

Something to Think About:

- What “makes” a president’s legacy?
- Why are some presidents more well known than others?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1dGQA883e8>

10/25

AIM: WHAT PRECEDENTS DID
WASHINGTON ESTABLISH AS
PRESIDENT?

Summary of 2009 Survey Results

Top Ten Presidents

1. Lincoln (902)
2. Washington (854)
3. F.D. Roosevelt (837)
4. T. Roosevelt (781)
5. Truman (708)

6. Kennedy (701)
7. Jefferson (698)
8. Eisenhower (689)
9. Wilson (683)
10. Reagan (671)

Bottom Ten Presidents

33. Hayes (409)
34. Hoover (389)
35. Tyler (372)
36. George W. Bush (362)
37. Fillmore (351)

38. Harding (327)
39. W. H. Harrison (324)
40. Pierce (287)
41. A. Johnson (258)
42. Buchanan (227)

Number in parentheses is total score (maximum 1000).

C-SPAN

What made him such a desirable president for his time?



1. Washington is the only President who never ran for President!

2. He is the only President who was unanimously elected both times, receiving all of the electoral votes!

3. He refused payment for the 8 1/2 years as Commander in Chief asking only to be reimbursed for his expenses, which were never fully reimbursed.

4. He desired no pay as President, but Congress allotted an annual budget of \$25,000 for the Executive Branch, from which all salaries of staff and Cabinet members, as well as expenses, would be paid. Most years George Washington had to spend some of his own money to make up the difference!

5. He only had about 8 years of formal schooling and was largely self-taught in various disciplines.

7. He was appointed to command the Continental Army and fight the British at age 44.

8. He added "So help me God" on to the Presidential Oath of Office at his inauguration and its been done that way ever since.

9. Greeting the President as "Mr. President" was his idea.

10. He established the two-term tradition for the Presidency.

11. He was so strong that he could crack walnut shells between his thumb and forefinger.

12. He was widely acknowledged as the best horseman in the 13 Colonies.

I. The “Experiment”



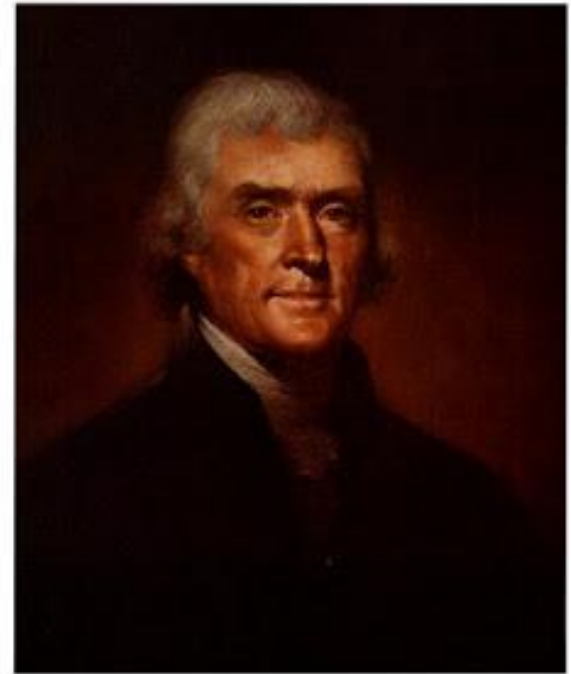
- A. First nation to attempt a democratic form of government
- B. Huge responsibility—setting state for future presidents
- C. Took commanding control of the government—some feared we were heading back to a monarchy

II. Washington's Cabinet

Secretary of the Treasury—Alexander Hamilton
(Federalist)



- Secretary of State—Thomas Jefferson
(responsible for foreign policy)
(Democratic-Republican)



Thomas Jefferson
1793

- Secretary of War—Henry Knox (military affairs)
- Attorney General—Edmund Randolph (chief lawyer in the US government)
- Postmaster General—Samuel Osgood—head of the U.S. Postal service
- ****President's cabinet is part of the Unwritten Constitution****

III. Establishment of the Court System

- Federal Judiciary Act of 1789: passed by Congress.
- 1. Created an independent federal court system with the Supreme Court and lower level courts.



IV. Hamilton vs. Jefferson

- A. Hamilton—strong central government led by wealthy, educated, upper class (Federalist Party)

(LOOSE CONSTRUCTION: the Constitution should be flexible to meet the needs of the country (Elastic Clause) – favored by Hamilton and Adams.)

1. Pay off the war debt

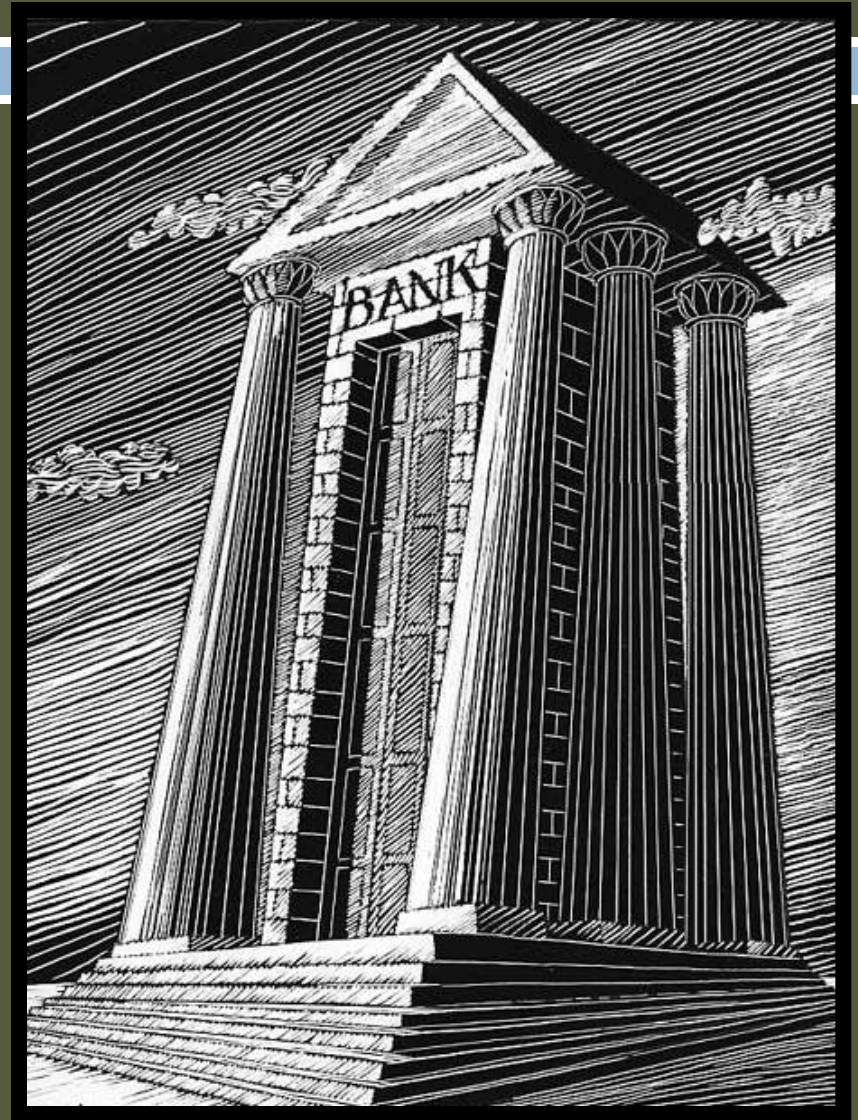
2. Raise the federal government's income through tariffs and taxes.

TARIFFS – a tax on imported goods.



3. Create a NATIONAL BANK:

- a. safe place to keep the government's money.
- b. can make loans to businesses.
- c. would issue paper currency.
- d. strengthen the federal government.



B. Jefferson—distrusted strong central government
(Democratic-Republican Party)

(STRICT CONSTRUCTION: only what the
Constitution clearly states – favored by
Jefferson and Madison.)

Will everyone agree with Hamilton?

Let's Rap Battle it out!!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bb1XJCZtdt8>

V. Major Events During Washington's Presidency

A. The Whiskey Rebellion (1794) PA farmers refused to pay whiskey tax until the American army enforces it. This upholds the power of the new federal government.



Domestic precedents (traditions) set by Washington

- Two-Term Tradition ---- Why??
- Establishment of Cabinet