactive and dynamic website. The website would offer pre- visit information such as directions, house tours, programs and special events, as well as a wealth of historical background on Theodore Roosevelt and his family and Sagamore Hill. This effort would be of major long- term benefit for visitor orientation.

EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Under Alternative 2, the park would expand its program offerings to include regular tours of the grounds. This would present the opportunity for park visitors to better understand the whole of Sagamore Hill. The location and the natural resources are what drew Theodore Roosevelt to this place and continued to be a source of joy and inspiration to him. To wholly understand Theodore Roosevelt, his values, and his legacy, the visiting public should be offered the opportunity to experience the home in relation to its immediate context.

The park would also expand its collaboration with local partners and other Theodore Roosevelt- related sites and organizations to offer walking tours in the hamlet, lecture series, and educational materials. Collaboration with other community organizations to offer public programming would enable the park to attract potential new visitors from beyond its usual constituency. Engaging the larger community, including local schools, would enhance public awareness of Sagamore Hill and its resources. Specific programs like the hamlet walking tour provide the means for the

public to discover the historic connections between Sagamore Hill and the larger community.

Under this alternative, the park would also improve its current website, making it more interactive and dynamic and giving it more depth. The park would also institute a distance learning program, allowing it to reach out to a significantly larger audience via the Internet. Improving the park's website would offer park audiences access to information on a number of fronts – pre- visit orientation, in- depth information, links to other resources, and distance learning opportunities. A robust website would allow the park to reach more potential visitors and to develop cooperative programming with other Theodore Roosevelt- related sites.

These actions would be of long- term major benefit to the park and would enhance its ability to offer high- quality educational and interpretive opportunities.

Also under Alternative 2, the park would rehabilitate the site's historic farm buildings and selected areas of its cultural landscape. In the interior of the Gardeners Shed, the park would introduce interpretive media to enhance public understanding of how Sagamore Hill worked. It would also invite the public into a new area of the park that is currently not visited frequently. The exterior treatment of the historic farm buildings would reinforce the historic setting for the visitor.

A uniform system of informational and interpretive signage would also be introduced. Improved interpretive and informational signage would enhance visitors' ability to navigate the park and help them understand and appreciate the site's agricultural past. The park would also mark and interpret the sites of the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn. This action would enhance comprehension of the history of the site's development and historic relationships among structures and functions on the property.

Under this alternative, the first floor of the Old Orchard Garage would be rehabilitated for use as education and program space, expanding the park's ability to offer educational programs to school groups or to host lectures on- site. The configuration of the Garage, which is somewhat long and narrow, limits the types of activities and functions that can be hosted. Further, the program space would be located in a park housing area, making frequent evening programs difficult to offer.

After the relocation of the audio- visual function to the new visitor orientation facility in the New Barn, a small, changing exhibit space would

also be introduced at Old Orchard. This space would allow the park to take advantage of the richness of its collection to mount exhibits on a variety of Theodore Roosevelt- related topics. A particularly relevant theme or historical point of reference that is of particular relevance could be highlighted. For instance, for the centennial of Theodore Roosevelt's Nobel Peace Prize, an exhibit could focus on his diplomatic role in the negotiating the Treaty of Portsmouth. Changing exhibits lend a richness and diversity to the park's interpretive program and encourage visitors to return to see what is new.

The park would also support the creation of a Theodore Roosevelt Education and Study Program in partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Association. While the program is likely to directly serve only a limited audience, the larger visiting public would derive significant benefits from the products and outcomes of the program, which might include scholarly research and public dialogue. Information and insights gained during these activities could influence the development of interpretive media, publications, and public programming that address Theodore Roosevelt's life and times as well as his legacy.

These actions would be of moderate long- term benefit to the park and would contribute to its ability to offer educational and interpretive opportunities.

VISITATION

Under this alternative, the park could expect to see a minor to moderate increase in overall visitation of about five to ten percent. The addition of new program space and the ability to offer a greater range of programming on- site could result in a modest boost in visitation, particularly in return visits from local residents. Visitors may also visit the park for longer periods of time. Under this scenario, the boost in visitation is likely to be reflected in more school groups and other local audiences visiting the park in greater numbers and at greater frequencies. With the addition of sheltered program spaces, the park can accommodate an increased number of school groups – perhaps 50 percent more than it currently serves.

Park Operations

CIRCULATION AND ACCESS

Under Alternative 2, the park would undertake and implement a circulation plan that would build upon the site's historic circulation patterns to ensure that there were formal pathways to guide visitors to primary destinations in the park. Further, the system of park pathways would be expanded to allow visitors to experience the family's historic use

of the property. Formalization of the park's pathways would permit visitors greater access to the entire park while limiting negative impacts to its resources (e.g., the creation of contemporary social trails) and trespass onto neighboring properties. Park pathways built upon historic circulation patterns would limit any further disruption of the park's cultural landscape. The results of these efforts would be of moderate long- term benefit to the park.

Under this alternative, the existing parking area would be reduced by approximately one- third. Overflow parking would be accommodated off- site with shuttle service to the park. With a reduction in existing parking and an increase in visitor programming, the parking area is more likely to reach capacity on an average visitor day, making the need for overflow parking more likely. Some visitors may find this greater reliance on off- site parking and shuttle service inconvenient, which could discourage attendance at special events and programs.

When off- site parking is required, redirecting visitor traffic would require increased resources in terms of temporary signage and staff/volunteer support. The park would also assume the cost of leasing vehicles and paying an operator to offer shuttles.

Reducing the size of the parking area would permit the rehabilitation of historic orchards and other cultural landscape features. It would also reduce the net area of asphalt that must be maintained by park staff. The results of this effort would be of minimal long- term benefit to the park's circulation and access.

FACILITIES/ OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Under Alternative 2, the park would construct a new collection storage facility in combination with the proposed new maintenance facility. The combination of these functions is not a unique development in the National Park System and should not result in any conflicts of use if appropriate precautions are taken in its construction. It would offer an appropriate, climate- controlled environment for the storage and care of the park's museum and archival collections.

This new facility would be significantly larger than its predecessor and would require additional custodial and maintenance support. Though designed and constructed using the best practices for sustainability, additional energy would be required to operate the facility.

Though maintenance costs and requirements may be higher, the overall result of this effort would be of major long- term benefit to the park's operation.

STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS

Proposals under Alternative 2 would require additional staffing and volunteer support in a number of areas including grounds maintenance, facility management, and visitor services.

The most intensive new requirements would relate to grounds maintenance. The reintroduction of the cutting and vegetable garden would represent a considerable expansion of responsibility for the maintenance staff. Maintenance requirements for the greater emphasis on landscape would increase slightly in terms of the care of new features, monitoring the preservation status of engineering features, and a slightly larger area to maintain by mowing. Pathways that are developed to accommodate tours of the grounds would need to be maintained during the visitor season, which may require additional staff. Efforts to recruit volunteers or to work with local garden clubs to maintain the gardens should be considered. Conversely, the removal of approximately one-third of the existing parking area would reduce some of the park staff's grounds maintenance responsibilities.

Facilities management requirements would also increase. While the New Barn has always been on the park's inventory, its use as a residence and storage area has not required intensive custodial efforts. Maintaining the New Barn for public use would likely expand custodial requirements, as would the change of use at the Gardener's Shed. Visitor pathways to this location would need to be maintained.

Visitor services would also need to expand to meet the needs defined under this alternative. Four visitor locations would now need to be staffed: the New Barn Visitor Orientation Facility, the bookstore, Old Orchard Museum, and the Theodore Roosevelt Home. The bookstore would be separated from the primary visitor orientation space, which could have a negative effect on bookstore sales; in addition, money would be changing hands in two locations.

Offering guided tours of the house and grounds makes for a longer visitor experience. In order to accommodate the volume of visitors for tours, more visitor services staff and volunteers may be needed on a daily basis.

The park would also support the creation of a Theodore Roosevelt Education and Study program and expand its collaborative offerings in

terms of walking tours, lecture series, educational programming, etc. Any type of outreach or collaboration requires staff support. NPS participation in these collaborative efforts would require a commitment of staff time, money, and facilities to varying degrees depending on the activity. Once some of these relationships and programs become well- established, it is possible that some of the park's partners may assume greater responsibility for their planning and implementation.

Improvements to the park's website must be maintained and its contents kept up- to- date. This would require a commitment of resources either from park staff, cooperators or contractors.

Finally, a commitment to high- quality changing exhibits at the Old Orchard Museum would require a commitment of park resources either in the form of park staff or the funds necessary to hire a consulting curator to mount the exhibits.

STAFF HOUSING

The New Barn's change of use means that this structure would not continue to offer dorm- style housing to three employees. This reduces the park's housing by one unit and significantly impedes the park's ability to accommodate seasonal housing. No new housing is proposed under this alternative.

Socioeconomic Environment

Offering programming in the hamlet of Oyster Bay is likely to have a beneficial effect on local businesses. During the business week, visitor parking would be an issue, but in the evenings and on weekends parking pressures tend to ease. Any programming proposed for the hamlet would be scheduled accordingly.

In implementing Alternative 2, the park has the potential to draw about five to ten percent more visitors to the park. However, most of the increase would likely be accounted for in local school groups participating in programs that take advantage of the park's new facilities or repeat visitation from local day- trippers. As a result, the effect on visitor spending in the local economy would be negligible.

Unavoidable Adverse Effects

No unavoidable adverse effects would result from proposals under Alternative 2.

Non- impairment of Resources

Under Alternative 2, the park's resources or values would not be impaired, because there would be no major adverse impacts on a resource or value whose conservation is (1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, (2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for visitor enjoyment, or (3) identified as a goal in the park's *General Management Plan* or other relevant National Park Service planning documents.

Impacts of Actions Associated with Alternative 3

Beyond what is described above as “Impacts Common to All Alternatives,” the impacts associated with Alternative 3 are described below.

Cultural Resources

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Under Alternative 3, selective landscape rehabilitation and preservation would incorporate moderate clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone; removal of post- Roosevelt- period specimen trees and plantings; preservation of engineering features; and the replacement of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles. This would result in a considerably more accurate rendering of the site’s historic cultural landscape. Approximately 6.22 acres of woody vegetation would be removed from the historic core of the park. The rehabilitation of the site’s historic farm buildings would further contribute to the character of the historic setting.

As in Alternative 2, the rehabilitation of the gardens would reintroduce a major feature of the historic cultural landscape. The cutting and vegetable garden was central to the management of the property and provided the family with fresh produce and cut flowers. It would better enable interpretation of how the working farm operated as a self- sustaining entity. The removal and relocation of commemorative park furnishings (e.g., the flagpole) would alleviate confusion and improve the overall sense of this historic place.

The parking area and park pathways also would be resurfaced using materials more compatible with the site’s historic character further benefiting the site’s cultural landscape. The material should be similar in color and texture to the original material but should also be selected with consideration for its maintenance requirements and its ability to meet accessibility requirements.

As under Alternative 2, the park would mark and interpret the sites of the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn. This effort would enhance the visitor’s comprehension of the historic relationship among structures and functions on the property.

The park would also expand its program offerings to include regular tours of the grounds. This would result in a more intensive use of the grounds. Regularly used routes that cross fields may need to be better delineated to limit any resource degradation in adjoining areas. This effort would bring

more visitors into the cultural landscape and highlight it as an important facet of the site. This heightened awareness of the value of the landscape could foster greater stewardship of it as a resource. However, in the absence of mitigating measures, more intensive use of the grounds could result in moderate long- term adverse impacts.

Under Alternative 3, the park would rehabilitate and expand the New Barn to create a new visitor orientation facility. This would include the construction of a moderately-scaled addition to accommodate the visitor orientation function. It would be designed and constructed in a manner that would not significantly change the look and feel of the farm yard and would not be visible from the Theodore Roosevelt Home. The New Barn's exterior would be restored to its appearance during the Roosevelt family's tenure.

The park would remove the existing Visitor Contact Station, which was constructed in the 1950s and is not considered a contributing element in the historic setting. The farm yard would then be rehabilitated. While the addition to the New Barn would introduce a change to the historic scene, the overall benefits of rehabilitating the building's exterior and removing the old visitor contact station represent a major long- term benefit in managing the park's cultural landscape.

The accumulation of these efforts would result in major long- term benefits for the management of the park's cultural landscape.

The park would also introduce a uniform system of informational and interpretive signage. Signage would be redesigned to be sympathetic with the historic setting and context, and would be carefully located to balance informing the visitor with protecting and enhancing the cultural landscape. This effort would result in minor long- term benefits for the management of the park's cultural landscape.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Under Alternative 3 the park would create a new visitor orientation facility in a rehabilitated and modestly expanded New Barn. The exterior of the New Barn would be restored to its appearance during the site's historic period. The proposed addition would be moderate in scale and would increase the size of the building by about 50 percent. The addition is needed to allow for the adaptive reuse of the building as a visitor orientation facility.

The proposed addition would be designed and constructed in compliance with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic*

Properties. The new addition would not destroy historic materials, features, or spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work should be differentiated from the old and would be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale, proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment. Secondly, the new addition would be constructed in such a manner that, if it were eventually removed, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

The proposed treatment of the New Barn represents a major long- term change to the building with minimal alternation to its character- defining features.

Under Alternative 3, the park would construct an addition to Old Orchard to accommodate a new collections storage facility along with education and program space. In total, the addition of the new facility would represent a 66 percent expansion beyond the existing space. The new addition would be developed in a manner that links the new with the old via a corridor so that the character- defining features on the rear façade are preserved. The new addition would be designed and constructed in compliance with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and would not be visible from the historic core. This treatment of Old Orchard represents a major long- term change to the building with minimal alteration to its character- defining features.

Under this alternative, the park would relocate the maintenance facility and rehabilitate the interior of the first floor of Old Orchard Garage for use as park housing. The exterior of the Old Orchard Garage would be preserved. Park housing could be viewed as a more appropriate use of the historic structure and would reduce the threat of fire and other types of damage associated with its use as a maintenance facility. This effort would be of major long- term benefit for this historic structure.

As in Alternative 2, the park would relocate the staff/volunteer break room from the Theodore Roosevelt Home to a more appropriate location. Relocating this use would support the long- term protection of the Roosevelt Home by reducing the danger of a kitchen fire and removing foodstuffs from the building. This effort would be of moderate long- term benefit for this historic structure.

The Gardener's Shed, Carriage Shed, and Tool Shed/Chicken Coop would all be rehabilitated and their exteriors restored to their appearance during the Roosevelt family's tenure. The rehabilitated Gardener's Shed would be

used to house interpretive media that would enhance the visitor understanding and appreciation of this historic setting. These efforts would be of moderate long- term benefit for these historic structures.

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES AND RESOURCES

Under Alternative 3, landscape rehabilitation would incorporate clearing of about 6.22 acres of existing successional growth in the core historic zone; removal of post- Roosevelt- period specimen trees and plantings; preservation of engineering features; reintroduction of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles; and the rehabilitation of portions of the vegetable and cutting gardens. Because the removal of trees and woody materials often results in ground disturbance, further study and mitigation may be necessary. This effort could have a moderate long-term adverse impact on archeological resources in the vicinity of the work.

The park would create a new visitor orientation facility in the expanded and rehabilitated New Barn. The new addition would encompass approximately 1,500 gross square feet. The addition to the New Barn would require disruption of soils in the historic core, which could have an impact on archeological resources. Further study and mitigation would be necessary. This effort could have a moderate long- term adverse impact on archeological resources in the vicinity of the New Barn.

Under Alternative 3, the park would construct an addition to Old Orchard to accommodate a new collection storage facility as well as education and program space. Because the footprint of the new addition could be sizeable, construction of the new addition would result in soil disturbance. The park's current archeological overview and assessment does not identify this as an archeologically sensitive area; however, further evaluation of archeological resources should be undertaken. The long-term impact of this action on archeological resources is likely to be minor.

As in Alternative 2, the park would also mark and interpret the sites of the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn. Because the sites are considered archeological resources, highlighting their location could make them vulnerable to destructive activities like "pot hunting" (amateur archeological exploration). Public education to encourage good stewardship of archeological resources and more vigilant monitoring of the sites could minimize such activities. This effort could result in minor long- term adverse impacts on these archeological resources.

The park would also introduce a uniform system of informational and interpretive signage. Signage would be redesigned to be sympathetic with

the historic setting and context. Before introducing or relocating new signage within the historic core, possible impacts to archeological resources would need to be assessed and mitigated if necessary. This effort could result in minor long- term adverse impacts on archeological resources within the vicinity of signage locations.

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Under Alternative 3, the park would construct a collection storage facility in a new addition to Old Orchard. A new facility constructed specifically for collection management would offer sufficient and appropriate climate-controlled space to consolidate the park's museum and archival storage in a single location. In addition to storage space, the new facility would offer curatorial offices, curatorial workspace, and research space in a single location. The storage facility would be designed and constructed taking into account the specific needs of the collection. Offices for the curatorial staff would continue to be located in the existing Old Orchard building.

The new collections storage facility would be of major long- term benefit to the management of the park's collections.

Natural Resources

Under Alternative 3, landscape rehabilitation would incorporate clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone, removal of post-Roosevelt- period specimen trees and plantings, preservation of engineering features, and the reintroduction of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles. Though changes to the overall relationship of field to forest would be moderate, approximately 6.22 acres of woody vegetation would be cleared, representing a modest impact to existing habitat and native community types. These efforts would have a moderate long- term impact on the park's vegetation and wildlife.

As in Alternative 2, this alternative also calls for the replacement of a portion of the cutting and vegetable gardens. Conflicts could arise, in that the garden would be an attractive source of food to local wildlife, yet such local diners are unlikely to be welcome. Park managers would have to consider appropriate means to discourage such foraging. This effort is likely to have minor long- term adverse impacts on the park's wildlife.

The park would expand its program offerings to include regular tours of the grounds, resulting in their more intensive use. Regularly used routes that cross fields may need to be better delineated to limit any resource degradation in adjoining areas. If mitigating steps are not taken, this

proposed activity could have moderate long- term adverse impacts on the park's vegetation and wildlife.

Visitor Use and Experience

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Under Alternative 3, proposed landscape rehabilitation would incorporate moderate clearing of existing successional growth in the core historic zone, removal of post-Roosevelt- period specimen trees and plantings, preservation of engineering features, and the replacement of selected agricultural features such as fences and stiles.

A larger area of cleared fields would enhance the historic agricultural character of the site. Along with replacement of selected portions of the cutting and vegetable garden, the restoration of selected historic exteriors, and the resurfacing of park pathways, these landscape changes would make the park experience more evocative of the site's history. Apart from the overall rehabilitation of the cultural landscape, the replacement of portions of the cutting and vegetable garden would be an easily noted departure from the existing conditions and would offer the visitor a glimpse into the self- sustaining, agricultural nature of the property. Overall, the proposed rehabilitation of cultural landscape as well as the site's historic farm buildings would result in a major long- term benefit to the visitor experience at the park.

Under this alternative, the park would construct a collection storage facility in a new addition to Old Orchard. Because of its location at Old Orchard, the facility would be more obvious to the general public than under Alternative 2. Researchers who make use of the collection would experience a significant improvement. This effort would be of minor long- term benefit to the visitor experience at the park.

ORIENTATION

Under Alternative 3, the park would create a visitor orientation facility through the expansion and rehabilitation of the New Barn, consolidating the entire visitor orientation experience under one roof.

Similar to Alternative 2, amenities in the New Barn would now offer visitors opportunities for viewing an orientation exhibit and audio- video presentation before embarking on their park visit. Visitor services staff would still be available to answer questions, but much about the park's purpose, significance, and daily programming would be addressed by other media. Further, there would be an indoor staging area, enabling the assembly of tour groups in a sheltered environment. However, under this

alternative, the bookstore and restrooms would also be located in the expanded New Barn. This effort would result in major long- term benefits for visitor orientation.

As in Alternative 2, under this alternative the park would improve its web-based programming by creating a more interactive and dynamic website. The website would offer pre- visit information such as directions, house tours, programs, and special events, as well as a wealth of historical background on Theodore Roosevelt, his family, and Sagamore Hill. This effort would be of major long- term benefit for visitor orientation.

EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Under Alternative 3, in conjunction with the development of new collection storage space, the addition to Old Orchard would include a new education and program space. This space would expand the park's ability to offer educational programs to school groups or to host lectures on- site. The new space would be configured to permit a variety of activities, accommodate both day and evening programming, and allow the park to offer a venue for symposia and other public events.

As under Alternative 2, the park would expand its program offerings to include regular tours of the grounds. This would present the opportunity for park visitors to better understand the whole of Sagamore Hill. The location and the natural resources are what drew Theodore Roosevelt to this place and continued to be a source of joy and inspiration to him. To wholly understand Theodore Roosevelt, his values, and his legacy, the visiting public should be offered the opportunity to relate the home to its immediate context.

The park would also expand its collaboration with local partners and other Theodore Roosevelt- related sites and organizations to offer lecture series, educational materials, and walking tours of the hamlet. Collaboration with other community organizations on public programming would enable the park to broaden its audience. Engaging the larger community, including the schools, would enhance public awareness of Sagamore Hill and its resources. Specific programs like the hamlet walking tour help the public discover the historic connections between Sagamore Hill and the larger community.

The park would also expand the content of its current website, making it more interactive and dynamic. The park would also institute a distance learning program, allowing it to reach out to a significantly larger audience via the Internet. Improving the park's website would offer park audiences

access to information on a number of fronts: pre- visit orientation, in-depth information, links to other resources, and distance learning opportunities. A more robust website would help reach potential visitors and to develop cooperative programming with other sites related to Theodore Roosevelt.

These actions would be of major long-term benefit to the park and would enhance its ability to offer high-quality educational and interpretive opportunities.

The park would also rehabilitate the site's historic farm buildings and selected areas of its cultural landscape. Inside the Gardener's Shed, the park would introduce interpretive media in the building's interior not only to enhance public understanding of how Sagamore Hill worked, but also to invite the public into a new area of the park that is currently not visited frequently. The exterior rehabilitation of the building would reinforce the historic setting for the visitor.

A uniform system of informational and interpretive signage would also be introduced. Improved signage would enhance the visitor's ability to navigate the park and offer opportunities to understand and appreciate the historic landscape. The park would also mark and interpret the sites of the Stable and Lodge and the Old Barn. This action would enhance comprehension of the site's development history and historic relationships among structures and functions on the property.

A small changing exhibit space would also be introduced at Old Orchard as a result of the relocation of the audio-visual function to the new visitor orientation facility in the New Barn. The changing exhibit space would enable the park to take advantage of the richness of its collection to mount exhibits on a variety of Theodore Roosevelt- related topics. A particularly relevant theme or historical point of reference could provide the exhibit focus. For instance, for the centennial of Theodore Roosevelt's Nobel Peace Prize, an exhibit could highlight his diplomatic role in the negotiating the Treaty of Portsmouth. Changing exhibits lend a richness and diversity to the park's interpretive program and encourage visitors to return to see what's new.

The park would also support the creation of a Theodore Roosevelt Education and Study Program in partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Association. While the program is likely to directly serve only a limited audience, the larger visiting public would derive significant benefits from the products and outcomes of the program, such as scholarly research and

public dialogue. Information and insights revealed during these activities could influence the development of interpretive media, publications, and public programming that address Theodore Roosevelt's life and times as well as his legacy.

These actions would be of moderate long- term benefit to the park and would contribute to its ability to offer educational and interpretive opportunities.

VISITATION

Under this alternative, the park could expect to see a moderate increase of 10 to 15 percent in overall park visitation. The addition of new program space and the ability to offer a greater range of programming on- site could result in a modest boost in visitation, particularly repeat visitation.

Because of the park's enhanced ability to host events, participation in multi- day symposia and other similar events could draw a larger percentage of overnight visitors to the park. Under this scenario, the boost in visitation is likely to be reflected in more school and other formal tour groups and other local audiences visiting the site more frequently and in greater numbers. With the addition of sheltered program spaces and more staff support, the park could accommodate more school groups; perhaps double what it currently serves.

Park Operations

CIRCULATION AND ACCESS

As in Alternative 2, the park would undertake and implement a circulation plan that would build upon the site's historic circulation patterns to ensure that there were formal pathways to guide visitors to primary visitor destinations at the park. Further, the system of park pathways would be expanded to allow visitors to experience the family's historic use of the property. Formalization of the park's pathways would permit visitors greater access to the entire site while limiting negative impacts to the park's resources (e.g., the development of contemporary social trails) and trespass onto neighboring properties. Park pathways built upon historic circulation patterns would limit any further disruption of the park's cultural landscape.

The results of these efforts would be of moderate long- term benefit to the park.

FACILITIES/ OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Under this alternative, a number of additions and changes in use of various facilities are proposed. The New Barn, currently used for park housing, would be expanded for use as a visitor orientation facility. The Old

Orchard garage, the current maintenance facility, would also be adaptively reused as park housing. A new curatorial storage facility and an educational program space would be constructed.

Under this alternative, certain features would be removed and would no longer require maintenance, including the 1950s visitor contact station and the Gray Cottage garage.

Though maintenance costs and requirements may be higher, the overall result of these efforts would be of major long-term benefit to the park's operation.

STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS

Similar to Alternative 2, proposals under Alternative 3 would require additional staffing and volunteer support in a number of areas including grounds maintenance, facility management, and visitor services.

The most intensive new requirements would relate to grounds maintenance. The reintroduction of the cutting and vegetable garden would represent considerably more responsibility for the maintenance staff. Maintenance requirements for the larger landscape would increase in terms of the care of new features, monitoring the preservation status of engineering features, and a slightly larger area to maintain by mowing. Pathways that are developed to accommodate tours of the grounds would need to be maintained during the visitor season, possibly calling for additional staff. Efforts to recruit volunteers or work with local garden clubs to maintain the gardens should be considered. Conversely, the removal of a portion of the Old Orchard service road would reduce some of the park's ground maintenance responsibilities.

Facilities management requirements would also increase. While the New Barn has always been on the park's inventory, its use as a residence and storage area has not required intensive custodial efforts. Custodial requirements would likely expand in maintaining the structure for public use. The change of use at the Gardener's Shed would result in different custodial responsibilities, including maintenance of visitor pathways.

Visitor services would also need to expand to meet the needs defined under this alternative, particularly in the areas of education and outreach. Visitor staff would have to continue staffing three visitor locations—the New Barn Visitor Facility, Old Orchard Museum, and the Theodore Roosevelt Home.

Offering guided tours of the house and grounds makes for longer visits by patrons. In order to accommodate the volume of visitors who arrive at the park for tours, more visitor services staff and volunteers may be needed daily.

The park would also support the creation of a Theodore Roosevelt Education and Study program and expand its collaborative offerings in terms of walking tours, lecture series, educational programming, etc. Any type of outreach or collaboration requires staff support. NPS participation in these collaborative efforts would require a commitment of staff time, money, and facilities to varying degrees, depending on the activity undertaken. Once some of these relationships and programs become well-established, it is possible that some of the park's partners may assume greater responsibility for their planning and implementation.

Improvements to the park's website must be maintained and its content kept up-to-date. This would require a commitment of resources from park staff, a cooperator, or an outside contractor.

Finally, mounting high-quality changing exhibits at the Old Orchard Museum would require a commitment of site resources, either in the form of park staff or the funds necessary to hire a consulting curator.

STAFF HOUSING

The New Barn's change of use means that it will no longer offer dorm-like housing to three employees. This reduces the park's housing by one unit but significantly impedes the park's ability to accommodate seasonal housing. New staff housing would be developed in the Old Orchard Garage, whose first story can accommodate a new apartment, significantly offsetting the impact of losing the housing in the New Barn.

Socioeconomic Environment

Offering programming in the hamlet of Oyster Bay is likely to have a beneficial effect on local businesses. During the business week, visitor parking would be an issue, but in the evenings and on weekends parking pressures tend to ease. Any programming proposed for the hamlet would be scheduled accordingly.

In implementing Alternative 3, the park has the potential to draw about 10 to 15 percent more visitors to the site. Most of the increase would likely be accounted for by local school groups participating in programs that take advantage of the park's new facilities or repeat visitation from local day trippers. Total sales could grow by as much as 20 percent. However, the

ability to participate more actively in symposia and other multi-day events may contribute to extending the length of stay for a percentage of park visitors. As a result, there would be modest beneficial effect on visitor spending in the local economy.











Unavoidable Adverse Effects














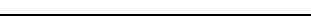


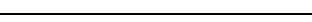
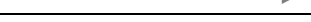







No unavoidable adverse effects would result from proposals under Alternative 3.

Non-impairment of Resources
















Under Alternative 3, the park's resources or values would not be impaired, because there would be no major adverse impacts on a resource or value whose conservation is (1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation of Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, (2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for visitor enjoyment, or (3) identified as a goal in the park's *General Management Plan* or other relevant National Park Service planning documents.
















Table 4- 2: Summary of Environmental Impacts

ACTION	Alternative 1: Status Quo	Alternative 2: Building Capacity	Alternative 3: Past Meets Present
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT			
Implement long- range inventory and monitoring program for natural and cultural resources	Major long- term benefit		
Survey and remark boundary	Major long- term benefit		
Fostering stewardship	Moderate long- term benefit		
CULTURAL RESOURCES			
Cultural Landscapes			
Control non- native invasive species	Major long- term benefit		
Preserve/ maintain cultural landscape	Negligible		
Rehabilitate cultural landscape		Moderate long- term benefit	Major long- term benefit
Replace portion of cutting & vegetable garden		Moderate long- term benefit	Major long- term benefit
Preserve/ maintain commemorative park furnishings	Negligible		
Remove & relocate commemorative park furnishings		Moderate long- term benefit	
Retain existing visitor contact station for visitor use	Negligible		
Improve existing visitor contact station		Negligible	
Remove existing visitor contact station			Major long- term benefit
Reduce size of existing parking area		Moderate long- term benefit	
Rehabilitate/expand New Barn for use as visitor orientation facility		Minor long- term benefit	Major long- term benefit
Preserve and maintain historic farm structures	Negligible		
Rehabilitate historic farm structures		Moderate long- term benefit	
Construct new addition at Old Orchard			Minor long- term impact
Develop new maintenance facility on park property	Minor long- term impact	Moderate long- term impact	Minor long- term impact
Mark & interpret sites of the Stable & Lodge and Old Barn		Moderate long- term benefit	
Introduce uniform system of informational and interpretive signage		Minor long- term benefit	
Resurface roads, pathways, and parking lot with materials more sensitive to the historic scene		Moderate long- term benefit	
Formalize and expand park pathways		Minor long- term impact	

ACTION	Alternative 1: Status Quo	Alternative 2: Building Capacity	Alternative 3: Past Meets Present
Replace park furnishings	Minor long- term benefit		
Expand program offerings/ more tours of grounds		Moderate long- term benefit	
Historic Buildings & Structures			
Upgrade mechanical systems in TR Home	Major long- term benefit		
Retain volunteer break room at TR Home	Minor long- term impact		
Relocate volunteer break room from TR Home		Moderate long- term benefit	
Preserve and maintain historic farm structures	Negligible		
Rehabilitate historic farm structures		Moderate long- term benefit	
Rehabilitate/expand New Barn for use as visitor orientation facility		Major long- term benefit	
Rehabilitate and reuse Old Orchard Garage		Major long- term benefit	
Remove maintenance function from Old Orchard garage	Major long- term benefit		
Construct new addition at Old Orchard			Moderate long- term impact
Archeology			
Rehabilitate cultural landscape		Minor long- term impact	Moderate long- term impact
Replace portion of cutting & vegetable garden		Minor long- term impact	
Rehabilitate/Expand New Barn for use as visitor orientation facility		Minor long- term impact	Moderate long- term impact
Mark & interpret sites of the Stable & Lodge and Old Barn		Minor long- term impact	
Introduce uniform system of informational & interpretive signage		Minor long- term impact	
Construct new addition at Old Orchard			Minor long- term impact
Develop new maintenance facility on park property	Minor long- term impact		
Museum Collections & Archives			
Develop & implement access policy	Moderate long- term benefit		
Develop dedicated space for researchers	Moderate long- term benefit		
Relocate collections from TR Home to Old Orchard Museum	Moderate long- term benefit		
Develop new collections storage facility		Major long, term benefit	
NATURAL RESOURCES			
Cooperative efforts and partnerships	Moderate long- term benefit		
Vegetation			
Control non- native invasive species	Major long- term benefit		

ACTION	Alternative 1: Status Quo	Alternative 2: Building Capacity	Alternative 3: Past Meets Present
Rehabilitate woodland trail and boardwalk	Moderate long- term benefit		
Expand program offerings/ more tours of grounds		Without mitigation, moderate long- term impact	
Wildlife			
Preserve cultural landscape	Negligible		
Rehabilitate cultural landscape		Minor long- term impact	Moderate long- term impact
Replace portion of cutting & vegetable garden		Minor long- term impact	
Reduce size of existing parking area/off- site overflow		Minor long- term benefit	
Expand program offerings/ more tours of grounds		Without mitigation, moderate long- term impact	
Construct new maintenance facility on park property	Minor short- term impact		
Soils			
Expand program offerings/ more tours of grounds		Without mitigation, moderate long- term impact	
Construct new maintenance facility on park property	Minor short- term impact		
Topography			
Construct new maintenance facility on park property	Minor long- term impact		
VISITOR USE & EXPERIENCE			
Visitor Experience			
Improve highway & local signage	Moderate long- term benefit		
Cooperative programming and partnerships	Moderate long- term benefit		
Rehabilitate woodland trail & boardwalk	Moderate long- term benefit		
Screen views to and from adjacent properties	Moderate long- term benefit		
Develop dedicated workspace for researchers	Negligible	Minor long- term impact	
Preserve cultural landscape	Negligible		
Rehabilitate cultural landscape		Moderate long- term benefit	Major long- term benefit
Replace portion of cutting & vegetable garden		Moderate long- term benefit	Major long- term benefit
Resurface roads, pathways, and parking lot with materials more sensitive to the historic scene		Moderate long- term benefit	
Preserve and maintain historic farm structures	Negligible		
Rehabilitate historic farm structures		Moderate long- term benefit	
Reduce size of existing parking area/off- site overflow		Minor to moderate, long- term impact	
Construct new maintenance facility on park property	Negligible		
Encourage development of transportation from LIRR	Moderate long- term benefit		

ACTION	Alternative 1: Status Quo	Alternative 2: Building Capacity	Alternative 3: Past Meets Present
Visitor Orientation			
Signage directing visitors through Oyster Bay hamlet	Moderate long- term benefit		
Retain existing visitor contact station for visitor use	Negligible		
Improve existing visitor contact station (e.g. upgrade restrooms)		Minor long- term impact	
Rehabilitate/expand New Barn for use as visitor orientation facility in combination with existing visitor contact station		Major long- term benefit	
Rehabilitate/expand New Barn for use as visitor orientation facility			Major long- term benefit
Create dynamic and interactive park website		Major long- term benefit	
Educational and Interpretive Opportunities			
Ensure programming & activities consistent with park purpose	Moderate long- term benefit		
Preserve cultural landscape	Negligible		
Rehabilitate cultural landscape		Moderate long- term benefit	
Replace portion of cutting & vegetable garden		Moderate long- term benefit	
Preserve and maintain historic farm structures	Negligible		
Rehabilitate historic farm structures		Moderate long- term benefit	
Gardener's Shed – interpretive media		Moderate long- term benefit	
Mark & interpret sites of the Stable & Lodge and Old Barn		Moderate long- term benefit	
Introduce uniform system of informational & interpretive signage		Moderate long- term benefit	
Expand program offerings/ more tours of grounds		Major long- term benefit	
Expand collaborative offerings with surrounding community		Major long- term benefit	
Support creation of TR Education & Study program		Moderate long- term benefit	
Rehabilitate 1 st floor of Old Orchard Garage for program space		Moderate long- term benefit	
Introduce small changing exhibit area at Old Orchard Museum		Moderate long- term benefit	
Develop educational program space in new addition to Old Orchard Museum			Major long- term benefit

ACTION	Alternative 1: Status Quo	Alternative 2: Building Capacity	Alternative 3: Past Meets Present
Create dynamic and interactive park website		Major long- term benefit	
Visitation			
Visitation	Negligible	Minor increase in visitation	Moderate increase in visitation
PARK OPERATIONS			
Circulation & Access			
Formalize and expand park pathways		Moderate long- term benefit	
Reduce size of existing parking area/ Overflow parking offsite		Minor long- term impact	
Facilities/ Operational Efficiency			
Relocate collections from TR Home to Old Orchard Museum	Minor long- term impact		
Construct new collections storage facility		Major long- term benefit	
Develop new maintenance facility	Major long- term benefit		
Remove existing visitor contact station			Major long- term benefit
Staffing & Volunteers			
Administrative	Negligible	Minor to moderate impact	
Collections Management	Negligible	Moderate impact	
Maintenance	Negligible	Moderate impact	Moderate to major impact
Visitor Services	Negligible	Moderate impact	Moderate to major impact
Staff Housing			
Rehabilitate/Expand New Barn for use as visitor orientation facility		Moderate long- term impact	Minor long- term impact
Rehabilitate 1 st floor of Old Orchard garage for staff housing			Moderate long- term benefit
SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT			
Local Economy			
Signage directing visitors through Oyster Bay hamlet	Minor long- term benefit		
Expand collaborative offerings with surrounding community	Minor long- term benefit		
Encourage development of transportation from LIRR	Minor long- term benefit		
Adjacent Land Use			
Improve local signage	Negligible		
Screen views to & from adjacent properties	Moderate long- term benefit	