



## **ARLINGTON HOUSE**

Enslaved people were forced to build the Greek revival style mansion, which overlooks the Potomac and was the centerpiece of a plantation that utilized slave labor. Until it was seized during the Civil War, Arlington House had primarily been the home of descendants of George Washington. The house is now a National Memorial and part of Arlington National Cemetery.

Symbols and language matter. Arlington County's most prominent symbol is of a slave labor camp, Arlington House: The Robert E. Lee Memorial. This symbol is on its flag, seal and logo.

To so many, it is a symbol of white supremacy and privilege, a plantation built by slave labor, and a place that for decades profited off the backs and through the exploited lives of enslaved Black people. A place where rape of people considered property was acceptable, where Black bodies were leased, sold and abused. A place where family units were ruptured and runaways were hunted like prey for cash bounties.