



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Interesting Facts & Figures about C-SPAN's White House Week and America's Most Famous Home

C-SPAN's White House Week Facts

Source: C-SPAN

Hours of Raw Footage: Approximately 130

Historians Interviewed: 10

Richard Norton Smith, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Anthony Pitch, Lonnie Bunch, Bill Seale, Harold Holzer, John Riley, Neil Horstman, Bill Bushong, Bill Allman

Administrations Discussed: 39

White House rooms shown during White House Week: 40

Outside grounds area shown during White House Week: 9

Jacqueline Kennedy First Ladies' Garden, Rose Garden, Children's Garden, Tennis Court, Putting Green, South Lawn, North Lawn, North Portico, South Portico

White House Facts

Source: White House Historical Association

With a floor area (total of 6 floors) of approximately 55,000 sq ft, The White House has 132 rooms, including 16 family-guest rooms, 1 main kitchen, 1 diet kitchen, 1 family kitchen, and 35 bathrooms.

It takes 300 gallons of white paint to cover the exterior of just the residence portion of the White House (center), excluding the West and East Wings.

The construction of the White House started in 1792 and was first occupied by President John Adams in 1800. The total cost was \$232,372.

John Adams was the first president to occupy the White House in 1800; one of his first additions was a vegetable garden.

On August 24, 1814, during the War of 1812, British troops burned the White House in retaliation for an earlier burning of Canadian government buildings in York, Ontario, by the United States.



After applauding war hero Andrew Jackson's inaugural address at the Capitol, a crowd of thousands descended on the White House to enjoy the reception for the "People's President"—to the accompaniment of crashing china and glassware. President Jackson escaped the crush of the crowd of merrymakers and would-be handshakers by leaving through a window.

The White House was the largest house in the United States until after the Civil War.

Two pathologists and seven doctors congregated in the Prince of Wales Room on the second floor of the White House to perform or to witness President Abraham Lincoln's autopsy shortly after he died—the victim of an assassin's bullet—on the morning of April 15, 1865.

No alcoholic beverage was served at any function during the Hayes administration—a prohibition earning the First Lady Lucretia Hayes the nickname of "Lemonade Lucy."

John Tyler was the first president to marry while in office. The only president to be married in a White House ceremony was Grover Cleveland in 1886. He married 21-year old Frances Folsom, the daughter of a former law partner.

Benjamin Harrison brought the first Christmas tree inside the White House in 1889.

A woman, probably a clerk-typist, first appeared on the White House staff payroll in 1889, when Harrison came to office.

The White House wasn't officially called "The White House" until an executive order by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1901.

During World War I, President Woodrow Wilson kept a flock of sheep on the White House lawn to save manpower in the war effort. The Wilson White House also auctioned off the sheep's wool for Red Cross donations.

A heated indoor swimming pool was built in 1933 for Franklin D. Roosevelt's therapy as he was disabled by poliomyelitis. During President Nixon's first term, this space in the West Wing was converted into the White House pressroom. The Ford administration installed an outdoor pool on the South lawn in 1975.

Bowling lanes were first built in 1947 in the basement of the West Wing but were moved to the Old Executive Office Building in 1955. In 1969, President and Mrs. Nixon, both avid bowlers, had a one-lane alley built in an underground workspace area below the driveway leading to the North Portico.

A jogging track was built around the driveway of the South grounds during President Clinton's first term.



White House Week airs nightly on C-SPAN at 9:00 PM (ET), December 14 –20.
Programs include:

Sunday, December 14

The White House: Inside America's Most Famous Home

Monday, December 15

White House Tours by Presidents and First Ladies

Tuesday, December 16

Behind the Scenes at the White House

Wednesday, December 17

The Gardens & the Grounds

Thursday, December 18

The Lincoln White House

Friday, December 19

Encore Documentary Presentation followed by The Making of the Documentary

Saturday, December 20

Interviews with President & Mrs. Bush

White House Week's content-rich site (www.c-span.org/whitehouse) offers footage of the feature-length documentary, as well as extended interviews with historians and archival footage of past presidents and significant events throughout our nation's history.

C-SPAN's original production, *White House Week*, was produced with assistance from First Lady Laura Bush and the White House Historical Association. Recorded in high-definition video to capture the beauty of the White House, this weeklong presentation airs on C-SPAN in standard definition and letterbox format. The series will be available in HD on DVD, and cable Video On Demand.

About C-SPAN

C-SPAN, the political network of record, was created by America's cable companies as a public service in 1979. C-SPAN programs three public affairs television networks; C-SPAN Radio, a Washington, D.C., radio station distributed nationally by XM Satellite Radio; and a video-rich website. C-SPAN is currently available in over 92 million cable and satellite households. For more information, visit www.c-span.org.

About the White House Historical Association

The White House Historical Association, established in 1961, is a non-profit organization whose goal is to enhance public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the White House. All proceeds from the association's trusts, publications and other items are used to fund acquisitions of historic furnishings and artwork for the permanent collection, assist in the preservation of the public rooms, and further its educational mission. For information about the association's outreach programs, please go to www.whitehousehistory.org.

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