

The **White House** is the [official residence](#) and workplace of the [president of the United States](#). Located at 1600 [Pennsylvania Avenue NW](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#), it has served as the residence of every U.S. president since [John Adams](#) in 1800 when the national capital was moved from [Philadelphia](#).^[2] "The White House" is also used as a [metonym](#) to refer to the [Executive Office of the President of the United States](#).^[3]



The residence was designed by Irish-born architect [James Hoban](#) in the [Neoclassical](#) style.^[4] Hoban modeled the building on [Leinster House](#) in Dublin, a building which today houses the [Oireachtas](#), the Irish legislature. Constructed between 1792 and 1800, its exterior walls are [Aquia Creek sandstone](#) painted white. When [Thomas Jefferson](#) moved into the house in 1801, he and architect [Benjamin Henry Latrobe](#) added low [colonnades](#) on each wing to conceal what then were stables and storage.^[5] In 1814, during the [War of 1812](#), the mansion was set ablaze by [British](#) forces in the [burning of Washington](#),



destroying the interior and charring much of the exterior. Reconstruction began almost immediately, and President [James Monroe](#) moved into the partially reconstructed [Executive Residence](#) in October 1817. Exterior construction continued with the addition of the semicircular South Portico in 1824 and the North Portico in 1829.