



Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Removal—Private

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, NEW YORK, NY

The Equestrian Statue of Theodore Roosevelt is a bronze sculpture created in 1939 by James Earle Fraser for the Roosevelt Memorial Association. Fraser was a notable American sculpture in the early 20th century, making numerous iconic works throughout the United States. Examples of his work include “The End of the Trail” created for the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, 1893; the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial in Philadelphia, 1906-1911; the Alexander Hamilton statue in Washington, D.C., 1923. The statue was originally placed at the entrance of the hall of dioramas in the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York, but was later moved outside, in front of the entrance to the museum.

At the turn of the 21st century the statue was embroiled in conflict. Like thousands of other statues nationwide, it was erected at a time when public institutions were very much colonialist in their practices and ideals. The arrangement of the figures in the Theodore Roosevelt statue is a visual representation of that, as Roosevelt sits both above and in front of the two people of color. In the late 2010s AMNH worked to engage with the public about the problems related to the statue and to colonialism in institutions; they mounted an exhibit called “Addressing the Statue,” as well as provided written context on placards surrounding the statue. In June 2020 AMNH announced the statue would be removed.

At the request of AMNH and the New York City Parks Department, the EverGreene conservation team assessed, researched, planned, directed, and oversaw the removal of the statue to storage. EverGreene developed the plan in partnership with Auer’s Moving & Rigging Company (Auer’s), and Nicholson & Galloway, Inc (N&G)...

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/theodore-roosevelt-memorial-removal/>

SERVICES PERFORMED

Art Handling & Salvage

PROJECT DETAILS

Client

American Museum of Natural History

Project Management

Zubatkin Owner Representation LLC

General Contractor

Nicholson & Galloway, Inc

Rigging Company

Auer’s Moving & Rigging Company

