



THOMAS JEFFERSON'S *Poplar Forest*



AT THE AGE OF

THOMAS JEFFERSON

- 33 Writes Declaration of Independence (1776)
- 34 Drafts the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom (1777)
(passed by the Virginia General Assembly in 1786)
- 36 Is elected Governor of Virginia (1779)
- 38 Escapes the British and stays at Poplar Forest with his family (1781)
Works on his only book, Notes on the State of Virginia
- 41 Is appointed Minister to France (1784)
- 45 Invents new moldboard plow of least resistance (1788)
- 47 Is appointed Secretary of State by President George Washington (1790)
- 58 Is elected President of the United States by the House of Representatives (1801)
- 60 Approves negotiations for the Louisiana Purchase
Launches Lewis and Clark expedition (1803)
- 63 Begins directing construction on his retreat at Poplar Forest (1806)
- 66 Retires from presidency and stays in his new, unfinished house at Poplar Forest for the first time (1809)
Receives a Gold Medal from the French Society of Agriculture for his moldboard plow (1809)
- 71 Designs a 61-acre villa landscape at Poplar Forest and begins expanding the house by adding a service wing (1813)
- 73 Brings his granddaughters, Ellen and Cornelia Randolph, to Poplar Forest for the first time (1816)
- 76 Founds the University of Virginia (1819)
- 80 Visits Poplar Forest for the last time, but continues to direct improvements
Grandson Frances Eppes and wife move into Poplar Forest (1823)
University of Virginia opens (1824)
- 83 Dies on the Fourth of July, 50 years after authoring the Declaration of Independence (1826)

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