

THE PUBLICATION OF JAMES MADISON'S MONTPELIER

# PEOPLE

WE  
THE

FALL 2015



## Investing in the Future of CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

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## TURNING THE CORNER

When visitors first engage with James Madison's Montpelier—whether they are regional tourists or foreign dignitaries—they expect an experience defined by the past.

What they quickly learn is that our story is still unfolding. We are not just another elegant house museum designed to elicit nostalgia or curatorial wonder; instead, we are a working estate, steeped in history, that inspires its visitors to connect the past to the present and future.

The unique position for Montpelier among historic and presidential homes is fast becoming clear. Immense power lies in harnessing the interconnection between Madisonian ideals for democratic self-government, James Madison's struggle to reconcile those ideas with a plantation that depended on the labor of an enslaved community, and the ongoing detective story involved in returning the landscape and home to its Early Republican character.

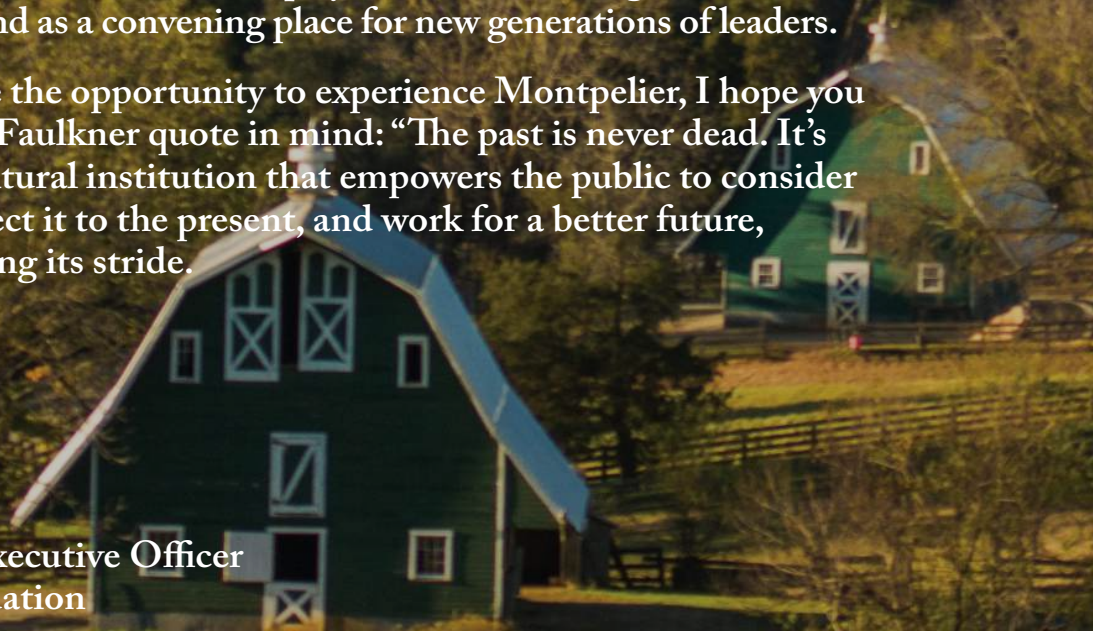
Perhaps most exciting of all, and the focus of this issue, is the role the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution has to play as a national and global beacon for constitutionalism and as a convening place for new generations of leaders.

The next time you have the opportunity to experience Montpelier, I hope you will keep this William Faulkner quote in mind: "The past is never dead. It's not even past." As a cultural institution that empowers the public to consider the nation's past, connect it to the present, and work for a better future, Montpelier is just hitting its stride.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Imhoff'.

Kat Imhoff  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
The Montpelier Foundation





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# Highlights



**Constitution  
Day Celebration**

More than 2,400 people celebrated Constitution Day at Montpelier this year, which featured the Taste of Freedom Wine Festival, tours, live music, and fireworks.



### Slave Descendants Place Quartz Crystal

George Gilmore descendant Rebecca Gilmore Coleman joined Montpelier slave descendants Frances Pitchford and Lillie Green to place a replica quartz crystal in a slave quarter duplex being reconstructed in the South Yard. The placement of the original crystal, discovered in 2011, led Montpelier archaeologists to conclude it had been placed intentionally in the foundation. It is believed that crystals found at African-American sites were used to ward off bad luck, sickness, and malevolent spirits. The original crystal will be kept in Montpelier's collection for further examination.



### In Search of Madison's Art Gallery

In 1816, the Baron de Montlezun-Labarhette took notes on several important spaces at Montpelier, identifying the South Passage of the mansion as a gallery covered in oil paintings. As part of the Rubenstein Initiative, the curatorial team recently reinterpreted the South, Front, and North Passages, taking a first step toward identifying and acquiring the works of art that were originally in the space. The new display features period-appropriate picture frames with handwritten descriptions of the works taken from a numbered list of paintings transcribed by a visitor in the late 1830s.



### Families Flock to Montpelier in Summer

The word is spreading—Montpelier is a great summer getaway for families that provides entertainment for visitors of all ages. Overall visitation numbers this summer were up close to 10%, but visits from children under age 14 rose over 30% as a result of our Summer Kids Free Promotion which ran from July 8 to August 31. School visits in the fall are still the largest source of youth engagement but the summer numbers make it clear that families enjoy the walking trails, the cafe, and the wide variety of tours Montpelier offers.

### Meet the Interpreter

Mandi Dean, Amherst County, Virginia



Mandi loves the challenge of historic interpretation, and she's become an indispensable member of Montpelier's Education Department. A Civil War reenactor who has also worked at Michie's Tavern and Ash Lawn-Highland, Mandi has mastered each of our specialty tours, serves as a mansion team leader, and leads tours at all of our venues. She even works Mud Camp, an outdoor education program for school age children.

What sets Montpelier apart from other historic sites?

"It's how the history on the property comes full circle. We start in the founding era with the Madisons and the mansion, but then Madison's fear of a Civil War comes to life in the history of the winter encampment, you have Reconstruction in the Gilmore Farm and, lastly, the Jim Crow era reflected in the Train Depot."

# Expanding the Conversation

## New Partnerships Help Center Convene National Conversation on Law and Government

For more than a decade, the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution has sought to become the nation's foremost training center for constitutional education. As a physical and virtual teaching academy, the Center has engaged tens of thousands of professionals—from all 50 states and more than 90 nations—in the theory and practice of the U.S. Constitution.

Today, the Center is poised for its next chapter, putting it at the center of a national conversation about governance, rights, and the rule of law. Groundbreaking is imminent on Claude Moore Hall, a state-of-the-art \$4.7 million building containing meeting and classroom facilities wired for interactive learning, a media center supporting real-time video interviews and professional content production, and offices for Center staff.

New and expanding partnerships with organizations including the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Presidential Precinct, and the Millennial Action Project are raising the visibility of the Center's programs, deepening their impact, and creating compelling new growth initiatives.

"Within the history of all the storied institutions that analyze public policy and promote

understanding of American governance, there is generally one point in time when all the right pieces fall into place," said Doug Smith, Montpelier Vice President and Director of the Center. "This is our time. No other organization matches our passion for the ideas and principles of the Constitution and the rights it guarantees us as a self-governing people. Current and future leaders need what we have to offer, both at home and abroad, especially in today's political sphere."

A scan of the headlines shows how vital the Center's work is in today's climate of government. Larger cultural conversations have converged around a series of constitutional issues in a way that puts an historic focus on court rulings as national litmus tests for larger cultural debates. Meanwhile, data shows clearly that people have a shaky understanding of the Constitution's structural ideas and principles.

"From recent rulings on marriage equality to civil unrest related to perceived rights violations by law enforcement, continuing to voter redistricting, and Internet privacy and security issues blossoming worldwide... these events are examples of why Madison believed that self-governance relied on knowledge and participation," continued Smith. "The Center exists to get people engaged."



The future Claude Moore Hall

## The People and Their Government

“Knowledge will forever govern ignorance,” James Madison wrote in 1822. “And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.”

In early 2016, the Center will unveil a new suite of residential and online courses addressing issues like Native American self-governance, voter redistricting, the legal legacies of slavery, and constitutional culture in the U.S. Congress. Seven new online courses and more than 150 new videos will feature the country’s leading scholars, educators, and political thought leaders. While the goals of the Center are forward-thinking, they remain rooted in the deep, fertile Madisonian ideals that underpin Montpelier’s mission.

“As Madison once wrote, liberty and learning lean on each other,” said Colleen Sheehan, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science at Villanova University, a constitutional scholar who lectures at the Center.

Interpreting Madison isn’t always straightforward. He was a political thinker given to turning issues over in his mind, considering them from every angle, and it was precisely this approach to problem-solving that drove his focus to create a system based on the balance between realism and idealism. Perhaps his most defining characteristic was his radical faith in the ability of people to govern themselves.

“The kinds of interaction the Center provides between the ideas behind the Constitution, the law, and the questions of how to uphold rights are exactly the kind of collaboration Madison had in mind when he envisioned the idea of self-government by a democratic people,” Sheehan said.

Smith sees the mission and work of the Center as Montpelier’s contribution to preserving Madison’s legacy in a way that neither academic institutions

nor think tanks can match. He envisions the Center building bridges between academics and members of the private sector, public sector, and civil society.

“The place-based, residential experience here is always going to be the pinnacle. What we hope to stimulate are kitchen table conversations, where the public rolls up their sleeves and discusses the Constitution and how the republic was intended to function,” he said. “That is the value of blending the educational and convening power of the Center for the Constitution moving forward.”

Meanwhile, the construction of Claude Moore Hall’s virtual classrooms and media center will allow the Center to extend its reach, nationally and internationally, and take advantage of the larger community of adult learners, program alumni, and constitutional leaders who make up its audience. Were he still alive, Madison may be dismayed at the passive stance of the people in today’s government, but he would have been gleeful about the knowledge and speed of communication made possible by the digital revolution.

**“What we hope to stimulate are kitchen table conversations, where the public rolls up their sleeves and discusses the Constitution and how the republic was intended to function. That is the value of blending the educational and convening power of the Center for the Constitution moving forward.” –Doug Smith**

The new building will allow the Center and its partners to create an online community, distribute its expertise, and initiate partnerships with peer organizations all over the world.

“There is no online experience that replaces that face-to-face encounter, but we know that at 25 people at a time, it’s really hard to change the world, to change the way we think about the Constitution and the way people understand James Madison,” Smith said. “And that’s why online education is so important. It’s how we scale. It’s how we extend what we’re doing in the residential programming to national and international audiences.”

## Madison and the Millennials

On September 17, the steeply banked rows of seats at the William H. McGowan Theater at the National Archives were packed for the Center's ninth annual State of the Constitution Lecture, but it was the age of the crowd that told the story. Young people, most of whom had just come from work at jobs on Capitol Hill, filled the lower sections of the auditorium to hear what two young members of the U.S. Congress, Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI) and Will Hurd (R-TX), had to say about James Madison. This year's program was the result of a partnership between Montpelier, the Millennial Action Project, and MAP's Congressional Future Caucus, which Hurd and Gabbard co-chair. In addition to the two young members of Congress, the bipartisan lineup headlined political commentator and new media journalist Mary Katharine Ham and Millennial Action Project Founder and President Steven Olikara.

"There's an assumption that people in my generation are apathetic," said Olikara. "My experience, however, is that we care passionately about our rights and understand we have to revitalize our democracy in order to propel the nation forward."

The conversation in the theater quickly turned to Madison's views on the way public opinion should shape government, with the congressional leaders offering impassioned arguments for young people to engage their government.

"If we as a generation walk away, what are we as a country left with?" Rep. Gabbard asked. "And doesn't each of us individually in our own way have a responsibility to step up and not stop at the floor of casting a vote, which enough people struggle with during every election cycle, but actually challenge ourselves and recognize the opportunity we have in our generation?"

It's with the same larger aim in mind that Larry Kramer, president of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and former dean of the Stanford Law School, decided to bet on the idea that James Madison's blueprint for constitutional engagement can help break the country's partisan gridlock and re-establish a political culture based on solving the country's most difficult problems.

The Hewlett Foundation has funded a new program series at the Center, the Montpelier Summits, designed as informative and inspiring bipartisan retreats for young policymakers from both sides of the aisle at the Capitol.

"Madison was concerned above all with the legislature, which he properly understood as the critical body in a representative democracy," Kramer said. "We hope that the Summits will themselves serve as an example: putting congressional staff members from the different parties together in a setting where they get to know each other, learn about each other, and learn to talk and argue more productively. We hope, in other



Do you ever wonder what James Madison would think of today's key political institutions and how the balance of power he created is playing out? *What Would Madison Do*, in partnership with the Brookings Institution, features essays by 10 prominent scholars, including three affiliated with Montpelier, that explore the contemporary state of Madison's constitutional legacy. Brookings Institution Press.

(L to R): Mary Katharine Ham, Steven Olikara, Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI), Rep. Will Hurd (R-TX), and Montpelier's Doug Smith at the 2015 State of the Constitution Lecture.

words, that they take what they learn at Montpelier back to Washington and use it to improve the performance of the Congress.”

Olikara, a former Harry S. Truman Scholar who worked at the World Bank, left his career path to start a new kind of political organization aimed at addressing the feeling of disconnectedness he was seeing in his peers. Olikara believes that Madison’s ideas, his processes, and his leadership model are needed in today’s political culture.

“James Madison believed in diversity; he believed in a rational conversation in which the best ideas were the ones left standing, and he believed that factions were the enemy of the state,” Olikara said. “These are all contemporary ideas, ideas that resonate with people in my generation who increasingly feel like our government is not representing them.”

Each of the Montpelier Summits will bring more than 20 D.C.-based professionals working in government, public policy, media, and advocacy to Montpelier for a three-day residential program focused on engaging the Constitution, understanding Madison’s ideas, and networking with each other.

Kramer also believes Madison’s ideas have the power to create change in today’s partisan environment, because those ideas were formed at a time when even starker divisions divided the opinions of legislators.

“Madison perceived more clearly than any previous thinker the conditions that would be necessary to make popular government possible: that in a society comprised of people with different interests, beliefs, and passions, it was essential to create a government system capable of resisting short-term impulses and fostering negotiation and compromise,” Kramer said. “We are betting on them, in other words, because they are as important and sensible today as they were in 1787.”

Dr. Eugene Hickok, a member of the Montpelier Foundation Board of Directors, served in two administrations in Washington, D.C., most recently as Deputy Secretary of Education under George W. Bush. A constitutional scholar, Hickok is slated to lead a discussion at a Montpelier Summit. He emphasized the importance of inspiring young policy professionals today and extending the constitutional conversation far into the future.

“These young leaders occupy critical roles in Washington helping members of Congress and federal leadership write and implement public policy,” Hickok said. “For most of us, it’s just contemporary issues, current events. But we need to elevate the constitutional discussion if they are going to be able to fulfill their responsibilities.”



### Where Theory and Practice Intersect

“I’ve recently been pounding the idea of the Constitution as the floor and not the ceiling,” said Charlottesville Chief of Police Timothy Longo, who helped design the Center’s law enforcement curriculum.

“Sometimes we have to look beyond what it says we can do and look at what we should do, particularly in light of the community expectations and the mistrust of government, specifically law enforcement.”

Since its inception, the Center has been a

venue where scholars interface with constitutional practitioners across multiple professional disciplines. The law enforcement curriculum has been a dramatic success, engaging local, state, and federal agencies nationwide in a residential training program.

The Center’s emphasis on constitutional practitioners, Longo said, isn’t just altruistic; it’s an acknowledgement that the people who enforce the law are more often than not the ones who set the Constitution in motion.

“The Supreme Court may be the final arbiter of the Constitution, but the guy or gal who makes the law is the cop at 3 a.m. on the side of the road who either makes a decision or fails to make a decision,”

Longo said.

“The underlying circumstances make their way through the appellate circuit before the Supreme Court and then they hand down the rule of law.”

Longo would like to see the Center push beyond the basic set of issues currently addressed in the



Charlottesville Police Chief Tim Longo speaks at a law enforcement seminar at the Center.

curriculum to the growing edges of constitutional practice in law enforcement. Issues including self-incrimination in investigation of government employees, the application of the Brady laws and disclosure of exculpatory evidence to prosecutors, the enforcement of the exclusionary rule, and many other more nuanced issues continue to emerge.

“The Center can be a Camp David, if you will, convening law enforcement leaders to address important issues around reform, and how the rule of law and the Constitution can guide that work,” Longo said.

### Upcoming Programs at the Center

The Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution offers world-class on-site and web-enabled educational programming for teachers, law enforcement, elected officials, international visitors, and the general public.

Learn more at [www.montpelier.org/center](http://www.montpelier.org/center)

### U.S. Citizenship: History, Meaning, and Conflict November 20-22, 2015

*Explore the meaning of citizenship and nationhood in different historical contexts, amidst competing constitutional interpretations, and at the center of contemporary policy debates. Dr. Noah M. Pickus, Director of the Kenan Institute for Ethics, and Associate Research Professor of Public Policy Studies, at Duke University.*

Another important stakeholder group for the Center are international lawmakers actively engaged in constitutional processes. David Hofisi, a lawyer participating in the constitutional review process in his home country of Zimbabwe, was one of 500 young African leaders selected from among hundreds of thousands of entries for the 2015 Mandela-Washington Fellowship. Hofisi was joined by 24 others from across the continent for six weeks of intensive lectures and projects that included a week of coursework, focused on constitutions, at Montpelier. For Hofisi, the location was a revelation.

“We are at the birthplace of the idea of written constitutions and we are at the home of the man who authored the first written constitution,” Hofisi said. “It’s powerful to compare and contrast what I experienced at Montpelier with my native Zimbabwe. To see the commonalities and differences, and strategies around how to increase democratic space, it clearly aligns to the ability of citizens to enjoy human rights.”



2015 Mandela-Washington Fellow David Hofisi (left) participates in a constitutional writing workshop at Montpelier.

Doug Smith served as the academic director for the Mandela-Washington Fellow experience in Virginia, representing Montpelier through the Presidential Precinct, a consortium of two major universities and four historic sites. The success of the program, which has received the highest rating from participants two years in a row, is a sign that there is a new frontier in engaging international audiences.

Michelle Smith, daughter of Robert H. Smith and a supporter of the Center, believes we have yet to see the

most profound impacts of these new partnerships.

“My father believed it was a privilege for Americans to live under our Constitution. He said it was absolutely essential that every new generation of Americans know and understand our Constitution and the Bill of Rights,” Smith said. “He believed the Center for the Constitution was so important because it could help to bring to life Madison’s history and ideals. He said the Center could be a gigantic boiler, and once the fire was lit, there would be no limit to the power it could generate.”

#### The Political Thought of James Madison March 18-20, 2016

*Examine the life, character, and political practice of Madison, focusing on the period from 1786 to 1792, his most active philosophical years. Dr. Colleen Sheehan, Director of the Matthew J. Ryan Project for the Study of Free Institutions at Villanova University.*

#### Native Peoples and the U.S. Constitution April 22-24, 2016

*Track the evolution and meaning of Native sovereignty from pre-contact times, to the early and sustained intrusions of European powers, to the manner in which the federal and state governments address the status of Native peoples today. Dr. David E. Wilkins, McKnight Presidential Professor in American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota.*

# Meet Elizabeth Chew AND A FEW OF HER FAVORITE THINGS

Raised in Augusta, Georgia, Montpelier Vice President for Museum Programs Elizabeth Chew gained her passion for objects—and the ideas they represent—through family trips to historic sites and museums in the U.S. and Europe.

After earning progressive degrees in Art History—B.A. at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, M.A. at the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London, and Ph.D. at UNC–Chapel Hill—she went on to serve in progressively senior roles at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, National Gallery of Art, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. Chew then moved to Charlottesville, where she spent 13 years as Curator at Monticello. She counts working on the Visitor Center at Monticello and co-curating the exhibition, *Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello: Paradox of Liberty*, with the National Museum of African American History and Culture as highlights in her career. She comes to Montpelier from Reynolda House Museum of American Art in Winston-Salem, NC, the early 20th-century estate of tobacco magnate R.J. Reynolds.

“What a site like Montpelier has over other places is the creation story of our nation, embedded and integrated in every aspect of its being: the Constitution, the existence of slavery in the early republic, the presidency, the role of the First Lady. These are topics that are relevant in every single moment of every single day. People may not know that if they come here they can learn and experience and be inspired in so many ways, but they can, and we need to communicate the power of this place.”

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Elizabeth Chew joined James Madison's Montpelier as Vice President of Museum Programs in August 2015.





### Covered Soup Tureen, Nast Porcelain, 1806 ▲

I love this tureen because it represents for me the excitement of domestic style in early federal Washington, D.C. Here was the still-fledgling American government taking up residence in its newly created home city, and people like Jefferson and the Madisons were figuring out what the city would look like and how people would live in it.

This soup tureen—with its distinctive, bold geometric decoration and salmon-colored glaze—would have been the height of fashion when the Madisons acquired it during James’s tenure as Secretary of State. The tureen is one of only a few surviving pieces of the Madisons’ large service—it included 231 pieces. Would you have expected Dolley Madison to have 231 pieces of orange-colored porcelain? Only 32 pieces are known today; four are in the Montpelier collection.

### Rhinoceros Horn Walking Stick, 1805 ►

This walking stick actually has an association with both James Madison and his friend Thomas Jefferson. In 1805, during his presidency, Jefferson received a gift of a rhinoceros horn walking stick from John F. Oliveira Fernandes. He told Jefferson: “It was my hope that your *Love of Natural Philosophy* would render so rare a production of the *Animal Kingdom* acceptable to you. While it might be an usefull [sic] companion in your retired & rural excursions at Monticello.”

Upon his death on July 4, 1826, Jefferson willed the walking stick to Madison. After it arrived at Montpelier, Madison wrote to Jefferson’s grandson, Thomas Jefferson Randolph, “The Article bequeathed to me by your Grandfather, had been ... received with all the feelings due to such a token of the place I held in the friendship of one, whom I so much revered & loved, when living, and whose memory can never cease to be dear to me.”

Jefferson and Madison shared an interest in “natural philosophy,” which we would call science, and this object, at once a personal possession and an unusual specimen of the natural world, served as a symbolic token of a special friendship.



### Mantel in Dolley’s Bedchamber ▼

The mantel in Dolley Madison’s bedchamber, one of the most elaborate in the Montpelier house, dates to the 1809-12 additions carried out by James Dinsmore and John Neilson, highly skilled craftsmen who worked for Jefferson for over a decade before relocating to Montpelier following Monticello’s completion in 1809.

The central decoration on the mantel is an allegorical figure representing Plenty, but I

especially like the classical vases on either side. This shape for me is really evocative of the early federal period in American history. Early Americans favored ancient design in architectural ornament and other areas. For them, the ancient world represented democratic and republican forms of government and ideals of citizenship and civic virtue. In the form of a vase on a mantel, Dolley and James Madison brought their idealized perspective of the ancient world into their bedchamber.





### Painted Pearlware Saucer, 1820s, Excavated from the South Yard ▲

Hand-painted pearlwares were fashionable ceramics widely available in the United States in the 1820s and 1830s. This bowl in Montpelier's archaeology study collection was owned by enslaved domestic servants at Montpelier living in one of the duplex houses in the South Yard during Madison's retirement period.

Archaeology enables us to understand the material culture of slavery. Enslaved people left few written records, so the material remains of their domestic lives provide essential evidence for how they lived. Enslaved people had ways of earning money: selling poultry, eggs, fish, garden produce, or crafts to occupants of the main house or at markets, receiving tips from visitors, or performing particularly dirty or dangerous tasks. With their income, enslaved people bought table wares for their homes, cloth, ribbon, buttons, and hooks for clothing, and other consumer goods. In this way, enslaved families negotiated small improvements in their living conditions within a system that denied their basic humanity.



### *Pan, Youths & Nymphs* by Gerrit van Honthorst, ca. 1630 ▼


I had to choose a painting because my earliest training, as an undergraduate at Yale, was as a traditional art historian interested in the kinds of things you most commonly see on the walls of an art museum. *Pan, Youths & Nymphs* by Gerrit van Honthorst, dates to the 17th century (ca. 1630) and represents the kind of painting that the subjects of my Ph.D. dissertation, elite female art collectors in England, were acquiring at the time, as were other major collectors, like King Charles I.

The Montpelier part of the story is interesting as well. This is the original canvas owned by the Madisons. Payne Todd acquired the painting during his stay in Europe (1813 to 1815), when he served as Albert Gallatin's attaché during the negotiations for the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812. So by the time Todd bought it, the painting was already almost two hundred years old and would have been considered the work of an Old Master.

The painting celebrates sensuality and the Arcadian tradition, important themes of ancient art and literature that persisted into the 18th century. In the Montpelier Drawing Room, this picture displayed knowledge of the ancient world and of Old World high culture, within the context of the world they were helping to make anew.

# Dolley's Hand in Design

## UNVEILING THE MADISONS' PRIVATE BEDCHAMBER



In May, we opened the Madisons' newly furnished bedchamber to the public. Decorating the room to our interpretive period, James and Dolley Madison's retirement era (1817-1836), our intent was to tell the story of their inner lives and personal spaces. The bedchamber is a private space, one visited only by close family and friends. It's a warm, comfortable room with grand views of the Blue Ridge.

While many of the family's orders for domestic goods were in James Madison's hand, we have long assumed Dolley played a more active and deliberate role in furnishing Montpelier. Choices throughout the house mimic those she made at the President's House, from large looking glasses and ornate window treatments to glassware and serving pieces.

For several months, the curatorial team deliberated over a reference to fabric in a ca. 1820 letter that seemed particularly important, in which Madison ordered textiles for the bedchamber: "four pieces of furniture Chintz, of live colours—with fringe to suit it, all, for bed & windows of the same room." It wasn't until we pulled a photo of the original manuscript that we notice the reference to chintz fabric was written along the folded edge of the letter in Dolley's hand.



>50,000 objects  
in 15 years have been excavated by  
the Montpelier Archaeology team

 16 descendants  
of Montpelier slaves have taken  
part in South Yard projects

Montpelier is 1 of 4  
presidential sites with active  
archaeological programs

# South Yard Selfies

## INSTAGRAMMING MONTPELIER'S HISTORY

Montpelier's Archaeology program is pushing the discipline forward by embracing a public-facing role and harnessing new media technology to engage people with the historical record, whether they are slave descendants with a direct connection to the site or academics across the ocean interested in our discoveries. This summer, the team constructed a public viewing deck, staffed during regular hours by a public archaeologist capable of interpreting the site for visitors. Another particularly successful initiative has been the use of Instagram to document discoveries and highlight their importance in real time for our audiences online.

Visit [instagram.com #montpelier\\_arch](https://www.instagram.com/montpelier_arch) to see the latest discoveries!

Paint microscopy on the frieze will determine whether original ornamentation existed between the triglyphs. The discovery process is led by Montpelier Architectural Historian Jenn Glass.

The existing shingle roof has been removed and documented, and a new roof will be installed in February. Mark Wenger, an architectural historian who was one of several experts recruited by the National Trust for Historic Preservation during the renovation of the Mansion, has determined the original roof material was wood shingle, and it may have even been painted.

#### FUTURE PHASES OF RESTORATION

- Stripping columns of the DuPont-era Portland cement to match the mansion's columns.
- Re-plastering of the Temple ceiling.
- Installing new wooden floor and door.
- Replanting the "Pine Alley" that visually connected the Mansion to the Temple.

The Temple was constructed on the former site of a blacksmith shop. After the smithy was removed in 1810, the mason Hugh Chisholm oversaw the digging of a 24-foot well that would serve as an ice house, and earth was mounded at the base to site the Temple on a small rise in preparation for builders James Dinsmore and John Neilson to begin construction.

Early next spring, Montpelier archaeologists will excavate documented archaeology units around the base of the Temple, allowing restoration masons to examine the areas around each column base and stabilize failing masonry and mortar joints.

# Rebuilding the Temple

## RETURNING TO MADISON'S ORIGINAL LANDSCAPE

Thanks to a leadership gift from Forrest E. Mars, Jr., The Montpelier Foundation has begun a significant project at the iconic Temple, the only Madison-era architectural structure aside from the Mansion still in existence today at Montpelier. A monument to James Madison's philosophical and political legacy, the Temple was capped with a statue of Liberty, appropriate for the man who wrote, "We are teaching the World the great truth, that Governments do better without Kings & Nobles than with them."

The first phase of restoration began in summer 2015, and will continue throughout the winter.

# The Spirit of Philanthropy

## HOW YOUR GIFTS RECREATE MADISON'S WORLD



In May, Montpelier's curatorial team unveiled James and Dolley Madison's newly refurbished bedchamber. What once was a relatively empty space has come to life—a transformation made possible by the generosity of the Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation and patrons of the Dolley Madison Legacy Luncheon.



After years of research into the lives of the Montpelier enslaved community, reconstruction of the South Yard has finally begun. The generosity of David M. Rubenstein, coupled with the continued involvement of the enslaved community's descendants, has allowed us to tell a more complete American story that respects the African-American struggle for citizenship with authenticity and accuracy.



A generous lead gift from Forrest E. Mars, Jr. launched the restoration of Mr. Madison's Temple, which was badly damaged in a 2011 earthquake. This project will ensure the survival of this important monument to American democracy.



Our donors have played a huge role in making this year one of the most transformative in Montpelier history. With 67% of our operating funds coming from philanthropy, our supporters play a key role in protecting the legacy of James and Dolley Madison. This year we were so pleased to have donor participation from all 50 states, and D.C.—proving that Madison matters!

## REPORT OF GIFTS

The Montpelier Foundation recognizes with gratitude those who generously made leadership gifts or pledges between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015—thank you!

### LEADERSHIP GIFTS

#### \$1,000,000 & over

Claude Moore Charitable Foundation  
The Estate of Paul Mellon  
Louise B. Potter  
David M. Rubenstein  
Robert H. Smith Family Foundation

#### \$500,000-\$999,999

Mr. & Mrs. Richard M. Ader—  
The Joseph and Robert Cornell  
Memorial Foundation  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Erdman—  
The Joseph and Robert Cornell  
Memorial Foundation  
Forrest E. Mars, Jr.  
Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation

#### \$250,000-\$499,999

The Cabell Foundation  
The William and Flora Hewlett  
Foundation  
William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust  
Paul & Diane Manning  
The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation

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*"I feel an intense respect for the life and work of James Madison and his role in the creation of our Constitution and his efforts insuring that our Bill of Rights was safely incorporated. When my tax attorney informed me that I needed to reduce my potential estate tax and ensure that some worthy organizations of my choosing would benefit, it was an easy and fulfilling decision to chose The Montpelier Foundation as a recipient of part of my estate."*

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### DOLLEY MADISON LEGACY LUNCHEON

*The 9th Annual Dolley Madison Legacy Luncheon raised \$71,000. Over the last decade, this event has contributed nearly \$600,000 toward curatorial research and acquisitions for the mansion. Judy Woodruff, co-anchor and managing editor of the PBS NewsHour, was the keynote speaker and gave a lecture entitled "First Ladies—The Real Power Brokers?"*

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*"I support Montpelier because James Madison, as the Father of the Constitution, was a crucial figure in the history not only of the United States but also of the world. If democracy had failed here, it could not have spread as it has, and visiting Montpelier adds a dimension to understanding Madison and his world that you can't possibly get from simply reading a book."*



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 Bartzen & Ball Architects: page 6  
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 (second from left)  
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 (portrait of Elizabeth), 17, 18 (third from left)  
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Orange, Virginia  
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# Calendar

We want to hear from you!



## 2015

### MONTPELIER HUNT RACES | November 7

Celebrate the 81st running of the historic Hunt Races, a premier event in the American Steeplechase Circuit. Friends and family also can enjoy Jack Russell Terrier and stick horse races, as well as tailgate and hat contests. [www.montpelierhuntraces.org](http://www.montpelierhuntraces.org)

### CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE | December 5

Visits with Santa, holiday refreshments, and special activities will be offered throughout the day at the Visitor Center. The mansion will be decorated in accordance with 19th-century customs. Spend the weekend in Orange County enjoying Montpelier's open house and many other holiday festivities!

## 2016

### MANSION RESTORATION | January 4-17

Montpelier will be closed for mansion renovations, painting, and other repairs. Follow our progress on social media!

### PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND | February 14

Have you ever wondered about James and Dolley Madison's love life? On Valentine's Day, Hugh Howard, author of *Houses of the Founding Fathers* and *Mr. and Mrs. Madison's War: America's First Couple and the War of 1812*, will discuss the couple's private relationship and public partnership in the Grand Salon.

### CERAMICS WORKSHOP | February 21-26

Work in the Archaeology Laboratory and help with cataloging, analyzing, and reconstructing of ceramics and other artifacts recovered from the previous field season. Learn about artifact types, iron conservation techniques, and how to reconstruct vessels for display in the Lab, the mansion, the galleries, and even in other museums. Housing is provided on campus at the antebellum plantation house, "Arlington House."

### JAMES MADISON'S BIRTHDAY | March 16

Commemorate the 265th birthday of James Madison, fourth president of the United States, Father of the Constitution, and Architect of the Bill of Rights. The wreath-laying ceremony at the Madison Family Cemetery will feature the United States Marine Corps Band and Color Guard.

### SPRING WINE FESTIVAL | May 7-8

Join friends and family for this premier spring event showcasing distinctive arts and crafts, specialty food vendors, live music, children's entertainment, and tastings from great Virginia wineries and breweries.

### DOLLEY MADISON LEGACY LUNCHEON | May 17

Enjoy a mansion tour and an elegant luncheon on the back lawn of the mansion to commemorate the 248th anniversary of Dolley's birthday. Featured speaker will be Cokie Roberts, a contributor on NPR's *Morning Edition* and political commentator for *ABC News*. To date, these luncheons have raised nearly \$600,000 to support the refurbishing of the mansion. Contact Karen Costello at 540.672.4370 or [kcostello@montpelier.org](mailto:kcostello@montpelier.org) for information and tickets.

### DOLLEY MADISON'S BIRTHDAY | May 20

Celebrate the 248th birthday of America's First "First Lady." Free cupcakes at the Visitor Center, and free admission to the mansion for anyone who shares Dolley's name or birthday!