

# A Hometown Stroll with TR

*Historic tour of Oyster Bay and Presidential greeting  
featuring Joe Wiegand*



*Joe Wiegand in front of the Oyster Bay Train Station*

**July 3, 2023**

*Presented by:*



20 Sagamore Hill Road, Oyster Bay, NY 11771  
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## Destinations

1. **Christ Church** (*61 East Main Street*) – TR was brought up in the Dutch Reformed Church, but after marrying his second wife, Edith Kermit Carow, an Episcopalian, he and his family attended this church regularly. The Roosevelt family pew is preserved and several family members have memorial plaques on the walls at the rear of the church. Roosevelt’s funeral was held here on January 8, 1919. Originally built in 1878, it was a wood building. In 1925, the structure was encased in stone and stained-glass windows were added modelled after those in Chartres.
2. **Moore Building** (*1 East Main Street*) – Built in 1891 by grocer James Moore and expanded in 1902, when the Queen Anne turret was added. In the summer of 1903, President Roosevelt's secretary William Loeb, rented office space here, moving from the Oyster Bay Bank Building. The offices were the base of operations for the “Summer White House” while TR was in town. Sagamore Hill connected to the Moore Building by telegraph and phone service. The building was also known as the “gate” because those interested in visiting the president needed to obtain permission through Secret Service agents who operated from there.
3. **Snouder’s Drug Store** (*108 South Street*) – Built in 1855 and expanded in 1890, this building had housed Snouder’s Drug Store since 1884. For many years, Snouder’s had the only telephone and switchboard in the village (beginning in 1887). Mr. Snouder would send staff members out on bicycles to deliver messages to the village households, including Sagamore Hill. The Roosevelt children often rode their ponies into Oyster Bay to visit the soda fountain at Snouder’s and get ice cream.
4. **Matinecock Lodge #806** (*14 West Main St*) – While Roosevelt never visited this building when it operated as a lodge, he may have visited when it served as the Oyster Bay Inn before being converted for use as a masonic lodge. The lodge did not move to this space until the 1920s after Roosevelt had died. Artifacts and memorabilia

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forming a Masonic Museum were located here. The original building was destroyed by fire October 2003.

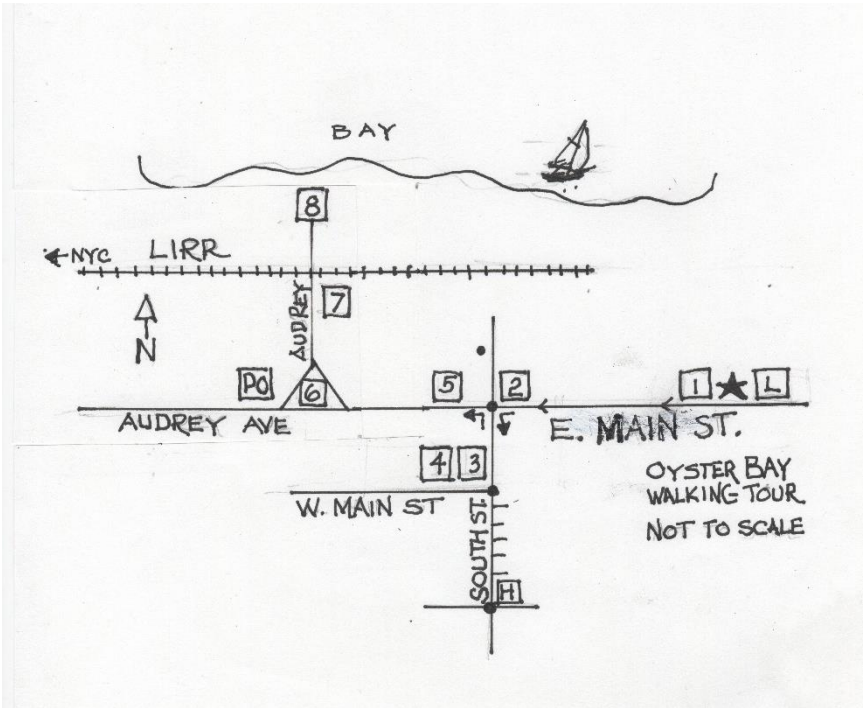
5. **Oyster Bay Bank** (*20 Audrey Ave*) – Built in 1891, this building was the first bank built to serve the hamlet. The second floor of the building served as Roosevelt's Oyster Bay office while Governor of New York. In the summer of 1902, it served the same function for his White House staff. Between the 1890's and 1924, the third floor was used as the Matinecock Lodge #806 by the local chapter of the Masons.

6. **Derby-Hall Bandstand** (*Shore & Audrey Ave*) – Roosevelt often addressed the people of Oyster Bay, most notably during Independence Day celebrations here. The original structure fell into disrepair and was razed. As a memorial to TR's daughter, Ethel Roosevelt Derby, and her godson, retired Congressman Leonard Hall, raised funds for its reconstruction and it was dedicated in 1981. Since Hall died during its construction, the name was changed to honor both Mrs. Derby and Congressman Hall. It is flanked by three Civil War-era cannons, one of which was presented by the Navy to the town and unveiled by Theodore Roosevelt years earlier in 1903.

7. **Long Island Railroad Station** (*foot of Audrey Ave*) – Built by the Long Island Railroad in 1889, it actively served the town until 1999. As New York City Police Commissioner between 1895 and 1897, Roosevelt regularly commuted from Oyster Bay into the city. Later, President Roosevelt would often travel to and from Washington D.C., by rail using this very train station.

8. **Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park** (*63 Larabee Ave*) – Opened in 1928 and donated to the Town of Oyster Bay in 1942. Located in the park are the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Rocks, a collection of 24 stones and other objects representing a "chapter" which form a "book" telling Theodore Roosevelt's story.

# Route



1. Christ Church
2. Moore Building
3. Snouder's Drug Store
4. Matinecock Lodge #806
5. Oyster Bay Bank
6. Derby-Hall Bandstand
7. Long Island Railroad Station
8. Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park

L = Library

PO = Post Office

H = TR Statue

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