

Name: _____

Date: _____

Andrew Johnson National Historic Site



Virtual Tour Worksheet – **ANSWER KEY**

Learn about the life and times of the 17th President of the United States, Andrew Johnson, by exploring his home virtually. There are nine rooms to showcase what life was like in the 19th century, or the 1800's. Answer the following questions while you follow along with the tour.

Stop 1 – Andrew Johnson's Bedroom

Welcome into the home of the 17th President, Andrew Johnson. He and his family moved into the home about 10 years before the Civil War. They would come back to live in the home in 1869 after his Presidency.

1. Above the fireplace mantle, you will see small oval portraits of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. How was Andrew Johnson connected to Abraham Lincoln? **Andrew Johnson served as the Vice President during President Lincoln's second term.**

2. Look for the tan trunk with leather straps at the foot of the bed. This was used by Andrew Johnson on the campaign trail. What modes of transportation were available during Andrew Johnson's life (1808 – 1875)? How would he have traveled from Greeneville to Nashville, to Washington, D.C.? **Horse and carriage, train, walking**

Stop 2 – Parlor

3. The parlor is a room similar to a living room, where the Johnson family would spend time together and entertain their guests. How is this room similar or different from your living room at home? **(subjective) Possible answers: No tv but the Johnson's have music (piano), books, and playing cards for their entertainment. The room has seating, a fireplace, art, etc.**

4. The Johnson family would not have had electricity in their home during this time (1852 – 1875). What are some things you can see in the parlor that are for entertainment since they did not have such a thing as a television? **Music (piano), books, games (playing cards), and art.**

Stop 3 – Mrs. Eliza Johnson's Bedroom

5. Mrs. Eliza Johnson loved to read, write, and sew. That is reflected in her belongings in her bedroom. Eliza went to school during a time when not everyone had the opportunity to attend school. Andrew Johnson did not have any formal schooling. What is the most recent book you read for school, and what would you tell Mrs. Johnson about the book? **(subjective – answers may vary)**

6. Also in Eliza's room, you'll see a reclining chair. Eliza sadly suffered from a respiratory disease called Tuberculosis during a time when there were no treatments for it. She had difficulty sleeping laying down because of it, so she had this reclining chair for her comfort. How did diseases affect people during the time of the Civil War? **More people actually passed away from diseases than from other casualties from the war. However, there was still a devastating amount of casualties from the war. This led to devastating loss of soldiers and their loved ones back home battling diseases as well.**

[Civil War Casualties | American Battlefield Trust \(battlefields.org\)](#), [Facts - The Civil War \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

7. During the Civil War, this home was used by soldiers as a headquarters and a hospital. View the [Civil War Graffiti](#) on the wall in Eliza Johnson's room. What messages do you see on the wall that were left behind by the soldiers? Why did they call Andrew Johnson a traitor? **Names, dates, scribbles, "self-portrait" of a soldier, soldiers writing "Andrew Johnson – Traitor of the South." Some would call Johnson a traitor because he was a Unionist from the South.**

Stop 4 – Guest Room

8. Andrew and Eliza Johnson had five children. Visit the Family page on our website to learn more about their five children: Martha, Charles, Mary, Robert, and Andrew Johnson, Jr.

[Andrew Johnson's Family - Andrew Johnson National Historic Site \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

Stop 5 – Grandchildren's Room

9. Andrew and Eliza Johnson had five grandchildren. This room was built especially for the grandchildren as a guest room and play room. Do you see any familiar toys in the photo? These toys are examples of what some children would have played with in the 1800's and these toys were played with by the grandchildren of Andrew and Eliza Johnson. **Log cabin playhouse set (Lincoln Logs!), blocks, doll bed, etc.**

Stop 6 – Robert Johnson's Bedroom

10. Andrew and Eliza's first two sons, Charles and Robert Johnson, both served in the U.S. Army during the Civil War. Was Andrew Johnson and his family pro-Union or pro-Confederate? **They were pro-Union as were many people in East Tennessee.**

11. Robert Johnson also suffered from Tuberculosis like his mother Eliza. Mary and Andrew Johnson Jr. would suffer from the contagious disease, which was very common during the Civil War. Sadly, Robert Johnson passed away in this room when he was 35 years old. This room would later become a storage room and library, but never used as a bedroom again. How can change like this be a difficult or negative experience? **Grief from the loss of a loved one can certainly be a difficult experience. The Johnson family experienced much tragedy and loss during and after the Civil War. They also were displaced from their home until after Johnson's presidency, which was a difficult and challenging experience for the family members.**

Stop 7 – Dining Room

11. This room was originally the kitchen but would become the dining room after slavery was abolished. This represents an example of how the house changed with the changing times of the nation post-Civil War. How can change be a positive thing? With the end of the Civil War came the end of slavery. An estimated 4 million people gained their freedom from slavery with the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and during Reconstruction, the 14th and 15th Amendments established citizenship rights and voting rights for all men regardless of race.

12. What kinds of foods do you think people ate in the 1800's? How did they get their food? Popular foods in the Johnson household were black-eyed peas, rice, vegetables, herbs, bacon, chicken, milk, butter, coffee, tea, buckwheat pancakes, apples, cherries, corn, tomatoes, ham, chicken, eggs, duck, turkey, and sweet potatoes. They had a small garden in their backyard and bought food from local merchants and markets. Trains brought in foods such as oysters that Johnson would purchase. It is important to acknowledge and understand that meals were cooked by the enslaved individuals and after the abolition of slavery, paid servants provided meals for the Johnson family.

Stop 8 – Andrew Johnson Jr.'s Bedroom

13. This room was originally the dining room but became Andrew Johnson Jr.'s bedroom after the abolition of slavery. Andrew Johnson Jr. worked as a co-editor for a newspaper in Greeneville called The Greeneville Intelligencer. What do you want to be when you grow up? (subjective – answers will vary)

Stop 9 – Enslaved Quarters/Kitchen

13. This room was originally built and used as enslaved quarters. During and before the Civil War, people were once forced to live and work here and did not have their freedom. It is likely that Dolly Johnson, an enslaved woman, and her three children born into slavery, Liz, Florence, and William, lived in this one small room. After they were manumitted, or granted their freedom, in 1863, they worked as paid servants for the Johnson family. After Emancipation and in the days of her freedom, Dolly owned a bakery business at Andrew Johnson's old Tailor Shop. What does Emancipation mean? What does manumission mean? Compare/contrast the meaning of these words. Emancipation and manumission are both terms used to describe the process of freeing enslaved individuals, but they have different meanings. Manumission refers to the legal release of enslaved people by their enslavers voluntarily, while Emancipation is the process of freeing enslaved people through government action. (Also, see vocabulary definitions for more information on these terms.)

14. Please describe the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the United States Constitution. The 13th amendment abolished (ended) slavery, 14th amendment provided citizenship rights, and the 15th amendment provided voting rights for all men regardless of race.
