

Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Fact Sheet

Background:

- Nearly a decade ago, the Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University undertook the monumental task of digitizing all of Theodore Roosevelt's "papers" - correspondence, diaries, photographs, political cartoons, films, audio clips, and other ephemera. The digital library now contains over 40,000 items freely available to anyone with internet access for research and enjoyment.
- The TR Center's digital library is the inspiration for the TR Presidential Library and also its core.

Progress:

- TRPLF incorporated in 2014; governing board organized in February 2015
- Leading museum and exhibit design firm Hilferty & Associates developed a Master Plan for the presidential library and published its report in May 2015
- 27-acre site on the northwest corner of the DSU campus secured for the presidential library in August 2016
- M. A. Mortenson Company hired as program manager in August 2016
- Site cleared and construction started for the Elkhorn Ranch cabin replica, the first exhibit on the TRPL grounds, in October 2016
- JLG Architects selected as the Architect of Record in November 2016
- Fahlgren-Mortine of Cleveland, Ohio, chosen as public relations/branding consulting firm in November 2016
- Ter Molen Watkins & Brandt of Chicago, Illinois, chosen as capital campaign counsel in November 2016; contract negotiated and fundraising work begun in December 2016

Current initiatives:

- Community forums to solicit input and support in the design phase of the project
- Raising an Initiative Fund of \$5 million to support operations in 2017-18
- Working with Ter Molen Watkins & Brandt on an \$85 million national capital campaign

Costs:

- \$60 million estimated construction costs, which includes planning, design, landscaping, construction, exhibit installation and the Elkhorn Ranch cabin replica.
- \$40 million endowment to insure that operating costs do not depend on state or city funding

Available Funds:

- \$12 million appropriated by the North Dakota State Legislature during the 2013 session - restricted to construction costs
- \$3 million from the City of Dickinson - 90 percent restricted to construction costs
- \$513,700 in private donations

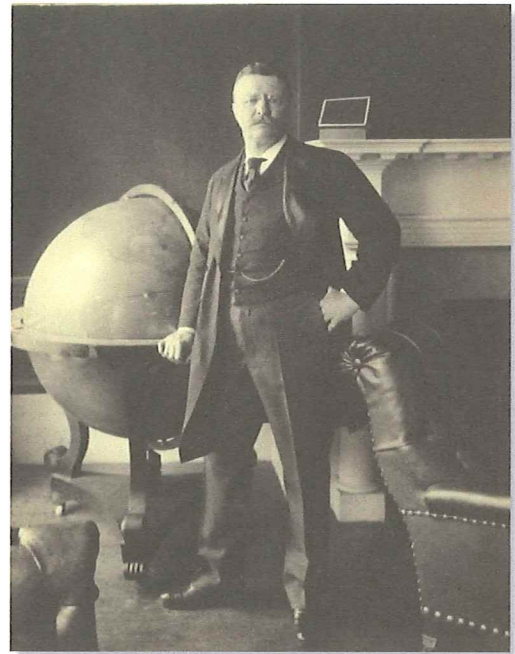
Ways to Support the Project:

- Make a Tax-Deductible Donation to:
 - ♦ The Elkhorn Ranch Cabin
 - ♦ The Cottonwood Challenge
 - ♦ The Initiative Fund
 - ♦ The Endowment Fund



A Presidential Library for Theodore Roosevelt

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation is building a presidential library in Dickinson, ND, to explore the life and legacy of one of the most colorful and significant figures in American history.



What is a presidential library?

A presidential library is at once a museum, archive, research center, and a place to hold public programs and events. Thirteen presidents since Herbert Hoover (1929-1933) have presidential libraries managed by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). A number of other presidential libraries for pre-Hoover presidents are operated by independent organizations.

As one of the best-loved and highly regarded presidents in U.S. history, Theodore Roosevelt certainly deserves a presidential library. Building it in western North Dakota is a natural fit, given his declaration that he would never have become President of the United States were it not for his experiences in Dakota Territory.

The **TR Presidential Library** will be a place to experience and to explore TR's legacy, both in the context of his times and as it relates to the world today.

- **Museum:** The museum will explore Roosevelt's entire life from his privileged, but sickly, childhood to his early political fights in New York City, his western adventures, his exploits during the Spanish-American War, the building of the Panama Canal, his conservation actions and legacy, and the worldwide adventures of his life after the presidency.
- **Archive:** The TRPL will house the Theodore Roosevelt Center, which is both the inspiration for the presidential library and its core archive. This nationally acclaimed digital archive is fast becoming the go-to source for Roosevelt researchers and enthusiasts. To date, more than 40,000 Roosevelt-related items are available free of charge to anyone with internet access.
- **Educational Asset:** The presidential library will provide unique educational opportunities for both regional K-12 and Dickinson State University students. Along with research opportunities, the TRPL will host teacher institutes, offer internships, and raise the profile of the University, potentially drawing students to DSU.

The Elkhorn Ranch Cabin

The TRPLF is building an authentic replica of TR's Elkhorn Ranch cabin as the first structure on the thoughtfully landscaped Presidential Library campus.



Why the Elkhorn Ranch Cabin?

Every presidential library re-creates a space important to that president. Often, this is the Oval Office in the White House. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in southern California features Air Force One in a beautiful pavilion. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield, Illinois, exhibits Lincoln's law office.

- The TRPLF Board believes that a faithful reproduction of Roosevelt's principal headquarters in western North Dakota spurs a better understanding of the 26th President of the United States, particularly as it relates to his conservation legacy.
- The cabin will be built, so far as building codes permit, using 1884-1885 techniques. This authentic reproduction will show the cabin as it must have looked when TR and his hired men finished building it in the spring of 1885, and symbolize the TRPLF's commitment to historical rigor and accuracy in everything it does at the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library.

What will the TR Presidential Library do for the region?

- Boost tourism in the state, region, and especially the City of Dickinson, significantly increasing revenue from dollars spent by visitors on food, lodging and other entertainment.
- Stimulate the local economy by creating 34-55 full-time jobs with an average annual salary of \$55,000.
- Be a stunning addition to the city with thoughtfully designed buildings and grounds, walking trails, public spaces and public programming.

"I do not think that there are any people who should feel more pride of citizenship, in the states, as those who are building up the great state of Dakota."

Theodore Roosevelt, Independence Day Oration in Dickinson, Dakota Territory, 1886