

## Eleanor Roosevelt in Arthurdale

*(from newspapers and her My Day columns – may sometimes be off by one day as it's difficult to be sure of exact date  
I may find more as I continue to research – Jeanne Goodman)*

### 1933

**August 16/18** - ER visits coal company homes in the Scotts Run area near Morgantown with the Quakers. ER stays with the Work family in Arnettsville.

**November 26** – ER spends the day examining the construction happening at Arthurdale.

### 1934

**February 11** – ER pays a surprise visit to Arthurdale site.

**June 7** – ER makes multiple WV visits today starting in Grafton ending up in Arthurdale.

**June 30** – ER makes unannounced visit to Arthurdale with friends and has a picnic.

**October 13/14** – ER comes to Arthurdale, drives to Madsville and Jere, and returns for dinner. She meets with the men homesteaders in the evening and the women the next morning.

**December 15/17** – ER first goes to Red House, visits late Saturday, stays in Morgantown, comes back to Arthurdale Sunday, and Christmas shops in the Craft Shop Monday.

### 1935

**April 3** – ER brings her son John to meet the homesteaders. After dinner they attend a square dance in their honor.

*(May 15 – ER invites the 3 Arthurdale graduates to the White House for a picnic lunch.)*

**May 29** – After a talk in Morgantown to 3500 about caring for underprivileged children, ER comes to Arthurdale for an old fashioned box social.

**July 5** – ER leaves Washington and motors to Arthurdale with friends.

**December 10** – ER visits Arthurdale schools.

### 1936

**January 28** – ER visits Arthurdale with group of 15 in 7 degrees below zero weather. She meets with both men and women groups of homesteaders and goes to a square dance.

*(March 7 – ER gives 2 Arthurdale teachers a tour of the White House.)*

**April 7/8** – ER eats breakfast at Arthurdale, speaks at WVU, visits Arthurdale's hospital, and attends a square dance. On the 8<sup>th</sup>, visits Scotts Run with a group and then brings them to the Arthurdale schools.

*(May 21 – 36 Arthurdale musicians, singers, and square dancers, introduced by ER, are part of the entertainment at a White House garden party for disabled veterans.)*

**June 24** – ER dedicates vacuum cleaner factory, passes out ribbons to winners in music festival contests, visits various homesteader projects, and presents diplomas to AHS graduates.

**July 8** – ER attends a meeting about making changes in the schools and then one with homesteaders to tell them of the discussion and to get their suggestions.

**December 2** – ER visits Arthurdale, meets new principal, learns about chicken farm, buys Christmas presents, visits tea room, and sees the last 40 houses.

### 1937

**January 18** – ER visits the hospital, school, and factory then attends committee and homesteader meetings.

*(May 17 – AHS senior class has picnic lunch with ER in the White House garden.)*

**May 21** – ER brings group of 11 postgraduates to tour Arthurdale and 3 other homesteads.

**May 25** – ER presents diplomas to the 3 AHS graduates and helps open the shirt factory.

*(June 26 – Met Mrs. Henry Morgenthau, jr. in New York to help her pick out the furniture she is donating to the Arthurdale school library in memory of her mother.)*

*(July 8 – AHS graduates have dinner at White House with ER.)*

*(November 25 – The White House turkey for Thanksgiving is from Arthurdale.)*

**November 28** - ER and heiress Doris Duke visit Scotts Run area and Arthurdale.

1938.

(**May 15** – AHS graduates have lunch at the White House with ER.)

**May 26** – ER comes to AD to attend the AHS prom which includes square dancing, visits Scotts Run.

**May 27** – FDR joins ER to address the graduating class of AHS; ER hands out diplomas for the 4<sup>th</sup> time. They both lunch with the class, FDR leaves for Hyde Park. ER and her group spend the night at the new Arthurdale Inn.

**June 26** – ER flies to Arthurdale to welcome 350 members of the National Editorial Association as part of their 6 day tour of WV.

1939

(**February 19** – ER goes over her books in order to send some to Arthurdale and Dyess Colony .)

(**May 13** - Senior class has lunch in White House w ER.)

**May 25/26** – ER stops at Arthurdale, then takes her party to tour Scotts Run area. On the 26<sup>th</sup>, she presents her 4<sup>th</sup> commencement speech and later square dances. She sleeps at the Arthurdale Inn both nights.

1940

(**May 17** – Senior class leaves Friday, tours DC, returns late Saturday after meeting FDR, touring the White House and having lunch there.)

**May 23** – ER speaks at Arthurdale and University HS (Morgantown) graduations, visits Scotts Run area, meets with Preston Co. Board of Education, among others.

1941

(**May 18** – ER has garden lunch at the White House with seniors from AHS.)

**May 26/27** – ER meets with advisory committee of the project; on Monday gives graduation speech at AHS after visiting NYA housing, factories, and health center. Later went to Scotts Run.

1942

**February 6** – ER brings first 60 sales contracts to Arthurdale, attends advisory board meeting. Visits Scotts Run.

**May 28** – ER comes to commencement exercises, attends dance in her honor. Stops in Scotts Run. Students do not go to DC, instead they buy war bonds with the money they had raised for the trip.

1943

**January 11** – ER visits The Shack, meets with mine disaster widows in Pursglove and then drives to Arthurdale.

**May 27** – ER speaks to the AHS graduates for the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, eats lunch with the 18 graduates and attends Carnegie Medal presentations in Pursglove.

1944

**May 24** – ER speaks at Salem College and at AHS commencement.

1945

Death of Franklin Roosevelt

1946

**May 25** – ER speaks at AHS commencement for the 11<sup>th</sup> time.

**September 29** – ER presents address at Mountain Choir Festival at Arthurdale.

1960

**September 24** – ER returns to take part in the dedication of the new Community Presbyterian Church,