

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, promote the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute this Federal Government.



HARRIET REBECCA LANE JOHNSTON

Served as First Lady (1857–1861)

Harriet was born on May 9, 1830 in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Elliot Tole Lane and Jane Buchanan. Jane was the sister of James Buchanan, the only president who never married.

Harriet lost her parents at the age of 11 and went to live with her uncle in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She was educated at several boarding schools and graduated from the Georgetown Visitation Convent in 1848. When her uncle was named American Minister to Great Britain, Harriet went to London where she acquired a lifelong interest in art. She amassed a considerable collection of art during her lifetime.

When James Buchanan was elected President in 1857, he asked Harriet to serve as his hostess. As a young, vivacious and poised woman, Harriet became a very popular First Lady.

After her service in the White House, Harriet married Henry Johnston on January 11, 1866, at the relatively old age of 36. She had two sons who died within a year of each other. Harriet died at the age of 73 on January 13, 1903 in Narragansett, Rhode Island.

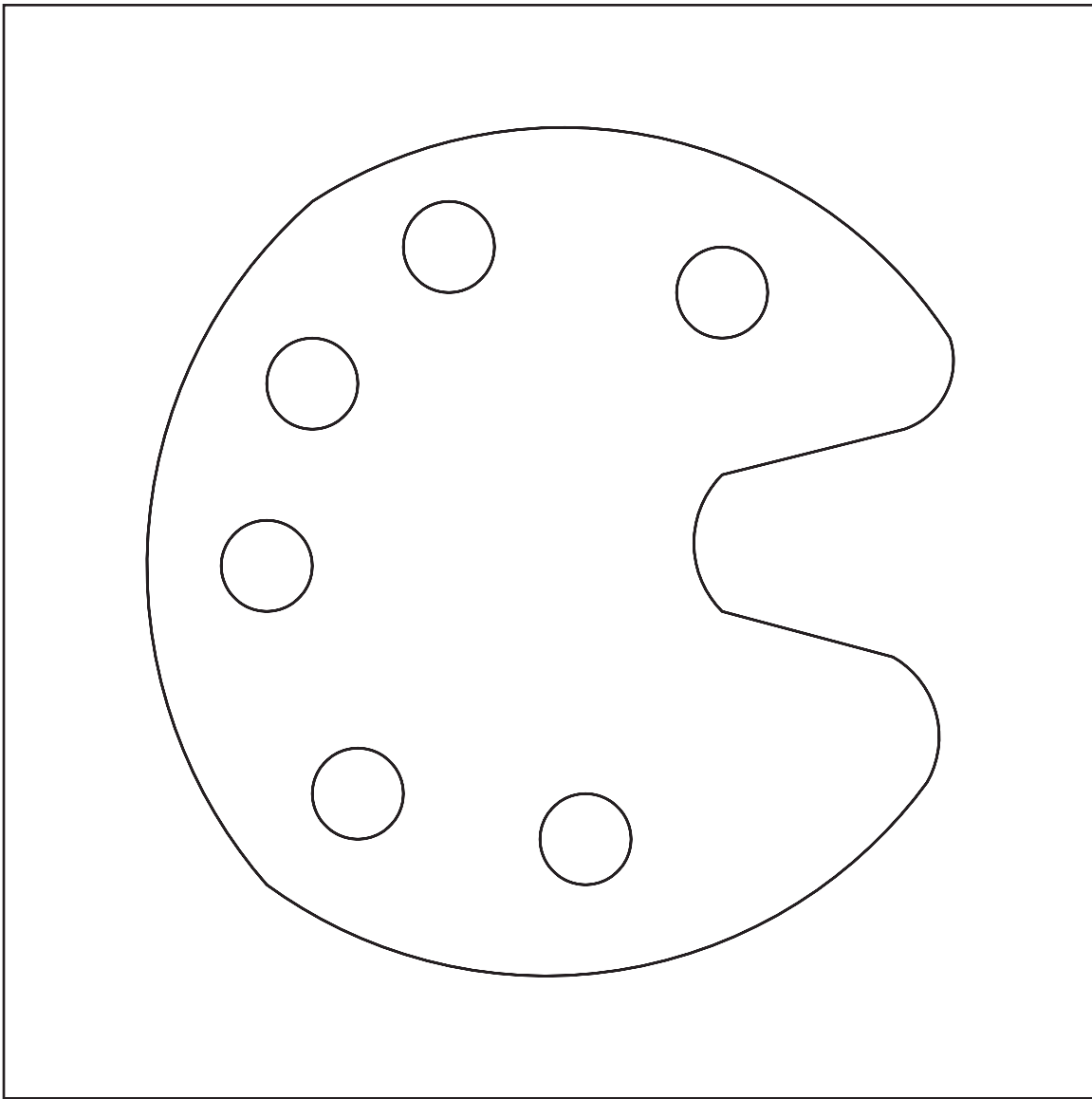
The song “Listen to the Mockingbird” was written by Septimus

Winner when he was 27 years old and the owner of a music store in Philadelphia. He dedicated this song to Harriet Rebecca Lane.



Harriet's Art

Harriet's block was created to honor her bequest of her invaluable art collection to the Smithsonian, which eventually became the nexus of the National Gallery of Art.



Harriet's Art
Making the Block

Using the diagram above, make templates and appliqué to a 7" square of background fabric according to the block design. Trim block to 6½" x 6½".