

“ . . . placed itself in the rebellious or nullifying attitude . . . ” As for himself, Johnson said, “. . . I intend to stand by the Constitution as it is, insisting upon a compliance with all its guarantees. . . . It is the last hope of human freedom . . . ”

Johnson's refusal to follow Tennessee into secession increased his prestige in the North. During the War Between the States, he became a leading adviser of President Lincoln on Southern affairs. A personal following of some 13,000 “Andy Johnson Democrats” promptly entered the Union Army as volunteers. After much of Tennessee had been recovered by Union military forces, Lincoln appointed him to the hazardous position of military governor, with rank of brigadier general. When the National Union Convention of 1864 was searching for a strong running mate for Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, a war Democrat and southerner, was selected. Upon Lincoln's assassination, he succeeded to the Nation's highest office.

JOHNSON AS PRESIDENT

JOHNSON was faced with the tremendous postwar program that his predecessor had only begun. Like Lincoln, Johnson held that no State could secede from the Union. Therefore, the Southern States, even though they had taken up arms, had never been out of the Union. As soon as they had ceased to resist, they could assume all the functions of government guaranteed to them by the Constitution. The program was to be accomplished through a generous and helpful attitude on the part of the Federal Government toward the South.

Johnson, however, lacked Lincoln's prestige as a victorious war President, and he did not have Lincoln's political finesse in handling opposition groups. His liberal policy was soon frustrated by Congress.

Seeking to regain political control of the country and curtail the powers of the Presidency, which had increased during the war period, the leaders in Congress, known as Radicals, denied seats to newly elected representatives from the Southern States. This prevented the natural combination of Northern and Southern Democrats and insured Radical control of the legislative branch. With Radical influence extending to two-thirds, thus destroying the effect of the President's vetoes, Congress enacted its own “reconstruction” program. This featured military rule of the Southern States, enfranchisement of the Negro, and disfranchisement of the Confederate veterans. On the whole, the program proved a failure. Based on force, it collapsed in 1877 with the end of “bayonet rule.”

The struggle between resolute Executive and equally unyielding Congress led almost inevitably to impeachment. The issue was joined on the Tenure of Office Act, which limited the power of the President to remove officials whose appointments had been approved by the Senate. In 1867, in defiance of this act which he regarded as unconstitutional, President Johnson removed from office Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton. Johnson was then impeached by the House of Representatives. The trial was held before the Senate from March to May 1868. The final vote was found to be one short of the two-thirds necessary for conviction, and Johnson was acquitted. This is the only time in our history that a President has been impeached. The Tenure of Office Act, modified during Grant's administration and repealed in part in 1887, was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 1926.

The outstanding achievements of Johnson's administration were the purchase of Alaska and the successful application of the Monroe Doctrine against the French

in Mexico. Today, the tremendous importance of Alaska from a military viewpoint overshadows the great economic value it has had for the United States in the past.

After his Presidential term, Johnson returned to Greenville, where he continued his interest in politics. In 1874, he was elected to the United States Senate and became the only ex-President ever to return to Washington as Senator. His service was brief, however, as he died on July 31 of the following year.

Today, the monument over Johnson's grave memorializes the two great fundamentals that dominated his career. Carved on it is a scroll representing the Constitution; below, a hand placed on a Bible as in taking an oath. His constant adherence to democracy is commemorated by these words: “His faith in the people never wavered.”

THE NATIONAL MONUMENT

ANDREW JOHNSON NATIONAL MONUMENT, authorized by act of Congress in 1935, was established by Presidential proclamation in 1942. It is located in Greenville, Tenn., and contains 16.33 acres.

Each of the units of the national monument has a varied history. The tailor shop, which Johnson acquired in 1830, remained in the hands of his heirs until 1921, when the State of Tennessee purchased it and constructed the brick building which now encloses it. Andrew Johnson bought the home in 1851, when it was still unfinished. It remained in possession

The National Park System, of which this area is a unit, is dedicated to conserving the scenic, scientific, and historic heritage of the United States for the benefit and inspiration of its people.

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of his descendants until 1941, when it was purchased by the Federal Government.

The Andrew Johnson Cemetery became Federal property in 1906, when it was donated by the Johnson heirs. It was administered as a national cemetery by the War Department until 1942.

HOW TO REACH THE MONUMENT

GREENVILLE, TENN., is on U. S. 11E and on State Routes 35, 70, 93, and 107. The visitor center, in which the monument office, the tailor shop, and the museum are located, is at the corner of Depot and College Streets, 1 block east of Main Street (U. S. 11E, State Routes 93 and 107). The home is on Main Street (State Routes 35, 70, and 107), 1 block south of Summer Street (U. S. 11E). The cemetery is at the end of Monument Avenue, 1 block south of Main Street (State Routes 35, 70, and 107).

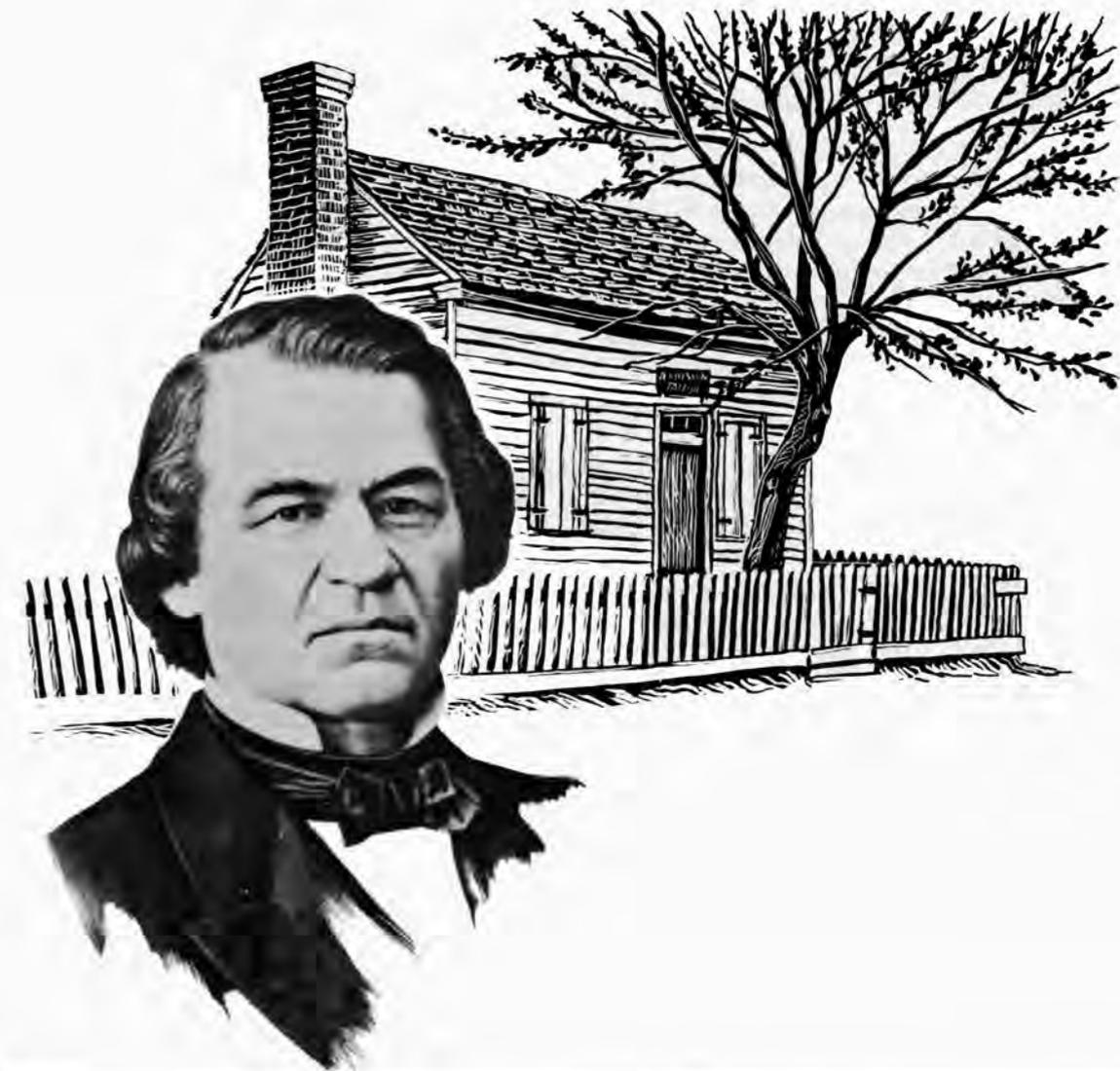
ABOUT YOUR VISIT

THIS National Monument is open the year round. You may visit the cemetery and visitor center (tailor shop) daily from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. and the Johnson home between 9 a. m. and 5 p. m., Tuesday through Sunday.

ADMINISTRATION

ANDREW JOHNSON NATIONAL MONUMENT is administered by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is Greenville, Tenn., is in immediate charge.

Andrew Johnson NATIONAL MONUMENT



T E N N E S S E E

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Andrew Johnson NATIONAL MONUMENT



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fred A. Seaton, *Secretary*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Conrad L. Wirth, *Director*



★Here are preserved the modest structures in which Andrew Johnson, a man who believed in the advancement of the common man and the preservation of the Union, lived and worked while winning his way upward to the Presidency of the United States. Here also is the grave of Andrew Johnson.

ANDREW JOHNSON NATIONAL MONUMENT preserves important sites associated with the seventeenth President of the United States: the tailor shop in which he worked at the beginning of his career, his home, and his grave. The tailor shop, in which he obtained much of his education while working at his humble trade, is now preserved within a brick building. His home, constructed after he had achieved prominence in the field of politics, is a comfortable yet modest dwelling, which has withstood the ravages of time. Over his grave has been erected a monument featuring Andrew Johnson's strict adherence to the Constitution throughout his career. Together, these places illustrate a fundamental principle of American democracy—that a man, no matter how humble his origin or his environment, can make his way even to the Presidency.

Andrew Johnson's words and actions reveal his steadfast belief in democracy. Mindful of his own humble background and the struggle it involved, he respected the will of the people. To him public office represented an opportunity for service, not a means to personal gain or glory. Typical of his championship of the common man were his efforts, as Governor of Tennessee, to broaden the scope of public education,

and, as Congressman, to secure the passage of a homestead bill.

ANDREW JOHNSON'S CAREER

ANDREW JOHNSON'S success was achieved in the face of great adversity. Born in Raleigh, N. C., on December 29, 1808, his early life was marked by the hardships of extreme poverty. He was 4 years old when his father died; while still a boy, it was necessary that he assume his share of the family's support. Instead of going to school, he became a tailor's apprentice. Before completing the full term of apprenticeship, however, he decided to work for himself. In 1826, he and his family traveled by pony cart to Greeneville, Tenn., where he soon established himself in his trade. There he met Eliza McCardle and they were married on May 17, 1827, when Johnson was 18 years of age. Thus began a devoted companionship destined to have a profound effect upon the shaping of Johnson's career and to endure throughout a long succession of triumphs and rebuffs.

Andrew Johnson was a successful tailor. Within a few years he was able to buy a shop and a home. The shop was a small frame structure, which Johnson moved to its present location. The home, a brick building in which he lived from

1831 to 1851, still stands across the street from the shop. Meanwhile, he had taken steps to remedy his lack of education. In the tailor shop he employed young men to read to him as he worked. Sometimes Eliza assisted with the reading. Although not enrolled in college, he joined a debating society connected with the old Greeneville College, and each week he walked 4 miles to attend or take part in the debates. By these weekly forensic activities he cultivated his natural aptitude for public speaking.

Johnson's first venture into politics was in 1829 when, with the support of the workmen of the town, he was elected an alderman of Greeneville. The following year he was reelected, and in 1831 became mayor. From then on his rise was steady. He served in the lower house of the State legislature, then in the State senate. In 1843, he began the first of five consecutive terms as Congressman. He was elected Governor of Tennessee in 1853, and 2 years later was reelected. In 1857, when sectional controversy over slavery and disunion was nearing a climax and the American people, divided in fundamental beliefs, were being swept along on two diverse currents, Johnson was elected to the Senate of the United States.

Southerner and slaveholder, Johnson nonetheless stood firmly on the side of the Union. On December 18 and 19, 1860, he delivered in the Senate one of the greatest speeches of his career. Lincoln had been elected a short time before; South Carolina had just passed a secession ordinance; Southern Congressmen were urging the States to withdraw from the Union. But, from the floor of the Senate, this Tennessee Senator proclaimed his faith in the Union and insisted that the Federal Government had authority, under the Constitution, to execute laws within the States and, therefore, a State resisting such execution,



The Johnson family dining room



The Johnson home after restoration during 1956-58



Andrew Johnson tailor shop as it appeared formerly



Visitor center exhibit



The Andrew Johnson Monument