

Timeline of Jefferson's Life

	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
1735		Peter Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson's father, patented 1,000-acre tract which became Monticello.
1743		Thomas Jefferson born at Shadwell.
1757		Peter Jefferson died.
1760-62		Thomas Jefferson attended the College of William and Mary.
1762		Began study of law with George Wythe.
1764		Came into inheritance at age of 21.
1767		Admitted to practice law before General Court.
1768	Elected to House of Burgesses.	Leveling of Monticello mountaintop begun.
1770		Construction begun at Monticello. Shadwell burned. Moved to South Pavilion at Monticello.
1772		Married Martha Wayles Skelton. Daughter Martha born.
1773		Graveyard at Monticello established with the interment of Jefferson's friend and brother-in-law Dabney Carr.
1774	Wrote A Summary View of the Rights of British America .	Retired from legal practice. Inherited 11,000 acres of land and 135 slaves from his father-in-law. Laid off ground for kitchen garden. Daughter Jane Randolph born.
1775	Elected to Continental Congress.	Daughter Jane Randolph died.
1776	Drafted Declaration of Independence . Elected to Virginia House of Delegates. Appointed to revise Virginia laws. (Get an .mp3 of the Declaration.)	Mother Jane Randolph Jefferson died.
1777	Drafted Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, passed by General Assembly in 1786.	Unnamed son born and died.
1778	Drafted Bill for the More General Diffusion of Knowledge.	Daughter Mary (Maria) born. Brickwork of first home (Monticello) completed.
1779-81	Served as Governor of Virginia.	
1780		Daughter Lucy Elizabeth born. Began Notes on the State of Virginia .
1781		British troops at Monticello. Daughter Lucy Elizabeth died.
1782		Second Lucy Elizabeth born. Wife Martha died. First house substantially completed.
1783	Elected delegate to Congress.	
1784-89	In France as Commissioner and Minister.	

