

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 12, 2025

### **The Montpelier Foundation Receives \$552,204 Department of the Interior Grant for Temple Preservation**

**Orange, VA** – The Montpelier Foundation has been awarded a \$552,204 grant from the Department of the Interior to support the preservation and restoration of the Temple at James Madison’s Montpelier. The original structure was built around 1810-1811 when James Madison was serving his first term as President of the United States. The Temple has survived for over two centuries and is one of the two surviving structures at Montpelier that date back to Madison’s lifetime.

The grant scope of work includes the preservation of the Temple, restoration of the original below-grade icehouse entrance, and the installation of ADA-compliant visitor pathways. The project is scheduled for completion by October 2028. Once completed, the stabilized and accessible Temple will serve as a living classroom, deepening public understanding of early American society for generations to come. In completing the restoration of the Temple, The Montpelier Foundation seeks not only to repair physical deterioration but also to reinvigorate its interpretive potential. This resource, imbued with both symbolic and practical historical significance, remains central to understanding the architectural and cultural milieu of early America.

“We are grateful for this support to preserve one of Montpelier’s most significant landmarks,” said Krista Costello, Acting President and CEO of The Montpelier Foundation. “The Temple is not only an architectural treasure, but also a symbol of the nation’s founding era. Preserving it ensures that future generations will have the opportunity to learn from and reflect on the legacy of James Madison and the enduring importance of civic ideals.”

The Temple preservation project is being supported in part by a Semiquincentennial grant from the Historic Preservation Fund administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The source of the funding is Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lease revenue, rather than tax dollars.

#### **About The Montpelier Foundation**

The Montpelier Foundation stewards James Madison’s Montpelier, located in Orange, Virginia. Montpelier is the lifelong home of James Madison, Father of the Constitution, Architect of the Bill of Rights, and fourth President of the United States. Today, Montpelier is a museum of American history, a center for constitutional education, and a memorial to James Madison and the enslaved people who lived and worked on the property. Learn more at: [montpelier.org](https://montpelier.org).

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