

Jefferson MONTICELLO

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Revealing Jefferson's Monticello

ON MAY 2, community members, friends and special guests gathered to commemorate the opening of Mulberry Row and the upper floors of the house, restored through the recent work of the Mountaintop Project. This multi-year initiative was made possible by a transformational gift from David M. Rubenstein.

After nearly a century of preservation efforts, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation has revealed new perspectives on Monticello as plantation and family home. Opening Day drew large crowds to the mountaintop to tour Mulberry Row and the house's upper floors, including rooms never before accessible to the public.

One highlight: a dialogue moderated by patriotic philanthropist David

Rubenstein. The panel discussion, titled *Monticello: An American Story*, featured NBC Special Correspondent Tom Brokaw, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and Monticello trustee Jon Meacham, and Dr. Rex Ellis, Associate Director for Curatorial Affairs at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.

In her welcoming remarks, president and CEO Leslie Greene Bowman noted that Monticello has been newly revealed—inside and out. “After a period of intense restoration, we have taken a giant leap forward in our efforts to study and share the contributions of the many people who lived and

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“When you go to Monticello, you feel his presence in every room...

I half expected Mr. Jefferson to step out onto the grounds and join us for dinner. It is that kind of vibrancy that gives [Monticello] such meaning.”

—TOM BROKAW

Monticello: An American Story featured (LEFT TO RIGHT): moderator David Rubenstein and panelists Jon Meacham, Tom Brokaw and Rex Ellis

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labored in Jefferson's world."

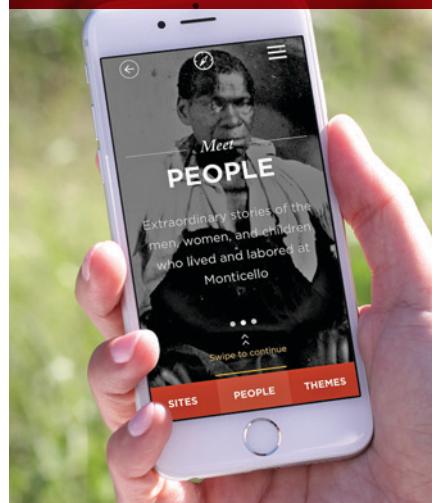
Inside the house, nine rooms on the second and third floors, as well as the north passage on the second floor, have been restored and furnished. Occupied primarily by Jefferson's daughter, sister and grandchildren, these private quarters illustrate the dynamics of family life in the early 1800s, and illuminate Jefferson's role as patriarch. The upper floor rooms allow visitors to explore interactions among all of Monticello's inhabitants, enslaved and free.

On Mulberry Row—once the plantation's "Main Street"—visitors can explore real and digital re-creations of lost buildings, and hear stories of the people who lived and worked there. The Foundation has re-created two structures: a log cabin, interpreted as the home of

John and Priscilla Hemmings, and the storehouse for iron, used for tinsmithing and nail making. "Slavery at Monticello," a new app available for iOS and Android devices, completes the landscape through virtual modeling. Users are introduced to the inhabitants of Mulberry Row through a rich mixture of primary-source text, audio and artifacts.

"We are grateful to David Rubenstein and the many donors who have dreamed with us for this long-awaited day. It is a privilege to celebrate this milestone with our friends and community," said Leslie Greene Bowman. "Together with the upper floors of the House, Mulberry Row brings to life Monticello's lesser-known stories, offering a glimpse into plantation life as Jefferson knew it—surrounded by family, servants and slaves."

Download our new app at
monticello.org/app



We hold These truths

THE CAMPAIGN FOR MONTICELLO

After nearly a century of painstaking restoration, the Foundation is advancing its commitment to reveal Jefferson's world through a major fundraising initiative, publicly announced on May 2. **We Hold These Truths: The Campaign for Monticello** will safeguard and share the mountain and the mind of Thomas Jefferson—for all people, for all time.

Since 1923, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation has served the public with a dual mission of education and preservation. The Campaign for Monticello builds upon transformational past support from civic leaders, the local community and friends around the country and the world.

For more information on how you can become involved in **We Hold These Truths: The Campaign for Monticello**, please visit monticello.org/campaign.