

The original documents are located in Box 44, folder “Residence Floor Plans” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Treaty Room

- Named and refurnished during Kennedy Administration.
- Furnished to resemble Cabinet room during Grant Administration.
- ~~F~~Furnishings are Victorian. Cabinet table from the Grant Administration. Chandelier also example of Grant era "Steamboat decor."
- Three Presidential portraits include Zachary Taylor in uniform, Grant and Andrew Johnson.
- The marble and malachite clock, purchased by Grant, also includes barometer, calendar dials and thermometer.
- Victorian heart-back chairs around the Cabinet table were previously used in Family and State Dining Rooms.

President's Dining Room

- Not used as dining room until Kennedy Administration.
- Generally used as bedroom. Among famous occupants were the Grover Clevelands and Alice Roosevelt Longworth.
- Note: Jackie Kennedy wallpaper you had removed is in storage and could be put up again.

Kitchen

- Kitchen also dates from the Kennedys, and it was remodeled during Nixon Administration.



The Yellow Oval Room

--Yellow has been used periodically in the room as far back as Dolley Madison.

Present
--~~President~~ Louis the 16th decor dates from Kennedy Administration.

--Portrait over the mantle is of Frances Folsom Cleveland, who was married to President Grover Cleveland in a White House ceremony.

--Cleveland used the room as an office in the days before the West Wing.

--Roosevelt and Truman used the room as study. FDR often had meetings with wartime leaders there.

--President Benjamin Harrison had the first White House Christmas tree in this room.

--President Harding held his famous, controversial poker games in this room.



June 28, 1962

Office of the Assistant Social Secretary
for the Press

THE WHITE HOUSE
THE WHITE HOUSE

Mrs. John F. Kennedy, Honorary Chairman of The Fine Arts Committee for The White House today officially opened the newly refurbished Treaty Room on the second floor. This room which has been restored as a cabinet room of the late 19th century, with furnishings from President Grant's administration, has had a number of varied uses throughout the years. Originally used as a sitting room, it became the waiting room to the President's Office in the Lincoln Administration, and then the cabinet room from the Administration of President Johnson to the Administration of Theodore Roosevelt. In 1902, when the West Executive wing was built, it became a sitting room again. During the Hoover Administration, Mrs. Hoover had duplicated at her own expense some existing Monroe furniture at Fredericksburg and the room came to be called the Monroe Room.

It remained virtually unchanged over the years until recently when it was decided that the room could be put to better use as a conference room for the President. Most of the furniture, which had been shown in period photographs, was located in great disrepair at Ft. Washington by Mrs. Kennedy.

X The final touch of period authenticity to the room is supplied by an ornate chandelier, one of three purchased by President Grant in 1873 for the East Room. Removed from the White House in 1902, these chandeliers were purchased by the United States Capitol. This particular chandelier, which has been returned on loan to the White House through the cooperation of The Vice President and the Majority and Minority Leaders, hung until recently in the Senate Connecting Corridor. The two matching chandeliers still hang in the Capitol, one in the main Senate Appropriation^s Room and the other in the Vice-President's Ceremonial office, and there are also 4 smaller but similar chandeliers which are also thought to have been purchased from the White House.

The Marble mantel in the room is inscribed: "This room was first used for meetings of the cabinet during the administration of President Johnson. It continued to be so used until the Year MCMII. Here the Treaty of Peace with Spain was signed." All the treaties hanging on the walls date from the same period in which the room was used as a meeting place for the cabinet and possibly many of them were signed here.

The United States Archives has arranged for duplicates to be made of significant treaties of times, and these framed historic documents complete the restoration of the room.

The furnishings are as follows:

Original White House furnishings:

X Cabinet Table -- purchased in 1869 under the Grant Administration from Pottier and Stymus Manufacturing Company of New York. The table originally had ten matching chairs, which Theodore Roosevelt arranged to have sold at a nominal price to members of his Cabinet, when the room was made into a sitting room. A unique feature ;of this carved walnut pedestal table are the locking drawers for each member of the cabinet, where presumably personal papers were secreted until the next meeting.

Victorian Side Chairs -- Walnut, with heart-shaped backs upholstered in black horsehair. These six chairs may date earlier than the Grant Administration, but it is known that they were used as ballroom chairs by President Grant and Dining Room chairs by President Hayes.

Victorian Sofa -- Walnut, carved shield on back, upholstered in cut velvet. This was also purchased in 1869 by the Grant Administration from Pottier and Stymus.

More...



Two Red Leather Chairs

Two red velvet armchairs

Victorian Armchair, upholstered in Green Velvet

Office Swivel chair, upholstered in Green Velvet

One of the Red velvet armchairs is possibly the one in which Lincoln is shown in the Portrait by G.P.A. Healy which now hangs in the State Dining Room. All the other pieces were found recently in White House storage and were probably purchased under the Lincoln or Grant Administrations.

Round Mahogany table, with marble inset top and pedestal base

Victorian table with bell-drop design

Victorian table with white marble top and ormolu mountings,

Victorian table with inlaid wood panels.

These tables are all original White House furnishings and were recently recovered from storage.

Pair of brass torcheres -- Original White House property dating from the Jackson Administration.

Gilt Mirror over mantel, with shield motif -- Purchased by the White House in the late 19th century.

Marble and Malachite French Clock, with calendar, barometer and thermometer. Purchased in 1869 for \$500. from Browne & Spaulding Company, under the Grant Administration.

Recent donations to the White House

Victorian walnut, marble-top table -- Presented by Mrs. Eisenhower in 1958. From the Dowd family home.

Pair of Victorian Side Chairs -- Walnut, with busts of Zachary Taylor and Martin Van Buren carved in Chair backs. These may have been original White House property. Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Morton May, Jr. of St. Louis, Missouri.

Brass Andirons and Fender -- These were used in The White House under the Taylor Administration and were recently presented as the gift of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Edward J. Foy of Washington, D.C.

Inkwell -- owned by President Grant. Given by Mrs. Herman A. Blau of San Francisco, California.

Paintings

+ "The Peacemakers", by G.P.A. Healy. The painting which depicts President Lincoln and Generals Grant and Sherman aboard the "River Queen", was purchased for the white House collection 1947. Until recently it hung in the West Executive Lobby.

+ "Signing of the Peace Protocol between Spain and The United States", 1898, by Theobald Chartran. The painting by Chartran on the north wall of this room shows the signing of this treaty. White House Collection.

"Ulysses S. Grant", 1875, by Henry Ulke, White House Collection.

"Zachary Taylor", by Joseph H. Bush, White House collection.

"Andrew Johnson", 1880, by E.F. Andrews, White House collection.

"A Lincoln Reception at The White House", Attributed to F.B. Carpenter. Gift to the White House of Mr. and Mrs. Winslow Carlton of New York in memory of William James Carlton.

"The Emancipation Proclamation", 1865, by A.A. Lamb. On loan to the White House from the American Primitive Painting Collection of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbish.

Treaties (see attachment)



The panel motif of the green flock paper has been copied from that in the room across from Ford's Theater, where Lincoln died. The plum velvet curtains with scroll and tassell detail over lace inner curtains are duplicates of those found in Victorian drawings and photographs.

Treaties -- 1864-1902

1. Naturalization Treaty with Bavaria , signed at Munich, May 26, 1868.
2. Convention with Austria-Hungary on the Protection of Trade Marks, signed at Vienna, November 25, 1871
3. Convention with Belgium Regarding Consular Officers, signed at Washington, March 9, 1880.
4. Shipwreck Convention with Japan. signed at Tokyo, May 17, 1880.
5. Convention with certain European Powers for the Establishment of the Right of Protection in Morocco, signed at Madrid, July 3, 1880.
6. Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation with Korea, signed at Yin-Chune, May 22, 1882.
7. Treaty of Extradition with Luxemburg, signed at Berlin, October 29, 1883.
8. Claims Convention with Venezuela, signed at Washington, March 15, 1888.
9. Agreement with Mexico Providing for the Reciprocal Crossing of the International Boundary in Pursuit of Hostile Indians, signed at Washington, June 25, 1890.
10. Peace Protocol with Spain, signed at Washington, August 12, 1898
11. Reciprocal Commercial Agreement with Portugal, signed at Washington, May 22, 1899.
12. Convention with Certain Powers on the Laws and Customs of War on Land, signed at the Hague, July 29, 1899.
13. Convention with Great Britain and Germany Relative to Samoan Claims, signed at Washington, November 7, 1899.
14. Extradition Treaty with Serbia, signed at Belgrade, October 25, 1901.
15. Treaty with Russia on the Cession of Alaska, signed at Washington, March 30. 1867.
16. Convention of Commercial Reciprocity with Hawaii, signed at Washington, January 30, 1875.

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CONFERENCE TABLE IN THE TREATY ROOM

X This walnut pedestal table was purchased for the Cabinet Room of the White House in 1869 during the administration of President Ulysses S. Grant. It remained in use as the Cabinet Room table until the West Wing was built in 1902.

A unique feature of the table were the locking drawers where late 19th century Cabinet members could keep personal papers until the next meeting of the Cabinet.

Traditionally, the President sat at the south end of the table with the Secretary of State at his right and the Secretary of the Treasury at his left. The other members of the Cabinet sat in the order of the creation of their departments.

Among historic documents signed on this table are the following:

- X { 1. The Peace Protocol ending the Spanish-American War, August, 1898. In attendance were President William McKinley, U. S. Secretary of State William Day, and the French Ambassador Jules Cambon who signed for Spain. (A painting on the north wall of the Treaty Room illustrates this event).
2. The Kellogg-Briand Peace Pact. Signed by President Calvin Coolidge on this table when it was moved to the East Room for this purpose in January, 1929. (This pact provided that the contracting powers "renounce war as an instrument of national policy" and promised to resolve "all disputes of whatever nature or of whatever origins" by pacific means.)



Mrs. Kennedy wished to turn it into a room which could be used for secret consultations, or for quickly called meetings during hours when the President did not wish to go to his official offices in the West Executive Wing. There was ample precedent for this change.

X

This was exactly the function of the room in the days of William Henry Harrison and John Tyler. Daniel Webster was Secretary of State to both Presidents. The room was closed and locked whenever a meeting was held. However, there was an obvious security leak; the deliberations of the Cabinet were reported in full in certain Washington newspapers, and all attempts to discover the source failed. One day Daniel Webster went into the oval room next door to find a book. He heard the voices of the members of the Cabinet leaking through the wall. Thereafter the adjoining room was emptied and locked before the President met with his Cabinet.

TOUR OF THE WHITE HOUSE WITH MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY

by Perry Wolff

page 228

Treaty Room



File Cabinet Room Thank

KNOW FURNITURE

By LEO JIRANEK

JUST as the President finds refuge from his arduous daily tasks within the confines of his comfortable study, so Mrs. Roosevelt finds a sanctuary in her private parlor, the Monroe Room. This charming room, which is on the second floor next to the President's study, has a very interesting history. It was used by Mrs. Monroe as her own sitting room and by various other First Ladies and members of their families for private purposes.

President Johnson found it necessary to use it as a Cabinet room and it continued as such until the executive offices were added to the White House in 1902. This room was the scene of the signing of the Treaty of Peace between the United States and Spain which ended the Spanish-American War.

Mrs. Hoover, whose love for the beautiful furnishings of early American days is so well known, did a remarkable piece of work in restoring

this room as nearly to its original state as possible and placed in it as many pieces known to be in the White House during the time of Mrs. Monroe as she could have reproduced. She spent a considerable time searching old White House records and those of President Monroe's office in Fredericksburg, Va.

The result brought forth an interesting Empire table, two sofas, two arm chairs and a group of small 18th century side chairs, a lovely gilt mirror and a most beautiful desk designed in the best French



Empire manner. This desk is tall and narrow and has a very interesting top of Vermont marble with a bronze gallery. It is an exact reproduction of the famous desk upon which the Monroe Doctrine was signed.

When the present Mrs. Roosevelt became mistress of the White House, she made several changes in the room, and the Monroe desk and a few other pieces were removed and placed in other parts of the house. In their places some richly upholstered chairs in black velvet and heavy fringe and a very fine breakfront, pictured here, were substituted.

In its present arrangement, the Monroe Room, or the Rose Room as it was formerly called, has a pleasant and congenial atmosphere. When the First Lady is not in the White House it is often used by house guests.

Prior to the
Kennedy adm.,
The Treaty Room
was called the
Monroe Room.



PRESIDENT'S DINING ROOM

Until 1961 when the room was converted to a dining room, this room had always been used as a family sitting room or bedroom.

In the 19th century, it served as a bedroom for presidential children and relatives. In the late 19th century, President and Mrs. Cleveland and President and Mrs. McKinley used it as their bedroom. Alice Roosevelt said that it was here that she had her appendix removed when she lived in the White House.

Prior to the establishment of the Lincoln Bedroom in the Truman administration, the Lincoln bed and other Lincoln furniture were located in this room, particularly in the 1930's (Hoover administration).

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The mid 19th century scenic wallpaper with revolutionary war scenes, [] removed from the walls, in 1975, was carefully taken off the walls and is now preserved in White House storage. It is available to be re-used if any future occupants of the White House wish to use it.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

PAINTINGS IN THE PRESIDENT'S DINING ROOM

Old Ferryboat at McCall's Ferry by Herman Herzog, 1870-1880.
Scene on the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania. Purchased, 1975.
(to left of door).

Yosemite, Bridal Veil Falls by Thomas Hill, late 19th century.
On loan from the State Department.

Grapes and Apples by James Peale, circa 1810. Gift, 1962.

United States Capitol, artist unknown, circa 1835. Gift, 1962.

Under the Palisades, in October by Jasper F. Cropsey, 1895.
Gift, 1973. (over the mantel).

Still Life with Fruit by Reubens Peale, 1862. Gift, 1962.

Red Roses and Green Leaves by Martin J. Heade. Gift, 1962.

View of the Hudson from West Point, artist unknown. Gift, 1963.

ITEMS OF HISTORIC INTEREST IN ROOM

Medicine chest once owned by President James Madison and taken from the White House by the British in 1814. Returned as gift to President Franklin Roosevelt in 1939. On loan from the Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park.

Silver coffee and tea pots on the sideboard were purchased in the Andrew Jackson administration from the Russian Minister Baron de Tuyll. They were made by the French silversmith Martin Guillaume Biennais.

Silver tureen -purchased for the White House in 1817 under the Monroe administration. Made by J. A. Fauconnier, French.



WHITE HOUSE ITEMS OF INTEREST IN WEST SITTING HALL

Paintings

Boys Crabbing by William Ranney, 1855. Gift to the White House in 1972.

Colonial Cottage, Cos Cob by Childe Hassam, 1902. Purchased, 1975.

Golden Afternoon by Childe Hassam. On loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Furniture

American secretary-bookcase, Hepplewhite style. Made in Baltimore, about 1800. Gift to the White House in 1962.

The secretary contains presidential porcelain from the Grant and Hayes administrations.



SECOND FLOOR KITCHEN

Until 1961, this room had always served as a family bedroom or sitting room. Mrs. Kennedy had it made into a kitchen and in 1973 it was re-modeled as the kitchen it appears today.



YELLOW OVAL ROOM

This room has always been used as a family sitting room, library and study.

It was here in 1800-1801 that John and Abigail Adams held weekly receptions in the still unfinished White House.

In the 1850's, Mrs. Millard Fillmore turned the room into a library-for the first time there was a permanent collection of books for the family to read.

In the Grant administration, Nelly Grant displayed wedding gifts in this room. Her gifts had come from Heads of State throughout the world.

Late 19th century use of the room saw President Benjamin Harrison use it as his office.

In the early 20th century the room was a family living room, furnished with personal items owned by each family. It was in this room on Nov. 11, 1918 that Woodrow Wilson prepared an address to Congress relating to the Armistice ending World War I.

Other 20th century presidents such as Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman used this room as their study. In the Roosevelt administration, many of the President's advisors and Cabinet members met with him in this room to discuss the war effort. Winston Churchill, on his visits to Washington, often met with Roosevelt in this room.

The room was redecorated as a formal drawing room in the French style of Louis XVI by Mrs. Kennedy in 1961. During the Nixon administration, in July, 1974, the room was again refurbished retaining many of the articles acquired in the Kennedy years.



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