



News from Simon & Schuster

1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020
Contact: Victoria Meyer, VP & Executive Director of Publicity (212) 698-7530
or Tracey Guest, Assistant Director of Publicity (212) 698-7533

~~497/079-5908~~

AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE

AT HOME WITH HISTORY

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—Historian Carl Sferrazza Anthony, from the Introduction

This year marks the 200th Anniversary of the White House, making it the oldest official residence of a head of state anywhere in the world. For two centuries, it has stood as a symbol of the Presidency, the United States government, and the American people. Welcoming more than 30,000 visitors a week, the White House is unique in serving as a living museum, an office and a family home at the same time. In **AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE At Home With History** (Simon & Schuster; November 29, 2000; \$35.00), First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton opens the doors to the best-known house in America and shows how the White House figures prominently in the cultural and political life of the country, as well as in the life of the first family.

Lavishly illustrated with more than 350 color and black-and-white photographs, **AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE** provides a glimpse of the day-to-day life behind the historic events that take place in the People's House. The book includes menus and invitations from State Dinners and other events and more than fifty recipes used in the White House kitchens.

Hillary Rodham Clinton

"Like every presidential family before us," writes Mrs. Clinton, "We know that we are temporary custodians of a national museum and that we have the responsibility to pass it on to future generations." To this end, Mrs. Clinton has worked to make the White House a distinctly American showcase—from historically accurate renovations and acquisitions of important American art, to celebrations of jazz and gospel music and an expanded emphasis on American cuisine. The first family's home has also been distinguished by the diversity of Americans honored and welcomed there.

Each chapter in **AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE**, provides a front-row seat to a full range of White House occasions and milestones:

- **Preserving the White House for History** details the restoration and refurbishment projects undertaken during the Clinton Administration, including restoration of the Blue Room and the State Dining Room.
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About the Author

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About the Book

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By Hillary Rodham Clinton

Published by Simon & Schuster

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Price: \$35.00

ISBN: 0-684-85799-5

Visit us online at www.simonsays.com

LIST OF RECIPES FROM "AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE"

Breakfast and Brunch Dishes

- Herbed Tomato Frittata with Chicken Chorizo
- Yukon Gold Hash Browns, and Tomato Compote
- Maple-Almond French Toast with Maple-Ginger Pears

First Courses/Hors D'oeuvres

- Spinach and Roasted Pepper Rolls with Goat Cheese
- D'Anjou Pear, Sun-Dried Cranberries, and Stilton Cheese in a Walnut Tart Shell
- Smoked Salmon on Potato Pancakes with Wheat Berry Caviar and Chive Cream
- New Potatoes with Lobster and Bacon
- Caramel Pork with Raisin Dressing Baked in Crust
- Cajun Seared Scallops with Root Vegetable Slaw and Old Bay Biscuits

Soups and Salads

- Puree of Butternut Squash and Granny Smith Apple with Timbale of Leek, Apple and Pancetta
- Hot Pumpkin Soup with Country Bacon, Goat Cheese Gnocchi, and Wild Mushroom Saute with Spinach Cream
- Young Greens with Hazelnut Dressing, Oven Roasted Tomatoes, and Maytag Blue Cheese Spoon Bread

Entrees

- Country Sausages with Peppers and Leeks
- Grilled Bison Filet with Spring Vegetables, Crimini Mushroom Saute, and Cabernet Sauce
- Pine Nut-Crusted Racks of Lamb with Olives and Oyster Mushroom Ragout
- Walnut-Crusted Chicken with Crabmeat, Gruyere Cheese, and Spinach Stuffing
- Black-Eyed Pea and Sweet Potato Salad
- Honey-Mango-Glazed Chicken with Spicy Vegetable "Noodles" and Herb Tuile
- Grilled Shrimp and Smoked Chicken with Creole Couscous and Tart Apple and Scallion Coulis
- Poached Lobster with Marinated Orange Salad, Saffron-Scented Basmati Rice, and Emerald Cilantro Chutney

Desserts

- Flora Bunda
- Strawberries and Lemon Cream in Chocolate Baskets
- Autumn Bounty: Rum Ice Cream in Cinnamon Phyllo Tart Shells with Poached Pears in Red Wine and Raspberry Sauce
- Mocha Cake
- Cherry Yule Log
- Eggnog

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FACT SHEET ON "AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE"
November 2000

- "An Invitation to the White House" offers a unique perspective on how the President and First Lady have worked to make the White House a showcase of American art, ideas, and culture and people. Mrs. Clinton discusses efforts to preserve the White House, to celebrate American art and cuisine and to open the doors of the White House to Americans of all backgrounds and to leaders from around the world.
- Mrs. Clinton wrote this book in honor of the 200th anniversary of the White House to raise funds for the White House Historical Association, to whom author proceeds have been assigned. Through this work, the First Lady hoped to show how the White House serves simultaneously as a place where history is made and celebrated, an art gallery and museum, and a home to the President and his family.
- The WHHA is a charitable nonprofit institution whose purpose is to enhance the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the White House. From private funding and the sale of its educational products, the association supports the acquisition of artwork and objects for the White House collection and contributes to the conservation of the public rooms.
- As honorary chair of the White House Endowment Fund, Mrs. Clinton has led the fundraising campaign since 1993 to support the preservation and enhancement of the fine and decorative arts at the White House. Through her commitment, the fund has exceeded its goal of raising \$25 million. Rosalyn Carter first had the idea for a permanent endowment in 1979, and Barbara Bush created the fund 10 years later.
- As honorary chair of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, Mrs. Clinton has overseen the refurbishment of many historic areas of the White House, including the State Dining Room, Blue Room, Map Room, Entrance Hall, Cross Hall, and the Grand Staircase.
- During the Clinton Administration, the White House acquired nearly 25 works of art and numerous works of historical and cultural importance, making it the most active administration for major acquisitions in the past 25 years.
- The First Lady created the White House Sculpture Garden to showcase 20th century American sculpture from museum collections around the country and to make these works accessible to thousands of White House visitors daily.
- Mrs. Clinton also assembled the White House Crafts Collection, featuring 72 works by America's leading artisans. In addition to a White House exhibit in 1993 in the Year of the American Craft, the collection toured to 11 cities around the country.

MEMORANDUM

TO: HRC
FROM: Erika
RE: Rosie O'Donnell Show
DATE: November 29, 2000

You are scheduled to appear on the Rosie O'Donnell Show on Thursday to promote your book. You'll join Rosie for the first two segments of the show, beginning at approximately 10:15 a.m. Rosie will ask about your book, your favorite events at the White House, and the holidays, including your family's Christmas traditions. We also expect other questions on your election to the Senate and your recent trip to Vietnam.

Rosie also plans to show some of the following photos from the book and ask you to comment:

- The President and Tyler playing catch with Buddy and Socks on the South Lawn.
- You and the President dressed as James and Dolley Madison at your surprise costume birthday party.
- You and the President talking with Governor and Mrs. Ventura at the 1999 National Governor's Association Dinner.
- The President and Chelsea dancing at your fifties-theme birthday party in 1994.
- You and President Havel dancing to the music of the Marine Band.
- President Clinton playing saxophone at the 40th anniversary of the Newport Jazz Festival in June 1993, on the South Lawn.
- The President and Roger filming each other on Christmas morning.
- The President looking at the Blue Room Christmas Tree in 1995.

Talking points on the book are attached.

TALKING POINTS ON "AN INVITATION TO THE WHITE HOUSE"

- I wrote the book in celebration of the 200th anniversary, to benefit the White House Historical Association, and to showcase the many ways the people's house is used – as a place where history is made, where history is preserved (we just received our re-accreditation as a museum), and as a home.
- The book has over 300 black and white and color photos taken by the White House photographers and private photographers. These photos include behind-the-scenes shots never before seen, including many photos of the people who have performed and visited here (celebrities such as Bill Cosby, Ted Danson, Ricky Martin, N'Sync, Muhammed Ali, Will Smith, Jessye Norman, Princess Diana, etc.) and family photos.
- Some of my favorite photos include:
 - Prime Minister Rabin, President Mubarak, King Hussein, and President Clinton straightening their ties in the Red Room before the signing of the 1995 Peace Accords;
 - Chelsea showing me her outfit in the Grand Foyer before the Inaugural parade in 1996;
 - The President and me sharing a laugh with Governor and Mrs. Ventura at the 1999 National Governor's Association Dinner;
 - The President and our nephew Tyler playing catch with Socks and Buddy on the South Lawn;
 - The beautiful crescent-shaped table for the historic NATO dinner in 1999.
- I wrote the book with the assistance of professional writers hired by Simon & Schuster, including Cheryl Merser. While Cheryl was initially hired as a co-author, as the project moved along it became clear to us that the book should be written in the first person. Cheryl's early contributions were very helpful, and I thanked her in the acknowledgements.
- We waited to publish the book until late November so I could personally spend more time working on the project, to allow for events from the past year to be included (such as the millennium events), and to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the White House. I also wanted to wait until after the election to avoid the appearance of using the project to influence voters.

WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES RESTORATIONS

As have most of their predecessors in the White House, President and Mrs. Clinton have undertaken several interior refurbishings and restorations to ensure the upkeep of the Executive Mansion as a living museum that has been the home and office of every President since John Adams. No public funds were spent on the work.

The recently completed work is part of the routine maintenance and restoration of the White House and concludes the initial phase of a broader restoration project to include additional repairs and maintenance. According to White House Curator Rex Scouten, significant restorations are necessary about every 10 years due to the heavy volume of tourists and guests who visit the White House each week.

In addition to the routine maintenance and restoration, some changes reflect the lifestyle of the occupant family, such as converting the butler's pantry into an everyday kitchen for family meals, the President's work habits (installing bookcases in the Treaty Room), and the taste and character of the President's principal work place, the Oval Office, which now has new drapes and carpet.

The restoration featured the re-upholstering or recovering of 73 pieces of furniture and furnishings, the conservation of 23 pieces of furniture already in the White House collection and the retrieval of 52 pieces of furniture and 22 historic and decorative pieces from storage for use within the house. Two floors were repaired and re-covered. Twenty-eight windows received new curtains. Nineteen carpets and underlays worn and needing attention were replaced. Eleven chandeliers were conserved.

The President and Mrs. Clinton are already involved in making needed refurbishments in the state rooms of the White House. The Committee for the Preservation of the White House met earlier this month to discuss the restoration projects in the Blue Room and East Room. The President recently appointed Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Director, Studio Museum in Harlem; J. Thomas Savage, Jr., Curator, Historic Charleston Foundation; Dick Moe, President, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Leonore Annenberg and Kaki Hockersmith of Hockersmith Interiors to the Committee for Preservation of the White House. The President re-appointed the following members of the Committee for Preservation of the White House: Leslie Greene Bowman, Curator, Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Wendy Cooper, Curator of Decorative Arts, Baltimore Museum of Art; Jonathan Fairbanks, Katherine Lane Weems Curator of Decorative Arts and Sculpture, Museum of Fine Arts; Richard Nylander, Curator of Collections, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities; John Wilmerding, Christopher Binyon Sarofim '86 Professor in American Art, Princeton University; Mark Hampton; William Kloss and Charles W.

Engelhard, Jr. (A complete list of the members of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House is attached.)

Included in the restoration were portions of the family quarters and rooms widely used for private work, meetings, official functions, and entertaining -- the Oval Office, Treaty Room, West Sitting Room, and Lincoln Sitting Room. The most extensive changes were made to enhance the special character of the Oval Office and the Treaty Room -- the President's two offices -- and to expand their use as public and private work areas.

- o New gold draperies were installed in the Oval Office after President Clinton's inauguration in January. Further improvements included restyling and recovering the office's two sofas, reupholstering two high-back armchairs, recovering several cane-back armchairs, and installing a new oval carpet with 13 colors that was woven specially for the room. The carpet, with its deep blue field, features the Presidential Seal encircled by fifty white stars and framed by a gilt double rope.

Over the years, the Treaty Room, now a Presidential office located in the residence, has served as a Cabinet Room, sitting room, Presidential reception room, and private study. It has also been the site of important treaty signings, such as the Peace Protocol marking the end of the Spanish-American War in 1898 and the Treaty for a Partial Nuclear Test Ban signed by President Kennedy. Aware of the room's rich past, President Clinton was committed to restoring its 19th century character while also maintaining it as a working office and meeting area for visiting dignitaries. The table in the Treaty Room, now serving as the President's desk, was used this fall by the signators of the Israeli-Palestinian Agreement.

- o The refurbishing of the Treaty Room was accomplished with the addition of stained walnut woodwork, inlaid walnut bookcases, new wallpaper, new upholstery and draperies, and a repainted ceiling medallion.

In the family quarters of the residence, most of the restoration consisted of necessary maintenance, repainting, carpeting, and upholstering.

- o A butler's pantry was converted into an everyday kitchen now used for family meals. A large wood island was removed and replaced with an expandable breakfast table and chairs.

- o The carpet on the second floor, worn from constant use, was replaced and moved to the third floor hallway.

- o The third-floor solarium, where the First Family entertains and convenes meetings, received new drapes, upholstery and wallpaper. Similar improvements were made to the second floor master bedroom and family room.

The recent improvements, totalling \$396,429.46, were financed by private donations of money to the White House Historical Association, including a donation from surplus funds of the Presidential Inaugural Committee as well as donations of goods and services to the National Park Service. (The Inaugural Committee also contributed funds to the Vice President's Residence Foundation.) The Clintons chose not to use the \$50,000 appropriated by Congress for White House restorations.

Among the donations to the National Park Service was \$74,607 contributed by the Clinton/Gore Transition Foundation in payments to Kaki Hockersmith of Little Rock, Arkansas, for her services as the design consultant for the White House restoration project. (The Transition Foundation is privately funded.) Ms. Hockersmith devoted a significant amount of personal time to the project, essentially closing her small business and dedicating nearly an entire year to the White House refurbishment. Ms. Hockersmith also donated draperies of her design which now hang in the Lincoln Sitting Room. (Lists of those who contributed to the White House Historical Association and the National Park Service are attached. A list of members of the White House Historical Association is also attached.)

In late November 1992, Ms. Hockersmith, president of Kaki Hockersmith Interiors, began working with the White House curator and usher's offices to review the condition of the residence and offices used by the President to determine a priority list for refurbishments. She oversaw the gathering and placement of historic objects to be displayed throughout the residence and offices of the White House -- a priority for the Clintons.

Ms. Hockersmith surveyed storage facilities inside the White House and the main storage warehouse in Maryland for paintings, furniture that could be used after refurbishment, and other suitable furnishings. To minimize costs, nearly all of the furniture used for the restoration came from Executive Residence storage.

Most of the draperies and upholstery were done by Nelson Beck, a Washington, D.C. firm recommended by the White House curator and usher's offices and widely acclaimed for its quality workmanship and attention to historical detail.

Nelson Beck has assisted in a number of earlier projects at the White House, including upholstering the walls of the Green Room, upholstering the Bellange chairs in the Blue Room, and providing slipcovers and upholstery for the Bushes and the Reagans.

Other work done by Nelson Beck includes drapery treatments and upholstery for the Vice President's house during Nelson Rockefeller's term, the draperies and window treatments in the restored period offices at the Treasury Department, as well as work for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Portrait Gallery, the Renwick Gallery, the Museum of Modern Art, the Corcoran Gallery, the DAR Museum and the U.S. Capitol.

"We are grateful to the many Americans whose generous contributions have helped preserve the White House as a proud piece of American history and an ongoing national treasure," the President and Mrs. Clinton said.

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Attachments (4)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 17, 1995

CONTACT: LISA CAPUTO
NEEL LATTIMORE
KAREN FINNEY
202-456-2960

EAST ROOM WORK COMPLETED

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Committee for the Preservation of The White House today announced the completion of renovation work to the fireplace mantels and baseboards, and the addition of three area rugs to the White House's East Room.

The East Room, scene of many historic White House events, was designed by architect James Hoban, as the "Public Audience Room." It is the largest room in the White House and traditionally contains little furniture. The East Room is used for large gatherings, such as dances, concerts, weddings, press conferences and bill signing-ceremonies.

Mantels and Baseboards

In accordance with the recommendations made to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House in 1990, the mantels and baseboards in the East Room have been stripped of the faux marble painting to reveal their true red ("rouge antique") color, seen before only in the unpainted hearths and torchere bases. This Vermont marble was installed in the room in 1951 during the Truman Renovation, replacing a different red marble installed in 1902. It was marbleized in white in 1961 and then marbleized in white, siena, and black (mantels) or just siena (baseboards) in 1979.

Rugs

A new set of three rugs has been placed on the East Room floor. The Committee for the Preservation of the White House recommended in 1990 the commissioning of rugs to complement the design and scale the plasterwork of the ceiling. The rugs are made of loop pile wool in colors derived partly from rug designs, 1769-1776, by noted English designer Robert Adam. A pale green was selected for the field with gold details (to complement the draperies) and a reddish-brown (rouge antique) outer border (to complement the exposed marble of the mantels and baseboards). Rugs were last used in the East Room in 1902.

The large center rug (23'4 x 30'7 1/2) features a gold fluted center medallion with scrolls and palmettes on a pale green field framed by Greek key bands and classical borders. The smaller end rugs (15'10-16' x 23'4) feature an octagonal partially fluted center medallion framed by a similar field, key bands, and classical borders. A supplemental end rug was also acquired for future use.

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PAGE 2 OF 2

These rugs, woven in 1994 by Edward Fields, Inc., New York, have been donated by the White House Endowment Fund.

EAST ROOM RUGS, wool, 1994, New York,
made by Edward Fields, Inc.

Center - 23'4 x 30'7 1/2; ends - 15'10-16' x 23'4.

Three pieces in Adamesque style, largely derived from the 1951 plasterwork of the East Room ceiling; colors derived from Robert Adam rug designs, 1769-1775.

Gift of The White House Endowment Fund.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 31, 1995
page 1 of 2

CONTACT: LISA CAPUTO
NEEL LATTIMORE
KAREN FINNEY
202-456-2960

**THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF
BLUE ROOM RENOVATIONS AND REFURBISHING**

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Committee for The Preservation of The White House today announced the completion of the renovation and refurbishing of the White House's Blue Room. The refurbishing was governed by the historic French objects purchased by President James Monroe in 1817. The process for the renovation and refurbishing of the Blue Room began in 1990 when the committee recommended that the room be refurbished.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton serves as honorary chair of the committee and was actively involved in the refurbishing project. Mrs. Clinton first met with the Committee in November of 1993. Working with a committee of historians, curators and designers, the First Lady took an active approach in the renovation process. The First Lady reviewed the committee's recommendations for the sapphire blue fabric and the gold wall covering, and met with the White House curators to discuss fabric samples, textures and the importance of maintaining the period style of the room.

The Blue Room is one of three oval rooms in the White House and is located on the State Floor. The room, seen by 1.2 million visitors a year, was last refurbished in 1972. The draperies and furniture upholstery had become soiled, worn and sun damaged and needed to be replaced, as did the badly worn mid-nineteenth century Chinese carpet which has been in the room since 1975.

The sapphire blue fabric used for the draperies and furniture covering is similar in color to fabric used in the room in the 1800's. The silk upholstery fabric retains the gold eagle medallion on the chair backs which was adapted from the depiction of one of the Monroe-era chairs in a portrait of President James Monroe. The Monroe-era furniture, consisting of seven original chairs and four reproductions and a sofa, was upholstered by Nelson Beck of Washington, DC. (The portrait of President James Monroe by John Vanderlyn is owned by the City of New York and hangs in the City Hall.)

The blue satin draperies have a blue and gold tape adapted from the wallpaper frieze. The drapery valances are blue and gold. The silk fabrics were made by Scalamandre Silks, Inc., of New York, New York. The draperies are the same design as the previous draperies

-more-

Blue Room - Preservation Committee
page 2 of 2

which were derived from an early 19th century French source. The curtains were constructed by Nelson Beck of Washington, DC.

The walls have been hung with a light gold paper, which has alternating classic motifs in a darker gold. The design is adapted from an early 19th century American paper in the collection of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities in Boston, Massachusetts. The borders are adapted from two early 19th century French papers in the collection of the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, in New York. The upper border is a blue drapery swag with gold classical motifs; the lower border along the chair rail has a blue and gold pattern with rosettes. The wall paper was made by Brunschwig & Fils of New York, New York.

The room has been painted and gilded to reflect the style of finish found in an American room of the first quarter of the 19th century. The wainscoting, door surrounds and window reveals, received extensive conservation to redefine their detailing. The woodwork has been painted white with a rubbed paint finish giving the wood a "porcelain" appearance. The faux marble painted on the baseboards has been removed to reveal the white marble installed in the Truman era. The acanthus leaves in the cornice and in the ceiling medallion have been gilded, as have the three lines of molding in the cornice.

A major component of the project was the preservation and conservation of the historic furnishings in the room and of the early 19th century American "looking glass" which hangs over the mantel. This part of the project involved repairs and partial regilding of the items. Retained in the room are the French gilded bronze clock and a mahogany center table. Two 19th century pier tables and two pieces of sculpture - the marble busts of Christopher Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci - were added to the room.

A carpet, based on early 19th century designs, is being made for the room and is expected to be installed in the room this spring. The carpet is being made by the Stark Carpet Company of New York, New York.

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attached: committee list

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Blue Room will be officially unveiled on February 17 at the meeting of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. There will be a press preview of the room and a opportunity to talk with the First Lady and the individuals involved in the renovation and refurbishing project at that time. Space for this press preview is limited. Please contact the First Lady's Press Office if you would like to cover this event - 202-456-2960.

September 2000

RED ROOM REFURBISHMENT/ NEW ACQUISITIONS

At the recommendation of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, the Red Room has been refurbished with fresh silk-and-wool fabrics matching those installed in 1971, the last time the room was refurbished. The walls have been recovered in plain red, with the wide red-and-gold ornamental border originally used along the cornice added along the chair rail as well. New draperies have been made to the 1971 design based on early 19th century European precedents. The sofas and armchairs have been freshly upholstered. Funds for this work have been provided by the White House Endowment Trust of the White House Historical Association.

Two new acquisitions, donations from the White House Acquisition Trust of the White House Historical Association, have been placed in the room. Between the windows is a tall mahogany desk and bookcase with a cylinder desk section atop a pier-table-form base, made in New York, circa 1830. On the mantel have been installed a pair of small, elegant French gilded porcelain vases, circa 1820, painted with likenesses of George Washington and John Adams. These were acquired to honor the 200th anniversary of President Adams occupying the White House in November 1800. They have been joined by a pair of French candelabra received with the mantel clock as a gift from the president of France in 1952.

A few paintings have also been changed. The Severin Roesen still life paintings have been removed from the north wall and have been replaced by two American landscapes - *Castle Rock, Nahant, Massachusetts* by Alfred Bricher, 1877, and *Florida Sunrise* by Martin Johnson Heade, c. 1890-1900.

The portraits of Ulysses S. Grant, by an unknown artist, and Dolley Madison, by Gilbert Stuart, have been moved to the west wall, over the doorways, to make them more visible to tours. In their previous locations on the north wall have been placed *Martin Van Buren* by Francis Alexander and *Alexander Hamilton* by John Trumbull. *John James Audubon* by John Syme has been placed in storage temporarily.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE STATE DINING ROOM

In James Hoban's 1792 design for the President's House, the west end of the State Floor consisted of two rooms of equal size flanking the principal staircase to the Second Floor. The first two occupants of the house, Presidents John Adams (1800-1801) and Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809), used the northwest room (now the Family Dining Room) as a dining room. Adams used the southwest room (the southern two-thirds of the current State Dining Room) as a "Levee Room", while Thomas Jefferson used it as his office and cabinet room. It was there that Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis planned the Lewis & Clark Expedition in 1802.

The southwest room was first used as the principal dining room by the Madisons (1809-1814). There hung the full-length portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart which Dolley Madison removed before the British arrived and burned the building in 1814. In 1819, after the post-fire reconstruction, the Monroes installed two new Italian white marble mantelpieces in the southwest room; these were moved to the Green and Red Rooms in 1902.

By 1825, the two western rooms were no longer equal in size because the Madisons had partitioned off the western side of the northwest room. The southwest room became the "Large Dining Room", the northwest the "Small Dining Room". The small northwest corner space became a pantry, as it is today. Even as the "Large Dining Room", the southwest room seated only 35-40 guests at a rectangular dining table. Later the number was increased to 50-65 by adding tables at the ends to create an I-shaped arrangement.

In 1880, access was provided from the State Dining Room into the array of greenhouses which had been erected to the west of the building since 1857. Until 1902, when they were demolished, these greenhouses served as a private retreat for the first families and their guests.

Besides formal dinners for government officials, the diplomatic corps, and other important visitors, the 1886 wedding dinner for President Grover Cleveland, the only president married in the White House, was held in this room. By 1902, however, many large dinners were being staged in the Cross Hall or East Room.

In 1902, the State Dining Room was enlarged and completely redesigned by McKim, Mead & White during the Theodore Roosevelt renovation. The staircase, rendered less necessary by the installation of an elevator in 1881, was removed, and the room was expanded into that space. The removal of a load-bearing wall and the suspension of the ceiling from the timbers above contributed to the structural problems which later prompted the Truman Renovation, 1948-1952.

The 1819 mantels were replaced by a single larger fireplace on the west wall. The walls of English oak paneling were bordered with wild animal heads. Three mahogany eagle-pedestal side tables, Queen Anne style chairs, and silver-plated lighting fixtures were installed and remain in use today. For large dinners, the smaller table used for most meals by the Theodore Roosevelt family was replaced by a broad horseshoe-shaped pine table which could seat 104 and was used during many subsequent administrations.

The walls, first painted in 1952, were repainted in 1961, at which time the eagle tables were painted and gilded and the lighting fixtures gilded to create a white and gold color scheme. The 1902 mantel, removed during the Truman Renovation, was reproduced on a somewhat smaller scale in white marble. A long U-shaped table (seating 90) or E-shaped table (120) for formal dining was replaced for most events by more intimate circular tables which optimize the space (140).

In 1998, the room was refurbished with stone-colored walls, floral draperies, and gold chair upholstery. The side tables were restored to their original 1902 mahogany appearance. The chandelier and sconces were conserved to better show the brilliance of their 1961 gilding.

Office of the Curator
September 1998

STATE DINING ROOM RENOVATION AND REFURBISHING

The State Dining Room of the White House has been renovated and refurbished at the recommendation of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. The refurbishing reflects the spirit of the 1902 renovation of the room by the architectural firm McKim, Meade & White undertaken during the President Theodore Roosevelt administration while taking into consideration the current uses of the room at the end of the 20th century. The State Dining Room is the most intact architectural space remaining in the White House from 1902 and many of the 1902 furnishings are still in the room.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton serves as honorary chair of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House and was involved in the project, working with historians, curators and designers. The room has been painted and new draperies and chair coverings installed. A major component of the project was the preservation and conservation of the 1902 furnishings.

The State Dining Room had not been painted since 1985; the draperies and upholsteries installed 1981 were sun-damaged and worn and the carpets, made in 1974 and 1975, were worn out. Over 1.2 million visitors view the room and over 50,000 guests are entertained there each year.

The following changes have been made:

The oak paneling in the room, the most intact architectural feature remaining in the White House from 1902, was preserved and re-installed during the Truman renovation of 1952 when the paneling was painted light green. It was painted again in 1961, 1970, 1981 and in 1985 when it received an umber glaze. The committee decided to keep the walls painted rather than attempt to remove the paint and restore the walls to the original oak finish. At the committee's suggestion, the walls have been painted a stone color in keeping with the Georgian style woodwork. Paneling was often painted at the turn of the last century. The architectural elements of the frieze and the pilasters have been accented in white.

New draperies have been hung at the five windows. The valances were redesigned to complement the architecture of the frieze. The multi-colored floral silk brocade has flowers, baskets and ribbons on an off-white field. It was specially reproduced by Schumacher for the White House from a documented fabric of 1901. The design was based on 18th century sources popular during the Colonial Revival of the early 20th century. The gold, blue and red floral custom colors are those of the state services used in the room.

The three eagle pedestal console tables, designed by Stanford White and made by the A. H. Davenport Company of Boston in 1902, have been conserved and returned to their original mahogany appearance. They had been painted and gilded in 1961.

The 1902 silverplate chandelier and wall sconces, by the New York firm of Edward F. Caldwell, were gilded in 1961. They have been cleaned, conserved and re-wired. Their gilded appearance is now more compatible with the other gilded objects in the room.

The Queen Anne style mahogany chairs, made in 1902 and 1952, have been conserved and re-upholstered in a gold cotton and wool Scalambre fabric with an oak leaf design.

A new carpet incorporating elements from the 1902 ceiling design has been designed and will be installed in the room early in 1999. A temporary carpet with a leaf and rosette pattern has been placed on the floor.

Returned to the room are the portrait of President Abraham Lincoln by George P. A. Healy, the gilded bronze plateau and baskets ordered from France by President James Monroe in 1817, an English 18th century gilded pier mirror, a mahogany dining room table made for the room in 1998, and nineteenth century gilded candelabra and other decorative objects from the White House collection.

The White House Endowment Trust, created by the White House Historical Association to support the public state rooms, funded the project.



WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

White House Statistics

- ❖ The White House is 168 feet (51.2 meters) long.
- ❖ The White House is 85 feet 6 inches (26.1 meters) wide without porticoes and 152 feet wide with porticoes.
- ❖ The overall height of the White House (to the top of the roof) is 70 feet on the south and 60 feet 4 inches on the north.
- ❖ The façade (grade of lawn to parapet) is 60 feet on the south (lawn at 54 feet above sea level) and 50 feet 4 inches on the north.
- ❖ The White House fence encloses 18 acres of land.
- ❖ The White House has 132 rooms, including 16 family-guest rooms, one main kitchen, one diet kitchen, one family kitchen, and 31 bathrooms.
- ❖ On the Ground floor, the White House has (excluding storage rooms) 10 rooms, one main corridor, and six restrooms.
- ❖ On the State floor, there are eight rooms, one main corridor, and one entrance hall.
- ❖ On the 2nd floor, there are 16 rooms, one main corridor, six bathrooms, and one restroom.
- ❖ On the 3rd floor, there are 20 rooms, one main corridor, and nine bathrooms.

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WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

White House Renovation and Management

Renovation

The exterior of the White House today would be recognized by its eighteenth-century builders, albeit with the addition of the iconic North and South porticoes completed in the 1820s. Although the image of the White House has remained relatively unchanged, alterations by first families and designers to the interior have been nearly constant. The major renovations were:

1814

- Burned to a smoke blackened shell by the British, the White House was rebuilt and occupied by President James Monroe in 1817.

1829

- President Andrew Jackson furnished the East Room for the first time in 1829. From the 1830s until 1902, changes to the main block of the White House occurred principally to its interiors. Succeeding presidents and their wives periodically refurbished the house to reflect the changing tastes of their time. As the 19th century progressed and presidential families with children and other relatives crowded into a limited space, demands to move the offices increased. The ground floor was a utilitarian basement area of kitchens, storage rooms, furnace, servants' living quarters, and workspaces.

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1902

In 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt directed a complete Colonial Revival style restoration of an aging house. This work led to sweeping changes to the Victorian décor and in the functioning of the building. It doubled the space allocated to the family living quarters. The White House and, with a few exceptions, much of the complex as we know it today reflects the design of 1902. This restoration preserved the White House as the home of the president.

- The West Wing, home of the Oval Office and offices for the White House staff, was built in 1902 on the site of a rambling glass conservatory. The wing was doubled in 1909 and the first Oval Office was added. A further expansion in 1934 created additional office space and the present Oval Office.

1920s

- During the Coolidge era, the roof was raised and a fire resistant third floor was added.

1940s

- The East Wing, home of the First Lady's offices, was completed in 1942.

1948-1952

- Years of piecemeal alteration had weakened the timbers supporting the interior of the White House. A renovation called for by President Harry S. Truman completely overhauled the house. In the end, the exterior was retained as a shell within which a new interior was built. Two levels of subbasements, and service areas under the North Portico were constructed, and the Grand Staircase was substantially changed. Of the state floor rooms, only the State Dining Room walls were saved and reinstalled, but then were painted.
- Before the renovation, the White House had 62 rooms, 26 halls and corridors and 14 baths. After, it had more than 100 rooms, 40 corridors, and 19 baths. A television broadcast room and bomb shelter were added to the mansion. Many of the new rooms were on the third floor and new basement levels.

- The new basement levels resembled the service and utility complex of a 1950s hotel, according to Truman's biographer, David McCullough. "There were storage rooms, a laundry, a dental clinic, medical clinic, staff kitchen, barbershop, pantries, everything very institutional looking....The main electrical control board looked big enough for a theater. Plumbing, heating, air conditioning, kitchen appliances, elevator, incinerator, fire alarm systems, wall safes – all were the most advanced of the day and cost well over \$1.25 million."
- The additional steel and concrete needed to make the lowest basement bombproof cost an additional \$868,000, according to McCullough. The bomb shelter entrance was a four-inch steel door with a narrow window at eye level. There was a small room with 70 army cots stacked against a wall as well as gas masks, chemical toilets, and acetylene torches in case occupants had to cut their way out of the steel door. There was also an emergency generator, Army rations, and a communications center with radios, telephone switchboard, and cryptographic machines.

1960s

- Jacqueline Kennedy oversaw the redecoration of the White House interior restoring the historic integrity of the Red, Green and Blue Rooms, among others.
- Mrs. Kennedy obtained legislation placing the White House under the National Park Service, permitting unneeded objects to be stored or exhibited at the Smithsonian, and preventing art objects from neglect. Her efforts established the White House as a public museum with a permanent collection.
- Mrs. Kennedy established the post of White House curator and created the White House Historical Association to publish a guidebook about the Mansion. The book was a #1 best seller that raised money for the restoration, according to *Kennedy* by Theodore C. Sorensen.

Modern Era

1964

- Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson institutionalized the program initiated by Mrs. Kennedy persuading President Johnson to create by Executive Order in 1964, the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, to which was transferred the responsibilities of Mrs. Kennedy's informal Fine Arts Advisory Committee.

1970

- Patricia Nixon and the Committee for the Preservation of the White House changed the Green and Red Rooms to a museum-like setting with acquisitions of high quality furnishings that survive in the rooms today.

1979

- Rosalynn Carter, an active honorary chair of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, endorsed and supported the establishment of the private, non-profit White House Preservation Fund to provide an endowment for the benefit of the White House.

1981

- Nancy Reagan raised more than \$800,000 in donations from private individuals to redecorate the private quarters and maintain the public rooms of the White House.
- As part of this effort, many of the Executive Mansion's large mahogany doors and wood floors were refinished, and the marble walls on the State and ground floors were restored, and the 29 fireplaces were cleaned.
- Bath and kitchen plumbing fixtures installed during the Truman administration were replaced with modern fixtures.

1992

- Barbara Bush reactivated the Committee for the Preservation of the White House (it had not met during the Reagan years) and supported the reorganization of the White House Preservation Fund. Revitalized as the White House Endowment Fund under the White House Historical Association, a goal of raising a twenty-five million dollar endowment was set for acquisitions, the care and refurbishing of the public rooms, and conservation of the White House Collection.

1995-1998

- Hillary Rodham Clinton, with the advice of the preservation committee, directs the refurbishment of the Blue Room, the East Room, the Entrance Hall, Cross Hall, Grand Staircase, and State Dining Room. Mrs. Clinton actively supported the White House Endowment Fund and through her efforts and that of other First Ladies, the funding goal was achieved in 1998.

Management

The White House is a large structure and from its earliest days domestic operations have demanded a general manager. For this purpose, President John Adams employed John Breisler and Thomas Jefferson through his two administrations, and relied heavily on his French steward Etienne Lemaire. These general managers, later called stewards or ushers, held a powerful and delicate position that called for the ability to communicate with politicians and officials as well as with the family and servants. The title of "chief usher" became official in 1897.

- The White House today is managed by the chief usher, a title that is a holdover from the days when the chief duty was "ushering" people in to meet the President and First Lady.
- Today, however, the chief usher is the general manager of the building, including construction, maintenance, remodeling, food, as well as the administrative, fiscal and personnel functions.
- The chief usher oversees the White House staff of butlers, maids, housekeepers, chefs, cooks, doormen, housemen, florists, electricians, plumbers, storekeepers, engineers and others.
- "During all my years of managing the White House ... my loyalty was not to any one president but rather to the presidency and to the institution that is the White House," J.B. West wrote.
- Since the turn of the 20th century, there have been seven chief ushers:
 - Thomas E. Stone (1903-1909)
 - Irwin H. (Ike) Hoover (1913-1933), author of *42 Years in the White House*.
 - Raymond Muir (1933-1938).
 - Howell G. Crim (1938 to 1957).
 - James B. West (1957 to 1969), wrote *Upstairs at the White House*.
 - Rex Scouten (1969 to 1986).
 - Gary Walters (1986-present).

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WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

White House Chronology

- 1790 A site for the new national capital is selected along the Potomac River.
- 1792 Architect James Hoban is selected as design competition winner.
- 1800 John and Abigail Adams move into the White House; the seat of government is moved from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C.
- 1801 The first public reception at the White House is held on New Year's Day.
- President John Adams appoints "Midnight Judges," including Chief Justice John Marshall.
- President Thomas Jefferson becomes the first president inaugurated in Washington and undertakes plans for a garden and a stone wall around the house.
- A cooking stove replaced the kitchen's open-hearth fireplace for preparing meals.
- 1812 Dolley Madison arranges the wedding of her sister, Lucy Payne Washington, to Supreme Court Justice Thomas Todd, in the first known wedding ceremony held at the White House.
- 1814 The White House and Capitol are burned by the British on August 24th in the War of 1812. Dolley Madison saves the full-length portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart from the fire.
- 1817 President James Monroe moves into the reconstructed White House, still incomplete.

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1823 The Monroe Doctrine, signed in the White House, warns European powers against intervention in the Western Hemisphere.

1824 A South Portico is added to the White House.

The park across the street from the White House is named Lafayette Park to honor General Lafayette.

1825 President John Quincy Adams develops the first flower garden on the White House grounds and plants ornamental trees.

1828 On February 25, young John Adams, grandson of the former president, and son of President John Quincy Adams, marries Mary Catherine Hellen in the White House. The event marks the only time that a president's son has been married in the house.

1830 The North Portico is completed as the front porch of the White House.

1833 Running water is piped into the White House for the first time.

1835 First central heating system is installed.

President Andrew Jackson creates the White House orangery and plants the famous Jackson magnolia on the south side of the house.

1848 Gas lamps installed for President James K. Polk replace candles and oil lamps. Installation of a second and improved central heating system is completed.

1850 Abigail Fillmore, a former schoolteacher, obtained congressional funds to establish an official library in the White House.

1853 Running hot water is piped into the first family's second floor bathroom for the first time.

An efficient hot water heating system is installed for President Franklin Pierce.

1857 The orangery is demolished and a greenhouse is constructed on the west side of the White House.

1865 The first telegraph office is installed in the White House.

- 1871 President Ulysses S. Grant extends the grounds south and a great round pool is built on the south lawn.
- 1878 The tradition of planting commemorative trees to represent each president and state begins as hundreds of trees are planted under President Rutherford B. Hayes.
- 1879 The first telephone, with the phone number of simply "1," is installed for President Rutherford B. Hayes.
- 1881 The White House installs its first hydraulic elevator.
- 1886 President Grover Cleveland is the only president to be married in the White House; he married Frances Folsom, the daughter of a former law partner.
- 1889 President Benjamin Harrison brings the first Christmas tree inside the White House.
- 1891 Electric wiring is installed.
- 1901 The official name of the Executive Mansion is changed to the "White House."
- 1902 The White House is renovated under President Theodore Roosevelt. The conservatory is removed and a new "temporary" Executive Office Building, later called the West Wing, is erected.
- Edith Roosevelt plants a colonial garden on the west lawn.
- 1909 The West Wing office building is doubled in size by a southern expansion and includes the first presidential Oval Office.
- President William Howard Taft purchases official automobiles for the White House and converts the stable into a garage.
- 1913 President Wilson holds the first presidential press conference at the Executive Offices of the White House. About 125 newsmen attend.
- 1922 Electric vacuum cleaners are used in the White House for the first time.
- President Warren G. Harding has a radio installed in his study on the second floor of the White House.

- 1925 President Calvin Coolidge makes the first national radio broadcast from the White House.
- 1926 The White House acquires its first electric refrigerator; iceboxes had been in use since the Polk administration.
- 1933 Soon after his inauguration, President Franklin D. Roosevelt begins radio broadcasts, known as "fireside chats," to the nation.

A heated indoor swimming pool is built as therapy for President Roosevelt's polio.

- 1934 The present Oval Office and Cabinet Room are built in a major West Wing expansion for President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- 1942 An East Wing is added to the White House. It includes a bomb shelter and a movie theater.
- 1947 President Truman delivers the first presidential address broadcast from the White House on October 5.
- 1948 A major renovation to rebuild the interior of the White House and add two underground levels begins under President Truman.
- 1955 President Eisenhower holds the first presidential news conference recorded by television and film on January 19.

President Eisenhower is the first president telecast in color when he appears on NBC's *Home Show* on June 17.

- 1961 President John F. Kennedy has the Rose Garden redesigned and renovated.
- 1964 Lady Bird Johnson has the East Garden completed in honor of Jacqueline Kennedy.
- 1969 The indoor pool is covered over and made into a press room for the growing White House press corps.
- 1979 President Jimmy Carter brings President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel to the White House to sign an historic peace treaty between the two nations.

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- 1987 President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev sign a sweeping nuclear arms reduction treaty in the East Room.
- 1993 President Bill Clinton gets e-mail; Palestinian leader Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Rabin sign an historic peace agreement at the White House.
- 2000 The White House celebrates its 200th anniversary.

###

THE WHITE HOUSE ENDOWMENT FUND

FACT SHEET

The White House Endowment Fund was incorporated in 1990 as a non-profit wholly-owned subsidiary of the White House Historical Association. The purpose of The Fund is to raise a \$25 million endowment to provide permanent support of the White House Collection of fine art and furnishings and to preserve the historic character of the public rooms of the White House.

A bipartisan Board of Directors is elected annually for one-year terms and is responsible for the fundraising campaign. Arrangements have been made for the White House Historical Association to administer the endowment.

As of November 30, 1997, total assets of The Fund were \$25,094,299. The combined assets of The Endowment Fund and the White House Acquisition Trust were \$27,961,430. Riggs National Bank serves as custodian and cash manager, Luther King Capital Management manages the equity accounts, and Morgan Stanley manages fixed income investments.

Past expenditures made on behalf of the White House and current obligations of The Fund for new projects through 1997 amount to \$1.425 million. Projects have included a major refurbishing of the Blue Room, purchase of additional state china to supplement the inventory of several existing patterns which have been reduced through breakage, purchase of a carpet for the East Room and restorations of the marble in the room, and acquisition of a 19th-century American painting.

A resolution of voluntary dissolution was approved by The Endowment Fund Board of Directors on October 23, 1997. The assets of The Fund will be transferred to the White House Historical Association and then used to establish a new White House Endowment Trust created by the Association to carry out the charitable purposes of The Endowment Fund. (See Historical Perspective for additional information.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Office of the Curator
January 1995

THE BLUE ROOM

History

White House architect James Hoban's 1792 plans for the "President's House" noted that the first floor oval room was to be the most elegant of the formal State Rooms. For John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, however, the room served as the principal entrance, its windows opening to wooden stairs which led to the south grounds.

It was not until 1809 that the room became the principal formal drawing room of the White House when it was completely furnished by Dolley Madison and Benjamin Latrobe. The Madisons received their guests there on New Year's Day in 1810 in what was then called the "Oval Drawing Room." Among the objects which Dolley Madison had removed to safety before evacuating the house in 1814 were the red velvet draperies hanging in this room.

In the refurnishing of the house after the fire of 1814, the Monroes ordered mahogany furniture for this room, but the purchasing agents in France substituted a 53-piece suite of gilded furniture made in Paris by Pierre-Antoine Bellangé. Although most of this suite was sold at auction in 1860, eight original pieces have been returned to the room since 1961.

The room was known by its shape - "Elliptical", "Oval", or "Circular" - until the color was changed to blue in 1837 under Martin Van Buren. It then became the "Blue Room," although it was called the "Violet Blue Parlor" under the Grants and the "Robin's Egg Blue Room" after Chester Arthur's redecoration.

The room has been the scene of many family celebrations. Two of President Hayes' children were christened there in 1877. In 1886, the only President to be married in the White House, Grover Cleveland, was joined in marriage to his former ward, Frances Folsom, in a Blue Room ceremony. In this century Woodrow Wilson's daughter, Eleanor, was also married in the room.

Although special meetings, luncheons, and dinners have been held in the room, throughout the years it has continued to be used for the purpose first intended - the formal reception room of the White House. It is here that the President and his wife often receive guests during State receptions and where the credentials of foreign ambassadors have been presented to the President. The first Chinese delegation to present credentials

to an American President was received by President Hayes in the Blue Room in 1878. Since 1961 (excepting 1962 and 1969), the principal White House Christmas tree has been placed in the center of the room.

The room was refurbished in 1963 (Kennedy), utilizing the three original Bellangé chairs (one arm, two side) which had been reacquired for the White House collection in 1961-62 and eleven reproductions (seven arm, four side) made in 1962. All of the chairs were upholstered in a aquamarine silk with a cream-colored eagle medallion based on the upholstery on an oval-back Monroe-era chair depicted in a portrait of President Monroe by John Vanderlyn (City of New York). Since many White House walls in the early 19th century were painted or papered in light colors, the dark blue wall cloth from the Truman Renovation was replaced with a striped off-white fabric.

The room was refurbished again in 1972 (Nixon). The upholstery design was modified on a new silk fabric of a deeper color used on the Bellangé chairs, which now included three additional original armchairs and the bergère. New draperies based on early-19th-century French sources were installed. The walls were covered with a wallpaper derived from a French fragment, c.1800, probably made by Jacquemart et Bénard. The ceiling medallion and cornice were replaced, based on examples from local houses contemporary with the Monroe White House. In 1975, an oval blue Chinese rug was acquired, complementing the shape of the room. In 1981, one of two original curved-frame Bellange sofas, acquired in 1978, was added to the room's furnishings.

For the 1995 refurbishing, the Committee for the Preservation of the White House selected a darker, sapphire blue for the silk upholstery fabric which repeated the previous gold eagle medallion design derived from a chair in the portrait of President Monroe. The draperies, retaining the 1972 design derived from early-19th-century French sources, are of a plain sapphire satin trimmed with a blue and gold tape adapted from the wallpaper frieze and topped by blue and gold valances. All fabrics were made by Scalamandré Silks, Inc., New York.

The walls have been hung with a light gold ground paper, bearing alternating classical medallions in a darker gold, adapted from an early-19th-century American paper, probably copied from a French paper, in the collection of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities in Boston. The borders are adapted from two early-19th-century French papers in the collection of the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, in New York. The upper border is a blue drapery swag with gold classical motifs; the lower border along the chair rail has a blue and gold pattern with rosettes. This wallpaper was made by Brunschwig & Fils, New York. French papers were used in the White House throughout the 19th century. In fact, President Monroe ordered five cases of paper from France in 1817.

A carpet based on early-19th-century designs is being made for the room. (The mid-19th-century Chinese carpet which had been in the room since 1975 was badly worn and had to be replaced.) The new carpet is expected to be installed in April.

The room has been painted and gilded to reflect the finishes in an American room of the first quarter of the 19th century. The acanthus leaves and three lines in the cornice have been gilded, as have the leaves and pearls in the ceiling medallion. [There is documentation of architectural gilding in the White House as early as 1817 (the Cross Hall) and 1830 (the East Room)]. The wainscoting, door surrounds, windows and reveals, which have received extensive conservation redefining their details, have been painted white and rubbed to a "porcelain" finish. The faux marble paint on the baseboards has been removed to reveal the white marble installed in the Truman era.

The White House Endowment Fund has contributed the funds to pay for the 1995 renovation and refurbishment of the Blue Room.

The White House Endowment Fund

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 31, 1995
page 1 OF 2

WHITE HOUSE ENDOWMENT FUND ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF BLUE ROOM RENOVATIONS AND REFURBISHING

WASHINGTON, DC -- The White House Endowment Fund is pleased to announce their participation and support in the completion of the renovation of the Blue Room of the White House.

Renovating and refurbishing of the Blue Room began on January 3, 1995. Work done in the Blue Room includes replacing the wall paper, drapes and furniture fabric, repainting the room, and the preservation and conservation of historic objects in the room.

The Blue Room project is the first major White House renovation project funded exclusively by the White House Endowment Fund. The Blue Room will be officially reopened on February 17, 1995 at the bi-annual meeting of the Committee for The Preservation of the White House.

The White House Endowment Fund was established in 1990 as a non-profit charitable organization and subsidiary of the White House Historical Association to raise a \$25 million endowment. The purpose of this endowment is to support, in perpetuity, the preservation and conservation of the public rooms of the White House, and the acquisition of objects for the White House collection of fine and decorative arts.

The estimated cost for the renovation and refurbishing of the Blue Room is \$358,358.80. Funds sufficient to underwrite the cost of the project were made available through the investment proceeds accrued from the Endowment Fund's current principal of \$12 million.

The Chief Usher and Curator of The White House are authorized to request support from the endowment for all projects. The Board of Directors of the White House Endowment Fund is responsible for raising the endowment and approving expenditures within an amount specified for spending each year. Contributions made to the White House Endowment Fund are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

-more-

740 JACKSON PLACE, NW ♦ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503 ♦ 202/789-1145

FAX 202/789-0440

Blue Room - Endowment Fund
page 2 of 2

The Chair of the White House Endowment Fund is Mrs. Nancy M. Folger. More than one hundred and fifty individuals, corporations, and private foundations have contributed to the White House Endowment Fund.

For additional information contact: Mr. Neil Horstman, Executive Vice President, White House Historical Association - 202-737-0025, or, Mrs. Nancy M. Folger, Chair, the White House Endowment Fund - 202-789-1145.

##

Attached: List of suppliers

EDITORS NOTE: The Blue Room will be officially unveiled on February 17, 1995 at the meeting of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. There will be a press preview of the room and an opportunity to talk with the First Lady and the individuals involved in the renovation and refurbishing project at that time. Space for this press preview is limited. Please contact the First Lady's Press Office if you would like to cover this event - 202-456-2960.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

EAST ROOM

The East Room, scene of many historic White House events, was designated by architect, James Hoban, as the "Public Audience Room." It normally contains little furniture and traditionally is used for large gatherings, such as dances, after dinner entertainment, concerts, weddings, funerals, award presentations, press conferences, and bill signing ceremonies.

History:

- 1800 - When John and Abigail Adams moved into the White House, this room was incomplete. The laundry was hung in this room.
- 1801 - Thomas Jefferson had the south end of the room partitioned into two rooms to create a bedroom and an office for his secretary, Meriwether Lewis, later co-leader of the Lewis and Clark expedition.
- 1829 - Room first fully decorated under Andrew Jackson.
- 1861 - During the Civil War, Union troops quartered in this room for a time.
- 1873 - Under Ulysses S. Grant, room decorated in Victorian style referred to as "Steamboat Gothic."
- 1902 - Under Theodore Roosevelt, room redecorated by McKim, Mead and White in classical revival style.
- 1952 - Paneling and ceiling modified during the Truman Renovation.

State Occasions:

- February 24, 1902 - Dinner honoring Prince Henry of Prussia (Theodore Roosevelt Administration)
- April 22, 1980 - Luncheon honoring King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola of Belgium (Jimmy Carter Administration)
- October 4, 1994 - Dinner honoring President Nelson Mandela of South Africa (Bill Clinton Administration)

Weddings:

Presidential daughters -

- Elizabeth Tyler, 1842
- Nellie Grant, 1874
- Alice Roosevelt, 1906
- Jessie Wilson, 1913
- Lynda Johnson, 1967

Lying in State:

Seven of eight presidents who died in office have lain in state in the East Room. President James A. Garfield, 1881, was the exception.

- William Henry Harrison, 1841
- Zachary Taylor, 1850
- Abraham Lincoln, 1865
- William McKinley, 1901
- Warren G. Harding, 1923
- Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1945
- John F. Kennedy, 1963

Other funerals included three first ladies -

- Letitia Christian Tyler, 1842
- Caroline Lavinia Scott Harrison, 1892
- Ellen Louise Axson Wilson, 1914

Also of Interest:

- President Dwight D. Eisenhower takes oath of office to begin his second term on Sunday, January 20, 1957. Inauguration at U.S. Capitol held on Monday, January 21.
- President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act, July 2, 1964.
- Gerald R. Ford is sworn in as President, August 9, 1974.
- Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt signed the Camp David accords, establishing a framework for peace in the Middle East, September 17, 1978.



WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Significant Foreign Visitors at the White House

- ❖ The Marquis de Lafayette was one of the first notable international guests of the White House. President John Quincy Adams honored the hero of the American and French Revolutions with a party on the Marquis de Lafayette's 68th birthday in 1825. The square across Pennsylvania Avenue would later be named to commemorate Lafayette.
- ❖ In 1860, President James Buchanan hosted the first envoys from Imperial Japan. Two royal princes and a dozen noblemen came with many servants. They carried a box containing a commercial treaty that would be exchanged for similar documents from the United States.
- ❖ The first ruling king to visit the White House was King David Kalakaua of the Sandwich Islands (now Hawaii). President Ulysses S. Grant hosted him in 1874. Royal food testers sampled the White House dinner for the king.
- ❖ The king and queen of England came to Washington, D.C., in 1939 and stayed one night at the White House. It was the first trip to the United States by a British monarch.
- ❖ Charles de Gaulle met with President Harry Truman at the White House in 1945.
- ❖ The first Pope to visit the White House was Pope John Paul II, who came during the Carter presidency in 1979.
- ❖ President Jimmy Carter brought President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel to the White House to sign an historic peace treaty between the two nations in 1978.
- ❖ President Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev signed the Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) Treaty, the first arms control agreement in history that reduced the number of nuclear weapons held by both countries, in 1987 in the East Room.
- ❖ Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat signed an historic peace treaty on September 13, 1993. President Bill Clinton and 3,000 visitors witnessed the moment on the south lawn of the White House.

###



WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

White House Living

- ❖ President Gerald R. Ford said it was "the best public housing I've ever seen."
- ❖ President Harry S. Truman referred to the White House as a "glamorous prison," the "great white sepulcher of ambitions," or the "taxpayers' house."
- ❖ The movements of the President, First Lady and others are tracked within the White House. The Secret Service and ushers are alerted by signal when they enter a room.
- ❖ Right after the Inauguration in 1989, Barbara Bush said she wanted to use a smaller car rather than a big black limo and to travel by train or commercial airline when she had to go out of town. The Secret Service approved the smaller car but nixed the commercial travel "since the number of threats against the First Lady is higher than that for the vice president."
- ❖ Nancy Reagan said that about a month after moving in to the White House, she was surprised when the usher sent up a bill for their food. "Nobody had told us that the president and his wife are charged for every meal, as well as for such incidentals as dry cleaning, toothpaste and other toiletries."
- ❖ "The isolation of the President in the White House is not so much self-imposed as it is imposed by others and by the nature of the office itself. The ushers, military aides, and key staff members all try to ensure that the President's energy is reserved for the big decisions; to spare him the petty details of life; to fulfill as quickly as possible his requests, large and small. His family is similarly isolated ... and are oddly unaware of most of the rumors that sweep through Washington ...," according to Julie Nixon Eisenhower in *Pat Nixon, The Untold Story*.

-- more --

- ❖ "The Executive Mansion of the United States is far more than a temporary home for the family who lives there for four or eight years. It is now a museum containing priceless works of art and furnishings, a national monument open to 2 million tourists a year, a guest hotel for entertaining visitors of state and, in recent years, an impregnable fortress for protecting the life of the commander-in-chief."

J.B. West, *Upstairs at the White House*.

- ❖ "I think we sat down to eat together only once, and as I looked around the table, Barbara and Jenna [George W. Bush's twin daughters] were not anywhere to be seen. ...One of the butlers spoke up and said that they had just telephoned the kitchen and ordered sandwiches to be delivered to the bowling alley. The bowling alley! We put an end to that before it started, and they ate with us."

Barbara Bush, *A Memoir*, on Inauguration Week, 1989, when her entire extended family stayed at the White House.

- ❖ "Jack took both pride and interest in the rose garden. He wanted to know the varieties. He had ideas about the juxtaposition of colors, and if there were yellow leaves or other signs of distress he wanted to know what ought to be done and who would take care of it. I must say I was a bit surprised, for I had never heard nor seen him demonstrate any interest in horticulture at home."

Rose Kennedy, *Times to Remember*, about John Kennedy's interest in the rose garden outside the Oval Office.

- ❖ "Every evening, while I took a bath, one of the maids would come by and remove my clothes for laundering or dry cleaning. The bed would always be turned down. Five minutes after Ronnie came home and hung up his suit, it would disappear from the closet to be pressed, cleaned or brushed. No wonder Ron used to call the White House an eight-star hotel."

Nancy Reagan, *My Turn*.

- ❖ When the press on the outside wanted to know what she was doing inside, even when Tricia was "at home," there was little privacy. The Secret Service was not with us on the mansion's second and third floors, the family quarters, but the minute we stepped onto the public floors below our rooms, we were guarded..."

Julie Nixon Eisenhower, *Pat Nixon, the Untold Story*, discussing her older sister, Tricia Nixon.

###

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE WHITE HOUSE COLLECTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

A Statement of Philosophy

The White House, constructed between 1792 and 1800, is the official residence of the President of the United States and a living historic house containing a collection of museum quality objects. This collection of fine and decorative arts encompasses both historic objects associated with the White House and the Presidency, and significant representative works by a variety of American and European artists and craftsmen, generally consonant with the historic character of the house. Since 1800 when the first work of art, the portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart, was acquired for the President's House, objects have been purchased by, or donated to, the White House. While works are acquired for exhibition as well as for functional use, the overall objective in the assemblage of the collection is to present a visual homogeneity of objects representative of those that once may have adorned this important structure, and through the exhibition of superior quality fine and decorative arts, to promote an awareness of the historic significance of the President's House through its ever changing occupancies.

Goals/Guidelines

Fine Arts - This collection includes superior examples of American paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, and watercolors that portray the life, the times, the beauty and wonders of our country, our cultural heritage, and the individuals who have guided the destiny of our nation. Fine arts will be collected in the following areas:

1. Life portraits of Presidents and First Ladies, and other prominent individuals directly associated with the White House.
2. Works (paintings, prints, drawings or watercolors) representing geographic areas as well as the variety of our cultural heritage. Special emphasis should be placed on those areas not well represented in the collection - the West, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, the South.
3. Works (paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings or watercolors) of extraordinary quality by leading American artists, and/or works representing major movements/periods in American art.

Decorative Arts - This collection includes superior examples of furniture, silver, ceramics, glass, textiles, and miscellaneous domestic objects that represent the changing styles and fashions preferred by the various First Families during their occupancy of the White House. Decorative arts will be collected in the following areas:

1. Objects with a provenance of use in the White House, or ownership by a previous occupant, including architectural elements once removed from the building.
2. Objects associated with a former President or First Lady, particularly if the objects were used in the White House. No items of a personal nature such as clothing will be acquired. An object presented to a President or First Lady, either while in office or out of office, will be evaluated carefully for determination as to its appropriateness for the White House collection.
3. Objects reflecting the highest tradition of late 18th, 19th and early 20th century American craftsmanship which complement the existing White House collections. Works by contemporary craftsmen or companies will not be considered for acquisition, with the exception of special commissions.

Manuscript and Documentary Materials - The White House will collect manuscript materials, letters, documents, prints and photographs which relate directly to the White House, its architecture and collections. Presidential materials such as letters will be acquired only if they directly relate to the White House or life in the White House.

General Criteria for Selection

The criteria for selection of a work (either fine or decorative arts) include (1) importance of the subject, (2) aesthetic quality, (3) representation of the artist, (4) uniqueness or degree of rarity, (5) authenticity and (6) condition.

Works of an artist are not considered for acquisition until the artist is deceased and the work executed 25 years from the current date. Life portraits of Presidents and First Ladies are excepted.

It is recognized that many examples of late 19th and early 20th century paintings may not be of the same period as the decorative arts of the State Rooms. However, the premise that good works of one period will harmonize with good examples of the decorative arts of another period is followed. Furthermore, there are many

locations, such as the second floor of the White House and the public areas of the East and West Wings, where fine examples can be hung appropriately and appreciated by the many people who visit these areas.

Acquisition Procedures

The White House acquires objects for the collection by purchase, gift, bequest, and transfer. Objects should be acquired only if they fulfill the collecting goals and criteria as defined above by the Committee for the Preservation of the White House.

The acquisition of objects must be governed, in part, by the ability of the White House to preserve, store and protect the collection. Objects which cannot be exhibited or used, except for documentary materials or those with a White House provenance, should not be accepted. Funds for the purchase of acquisitions must come either from private contributions, grants made by the White House Historical Association, or the Executive Residence Budget.

Any object under consideration for acquisition will be researched and evaluated carefully by the Curator/curatorial staff (and appropriate sub-committee members or other professional curatorial/conservation advisors) for its aesthetic quality, authenticity, provenance, and condition. All acquisitions must be presented by the Curator for acceptance to the appropriate sub-committee (e.g. Fine Arts or Decorative Arts) of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House.

If the Curator/curatorial staff is convinced of a work's aesthetic quality, authenticity, provenance, as well as its appropriateness for the collection, a standard acquisition form is then completed. The form, along with a photograph or transparency, is then forwarded to the members of the appropriate sub-committee, requesting their approval or disapproval. If a simple majority of the sub-committee approves the acquisition, it then becomes an accessioned object in the collection of the White House. Acquisitions shall be reported to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House at each meeting.

Purchase at Auction

The situation with respect to auctions necessitates prompt action on the part of the sub-committees. When appropriate and extraordinary objects come up for sale at auction, the same general acquisition procedures are followed but, due to time limitations, the acquisition procedure is shortened and the decision-making process expedited. In this respect it is usually necessary to shortcut the canvassing of all members of the sub-

committee. However, the Curator and Chief Usher will consult with the Chairman, and one or more members of the sub-committee, along with any additional curatorial/conservation professionals necessary.

Acquisition of Gifts and Bequests

The same acquisition approval procedure is followed for gift offers and bequests, as for purchases. It must be ascertained that the proposed gift meets the stated guidelines, and is submitted to the standard acquisition research and review, as any purchase would be. When the appropriate sub-committee has approved an offered gift or bequest, then a deed of gift, transferring free and clear title and the imagery copyright of an object to the White House must be signed and dated by the donor prior to its accession into the collection. Only unrestricted gifts will be accepted, unless otherwise approved by the Committee. The donor shall receive a thank you letter from the Curator and one from the Director of the National Park Service, which will be accompanied by an engraved certificate signed by the First Lady from the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. Major donations (as defined by the Office of the Curator) merit a thank you letter from the First Lady and/or the President.

The Curator, with the concurrence of both the Chief Usher and a member of either the fine or decorative arts committees, can either make a purchase or accept a gift without full committee approval as long as the value does not exceed \$5,000.

NOTE: The staff of the Office of the Curator shall not establish appraisals on objects donated to the White House, nor on other objects brought to the White House for study, evaluation, or loan. The staff may assist donors seeking independent qualified appraisers by suggesting at least two alternative appraisers.

Collection Records, Inventory, and Access

Complete documentary files will be kept for all accessioned objects. These records should include a completed acquisition/catalogue form, a bill of sale or deed of gift, correspondence, bibliographic references/photographs of related objects, copies of appraisals, photographs, etc. Any movement of an object, whether for storage, conservation, or as a loan to the Smithsonian for exhibition, must be noted in its permanent file.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 5, 1994

CONTACT: LISA CAPUTO
NEEL LATTIMORE
KAREN FINNEY
202-456-2960

WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE CHEF

WASHINGTON, DC -- Walter S. Scheib, III was officially hired as the Executive Chef of the White House on Monday, April 4, 1994. Chef Scheib is expected to begin service at the White House in mid April.

A 1979 graduate of The Culinary Institute of America, Scheib is the Executive Chef of the Greenbrier, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, a post he has held since 1991. Scheib has served as the Executive Chef of the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, DC; the Madison Hotel, Washington, DC; The Boca Raton Hotel and Club, Boca Raton, Florida; and the Capital Hilton Hotel, Washington, DC.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said of Scheib's selection, "I am delighted that Walter Scheib will be joining the White House as Executive Chef. Mr. Scheib's experience, which reflects regional American cuisine, makes him ideally suited for the Executive Chef position."

The White House Executive Chef oversees the kitchen staff and coordinates the preparation of all meals served at the White House. Last year more than 60,000 people attended social events at the White House.

"Walter Scheib's ability to prepare a wide range of menus makes him the perfect choice for this position," said White House Social Secretary Ann Stock. "I am looking forward to working with him as we set the social schedule for the months ahead."

"It is an honor and a pleasure to serve the First Family," said Scheib. "I look forward to helping the First Lady create menus that reflect the finest American cuisine."

Scheib, a native of Bethesda, Maryland, is married to Jean P. Scheib. They have two children.

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THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The White House has been the residence and office of all Presidents of the United States since November 1800. It is a unit of the National Park System administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The White House is the only executive residence in the world that is regularly open to visitation by its citizens without charge. Almost 1.5 million of them visit each year, and a recent survey found that 27 percent of all Americans have visited the White House. In addition, between 35,000-40,000 guests are entertained annually, and another 15,000 plus are hosted at special ceremonies.

The tradition of dedication on the part of presidential wives to the preservation of the historic integrity of the White House was initiated with the heroic effort of Dolley Madison to rescue Gilbert Stuart's portrait of George Washington before the British burned the White House in the War of 1812, and has been continued through succeeding generations.

In 1866, Martha Johnson Patterson, daughter and hostess of President Andrew Johnson, discovered in the White House attic a forgotten group of presidential portraits Congress had commissioned from the painter George P. A. Healy a decade earlier. With these she created a Gallery of Presidents for the entrance hall of the White House.

Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes sought the assistance of the Librarian of Congress, A. R. Spofford, in planning a Gallery of Presidential Wives for the East Room. The portrait of Martha Washington that hangs there today was the first of this project.

Mrs. James A. Garfield, too, went to Librarian Spofford for advice, and they sponsored a major redecoration of the State Rooms along the popular aesthetic lines of the day, featuring history themes.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison began the collection of historic White House china which has grown into a magnificent display of White House table objects. She also proposed a master plan for an expansion of the White House that included museum rooms for art and history. However, her death prevented the execution of her plan.

Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt ordered the preservation of the Lincoln bed and bedroom furniture, Andrew Jackson's round table, and numerous other historical items.

In 1925, Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, inspired by the new American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, appointed an advisory committee composed of those who had built the American Wing, with the purpose of refurbishing the White House in colonial style. She also personally redecorated two bedrooms on the third floor in reproductions of antiques.

Mrs. Herbert Hoover, who was knowledgeable in the fields of architecture and interior design, did not believe that a room filled with reproductions of period furniture could be considered historic. To demonstrate her point, she ordered precise copies made of James Monroe's French furniture which had been used in the White House. They included the mahogany desk on which President Monroe had written the Monroe Doctrine. With this, she created the Monroe Room, later called the Treaty Room, where according to her research the furniture had actually been used. Mrs. Hoover was the first resident of the White House to compile a catalogue of historical artifacts of the White House, each one illustrated, described, and documented.

Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower pressed for the acquisition of antiques for the White House. She arranged with the National Society of Interior Designers to refurbish the oval Diplomatic Reception Room in furnishings of the Federal period of the United States.

Between 1800-1960, to supplement modest appropriations for furnishings, the Congress authorized the President to sell worn or obsolete household goods and use the proceeds to furnish the White House as he saw fit. Additional funding for this purpose was provided by the President and First Lady personally and through private gifts and loans of objects/paintings.

In 1961, the Congress enacted legislation declaring the furnishings of the Public Rooms to be the inalienable property of the White House. The Congress, however, did not provide adequate appropriated funds either to furnish or to maintain the Public Rooms.

In furtherance of this Congressional policy, Mrs. John F. Kennedy, in 1961, initiated a three-part program: to restore the historic integrity of the Public Rooms of the White House; to acquire a Collection of fine and decorative arts; and to establish the White House Historical Association, as a private, independent, non-profit corporation to research, publish and sell, principally to White House visitors, books and other educational literature and materials interpreting "the White House and its history and the persons and events associated with it." Program support was to be provided by Association earnings, donations and available appropriations.

In pursuing these objectives, Mrs. Kennedy was assisted by an informal Fine Arts Advisory Committee, members of which were selected by her. The Committee advised with respect to the historic integrity of refurbishing plans for the Public Rooms and the authenticity and desirability of the acquisition of individual paintings and objects for the Collection. Members also assisted her in soliciting private funds to support the program.

The White House Historical Association, chartered as a non-profit corporation by the District of Columbia in 1961, was approved as a cooperating association of the National Park Service and by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. To insure the legality and appropriateness of private contributions, all donations were directed either to the Association or to the National Park Service, which administers the White House and holds title to all White House furnishings in the name of the United States.

Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson institutionalized the program initiated by Mrs. Kennedy by persuading President Johnson in 1964 to create, by Executive Order, the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, to which was transferred the responsibilities of Mrs. Kennedy's informal Fine Arts Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, entering this existing framework, embarked on an acquisition program of American art and antiques that enhanced the White House historically beyond what it had ever been. Because of her efforts, the White House possesses one of the most significant collections of Americana in the world.

Donations and the Association's net profits from operations continued to be the principal support for the restored White House.

By 1979, earnings of the Association fell far short of the monies needed; appropriations were limited and uncertain; and, donations failed to bridge the financial gap.

To encourage expanded private support for the White House, upon the recommendation of former Chief Usher Rex Scouren, Mrs. Carter initiated an active, organized public effort to fund an independent endowment of \$25,000,000. The White House Preservation Fund, a corporation separate from the Association, undertook the task in 1979. In its operation, The Preservation Fund spent both income and capital for White House support.

In 1990, Mrs. Bush proposed that the fund-raising effort be reorganized with direct involvement by the Association, restricting expenditures to income from investments at a level to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment.

The Preservation Fund was dissolved, its remaining assets were transferred to the Association, and The White House Endowment Fund was chartered as a wholly owned subsidiary of the White House Historical Association. All donations were added to the capital of The Endowment Fund. Moreover, donations could not be restricted or earmarked.

The desire of prospective donors to earmark gifts for acquisition of specific objects for the Collection persisted. Mrs. Clinton, in 1996, encouraged the Association to extend the reach of The Endowment Fund to accommodate these donors.

Because of her initiative, the Association undertook a wide-ranging review of its policies for White House support, resulting in two dramatic changes in policy approved by the Board of Directors of the Association at its regular meeting on October 23, 1996, to wit:

1. Created the WHITE HOUSE ACQUISITION TRUST, augmenting The Endowment Fund, to be operated as a revolving fund to accommodate gifts earmarked solely for the acquisition of objects for the Collection; and,
2. Guaranteed (a) to replenish capital expended by the Acquisition Trust, and (b) to fund the shortfall between The Endowment Fund's annual Spending Target and the annual budget for maintenance/refurbishment of the Public Rooms, consisting of the Library, Vermeil Room, China Room, Diplomatic Reception Room, East Room, Green Room, Blue Room, Red Room, State Dining Room, Crosshall and Entrance Lobby.

SUNDAY, JULY 4, 1999

Boston Sunday Globe

PARADISE



First Lady
Hillary Rodham
Clinton sits
in one of her
favorite
places in the
White House—
the Blue Room.

Welcome,

Let's Celebrate Together
The 200th Anniversary
Of the White House

By Hillary Rodham Clinton

INSIDE: A Lifesaving Answer...By Marilyn vos Savant

"It has been an honor and a privilege to live in the White House," says the First Lady, who describes her awestruck first days there, how she created a home for her family and how you can participate in the 200th anniversary of the historic building.

Hillary Rodham Clinton takes Brianna Randall, 6, and Aaron Daugherty, 10, through the Blue Room on a tour of the White House. During the peak tourist seasons, about 30,000 visitors a week walk through the main floor.

Come Celebrate With Us

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

President and Mrs. Clinton are looking forward to marking the 200th anniversary of the White House with a number of events throughout the coming year. Here, the First Lady reflects on what it has been like to live in the White House and how it feels to be the custodian of a national treasure, and she describes some of the ways you can join in the celebration.

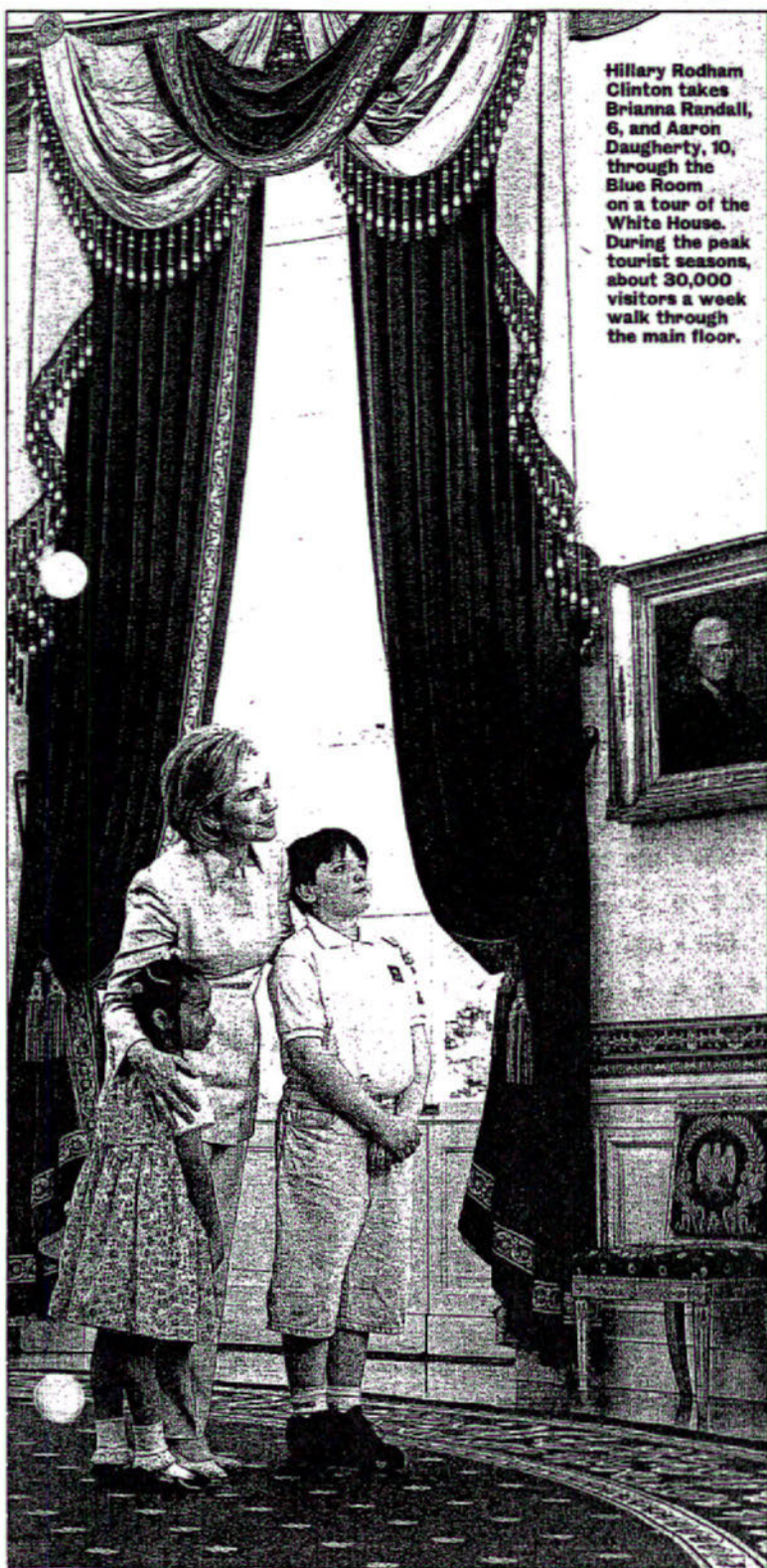
EVEN AS A YOUNG GIRL, I WAS fascinated by the White House. I loved to gaze at photos of it. Later, whenever I flew into Washington, I would strain for a glimpse of its graceful and stately lines as the plane swept low over the Potomac. Next year, on the eve of a new century and a new millennium, Americans also will celebrate a big birthday in Washington: the 200th anniversary of the federal government's move to the District of Columbia, the building of the White House and the Capitol, and the creation of the Library of Congress. Many events celebrating the 200th anniversary will take place.

It was on Nov. 1, 1800, that our second President, John Adams, moved from the temporary capital in Philadelphia to what was then called the President's House in Washington. Since then, every American President has lived in the White House. Only George Washington, who oversaw its design and the choice of its location, never slept here.

It has been an honor and a privilege to live in the White House and, even more, to be the custodian of such a national treasure. Go back with me to Jan. 20, 1993, my husband's first day as President, and imagine the sense of

Anniversary Events

Hillary Rodham Clinton invites you to participate in the following events to help mark the historic occasion.





The White House today. Mrs. Clinton has overseen the refurbishing of the Blue Room, the East Room, the State Dining Room and the Grand Foyer.

humility and awe I felt when, as the new First Lady, I first entered the White House.

Chelsea and I had spent the morning at the Capitol for the swearing-in ceremonies and then traveled down Pennsylvania Avenue to our new home. After watching the Inaugural Parade from the reviewing stand, we proceeded to the North Portico—the spot where, over the next several years, we would welcome some of the world's most distinguished foreign leaders. Then we stepped into the Grand Foyer, where we were greeted by the many people who work so hard to make the White House not just a living museum but also a warm and inviting place for the First Family to live.

One of my first orders of business was to create a home for my family—especially Chelsea, who was only 12 then. I knew I could rely on the White House's residence staff, many of whom had served in previous administrations. Together, with help from the White House Curator's Office and the Usher's Office, we planned a special party for Chelsea and some of her friends—old ones from Arkansas as well as new ones from Washington. The highlight of the evening was a scavenger hunt. While Bill and I attended 13 inaugu-

gural balls, Chelsea's friends roamed all over her new house, finding items of historical significance like the Gettysburg Address, as well as the hidden staircase

ers, the chief usher of the White House, and Ann Stock, my social secretary, came to me and said, 'So, what are your plans for Christmas?' I almost fell off of my chair. I love Christmas, but December was still months away, and it hadn't occurred to me that we would have to begin preparing so early. But I soon learned how important early planning is at the White House.

The people who work here do a great job of helping the First Family feel at home. I'll never forget when, on my birthday in 1995, I came down the formal staircase to find the entry hall transformed into a 1950s-style living room—replete with plastic-covered divans and rabbit ears on top of a big old TV! My friends and staff had planned a surprise party that took me back to my younger years. It was one of the best birthday parties ever.

One of our favorite pastimes at the White House is to have friends in for a movie and popcorn in the theater on a Friday or Saturday night. Outside, we

Zachary, who have played all over the grounds. And our Labrador, Buddy, and cat, Socks, spend most of their time outside, chasing balls, birds and squirrels.

I also started sculpture exhibits in the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden, showcasing



1989: First Lady Barbara Bush in the White House with her daughter, Doro Bush Koch, and granddaughter, Ellie, then 2.

American art. And, like every Presidential family before us, Bill and I have planted trees on the grounds. I remember how poignant it was to plant dogwoods in memory of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and the Oklahoma City bombing victims.

It is impossible to enter the White House

and not be touched by the lives of those who have come before. Burn marks remain on the exterior from the fire set by the British in 1814. And no one can enter the Lincoln Bedroom without thinking of President Lincoln drafting the Emancipation Proclamation. Or walk into the Map Room without picturing FDR commanding our forces during World War II. One of the most significant events of my husband's Presidency occurred on Sept. 13,

The Burning of the White House

On Aug. 24, 1814, British soldiers invaded Washington, setting fire to the Capitol building and the President's House, as it was known then. A blackened, burned-out shell was all that was left after fires swept the mansion that hot summer night. Today, the most vivid reminders of the blaze are scorch marks on the North Wall and the South Portico.



The President's House, 1800: This recent painting was based on details in William Seale's book *The White House: The History of an American Idea*.

Although almost everyone in Washington fled in anticipation of the British onslaught, First Lady Dolley Madison remained in the house, waiting for her husband to return from Bladensburg, Md., where he had joined the American troops. Friends finally persuaded her to leave, but not before she rescued Gilbert Stuart's portrait of George Washington, which now hangs in the East Room.

In February 1815, Congress appropriated funds for the restoration of the President's House and hired James Hoban, its original designer and builder, to replicate the house. He worked furiously, sometimes employing as many as 190 men, until October 1817, when President and Mrs. James Monroe moved in. The restored house was opened to the public on New Year's Day in 1818.

between the second and third floors.

Shortly after the inauguration, I received a startling introduction to the First Lady's responsibilities when Gary Walt-

have enjoyed welcoming ceremonies, press conferences, Easter egg rolls and Fourth of July fireworks displays. We have had lots of fun with our young nephews, Tyler and

1993, when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir Arafat shook

continued

FALL 1999:
Sept. 29, the White House Historical Association will hold its annual Heritage Lecture on the White House.

SPRING 2000:
The National Building Museum, in cooperation with the White House Historical Association, will display models of the White House.

SUMMER 2000:
The White House Historical Association and Abbeville Press will publish a book about the history of the furnishings in the White House.

FALL 2000:
The White House Historical Association will release a video on the history of music at the White House. The White House Visitor Center will present an inaugural exhibit.

A CALENDAR FOR 2000:
The White House Historical Association is selling a commemorative calendar featuring paintings by artists from the 13 original states and the District of Columbia.

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THE WHITE HOUSE/continued

hands on the South Lawn after signing their peace agreement. Among the thousands of guests were two former Presidents—Jimmy Carter and George Bush.

In the President's private study in the Treaty Room on the second floor, there is a photo of the President and

collections of fine art and furnishings and to preserve the historical character of the public rooms. Congress appropriates funds for the daily operation and maintenance of the house, but until the creation of the Endowment Fund, refurbishing projects and acquisitions were paid for primarily by private contri-



1993: President Bill Clinton shares a moment in the Oval Office with his daughter, Chelsea, then 13.

butions. It was First Lady Rosalynn Carter who, in 1979, initiated the effort to establish a permanent endowment for the White House; and it was my predecessor, Barbara Bush, who created the current fund in 1990 with its goal of raising \$25 million. I'm proud to say that, with the help of many wonderful people, we've not only met but also exceeded that goal.

In less than two years, another First Family will move in. Before we go, though, I'll help celebrate the bicentennial of the White House with

me with Al and Tipper Gore and three former Presidents—Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter and George Bush. It reminds us of the unbroken link between the past and the present. The President and I know we are merely short-term tenants, and we feel very strongly the obligations of our stewardship.

When we arrived, extensive renovations of the exterior of the building were under way—including the removal of some 40 coats of paint and the repair of the stonework. I have been privileged to oversee the refurbishing of the Blue Room, the East Room, the State Dining Room and the Grand Foyer.

Upon moving in, I learned that the Blue Room—the oval centerpiece of the main floor and one of my favorite places—needed attention. In the peak tourist seasons, 30,000 visitors a week walk through the main floor—1.5 million each year! The draperies and upholstery in the room, last replaced in 1972, were badly worn and sun-damaged. After months of hard work and anxious moments, we unveiled the final product in 1995. I was delighted and relieved with the positive reaction.

None of this could have been accomplished without the White House Endowment Fund, a nonprofit charitable organization created to provide permanent support for the White House

events that include a symposium on its history and a book on its furnishings and rooms. I hope you will find a way to celebrate with us.

To Learn More

For further information about the President's home, you can read *The Living White House*, published by the White House Historical Association, and William Seale's *The President's House: A History*.

For more details about the forthcoming events, write to the Anniversary Committee Celebrating Freedom and Democracy, Dept. P, 3112 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.

To learn about a virtual tour of the White House, visit the White House Historical Association's Web site at www.whitehousehistory.org.

For details about real tours of the White House, visit www.whitehouse.gov on the Web. And if you're interested in the White House pets, you can read Mrs. Clinton's book *Dear Socks, Dear Buddy*.

Students in grades K-12 who wish to take part in a national art exhibition or choral in November 2000 can visit www.wh200th.org on the Web or call 1-800-336-3768.