

EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY

Eastern State Penitentiary Badge Packet

Thanks for participating in Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site's Virtual Scout Day! We hope that you had as much fun as we did. In order to satisfy the requirements for your badge, you must complete this packet and submit it by June 21st.

Remember there are no right or wrong answers to the following questions, but please provide complete responses of 2-3 sentences to every prompt. For the drawing assignment you may attach the picture to the email or include it in the Badge Packet document.

Instructions:

Fill in this packet and email it to scouts@easternstate.org or mail it to:

Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site
2027 Fairmount Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19130
Attention: Virtual Scouts Day.

Please copy an adult or Scout leader on your email. An Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site merit badge counselor will review your answers and contact you via email with any questions or comments and to approve your virtual blue card.

Please submit responses within 2 weeks of the virtual event and allow 1-2 weeks for a response from Eastern State Penitentiary staff.

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Session 1:

Eastern State was an architectural achievement that had a major impact on society. Answer the following:

1. Why is the architecture of Eastern State significant? Where can we see it's influence today?
2. How did Eastern State's architecture affect the lives of the people who lived and worked there?
3. How do you think Eastern State's presence in the neighborhood impacted the surrounding community?

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Session 2:

Eastern State was a very controversial building because it was designed for solitary confinement. Prison architecture continues to raise ethical and moral concerns. Answer the following:

1. Prison officials argue that solitary confinement is necessary to protect staff, prisoners, and the public. Others believe that solitary confinement should be strictly limited or abolished completely because they view it as a violation of rights. **How should prisons today use solitary confinement?**
2. What do you think are the most important factors for an architect to consider when designing a prison?
3. According to activist Raphael Sperry the architectural code of ethics should read architects should, “not design spaces intended for execution, or for torture or other cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment or punishment, including prolonged solitary confinement.” **What would you want to see in a code of ethics for architects?**

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Session 3:

Architects, engineers, and conservators work together to save old buildings like Eastern State and create more environmentally friendly architecture. Answer the following:

1. What factors did the builders consider when selecting the materials used in the construction of Eastern State?
2. What are some reasons to preserve or save a building from demolition?
3. What are some examples of sustainable (environmentally friendly) architecture?

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Session 4:

Becoming an architect, engineer, or conservator is a lot of hard work but are highly rewarding careers. Reflect on what you heard during the career panel:

1. Which profession interested you the most? Why?
2. Name one piece of career advice you found valuable.
3. What will you do with the knowledge you gained from the career panel?

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Drawing to Scale

Get some architecture and engineering practice! Measure and draw a scaled illustration of a space you frequent. (Bedroom, Living Room, etc.) Neatly label your drawing with the following: your name, the date, what room you drew, and the scale of the drawing. (Drawing scale: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch = 1 foot). You can share your sketch by taking a picture and adding it to the document or by sending it in with your badge packet email.