

Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site  
4097 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538  
[www.nps.gov/vama](http://www.nps.gov/vama)

This Junior Ranger activity book was made possible by your donations.

Thank you!



## Vanderbilt Mansion NHS

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Vanderbilt Mansion  
National Historic Site  
New York



## Vanderbilt Mansion Junior Ranger Activity Book







THIS CERTIFIES THAT

HAS EARNED THE TITLE OF

# JUNIOR RANGER

## JUNIOR RANGER PLEDGE

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to protect the history, plants, water, animals, and geological features of our national parks. I will continue to explore, protect, and learn about our national parks and historic places. I will share what I have learned with others.



Park Ranger

Date

## Becoming a Junior Ranger



Hi kids! I'm Buster, the resident bison here at the park. Come along with me as we explore the Vanderbilt Mansion. Grab your pencils and lets go!



## Become a Junior Ranger!

If you are between the ages of 6 and 15 years old, you can earn a Junior Ranger badge when you learn about Vanderbilt Mansion. Become a Junior Ranger by completing these three easy steps:

1. Read, understand, and sign the Junior Ranger Pledge (on the back page).
2. Help keep your neighborhood clean by promising to pick up at least 5 pieces of litter this week.
3. Complete the activity pages in this book which corresponds to your age.
  - If you are 6 years old complete 6 activity pages.
  - If you are 7 years old complete 7 activity pages.
  - If you are 8 years old complete 8 activity pages.
  - If you are 9 years old or older, complete all activity pages.
  - If you need help please ask a ranger.

After you have finished the activity book, review your activities with a ranger at the Vanderbilt Mansion Visitor Center. A park ranger will sign your certificate and award you the official Vanderbilt Mansion Junior Ranger badge!



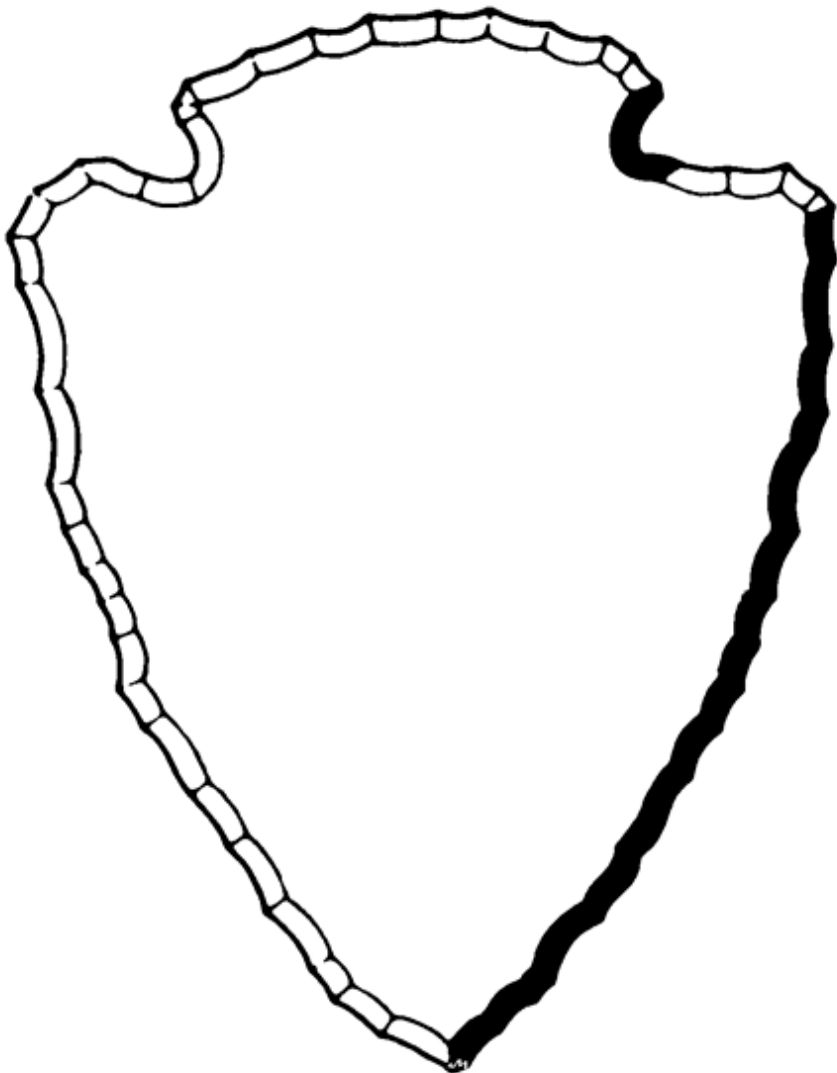
# The Arrowhead



The National Park Service logo, the Arrowhead, tells you just about everything you need to know about the ideas we strive to meet each and every day. It is found throughout the national parks. Match the NPS symbols below to what they represent, then draw your own arrowhead patch!



- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The Sequoia Tree    | ___ Represents recreation |
| 2. The Mountain        | ___ Represents scenery    |
| 3. The Bison           | ___ Represents history    |
| 4. The Arrowhead shape | ___ Represents plants     |
| 5. The Lake            | ___ Represents animals    |



Draw an arrowhead patch to represent you! List at least four things below that say something about you. Then draw them on the arrowhead shape to the right.

# National Parks around the Country



Put a star on the map where Vanderbilt Mansion Historic Site is located.  
Put dots on the location of three other National Park Sites you have visited or would like to visit. Write their names below.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the state you live in on the map. Name one National Park Site in your home state.

\_\_\_\_\_.

If you are not from the United States, draw an arrow in the direction that you live and write the name of your country. \_\_\_\_\_



# Take a Walk



Take a walk to the overlook, but before you go on your walk, do the activity below which we call “what to bring”. Circle the objects that you will need to go on a long walk. Star the objects that you need for a shorter walk.



If you have time, follow the road all the way down to Bard Rock. This is where the Vanderbilt Yacht was docked. If you do have time, make sure you bring the things that you have circled above. When you get to Bard Rock, sit for a few minutes and enjoy the view. Count how many boats you see? Is it windy? Write below anything you notice and want to share.

# Family Timeline



The Vanderbilt family has a long history. Read the Vanderbilt Mansion brochure from the Visitor Center and match the important years to what happened in the Vanderbilt family.

* Cornelius is born	1940
* Cornelius buys ferry service with \$100	1938
* William first born of 13 children to Cornelius and Sophia	1877
* Cornelius enlarges shipping and starts railroad	1926
* Frederick born	1856
* Cornelius dies; William inherits \$1M	1885
* William dies, estate of \$195M left to his children	1830-40s
* Frederick and Louise purchase the Hyde Park site	1895
* Louise dies	1810
* Frederick dies, leaving estate to niece	1821
* Estate donated to NPS	1794

To the right is Cornelius "Commodore" Vanderbilt. Below is Louise Vanderbilt, and to the right of her is Fredrick Vanderbilt.





# Crossword Puzzle

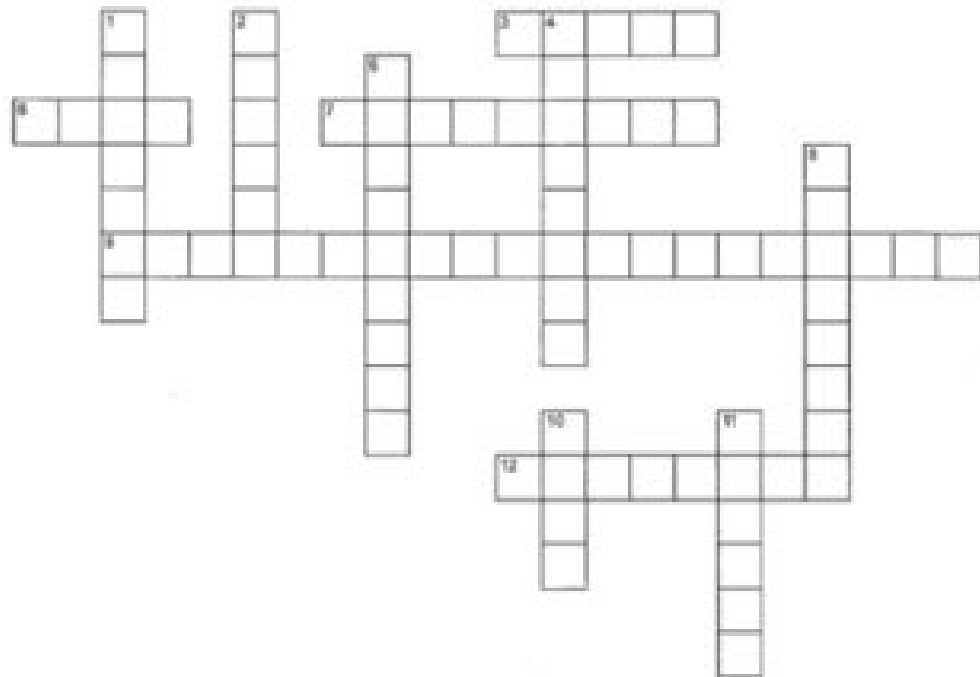


## Across

- 3- When driving into the Vanderbilt Estate, you cross the \_\_\_\_\_ Bridge.
- 6- Vanderbilt Mansion is a National Historic \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7- Cornelius Vanderbilt's nickname, \_\_\_\_\_ means the officer in charge of a Navy convoy or the president of a yacht club.
- 9- The current name of the train station on 42nd street in New York City that Cornelius Vanderbilt built. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12- The current Visitor Center is located in the building called the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down

- 1- The gardener lived in the Gardiner's \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2- The name of the river you can see from Vanderbilt Mansion. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4- Vanderbilt Mansion is in what town? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5- Another famous family lives in the same town, what is their last name? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8- The number of children Cornelius and Sophia Vanderbilt had? \_\_\_\_\_
- 10- The estate's landscape was first designed by Dr. Samuel \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11- This estate is an example of \_\_\_\_\_ Age architecture, which flourished in the 1890's.



# Formal Gardens



Stroll through the Formal Gardens and take notice of the plants, landscaping, and other surroundings. Complete this section as you journey around the gardens.

1. Draw your favorite flower (if there are no flowers at the time of year you are visiting, draw your favorite thing you saw.



2. Did you see any insects or animals in the reflecting pool? What did you see, or what could you image living here? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What type of flowers are grown in the lowest level of the gardens? \_\_\_\_\_
4. If you had to pick one spot to take a photo in the garden, where would it be? \_\_\_\_\_

These gardens have many benches. When you are finished exploring, sit on one of the benches and answer these questions about your senses.

- A. Close your eyes. What do you here? \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Do you feel anything on your skin? Wind, sun, rain? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Can you smell the flowers or trees? Anything else? \_\_\_\_\_
- D. What colors do you see when you look around? \_\_\_\_\_



# The Making of the Mansion



Choose the correct answer to each multiple choice question.

- What architecture firm designed the mansion?  
a) McKim, Mead & White    b) Perry, Sheehan & Swift    c) McKathy, Head & Black
- What style is the house in?  
a) Modern    b) Tudor    c) Neoclassical Beaux-Arts
- Where did the marble in main foyer of the house come from?  
a) United States    b) Italy    c) Greece
- How long did construction of the Pavilion take?  
a) 66 days    b) 6 months    c) 6 years
- What was the total cost of construction and furnishing the house?  
a) \$1,000,000    b) \$2,250,000    c) \$5,000,000
- Where did they stay on the estate when the mansion was being built?  
a) Pavilion    b) Power House    c) Gardener's Cottage
- Once the house was built who stayed in the Pavilion?  
a) Sick people    b) married couples    c) single men
- How many rooms are there in the main house?  
a) 67    b) 54    c) 100



# Gilded Age to Now



Match the item from the Gilded Age with the item you would use now for the same use.





# House Hunt Bingo



Once you find these objects, put a check mark in the small boxes. Be sure to answer the questions about some of them, too!

Find 2 small cannons on the 1st floor. Where are they located?	Find a clock with ladies holding it up. How many ladies are there?	Find a "Secret" door between two bedrooms. Which two rooms?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How many bedrooms can you see on the second floor?	How many steps are on the main staircase?	Count the number of windows on the side of the house you enter from. How many are there?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How many fireplaces are in the dining room?	What two rooms does the dumbwaiter connect to?	Find the display of toys given to local children. Which is your favorite?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Servants



Answer the questions below during or after taking the house tour.

1. Approximately how many servants were at the house when the family was here?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What servants travelled with the family to all their homes?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Write the number of how many servants were seasonal. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Now write how many servants stayed at the house while the family traveled.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How long were the breaks for house servants when they were working in the house?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the Head Housekeeper in charge of? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Approximately, what time did cleaning have to be done by? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What job would you want and why? \_\_\_\_\_



The stairs you use to go down on the house tour are the servant's stairs. Can you find the elevator and dumb waiter when you go down them?