

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The White House 2001.





We are delighted to welcome you to the White House, our "Home for the Holidays." We are honored to call this historic house our home, especially during the holiday season. This year, you will find exquisite and historic decorations throughout, from richly adorned trees to Christmas cards from the permanent White House collection.

In keeping with our "Home for the Holidays" theme, replicas of some of the family homes of our Nation's Presidents were designed, built, and decorated by the White House's own staff members. The decorations are brought to you by an array of talented Americans. We are grateful to them for volunteering their time and talent to a wonderful national tradition.

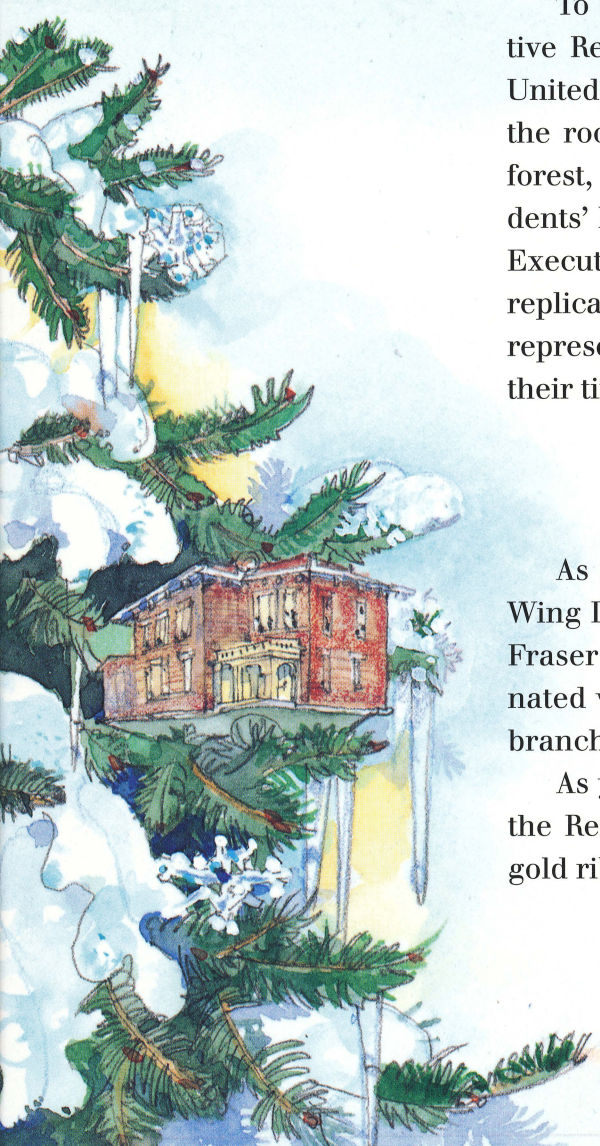
Because this year's holiday season follows a national tragedy, both *home* and *family* have special meaning to all Americans. Gatherings of friends and family can be a tremendous source of strength and reassurance during this time. Our thoughts are with those who will be missing loved ones this year, and we pray that the blessings, the beauty, and the miracle of the holidays will bring comfort and hope to us all.

We are proud to share the White House Christmas tradition with you, and we hope this festive display makes your visit a memorable one. God bless you all, and welcome to America's "Home for the Holidays."

Barack

Laura Bush





As you stroll through this magnificent home, reflect on the importance of *HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS* and the Presidents and their families who have called this grand house their home while serving our country.

To celebrate the season, the White House Executive Residence staff and volunteers from across the United States have created a wintry forest throughout the rooms of the President's home. All through this forest, you will see miniature replicas of past Presidents' homes on each of the mantels and pier tables. Executive Residence staff has carefully created these replicas from the original home plans. Forty-two representatives from the floral industry volunteered their time and talent to install the decorations.

THE EAST WING

As you enter the White House through the East Wing Lobby, at the top of the stairs you will notice a Fraser fir dusted with fresh-fallen snow and illuminated with miniature white lights. From its graceful branches hang crystal snowflakes and tinsel.

As you proceed down the East Colonnade toward the Residence, you will see a wreath suspended by gold ribbons in each window.



In the East Foyer stands another Fraser fir decorated with snowflakes, icicles, and mounds of fresh-fallen snow. The wonderful snowflakes that adorn the branches were created by third-grade students from elementary schools on military bases in the Washington Metropolitan Area.

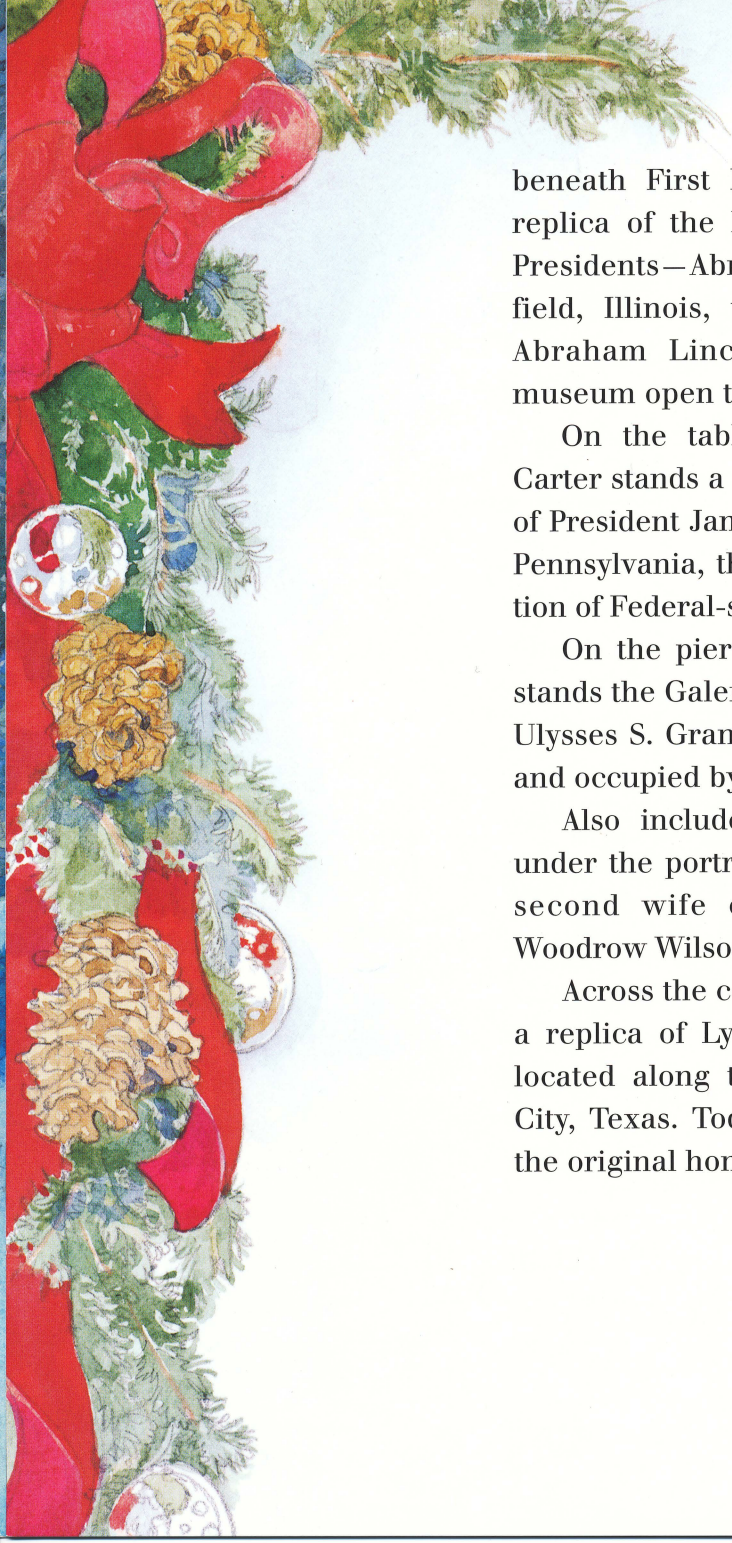
In the case next to the tree are Christmas cards from the permanent White House collection, including the first, sent by President and Mrs. Eisenhower in 1953, through President and Mrs. Bush's 2001 card. Some cards display the Presidential Seal; others portray various scenes of the White House, while others are reproductions of selected artwork from the White House collection.

Also on display is the original oil painting depicting this year's Christmas card by artist Adrian Martinez of Downingtown, Pennsylvania, and the artwork for the 2001 holiday program by four-time Caldecott Honor Medal winner, Jerry Pinkney of Croton-on-Hudson, New York.

THE GROUND FLOOR CORRIDOR

On each of the pier tables along the Ground Floor Corridor, you will see the first of the replicas of Presidential homesteads. On the pier table





beneath First Lady Barbara Bush's portrait is a replica of the home of one of America's favorite Presidents—Abraham Lincoln. Located in Springfield, Illinois, this home is the only home that Abraham Lincoln ever owned and is today a museum open to the public.

On the table under the portrait of Rosalynn Carter stands a replica of Wheatland, the homestead of President James Buchanan. Located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, this home is a wonderful representation of Federal-style architecture.

On the pier table beneath Betty Ford's portrait stands the Galena, Illinois home of former President Ulysses S. Grant. This home is one of many owned and occupied by Grant.

Also included on the Ground Floor Corridor, under the portrait of Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, the second wife of Woodrow Wilson, stands the Woodrow Wilson home located in Staunton, Virginia.

Across the corridor on the large pier table stands a replica of Lyndon B. Johnson's ranch, which is located along the Perdenales River near Johnson City, Texas. Today, Lady Bird Johnson still lives at the original homestead, known as the LBJ Ranch.

THE EAST ROOM

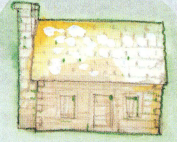
The grandeur of the East Room is accentuated by clusters of snow-covered trees dripping with icicles, snowflakes, and tinsel. The centerpiece of the East Room is the beautiful White House crèche which has been displayed every Christmas since 1967, when it was given to the White House by Mrs. Charles W. Engelhard, Jr., of Far Hills, New Jersey. The 47 baroque figures in the crèche, made of carved wood and terra cotta, were created in Naples, Italy, in the late 18th Century. In 1978, Mrs. Engelhard donated ten additional figures and funds for a new tableau, which was first displayed in 1999.

Over each of the four mantels, lush, rich garlands suspended with gold ribbon cascade to the floor. Beneath each mirror stands a replica of a Presidential homestead.

On the mantel in the northwest corner stands a replica of the home of Rutherford B. Hayes. Located in Fremont, Ohio, this 33-room mansion is known as Spiegel Grove.



The mantel in the northeast corner of the room displays the homestead of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Known as Springwood, in Hyde Park, New York, the home eventually became known as Hyde Park.



On the mantel in the southeast corner next to his portrait stands a replica of the boyhood home of Theodore Roosevelt, known as Sagamore Hill. During his presidency, this home was known as the Summer White House.

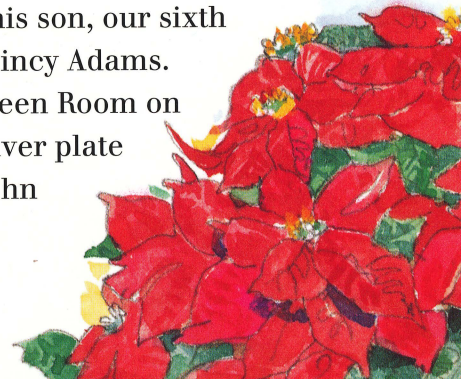
On the mantel in the southwest corner stands the homestead known as the Hermitage. Located in Nashville, Tennessee, this lovely plantation belonged to Andrew Jackson and his family.

THE PARLORS

In the Green Room, the portrait of Benjamin Franklin by David Martin hangs above the lovely marble fireplace. On the mantel below the portrait is a replica of the house belonging to the John Adams family. Known as Peacefield, this home belonged to our second President, John Adams and his son, our sixth President, John Quincy Adams.



Also located in the Green Room on the sofa is the Sheffield silver plate coffee urn belonging to John and Abigail Adams.



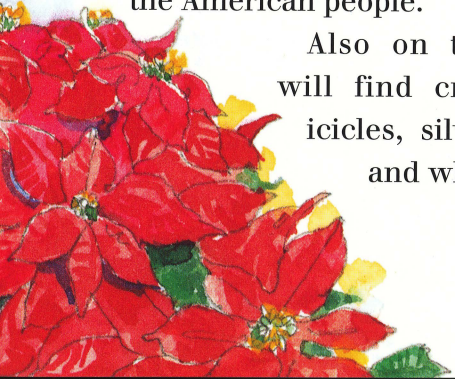
Two topiaries of crystal fruit stand on either side of the Duncan Phyfe sofa. Peach poinsettias and fresh limes decorate the other tables.

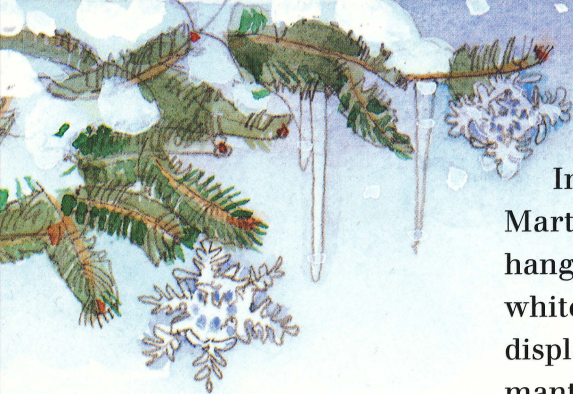
The Blue Room is where the official White House Christmas tree stands. This year an 18-foot Concolor fir, grown in the mountains of Central Pennsylvania, was presented to Mrs. Bush by Hill View Tree Farm of Middleburg.

This stately fir has soft silvery-blue foliage with a distinctive citrus aroma. The tree was given to the White House by Janice Bowersox and her son and daughter-in-law, Darryl and Aimee Bowersox. The Bowersox Family was named the 2000 National Grand Champion Grower by the National Christmas Tree Association.

The ornaments on the tree are inspired by the theme, *HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS*. Artists from all 50 states and the District of Columbia designed miniature replicas of historic houses from their region. Each tiny house gives one a chance to reflect on and appreciate the wonderful diverse heritage of the American people.

Also on this sparkling tree you will find crystal snowflakes, glass icicles, silver and gold glass balls, and white glass pine cones.





In the Red Room, the portrait of President Martin Van Buren's daughter-in-law, Angelica, hangs above the fireplace. In this portrait appears a white marble bust of Van Buren. This bust is displayed on the wall between the windows. On the mantel is a display of the replica of the Van Buren home known as Lindenwald.

The two small tables on the north wall are decorated with red poinsettias. A small cranberry tree surrounded by holly sits atop the most important piece of American Empire furniture in the White House collection—a marble-top center table made in New York circa 1810 by Charles-Honoré Lannuiet.

THE STATE DINING ROOM

Garlands of mixed Christmas greenery are suspended over the portrait of President Lincoln. Sprays of greenery dusted with snow cascade from each of the wall sconces.

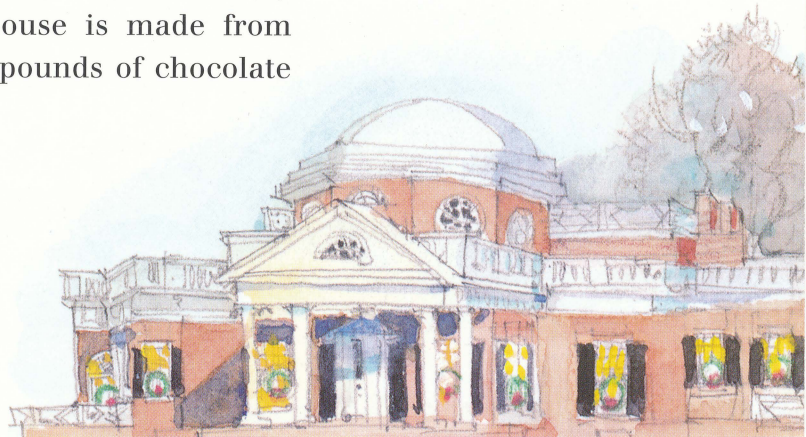




On the large table, miniature carolers grace the center of the table inviting guests to join in the celebrations. On either side of the carolers stand two large ornamental bronze fruit baskets dripping with Christmas greenery and white lilies. During the evening festivities, votive candles will glitter throughout the table.

The wonderful gingerbread house is a recreation of the original White House as it appeared in 1800 when John Adams became the first resident. Just like all the other Presidential homes on display, the gingerbread house was reproduced to scale using actual blueprints.

The White House pastry chefs had great fun making this house. Taking approximately three weeks to create, the house is made from 80 pounds of gingerbread, 30 pounds of chocolate and 20 pounds of marzipan!



The gingerbread house also features several special residents this year: Spotty, Barney, and Willie, the White House pets. Can you find them?

THE CROSS HALL AND ENTRANCE HALL

Clusters of spruce trees decorated with miniature white lights, icicles, tinsel and mounds of snow depict a forest on either side of the North Portico entrance. Additional trees of assorted sizes frame the Entrance Hall and Cross Hall.

A wreath of mixed greenery hangs above the gilded pier table in the Entrance Hall. The display on the marble-top table is a replica of the home of the first President of the United States,



George Washington. Located along the Potomac River in Alexandria, Virginia, this home is known as Mount Vernon.

Located in the Cross Hall near the State Dining Room, that was once used as President Thomas Jefferson's office, is a replica of the central section of his home, Monticello.

At the far end of the Cross Hall, near the East Room, is another lovely marble pier table on which a replica of Montpelier, the home of James Madison, is displayed. Located in the rolling hillsides of Virginia, James Madison's farm was his lifelong home.

On the landing of the Grand Staircase beneath the portrait of President Dwight D. Eisenhower is the home of Calvin Coolidge, which is on loan to the White House from the Calvin Coolidge Library.

Along the railing of the Grand Staircase, garlands of mixed greenery are draped and tied with white velvet ribbon.



THE WHITE HOUSE VISITOR CENTER

Three additional homes may be viewed at the White House Visitor Center located near the White House at the southeast corner of 15th and E Streets.

Here you may see a replica of Dwight D. Eisenhower's homestead in Abilene, Kansas. This clapboard house was his boyhood home. You will also find Harry S. Truman's home located in Lamar, Missouri, and finally a replica Herbert S. Hoover's home located in West Branch, Iowa.

*A special thank you to Jerry Pinkney
of Croton-on-Hudson, New York for illustrating
this year's holiday program.*

*Thanks, too, to the curators and staff
of the presidential homes and historic sites.*

