

## Emily Donelson Jackson (1807-1836)

Emily was the youngest of thirteen children born to John Donelson and Mary Purnell. She grew up outside of Nashville on the Clover Bottom farm in a two-story log home and was educated at the Nashville Female Seminary. She traveled to Franklin in 1817 with her mother to care for her older sister, Rachel Donelson Eastin. Rachel had a baby during Emily's visit to Franklin. During her stay, Emily created a sampler under the instruction of her mother and sister. By the time Emily was only seventeen years old, she married her cousin Andrew Jackson Donelson. When his uncle, General Andrew Jackson became President, Emily traveled with her husband to Washington D.C. to serve as the First Lady of the White House. Emily was only twenty-one when she served as First Lady, however, she was an able mother and manager giving birth to four children, three of whom were born at the White House. In 1834, Emily and her husband Andrew, began building their home, Poplar Grove close to Andrew Jackson's home, the Hermitage, in Tennessee. Emily died of tuberculosis shortly after moving into the house in December 1836 and is buried in the Hermitage Churchyard cemetery.

