

James A. Garfield Home (NPS)
1059 Mentor Avenue, Mentor

From 1876 until his death five years later, James Abram Garfield, 20th president of the United States, called Lawnfield home. He enlarged the house soon after his purchase by adding a second story and an attic, as well as the famous “front porch” from which he conducted his presidential campaign. Garfield had been selected by the Republican Party in 1880 as its “dark horse” candidate for the presidency. His small campaign office, where he received news of his presidential victory via telegraph, stands in the yard. What sort of president he would have made is unknown. Four months after his inauguration, on July 2, 1881, Garfield was fatally wounded by an assassin and died on September 19. Lawnfield is open to the public as a historic house museum.