

## NEW DISCOVERIES AT MONTICELLO

Come see what's new on the Monticello mountaintop. Every day, new research informs our work, bringing the mountaintop closer to the place Jefferson knew.

### A Daughter's Act of Independence

EMILIE JOHNSON, Assistant Curator

Martha Jefferson Randolph, Jefferson's eldest daughter, was one of the best-educated women in America in the early 19th century. She accompanied her father to France, and later became a plantation mistress and mother to 11 children. At 49 years old, she campaigned to persuade her father to rearrange the furniture in her bedroom. Martha's appeals allowed her to move her bed from the alcove, thus creating a closet for her possessions.

TO LEARN MORE about the role of women at Monticello, come to the March 22 or March 24, 2016, TOM Talk™. Visit [www.monticello.org/tomtalk](http://www.monticello.org/tomtalk) for more information.



"I have at last succeeded in having My alcove turned into a closet and you have no idea how much it has added to My comfort. I laid regular siege to Papa who bore it in dignified silence for some time, but I gave it to him for breakfast, dinner, and supper, and breakfast again till he gave up in dispair [sic] at last."

MARTHA JEFFERSON RANDOLPH TO VIRGINIA RANDOLPH, JANUARY 10, 1822



TOP, RIGHT The bedroom alcove and bed of Martha Jefferson Randolph. Restoration sponsored by Charlotte Moss and Barry Friedberg.

LEFT Martha Jefferson Randolph by Thomas Sully, c. 1836



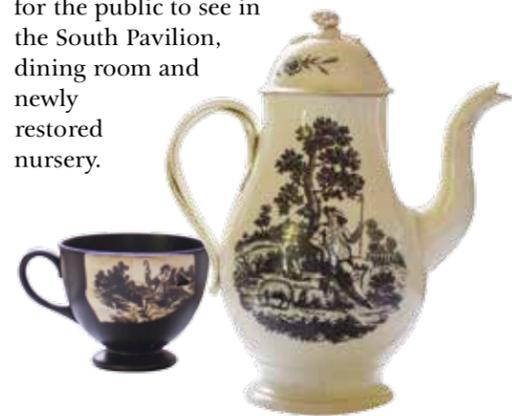
### Remarkable Ceramic Acquisitions Match Monticello Objects

BEATRIX ARENDT, Curator of Archaeology Collection  
DIANE EHRENPREIS, Assistant Curator

In April 2015, Monticello curators spotted in an auction a number of lots similar to objects used at Monticello during Jefferson's lifetime. After consulting with the archaeology team, they learned that 15 objects were close or exact matches to wares found at Monticello. The curators acquired all the relevant lots, bringing home such examples as an Astbury-type teapot with engine-turned decoration, a polychrome-decorated pearlware mug, and a Portobello-type pitcher with yellow chinoiserie decoration.

Perhaps the most compelling acquisition is a Wedgwood creamware coffeepot in the so-called Tea Party pattern, one that is an exact match to a cup used at Monticello as early as c. 1770. The cup fragment was recovered from Mulberry Row,

indicating that slaves acquired ceramics by purchase, trade or provision from Jefferson and his family. The same wares were used on Mulberry Row and in the main house, reinforcing the interconnections of the entire mountaintop community. A selection of the new ceramics will be available for the public to see in the South Pavilion, dining room and newly restored nursery.



The newly acquired Wedgwood coffeepot is paired with a fragment of a cup once used at Monticello and excavated along Mulberry Row.



This year, extensive archaeology and an analysis of the history and construction materials were completed at Jefferson's stable.

### Bringing Back Jefferson's 1809 Stone Stable

GARDINER HALLOCK, Interim Director of Restoration  
EMILIE JOHNSON, Assistant Curator

Jefferson's love of horses and his daily rides are well-known. But what is less well-known is the location of his private stables at Monticello. Obscured by 20th-century additions, the stone walls of the white building at the end of Mulberry Row are all that remain of Jefferson's 1809 stable. The restoration is supported by a generous gift from The Sarah and Ross Perot, Jr.

Foundation. Monticello's curators and restoration team are working to study, restore and interpret this essential structure.

By opening the stable to visitors, we will be able to share more about Jefferson the horseman, transportation across the plantation, and the work of Jupiter Evans and Wormley Hughes, the enslaved men responsible for Monticello's stables and horses.

The first steps took place this year: extensive archaeology at the site, and the completion of a detailed analysis of the building's history and construction materials. This information will be used to plan the restoration.



Monticello recently reconstructed one of Jefferson's cistern pumps. See it in action at [www.monticello.org/blog](http://www.monticello.org/blog).