

# JAMES MONROE

## 1817 - 1825



**James Monroe** was born in 1758 in Virginia. He graduated from William and Mary, was wounded at Trenton during the Revolution, and as a senator from Virginia, opposed the adoption of the Constitution. He served as governor of Virginia from 1799 to 1802. In 1803 he was sent to France by President Jefferson to help negotiate the Louisiana Purchase. In 1811 Monroe became President Madison's secretary of state.

**Elizabeth Kortright Monroe** was born in New York City in 1768 to an old New York family. She married James Monroe in 1786. The couple had two daughters and a son who died in infancy. In the years before Monroe's election as president the family alternated between foreign missions and their Virginia home.



**President James Monroe** was elected in 1816 and re-elected in 1820. Monroe's administration became known as “the era of good feeling.” He signed the Missouri Compromise, acquired Florida, and in 1823 promulgated the Monroe Doctrine which declared against foreign colonization or intervention in the Americas. Monroe died in New York City on July 4, 1831.

Elizabeth Monroe went with her husband to France in 1794. While in Paris in the midst of the French Revolution she acted to save from the guillotine the imprisoned wife of Lafayette by going to the prison and demanding to see her. Soon afterwards Madame Lafayette was set free. Though later poor health curtailed her activities, she was an accomplished hostess and changed White House customs to create a more formal atmosphere. Elizabeth died in 1830 at the family's Oak Hill plantation.

### Arizona Timeline

1821 - Mexico gains its independence from Spain and considers most of what is modern day Arizona as part of its land.

1824 - American mountain men enter Arizona to trap beaver.