

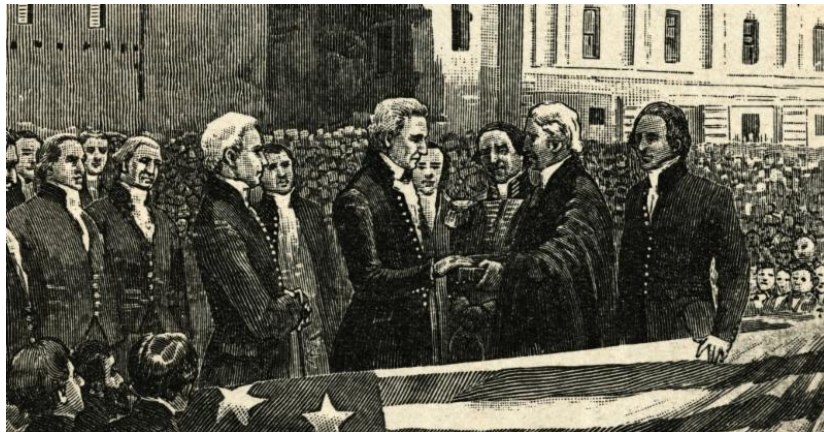


### In This Issue

[Inauguration](#)   [New Exhibit](#)   [Curator's Corner](#)   [Google](#)   [Events](#)

[What's In Store?](#)   [Giving Day](#)

## James Monroe Presidential Inauguration Bicentennial Commemoration Saturday, March 4, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Monroe Hall, UMW Fredericksburg Campus



James Monroe was inaugurated for his first term as the nation's fifth president on March 4, 1817, ushering in what became known as the "Era of Good Feelings." On this 200th anniversary of his first inauguration, the public is invited to witness Monroe's inaugural address and the oath of office as administered by his longtime friend and occasional political adversary, Chief Justice John Marshall.



The festivities will commence with a concert by the **Historical Trumpets and Flutes of the United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps**. The musicians of this unit recall the days of the American Revolution as they perform in uniforms

patterned after those worn by the musicians of Gen. George Washington's Continental Army. Military musicians of the period wore the reverse colors of the regiments to which they were assigned, hence the red uniforms of the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.

The concert will be followed by opening remarks from James Monroe Museum director Scott Harris, UMW president Dr. Troy D. Paino, and Fredericksburg mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw. The presidential party, including President-elect James Monroe, Elizabeth Monroe, Chief Justice John Marshall, President James Madison and First Lady

Dolley Madison will then arrive by horse and carriage along Campus Walk.

A reception and opportunities to interact with President Monroe and other living history interpreters will follow the inauguration.

Free and open to the public. If you are unable to attend the event, the live stream will be available [here](#). Please note, the link will not go live until 15 minutes before the event begins.

A description of the events as they took place on March 4, 1817 can be found on The Papers of James Monroe's website [here](#). We are grateful to the staff of The Papers for their research, which assisted in our preparations for the bicentennial commemoration.

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***A Sneak Peek at Era of Good Fashions: Clothing and Accessories of the Monroe Family***  
**A New Exhibit Opening Friday, April 7, 2017**



Can you guess what item is featured in the photo above? Join us on April 7 to explore the new exhibit and discover the answer!

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**Curator's Corner**

**Eating with Elegance: The Monroe Family Flatware**

One of the more distinctive elements of the James Monroe Museum's collection is a stunning George III silver and mother-of-pearl-handled dessert flatware set.

The set consists of 24 pieces - 12 forks and 12 knives. Each piece is struck with a series of hallmarks indicating maker, location, date, and silver quality. Through these marks, one can ascertain that the set is sterling silver (92.5% silver), was assessed for the duty imposed on English silver, and was created in Birmingham, England, in 1805 by silversmith Samuel Pemberton. What makes this particularly compelling is that James Monroe had returned to England from his diplomatic mission to Spain in the summer of 1805. Birmingham at the time was a rising center of jewelry-making, with up to 400 artisans working in various jewelry trades at the turn of the 19th Century. Samuel Pemberton was a prominent silversmith, and Monroe clearly chose him for his quality of

work. The knives also feature the Monroe eagle-form monogram, which was derived from the crest of Clan Munro, bestowing a distinctive personal touch to the set.

Another striking aspect of the set is the mother-of-pearl handles. Mother-of-pearl is the inner layer of shell produced by certain mollusks; in the case of jewelry-making it is typically extracted from oysters. Oyster shells are curved, so in order to produce a length straight and thick enough for the handles of James Monroe's flatware, the oysters would have been



of extraordinary size and quality.

Once the mother-of-pearl was extracted from the shell, the handles were pre-shaped on grinding stones and buffed with emery to restore shine. A hole was drilled down the center, and the silver blades and forks were carefully inserted and secured with adhesive. In many cases, the handle and insert are attached after initial shaping and then finished to polish together. In the case of James Monroe's

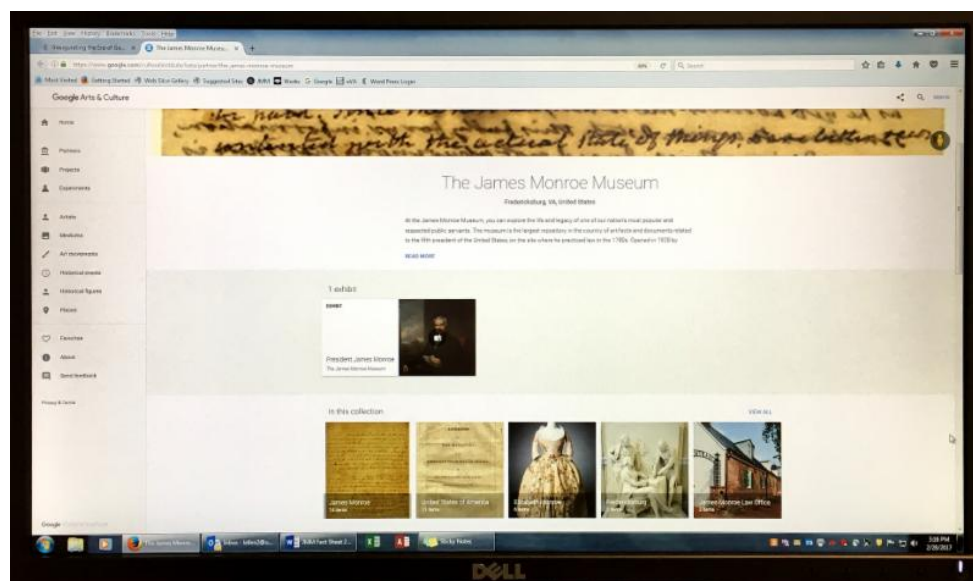
set the handle was attached after final shaping as indicated by the slight differential in the joint.

Mother-of-pearl is the same material that makes up the outer coating of pearls, which is why the handles shine with a pearl-like luster. Overall, the Monroe family flatware is an extraordinary example of early 19th-century English craftsmanship.

Selections from the flatware set are currently exhibited in our newly repurposed orientation gallery. We invite you to come by and view this elegant connection to James Monroe's history.



## JMM Collaboration with Google Cultural Institute!



The home page of JMM's online exhibit

More than 70 artifacts from The James Monroe Museum can now be viewed [online](#) on Google Arts & Culture by people around the world due to a new partnership between the Google Cultural Institute and the Museum. Thanks to this new virtual collection, users will be able to see historically significant artifacts illustrating the life and times of James Monroe in just a few clicks. This all comes as part of Google Arts & Culture's Presidents' Day

collection [American Democracy](#) celebrating the history of the United States presidency from George Washington to the present day.

A virtual exhibit has been developed for online visitors to discover interactive stories curated by experts at The James Monroe Museum. The digital exhibition tells the story of the man who held more public service jobs before assuming the presidency than any other holder of the office.

Being part of the Presidents' Day Collection helps the Museum bring the distinguished legacy of James Monroe to a worldwide audience. JMM is grateful to Google Arts & Culture for the opportunity, and for their generous technical and marketing support.

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Scott Harris, Jay Harrison, and Troy Paino

## **James Monroe Museum Events!**

**Our Presidents' Day Presidential Press Conference** was a great success! Thank you to all who attended in person and online. We are grateful to Jay Harrison and Dr. Troy D. Paino for making the event fun and informative! If you missed the event you can watch it [here](#).

### **Friday, April 7, 6:00-8:00 PM First Friday Curator Talk at JMM**

Curator Jarod Kearney delves into the collections of the Museum, and showcases artifacts rarely seen by the public, specifically those related to our exhibit, *Era of Good Fashions: Clothing and Accessories of the Monroe Family*, opening the same day. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments.

### **Wednesday & Thursday, April 19 & 20, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Colonial Academy at JMM and Mary Washington House**

A spring break camp presented in conjunction with Washington Heritage Museums for students in 3rd-5th grades. There will be instruction and discussion on a variety of topics related to the Colonial Era, including architecture, archeology and the importance of being able to read cursive. Students will be at Mary Washington House on April 19, and at JMM on April 20. Cost: \$40/student for both days. Advance registration is required. Contact Michelle Hamilton at Mary Washington House by [email](#) or at 540-373-1569 to register.

### **Thursday, April 27, 7:00 PM Mary Talks at Hurley Convergence Center Digital Auditorium, UMW**

Scott Harris, director of JMM, will present "Revolutionary Idealist: the Life and Legacy of James Monroe." Registration is required and will open one month prior to the scheduled lecture. If you are unable to attend, a live stream of the event will be available through the Mary Talks site. Online viewers will be able to submit questions via Twitter by using the hashtag #UMWMaryTalks! For more information, please visit [Mary Talks](#).

### **Saturday, April 29, Noon-4:00 PM James Monroe Birthday at JMM**



Celebrate the 259th anniversary of the birth of our fifth president with James Monroe! Join us for a book talk on the newly-reissued *The Autobiography of James Monroe* with historian William Ferraro. There will also be family-friendly activities, music, and refreshments.

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## What's In Store?

The Museum Store has undergone a few changes in the past month. In addition to a beautiful new floor, you will find new displays and unique items!

Get ready for the March weather changes that will arrive soon by planning a fun-filled family activity for indoors. We showcase several jigsaw puzzles (\$16.00) with a history theme to easily fill cold, windy, and rainy days. In the Store you will find the following puzzles:



- **U.S. Presidents:** This puzzle vividly illustrates the USA's 45 Presidents. Since 1789, when George Washington was sworn in as our first president, America has benefitted from over 200 years of presidential stability. Features cameos of each president along with historical sites related to the presidents around the border. Created by Randy Green.
- **American Revolution:** From 1775-1783 Americans fought to liberate themselves from British rule under King George III. The American Revolution began a worldwide democratic movement that continues to this day. Artist Randy Green has created a masterful puzzle image of this somber and heroic conflict.
- **Presidential Stamps:** Here are some classics for you philatelists out there who might remember when a stamp could be acquired for 2 cents, or an odd one featuring Warren G. Harding for 1 ½ cents! These wonderful portraits of American historical figures were assembled by Lois B. Sutton.

If you would rather enjoy a good book on a rainy day, stop by and take a look at our extensive selection. Not only can you find a wealth of information on President James Monroe, but also easy reading such as *Mistress of Riversdale* (\$23.95). Peruse a collection of letters that document the timeless elements of domestic life--family, relationships, childbirth, illness, and household chores. The reader is transported to the ups and downs of daily living at the Riversdale Plantation. Also, an enjoyable quick read is *Elizabeth Kortright Monroe* (\$4.00), an overview of the life of our favorite First Lady! Enjoy reading about her upbringing and her time devoted to being a wife and mother. Both books are especially appropriate to explore in March, which is **Women's History Month!**

We look forward to seeing you in The James Monroe Museum Store!

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## Mary Wash Giving Day!

The University of Mary Washington will hold its first giving day on Tuesday, March 14.



This date is significant in the University's history, as it marks 109 years since its founding in 1908 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women.

During **Mary Wash Giving Day on March 14**, donors can make gifts at [mwgivingday.com](http://mwgivingday.com) from midnight through 11:59 p.m. On the [Arts & Culture](#) page of the Giving Day site you will be able to direct your donation to The James Monroe Museum.

Gifts received during this time will celebrate the UMW spirit of giving back. Funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia accounts for just 25% of the University's operating budget. Private support from the Mary Washington community is thus essential to providing an outstanding liberal arts education for UMW's 4,000 students.

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[Back to top](#)

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### Quick Links

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### Find us on Social Media!



The James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, located in historic downtown Fredericksburg, Virginia, is the largest repository in the country for artifacts and documents related to the fifth president of the United States. The museum was first opened in 1927 by Monroe descendants as a place to house their own personal collections, which had been handed down through generations of the family. Eventually, the museum and its extensive collections were turned over to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the museum is now administered by the University of Mary Washington.

The museum belongs to the American Association of Museums, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Virginia Association of Museums. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark.

