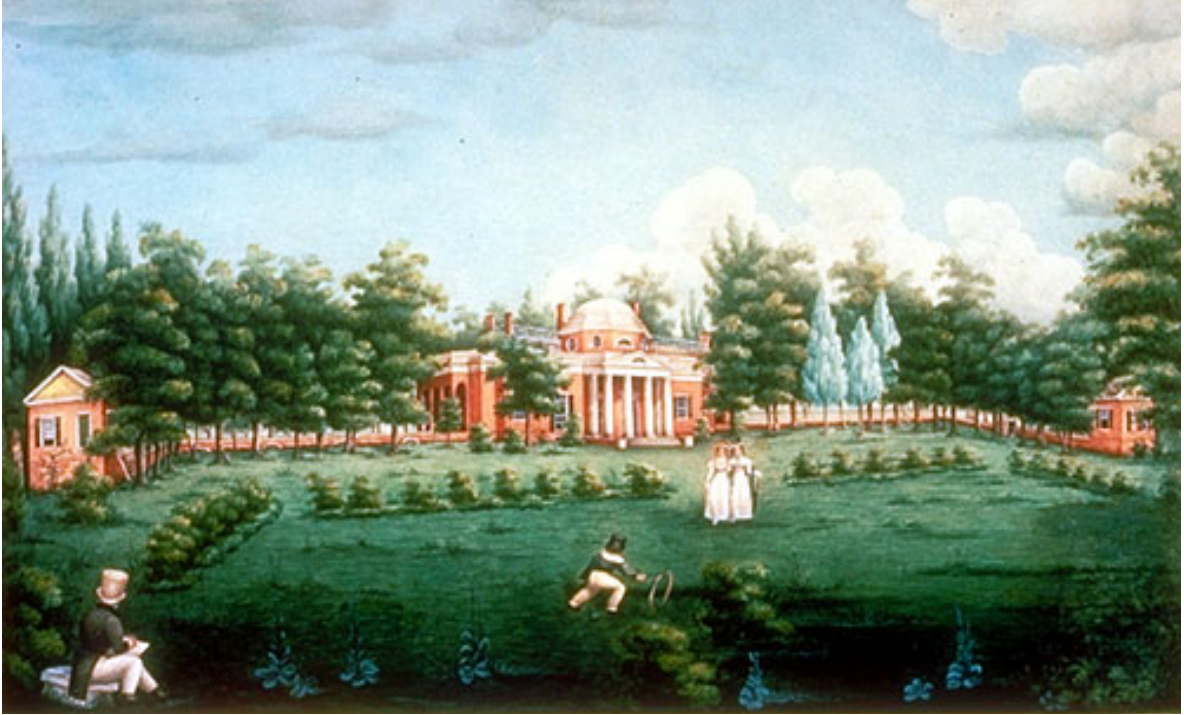


## THE CURIOSITY OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Jane Pitford Braddick Peticolas'  
Watercolor of Monticello and Garden 1825

You've heard all the stories. It is the home to President Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence and The Statute of Virginia For Religious Freedom. He spends his days pacing around that little mountain of his he calls Monticello. Surrounded by countless children, grandchildren, and slaves he ponders the rest of his life away. Oh, and they eat dinner in the middle of the afternoon.

Native Americans had settled these parts for centuries but you'd really have to search to see how they left their mark. The long history of Albemarle County had never seen such a sight. Neighboring planters marvel at both Monticello's size and inability to turn a profit. The townspeople complain of a thick smell of peas.

There is always construction underway. There are always guests coming and going. Every summer a new type of tomato is spotted rolling down the southern hillside. What, pray tell, is this sculptured landscape bordering the wilderness of the American Frontier? Finally, curiosity gets the best of you.

#### TASK:

Examine the following sources and write a 5 paragraph first person essay that examines Monticello through one of the following perspectives.

- i. A Native American curious of European settlers.
- ii. A English Aristocrat, curious of American culture.
- iii. The simple American Farmers son, who is interested in the Enlightenment.

#### OUTLINE:

##### Introduction:

- i. Grabber
- ii. Background of your character, including name
- iii. Statement of Question
- iv. Thesis and road map

##### Body Paragraphs (3)

- i. Baby Thesis
- ii. Evidence supporting detail from documents with document citation
- iii. Argument: connecting evidence to thesis

## Conclusion

- i. Restatement of your main ideas.
- ii. One question you would want to ask President Jefferson if given the chance