Design Summary

The design for this project aims to balance a colonial theme and professionalism with appeal to a younger audience. This site is intended for families, teachers and students learning Virginia history, interested in colonial foodways, or following up a visit to Mount Vernon. The blend of both dark and bright colors with both fanciful and staid texts allows the site to be playful and scholarly simultaneously. Directed towards educating younger audiences, this design employs numerous pictures, large fonts, and simple navigation. The mimickry of a table as the site background, for example will provide a more engaging, intereactive feel to the site and its content. While Washington is generally conveyed as a dull and imposing figure, this site adds playfulness to that nature. Image elements, such as the used plate, help to humanize and make comfortable a famous name and tempers the more seriuoes tone slavery will need to be approached with. Links are highlighted in the brightest color of the scheme to assist users in navigating the site

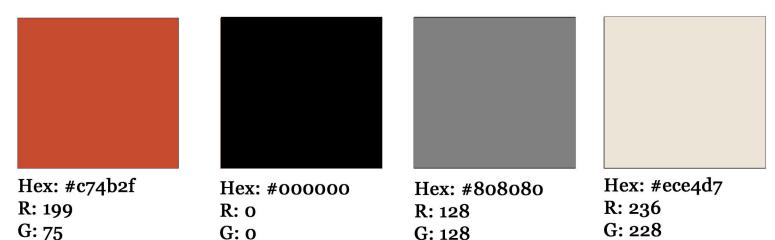
and locating important topics of interest.

Logo/Logotype



This site will use Lucida Calligraphy for headings and Georgia for content. The combination of these texts, with the color scheme, invokes a colonial-themed subject matter. To ensure this, the selection of these fonts was inspired by an 18th century broadside. The Calligraphy type brings in elements of handwriting while the Georgia brings in elements of printer typeface to add diversity but the fonts are not so dissimilar as to be visually jarring. While minimal in decoration, the Georgia type is subtly attractive and remains easy to read in large blocks of content text. These fonts are appropriate to the period represented in the subject matter and convey professionalism while still remaining light and inviting to all audiences.

Color Pallette



B: 128

B: o

B: 47

B: 215



Explore Washington's world through food

Just like you and me, over 200 years ago, George and Martha-Washington worried what time dinner was and if there would be enough dessert. But, as colonial Virginians, they had to do it without a grocery store, a refrigerator or a stove! Everything was done at their home –a plantation called Mount Vernon.



We can learn a lot about the Washingtons and other Virginians in the 18th century from the way they ate. Food was important, not just for eating but for showing off your wealth, manners, and patriotism.

But getting food on the table was serious work.

Hundreds of slaves at Mount Vernon grew and cooked the food that landed on planters' tables.

You're Invited! Go enjoy a meal with the Washingtons (click)

From Farm to Table

Eating was never easy in Colonial Virginia. Follow the many steps food took to go from the ground to the dinner plate!

Farming



Cooking



Preservation



Shipping





Dinner with the Washingtons

Served at 3pm in Large Dining Room, Mount Vernon





Ham



Vegetables



Soup



Fowl



Fish

What's for dessert?

Díd you know?

Washington was tough on guests that did not arrive to dinner on time. If you were late, you had to eat dinner in your room.