

# THE PLACES AND SPACES OF THE WHITE HOUSE



## RESOURCE LIST

**Blue Room** ★ Main drawing room used for receiving guests, noted for its oval shape. State Floor.

**Cabinet Room** ★ Meeting room for the president's **cabinet**. West Wing. Former Cabinet Rooms were on the second floor in the Residence.

**China Room** ★ Exhibition space where selections from the historic presidential china collection are displayed. Ground Floor.

**Cross Hall** ★ Long, grand passage from the East Room to the State Dining Room; also a gallery of portraits of recent presidents. State Floor.

**Diplomatic Reception Room** ★ Oval-shaped room located beneath the Blue Room where foreign **dignitaries** are received after they enter through the South **Portico**. Ground Floor.

**East Colonnade** ★ Glass-enclosed corridor connecting the Residence to the East Wing. Ground Floor.

**East Room** ★ Great **ceremonial** room of the White House. State Floor.

**East Sitting Hall** ★ Family sitting room. Second Floor.

**East Terrace** ★ Open area above the roof of the East **Colonnade**.

**East Wing** ★ Building on the east, connected to the Residence by the East Colonnade; contains offices of the first lady and her staff, and the main entrance for visitors touring the White House.

**Entrance Hall** ★ **Formal** reception area for visitors coming through the North Door. Also known as Grand **Foyer**. State Floor.

## VOCABULARY

**Cabinet** a group of advisers of a head of state

**Colonnade** a series of columns set at regular intervals and usually supporting the base of a roof structure

**Dignitaries** persons considered to be important because of high rank or office

**Portico** a structure consisting of a roof supported by columns at regular intervals, typically attached as a porch to a building

**Ceremonial** the system of rules and procedures to be observed at a formal occasion

**Foyer** an entrance hall in a house, apartment, or other open area in a building used by the public

**Formal** done according to customary rules or etiquette; appropriate for or constituting an official or important situation or occasion

**Utilitarian** designed to be useful or practical rather than attractive

**Parlor** a room for receiving guests

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**Ellipse** ★ Oval-shaped park to the south of the White House.

**Executive Residence** ★ Original central portion of the White House and where the first family's living quarters are located.

**Executive Mansion** ★ Another name for the White House.

**Family Dining Room** ★ Originally the main family dining room; today used for special events. State Floor.

**Green Room** ★ State **parlor** used for small gatherings. State Floor.

**Ground Floor** ★ Originally a **utilitarian** basement below the State Floor; redesigned with reception rooms in the Theodore Roosevelt renovation of 1902.

**Jacqueline Kennedy Garden** ★ One of the main flower gardens of the White House; located on the east side of the South Lawn; also known as the First Ladies' and the East Garden.

**Ground Floor Corridor** ★ Central passageway connecting Ground Floor Rooms, the West Wing, and the East Wing. Ground Floor.

**Library** ★ Library with a collection of books on American history, thought, and tradition. Ground Floor.

**Lincoln Bedroom** ★ Guest bedroom that was the office and Cabinet Room of President Abraham Lincoln. Second Floor.

**Map Room** ★ Sitting room used as a situation room by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt during World War II. Ground Floor.

**North Lawn** ★ Outdoor area on the north/ Pennsylvania Avenue side of the White House.

**North Portico** ★ Three-sided, colonnaded entrance porch on the north side of the White House.

**Oval Office** ★ The president's office. West Wing.

**President's House** ★ Original name for the White House.

**President's Park** ★ Approximately 85-acre preserve designated by President George Washington when the capital was planned in 1792; includes the White House, Lafayette Park, the Ellipse, and the grounds of the Eisenhower Executive office and Treasury Buildings.

**Press Room** ★ Assembly room for news reporters covering the White House. West Colonnade.

**Queens' Bedroom** ★ Guest bedroom named for the visiting royalty who have stayed there. Second Floor.

**Red Room** ★ State parlor used for small gatherings. State Floor.

**Roosevelt Room** ★ Central conference room located across the hall from the Oval Office. West Wing.

**Rose Garden** ★ One of the main flower gardens of the White House, located on the west side of the South Lawn; used for outdoor ceremonies; also known as the West Garden.

**Second Floor** ★ The level that appears as the "upstairs" from the street and houses the private family quarters.

**Solarium** ★ Private family recreation room above the South Portico. Third Floor.

**South Lawn** ★ Outdoor area on the south side of the White House.

**South Portico** ★ Semicircular colonnaded porch with open-armed stairs on the south side of the White House.

**State Dining Room** ★ Dining room for State Dinners and other official dinners. State Floor.

**State Floor** ★ Main floor of the White House, containing the public rooms.

**State Rooms** ★ Formal rooms on the State Floor, including the Blue Room, Red Room, Green Room, State Dining Room, and East Room.

**Third Floor** ★ Originally an attic above the Second Floor, redesigned for use by the first family in 1927.

**Truman Balcony** ★ Second-level balcony added to the South Front of the White House by President Harry S. Truman in 1947–48.

**Vermeil Room** ★ Exhibition space where a collection of vermeil (gilded silver) is displayed. Ground Floor.

**West Colonnade** ★ Column-lined open passageway that borders the Rose Garden and connects the Residence to the West Wing.

**West Wing** ★ Office wing of the White House that contains the Oval Office and offices for the president's closest advisers.

**Yellow Oval Room** ★ Oval-shaped room located above the Blue Room that serves as a formal drawing room for the family quarters. Second Floor.