

James Madison's Montpelier

James Madison's Montpelier, located in Orange, Virginia, was the plantation house of the Madison family, including fourth President of the United States, James Madison, and his wife Dolley. The 2,650-acre property is open seven days a week with the mission of engaging the public with the enduring legacy of Madison's most powerful idea: government by the people.



Montpelier was declared a National Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1966. It was included in the Madison-Barbour Rural Historic District in 1991. In 1983, the last private owner of Montpelier, Marion duPont Scott, bequeathed the estate to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) has owned and operated the estate since 1984. In 2000, The Montpelier Foundation formed with the goal of transforming James Madison's historic estate into a dynamic cultural institution. From 2003-2008 the NTHP carried out a major restoration, in part to return the mansion to its original size of 22 rooms as it was during the years when it was occupied by James and Dolley Madison. Extensive interior and exterior work was done during the restoration.

Recently, archeological investigations have revealed new information about African-American life at the plantation. Thanks to a generous gift from philanthropist David Rubenstein, Montpelier is restoring the slave quarters in the South Yard, and finalizing a groundbreaking exhibition on slavery, *The Mere Distinction of Colour*, opening Spring 2017.

History

The Madison family

In 1723, James Madison's grandfather, Ambrose Madison, and his brother-in-law, Thomas Chew, received a patent for 4,675 acres of land in the Piedmont of Virginia. Ambrose, his wife Frances Madison, and their three children moved to the plantation in 1732, naming it Mount Pleasant. (Archaeologists have located this first site near the Madison Family Cemetery.) Ambrose died six months later; according to court records, he was poisoned by three enslaved African Americans. At the time, Ambrose Madison held 29 slaves and close to 4,000 acres. After his death, Frances managed the estate with the help of their son, Colonel James Madison, Sr.

Madison, Sr. expanded the plantation to include building services and blacksmithing in the 1740s, and bought additional slaves to cultivate tobacco and other crops. He married Nelly Conway Madison (1731-1829) and had 12 children.

James Madison, Sr.'s first-born son, also named James, was born on March 16, 1751 at Belle Grove, his mother's family estate in Port Conway, where she had returned for his birth. James Madison spent his early years at Mount Pleasant.

In the early 1760s, Madison, Sr. built a new house half a mile away, which structure forms the heart of the main house at Montpelier today. Built around 1764, it has two stories of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern, and a low, hipped roof with chimney stacks at both ends. His son James Madison later stated that he remembered helping move furniture to the new home. The building of Montpelier represents Phase 1 (1764-1797) of the construction. Upon completion, the Madisons owned one of the largest brick dwellings in Orange County.

Phase 2 (1797-1800) of construction began in 1797, after the son James Madison returned to Montpelier with his new wife Dolley Madison. He was then 39 and she was a young widow with a child. At this time Madison added a thirty-foot extension and a Tuscan portico to the house. Madison's widowed mother, Nelly, still resided in the house following the death of her husband, James, Sr., in 1801.

In the last period of construction, Phase 3 (1809–1812), Madison had a large drawing room added, as well as one-story wings at each end of the house and he directed construction of single-story flat-roofed extensions at either end of the house; these provided space for the separate household of the newlyweds James and Dolley Madison. After his second term as president, in 1817 Madison retired there full-time with his wife Dolley.

James Madison died in 1836 and is buried in the family cemetery at Montpelier. His widow Dolley Madison moved back to Washington, D.C. in 1837 after his death. In 1844 she sold the plantation to Henry W. Moncure. After Dolley Madison died in 1849, she was buried in Washington, DC and later re-interred at Montpelier near her husband James.

After Dolley Madison sold the estate to Henry W. Moncure in 1844, the property was held by a total of six additional owners before the du Ponts bought Montpelier in 1901. The various owners and the dates associated with the site include: Benjamin Thornton (1848–1854), William H. Macfarland (1854–1855), Alfred V. Scott (1855–1857), Thomas J. Carson and Frank Carson (1857–1881), Louis F. Detrick and William L. Bradley (1881–1900) and Charles King Lennig (1900).

The name Montpelier

The origins of the name Montpelier are uncertain, but the first recorded use of the name comes from a 1781 James Madison letter. Madison personally liked the French spelling of the name *Montpellier*. The city of Montpellier, France was a famous resort. Clues from letters and visitor descriptions suggest these origins of the plantation's name.^[8]

Slavery at Montpelier

The work of Montpelier was done primarily by its about 100 enslaved African Americans during James Madison's tenure as owner. Slaves served in a variety of roles: field workers, domestic servants in charge of cleaning, cooking, and care of clothing; and as artisans for the mill, forge, wheelwright, and other carpentry and woodworking. During the time that the Madisons owned the estate, "five, six, and possibly seven generations of African Americans were born into slavery at Montpelier."

The most well-known slave from Montpelier was Paul Jennings, Madison's body servant from 1817-1835. When Jennings went to the White House at age 10, he served at table and did other work. Daniel Webster purchased Jennings and allowed him to work to pay off his freedom, but this was unrelated to the death of James or Dolley Madison. Born in 1799, Jennings was purchased from Dolley Madison and freed in 1845 by the northern senator Daniel Webster after Madison's death. Jennings continued to live in Washington, DC, where he worked and became a property owner.

In 1848 he helped plan the largest slave escape in United States history, as 77 slaves from the Washington, DC area took to *The Pearl*, a schooner, intending to sail up the Chesapeake Bay to a free state.^{[9][10]} They were captured and most were sold to the Deep South. Jennings was noted for his account of Madison, *A Colored Man's Reminiscences of James Madison* (1865), which is considered the first White House memoir.

Archaeological research and documentary analysis has revealed much about the life of Montpelier-born slave, Catherine Taylor (ca. 1820 – after 1889). Catherine married Ralph Taylor, a house slave, and had four children with him. When Dolley Madison moved to Washington, D.C. in the years after James Madison's death, Ralph was chosen to accompany her to serve her in the capital. Dolley kept Catherine at Montpelier for several months after she brought Ralph to D.C., and then brought Catherine to D.C. later.

Dolley Madison transferred (or deeded), most of the enslaved people to her son, John Payne Todd. He stipulated in his will that upon his death, the slaves would be manumitted. However, due to legal and financial complications after Todd's death, the slaves were not manumitted. The Taylors petitioned James C. Maguire, the administrator of the estate, for their freedom. After being officially freed in 1853, they chose to live in Washington, which had a large free black community and opportunities for varied work.

The Montpelier staff continues to research the enslaved community by a variety of methods: studying historical documents such as court records and autobiographies, conducting archaeological excavations, contacting current descendants, and document the contributions and sacrifices of the enslaved community.

The duPont family

After some renovations in the later 19th century (c. 1855 and c. 1880), the house was acquired in 1901 by William and Annie Rogers duPont, of the duPont family. A horse enthusiast, William duPont built barns, stables, and other buildings for equestrian use. The duPonts were among several wealthy families in the Upper South who were influential in the development of Thoroughbred horse racing in the United States. The duPont family also added a Hodgson House to the property. These were known as "America's First Organized Prefabricated House Manufacturer before Aladdin, Sears, and Montgomery Ward," emphasizing that the homes could technically be built in a day. Still located on Montpelier's property, it is now known as the "Bassett House."

William and Annie had a daughter, Marion duPont, and a son William duPont, Jr. Upon William duPont, Sr.'s death in 1928, William duPont, Jr. inherited the family's Bellevue estate in Delaware, whereupon he had the estate's mansion converted into a replica of Montpelier (now preserved as a state park), and Marion inherited the Montpelier estate. Marion preserved much of the core of the Madison home, gardens, and grounds as a legacy for all Americans. After her father's death, Marion made only one change to the house; she remodeled her parents' music room in the latest Art Deco style, using modern and innovative materials such as laminated plywood, chrome, glass block, and plate glass mirrors. A weather vane was installed on the ceiling, which allowed wind direction to direct the hounds for fox hunting. An exact replica of the Art Deco room can be seen in the DuPont Gallery, in the Visitors' Center at Montpelier. Prior to her parents moving into the property, they enlarged the house considerably, adding wings that more than doubled the number of rooms to 55. Her parents also had the brick covered with a stucco exterior for a lighter look.



Hunt Races

In 1934 Marion and her brother William founded the Montpelier Hunt Races, to be held on the grounds. Natural hedges were used as jumps for the steeplechase. The races continue to be held annually, the first Saturday each November.

Marion duPont Scott died in 1983 and bequeathed the property to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, with \$10 million as an endowment to buy and maintain it. Her father's will had stated that if she died childless, the property would go to her brother William duPont, Jr. and his children. As he had died in

1965, his five children legally inherited the property. In 1984 the heirs of Marion duPont Scott, in accordance with her wishes, transferred ownership of Montpelier to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

National Trust property

Since the National Trust for Historic Preservation took ownership in 1984, the organization has worked to restore Montpelier to the Madison era. It has paid tribute to Marion duPont Scott's influence by retaining one of her favorite rooms in the newly renovated and expanded Visitor's Center, along with the annual Montpelier Hunt Races.

In 2000, the National Trust established Montpelier as a co-stewardship property, administered by The Montpelier Foundation.

The Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution provided an Education Center for students and teachers. It sponsors the "We the People" program to promote the understanding of civics for upper elementary and secondary students, along with national and state programs for teachers, such as the National Advanced Content Seminars, which focuses on historical content and teaching methods.^[17]

In conjunction with the James Madison University Field School, Montpelier has been the site of annual, seasonal archeological excavations from April to November. Under a four-year collaborative research grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, four quarters have been excavated related to the lives of enslaved African Americans: including the Stable Quarter (2009), South and Kitchen Yards (2011), Tobacco Barn Quarter (2012), and Field Quarter (2013).^[18] The excavations have revealed early structures in those areas, including possible slave quarters, as well as a variety of artifacts dating to the Madison residency and their slaves. The artifacts are helping researchers form a much broader and deeper picture of the lives of the slaves at Montpelier. "The four residential locations provide a unique opportunity to

compare and contrast the conditions of chattel slavery of the period. Differences and similarities between these locations – particularly architectural styles and household goods such as ceramics, glassware, and clothing items – reflect the relationship of individual households to each other, the community to which they belong, their relationship to the overarching plantation complex, and regional patterns of both market access and cultural traditions.

From 2003–2008 the National Trust carried out a \$25 million restoration to return the mansion to its 1820 state; it is again less than half the size of the expanded residence created by the DuPont family. The National Trust is conducting a search for furnishings either original to the property or of its era.

In 2003, the National Trust formed a partnership with the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, to provide a 200-acre portion of the estate for use as a TRF farm. Montpelier's former president, Michael C. Quinn, stated, "In partnership with the TRF, we are proud that Montpelier will continue to be a showcase for America's race horses."

Restoration



Aerial photo of the front of the mansion at James Madison's Montpelier

A \$25 million restoration project launched in October 2003 was completed on Constitution Day, September 17, 2008. A Restoration Celebration was held with major funding by National Trust Community Investment Corporation. The restoration returned Montpelier to its 1820 appearance: it demolished additions made to the house by the duPont family, removed the stucco exterior to reveal the original brick, restored the original brick exterior, and reconstructed the house's interior as it

appeared during Madison's tenure as owner. Authentic materials were used in the restoration, including horsehair plaster, and paint containing linseed oil and chalk. The Collections staff and archaeologists are working to understand the decorations of each room and recreate room settings as closely as possible to what the Madisons knew.

A wing in the visitors' center has been dedicated to the duPont family. It includes a restored art deco Red Room from the Marion duPont Scott era, moved from the mansion and permanently installed here.



Entrance to the gardens at Montpelier

Restored Montpelier train depot is now a civil rights museum



Today

Montpelier is open to visitors Monday through Sunday except Thanksgiving and Christmas, with the following hours: January – March: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., April – October: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., November – December: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Montpelier includes the a Hands-on-Restoration-Tent open from April–October; Hands-on-Archaeology Lab and Kid-Sized Archaeology open daily; Hands-on-Cooking offered April–October; Civil War and Gilmore Farm Trail open daily; and, the Archaeology Dig open April–October. Visitors can also walk around the James Madison Landmark Forest, a 200-acre stand of old growth forest.

Annual events

Montpelier is the site of many annual events. Three particularly draw large crowds: the Montpelier Hunt Races, Wine Festival, and the Fiber Festival.

The annual Montpelier Hunt Races, an autumn steeplechase event, were started by Marion duPont Scott and her brother William duPont, Jr. in 1934. The races are held the first Saturday in November. Montpelier has one of the few

steeplechase tracks in the country that use traditional hedgerows for jumps. Montpelier hosts seven races at this event. Guests may watch the races directly at the rail for a close experience.

The Montpelier Wine Festival showcases distinctive arts and crafts, specialty food vendors, local agricultural products, and Virginia wine from approximately 25 different wineries in the state.

The Fall Fiber Festival is held each October and is a popular regional event. The event showcases every aspect of textile manufacturing, from the production of wool to the finished product. Events include sheep shearing, craft demos, and a host of other activities. The most popular feature of the Fall Fiber Festival is the Sheep Dog Trials.

Other events include: summer programs for children, such as the "Mud Camp," a barbecue held in the summer with local barbecue cuisine, Archaeology Expeditions, civil war demonstrations, and, in December, a candlelight tour of Montpelier in the evening.^[24]

Montpelier Forest

A 197-acre (0.80 km²) forest on the property known as the **Montpelier Forest** (also known as the Landmark Forest) was designated as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service in 1987. The forest was recognized as being one of the best examples of a mature Piedmont forest dominated by tulip poplar and spicebush; various species of oak and hickory are also common in the forest.^[25] The relatively undisturbed forest contains several trees up to 300 years old. Ideal growing conditions at the site, including fertile soils, allow for the trees to attain great size; tulip poplars attain heights of up to 120 feet by the time they reach 50 years of age, and some trees have been measured to have diameters of up to five feet.

Shadwell



Shadwell is a census-designated place (CDP) in Albemarle County, Virginia, United States, located by the Rivanna River near Charlottesville. The birthplace of Thomas Jefferson, it was named for the Shadwell parish in London by his father, Peter Jefferson, a colonist and planter in central Virginia. Shadwell is the parish where his wife Jane Randolph had been christened.^[1] Peter Jefferson and Jane Randolph had six children, among them Thomas, who would become the third president of the United States. Active in county meetings Peter was appointed Justice of the Peace of Albemarle county, taking his oath in September 1744. The following month he was appointed lieutenant colonel to the Albemarle county militia.

From: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shadwell,_Virginia

Michie Tavern



Corporal William Michie was at Valley Forge when he received an urgent message to return home. Leaving behind the winter encampment, Michie commenced the tedious journey to Virginia only to learn upon his arrival that his ailing father had passed on. The year was 1777 and it was a time for change, rebuilding and reorganizing in young William's life. His father, "Scotch" John, had bequeathed a large parcel of land in Albemarle County. The Blue Ridge Mountains surrounded this region and, because it was so highly populated with deer, the area was dubbed Buck Mountain. The property was fed by a natural spring, and here William began building his Tavern by the side of the Buck Mountain Road.

Tavern Prospers

In 1784 William petitioned to operate an Ordinary. Because of the new government, a license was now required. Under British rule, such was never obtained or deemed necessary. By this time the Tavern was a popular stopping place during "Public Times" or elections at the courthouse nearby.

William was politically active, and a crowded Inn afforded the opportunity to express his views. Earlier in 1779, when local countrymen were weakening in their support of America's cause, William signed the Albemarle Declaration of Independence and most likely persuaded his patrons to follow suit. One can almost imagine the heated political discussions that took place over a tankard of ale or spiced rum.

Townpeople may have considered country inns as the poorer sisters of city taverns, but William's commodious dwelling rivaled the most elaborate accommodations in town. The two-story Inn featured an upstairs Assembly Room. This expansive space served as the social center of the Tavern, as well as for the countryside. It was large enough for dances and church services. Traveling magicians, guest doctors, and dentists would have shared their profits with the innkeeper for the use of this space. Michie Tavern would also serve as a makeshift post office and school.

The Tavern continued operation until the mid-1800s. Around the time of the Civil War, stagecoach travel had diminished and the building became the Michie's private home. In 1910, the Tavern was sold out of the Michie family at an estate auction. For nearly 20 years, the Tavern remained as a home for John Via and his family.

Past Preserved

In 1927 a local businesswoman, Mrs. Mark Henderson, expressed an interest in purchasing Michie Tavern. It was remotely located and rapidly deteriorating, but she felt confident that it was the ideal structure in which to house her vast collection of antiques and open a museum. An astute entrepreneur, Mrs. Henderson had paid special attention to a new and growing industry in our nation. The rise in automobile production and ownership, coupled with the drop in workweek hours and higher wages spurred the development of tourism. In addition, she closely watched the growth of a relatively new movement taking hold in our country and soon found herself a pioneer in these preservation activities. Monticello had been opened for several years and was drawing thousands of visitors. Mrs. Henderson was merely following the precepts of her preservation peers when she decided to move Michie Tavern to a more accessible location. What better site than at the foot of Carter's Mountain, one-half mile from Jefferson's home. Within three months the old Inn had been painstakingly numbered, dismantled and moved 17 miles by horse and wagon and by truck. The move itself became a historic event, and

her efforts would ultimately lead to Michie Tavern's designation as a Virginia historic landmark. Michie Tavern opened as a museum in 1928. As in its heyday, the Tavern was once again located on a busy thoroughfare and welcoming strangers at its door.

From: <http://www.michietavern.com/the-tavern-history/>

Monticello



(Born April 13, 1743, at Shadwell, Virginia; died July 4, 1826, Monticello)
Miniature portrait of Jefferson (1788) by John Trumbull

Thomas Jefferson – author of the Declaration of Independence and the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom, third president of the United States, and founder of the University of Virginia -- voiced the aspirations of a new America as no other individual of his era. As a public official, historian, philosopher, and plantation owner, he served his country for over five decades.

His father Peter Jefferson was a successful planter and surveyor and his mother Jane Randolph a member of one of Virginia's most distinguished families. Having inherited a considerable landed estate from his father, Jefferson began building Monticello when he was twenty-six years old. Three years later, he married Martha Wayles Skelton, with whom he lived happily for ten years until her death. Their marriage produced six children, but only two survived to adulthood. Jefferson, who never remarried, maintained Monticello as his home throughout his life, always expanding and changing the house.

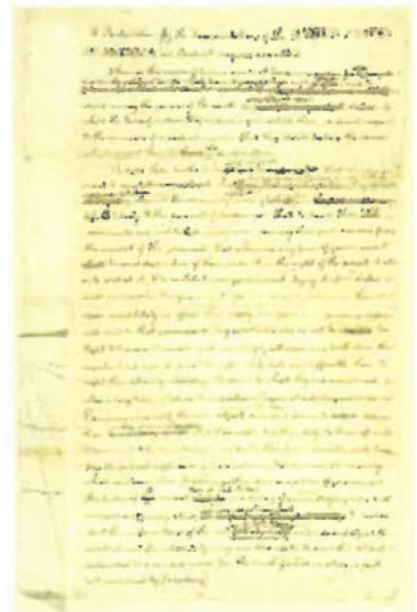
Jefferson inherited slaves from both his father and father-in-law. In a typical year, he owned about 200, almost half of them under the age of sixteen. About eighty of these lived at Monticello; the others lived on adjacent Albemarle County plantations, and on his Poplar Forest estate in Bedford County, Virginia. Jefferson freed two slaves in his lifetime and five in his will and chose not to pursue two others who ran away. All were members of the Hemings family; the seven he eventually freed were skilled tradesmen.

Rough Draft of the Declaration of Independence

Having attended the College of William and Mary, Jefferson practiced law and served in local government as a magistrate, county lieutenant, and member of the House of Burgesses in his early professional life. As a member of the Continental Congress, he was chosen in 1776 to draft the Declaration of Independence, which has been regarded ever since as a charter of American and universal liberties. The document proclaims that all men are equal in rights, regardless of birth, wealth, or status, and that the government is the servant, not the master, of the people.

After Jefferson left Congress in 1776, he returned to Virginia and served in the legislature. Elected governor from 1779 to 1781, he suffered an inquiry into his conduct during his last year in office that, although finally fully repudiated, left him with a life-long prickliness in the face of criticism.

During the brief private interval in his life following his governorship, Jefferson wrote *Notes on the State of Virginia*. In 1784, he entered public service again, in France, first as trade commissioner and then as Benjamin Franklin's successor as minister. During this period, he avidly studied European culture, sending home to Monticello, books, seeds and plants, statues and architectural drawings, scientific instruments, and information.



In 1790 he accepted the post of secretary of state under his friend George Washington. His tenure was marked by his opposition to the pro-British policies of Alexander Hamilton. In 1796, as the presidential candidate of the Democratic Republicans, he became vice-president after losing to John Adams by three electoral votes.

Four years later, he defeated Adams and became president, the first peaceful transfer of authority from one party to another in the history of the young nation. Perhaps the most notable achievements of his first term were the purchase of the Louisiana Territory in 1803 and his support of the Lewis and Clark expedition. His second term, a time when he encountered more difficulties on both the domestic and foreign fronts, is most remembered for his efforts to maintain neutrality in the midst of the conflict between Britain and France; his efforts did not avert war with Britain in 1812.

Jefferson was succeeded as president in 1809 by his friend James Madison, and during the last seventeen years of his life, he remained at Monticello. During this period, he sold his collection of books to the government to form the nucleus of the Library of Congress. Jefferson embarked on his last great public service at the age of seventy-six, with the founding of the University of Virginia. He spearheaded the legislative campaign for its charter, secured its location, designed its buildings, planned its curriculum, and served as the first rector.

Thomas Jefferson by Thomas Sully



Jefferson died on July 4, 1826, just hours before his close friend John Adams, on the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. He was eighty-three years old, the holder of large debts, but according to all evidence a very optimistic man.

It was Jefferson's wish that his tomb stone reflect the things that he had given the people, not the things that the people had given to him. It is for this reason that Thomas Jefferson's epitaph reads:

HERE WAS BURIED
THOMAS JEFFERSON
AUTHOR OF THE
DECLARATION
OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
OF THE
STATUTE OF VIRGINIA
FOR
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
AND FATHER OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BORN APRIL 2, 1743 O.S.
DIED JULY 4. 1826



From: <https://www.monticello.org/site/jefferson/thomas-jefferson-brief-biography>

The House:



Monticello's West Front (Nickel Side)

Monticello is the autobiographical masterpiece of Thomas Jefferson—designed and redesigned and built and rebuilt for more than forty years—and its gardens were a botanic showpiece, a source of food, and an experimental laboratory of ornamental and useful plants from around the world.

Number of rooms: There are a total of forty-three rooms in the entire structure: thirty-three in the house itself (cellar, twelve; first floor, eleven; second floor, six; third floor, four); four in the pavilions; and six under the South Terrace. The stable and carriage bays under the North Terrace are not included in these totals. The first design of Monticello had fourteen rooms total (cellar, six; first floor, five; second floor, three).

Overall dimensions: 110' long, 87'9" wide (to outer faces of porticoes), 44'7" high (to oculus of dome). **Windows:** The first sashes (14 pairs) were probably sent from England, with the windows already glazed; the second sashes were from Philadelphia, with Bohemian glass.

Thickness of exterior walls: Also variable, from 13.5" at the northeast front to 27" in the parlor side walls. Most of the exterior of the house is covered by red brick with limestone mortar.

Square footage of living area: About 11,000 square feet, including the cellars below the house, but not including the pavilions or rooms under the terraces.

Percentage of original window glass shown in the house today: About one-tenth of the window glass is original.

Number of fireplaces: There are eight fireplaces and two openings for stoves on the main floor of the house.

When was the house built? Construction began in 1769 according to Jefferson's first design, which was completed (except for porticoes and decorative interior woodwork) when he left for Europe in 1784. Work on a new design for remodeling and enlarging the house began in 1796 and was complete by 1809.

Where did the building materials come from? The bricks were made at Monticello, as were the nails for the remodeled house. Most of the structural timber came from Jefferson's own land, while most of the window sashes were made in Philadelphia of imported mahogany. The window glass came from Europe. Stone for the cellars and the East Front columns, and limestone for making mortar, were quarried on Jefferson's land.

Who built the house? Local white masons and their apprentices did the stone and brickwork. Local carpenters, assisted by several Monticello slave carpenters, provided the rough structural woodwork. The fine woodwork (floors, cornices, and other moldings) was the work of several skilled white joiners, hired from as far away as Philadelphia. One Monticello slave, John Hemmings, who trained under the white workman James Dinsmore, became a very able joiner and carpenter.

How much did the house cost? No one so far has managed to calculate the cost of Monticello with any degree of accuracy. We do, however, know several dollar figures, which are provided below:

- Jefferson estimated the value of the house and outbuildings for insurance purposes in 1800 at \$6,300.
- In his accounting of building costs for the period of March 4, 1801, to March 4, 1802 (including workmen's salaries, building materials, and other miscellaneous items), Jefferson noted a total of \$2,076.29.² He calculated his building costs for the following 12-month period to be \$3,587.92.

Taking the figure of \$3,587.92, just as an example, and multiplying that by the number of years it took to complete Monticello (28), the total building cost would be \$100,461.76. However, there are many variables unaccounted for in this calculation and thus it likely represents only a fraction of the true cost of constructing Monticello. For example, some of the building materials were purchased, and some were made by hand at Monticello; some materials and labor were not paid for

with cash but were bartered; and the cost of food, clothing, and housing for enslaved workers is not factored into Jefferson's yearly estimates, either. A thorough examination of Jefferson's memorandum books might yield a more accurate estimate than the one above, but that estimate could probably not be considered a definitive figure.

Translating such a figure into today's money adds another layer of complication to this question. There is no easy way to make this calculation, although there are sources that can serve as guides in making the attempt (see Further Sources below).

How was the house heated and illuminated? The house was heated primarily by fireplaces (at the rate of about ten cords of wood per month). From 1795, Jefferson used wood-burning stoves (both open and closed) in certain rooms. In the late 1790s, he altered the dimensions of his fireplaces to apply the fuel-saving principles of Count von Rumford. Candles provided most of the illumination, although Jefferson owned a number of oil-burning lamps as well.

How was Monticello cooled? Cooling Monticello was no easy task in Jefferson's time, although the mountaintop could be a little cooler than the surrounding landscape. Windows and doors could be opened to encourage air flow through the house, and family and visitors could seek relief from the heat on the shaded porticoes. Jefferson also built what he called "Venetian Porches" on either side of the house, which feature wooden blinds.

There are also two references to fans in Jefferson's papers. While in Philadelphia in 1791, he paid 6 dollars "for mainsprings for fan." He also designed a fan for the Dining Room table, although Monticello researchers do not know if it was ever built.

Where were the bathing facilities and privies? There were five privies (toilets) in and adjoining the main house. Two were located at the north and south ends of the "all-weather passageway" that connects the cellars to the kitchen and stable wings. Two inside the house were located off the first- and second-floor south stair passages and a third was connected to Jefferson's bedroom. The three house privies, which Jefferson called "air-closets," were tiny spaces not much larger than what was needed for a seat. The sole source of natural light came from skylights. Each sky-lighted shaft extended below the floor to the sub-cellar level where it joined a single masonry-lined "sink" (tunnel) approximately 2.5 feet wide and 3.75 feet high with a fall (according to Jefferson's specifications) of 3 inches in 10 feet. Visitors today can see the termination of this tunnel in the hillside about 125 feet east of the house. There is no evidence, however, that the waste was flushed through the "sink." Nor has evidence come to light to support the statement found in a 1902 publication claiming, "This cellar is said to have had tunnels from it to convey the sewerage out to pits, by earth cars." The current speculation is that the waste was removed simply by removing chamber pots located under the seat. We do know that venting was by means of a chimney flue at the top of the shafts and we believe that the "sink" functioned as an air tunnel, supplying the shafts with fresh air.

- William L. Beiswanger, Robert H. Smith Director of Restoration

How many of the house furnishings are original? About 60 percent of the furnishings on display at Monticello are or may be items original to Jefferson. Other items are period pieces or reproductions of original pieces. In 1993, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation commemorated the 250th anniversary of Jefferson's birth with a catalog and loan exhibition, "The Worlds of Thomas Jefferson at Monticello." More than 150 objects and works of art once belonging to Jefferson returned to Monticello, and many of those items remain on exhibit.

What happened to the house and furnishings after Jefferson's death? Because Jefferson died more than \$107,000 in debt, his daughter Martha Jefferson Randolph and her son and financial manager, Thomas Jefferson Randolph, found it necessary first to sell nearly all of the contents of Monticello and then to sell the plantation itself. In 1827, the furniture, animals, farm equipment, and slaves were offered at an executor's sale. In 1831, James T. Barclay, a local apothecary, purchased the home and 552 acres for \$4,500, less the value of his own home. Unsuccessful in his attempts to cultivate silk worms there, he offered Monticello for sale barely two years later. In 1834, Uriah P. Levy, a naval officer who admired Jefferson's views on religious tolerance, purchased the house. Levy died in 1862 and bequeathed Monticello to the federal government if certain conditions were met. During the Civil War, the Confederacy seized and sold the property. After the war, the federal government declined the terms of Levy's bequest, and Levy's heirs contested the ownership. Not until years of litigation had passed did Jefferson Monroe Levy, Uriah P. Levy's nephew, take possession in 1879. Both uncle and nephew strove to preserve Monticello as a memorial to Jefferson. In 1923, Jefferson Monroe Levy sold Monticello to the newly created Thomas Jefferson Foundation, which owns Monticello today.

<https://www.monticello.org/site/house-gardens>

Thomas Jefferson and Slavery

Throughout his entire life, Thomas Jefferson was a consistent opponent of slavery. Calling it a “moral depravity” and a “hideous blot,” he believed that slavery presented the greatest threat to the survival of the new American nation.³ Jefferson also thought that slavery was contrary to the laws of nature, which decreed that everyone had a right to personal liberty. These views were radical in a world where unfree labor was the norm.

At the time of the American Revolution, Jefferson was actively involved in legislation that he hoped would result in slavery’s abolition. In 1778, he drafted a Virginia law that prohibited the importation of enslaved Africans. In 1784, he proposed an ordinance that would ban slavery in the Northwest territories. But Jefferson always maintained that the decision to emancipate slaves would have to be part of a democratic process; abolition would be stymied until slave owners consented to free their human property together in a large-scale act of emancipation. To Jefferson, it was anti-democratic and contrary to the principles of the American Revolution for the federal government to enact abolition or for only a few planters to free their slaves.

Although Jefferson continued to advocate for abolition, the reality was that slavery was becoming more entrenched. The slave population in Virginia skyrocketed from 292,627 in 1790 to 469,757 in 1830. Jefferson had assumed that the abolition of the slave trade would weaken slavery and hasten its end. Instead, slavery became more widespread and profitable. In an attempt to erode Virginians’ support for slavery, he discouraged the cultivation of crops heavily dependent on slave labor—specifically tobacco—and encouraged the introduction of crops that needed little or no slave labor—wheat, sugar maples, short-grained rice, olive trees, and wine grapes. But by the 1800s, Virginia’s most valuable commodity and export was neither crops nor land, but slaves.

Jefferson’s belief in the necessity of ending slavery never changed. From the mid-1770s until his death, he advocated the same plan of gradual emancipation. First, the transatlantic slave trade would be abolished.¹⁰ Second, slave owners would “improve” slavery’s most violent features, by bettering (Jefferson used the term “ameliorating”) and moderating physical punishment. Third, all born into slavery after a certain date would be declared free, followed by total abolition. Like others of his day, he supported the removal of newly freed slaves from the United States. The unintended effect of Jefferson’s plan was that his goal of “improving” slavery as a step towards ending it was used as an argument for its perpetuation. Pro-slavery advocates after Jefferson’s death argued that if slavery could be “improved,” abolition was unnecessary.

Jefferson’s belief in the necessity of abolition was intertwined with his racial beliefs. He thought that white Americans and enslaved blacks constituted two “separate nations” who could not live together peacefully in the same country.¹⁴ Jefferson’s belief that blacks were racially inferior and “as incapable as children,” coupled with slaves’ presumed resentment of their former owners, made their removal from the United States an integral part of Jefferson’s emancipation scheme. Influenced by the Haitian Revolution and an aborted rebellion in Virginia in 1800, Jefferson believed that American slaves’ deportation—whether to Africa or the West Indies—was an essential follow-up to emancipation.

Jefferson wrote that maintaining slavery was like holding “a wolf by the ear, and we can neither hold him, nor safely let him go.” He thought that his cherished federal union, the world’s first democratic experiment, would be destroyed by slavery. To emancipate slaves on American soil, Jefferson thought, would result in a large-scale race war that would be as brutal and deadly as the slave revolt in Haiti in 1791. But he also believed that to keep slaves in bondage, with part of America in favor of abolition and part of America in favor of perpetuating slavery, could only result in a civil war that would destroy the union. Jefferson’s latter prediction was correct: in 1861, the contest over slavery sparked a bloody civil war and the creation of two nations—Union and Confederacy—in the place of one.

- Christa Dierksheide, 2008

An Article Courtesy Of The Thomas Jefferson Encyclopedia.

From: <https://www.monticello.org/site/plantation-and-slavery/thomas-jefferson-and-slavery>

Ash Lawn – Highland

A Brief Biography of James Monroe

Born on April 28, 1758—in Westmoreland County, Virginia—James Monroe was the second of five children of Spence and Elizabeth Jones Monroe, “small” planters who raised tobacco on their farm of approximately 500 acres. Initially educated at Parson Campbell’s school in Westmoreland, the future President studied at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, from 1774 until 1776, when he enlisted in the Continental Army’s Third Virginia Infantry Regiment.

As an 18-year-old Lieutenant, Monroe crossed the Delaware River during Gen. George Washington’s December 1776 campaign, and was wounded at the subsequent Battle of Trenton. During the winter of 1777-78, Monroe camped with the army at Valley Forge. The following June he participated in the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey. After leaving the army in January 1779, he continued to serve in the Virginia Militia and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

Monroe returned to Williamsburg and met Governor Thomas Jefferson, with whom he began to study the law in Richmond in the spring of 1780. Monroe and Jefferson became lifelong friends.

In February 1786 Monroe married Elizabeth Kortright of New York City. Soon after, the couple moved to Fredericksburg, Virginia, where Monroe practiced law for three years before moving to Albemarle County, Virginia. (Today, the James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library is located on the property where Monroe’s law office once stood.)



The Monroes had three children—Eliza (born in late 1786), James Spence Monroe (born in May 1799, died in September 1800), and Maria Hester (born in the spring of 1802). For 24 years—from 1799 to 1823—the Monroe family home was Highland, Monroe’s Albemarle County plantation adjacent to Jefferson’s Monticello.

Monroe’s fifty years of public service began in 1782 with his election to the Virginia General Assembly. Subsequently, Monroe served in the Confederation Congress and in the first United States Senate; was twice Minister to France, and later Minister to England and to Spain. He was elected to four one-year terms as Governor of Virginia, became Secretary of State for the remainder of President James Madison’s two terms, and also served as Secretary of War during the War of 1812. Monroe’s greatest achievement as a diplomat was his negotiation of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803.

Elected President of the United States in 1816 and in 1820, James Monroe resolved long-standing grievances with the British, acquired Florida from Spain in 1819, and proclaimed the “Monroe Doctrine” in 1823. Optimistically labeled the “Era of Good Feelings,” Monroe’s administration was hampered by the economic depression brought on by the “Panic of 1819,” and by the debates over the Missouri Compromise that same year. Nonetheless, the Missouri Compromise—along with its admission of two new states—was one of Monroe’s political accomplishments, achieved through behind-the-scenes negotiation and consensus-building. Monroe supported the American Colonization Society which established the west-Africa nation of Liberia for freed blacks. Its capital was named Monrovia in his honor. Monroe himself was torn between his belief that slavery was an evil institution, and his fear of the consequences of immediate abolition.

A nationalist in diplomacy and defense, James Monroe supported a limited executive branch of the federal government, distrusted a strong central government in domestic matters, extolled the advantages of industrious farmers and craftspeople, and advocated republican virtue—the notion that the needs of the public should be paramount over personal greed and party ambition.

A tall, slender man, Monroe distinguished himself throughout his career with his careful deliberation and cautious action. Known as a solid and able leader, Monroe, as President, assembled a particularly strong and talented cabinet. He helped define the young United States in a world dominated by numerous European powers, and contributed in multiple ways to the

nation's successful western expansion. James Monroe achieved distinction as a successful diplomat and administrator, and furthered our country's strong national identity.

James Monroe died in New York City—at the home of his daughter Maria Hester Gouverneur—on July 4, 1831, exactly five years after the simultaneous deaths of Jefferson and John Adams. In 1858 his body was reinterred at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.

From: <http://highland.org/discover-monroe/>

The House:

Decorative Arts – The Monroe home showcases a rich collection of objects original to James and Elizabeth Monroe, as well as period pieces similar to those owned by the Monroes, and some modern reproductions. At James Monroe's Highland you'll discover classically inspired French furnishings imported from Europe during the reign of Napoleon, as well as finely crafted American furniture. The Monroes' mahogany bed and bedchamber furniture, for example, are based on the designs of Duncan Phyfe.

Earlier American designs such as a Windsor rocker and mid-eighteenth-century table are also on display. The imported English styles you'll see include a bow-front china cabinet and a set of eagle-back chairs dating to the time of George III (1738-1820).



Study – James Monroe's study holds many reminders of the fifth president's momentous political career. Featured are a Louis XVI desk almost identical to the "Monroe Doctrine Desk" (which now resides in the James Monroe Museum in Fredericksburg), and reproduction portraits of numerous early nineteenth century political leaders.

Children's Room – This room, and the study, were added by Monroe in 1816. The beautifully furnished children's room contains a king's crown canopy bed and bedsteps like those used by Maria Hester, the Monroes' younger daughter. Visible in the room is a sampler stitched by Maria Hester, when she was eleven years old. The Aubusson carpet in tapestry weave was popular in France in the 1700s.

Bedroom – The Monroes' high-post bed—with its magnificently carved feather-and-palm motifs—conceals a trundle, which provided an additional sleeping space. One of the most significant surviving Monroe pieces is on display in this room: the bureau with its green marble top made for James Monroe during his first term as president by Washington, DC-area cabinetmaker Robert Davies.

Dining Room – This room's centerpiece is a Hepplewhite dining table purchased shortly after the Monroes' marriage in 1786. The addition of semicircular banquet ends allows this table to be expanded for guests. The dining room combines American furniture and European style tablewares, illustrating the Monroes' time spent Europe, and James Monroe's contributions in building relationships between the young U.S. and mature European nations.

Drawing Room – Although James Monroe's "cabin-castle" is a small early nineteenth-century farmhouse, its eclectic furnishings are both distinctive and elegant. The Monroes, thanks to their time abroad, imported many items from Napoleonic France. The French mantel clock and the drawing-room chairs (made in Paris, ca. 1800), are fine examples of Neoclassical influence during the French Empire. The reproduction carpet, too, features French Empire decorative details.

The antique nineteenth-century wallpaper—"Paysage a Chasse" by Jean Zuber—beautifully re-creates the feeling of French tapestries owned by the Monroes. The three large portraits, on loan from a private collection, were given to the Monroes by Queen Hortense of Holland upon the christening of Hortensia Monroe Hay, Eliza's daughter and the first Monroe grandchild. (They portray Queen Hortense, her brother Eugène, and Madame Campan, headmistress of the school attended by Hortense and Eliza Monroe.) Perhaps fittingly, the room is dominated by Napoleon Bonaparte. The larger-than-life bust by Chaudet was presented to Monroe by the Emperor himself.

Kitchen – In Monroe's day, the kitchen and service yard to the south of the main house were a blur of activity. Cooks busily prepared meals in "the stone kitchen cellar" (as Monroe described the basement in his 1809 insurance policy), while other activity occurred in and around the plantation's numerous outbuildings. From the kitchen and its adjoining wine cellar, stairs offered easy access to the home's upper gallery, or porch. Just a few steps away, water was drawn from Monroe's well.

The neatly arranged kitchen yard still contains the original Smokehouse (for curing meats and fish), and the Overseer's Cottage (quite possibly the plantation's oldest outbuilding). Between those two structures stands a reconstructed three-room dwelling. This building was reconstructed in the 1980s based on photographic evidence of a structure that survived into the early 20th century. It is understood from an 1818 letter from James Monroe to his son-in-law that the three rooms originally housed enslaved workers, and were later converted to accommodations for guests.

Victorian-Style Wing – These two rooms, part of the wing added circa 1870, contain permanent and rotating exhibitions. Currently featured in this space is a collection of objects from the War of 1812. Among the objects permanently on display is a drop-leaf table—made from Honduran mahogany circa 1825—that was sent to Monroe on behalf of the people of Santo Domingo, now the Dominican Republic, in gratitude for Monroe's famous statement of foreign policy. Known as "the Monroe Doctrine," this policy protected the Western Hemisphere from European political and military intervention. There is also a bust of Monroe sculpted by Attilio Piccirilli in 1931.

The exhibit space contains reproductions of two dresses worn by Elizabeth Kortright Monroe, and a copy of Emanuel Leutze's iconic oil painting "Washington Crossing the Delaware." Powerfully executed in 1851, it depicts Gen. George Washington's surprise crossing of the ice-clogged Delaware River on the night of December 25–26, 1776. Standing directly behind Washington, gripping the American flag, is 18-year-old Lieut. James Monroe, future president of the United States.

Out & About the Grounds

Plantations – Plantations were large money-making enterprises, and ideally produced most goods that were needed on site as well as a surplus of crops and other products for sale. Initially, Monroe found that only a small portion of Highland was cultivated. In 1798, however, he estimated that the plantation could produce 20,000 pounds of tobacco. To increase production, he—like his friend and neighbor Thomas Jefferson—experimented with a variety of agricultural techniques. Monroe successfully planted cover crops, and plowed plaster of paris, or gypsum, into the soil, techniques of boosting soil productivity. Eventually Monroe replaced tobacco with grain crops, which were less draining on the soil. The plantation had both a gristmill and a sawmill, so had the capacity to grind the plantation's corn and wheat, and process timber from Highland's 2,000 wooded acres. The blacksmith who shod horses and hammered ironware was likely an enslaved man who lived on the plantation. Other enslaved workers were kept busy spinning and weaving wool and flax, one of the service yard's most important activities. Since foreign cloth was extremely costly, Monroe imported Spanish Merino sheep to Highland, where he cross-bred them with his domestic animals.



Gardens – Today Highland has ornamental and utilitarian gardens, as did Monroe's property in the early 1800s. As a cultured lady, Elizabeth Monroe required fresh and dried flowers for her bouquets. Her household also required numerous herbs—herbs for cooking, herbs for scenting the linens and repelling moths, and herbs for their medicinal properties, and still other

plants for dyeing fabrics. She must have found, as Highland gardeners find today, that some plants thrive in the rich red Virginia earth, while others struggle and eventually die.

Today's vegetable garden, just outside the kitchen yard, yields cabbage, beans, corn, squash, tomatoes, and numerous kinds of greens. Many of these were also grown on plantations in the Virginia Piedmont.

On the Grounds- The estate's mature Boxwood Gardens, planted over a century ago, are graced by a magnificent white oak. Still standing from Monroe's day, this majestic "witness tree" is twenty feet in circumference. The formal landscape provides a number of peaceful garden settings for museum and private social events. Many of the deciduous trees around the house and formal gardens are white ash trees. These regal residents line the estate's scenic entranceway, and stretch across the northwest lawn toward a ridge along Carter's Mountain and Highland's boundary. From: <http://highland.org/plon-your-visit/exolore-oshlawn-highland/>

Pine Knot – Roosevelt's Cottage

A Brief Biography of Theodore Roosevelt: (born October 27, 1858, New York, New York, U.S.—died January 6, 1919, Oyster Bay, New York) Theodore Roosevelt was the 26th president of the United States (1901–09) and a writer, naturalist, and soldier. He expanded the powers of the presidency and of the federal government in support of the public interest in conflicts between big business and labor and steered the nation toward an active role in world politics, particularly in Europe and Asia. He won the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1906 for mediating an end to the Russo-Japanese War (1904–05), and he secured the route and began construction of the Panama Canal (1904–14).



PINE KNOT, the rustic retreat of President Theodore, and First Lady Edith, Roosevelt and their family during his presidency, is nestled deep in the quiet woods of southern Albemarle County, Virginia woods, 13 miles south of Charlottesville off S.R. 20. Edith purchased Pine Knot in 1905 as a place for “rest and repairs” with a small cottage described as “probably quite the most unpretentious habitation ever owned by a president of the United States” with no electricity, heating, plumbing, insulation or interior finish.

The cottage, still as it was in 1905 other than restoration is centered on more than 90 acres of wildlife habitat, surrounded by several thousand acres of preserved lands of adjacent farms, a tribute to the first, and country's greatest, conservationist president, Theodore Roosevelt. Theodore Roosevelt committed more than 230 million acres to conservation, created 150 national forests, 51 federal bird preservasions, 21 reclamation projects, seven conservation conferences and commissions, five national parks, four national game preserves and preserved natural wonders by passage of the National Monuments Act and usage of the Antiquities Act to preserve parks and lands. Pine Knot uniquely exhibits the character and principles of the Roosevelts, reflecting the President's love of and joy in wilderness, the natural world and especially birds, flora and fauna; his favorite pastime at Pine Knot being birding.

(from: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Theodore-Roosevelt>, <https://scottsvillemuseum.com/homes/homeJH11cdJH01.html>, <https://www.pineknot.org/>)



Biography

Thomas Woodrow Wilson

Born: December 28, 1856

Died: February 3, 1924 (aged 67)

Thomas Woodrow Wilson, 28th president of the United States, was born 28 December 1856, in Staunton, Virginia. Tommy Wilson, as he was called, was barely a year old when his family moved to Augusta, Georgia. He would live there until his early teens when the Wilson family moved to Columbia, South Carolina.

Wilson briefly attended Davidson College and later transferred to Princeton University, graduating with the class of 1879. He attended the University of Virginia Law School and later received a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. Now going by his middle name Woodrow, Wilson began his teaching career at Bryn Mawr College. He married Ellen Axson in June 1885, and the couple had three daughters. In 1888, Wilson joined the faculty of Wesleyan University and, in 1890, was invited to return to Princeton as professor of jurisprudence and political economy. He went on to become president of Princeton University in 1902 and then Governor of New Jersey for one term in 1910.

Wilson was elected president of the United States in 1912 and reelected in 1916. After Ellen died in 1914, he married Edith Bolling Galt, a widow, in December 1915. As president, Wilson was responsible for many social and economic reforms including the passage of the Federal Reserve Act, the Child Labor Reform Act, and legislation that supported unions to ensure fair treatment of working Americans. The 19th Amendment was ratified during his second term, guaranteeing all women the right to vote.

Wilson is best remembered for his leadership during World War I, and his attempt to establish the League of Nations. At the Paris Peace Conference, Wilson proposed "Fourteen Points" as the basis for the peace treaty. The final Treaty of Versailles included many of Wilson's ideas, but the Treaty was voted down by Congress, and the United States never joined the League of Nations. While touring the country in 1919 to boost public support for the League, Wilson fell ill from exhaustion and suffered a stroke from which he never fully recovered.

After leaving office in 1921, Wilson and his wife moved to a private residence in northwest Washington, D.C. He died there at the age of 67 on 3 February 1924, and is buried in the Washington National Cathedral.

The Birthplace/Manse

Sitting atop the crest of a hill in downtown Staunton's Gospel Hill historic district is the birthplace of President Woodrow Wilson. The house is often referred to as a manse which is the term the Presbyterian Church uses to identify the residence of their minister.

Enjoy an engaging guided tour of President Wilson's birthplace, a beautifully restored Greek revival manse, and experience what life was like when he was born there in 1856. An authentic example of a Shenandoah Valley home during the pre-Civil War era, this National Historic Landmark is decorated with Wilson family treasures and period furnishings.

In January 1846, church session minutes record an appropriation for building the manse. Mrs. Smith's father, the Reverend James Morrison of Rockbridge County, Virginia wrote, "The congregation has contracted to have a house built for Mr. Smith, which it is said will be the best house in Staunton when it is finished. The lot on which it is to be built is one of the most beautiful situations in Staunton. . ." The ladies of the church held a fair in June 1846 and raised \$300 to pay the balance on purchase of the building lot.

The handsome Manse erected on the lot may have been designed by the Reverend Rufus W. Bailey, founder of Augusta Female Seminary in 1842 (now Mary Baldwin College), and designer of its classical main building (1844), for he served on the church's building committee. The manse and the college's old building are strikingly similar in style.

Builder of the manse was John Fifer of Augusta County. His son, later Governor of Illinois, recalled that the bricks were fired just west of Staunton along the Parkersburg Turnpike, and that some of the construction workers left the job to become soldiers in the Mexican War. Church records indicate that the total cost of constructing the 12-room Greek Revival style brick house with its center halls and four chimneys was about \$4,000.

In December 1854, the Reverend Joseph Ruggles Wilson, a professor at Hampden-Sydney College, accepted a call to be pastor of Staunton Presbyterian Church. Mr. Wilson, his wife, Jessie Woodrow Wilson, and their daughters Marion and Annie moved into the Staunton manse in March 1855. One year and nine months later on December 28, 1856 the third Wilson child was born "at 12% o'clock at night" as his proud father recorded in the family Bible. The child was named Thomas Woodrow Wilson for his maternal grandfather.

Only four ministers' families occupied the manse following the Wilson family. To cover debts from construction of a new church, the Presbyterian trustees sold two sections of the large lot surrounding the manse in 1874. Woodrow Wilson returned to Staunton many times during his childhood. His Aunt, Marion Woodrow Bones, and her family lived here, and his sisters and several cousins attended Augusta Female Seminary under its principal, Miss Mary Julia Baldwin, a friend of his mother. But Woodrow Wilson did not visit the manse again until the year 1912 when, as President-elect of the United States, he returned to Staunton to celebrate his 56th birthday on December 28th in the house in which he was born.

Following President Wilson's death in 1924, the trustees of Mary Baldwin College determined to raise funds for a memorial building to the President. The congregation of First Presbyterian Church gave its approval in 1925 to the sale of the manse to the college for \$30,000 and the college held it until a group could be formed to preserve and interpret the home as a Birthplace museum for the late President of the United States. The Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation was established in 1938. The first restoration of the manse started in 1940 and was completed in 1941 bringing the Presbyterian Manse back to its appearance of 1856 when Thomas Woodrow Wilson was born. In May 1941 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt came to Staunton to dedicate the restored Woodrow Wilson Birthplace as a "shrine to freedom."

Woodrow Wilson Museum

Opened to the public in November 1990, the Woodrow Wilson Museum is housed in an adaptively-renovated chateau style mansion adjacent to Woodrow Wilson's Birthplace. The Museum galleries guide you through Wilson's public life, from his Princeton study to his historic Great War peace efforts, and encompassing his service from 1913 to 1921 as the 28th President of the United States.

The museum is located on the first floor of the building and contains seven exhibit galleries which represent through historic photographs, documents and objects, the life and public service of Woodrow Wilson. The second floor of the building contains meeting rooms and educational program space. The third floor provides storage for the collections and archives. The first floor only is open to the public.

Exhibit Subjects:

Wilson's family history

Wilson's early career at Princeton University

The Governorship of New Jersey

The Presidential years

World War I

The Treaty of Versailles

The League of Nations

Pierce Arrow

When Woodrow Wilson returned from France after negotiating the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, a new Pierce-Arrow limousine awaited him at the dock in New York to take him back to Washington. The automobile had just been added to the White House fleet. Wilson favored this automobile so much that when he left office his friends purchased it for him to use. The car had received its finishing touches at the plant of the manufacturer, the Pierce-Arrow Motor Car Company of Buffalo, New York, in June 1919. It was the 120th of the "Series 51" model.

From July, 1919, until the inauguration of his successor in 1921, President Wilson rode frequently in the handsome limousine on official business. The automobile was distinguished by two special emblems. On each of its arched rear passenger doors, the Presidential Seal was displayed. On the front of the radiator panel was the AAA symbol, for in 1917 he was the first President of the United States to join the association.

A gift to the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation from Wilson's widow, Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, the limousine has been restored and its engine is in full working order. It is on display in the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library Museum.



From: <http://www.woodrowwilson.org/>

Ida Stover

Birthdate: May 1, 1862 (84)
Birthplace: Mt. Sidney (near Staunton), Augusta Co, VA
Death: Died September 11, 1946 in Abilene, Dickinson, Kansas, U.S.A.
Place of Burial: Abilene, Dickenson County, Kansas
Immediate Family: Daughter of Simon P Stover and Elizabeth Ida Juda Stouffer
Wife of David Jacob Eisenhower
Mother of Arthur Bradford Eisenhower; Edgar Newton Eisenhower; Dwight David Eisenhower, 34th President of the USA; Roy Jacob Eisenhower; Paul Dawson Eisenhower and 4 others



From: <https://www.Qeni.com/people/Ida-Elizabeth-Eisenhower/6000000003977760012>

Ida Eisenhower, Mother of Dwight D. Eisenhower

By Anne Adams

As General Dwight D. Eisenhower planned and then directed the Allied assault on D Day, June 6, 1944, it was the high point in a long military career that would later lead to the presidency. Yet what was interesting and even ironic was that his family's religious heritage did not support his profession, for his parents and in particular his mother were devoted pacifists.

Ida Stover Eisenhower was born May 1, 1862 in the community of Sidney in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley with the Civil War raging nearby. Though she was but an infant at the time her life would be greatly affected by the devastation wrought to fields and farms by the battling armies.

Ida's mother died when she was quite young and while her father would live but a few more years, he did leave enough savings that would provide a modest inheritance to his seven sons and one daughter when they turned 21. At his death Ida and her siblings were raised by her maternal grandparents, in a somber and parsimonious atmosphere that Ida left when she was sixteen. While with her guardians she memorized 1,365 verses of the Bible in six months in a competition and she always treasured the medal she won. There was another side effect for from then on she could readily quote an appropriate scripture to fit any situation. She moved to Staunton, Virginia to do domestic work in exchange for room and board, and take advantage of the opportunity to continue her high school education. She taught for a while, and when she received her father's bequest at age 21 she invested in a piano which would remain a lifelong treasure.

The Stover family (as well as the Eisenhowers) were descendents of German immigrants who had come to America in the 1740s, bringing their religion with them. They were affiliated with the Mennonites, though they called their group the brethren in Christ and sometimes they were known as "River Brethren" since they immersed in freshwater. They were generally farmers, known for their hard work and the prosperity of their farms, but they were also dedicated pacifists.

Ida was anxious to further her education and in an era when few young women did so, she decided she wanted to go to college. She heard that her church had established a college in Kansas and that they accepted female students, so she joined some relatives in moving to that area.

This was Lane University in LeCompton, Kansas and it was there that Ida met and fell in love with fellow student David Eisenhower, sixteen months younger than she was. They were married in the college chapel on September 23, 1885.

David's father was a prosperous local farmer and was anxious to support the young couple, so as he had done with his other children, he gave them a sizable grant of cash and a farm. Yet David was not interested in agriculture and instead established

retail store in Hope. When his business failed to thrive, he brought in a partner who took off with their funds, and sent the young couple into deep debt. The lawyer who was brought in to settle accounts took all they owned except Ida's piano. This left the young Eisenhower with two aversions - to lawyers and to further debt. They had already had one son, and Ida was expecting another baby, but the only work David could find was as a mechanic on the railroad. However, it meant moving to Denison, Texas and there on October 14, 1890 their third son was born. He was first named David Dwight, but they soon switched the order of the names to avoid a mix-up with the father. However, two years later the Eisenhowers moved to Abilene, Kansas where David went to work in a creamery operated by a brother-in-law. There Dwight and his brothers would grow up and Ida and David remain. They settled in a large house with an acreage and there Ida designed and enforced an organized routine to get all the chores done and to keep five boys busy. Funds were limited but as Eisenhower later commented: "All we knew is that our parents - of great courage - could say to us: 'Opportunity is all around you. Reach out and take it.'"¹

The Eisenhower boys were encouraged to think independently and their parents would not pressure them into any pre-selected goals. Though David and Ida had distinctly different personalities they were united in this desire to nurture the boys to make their own life plans. David had a fierce and at times violent temper, making his boys frightened of him and Ida was a contrast with her joyful, cheerful and optimistic approach to life and to child raising. She could spank where necessary but it was David who was the disciplinarian of the family, and he did not hesitate to harsh physical punishment. Eisenhower later contrasted them: "His sullen father, who communicated with his strap, 'had quick judicial instincts,' His sensitive mother, 'had, like a psychologist, insight into the fact that each son was a unique personality and she adapted to the methods of each.'" (Faith of Our Mothers by Harold I. Guilan - p. 226). The youngest son Milton, later to become a prominent educator, summarized it this way: "Father and Mother complemented each other. Mother had the personality. She had the joy. Dad had the authority.'" (Guilan).

In one particular incident Dwight Eisenhower learned the futility of extreme anger. He had not been allowed to go trick or treating with his brothers one Halloween because he was considered too young so he erupted in an angry fit, pummeling a convenient tree till his fists bled. David responded with a whipping, but afterward after Dwight had been exiled to his room, Ida arrived to lovingly care for his injured hands and offer some gentle Scriptural advice against such unrestrained anger. He later called that "one of the most important moments in my life" and it served as an encouragement to contain future angry outbursts.

When it came time to think of college, Dwight decided a military academy might be the way to go since funds were limited. He applied for a West Point application and was accepted. His peace-loving mother quietly told him: "It's your choice," and only when he was on his way did she finally break down and cry. As a biographer put it: "Lawyers only cheated people, soldiers killed them. Yet in time Ida Eisenhower, whom Ike viewed as the most sincere pacifist he had ever known, learned to accept her son's career and even take pride of it. But, of course, she was proud of all her sons." (Gullen, p. 229). Actually, her sons all attained professional success and some of them national prestige: Arthur was a banker, Edgar a lawyer, Roy was a druggist, Earl was an engineer and journalist and Milton was a college president. All of the Eisenhower sons and their families returned for David and Ida's 50th anniversary in 1935 in a time when the couple was more financially secure than some of their neighbors in the midst of the national depression.

After David's death in 1942, Ida's memory began to fail and she needed help at home, but she had no trouble recognizing her illustrious son when he returned home for a brief visit in 1944. Two years later, she passed away and Ike's praise was specific, identifying her "serenity, her open smile, her gentleness with all and her tolerance of their way." Despite her philosophical difference with her son's profession, in her own way Ida had given her son the stability and vision that would enable him to succeed not only professionally and nationally but for the betterment of humankind. And that would perhaps be Ida's own preference for her true legacy through her sons.

From: <http://www.historyswomen.com/amazinamoms/ida.html>

Lincoln Homestead and Cemetery



Lincoln Homestead



The Lincoln Family Cemetery

Lincoln Homestead and Cemetery, also known as the Jacob Lincoln House, is a historic home and cemetery located near Broadway, Rockingham County, Virginia. It was built in two sections. The main section was built about 1800, and is a two-story, five bay, brick structure with a side gable roof. It features an elaborate wooden cornice with Wall-of-Troy molding, corbels and dentils, and a Federal style doorway. The two-story brick rear ell was built in 1849 and joined to the main house in the early-1900s. Located on the property is the Lincoln family cemetery in which are buried five generations of the family, including "Virginia John" Lincoln, great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln.

It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

From: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln_Homestead_and_Cemetery

THE LINCOLN HOMESTEAD

MARCH 25, 2024 BY SYDNEY RING

Timeline of Lincoln Homestead

This timeline was created in partnership with Dr. Andrew Witmer's undergraduate students from James Madison University. It outlines the changing ownership of the Lincoln Homestead from its construction in 1800 until today.

THE LINCOLN HOMESTEAD

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP



CIRCA 1800

The original two story, federal style structure was built by Captain Jacob Lincoln, great uncle of the President Abraham Lincoln. Jacob Lincoln was the only son of "Virginia" John Lincoln to stay in Virginia. Virginia John originally moved to Virginia around 1768.



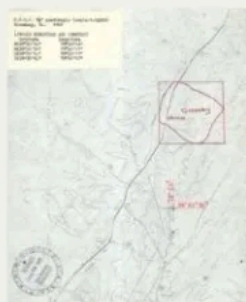
CIRCA 1822

After the death of Captain Jacob Lincoln in 1822, his son "Colonel" Abraham Lincoln, first cousin once removed from the President, inherited the house. Around 1842 he built an additional, but separate four room house.



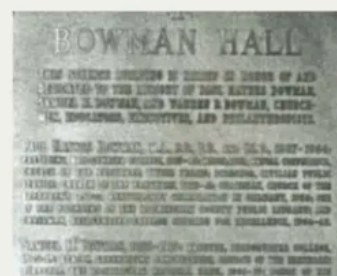
1851

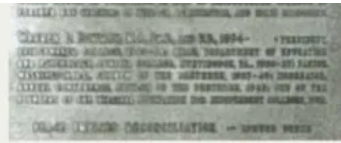
After the death of Colonel Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Mary Homan Lincoln, lived in the house until her death in 1874. While living in the house she was supported by slaves. After her death the house passed out of Lincoln hands.



CIRCA 1874

In 1874, the house was sold to the Michael Bowman. It was Michael Bowman who joined together the two parts of the house. For a long time, the house was home to Samuel M. Bowman, Michael's son, a prominent farmer in Linville Creek Valley. Despite the house leaving Lincoln ownership, the cemetery still stands with five generations of Lincolns. The house and property was purchased for \$20,227.





1919

Following the death of Samuel M. Bowman, the house was given to Bridgewater College by his will. Bowman was a life member of the Missionary Society of Bridgewater College, which explain why he left much of his wealth to Bridgewater College. Bowman donated so much of his time and wealth to the college that in 1952 a building was partially dedicated to him. At the time of his death, the estate was valued at \$116,000.



1930

In 1930, a majority of the property, including the house, was purchased for \$21,500 by Henry M. Henkel. From 1930-1947, the house was owned by the Mr. Henkel, his family, and his heirs.



1935

In 1935, Mr. and Mrs. Ray W. Renalds came into the home, although they did not immediately come into possession of the home. This wouldn't occur for some time, so it can be assumed that they lived in the house as renters or something of a similar manner.



1946

In 1946, the Renald family came into possession of the Lincoln Homestead. At this time, they had 355 acres of Lincoln Land.

1955

House sold by Renalds family to Mark Showalter.

1972

A record from the National Register of Historic Places shows the ownership of the house to be Mr. M.C. Showalter.



UNKNOWN DATE

Mark Showalter sold the property to Sam Shank. Sam Shank had to heirs, Randall (Randy) and Richard Shank who would later come to own the property. When Randy and Richard were ready to sell the property was only 9.4 acres.

2019

In 2019, the Lincoln Homestead was purchased by Benjamin and Sarah Bixler. Once purchased, the Bixlers worked to restore the house, preserving some of its original features while also making changes to make the house more suitable for living in today.

