

To study the past is to prepare for the future.

What can we learn by studying Herbert Hoover's life?

Times were tough politically and economically in the late 1920s and 1930s. There was wild speculation in the Stock Market, a mortgage crises with people losing their homes, buying on credit, weather conditions making for poor crop yields, people losing their jobs, prices rising, banks closing, businesses failing...does all that sound familiar to a more current time?

Hoover's life and impacts on the world can be captured through a combination of stories, ideas, and things.

A person's home can say a lot about the person. The Hoovers had homes all over the world and their homes changed as their lives changed. By the time Herbert Hoover became President the Hoovers were millionaires and could have afforded anything anywhere for their weekend retreat. So why did they invest their money, time, and energy in the rustic camp at Rapidan?

Rapidan Camp is one of the "things" that most accurately portrays the complete Hoover. In the Brown House furnishings, in the Town Hall and Mess Hall, in Hemlock Run, in the gardens and structures, and in Rapidan Camp's very location we can find the best of Hoover.

Let's take a close look at Herbert and Lou Henry Hoover's Rapidan Camp.

