

# Monticello's ice house getting 'original' roof

In 1938 the Thomas Jefferson Foundation re-created what was thought to be the appropriate roof form over the cylindrical ice house located at the end of the all-weather passageway under Monticello's North Terrace. It was only after the completion of that work that a Jefferson letter came to light, indicating that a flat rather than conical framing system was specified.

While the construction error was acknowledged, it was never corrected.

Until today.

As part of the ongoing program to more faithfully interpret Monticello's dependencies, the conical roof has been dismantled and a new one is being constructed according to Jefferson's directions. This flat roof is expected to be completed later this year.

In other respects the ice house is very well preserved. The stone walls of this 16-foot-diameter, 16-foot-deep chamber are in excellent condition.

The Roy R. Charles Charitable Trust has provided funding for the ice house roof project.

**COMMENTS?** [newsletter@monticello.org](mailto:newsletter@monticello.org)

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