

Woodrow Wilson House Fall 2022

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What was I doing?

Ellen Research



Helping at the museum



Final Project: Ellen Brochure

Originally I started my research for a completely different topic, and ended up scraping it to focus on Ellen.

My first time creating anything like this.

Background Knowledge

Ellen was born May 15th, 1860 in Georgia. Her father was a Presbyterian minister who had fought for the Confederacy. She received an education alongside her brothers until they went off to college. But her education didn't stop there.

Before her marriage to Woodrow in 1885, she insisted that they finish their studies and then attended the Art Students League of New York, a rather radical school for the time with a mixed gender student body.



Before the White House

Through his position at Princeton and his New Jersey governorship, Ellen was prepared early on to be a First Lady. Besides entertaining she:

- Assisted with the creation of Princeton's Honor System
- Was the first leader of the Princeton's Ladies Auxiliary
- Took up the position of chairman of New Jersey's Charities Aid Society where she visited patients at state institutions
- And helped Woodrow write some of his best speeches.

First Lady Ellen

Despite only one year at the White House, Ellen had a decent amount of influence. She even made the decision to not hold an inaugural ball. With that influence, there was much that she accomplished in her position:

- Helped Woodrow strengthen political alliances through private dinners.
- Work with the National Civic Federation to improve the slums and alleyways of DC.
- Promote the passage of the Allog Bill right before her death



Onsite Work

Being at the museum every single day kept things interesting and I was able to do more than just research every single day.



Favorite Moment

