

MARTIN VAN BUREN

1837 - 1841



Martin Van Buren was born in 1782 at Kinderhook, New York. He entered law practice in 1803 and became active in New York State politics as a senator and Attorney General. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1820, served as governor of New York from 1828 to 1829, and resigned to become Andrew Jackson's Secretary of State.

Hannah Hoes Van Buren was born in 1783, and grew up with her cousin, Martin Van Buren, in Kinderhook. They were married in 1807 and had five sons; one died in infancy.



Martin Van Buren became vice president in 1832 under Andrew Jackson and was elected president in 1836. His administration favored establishing an independent treasury, and near the end of his term, he established a ten-hour day on public works. His term in office was overwhelmed by the longest financial recession in the history of the Nation. To prevent the spread of slavery, Van Buren blocked the annexation of Texas because the political climate at the time would have most likely meant Texas would be a slave territory. Van Buren died in Kinderhook on July 24, 1862.

In the winter of 1818, Hannah Van Buren's health was failing and she died on February 5, 1819. Van Buren never remarried. After he moved into the White House, Dolly Madison brought her relative, Angelica Singleton, to visit. In 1838, Angelica married Van Buren's son, Abraham, and thereafter presided as White House hostess.

Arizona Timeline

1837 to 1841 – Land disputes between United States and Mexico continue. Annexation of Texas delayed for political and diplomatic reasons.