

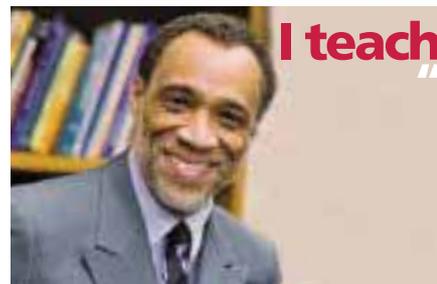
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Prez Day GUIDE

Where to shop, holiday events and NYC's presidential history



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FOUNDED BY AUDREY COHEN IN 1964

In Manhattan and the Bronx

New York's ties to former chiefs

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BY IVAN PEREIRA
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It's been nearly 70 years since a native or even adopted Empire State politician occupied the White House, but experts say that doesn't undermine New York's presidential importance.

Since the dawn of U.S. history, the state and city have been gold mines politically and financially for presidential seekers, according to Christina Greer, an assistant professor of political science at Fordham University.

"I think it's not only the geographic location, but also the concentration of wealth that's here. It makes sense when you're fundraising that you can pick up a lot of money," she said.

Four American presidents were born in New York state: Martin Van Buren, Millard Fillmore, Teddy Roosevelt (the only New York City native) and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Teddy Roosevelt's knowledge of the city and his urban attitude helped him build his reputation as the city's police commissioner and later as New York's governor.

"People saw the diversity and growth of the city and he was one of the first to usher that new, urban movement," said Valerie Paley, a historian with the New-York Historical Society.

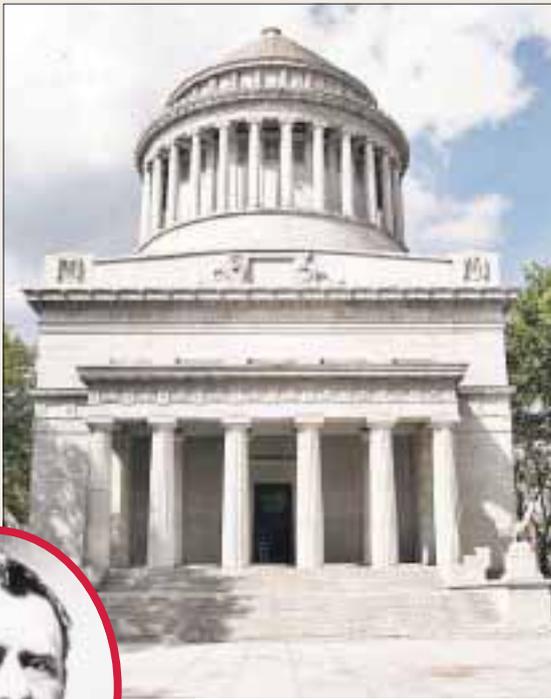
Presidents Chester A. Arthur and Grover Cleveland weren't born in New York, but they made a name for themselves serving the state. Arthur practiced law in the city and served as the Collector of the Port of New York. Cleveland became mayor of Buffalo and governor of the state.

Greer said the political appeal of New York comes from its progressive policies, which have paved the way for change across the nation.

She said everyone from Robert F. Kennedy to Hillary Clinton has been drawn to New York by the promise of making leaps in their careers while raising huge amounts of campaign cash.

"The running joke is you get educated in Boston, make money in New York and change policy in D.C.," she said.

TAKE A TOUR OF PRESIDENTIAL NEW YORK CITY



President Ulysses S. Grant is buried with his wife in the largest mausoleum in North America, at the intersection of Riverside Drive and West 122nd Street.

(SAM HORINE)



BY ANNA SANDERS
Special to amNewYork

As the nation's one-time capital, New York's ties to the country's highest office stretch back to the beginning of the union, even serving as the city where President George Washington was sworn in.

Here are some of New York's major presidential spots:

General Grant National Memorial

President Ulysses S. Grant is entombed with his wife Julia in the largest mausoleum in North America. Intersection of Riverside Drive and West 122nd Street. Thursday through Monday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (with the mausoleum open various hours), 212-666-1640, <http://www.nps.gov/gegr>

The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art

Abraham Lincoln gave a famous address at Cooper Union's Great Hall in 1860. Presidents Grant, Grover

Cleveland, William Howard Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama have also spoken there. 30 Cooper Sq., at East 7th Street and Third Avenue

Chester A. Arthur Home

After the assassination of President James Garfield in 1881, then-Vice President Chester A. Arthur was sworn in as president in his childhood home. 123 Lexington Ave., at E. 28th St.



The Waldorf Astoria

No sitting president has stayed in any other New York City hotel since the Waldorf Astoria opened in 1931, according to the Daily News. President Herbert Hoover even moved into the hotel permanently after his wife's death in 1944. 301 Park Ave., between E. 49th and E. 50th sts.

Federal Hall

New York was still the capital when the Constitution was ratified in 1788 and, until the original structure was torn down and rebuilt in the 1800s, Federal Hall housed some of the nation's most important events, including President Washington's inauguration and the First Congress composing the Bill of Rights. 26 Wall St., at Nassau Street, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 212-825-6990, www.nps.gov/feha.

Theodore Roosevelt's Birthplace

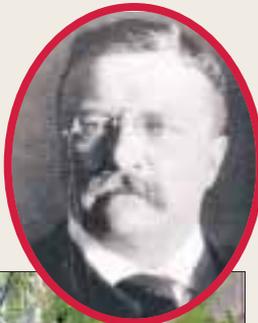
Though the original structure was demolished, the national historic site features re-creations of the home of the only New York City-born president. 28 E. 20th St., between Broadway and Park Avenue South, Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (with guided tours starting at 10 a.m.), 212-260-1616, www.nps.gov/thrb.

Morris-Jumel Mansion

During the Revolutionary War, in the fall of 1776, then-Gen. Washington used this mansion as a military headquarters. 65 Jumel Terrace at W. 160th Street Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$5, 212-923-8008, www.morrisjumel.org.

Union Square Park

The funeral processions of both presidents Andrew Jackson and Lincoln passed through the area. The park also has statues of Lincoln and Washington. Between Broadway and Fourth Avenue from East 14th Street to East 17th Street



President Teddy Roosevelt grew up on 28 E. 20th St., between Broadway and Park Avenue South. (N.P.S.)

Open, closed in NYC today

The following changes will affect the city today in observance of Presidents Day:

- All government offices, courts, post offices and the DMV will be closed.



- No regular mail delivery.

- Alternate side parking regulations will be suspended.

- No trash or recycling pickup, and no street cleaning.

- Schools will be closed for Midwinter Recess today and tomorrow.

- Subways, buses and Metro-North will operate on a Saturday schedule, and the Staten Island Ferry and the LIRR will operate on a holiday schedule. (AMNY)



Editor's note

amNewYork's horoscopes and puzzles (crossword, Sudoku, Ken Ken) will return tomorrow.