

In less than three years after this picture of President William McKinley (right) and Vice President Garret A. Hobart was taken in Long Branch, both men were dead. Hobart died of illness in 1899, and McKinley was assassinated two years later.

Historians do not agree on exactly where Hobart spent the last summer before his death in 1899.

While they agree that he was seriously ill and spent the summer in Monmouth County, some say he stayed in a cottage in the Normandie section of Sea Bright and others say he stayed in a mansion at Norwood and Cedar avenues, West Long Branch, now the site of Monmouth College's Guggenheim Memorial Library.

When the vice president's condition worsened, he was taken to Paterson where he owned a 40-room mansion on an estate called Ailsa Farms. He died there on Nov. 21, 1899. McKinley was re-elected president a year later with Theodore Roosevelt as his running mate, and was assassimated in 1901.