

X-TREME FACTS: U.S. HISTORY

THE WHITE HOUSE



**The White House's
first phone
number was 1.**



**Some say Lincoln's
ghost haunts the
White House.**

**When John Adams lived in
the White House, it had
only six finished rooms!**

by Campbell Collison



[Page intentionally left blank.]

X-TREME FACTS: U.S. HISTORY

THE WHITE HOUSE



by Campbell Collison



Minneapolis, Minnesota

Credits:

© Cover, clockwise from bottom left, John Trumbull/Public Domain; Nerthuz/Shutterstock; George Peter Alexander Healy/Public Domain; imagedj/Shutterstock; Title Page, Orhan Cam/Shutterstock; 4, Everett Historical/Shutterstock.com; 5 top, George Munger/Public Domain; 5 right, Bass Otis/Public Domain; 5 middle, Library of Congress/Public Domain; 5 left, David P. Lewis/Shutterstock.com; 6 top, James Hoban/Public Domain; 6 left, John Christian Rauschner/Public Domain; 6 right, John Trumbull/Public Domain; 7 top, George Cooke/Public Domain; 7, E. Walker/Public Domain; 7 left, right, Gilbert Stuart/Public Domain; 8 bottom background Joraca/Shutterstock; 8 bottom left, 8-29 Austen Photography; 8 top, Suzanne Tucker/Shutterstock; 8 right, LightField Studios/Shutterstock; 9 top, The White House/Public Domain; 9 left, Nationaal Archief/Creative Commons; 9 right, (Mr) Smith, War Office official photographer/Public Domain; 9 bottom background, AudeVivre/Creative Commons; 10 top, Executive Office of the President of the United States/Public Domain; 10, LightField Studios/Shutterstock; 11 top, Ritu Manoj Jethani/Shutterstock.com; 11 middle, Sashkin/Shutterstock; 11, Executive Office of the President of the United States/Public Domain; 12 top, Carol M. Highsmith/General Services Administration/Public Domain; 12, Leika production/Shutterstock; 13 top, Annie Leibovitz/Released by White House Photo Office/Public Domain; 13 middle, Official White House Photo by Chuck Kennedy/Public Domain; 13 bottom, padmak/Shutterstock.com; 13 right, Everett Historical/Shutterstock; 14, Bumble Dee/Shutterstock.com; 14 right, Chernetskaya/Dreamstime.com; 15 top, 15 bottom, 27, Pete Souza, Executive Office of the President of the United State/Public Domain; 15 middle, Ronald Regan Archives/Public Domain; 16, Executive Office of the President of the United States/Public Domain; 17 top, 1000 Words/Shutterstock.com; 17 right, Records of the White House Photo Office/Public Domain; 17 left, Viorel Sima/Shutterstock; 17, Orhan Cam/Shutterstock; 18 top, Everett Historical/Shutterstock; 18, The U.S. National Archives/Public Domain; 19 top, Orhan Cam/Shutterstock; 19 top left, bottom left, 21 bottom middle, LightField Studios/Shutterstock; 19 top right, Nicole Glass Photography/Shutterstock.com; 19 bottom right, Gage Skidmore/Creative Commons; 20 top, Joseph Sohm/Shutterstock.com; 20 right, Harriet Anderson Stubbs Murphy/Public Domain; 21 top, 360b/Shutterstock.com; 21 bottom left, Roman Tiraspol'sky/Shutterstock.com; 21 bottom right, Roman Tiraspol'sky/Shutterstock.com; 22 top, U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Daniel J. McLain/Public Domain; 22 bottom, Executive Office of the President of the United States/Public Domain; 23 top, DoD photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Marianique Santos/Public Domain; 23 bottom, Official White House Photo by Joyce N. Boghosian/Public Domain; 23 bottom left, Gelpi/Shutterstock; 23 bottom right, Anna Om/Shutterstock; 24 top, The White House. Samantha Appleton, photographer/Public Domain; 24 left, Nik Merkulov/Shutterstock; 24 right, Gift; Michael Geissinger, photographer/Public Domain; 25 top, Official White House Photo by D. Myles Cullen/Public Domain; 25 middle, Brian A Jackson/Shutterstock; 25 bottom left, VGstockstudio/Shutterstock; 25 bottom right, White House Photographic Office/Public Domain; 26 top left, Anders Zorn/Public Domain; 26 top right, Anders Zorn/Public Domain; 26, Official White House Photo by Joyce N. Boghosian/Public Domain; 26 bottom right, StockImageFactory.com/Shutterstock; 27 top, U.S. Government/White House photo by Kimberlee Hewitt/Public Domain; 27 middle, Daniel Huntington/Public Domain; 27 bottom New Africa/Shutterstock; 28 top, Luca Perra/Shutterstock; 28 bottom middle, Oleksandr Lytvynenko/Shutterstock; 28 bottom right, koya979/Shutterstock; 29 bottom left, Ivan Kokoulin/Dreamstime.com; 28-29, Austen Photography

Developed and produced for Bearport Publishing by BlueAppleWorks Inc.

Managing Editor for BlueAppleWorks: Melissa McClellan

Art Director: T.J. Choleva

Photo Research: Jane Reid

Editor: Marcia Abramson

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Collison, Campbell, author.

Title: The White House / by Campbell Collison.

Description: Minneapolis, MN : Bearport Publishing Company, [2021] |

Series: Xtreme facts: U.S. history | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2020012917 | ISBN 9781647471231 (library binding) | ISBN 9781647471309 (paperback) | ISBN 9781647471378 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: White House (Washington, D.C.)—Juvenile literature. | Washington (D.C.)—Buildings, structures, etc.—Juvenile literature. | Presidents—United States—Juvenile literature.

Classification: LCC F204.W5 C63 2021 | DDC 975.3—dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2020012917>

Copyright © 2021 Bearport Publishing Company. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing, 5357 Penn Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419.
Printed in the United States of America.

Contents

The White House Is Burning!	4
Building a Capital City	6
The Haunted White House?	8
A White House Tour	10
Moving Day for the President	12
Meet the Staff	14
White House Rules	16
The Wired White House	18
To Serve and Protect	20
The President Takes to the Skies	22
What's Cooking?	24
Holidays at the White House	26
 House-in-a-Box	 28
Glossary	30
Read More	31
Learn More Online	31
Index	32
About the Author	32

The White House Is Burning!

Just over 30 years after the end of the American Revolution, British forces were back in the United States waging war. The British troops had entered Washington, D.C. and were destroying the still-new capital city. As the British approached the White House, they learned President James Madison had already fled. Though disappointed, the soldiers raided the kitchen and stole what they could. Then, they set the White House on fire!

The War of 1812 was fought over British military interference in U.S. trade.

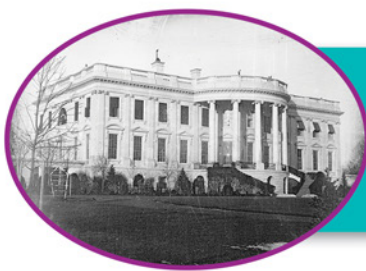


The War of 1812 is often called the Second Revolution. The fighting lasted from June of 1812 until February of 1815.

Heavy rain and one or more tornadoes dampened the fires and **halted the British attack on Washington, D.C.**



By the end of the attack in 1814, only the burnt shell of the White House remained. But by October 1817, the rebuilt White House was ready for President James Monroe to move in.



The White House has been known as the President's Palace, the President's House, and the **Executive Mansion**. **President Theodore Roosevelt** officially gave the White House its current name in 1901.

First Lady Dolley Madison left personal belongings behind during the British invasion and told the **White House staff to save a portrait of George Washington** instead.

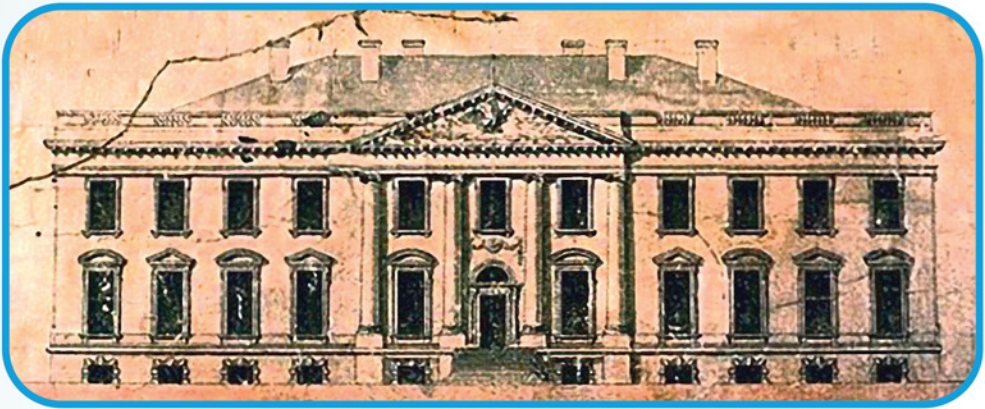
FORGET ALL MY STUFF! PLEASE SAVE GEORGE!

HURRY, LET'S GET THIS PAINTING OUT OF HERE!



Building a Capital City

When the U.S. Constitution called for a new national capital, Congress decided it would be built along the banks of the Potomac River on land that was originally part of Maryland and Virginia. But it was up to President George Washington to decide the details for the president's house. Washington picked a location and held a competition for the building's design. **Architect** James Hoban's plan won.



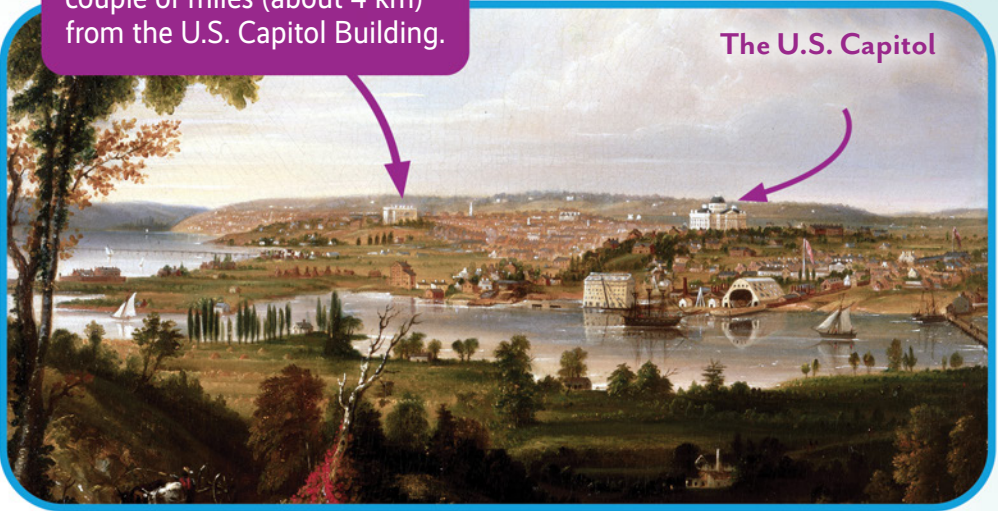
A 1793 sketch shows Hoban's vision for the White House.



President George Washington oversaw the building of the residence, but he never actually lived there.

The White House is only a couple of miles (about 4 km) from the U.S. Capitol Building.

The U.S. Capitol

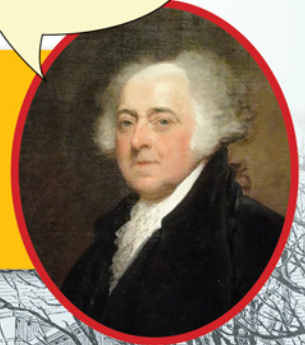


Washington, D.C., is built along the riverbank.

THE WHITE HOUSE
IS SO EMPTY AND
QUIET, JOHN!

THAT'S FINE
WITH ME, ABIGAIL. I
DON'T LIKE CROWDS!

Second President John Adams
and **First Lady Abigail Adams**
were the first to live in the
White House. When they moved
in, only six rooms were finished.



President Adams wrote about the White House in a letter to his wife. He said, "May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof."