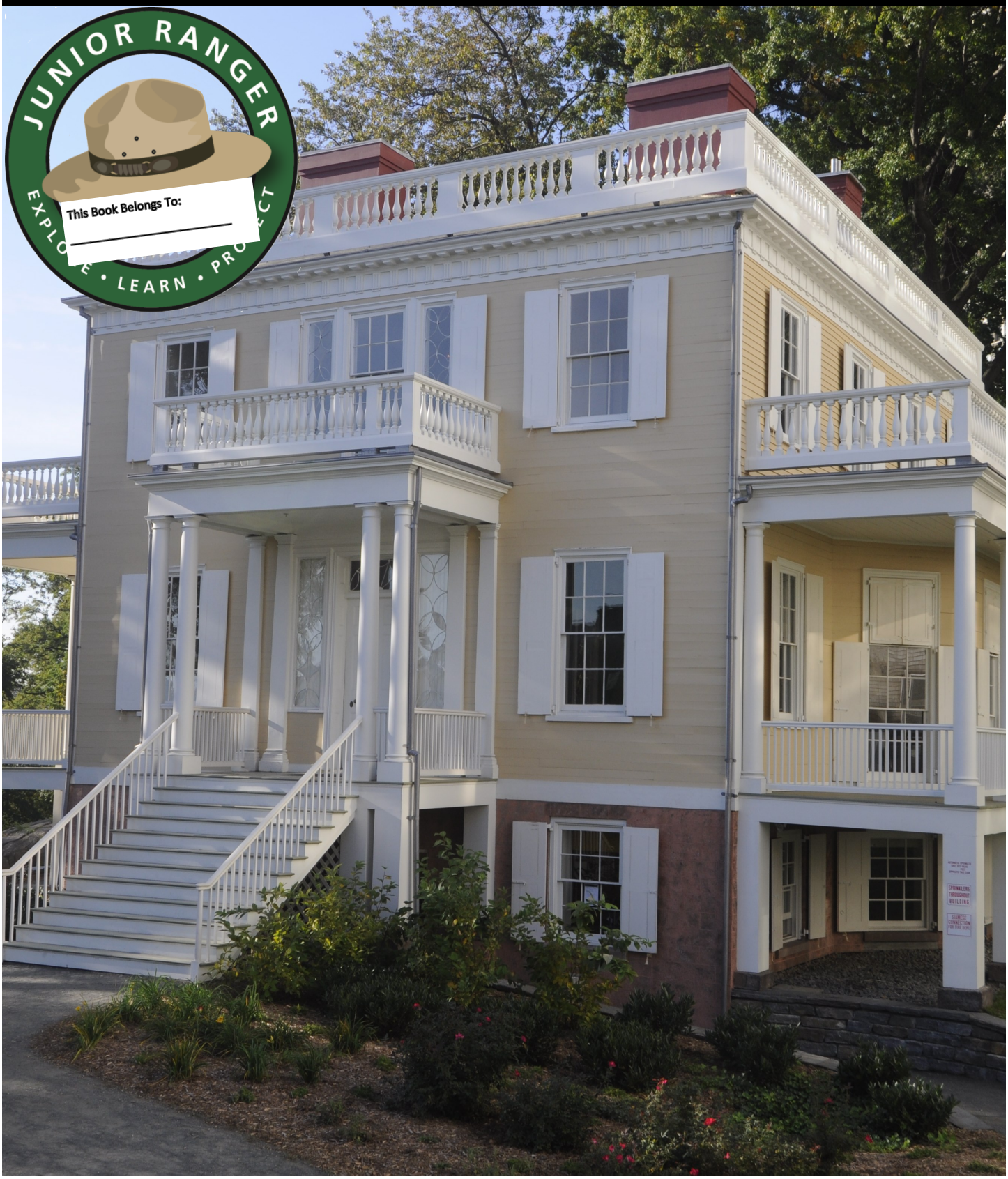
Hamilton Grange National Memorial

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

New York, NY
www.nps.gov/hagr



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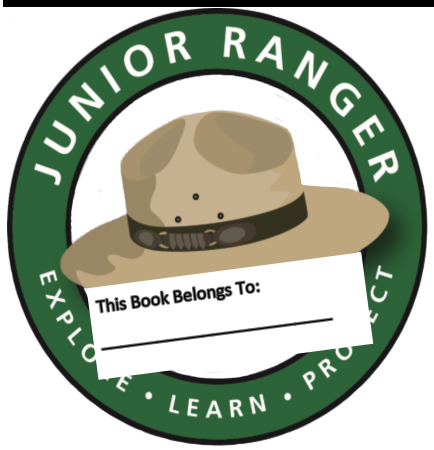

Welcome to Hamilton Grange National Memorial

This booklet is your guide to becoming a Virtual Junior Park Ranger at Hamilton Grange National Memorial.

To earn your badge:

1. Download and print this booklet.
2. Explore the grounds and gardens around Hamilton Grange National Memorial.
3. Children ages 4-7 must complete at least 2 activities and ages 8+ must complete all the activities.
4. Parents are welcome to assist but we encourage children to complete the booklet on their own.
5. Scan and e-mail your completed booklet to HAGR_info@nps.gov for a Park Ranger to sign your certificate and to mail you a Junior Ranger Badge.

Let the fun begin!

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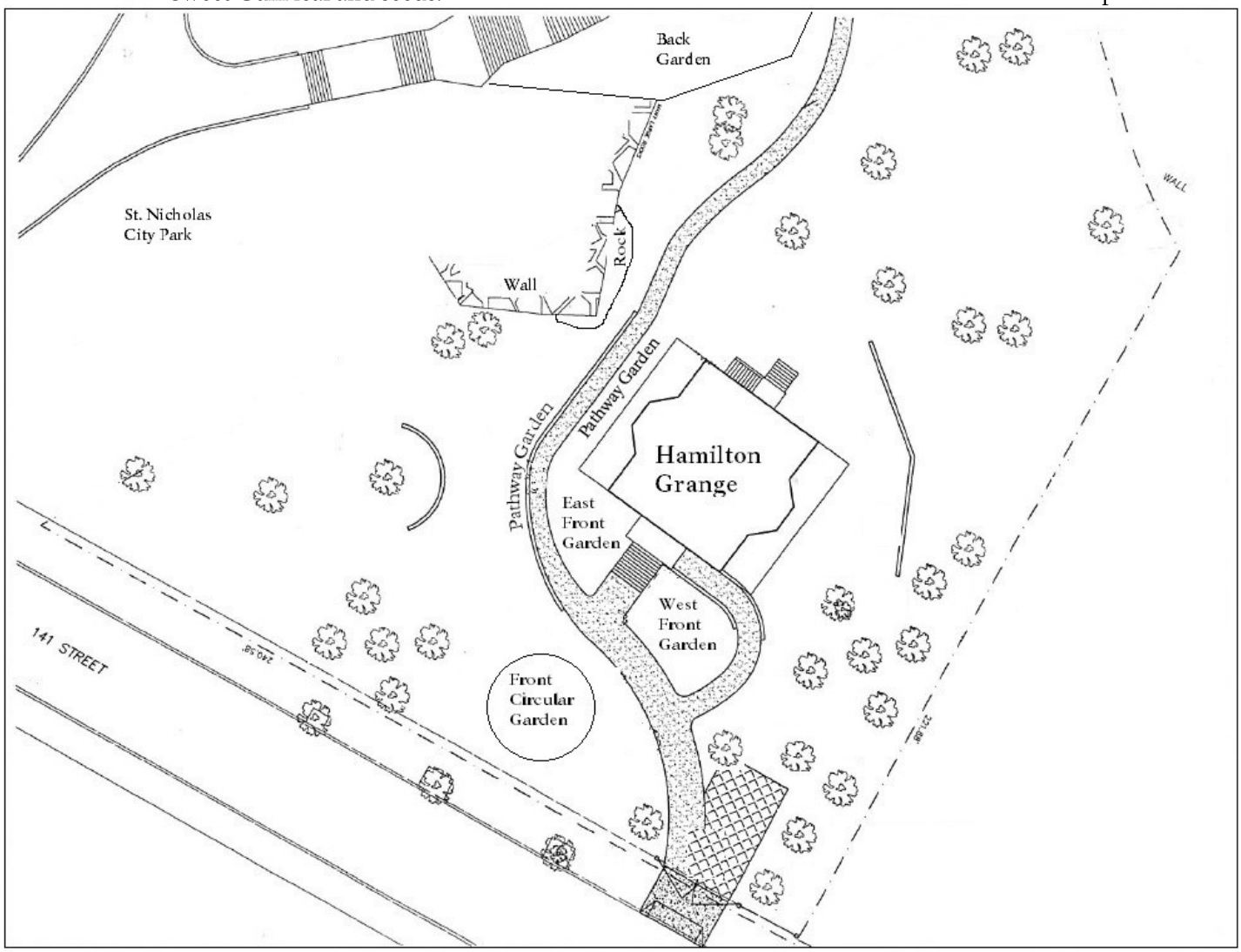
Alexander Hamilton had many trees that surrounded his home, the Grange. But did you know that he planted 13 Sweet Gum trees to represent the original 13 states? It is believed that he picked the Sweet Gum tree because its leaves have five points and looks like a star. Can you find all 13 Sweet gum trees around the Grange? Walk around the grounds and look for Sweet Gum trees based on their leaves and seeds and circle the trees on the map below that are Sweet gum trees. See examples of their leaves and seeds below. **Hint: 5 Sweet Gum trees were planted in April 2021 so they are the smallest on the property.**

Sweet Gum leaf and seeds.

Sweet gum tree leaves have five skinny points and look like stars, shown on the left. Sweet gum tree seeds can be brown or green and have small spikes coming off of them. Don't confuse sweetgum tree leaves with maples tree leaves that have wider points, shown on the right.

Maple leaf



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View the garden exhibits below to learn about Hamilton's vision for the gardens that would have surrounded the Grange. **On the next page,** draw your own vision of what the gardens and landscaping would look like if you were the landscaper.

Hamilton's Eden

In front of the Grange, Hamilton requested in his own words:

2. The Gardener, after making these out and making a beginning by way of example, will apply himself to planting of Raspberries in the orchard. He will go to Mr. Delafield for a supply of the English sort and if not sufficient will add from our own and some to be got from our neighbors.

3. If it can be done in time I should be glad if space could be prepared in the center of the flower garden for planting a few tulips, lilies, hyacinths and [missing]. The space should be a circle of which the diameter is eighteen feet; and there should be nine of each sort of flowers; but the gardener will do well to consult to the season.

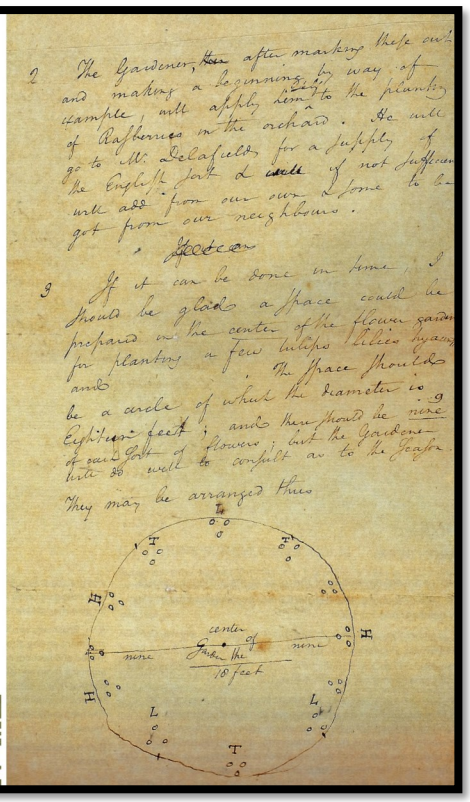
They may be arranged thus: Wild roses around the outside of the flower garden with laurel at foot.

If practicable in time I should be glad some laurel should be planted along the edge of the shrubbery and round the clump of trees near the house; also sweet briars and [illegible].

A few dogwood trees not large, scattered along the margin of the grove would be very pleasant, but the fruit trees there must be first removed and advanced in front.

These labours, however, must not interfere with the hot bed.

This circular garden has been replicated in front of the Grange and there are plants that bloom at different times throughout the year. For more information and pictures on what is in bloom please visit: **www.nps.gov/hagr/learn/historyculture/collections.htm**



One of the many impressive features of the Grange would have been the extensive gardens that surrounded it. Hamilton's gardens would have had many exotic plants that he had received from his close friend, Dr. Hosack, founder of the Elgin Botanic Garden, the first public botanical garden in the United States. The images below are renderings of what the gardens in front of the Grange might have looked like according to Hamilton's description.

Currently, many of the trees and plants that Hamilton had planted around the Grange have been included on the grounds and they bloom at different times throughout the year. For more information and pictures on what is in bloom please visit: **www.nps.gov/hagr/learn/historyculture/collections.htm**

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View both of the garden exhibits located at to learn about Hamilton's vision for the gardens that would have surrounded the only home he ever owned, the Grange. Then draw your own vision of what the gardens and landscaping would look like if you were the landscaper. Remember that Hamilton had gardens, trees, and bushes all around his home. What types of flowers, trees, and bushes would you want planted around the Grange? What shape would you want the gardens to be in the form of?

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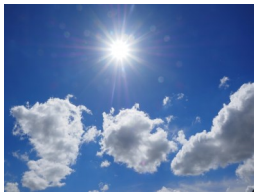
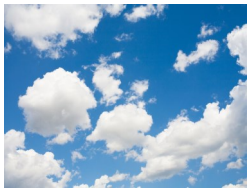
Look around the grounds and gardens at Hamilton Grange and place an "X" in each box below when you see that part of the urban environment until you get five in a row for BINGO!

B I N G O

SWEET GUM LEAF	ROSES	SQUIRREL	SPARROW	GRASS
ROCK	ACORN	FLOWER	ANIMAL TRACK	CARDINAL
 SUN	LADY BUG	FREE SPACE	ANT	STICK
FENCE	PINE CONE	BLUE JAY	MAPLE LEAF	 CLOUDS
SWEET GUM SEED	STUMP	CLOVERS	BUTTERFLY	DOG

Certificate of Completion

This certifies that

_____

Name

has completed all requirements to become a Hamilton Grange National Memorial Junior Ranger.

_____ _____

Park Ranger Date

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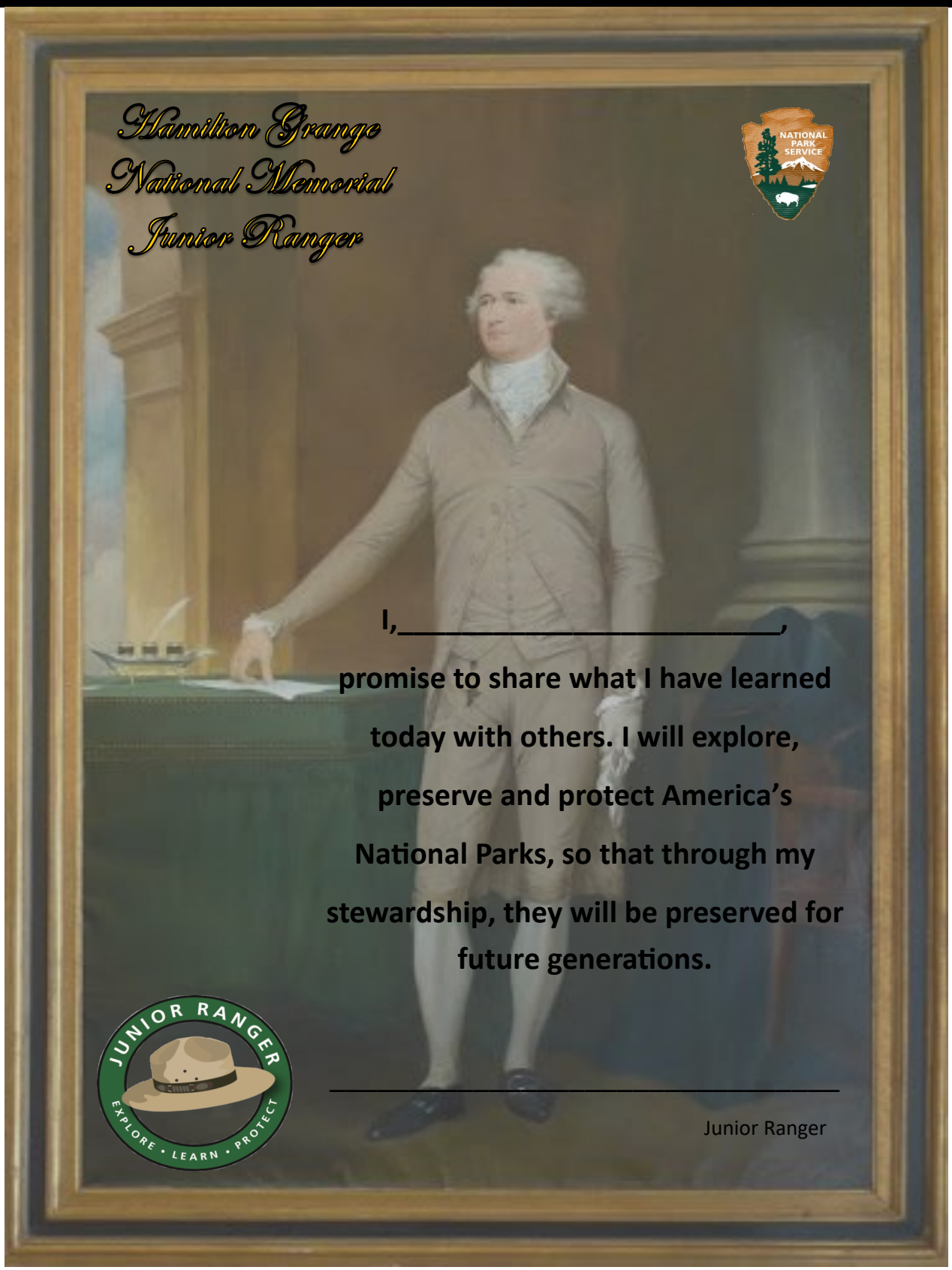

Hamilton Grange National Memorial Junior Ranger

I,_____,

promise to share what I have learned today with others. I will explore, preserve and protect America's National Parks, so that through my stewardship, they will be preserved for future generations.

_____

Junior Ranger