

Discover!

HIGHLIGHTS of the
National Museum of American History

Short on time? This guide will help you find some of the things you will want to see!

Star-Spangled Banner, 1814 2 Center

“I remember seeing my mother down on the floor, placing the stars”

— *Caroline Purdy, daughter of Baltimore flag maker Mary Pickersgill*



Greensboro Lunch Counter, 1960 2 East

“We decided it was really up to us to find some relief for this kind of thing we were suffering. And what started out very personal turned out to be very public.”

— *Franklin Eugene McCain, one of four students who began the Greensboro sit-in*



Ruby Slippers, 1939 2 East, *American Stories*

“There’s no place like home.” — *The Wizard of Oz*



Thomas Jefferson's Desk, 1776

3 Center, *The American Presidency, Roles of the President*

“Politics, as well as Religion, has its superstitions.

These, gaining strength with time, may, one day give imaginary value to this relic” — *Thomas Jefferson,*

in a note he attached to the desk he used to draft the Declaration of Independence

Michelle Obama's Inaugural Gown, 2013

3 Center, *First Ladies at the Smithsonian*

“I’ve tried to give back to this country that has given me so much...

I believe that each of us--no matter what our age or background or

walk of life--each of us has something to contribute to the life of this

nation.” — *Michelle Obama*



George Washington's Uniform, 1789

3 East, *The Price of Freedom*, War of Independence

"He has so much martial dignity in his deportment that you would distinguish him to be a general and a soldier from among ten thousand people."

— Benjamin Rush on George Washington, 1775



Edison's Light Bulb, 1879

1 East, *Lighting a Revolution*

"Aren't you a good deal of a wizard, Mr. Edison?"

— New York Daily Graphic reporter interviewing Thomas Edison, who held over 1,000 patents

John Bull Locomotive, 1831 1 East

"The surprise and gratification experienced from the rapid locomotion of the engines, has been more than equaled in the current season by its wonderful capacity for propelling ponderous loads. It is a power which has almost annihilated time and space." — From the first Annual Report of the Camden and Amboy Railroad, on the benefits of steam-powered locomotives



Julia Child's Kitchen, 2001 1 East, *FOOD*

"In it we receive our friends, we cook and dine, we teach and experiment. It is certainly the most loved and most used room in the house." — Julia Child

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