

10-23  
(June 1941)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SHADWELL NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 100-371  
0-36

SHADWELL

PROPOSED

SHADWELL

BIRTHPLACE OF JEFFERSON

**IMPORTANT**

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All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room.

Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

NEWTON B. DRURY,

*Director.*

Monticello file

0-36

DEC 23 1944

Mr. Drury

Mr. Tolson 12/29/44

1-46  
1-46

Mr. Kahler

What have

Mr. Wick

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this?

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## Drive Is Begun to Buy Jefferson's Birthplace

By the Associated Press.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — The Chamber of Commerce launched a campaign yesterday to purchase Chadwell Farm, birthplace of Thomas Jefferson, for a national shrine.

The property now is owned by the estate of the late Downing L. Smith. Foundations of buildings erected in the 18th century by Peterson Jefferson, father of the American President, were unearthed in 1941.

The Chamber of Commerce plans to solicit personal donations in efforts to raise \$50,000, but says if the goal is not reached by mid-February the campaign will be broadened.

Washington Star 12/25/

44

Richmond, Va  
2-2-45

## Hearing Here On Birthplace Of Jefferson

The question as to the exact spot where Thomas Jefferson was born was raised at a hearing today before the Virginia Conservation Commission for the Albemarle County Chamber of Commerce, which sought the commission's support in establishing a memorial park at Shadwell, in Albemarle County.

The general belief is that Jefferson was born at Shadwell, on the north side of the Rivanna River. Dr. H. J. Eckenrode, historian of the commission, said that Miss Elizabeth Page, author of "Tree of Liberty," a novel based on Jefferson's career, believes that the third President of the United States was born at a house called "Tufton," which still is standing on the south side of the river.

As a result, Dr. Eckenrode was instructed by the commission to call a conference of authorities on the subject to meet in Charlottesville April 13, Jefferson's birthday, to determine as far as possible the exact spot of his birth.

The authorities will include Dr. Dumas Malone, editor of "The Jefferson Papers"; Fiske Kimball, noted architect and authority on Jefferson; Dr. Julian Boyd, Librarian of Princeton University, and Miss Page.

Representatives of the Albemarle Chamber of Commerce said that they were reluctant to proceed with certain plans in regard to a Jefferson shrine until the question of his birthplace was settled.

### CHAMBER'S PLAN

The chamber's plan called for the setting up of a nonprofit corporation to purchase the property which, after the land was acquired, would be turned over to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, which administers Monticello, for the development and administration. The foundation would restore the old Shadwell building, landscape the grounds and make other improvements.

The park, it was explained, would be dedicated to the "broad principles of freedom and government as advocated by Thomas Jefferson" and would include halls dedicated to Freedom of Speech, the Press and Religion, a Jefferson memorial library and a monument commemorating the Louisiana Purchase.

In the proposal, the Conservation Commission was called on to survey the Shadwell estate and surrounding property, determine the amount of land to be embraced in the park, and take the lead in setting up local, State and national committees to raise funds to finance the proposed park as a public project. T. W. Etheridge, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce committee, said the park, in addition to being a memorial to Jefferson, would be a great addition to the many tourist attractions of Virginia.

Other members of the committee at the hearings were R. G. Burnett, J. Nelson Brown, Raymond Hunt and L. H. Peterson, executive secretary of the chamber.

### ABOUT 400 ACRES

Peterson estimated that the Shadwell property and adjoining lands contains about 400 acres and that it could be acquired for about \$80,000. He expressed hope that the local committee could raise \$20,000, the State \$20,000, with the balance raised through contributions.

It was suggested that the hall dedicated to the freedom of the press be erected by the American Newspaper Publishers Association, that the memorial to the freedom of religion be financed by the Federal Council of Churches, and that the national oratorical contests be held in the hall dedicated to freedom of speech.

It also was proposed, Peterson said, that the original Shadwell building be restored, that an encampment area be set aside for the use of such organizations as Boy and Girl Scouts and that an annual pageant be staged in the park. The park, he added, would be the property of "the people of the United States," but all its affairs would be administered by a board of governors with a local city and county group to be in direct charge.



0-36  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

February 8, 1945.

Name	Date
Storvick	
Talbot	2.8.45
Trakler	2/8/45
Porter	cwp
File	

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Following up my conversation with Director Drury the last time I saw him in Washington, there is attached a clipping from yesterday's Richmond News-Leader showing the present Virginia interest in Monticello and in Shadwell, the birth-place of Thomas Jefferson.

  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

Enclosure 132.

FEB 9 1945

# Site of Jefferson Birth Is Big Question Before SCC In Decision on Shrine

Just where was Thomas Jefferson, patron saint of the American democracy, born on April 13, 1743? "Shadwell" or "Tufton?"

That question dropped like the proverbial bombshell into the consideration yesterday by the State Conservation Commission of an appeal from a group of Albemarle County residents, more particularly described as the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Foundation, for aid in the restoration of the birthplace as a national shrine.

The discussion between the commission, the delegation and Dr. H. J. Eckenrode, head of the history division of the commission, aided by voluminous correspondence with purported experts on Mr. Jefferson, revealed that there are two schools of thought on the subject.

An overwhelming majority of the experts heard from thus far on the subject hold that Jefferson

first saw the light of day in a house built by Peter Jefferson on the north side of the Rivanna River. This is the site known as "Shadwell," and the house was destroyed by fire, according to available records, about 1770.

## "Tufton" Favored

Elizabeth Page, author of "Tree of Liberty," regarded by critics and Dr. Eckenrode as an authentic and painstaking work on the life of the great Virginian, leans definitely to the theory that he was born at "Tufton," an old house that is still standing on what was once a part of the Peter Jefferson estate on the south side of the Rivanna and nearer to the famous home Jefferson built for himself in his more mature years.

Members of the majority group who are pretty thoroughly agreed that the site of the old house on the north side of the river, although they have all complained that factual data on the subject is rather vague, are Fiske Kimball, author of "Road to Glory"; Dumas Malone, who is editing the New York Times' \$250,000 Jefferson research work which is to include all of his writings, and Dr. Bernard Mayo, historian at the University of Virginia.

In addition to these, Dr. Eckenrode advised the delegation that he has written Dr. Julian Boyd, librarian at Princeton University, for any light he may be able to throw on the subject, but has not yet received a reply to his letter. Dr. Eckenrode has conducted some research of his own, he said, but found nothing that would establish positively the exact location of Mr. Jefferson's birthplace.

## Fire Indicated

The Albemarle delegation presented to the commission a group of photographs of excavations made some years ago at the "Shadwell" site, revealing the brick foundations of a building apparently destroyed by fire.

The delegation had already presented its proposition for the restoration of "Shadwell" as the Jefferson birthplace shrine when the question came up about which of the two sites is the right place. They proposed to raise \$20,000 in Charlottesville and Albemarle County with which to match \$20,000 they requested the State to contribute.

The delegation told the commission that the "Shadwell" property, consisting of 400 acres, could be purchased for \$75,000 or \$80,000. They proposed to make a down payment of \$40,000 and conduct a national campaign for the remainder of the purchase price, meanwhile financing the purchase through bank loans.

## No Expense to State

They said the Jefferson Foundation, which owns and operates "Monticello," would take over the shrine and operate it in conjunction with "Monticello" as an attraction to tourists. Under this plan, they pointed out the State would bear no expense in the maintenance and operation of the shrine.

In addition they said that the United States Department of Agriculture has manifested interest in the proposition from the standpoint of using the broad acres of "Shadwell" as an agricultural experimentation and demonstration project—work which Mr. Jefferson advocated and practiced some extent at "Monticello."

However, when it appeared there is serious controversy to the exact spot where Mr. Jefferson was born, the commission suggested that that phase of the matter ought to be settled by any plan for purchasing "Shadwell" is undertaken actively. Albemarle delegation agreed the purchase proposition was on the table for the time being.

## Investigation Continued

Then, by mutual consent, conference directed Dr. Eckenrode to conduct further investigations in an effort to determine more definitely which of the properties is the actual birthplace. To this end he was instructed the commission to arrange experts in architecture to examine the "Tufton" house to determine the approximate date of its construction and also the excavation at "Shadwell" in the hope the old brick foundations will reveal some clue.

Meanwhile, Dr. Eckenrode instructed to invite the disinterested authors and historians to visit two sites as guests of the commission on April 13, anniversary of the birth of Mr. Jefferson, to compare their own studies and such data as Dr. Eckenrode and the architects are able to produce in the hope that they might settle on one of the sites as the actual birthplace. April 13 falls on Friday this year.

The Albemarle delegation which appeared before the commission yesterday to urge the development of "Shadwell" as a Jefferson shrine, was composed of T. W. Etheridge, chairman; R. G. Burnet, J. Nelson Brown, Raymond L. Hunt, and L. H. Peterson. They agreed unanimously that the project should be laid aside until the matter of the proper site is settled.

## May Acquire Both Sites

Meanwhile, members of the commission suggested that both sites might be acquired, inasmuch as it appears that Mr. Jefferson's two older sisters were born at "Tufton." The Albemarle program calls for a road through the "Shadwell" property and a bridge across the Rivanna River so that tourists might visit both the birthplace and "Monticello" without the necessity of returning to Charlottesville, a distance of about eight miles.

The proposed road from "Shadwell" to "Monticello" would pass by the "Tufton" property, it was pointed out, so that the two tracts on which the homes of Peter Jefferson stood might very well constitute a dual shrine.

The legend of the two tracts is that Peter Jefferson first owned the "Tufton" property but later acquired the "Shadwell" property on the north side of the Rivanna from William Randolph, his father-in-law—over a bowl of punch—and built a new home there.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Name	Date
<i>Starna</i>	
<i>Kahler</i>	<i>Vec</i>
<i>Patel</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>Fake</i>	

February 5, 1945.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

The attached clipping from the Richmond Times Dispatch of February 3 is a detailed discussion of the recent difference of opinion as to the exact birth-place of Thomas Jefferson.

  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

Enclosure 133.

FEB 10 1945

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 1, 1945.

Confidential.

Dr. Julian Boyd,  
Librarian, Princeton University,  
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Julian:

The President has been approached by the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission to endorse the proposal to acquire and restore "Shadwell," and he is seeking expert advice before making a decision.

In the examination of Jefferson papers, have you run across undisputed evidence that Jefferson was born at "Shadwell" rather than at "Tufton"? Have you discovered sufficient data to permit authentic rather than conjectural restoration of the original structures at "Shadwell"? Are you familiar with the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission and have you any information as to its relationship to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation?

I shall appreciate any assistance that you can give in supplying the information on the above questions.

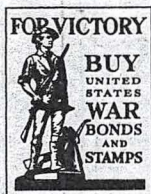
Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HERBERT E. KAHLER

Herbert E. Kahler,  
Chief Historian.

HEK:lc ✓

cc: Supt., Morristown.



Kahler  
8-1  
Jolson  
8-2

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 3, 1945.

Confidential.

Dr. Fiske Kimball,  
Philadelphia Museum of Art,  
Fairmount Park,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Kimball:

The President has been approached by the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission to endorse the proposal to acquire and restore "Shadwell," and he is seeking expert advice before making a decision.

Is there undisputed evidence that Jefferson was born at "Shadwell" rather than at "Tufton"? Is there sufficient evidence to permit authentic rather than conjectural restoration of the original structures at "Shadwell"? What is the relationship of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation?

Your assistance in answering the above questions will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) NEWTON B. DRURY

Newton B. Drury,  
Director.

HEK:lc

cc: ✓ Mr. Demaray.  
Mr. Kahler.



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THOMAS JEFFERSON BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL PARK COMMISSION

218 Fifth Street, N.E. Charlottesville, Virginia

August 3, 1945.

Mr. William D. Hassett  
Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

*File*  
*Shadwell*

Dear Mr. Hassett:

In reply to your letter of August 2, we are enclosing a copy of the Articles of Incorporation of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission.

The Thomas Memorial Foundation, which administers Monticello, was very much interested in this project but is not anxious to take on the job of raising the money to purchase the property. They have, however, expressed a willingness to accept it for development if it is given to them free of debt. Consequently, the thought at present is that the new corporation will obtain funds necessary to purchase the property and then turn it over to the Foundation for future development.

During the year 1943 a portion of the Thomas Jefferson Bicentenary Memorial Commission expressed a great deal of interest in having the Department of Agriculture establish an outdoor agricultural museum on the Shadwell property. Many of us hope that after the land is purchased a portion of it can be offered to the Department of Agriculture for such use. We also have in mind the establishment of a national Boy Scout encampment area on a 120-acre section at the eastern end of the property.

The members of the Advisory Committee will be made up of prominent people throughout the United States and is for the purpose of establishing interest in this project on a national level. Members of this committee will not be asked to do any work and will be under no obligation. In addition to Governor Darden, we have received acceptances from Senator Barkley, Breckenridge Long, Clinton P. Anderson, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, Virginus Dabney, Editor of the Richmond Times Dispatch, and others.

Trusting that this information will be helpful to you, I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ L. H. PETERSON  
L. H. Peterson,  
Secretary.

COPY.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

OF

JEFFERSON BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL PARK COMMISSION

This is to certify that we do hereby associate ourselves to establish a corporation, not organized for profit, in which no capital stock is required or to be issued, under and by virtue of Chapter 151, Code of Virginia, 1936, and acts amendatory thereof, for the purpose, and under the corporate name, hereinafter mentioned, and to that end we do, by this our certificate, set forth as follows:

SECTION ONE

NAME

The corporation shall be known as the Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission.

SECTION TWO

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal office of the corporation shall be at 218 Fifth Street, N. E., in the City of Charlottesville, Virginia.

SECTION THREE

PURPOSES

The purposes for which said corporation is formed and the powers incident to those purposes which it shall be authorized to exercise are as follows:

To obtain the land on which was located the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson, to restore the buildings which were located on said property at the time of Jefferson's birth and to develop and use the land in order that

the site can be perpetuated as a National Shrine and Park. The corporation shall also have the power to deed the land and any improvements thereon to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, if said Foundation will accept it. In such case, it is understood that the Foundation will develop and maintain the property in the same manner that Monticello is being operated. In conformity with such general purpose, to do and perform any and all acts or things that would be lawful; and to secure funds for that purpose and for the restoration, maintenance, improvement, and permanent endowment thereof; or to convey the said property to any other corporation or association which might hereafter be authorized to receive and hold it upon such trust as may be established; and generally to acquire said property upon such uses, trusts, and limitations as may be prescribed, not inconsistent with law, and to hold, manage, or dispose of such property in the manner deemed best by the trustees, to the end that the said property may be forever set apart as a National Shrine, dedicated to the aims, ideals, and purposes for which Thomas Jefferson lived and labored -- that the freedom which Thomas Jefferson envisioned and proclaimed with matchless eloquence may be preserved in the hearts of men everywhere and that this memorial may be an inspiration to encourage and refresh those who strive for its ultimate attainment.

#### SECTION FOUR

#### TRUSTEES

The affairs of the corporation are to be managed by not less than nine nor more than one hundred trustees, and the here named in the certificate of incorporation shall be known as the original trustees. They shall have the voting power and may, by majority vote of the trustees present at any

regular, special or called meeting fill vacancies in their own numbers, which substituted trustees shall also have voting power.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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Y

August 7, 1945.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In conformity with the suggestion made in your letter of July thirty-first, I wrote Mr. L. H. Peterson, Secretary, Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission, Charlottesville, Virginia, for the information which you suggested would be helpful in determining whether the President would be associated with the work about which Mr. Peterson wrote.

I enclose herewith a letter which I have received from Mr. Peterson under date of August third, along with a copy of the certificate of incorporation of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission.

In the light of this additional information I would appreciate any further recommendation you might make for the President's guidance.

Thank you.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd) William D. Hassett

WILLIAM D. HASSETT  
Secretary to the President

The Honorable  
The Secretary of the Interior,  
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

# Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation

## Restoration Committee

Fiske Kimball, *Chairman*  
Edwin M. Betts  
Milton L. Grigg

## RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Preserving as a National Memorial and Patriotic Shrine, Monticello,  
the home of Thomas Jefferson at Charlottesville, Virginia



R. #2, Charlottesville, Va.  
August 7, 1945

PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART  
Fairmount Park  
PHILADELPHIA

Newton B. Drury, Esq.  
Director, National Park Service

*"All my wishes end where I hope my days will end at Monticello"*

*Th. Jefferson*

Dear Mr. Drury:

The organization of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission doubtless resulted from the excavations I conducted for this Foundation at Shadwell in 1942 which uncovered the remains of the house of Jefferson's father there (published by me in the Virginia Historical Magazine for October 1942) or was it '43?)

1) It is now absolutely uncontested that Jefferson was born at Shadwell, and not at Tufton, which his father did not acquire until 12 years after Jefferson was born. To examine the fantastic allegations in favor of Tufton made by Miss Elizabeth Page, the Virginia Historical Commission convoked on April 13, 1945 a committee of experts which reported unanimously and emphatically in favor of Shadwell. Miss Page, who was present, was convinced by the evidence and withdrew her contentions.

2) Unfortunately the remains unearthed at Shadwell (foundations of four structures, including basement of the main house, in which Jefferson was presumably born) do not suffice, with the bare later descriptions of the house, to permit more than a conjectural restoration of the house. I have told this to the proponents of the new organization, who consulted me, and I stated that personally I do not favor an attempt, under these circumstances, to rebuild the house -- although a plausible reconstruction could be made. They are nevertheless determined to rebuild it.)

3) There is no direct or official connection between the Birthplace group and the Foundation which owns Monticello, adjoining Shadwell across the narrow Rivanna River. The Treasurer of the Foundation, while not the prime mover, has been made President of the Birthplace organization. There have been no official agreements made with our Foundation, and the matter has not even come formally before our Board of Directors, of which I am one. However, it has been the expressed intention of the Birthplace group, if they are successful in raising the funds to acquire (and restore) Shadwell, to tender the property for maintenance to our Foundation. We gave them no assurance we would accept it, and made it amply clear that our first responsibility is for Monticello, but I believe we would accept it if tendered free of debt.

Newton B. Drury -2

August 7, 1945

If you would like my personal opinion on the relation of the matter to the National Park Service it is as follows:

a) The Advisory Board would be amply justified in declaring Shadwell, with its remains of Jefferson's birthplace, a site of National significance, as we have done already with Monticello.

b) It was very clear, at the last meeting of our Board of Directors, that -- especially since the death of President Roosevelt-- the Foundation has no inclination to turn over the Monticello property to the Park Service. The chief reason is that, with the return of touring, we shall have, as before the war, an annual surplus, over maintenance and operating expense, of about \$25,000 a year which can be expended by us on further restoration, refurnishing of the house, and development of the grounds -- which, if the place were in federal hands, could only be done by reappropriation of such sums by Congress. On the other hand, I am sure we should be glad (though the point has not yet been specifically raised with our Board), to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Service, binding ourselves not to make changes without approval, etc. I do not think it is excluded that we might ultimately give the property to the nation, when we have completed all our development work, at which time, also, it may be presumed that the increased cost of upkeep of plantations, etc., of the whole property would about balance our revenue.

c) If we are then in possession also of the Shadwell property, that would presumably be included in any transfer to the nation.

d) If the nation and the Service should meanwhile be disposed to accept from the Birthplace organization title to the Shadwell property (if acquired by it), I am sure the Foundation would interpose no objection, and would, indeed, feel relieved of assuming obligation for upkeep and operation of Shadwell.

I may say for your information that the Foundation is in an extremely strong financial position, owning Monticello without any funded debt, and having been able to operate it, even during the war, on a balanced budget except for certain capital outlays which we felt able to assume.

Rest assured of my cooperation in all matters, and believe me, with kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

*Fiske Kimball*  
Fiske Kimball

# The Papers of Thomas Jefferson

*Editorial Office:*  
JULIAN P. BOYD, *Editor*  
Princeton University Library  
Princeton, New Jersey

A COMPLETE EDITION OF JEFFERSON'S WORKS  
SPONSORED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
PUBLISHED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

*Business Office:*  
DATUS C. SMITH, JR., *Director*  
Princeton University Press  
Princeton, New Jersey

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Douglas S. Freeman, *Chairman* · Fiske Kimball, *Vice-chairman* · Randolph G. Adams · George A. Brakeley · Solon J. Buck  
Gilbert Chinard · Henry Steele Commager · Harold W. Dodds · Carter Glass · Breckinridge Long · Archibald MacLeish · Dumas Malone  
Bernard Mayo · Samuel E. Morison · Howard W. Smith · Datus C. Smith, Jr. · Charles Scribner  
Iphigene Ochs Sulzberger · Carl Van Doren · Lawrence C. Wroth

August 7, 1945

Mr. Herbert E. Kahler, Chief Historian  
National Park Service  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Herbert:

I wish that I could give you a satisfactory answer to the question presented in yours of August 1st, but our files are still far from complete. Even if they were fully complete, the irrefutable evidence that you would want might or might not be present.

As for the question of "undisputed evidence" that Jefferson was born at "Shadwell" rather than at "Tufton" I believe no one has questioned Jefferson's own belief that he was born at Shadwell until the present year. Miss Elizabeth Page, the author of The Tree of Liberty, some months ago discovered what she thought was sound evidence to prove that Jefferson was not born at Shadwell; from this she concluded that he must have been born at Tufton. On April 13, 1940, the Virginia State Conservation Commission called a meeting at Monticello, at which Miss Page, Mr. & Mrs. Fiske Kimball, Dumas Malone, and others were present. I was supposed to be at that meeting but I was unable to go. I have seen no formal report of this meeting, but it turned out that Miss Page had no evidence that was unknown to Jefferson scholars. In a letter that I received from Dumas Malone shortly after the meeting, he said that Miss Page did present some "fresh items of information" about Peter Jefferson. But, he added, "On the important question of just where Thomas was born, however, she had nothing to add, and the evidence was conclusive that he could not have been born at Tufton. Accordingly we stuck by Shadwell and she accepted our judgment wholeheartedly". Mrs. Marie Kimball or her husband, Fiske Kimball, of "Shack Mountain" Charlottesville, Virginia, could undoubtedly give you complete information bearing on Shadwell as Jefferson's birthplace. Mrs. Kimball's book, Jefferson: The Road to Glory, presents more genealogical and local data than any other biography.

Both she and Fiske Kimball have been interested in the archeological investigations at Shadwell and Mrs. Kimball presents some of the findings in her book. We have found nothing as yet that would add anything to what Mrs. Kimball

-2-

has to say about Shadwell. I doubt very much whether we shall. I know nothing about the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission nor about its relationship to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, but Fiske Kimball could undoubtedly give you complete information on this point. You might address him either at the above address for Mrs. Kimball, or as Director of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

I am sorry that I cannot give you a better report in answering your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Julian", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Julian P. Boyd

Office of the Director,  
National Park Service.

AUG 10 1945

Date \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM for

Dr. Porter  
Mr. Kahler! VEH

This seems to me to be a very  
satisfactory reply. Based on it,  
I believe the Secretary would want  
to advise the President to accept.  
I think we should proceed with  
the proposal for a National  
Historic Site at both places. *W*

9488

AUG 10 1945

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO 54, ILL.



*Monticello*

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 11, 1945.

Dr. Julian Boyd,  
Librarian, Princeton University,  
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Julian:

Many thanks for your letter of August 7.

A letter has just been received from Dr. Fiske Kimball, who is familiar with the problem at Shadwell. He attended the meeting on April 13 and is convinced that Shadwell and not Tufton is the birthplace of Jefferson. He advised that there is no direct connection between the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, which operates Monticello. He also advised that the remains unearthed do not suffice to permit more than a conjectural restoration of the house.

With best wishes, I am

cc: Supt., Morristown.

Sincerely yours,  
(SHE) ~~HERBERT E. KAHLER~~  
Herbert E. Kahler,  
Chief Historian.

PRS695

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO

Mr. ~~Kahler~~ *MS* Reply due August 14, 1945

The attached PRS requires immediate attention. Reply to it should be made within two days.

If an immediate reply to the attached PRS cannot be made, it should be acknowledged and, when the necessary information is received, final reply made within 30 days.

If the attached communication is to be referred to another employee for action, it should be returned to the Chief Clerk's Office (Room 11-122) promptly so the PRS record in that Office may be corrected.

*Healey A. Tolson*  
Acting Director.

1972 AUG 11 1945

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR 25, D. C.  
WASHINGTON

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY

PRS 695

YELLOWED NOTED  
AUG 21 1945

My dear Mr. Hassett:

I have received your letter of August 7, enclosing Mr. L. H. Peterson's letter of August 5 concerning "Shadwell," the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson.

The National Park Service of this Department has received the opinions of two Jefferson scholars on the authenticity of "Shadwell," but it is believed that all the facts should be in hand before advising the President. Therefore, I suggest that a final answer to Mr. Peterson be postponed until a field study has been completed and we have had the recommendation of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments. This matter will be expedited. There is enclosed a suggested reply, for your signature, to Mr. Peterson.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Harold L. Ickes

HEK:lc

Secretary of the Interior.

Hon. William D. Hassett,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House.

Enclosure 768.

cc: Regional Director, Region One (2)(By NPS), (with a copy of  
Mr. Demaray (2) (By NPS), (Mr. Hassett's letter  
Mr. Wirth (By NPS), (of 8/7/45.  
Mr. Kahler (By NPS),

Kahler  
Barthling  
Coffman  
Winn

TO SECRETARY  
AUG 13 1945  
FOR SIGNATURE

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

PRS 695

AUG 24 1945

AUG 22 1945

My dear Mr. Peterson:

Thank you for your letter of August 3, enclosing a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation of the Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission. This information will be helpful to the President when he considers your invitation to become a member of the Commission.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd)

WILLIAM D. HASSETT,  
Secretary to the President.

HEK:l c

Mr. L. H. Peterson,  
Secretary, Jefferson Birthplace  
Memorial Park Commission,  
218 Fifth Street NE,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

NOTE: ALL COPIES DETACHED:

cc: Regional Director, Region One (2) (By NPS), (with a copy of  
Mr. Demaray (2) (By NPS), (Mr. Peterson's letter  
Mr. Wirth (By NPS), (of 8/3 and a copy of the  
Mr. Kahler (By NPS), (Certificate of Incorporation

DRAFT REPLY SENT TO THE  
WHITE HOUSE FOR SIGNATURE

AUG 21 1945

Kahler  
Mumma  
Coffman  
Hunt  
Shuman

WASHINGTON POST AUG. 25, 1945.

## Purchase of Shadwell Tract As Jefferson Shrine Is Favored

Charlottesville, Va., Aug. 24 (Spl.)—A special committee appointed by the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission has adopted a resolution recommending the purchase of the 200-acre Shadwell tract and its development as a national shrine.

The commission holds an option for the purchase of the tract at \$100,000 by September 1. Officials said today that \$20,100 has been raised toward its purchase and a special effort would be made during the remainder of this month to boost the funds to \$40,000 to make a first payment on the land, owned by the heirs of the late Downing L. Smith.

In Making its report, the commission members said that the option had been reviewed and it was their opinion that the tract "represents a historical value far greater than the actual value of the land itself and that when developed according to plans of the commission will be a permanent attraction of inestimable value to Charlottesville, Albemarle County and the Nation for all times to come."

Plans of the commission call for the purchase of the land and the subsequent offering of it to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, which will restore the Shadwell home and develop the entire tract as a park. The State Highway Department is expected to construct a roadway through the area and a bridge across the Rivanna River connecting the area with Monticello.

The commission has announced the acceptances from approximately a score of persons asked to serve on its advisory board. They include Sir Alexander Cadogan, Edward R. Stittinius, Arthur J. Morris, Frank K. Houston, Lord Halifax, Senator Harry F. Byrd, Governor Colgate W. Darden, jr., Jay Winston Johns, Fiske Kimball, Congressman Howard W. Smith, Claude R. Wickard, Henry A. Johnston, Virginius Dabney, Clinton B. Anderson, Dabney S. Lancaster, Senator Alben W. Berkley, Miss Elizabeth Page, Breckenridge Long, Constance S. duPont Darden, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge and S. Kent Costikyan.

### Henry Data Supplied

Richmond, Va., Aug. 25 (Spl.)—The National Park Service has agreed to assist the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation in the restoration of Red Mill, the patriot's last home and burial place, and already has furnished the foundation with all of its research material and maps which had been prepared when the Government was investigating the purchase of the property.

The material donated by the Federal agency included minute data on the seven homes in which Henry lived, abstracts from his will, an inventory of the estate taken from old records and photostat copies of three surveys and plats of the property, dated 1833, 1875 and 1908, James S. Easley, foundation president, stated today.

SEP 13 1945  
Mr. Tolson 9/31/45  
Mr. Kahler 9-17  
Mr. Porter  
File

Washington Star August 25, 1945

## Half-Down Payment Raised to Buy Shadwell

By the Associated Press.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Aug. 25.—Purchase of "Shadwell"—200-acre tract on which Thomas Jefferson was born—has been recommended by a special committee appointed by the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission, which holds an option to purchase the acreage for \$100,000 by next Saturday.

Officials have said that \$20,100 has been raised on a goal of \$40,000 to be used as a down payment.

The plan is to restore the Shadwell home and develop the surrounding land as a park. Plans also call for construction of a roadway through the park and across the Rivanna River to make it connect with Jefferson's other home, "Monticello."

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO 54, ILL.

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Air Mail.

MEMORANDUM for the Director,  
c/o Regional Director, Region Four.

With regard to "Shadwell," there is attached a copy of a letter, with enclosures, that the Secretary signed on August 21. Dr. Porter has completed his field study and saw Mr. Demaray in Washington. His report is being sent by air mail to the members of the Advisory Board for their opinion, and, as soon as it is received, a letter will be sent to the President for his guidance in this matter.

Enclosure 774.

*Hickey A. Tolson*  
Acting Director.

*→ Mr. Katter*  
*Ho. Tolson 419-10.45-1424*

*Let's not  
linger  
unduly over  
this.*



SEP 10 1945  
August 28, 1945.

*Shadwell*  
*File*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

54

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

September 4, 1945.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

An invitation to become a member of the Advisory Committee of the newly organized Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission has been extended to President Truman by Mr. L. H. Peterson of Charlottesville, Virginia, secretary of the Commission. The President's secretary, William D. Hassett, has asked the National Park Service to advise him as to whether the President should accept Mr. Peterson's invitation. It is understood that, if the President becomes a member of the Advisory Committee, his name will be used in connection with plans of the Commission to raise funds with which to purchase Thomas Jefferson's birthplace at "Shadwell." The Commission plans to restore the buildings which were located on the birthplace at the time Jefferson was born and to maintain the area as a national shrine and park. The corporation is also empowered to deed the land and any improvements thereon to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation now operating "Monticello," if the Foundation will accept it. In that case, it is understood that the Foundation will develop and maintain the property in the same manner that "Monticello" is being operated. Among the improvements contemplated is the building of a road from the Charlottesville-Richmond Highway (No. 250) to connect Jefferson's birthplace with Jefferson's celebrated home at "Monticello" located on a tract of land adjacent to the proposed purchase area at "Shadwell." Sentiment in the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation is believed to be favorable to the acceptance of the "Shadwell" property if the newly created organization succeeds in raising necessary funds to purchase the birthplace area.

The purpose of the present report is to supply historical data regarding Jefferson's birthplace, to describe the property, and to assemble other data useful to the National Park Service in advising the President.

(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III  
Assistant Chief Historian.

CWP:lc



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

54

September 4, 1945.

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Confidential.

Air Mail.

(C O P Y)

MEMORANDUM for the Members of the Advisory Board.

An invitation to become a member of the Advisory Committee of the newly organized Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission has been extended to President Truman by Mr. L. H. Peterson of Charlottesville, Virginia, secretary of the Commission. The President's secretary, William D. Hassett, has asked the National Park Service to advise him as to whether the President should accept Mr. Peterson's invitation. It is understood that, if the President becomes a member of the Advisory Committee, his name will be used in connection with plans of the Commission to raise funds with which to purchase Thomas Jefferson's birthplace at "Shadwell." The Commission plans to restore the buildings which were located on the birthplace at the time Jefferson was born and to maintain the area as a national shrine and park. The corporation is also empowered to deed the land and any improvements thereon to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation now operating "Monticello," if the Foundation will accept it. In that case, it is understood that the Foundation will develop and maintain the property in the same manner that "Monticello" is being operated. Among the improvements contemplated is the building of a road from the Charlottesville-Richmond Highway (No. 250) to connect Jefferson's birthplace with Jefferson's celebrated home at "Monticello" located on a tract of land adjacent to the proposed purchase area at "Shadwell." Sentiment in the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation is believed to be favorable to the acceptance of the "Shadwell" property if the newly created organization succeeds in raising necessary funds to purchase the birthplace area.

The project has already been endorsed by Governor Darden of Virginia and many other distinguished persons, including Senators Harry F. Byrd and Alben W. Barkley, President John L. Newcomb of the University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, and Lord Halifax.

There is attached a report on a field investigation of the "Shadwell" area supplying historical data as to the authenticity of the site, describing the property, and giving additional information concerning the genesis and purposes of the movement to preserve Jefferson's birthplace at "Shadwell."

While the sponsors of the project have not asked that the birthplace area be designated as a national historic site, membership of the President on the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission might well lead to such designation. It will, therefore, be appreciated if you will advise us by telegraph whether you consider "Shadwell" worthy of designation as a national historic site and whether Secretary Ickes should recommend to the President that he become a member of the Advisory Committee, subject to the reservation that he does not favor the conjectural restoration of the "Shadwell" plantation buildings but desires to see the birthplace preserved in order that additional historical and archeological studies may be made and the site be properly marked and maintained for the benefit and inspiration of the American people.



(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON  
Acting Director.

Enclosure.

(All with a copy of the report on "Shadwell")  
cc: Mr. Drury.  
Mr. Demaray.  
Mr. Porter.  
Regional Director, Region One.

Porter  
Kahler

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

September 5, 1945.

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Air Mail.

Shadwell

Mr. Allyn C. Forbes,  
Director, Massachusetts Historical Society,  
1154 Boylston Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

My dear Mr. Forbes:

In connection with Historic Sites Survey studies now being made by the National Park Service, we have an urgent need for a negative and five positive photostat prints of both sides of a document described as a survey of the lands of Thomas Jefferson and listed in Dr. Fiske Kimball's Thomas Jefferson Architect (1916), page 170, as being No. 167a in the Massachusetts Historical Society's Coolidge Collection. Dr. Kimball says of this document on page 170 of his work:

"No. 167a. Ink. Paper BF. about 1788-93. '... my lands in Albemarle.' Plat, with description on the back, detailing particulars of grants and transfers, the latest date being 1777. The paper on which the drawing is made shows that the drawing was prepared at a considerably later time."

As this plat is not to be found in the microfilm copy of the Coolidge Collection, which the Library of Congress made for the University of Virginia, it is possible that, since 1916 when Dr. Kimball's book was written, you have recatalogued the plat in a collection of Jefferson drawings separate from the correspondence in the Coolidge Collection.

If you are able to locate the drawing in question from Dr. Fiske Kimball's description and can send us photostat prints of both sides of the document, your courtesy will be much appreciated and appropriate reimbursement will be made on receipt of the prints by this Office.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON

Hillory A. Tolson,  
Acting Director.

CWP:lc

cc: Dr. Porter. ✓



*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

DATE: 9-5-45.

FROM :

SUBJECT: "Shadwell."

*amp*

Mr. Charles G. Sauers telephoned today, expressing his approval for the designation of "Shadwell" as a national historic site and stating that he did not believe the President should join this or any other organization.

(message transmitted by Mr. Tolson to Mr. Kahler)

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION (35)

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

red Cable

Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination 37

CN135 34=LOUISVILLE KY 5 144P

HILLORY A TOLSON=

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE U S DEPT OF THE INTERIOR =

*Mr. Kahler:*  
*Tolson*  
*9/5/45*

INFORMATION AT HAND INDICATES THAT "SHADWELL"  
WAS JEFFERSON'S BIRTHPLACE AND SHOULD BE A NATIONAL  
HISTORIC SITE. I CANNOT SEE ANY OBJECTION TO ASKING MR.  
ICKES TO ASK THE PRESIDENT TO SERVE ON ADVISORY COMMITTEE:  
=TOM WALLACE.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter  
NL=Night Letter  
LC=Deferred Cable  
NLT=Cable Night Letter  
Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

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CN146 31 COLLECT=PHILADELPHIA PENN 6 220P

MR HILARY T OLSON=

=NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Name	Date
Jolson	9-6
(V) Kallie	9-6
Porter	9-6

= I CONSIDER SHADWELL WORTHY OF DESIGNATION AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE AND MEMBERSHIP BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN ON ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH RESERVATION HE DOES NOT FAVOR CONJESTURAL RESTORATION OF THE BUILDINGS=

=FISKE KIMBALL

SEP 6 1945

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SEP 6-1945  
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter  
NL=Night Letter  
7=Deferred Cable  
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Ship Radiogram

(34)

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CN218 44 COLLECT=SB WASHINGTON DC 6 439P

1945 SEP 6 PM 4 38

HILLORY TOLSON, ACTING DIRECTOR=

=NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MERCHANDISE MART BLDG=

Name	Date
<i>Julius</i>	<i>9-6</i>
<i>Kath</i>	<i>9-7</i>
<i>W. H. H.</i>	
<i>Foster</i>	<i>and</i>

SUBJECT TOO IMPORTANT FOR TELEGRAPHIC VOTE. SHOULD BE  
CONSIDERED NEXT MEETING OF BOARD WOULD APPRECIATE JULIAN  
BOYDS PRINCETON, OPINION ON BIRTHPLACE. IF SHADWELL WERE  
TO BE DESIGNATED SHOULD FAVOR INCLUDING AREA NORTH OF  
HIGHWAY 250 RATHER THAN EDGEHILL. WOULD NOT RECOMMEND  
PRESIDENTIAL MEMBERSHIP=

F M SETZLER.

SEP 7 1945

250.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

SEP 10 1945

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

NHA865 NL COLLECT=NASHVILLE TENN 7

HILLORY A TOLSON=

1945 SEP 7 PM 11 38

C1580

448

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MERCHANDISE MART CHGO=

COMMUNICATION JUST RECEIVED THINK ALL OF JEFFERSON DOMAIN  
OF NATIONAL HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE ESPECIALLY THE BIRTHPLACE

SHADWELL=

D P FOLK.

Name	Date
Tolson	9-10
Rahlin	
Porter	9-10

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

CLERK'S OFFICE

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

..TA30

T.KYA35 NL COLLECT=BERKELEY CALIF 6

1945 SEP 7 AM 2 51

HILLORY A TOLSON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WV CHGO=  
C 110

APPROVE SHADWELL AS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE APPROVE ICKES  
RECOMMENDATIO TO PRESIDENT SUBJECT TO RESERVATION STATED  
YOUR LETTER SEPT FOURTH :

=R W CHANEY.

ICKES..

SEP 7 1945

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Name	Date
Tolson	9/9/45
Quinn	
Kelley	9/9/45
Boardman	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Parsons	9/9/45
Tracy	
Nease	
Gandy	

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES  
MEMBER OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ACADEMIES

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
1219 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

2072 Washington Street  
Newton Lower Falls 62, Mass.

September 8, 1945

Mr. Hillory A. Tolson , Acting Director  
National Park Service  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Tolson:

I have your confidential letter and memorandum respecting Shadwell, which have been forwarded to me from Washington. I reply by air mail since a telegram would not reach you any sooner.

After reading the excellent memorandum I am ready to vote that the Advisory Board should declare Shadwell to be of national significance and should recommend that the Secretary of the Interior be advised to recommend to the President his acceptance of the invitation to become a member of the "Advisory Committee", but with emphasis on the reservation that conjectural restoration of the buildings should not now be undertaken. I think that this condition is of great importance and I hope that it may be insisted upon.

Very sincerely yours



Waldo G. Leland  
Acting Chairman, Advisory Board

Name	Date
<i>Tolson</i>	<i>9-11</i>
<i>W. G. Leland</i>	

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SEP 11 1945  
CLERK'S OFFICE

File

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Porter. *amp*

DATE: Sept. 12, 1945

FROM :

SUBJECT:

The attached report covering your field investigation of the  
"Shadwell" property near Charlottesville, Va., proposed to be pur-  
chased by the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission,  
is excellent.

*Henry A. Tolson*  
Assistant Director.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SEP 18 1945 Mr. Drury.

DATE: 9-13-45

FROM :

You may desire to see the replies to our inquiries to the Advisory

SUBJECT:

Board members regarding SHADWELL.

2-

*Tolson*  
Tolson.

*attached* *file*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

My dear Mr. Peterson:

The President has given consideration to the invitation contained in your letter of July 17 to become a member of the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission. In view of Jefferson's outstanding contributions to American political and religious freedom and the great influence he has had upon the destinies of this Nation, the President is in sympathy with the movement to preserve "Shadwell".

However, the President does not believe that sufficient historical and archeological data are available at present to permit accurate restoration of the plantation buildings existing at "Shadwell" at the time Thomas Jefferson was born. He is willing to accept membership on the Advisory Committee, if it is possible to do so with the reservation that he does not favor the conjectural reconstruction of the "Shadwell" plantation buildings but desires to see the birthplace preserved in order that additional historical and archeological studies may be made and the site be properly marked and maintained for the benefit and inspiration of the American people.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT,  
Secretary to the President.

Mr. L. H. Peterson,  
Secretary, Jefferson Birthplace  
Memorial Park Commission,  
218 Fifth Street NE.,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

*Draft of reply sent to the  
White House Sept 20, 1945.*



C  
O  
P  
Y

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

SEP 20, 1945

My dear Mr. Hassett:

The attached copy of a memorandum of September 13, which I have received from Director Newton B. Drury of the National Park Service of this Department, is self-explanatory.

I believe that it will be proper for the President to become a member of the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission if he wishes to do so. However, I believe that his endorsement of the project should be subject to the reservation that he does not favor the conjectural restoration of the "Shadwell" plantation buildings but desires to see Jefferson's birthplace preserved in order that additional historical and archeological studies may be made and the site be properly marked and maintained for the benefit and inspiration of the American people.

A suggested reply to Mr. L. H. Peterson's invitation of July 17 to become a member of the Advisory Committee of the Commission is attached for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) ABE FORTAS

Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Hon. William D. Hassett,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House.

Enclosure 1.

Kahler

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY

54

THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

September 21, 1945.

Registered Mail:

Dr. Piske Kimball,  
Philadelphia Museum of Art,  
Fairmount Park,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Kimball:

I am returning herewith the three photostat copies of the Jefferson surveys relating to "Shadwell" which you loaned to me recently and which are numbered HM9379-4, HM9379-5, and HM9382-1 in the Jefferson Collection of the Huntington Library. Under separate cover, I am sending you photostat copies of these Jefferson drawings, for your own use, as I understand the copies loaned to me were borrowed by you for the purpose of assisting me in making my report on "Shadwell."

After finishing my work in Charlottesville, Virginia, I saw Dr. E. E. Edwards of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and secured from him a giant aerial map of the property holdings of Thomas Jefferson in the "Monticello"- "Shadwell" area. Under separate cover, I am sending you one negative and two positive photostat prints of this map. Unfortunately, we could not reproduce the map by the photostat process so as to obtain a map as large and as distinct in detail as that loaned to me by Dr. Edwards. However, it is possible that you will find the photostat copies useful.

In superimposing the data from the Huntington Library drawings on to the aerial maps, we were somewhat handicapped by our lack of knowledge of the exact location of the spring shown on drawing HM9382-1, which you state in your Virginia Magazine article gives rise to a tributary of "Indian Branch" on ground south of the Rappahannock River. If you will spot the location of this spring on one of the positive photostats of the aerial map and return the map to us, it will be appreciated as it will enable us to check the accuracy of our work.

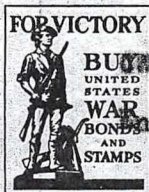
I should perhaps add that Dr. Edwards asked us to treat the aerial photograph as a confidential document.

The assistance that you and Mrs. Kimball gave to me in the preparation of my "Shadwell" report was very helpful indeed, and I wish to thank you for your splendid cooperation. I shall look forward to reading with more than ordinary interest Mrs. Kimball's next volume of her life of Jefferson and shall always remember with pleasure that I saw this scholarly work in preparation in appropriate Jefferson-like surroundings.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III

Charles W. Porter,  
Assistant Chief Historian.



enclosure 798.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO 54, ILL.



ADDRESS: THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

September 21, 1945.

Mr. L. H. Peterson,  
Secretary, Thomas Jefferson Birthplace  
Memorial Park Commission,  
218 Fifth Street NE,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

My dear Mr. Peterson:

I am returning herewith the four photographs and the data which you loaned to me during my recent study of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission project at "Shadwell." The loan of these materials and your helpful assistance to me while I was in Charlottesville are much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III  
Charles W. Porter,  
Assistant Chief Historian.

CWP:lc

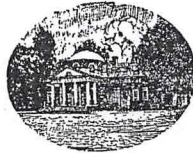
Enclosure 797.

SEP 27 1945  
Mr. Kimball  
9/27  
Mr. Kahler  
Porter

# Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation

RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Preserving as a National Memorial and Patriotic Shrine, Monticello,  
the home of Thomas Jefferson at Charlottesville, Virginia



*"All my wishes end where I hope my days will end at Monticello"*  
*Thomas Jefferson*

PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART  
Fairmount Park  
PHILADELPHIA

September 24, 1945

Charles W. Porter III, Esq.  
National Park Service  
Merchandise Mart  
Chicago 54, Illinois

Dear Mr. Porter:

I have your kind letter of the 21st with the three enclosed original photostats.

It is very kind of you to send me additional copies of these for my own use. On their arrival I will try to indicate on one of them the spring which leads into the Indian branch.

I also appreciate very much indeed your sending me photostats of the map of Jefferson's holdings, which I will keep confidential for my own use and that of the Foundation. Your visit was a great delight both to Mrs. Kimball and to me. Pray don't ever fail, if you pass that way again, to see if we are there and come see us once more. I liked your report very much indeed.

*These are wonderful!*

Yours faithfully,

*Fiske Kimball*  
FISKE KIMBALL

MG

P.S. The aerial map is too small for me to see exactly the location of the spring, etc., flowing into the Indian branch, but I have marked in red (on the one returned to you) the approximate location as I remember it. On the large aerial map of the AAA (which is doubtless of the same scale as the one you have) it was very clear and every wiggle of the brook could be followed.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

54

September 26, 1945.

*Shadwell*

Miss Louise Savage,  
Acting Director, Alderman Library,  
University of Virginia,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

Dear Miss Savage:

As a token of my appreciation for your helpfulness and courtesy during my recent trip to the University of Virginia in search of certain information relating to Thomas Jefferson, I am sending you a copy of the February 12, 1909, issue of The Southside Sentinel published at Urbanna, Virginia. This particular issue is of interest as carrying Dr. E. H. Walker's account of the Old Home Guard of King and Queen County. It is possible that the Virginia State Library would like to have a photostat copy of it. However, I have not mentioned the matter to them. Perhaps they have this newspaper on file.

I sincerely thank you for the assistance given to me by you and your staff.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III

Charles W. Porter,  
Assistant Chief Historian.

CWP:lc

Enclosure 799.

cc: Dr. Lester J. Cappon,  
History Department,  
University of Virginia.

Dr. Porter (Detached).



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SEP 13 1945  
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

Name	Date
Hagerstrom Ind.	
Tolson	9/13
Keller	9-13 Sept. 12 46
<del>Harvey</del>	OCT 1 1945

Dear Mr. Tolson. *Porter*

Your letter of Sept. 4 just reached me here. After the long delay and nearness to Chicago, I send you a letter instead of telegraphing. No doubt a majority of the Board have replied to this.

It seems to me that the "Shodwell" site is eligible or an historic site.

The reservation respecting restoration is necessary.

As to the advisability of President Truman lending his name to the scheme to raise funds for purchase of site, I am doubtful. If I were in his shoes, I should decline.

Very truly yours

Clark Wissler

SEP 13 1945

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
CHARLOTTESVILLE  
ALDERMAN LIBRARY

ISION OF RARE BOOKS  
AND  
MANUSCRIPTS

2 October 1945

*File under  
"Shadwell"  
birthplace of  
Thomas Jefferson*

*and*  
Dear Mr. Porter:

I appreciate the copy of The Southside Sentinel of February 12, 1909, just received. I am pleased that you felt that we were of assistance to you when you were here, and I hope that you will call on us again.

Sincerely yours,

*Louise Savage*  
Louise Savage  
Acting Director

Charles W. Porter, III, Esq.  
Assistant Chief Historian  
National Park Service  
Chicago 54, Illinois

ls/ed

Kahler

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
54

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

October 3, 1945.

Dr. Everett H. Edwards,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture,  
Room 3901, South Building,  
13th and C Streets SW.  
Washington, D. C.

*Shadwell*

Dear Dr. Edwards:

I am returning to you, under separate cover by registered mail, the large aerial map that you loaned to me recently showing the land holdings of Thomas Jefferson in the "Monticello"-*Shadwell* area.

This map was truly the piece de resistance among the materials obtained during my trip to Charlottesville and Washington. It enabled me to check the presumed location of the old *"Shadwell"* plantation house as indicated by survey notes of Thomas Jefferson now in the Huntington Library and used by Dr. Fiske Kimball in his article on Jefferson's birthplace. (The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, October 1943, Vol. L I, 322.) I am inclined to think that the house was at or near the place excavated by Dr. Fiske Kimball in 1941. Additional archeological work might be fruitful, and I hope that it can some day be carried forward.

It was a pleasure to talk to you in Washington. I hope that you will not fail to visit us at the Merchandise Mart when you come to Chicago again.

With many thanks for your recent courtesies, I am

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III

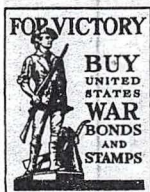
Charles W. Porter,  
Assistant Chief Historian.

CWP:lc

cc: Regional Director, Region One.

H. File (Detached).

Dr. Porter (Detached).



C O P Y

October 15, 1945.

Dear Mr. Hildreth:

This is in acknowledgment of your letter of October ninth. I would appreciate it if you would clarify the last sentence suggesting that the President has accepted a position on the Board of Governors of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission, Inc. In my letter to Mr. L. H. Peterson under date of September twenty-sixth I informed him that the President would accept membership on the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission. Mr. Peterson extended the invitation for the President to become a member of the Advisory Committee in a letter under date of July seventeenth, the first one in this correspondence.

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT  
Secretary to the President.

Mr. W. S. Hildreth,  
President,  
Thomas Jefferson Birthplace  
Memorial Park Commission.  
218 Fifth Street, N. E.  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

C O P Y

THOMAS JEFFERSON BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL PARK COMMISSION  
218 Fifth Street, N. E.  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

October 17, 1945.

Mr. William D. Hassett  
Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hassett:

In reply to your letter of October 15th, I take it that what you wish clarified is the difference between the Board of Governors and the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission. I failed to note that Mr. Peterson's first letter to you asked the President to be a member of the Advisory Committee, whereas my letter referred to the Board of Governors. I regret this confusion in nomenclature since the Board of Governors acts as an Advisory Committee and in fact they are one and the same.

I was out at Mrs. Edwin Watson's for cocktails the other afternoon and told her of my correspondence with you and she asked to be remembered to you the next time I had occasion to write you.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) W. S. Hildreth

President

C O P Y

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

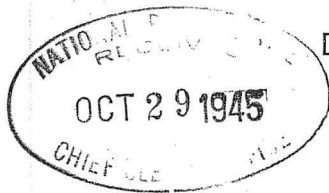
October 25, 1945

T     This letter from W. S. Hildreth, President  
of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial  
Park Commission, is respectfully referred to  
the Secretary of the Interior for recommendation.

Previous correspondence with the Commission  
has been in accordance with the recommendation  
made by the Secretary of the Interior.

(SGD) WILLIAM D. HASSETT

William D. Hassett  
Secretary to the President.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
20  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Name	Date
<i>W. J. Allen</i>	
<i>H. F. Vinton</i>	
<i>John</i>	

October 26, 1945.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

We are returning herewith Dr. Porter's report on Shadwell, which was forwarded by your office to be used as a guide for Supt. Vinton's report on Chinsegut, the Colonel Raymond Robins estate.

*Thomas J. Allen*  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

Enclosure 945

OCT 29 1945

✓ In History Division 0-36  
Sent to Region One 4/11/49.

① 11-2-45 Mrs. Stein  
② 11-27-45 Saloon

Mr. ~~Adison~~ <sup>11/1/2</sup>

Dr. Porter was in this afternoon regarding "Shadwell", birthplace of Jefferson. There are various letters and enclosures but the following are most pertinent: ① Mr. Drury's <sup>memo</sup> letter of September 13 to the Secretary with reference to the President becoming a member of the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission ② letter to Mr. Hassett signed by Mr. Fortas on Sept. 20 ③ letter ~~of~~ to Mr. Peterson for Mr. Hassett's signature stating the President is willing to accept membership with certain reservations (no record that this has been signed) ④ letter from the President to Mr. Peterson stating he will be glad to give consideration to Mr. Peterson's invitation (mailed July 28 but no record of signing). The files are becoming somewhat complicated due to the fact that there are so many enclosures, etc. In accordance with our system, everything is held in suspense until all letters are signed. It is better not to break up the suspense file, if it can be avoided, but this results in a very incomplete correspondence file.

Perhaps you can make inquiry regarding this while in Washington.

*Rutledge*

✓  
Mrs. Stein:  
What is status?

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO 54, ILL.



November 8, 1945.

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. Joseph Mizell,  
Swatara Township High School,  
Oberlin, Pennsylvania.

My dear Mr. Mizell:

In reply to your letter of October 31, we are sorry to advise that we have no plans of Monticello available for public distribution. We suggest that you address your request to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, 300 East Main Street, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Sincerely yours,

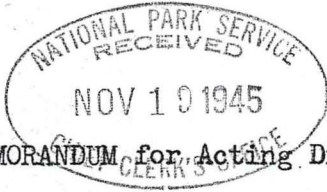
(SGD.) THOS. C. VINT

Thos. C. Vint,  
Chief Landscape Architect.

DCB:lp

cc: Regional Director, Region One (2).

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON



Name	Date
<i>Tolson</i>	<i>11-19</i>
<i>W. E. Barber</i>	<i>11-20</i>
<i>Belmont</i>	<i>11-21</i>
<i>Foran</i>	<i>11-21</i>

November 15, 1945.

*File*  
*mm*

MEMORANDUM for Acting Director Tolson:

This refers to Mr. Rittase's note to you of November 2, which you received while you were in Washington last week, concerning the status of certain correspondence regarding "Shadwell", the birthplace of Jefferson, the following of which are pertinent:

1. Mr. Drury's memorandum of September 13 to the Secretary with reference to the President becoming a member of the Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission. (Copy of which you probably have in your files.)
2. Letter to Mr. Hassett signed by Mr. Fortas on September 20, and letter to Mr. L. H. Peterson, Secretary, Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission. Copies of these two letters are enclosed. The letter to Mr. Peterson was sent to the White House Sept. 20, 1945, but to date has not been signed according to the records in the Secretary's Office.
3. Letter from the President to Mr. Peterson stating that he will be glad to give consideration to Mr. Peterson's invitation. This letter has not been signed, according to the records in the Secretary's office.

*A. E. Simanay*  
Associate Director.

Enclosure 401.

NOV 20 1945

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

25, D. C.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY

*Porter*  
*Kahler*  
*Sanders*  
*Price*  
*Bulling*  
*11-6*  
*Drury*

YELLOWWS NOTED

NOV-20 1945

My dear Mr. Hassett:

This will acknowledge your letter of October 25, enclosing a letter from Mr. W. S. Hildreth, president of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission, regarding the proposed membership of the President on the Board of Governors or Advisory Committee of the Commission.

Inasmuch as the expression "Board of Governors" might imply some responsibility for the management of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace project, I am asking Mr. Hildreth to send me a copy of the minutes of the meeting or formal resolution establishing the Board of Governors and the Advisory Committee. As soon as these data are received, I shall forward them to you with my recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Harold L. Ickes

CWP:11

Secretary of the Interior.

Hon. William D. Hassett,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House.

cc: Regional Director, Region One (2), (with a copy of  
Mr. Demaray (2). (Mr. Hassett's  
Mr. Price. (letter of 10/25/45.  
Mr. Kahler.



TO SECRETARY  
NOV 7 - 1945  
FOR SIGNATURE

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

YELLOWS NOTED

NOV 20 1945

Name	Date
<i>Drury</i>	NOV 30 1945
<i>Kahler</i>	11-29
<i>Price</i>	11-30
<i>Hassett</i>	12-4
<i>Hassett</i>	12-11
	30

*Porter*  
*Kahler*  
*Bender*  
*Price*  
*Miller*  
*Drury*  
*Demaray*

My dear Mr. Hildreth:

The Honorable William D. Hassett has asked me to make a recommendation regarding the proposed membership of the President on the Board of Governors or Advisory Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission.

I understand from your letter of October 17 to Mr. Hassett that the Advisory Committee and the Board of Governors perform much the same duties. However, inasmuch as the expression "Board of Governors" might imply responsibility for the management of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace project, I would appreciate you send ~~me~~ a copy of the minutes of the meeting or the formal resolution establishing the Advisory Committee and the Board of Governors in order that I may have these important data when making my recommendation to the President.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HAROLD L. ICKES  
Secretary of the Interior.

CWP:11

Mr. W. S. Hildreth,  
President, Thomas Jefferson Birthplace,  
Memorial Park Commission,  
218 Fifth Street, N. E.,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

cc: Regional Director, Region One (2), (with a copy of  
Mr. Demaray (2) *sent 11/9* (Mr. W. S. Hildreth's  
✓ Mr. Price. (letter of 10/17  
✓ Mr. Kahler. (and a copy of  
(Mr. Hassett's  
(letter of 10/15  
(to Mr. Hildreth.

NOTE: ALL COPIES DETACHED.



# Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Comm.

Organized to acquire and develop the birthplace  
of Thomas Jefferson as a National Shrine."

218 FIFTH STREET, N.E. • CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

## Officers

W. S. HILDRETH  
President

C. T. O'NEILL  
Vice-President

T. L. FARRAR  
Vice-President

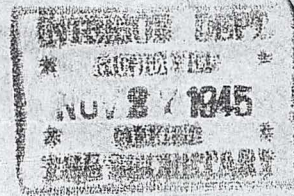
J. NELSON BROWN  
Treasurer

L. H. PETERSON  
Secretary

INTERIOR DEPT.  
SECRETARY'S  
MAIL CENTER  
NOV 27 1945  
TO NATIONAL  
PARK SERVICE



November 26, 1945



## Directors

T. W. ETHERIDGE  
CHARLES B. BAKER

JOHN S. BATTLE

CLAIR F. CASSELL

HARRY A. GEORGE, JR.

RAYMOND HUNT

W. S. HILDRETH

JAMES CHEEK

HENRY A. HADEN

R. G. BURNET

Mr. Harold L. Ickes  
Secretary of the Interior  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ickes:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter  
of November 20th addressed to Mr. Hildreth. At  
present Mr. Hildreth is out of town and I will  
bring your letter to his attention upon his re-  
turn in two weeks.

Very truly yours,

(Miss) Martha Ann Russum  
Secretary to Mr. Hildreth

DEC 4 1945

This project has the endorsement of the Governor of Virginia, the Virginia Conservation Commission, President of the  
University of Virginia and the Charlottesville & Albemarle County Chamber of Commerce.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO 54, ILL.



ADDRESS: THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

November 28, 1945.

Dr. Fiske Kimball,  
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Fairmount,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Kimball:

After some delay, we obtained photostat copies of both sides of the Jefferson survey listed in your Thomas Jefferson Architect, page 170, as being No. 187a in the Massachusetts Historical Society's Coolidge Collection. Under separate cover we are sending you copies of this interesting document as a token of our appreciation for your recent assistance in compiling a report on "Shadwell," birthplace of Thomas Jefferson.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III

Charles W. Porter,  
Assistant Chief Historian.

CWP:11

cc: Regional Director, Region One. ✓

Kahler

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

November 28, 1945.

Miss Louise Savage,  
Acting Director, Alderman Library,  
University of Virginia,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

*Madwell  
see to Oct 2*

My dear Miss Savage:

I want to thank you for the exchange copy of Alexander Spotswood's Iron Works at Tuball which will be a valued item in the library resources of the Branch of History of the National Park Service. As you know, we have a double interest in the history of the early iron industry because of our Colonial National Historical Park at Yorktown, Virginia, and our Hopewell Village National Historic Site at Birdsboro, Pennsylvania. In case you are not familiar with Hopewell Village, I am attaching a copy of our 16-page illustrated booklet dealing with that area. I am sure you have our Colonial National Historical Park booklet. If you do not have it, we shall be glad to send you one.

After some delay, we obtained photostat copies of both sides of the Jefferson survey, listed in Dr. Fiske Kimball's Thomas Jefferson Architect (1916), Page 170, as being No. 167a in the Massachusetts Historical Society's Coolidge Collection. The Society sent us copies on request. Inasmuch as when I asked for this document at the University of Virginia library your assistant kindly searched your entire microfilm edition of the Coolidge Collection of Jefferson correspondence for this item and found it lacking, it seems only fair to send you a copy of it. This will reach you under separate cover. The Massachusetts Historical Society said nothing about restrictions on the use of this item but I suggest you treat it as you do their other materials.

We shall be glad to send you other National Park Service historical publications as they are published.

Sincerely yours,

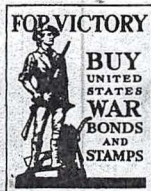
(SGD) CHARLES W. PORTER III

Charles W. Porter,  
Assistant Chief Historian.

CWP:11✓

cc: Regional Director, Region One (3).

Enclosure



PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

PARKWAY AT 26TH STREET

MEMORIAL HALL  
PARKSIDE AVENUE

PHILADELPHIA 30  
TELEPHONES POPLAR 0500

RODIN MUSEUM  
PARKWAY AT 22ND STREET

December 3, 1945

*sup*  
Charles W. Porter, Esq.  
National Park Service  
Chicago 54, Illinois

Dear Mr. Porter:

*Fiske Kimball*  
You are most kind to send me  
your note of November 28th and the copies  
of the Jefferson documents duly received,  
which I am delighted to have.

Maybe I will have the luck to  
see you at the time of the Park Service  
meeting in Washington on the 11th.

Sincerely yours,

*Fiske Kimball*  
FISKE KIMBALL  
Director

MG

DEC 5 1945

# Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission

"Organized to acquire and develop the birthplace  
of Thomas Jefferson as a National Shrine."

218 FIFTH STREET, N.E. • CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

## Officers

W. S. HILDRETH  
President

C. T. O'NEILL  
Vice-President

T. L. FARRAR  
Vice-President

J. NELSON BROWN  
Treasurer

L. H. PETERSON  
Secretary

March 16, 1949

Mr. M. J. Menefee  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Peachy:

You are no doubt aware of the fact that we have acquired the farm on which Thomas Jefferson was born and have finished paying for it, \$100,000. We have done considerable archeological work and have uncovered the foundations of the original building.

I am wondering if you could put me in touch with the proper officials in the National Park Service Department of the Interior so that we might consult them concerning the restoration of these buildings.

Sincerely yours,

Bill  
President

WSH/mar

*Directors*  
T. W. ETHERIDGE  
CHARLES B. BAKER  
JOHN S. BATTLE  
CLAIR F. CASSELL  
HARRY A. GEORGE, JR.  
RAYMOND HUNT  
W. S. HILDRETH  
JAMES CHEEK  
HENRY A. HADEN  
R. G. BURNET

WALTER F. GEORGE, GA., CHAIRMAN  
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CLYDE R. HOEY, N. C.  
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ROBERT A. TAFT, OHIO  
HUGH BUTLER, NEBR.  
OWEN BREWSTER, MAINE  
EDWARD MARTIN, PA.  
JOHN J. WILLIAMS, DEL.

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

March 22, 1949 b 11 10 23

*File*

Mr. A. E. Demaray  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C.


My dear Mr. Demaray:

Attached you will find a letter from Mr.  
W. S. Hildreth, President of the Thomas Jefferson  
Birthplace Memorial Park Commission, 218 Fifth  
Street, N. E. Charlottesville, Virginia, which I  
read over the telephone to you today.

I shall greatly appreciate your kindness in  
having the proper person get in touch with Mr.  
Hildreth.

With best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

  
M. J. Menefee, Secretary

0-36

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : H-E. Kahler + R.F. Lee

DATE: 3/28/45

FROM : CW Porter

SUBJECT: Birth place of Jefferson

These people are exactly where the Wakefield Association was in 1926-1930. They may be presumed to own the birth place, but have they dug it up? No 18th century stuff was found in the foundations uncovered by Fiske Kimball!!! Fiske plausibly explains this, but there remains the good chance that the real foundations are only 60 or 75 ft. away and carry the correct ground plan of the birthplace house. Ergo - Where archeology is in order ever?



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

ADDRESS:  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Porter  
Kahler  
R.F. Lee  
Hildreth  
Wirth  
APR 4 1949

APR - 5 1949

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

The attached copies of correspondence between this Office and Mr. W. J. Menefee, Administrative Secretary to Senator Byrd, regarding the proposed restoration of "Shadwell," the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson, will be self-explanatory.

As we see it, the Commission is precisely in the position that the Wakefield Memorial Association was in during 1928-1930 and is about to make the same mistake, i. e., restore before all possible historical and archeological work has been done. They have, under Dr. Fiske Kimball's guidance, unearthed a number of structures at the presumed birthplace site, including perhaps the basement of the main house; but no indubitable eighteenth century archeological remains were found and there is a distinct possibility that other foundations are only a short distance away and carry important data on the true ground plan of the birthplace structure. In other words, there is a need for further archeological work, particularly under the area covered by the modern house on the site, not far from the buildings unearthed by Dr. Fiske Kimball. Of course, further archeological work might not yield any new data. In that case, we would agree with Dr. Fiske Kimball that sufficient evidence does not exist to justify an attempt at restoration.

We believe you have a copy of Dr. Porter's report of September 4, 1945, on "Shadwell," which will be helpful as background material in writing to Mr. Hildreth. The following quotation from Dr. Fiske Kimball's letter of August 7, 1945, is especially important:

"Unfortunately the remains unearthed at Shadwell (foundations of four structures, including basement of the main house, in which Jefferson was presumably born) do not suffice, with the bare later descriptions of the house, to permit more than a conjectural restoration of the house. I have told this to the proponents of the new organization, who consulted me, and I stated that personally I do not favor an attempt, under these circumstances, to rebuild the house--although a plausible reconstruction could be made. They are nevertheless determined to rebuild it."

In writing to Mr. Hildreth, it is suggested that you try to divert the attention of the Commission from restoration with a view to interesting them in further historical and archeological research.

(SIGNED)  
Associate Director.

*Proved*

0-26

ALL WITH COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE MENTIONED  
IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH.

cc: Dr. Fiske Kimball,  
Mr. Vint,  
Mr. Wirth, Mr. R.F. Lee,

CWP:lc

Enclosure 246.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS:  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

APR - 5 1949

Porter  
Kahler  
R. Lee  
Rush  
Worth  
Sutton  
Langley  
APR 4 - 1949

Mr. M. J. Menefee,  
Administrative Secretary to Hon. Harry Flood Byrd,  
Senate Office Building.

My dear Mr. Menefee:

I have received your letter of March 22, with enclosure from Mr. W. S. Hildreth, of Charlottesville, Virginia, regarding the restoration of the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson; and, in accordance with our telephone conversation, I am forwarding copies of this correspondence to Regional Director Thomas J. Allen, Region One of this Service, whose offices are located in Richmond, Virginia, with the thought that he will write to him for additional information regarding the status and results of historical and archaeological research to date bearing on the physical appearance of the birthplace house and will have the historical and architectural staffs of his Office examine these data with a view to making helpful suggestions.

We are pleased to learn that the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission has acquired and finished paying for "Shadwell." It is gratifying to know that the birthplace of Jefferson, like his attractive home at "Monticello," will now be preserved in perpetuity for the benefit and inspiration of the American people. This in itself is an important contribution of which the Commission may well be proud.

Because of his long study of the life and work of Thomas Jefferson, Dr. Fiske Kimball is better qualified than anyone else to advise the Commission in regard to the restoration of the "Shadwell" buildings. He is a member of our Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, and I am also sending to him copies of this correspondence in view of his interest in all of our activities relating to sites or structures associated with Thomas Jefferson.

There is a widespread and natural interest in the birthplaces of the great men of our history, and the National Park Service believes that the Commission has acquired one of the most notable places of this kind in the United States. From our experience in developing national historical areas, we would urge that the Commission plan and execute its program slowly, taking no action until all of the historical evidence is in hand. Hasty action seldom pays in the long run and may wreck an otherwise valuable historical conservation project.

Shadwell

O-26

We are interested in the Commission's work and shall be glad to impart to it helpful suggestions growing out of our extensive knowledge of similar historical projects. Please accept our thanks for your courtesy in bringing this subject of mutual interest to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED)

A. E. Demaray,  
Associate Director.

CWP:lc

cc: ~~Dr. Fiske Kimball,~~ (with copies of Mr. Menefee's  
~~Regional Director, Region One,~~ (letter of 3/22/49 and of Mr.  
~~Mr. Vint,~~ (Hildreth's letter of 3/16/49.  
~~Mr. R. F. Lee,~~ (

ALL DETACHED

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

RECEIVED  
Chief of the Office  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1949 APR 8 AM 8:53


Lee  
File

April 7, 1949.

*awp*  
MEMORANDUM for the Director.

We have searched our files for a copy of Dr. Porter's report on "Shadwell." We find, however, that the original copy of it is not in our files. Apparently, the only copy we ever had was on a loan basis and was returned to your office by my transmittal memorandum of October 26, 1945.

It would be very useful in connection with our current inquiry into the subject (requested by Mr. Demaray's memorandum of April 5, 1949) to have a copy of the report. If an extra copy is not available for placing in our files, we would like to borrow your file copy for a short period. We could arrange to return it to you within a week or two.

  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

*0-26*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

RECEIVED  
Chief Clerk's Office  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1949 APR 11 AM 9:43

April 8, 1949.

Mr. W. S. Hildreth, President,  
Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission,  
218 Fifth Street, N. E.,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Hildreth:

Associate Director Demaray of the National Park Service has informed us of the proposal of your Commission to restore "Shadwell", birthplace of Thomas Jefferson. That will be an extremely interesting project.

I would appreciate knowing what has already been done in the way of historical, architectural, and archeological research concerning the site and the structures that once existed there. In work of this kind we have found it quite necessary to be exactly sure of facts before proceeding too far. I am sure you realize this also.

All of us in the National Park Service are very much interested in your plan for "Shadwell" and shall be glad to consult with you and do anything else within the limits of our authorities and appropriations in assisting to formulate your plans for proper development of the site. We will be very glad to meet with you at some convenient date in Charlottesville or to have you call at this office, the Mosque, in Richmond at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

cc: Director. ✓

Shadwell  
0-36

*Porter*  
*Kahler*



ADDRESS:  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

APR 12 1949

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

As requested in your memorandum of April 7, we are sending you, attached, a copy of Dr. Porter's report of September 1945 on "Shadwell." It will be agreeable to us for you to retain this copy as your file copy of the report.

CWP:lc  
Enclosure 268.

cc: Dr. Porter (Detached).

**(SIGNED)**

Assistant Director.

*Proger*

*0-36*

ENCLOSURE

121

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

GPO 16-30424-1

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1949 APR 8 PM 2:12

April 6, 1949

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

A. E. Demaray, Esq.  
National Park Service  
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Shadwell

Dear Demaray:

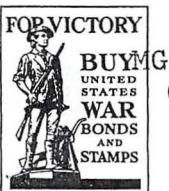
Much water has flowed under the bridge since my letter of August 7, 1945, regarding Jefferson's birthplace, Shadwell. Mr. Hildreth, the President of the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park Commission, who wrote Mr. Menefee, is a close friend and associate of mine. He knows my opposition to hypothetical reconstruction. He proposed to me some time ago that the following solution be made for the problem of Shadwell: a) provide shelters for the actual foundations we uncovered, which I do not doubt are those of the main house at Shadwell, where Jefferson was born and of the Eastern detached wing or outbuilding, these shelters to serve the purpose of the one built by the Park Service at Casa Grande, although in the less mild climate of Virginia, they would have to be enclosed by glass in some way; b) reconstruct nearby, but not so near as to falsify the immediate site, a hypothetical reconstruction of the Jefferson birthplace house proper. Access to be gained to the home-lot, with the shelters over the excavated remains, through this reconstructed building.

I concur in this proposal and I believe the Park Service would.

Since January 1st the Birthplace Memorial Park Commission has cleared the entire debt off the property, and owns it free and clear. Carrying charges on the property are now readily covered by the return from the existing later house. Cost of clearing it off the site, excavating to see if the Western outbuilding was covered by erection of the shelters over the original foundations (now reburied to preserve them) and erection of the memorial birthplace reconstruction would all take considerable sums, which will have to be secured from some source in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Fiske Kimball  
FISKE KIMBALL



CC: Mr. Hildreth  
Mr. Menefee

**ENCLOSURE**

119

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

GPO 16-30424-1

C  
O  
P  
Y

THOMAS JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOUNDATION  
300 E. Main Street -- Charlottesville, Virginia

April 12, 1949

Mr. Thomas J. Allen, Regional Director  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service Region One  
Richmond, Virginia

Dear Mr. Allen:

The research done on the Thomas Jefferson Birthplace is summarized in the enclosed article by Fiske Kimball in the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. In addition to what is set forth in this article we have a large pile of bricks which apparently came from some out building but which are the same size, type, and shape of the bricks in the chimney of the original construction. Without making a careful count I believe there are enough bricks to be used in the chimney and foundations of the "hypothetical re-construction" of the Jefferson Birthplace house proper.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter which Mr. Fiske Kimball wrote your Mr. Demaray in this connection and of which you may have a copy.

In view of the fact that there is so much to be seen to here I believe it would be very much better if you could come to Charlottesville, go over the site and discuss possible plans. I should also like to talk to you about the possibility of having Monticello administered by the National Park Service and whether or not it is so administered, coordinating plans of the operation of the two projects.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ W. S. Hildreth

W. S. Hildreth

WSH/mar



ADDRESS:  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

25. D. C.

APR 13 1949

*Porter  
Kahler*

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

Attached for your information is a self explanatory memorandum of April 6 from Dr. Fiske Kimball regarding the reconstruction of "Shadwell", birthplace of Thomas Jefferson.

We believe that it would be well to treat with great caution the suggestion that a hypothetical reconstruction of the birthplace house be erected on a location close by, but not actually on, the site of the birthplace.

[SIGNED]

Acting Director.

In duplicate.

Enclosure 121.

cc-Mr. T. C. Vint (w. copy of Dr. Kimball's memorandum).

Mr. R. F. Lee.

CWP:fms

*0-26*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

RECEIVED  
Chief Clerk's Office  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1949 APR 18 AM 9:05

*File*

April 15, 1949.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Thanks for Mr. Tolson's memorandum of April 13 and the letter from Fiske Kimball dated April 6 regarding "Shadwell" reconstruction. Yesterday, we received a copy of this from Mr. Hildreth of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation. Mr. Hildreth also loaned me his copy of the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, October, 1943, containing Fiske Kimball's report of "Shadwell" excavation.

I am returning the original of Mr. Kimball's letter to you. I am sure you did not intend for us to keep it.

You will be interested in the attached copy of Mr. Hildreth's letter to us and his comment about Monticello. I wonder if perhaps that is not a brief pleasantry for the purpose of securing our interest in "Shadwell".

  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

Enc. 119. *mo*

0-36

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

April 19, 1949.

Mr. W. S. Hildreth,  
Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation,  
300 E. Main Street,  
Charlottesville, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Hildreth:

Please accept my thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending me your copy of the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, October, 1943, which contains Mr. Fiske Kimball's article "In Search of Jefferson's Birthplace." I should like to keep this copy a short time longer so that certain members of the Regional office staff may have the opportunity of reading it. I will then return it to you.

Previous plans will require my being absent from the office on an official trip south for a period of three or four weeks, beginning on the 21st of this month. Rather than delay the matter I would suggest a meeting, if satisfactory to you, one day next week. Associate Regional Director Cox would come up for such a meeting on whatever day you suggest. Since you indicate that it may be possible to visit the site and judging, from Fiske Kimball's letter that there may be considerable discussion of research data in hand as well as the possible need for further research, I believe it would be desirable for our archeologist, historian and architect to join in the conference.

If this plan is satisfactory to you, will you name the date? Wednesday, April 27, will suit us fine but any other day next week which you may prefer will be satisfactory.

In replying to this letter it would save time if you will name the time and place for a meeting. The men from this office can drive up from Richmond on the day of the meeting. If the plan which I have tentatively proposed meets your approval, the names of the men coming from this office will be as follows:

Associate Regional Director Elbert Cox  
Regional Archeologist J. C. Harrington  
Regional Architect Charles E. Peterson  
Regional Historian Roy E. Appleman

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)  
Thomas J. Allen,  
Regional Director.

cc: ✓ Director

0-36

May 16, 1949.

Attached are views of Shadwell, Albemarle County, Virginia -- birthplace of Thomas Jefferson. I took the photographs May 4, 1949, on occasion of inspection of the site by Messrs. Cox, Harrington, Peterson, and myself of the National Park Service with Mr. William S. Hildreth, Secretary and Treasurer of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, Charlottesville, Virginia.

These pictures will serve to give an idea of the critical area around the presumed site of Shadwell which has never been examined archeologically. Before any reasonably certain opinions can be expressed regarding the historic location of the original Shadwell house, this critical area will have to be examined archeologically.

*Roy E. Appleman*

Roy E. Appleman,  
Regional Historian.

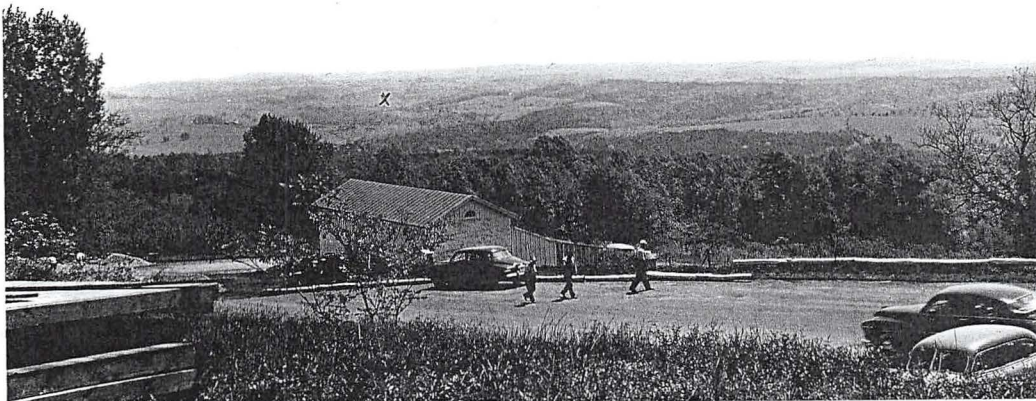
Attachment -  
Views of Shadwell.

VIEWS OF SHADWELL, ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

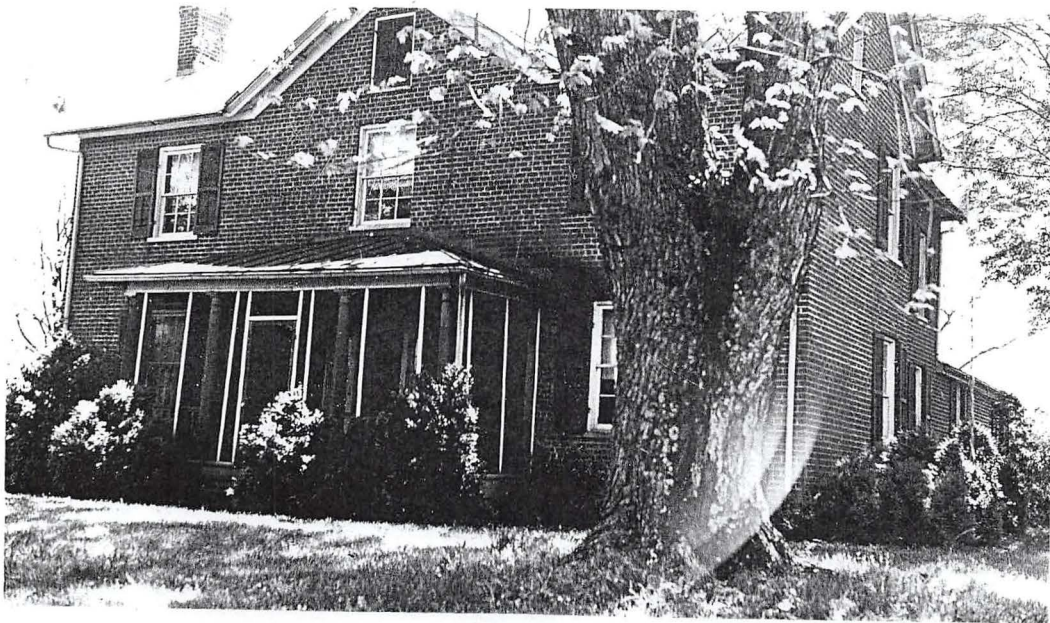
BIRTHPLACE OF THOMAS JEFFERSON

- - - - -

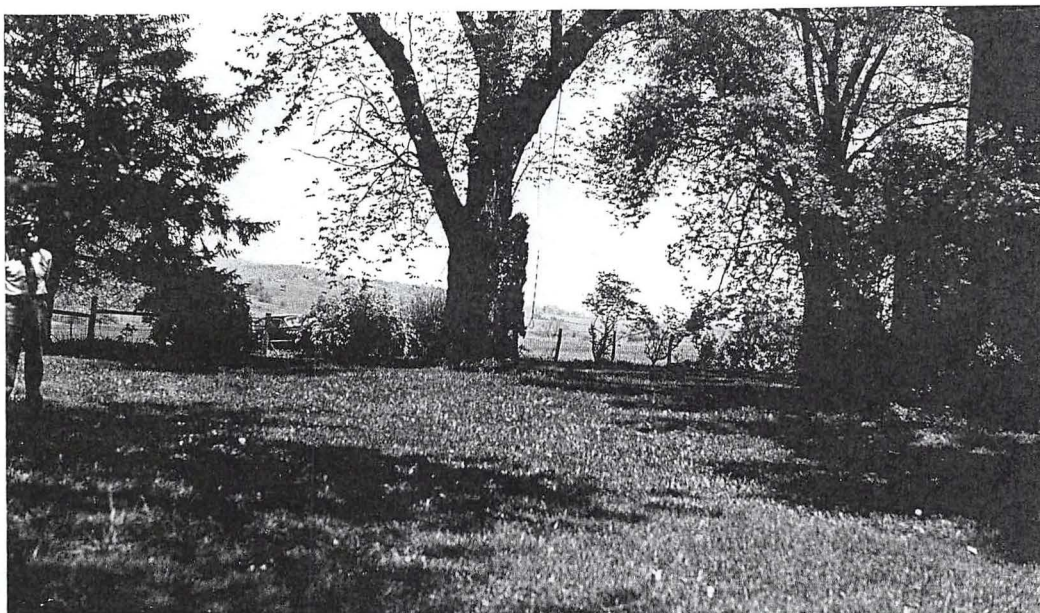
May 4, 1949



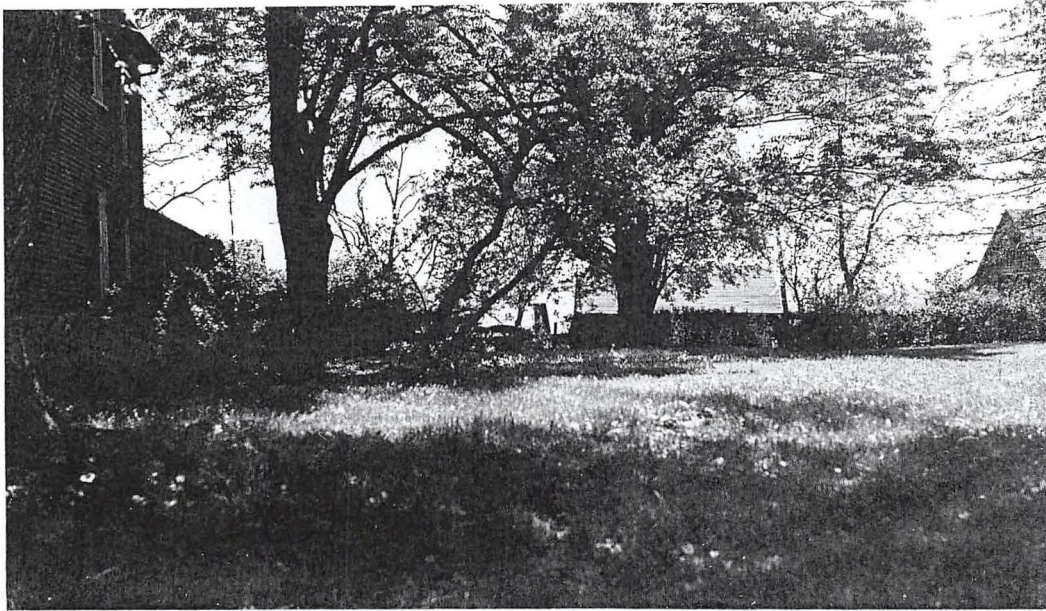
1. View of Virginia Piedmont, looking toward Shadwell from parking area at Monticello. The "x" on the photograph marks the approximate location of Shadwell, which is a few miles east of Charlottesville and is on the south side of U. S. Highway 250.



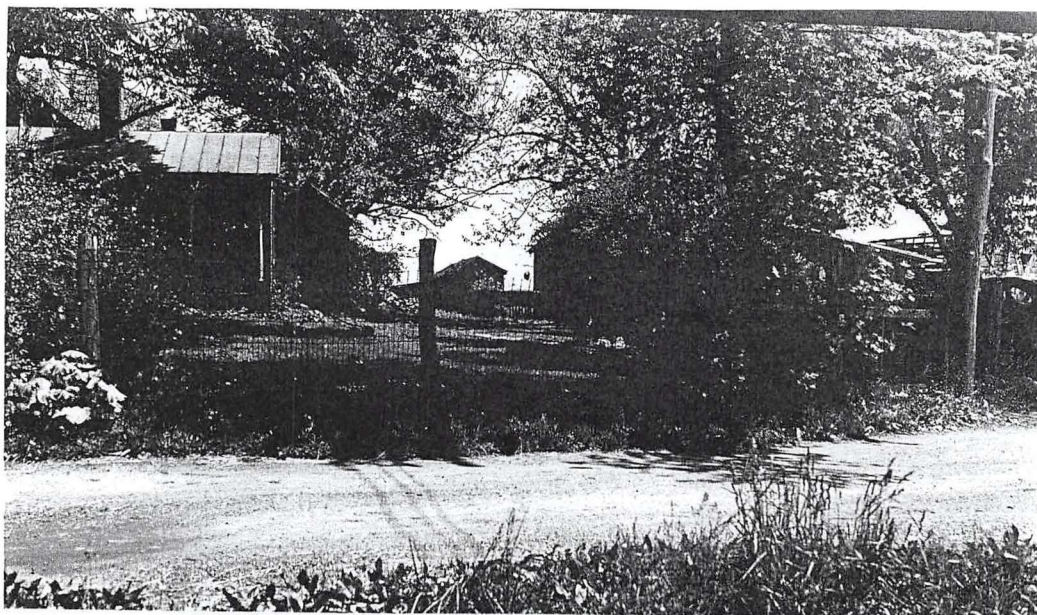
2. General view of present brick house standing on site of Shadwell. (The exact location of the original house is not known, but is in this vicinity.) Never excavated.



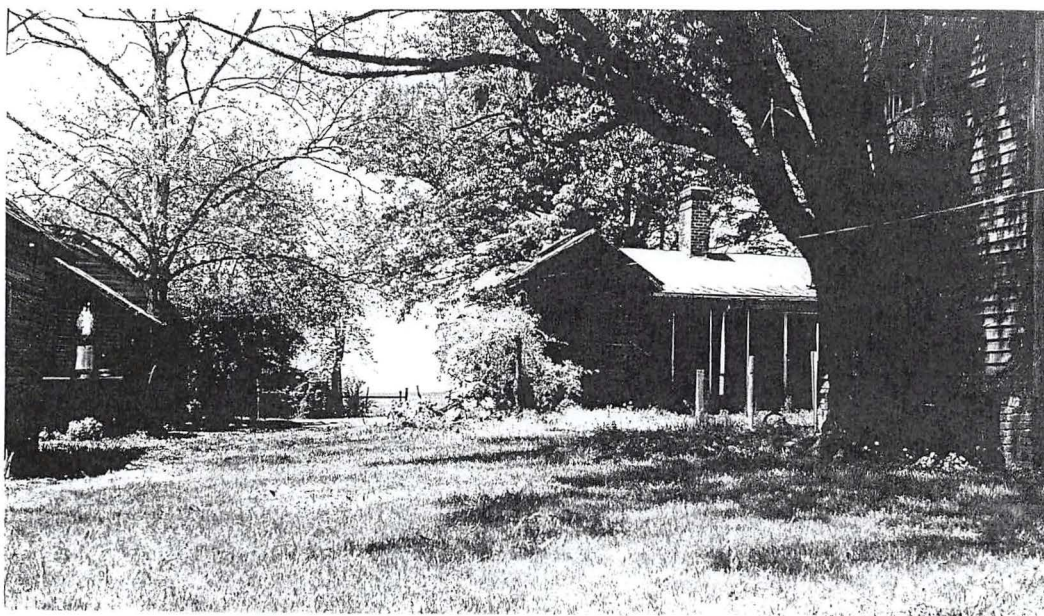
3. Part of lawn at Shadwell. Never excavated.



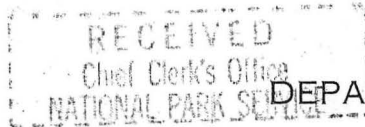
4. View of another part of lawn. Never excavated.



5. General view of out-buildings and back of brick house at Shadwell.  
Never excavated.



6. Another view of back lawn and out-buildings at Shadwell.  
Never excavated.



1949 MAY 19 AM 9:07

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

*John  
Kahler  
Dr. Porter*

May 17, 1949.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

There is attached a set of 6 photographic views I took of the immediate environs of the site of Thomas Jefferson's birthplace, Shadwell, at the time of my visit there May 4. It is thought you may find these photographs useful for reference purposes.

*Roy E. Appleman*

Roy E. Appleman,  
Regional Historian.

Enclosure 145

*processed  
0-36*

RECEIVED  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1949 JUN 27 AM 9:49  
REGION ONE  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

*Tom  
Porter*

June 24, 1949.

Mr. Alfred K. Guthe,  
Museum of Anthropology,  
University Museums Building,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Guthe:

Concerning the archeological project at the site of Jefferson's birthplace near Charlottesville, Virginia, I have just learned that the work is to go ahead soon under the supervision of a local architect. Very likely he will give the work only occasional direct supervision, and, whether or not this will produce a good job, at least they will probably save money over employing a full-time archeologist.

We still do not know how we will stand in the Park Service after July first, but I will get in touch with you if anything turns up.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

J. C. Harrington,  
Regional Archeologist.

cc: ✓ Director.

*Shadwell*  
D-32