

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Immigration Highlights of The Battery

As you move through the park, stop by the sites marked by blue numbers in the map below, and read about each of them on the next page to learn more about the history of immigration in this country. Please remember to follow all social distancing guidelines while at The Battery. We hope you enjoy your visit!



**THE BATTERY**

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Email [education@thebattery.org](mailto:education@thebattery.org) with questions or for list of image sources.

## 1 Labyrinth Garden

Archaeological records suggest that the first humans to come to this part of the world arrived after the last ice age, around 10,000 years ago.

Multiple native tribes lived in the surrounding area for thousands of years, and the Lenape tribe was the first nation to live on this island, calling it Manahatta. The Labyrinth Garden in The Battery contains native plants that evolved in this area, including the Pin Oak pictured above, which the Lenape nation used to make flour from the acorns and canoes from the trunks.



## 2 Fort George Memorial Tablet

Fort George was built in 1626 as Fort Amsterdam by the Dutch immigrants who settled on this island for the fur trapping potential of the surrounding rivers and forests. If you visit the Peter Minuit Plaza in front of the Staten Island Ferry Terminal, you can see a relief sculpture depicting some of the first Dutch settlements. In the early years of colonization the Lenape and Dutch shared the land, but the settlers soon turned on the native nation and forced them out of the area.



## 3 Castle Clinton National Monument

Castle Clinton was first called Southwest Battery when built in 1807, after the Revolutionary War, as a fort to protect against future invasions from the British. It was never used in battle, and was eventually repurposed into a performance space, an immigration depot, and later New York's first aquarium! While the building served as the immigration depot, immigrants would arrive and enter to register, find jobs and housing, and connect with waiting family members. Between the years of 1855 and 1890, more than 8 million immigrants entered the United States here.



## 4 The Immigrants Statue

Sculptor Luis Sanguino celebrates the diversity of New York City and the struggle of immigrants in this heroic bronze figural group. The sculpture depicts figures of various backgrounds and eras, united in their journey to a new land. The figures' expressive poses emphasize the struggle and toil inherent in the experience of the immigrant or dislocated person. As you observe the statue, consider how each figure represents an immigrant experience. What other immigration narratives can you imagine, beyond those depicted in the statue?



## 5 Emma Lazarus Memorial Plaque

This tribute to the poet Emma Lazarus features the text of her sonnet, "The New Colossus," which was written to raise funds to construct the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty. The poem is also inscribed on that pedestal. Near Liberty Island is Ellis Island, which housed a federal immigration station between the years of 1890 and 1924. Today Ellis Island houses the National Museum of Immigration and is officially part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Both islands are visible from The Battery on clear days.



## 6 Marine Flagpole

The American flag at the top of the Marine Flagpole displays 50 stars representing the 50 states of the United States, and 13 stripes representing this nation's 13 original states. Built on centuries of immigration, the United States remains a destination for immigrants and refugees to this day. In 2017, more than 44 million people living in the U.S. were born in a foreign country, with nearly every country in the world represented in the American immigrant population.

