

GRAND HOTEL

The **Grand Hotel** is one of 12 large, historic, wood frame hotels (200 rooms or more) left standing that were originally built by transportation companies to create grand destinations. However, it is the last one privately owned by a family. In honor of the Grand Hotel's 125th Anniversary, Girl Scout's (MIHS) has developed a badge for the Honor Scouts to earn. Not included are some of the things we are expected to know such as when was construction started/completed, how long did it take to build the hotel, who were the 3 transportation companies that came together to build the Grand, what is the porch made of, how long is it and why is it painted the way it is, when it became a national historic landmark, what 2 movies were filmed at the Grand Hotel/what years/and who starred in them, how many men to build the Grand, who were the architects of the Grand Hotel, who was contracted to build the hotel, who was the first manager/part owner and what was the name the Grand Hotel opened under.

Requirements: To earn an Interest Project Patch, complete at least seven (7) activities: **Skill Builders #1 And 1 Other Of Your Choice, 1 Technology, 1 Career, 1 Service, and 2 Additional Activities from any category.** Your finished project must be complete and should reflect your best work. It will be returned to you if these standards are not met and you will be asked to revise and resubmit your badge work for consideration. (please staple your completed work to this form.)

SKILL BUILDERS:	ACTIVITY #1 COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____
	ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____
	ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____

1. History:

- From our trivia we know 3 companies got together to build the Grand Hotel. What was the new company formed by these original transportation companies?
- What circumstances in our nation's history prompted the decision to build a destination such as the Grand Hotel?
- Just for practice, what are the answers to the questions listed in the introduction?
- Who was the single, largest investor after purchasing the Michigan Central Railroad? Faced with the daunting task of building such a large building in such a short time, how did the hired work force attempt to extort money from the investors and how was the issue resolved?
- Who was hired to build the Grand Hotel, why did he get the job?
- How much did the Grand Hotel cost to build? Given this cost, is the story the carriage drivers love to tell true about the million dollar bonus the builder was to receive if the project came in on time (and thus the workers slowed down to go past that 90 day deadline because they thought the builder would not share this bonus)? Name 3 facts about the construction of the Hotel.
- What was the original name of the Grand Hotel and why? Why was it changed?
- Tourists traveled to Mackinac City by train. What was the record number of trains per day recorded in the years around the opening of the Grand Hotel?
- Find a photo of a passenger vessel docked at Mackinac Island. How were the boats/ships that brought guests different from the ferries today?
- How long was the season when the Grand Hotel opened compared to today?
- What can you say about the advertising of the Grand Hotel in the late 1800's?
- Create a timeline of management for the Grand Hotel.

2. Design:

- a. How many rooms are available for guests to stay in?
- b. Which ones are decorated alike?
- c. Who decorated the rooms? What did he want to do to each room?
- d. What colors dominated prior to re-decorating?
- e. Until recently, what color was banned and why was the ban lifted?
- f. What is the "Dorothy Draper" motto for decorating?
- g. How many colors are made exclusively for the Grand Hotel?
- h. How many named suites are there (list all except for the first ladies)?
- i. How many suites are named after First Ladies (list them)?
- j. How many en-suite bathrooms were originally designed into the hotel? When did all rooms receive private bathrooms?
- k. How many columns in the front of the Grand Hotel today?
- l. Find the artist's rendering of the Grand Hotel in 1887 (as advertising for the Planter's Hotel Company) which makes the hotel *appear* much longer with many more columns. Describe the difference in the rendering vs. the actual hotel in the late 1800's. (In 2012 this picture was located on the lower level near the desk when you walk in at the east end of the corridor.)
- m. Notice the construction in the lobby area. Are all the moldings perfectly aligned? Why?
- n. Are pets allowed at the Grand Hotel? Why?
- o. How many major expansions has the Grand Hotel experienced?
- p. Having the first elevator in a 200 mile radius, what are two other names the elevator was known as?
- q. Why does the Grand Hotel have one of the best dance floors?
- r. What is the current square footage of the Grand Hotel?
- s. In what architectural style is the Grand Hotel classified?
- t. The trophy lounge off the parlor was done to showcase whom for winning what trophy in 2010?

3. Employees and Expenses:

- a. Under what turn of the century manager did the Grand Hotel first gain popularity? Why? What was his nickname? Where is he buried?
- b. In what field does the Grand Hotel employ more people than any other resort on the Great Lakes? Why?
- c. Who currently owns the Grand Hotel? How long has it been associated with this family?
- d. Approximately how many are on staff during the summer season?
- e. What do the numbers on the employee nametags mean?
- f. Room rates currently range from _____ to _____? What were the room rates when the Grand Hotel first opened?
- g. Is tipping allowed?
- h. 60-70% of the Grand Hotel's business is made up of what type of reservation?
- i. Who is the current historian? What does the historian do?
- j. Which manager in what years threatened to tear down the hotel and why? How was this prevented?
- k. Where is the winter office for the Grand Hotel located?

4. Food and Activities:

- a. About how many meals does the Grand Hotel prepare daily?
- b. What is the Grand Hotel's signature dessert? What year did it make its debut? About how many are sold each season at what price?
- c. Does the Grand Hotel offer room service?
- d. What is the attire for breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the Salle a Manger (main dining room)?
- e. How many restaurants does the Grand Hotel manage? List them.
- f. What fan club meets at the Grand Hotel every year?
- g. What breed and about how many horses are in the Grand Hotel stable during the summer season? How many carriages/sleighs?
- h. What early games were played at the Grand Hotel?
- i. How did the Grand Hotel compete with the horse racing established on the island in 1896?
- j. Write a 1 page report on activities during prohibition (include what you find out about roulette wheels, nickel slots, raids).
- k. How many outside activities are there for guests to enjoy? (List them)
- l. How many golf courses are under the management of the Grand Hotel (name them and where they are located)?
- m. Who is the pool named after? Why?
- n. Explain your favorite activity to do at the Grand Hotel and give a short explanation to why you like it so much. If you visit the Cupola after lunch with your patrol, notice the historic pictures of the early years at the Grand along the way. What do you find most interesting about the photos?
- o. At the turn of the century, premium beef designated for the Grand Hotel was marked with a special brand. Where did this beef come from and how was it shipped?
- p. What is a Grand Picnic?
- q. What was the "flirtation walk" of the late 1800's early 1900's?

TECHNOLOGY: ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____
ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____

1. Create a commercial or flyer for the Grand Hotel.
2. What upgrades have been made for customer convenience since the Grand Hotel was built?

CAREERS: ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____
ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____

1. Write about the career of W. Stewart Woodfill and include how he is connected to the Grand Hotel today. Arrange to interview Mr. Tagatz or an approved staff member (Mr. Tagatz or Grand Hotel Human Resources will arrange, call 4-6 weeks prior to our arrival on the Island, and have 6-10 questions to review and an MIHS adult must accompany you).
2. Write a job posting for the Grand Hotel's kitchen manager, personnel director, stable manager, or, head of grounds keeping. Create an organization chart for the Grand Hotel employees.

SERVICE:	ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____
	ACTIVITY COMPLETED: _____	DATE/ADVISOR: _____

1. Attend a historical presentation offered by Mr. Tagatz and offer to do a presentation to MIHS at one of our trainings about what you learned.
2. Volunteer in one of the garden areas, or organize the porch, or volunteer for any other opportunity Mr. Tagatz may have available that is Girl Scout Service appropriate. (Arrange with Mr. Tagatz 4-6 weeks prior to our arrival on the Island). Do not forget to arrange the time with the Troop Advisors and explain to them your intended service activity as they must also approve it. This activity cannot interfere with your guide or barracks duty and an MIHS adult must accompany you.

References:

McCabe, John: "Grand Hotel: Mackinac Island"

"Grand Hotel 125th Anniversary"

Video (available from Mrs. Ashley MIHS Troop #7901)

Google

www.grandhotel.com

attending a history lecture given by Mr. Tagatz

The Girl Scouts of Michigan Honor Guard Troop 7901 would like to thank Mr. Musser for his permission to undertake this project, use of copy-righted images to create the badge and access to the Grand Hotel historian for information and confirmation of the facts. Without Mr. Tagatz, his wealth of knowledge, and spirited lectures which inspired us to create this homage to the Grand Hotel in its 125th year, this badge would not have been possible. Thank You!