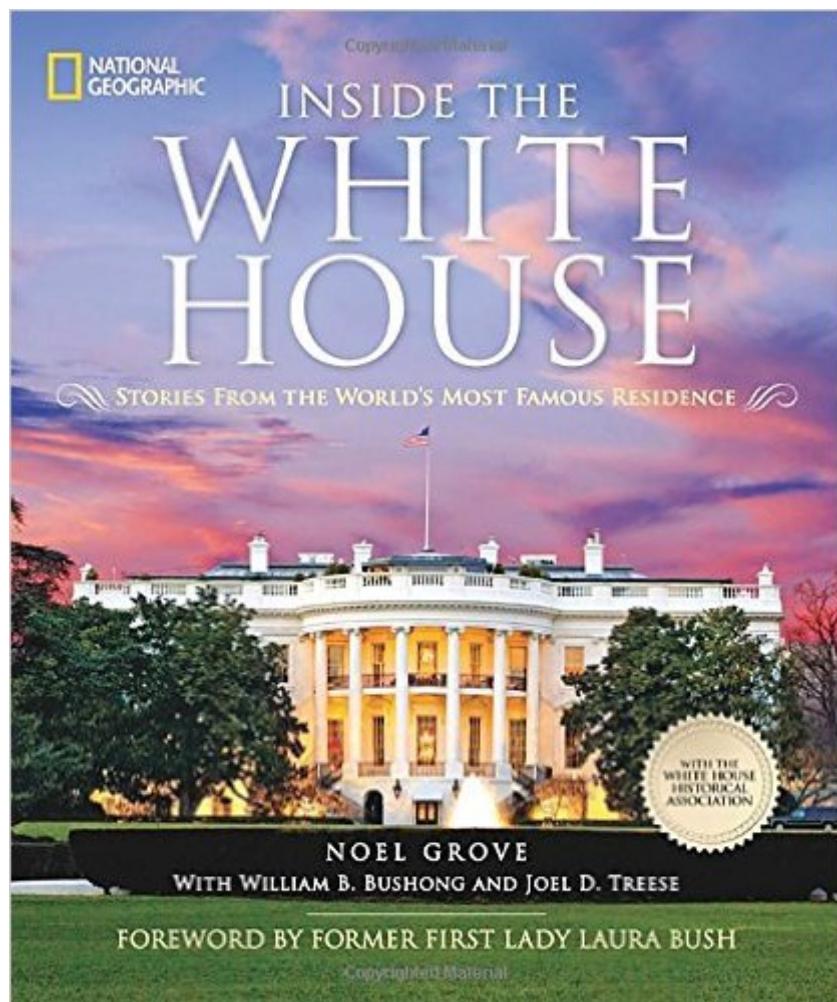


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Inside The White House: Stories From The World's Most Famous Residence



Synopsis

In collaboration with the White House Historical Association, National Geographic presents this authoritative overview of America's first home featuring never-before published stories and photographs. Organized by theme, discover what makes the White House tick--from its beginnings to the modern day, from the architecture, to the staff, to the first families. Learn fascinating details of the real-life Downton Abbey staff who run this grand home. Marvel at the elaborate detail that goes into hosting a state dinner. Meet the beloved pets who've inhabited 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Read about celebrity visitors, the media, and the security so critical in today's world. Sidebars contain tidbits of rare information, and an appendix includes an illustrated time line of all White House First Families as well as a complete index. Photos include intimate and candid glimpses of life inside the White House--some never before seen, others long forgotten, and most never displayed in such large format.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Inside the White House is the title of this book. Its contents describe the people therein and their activities rather than concentrating on the building itself. So, for example, in the section "At Home in the White House," a reader will find few glimpses of the First Family's living quarters. What is covered are the 6 weddings held over the years, the assortment of pets and livestock of the Families, and the opportunities for recreation (a full page picture of Nixon bowling). The volume begins with the original construction of the building with its gardens and grounds and ends with a

section on transitions (inaugurations and funerals) and crises (protests and impeachments). In between are sections that describe the holiday celebrations and the ceremonious occasions with foreign visitors. There's a chapter on how new technology was introduced over the decades, like electricity and telephones. The "Working White House" section details the people behind the scenes who keep the place going, with photos of past and current staff and descriptions of their work. One section highlights the contributions of the many African-Americans who have been White House staff for well over a hundred years. Being a National Geographic publication, there are many photos throughout the book. A lot of now iconic images (Diana dancing with John Travolta, John Jr. saluting at JFK's funeral), as well as some not so familiar images (the wash day laundry room in 1917, the HUGE heating ducts installed during the Truman renovation). One of the last photos in the book shows the AIDS Quilt spread out over acres on the Ellipse in 1992; the White House is in the background.

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