



Founding a New Nation



Student Workbook

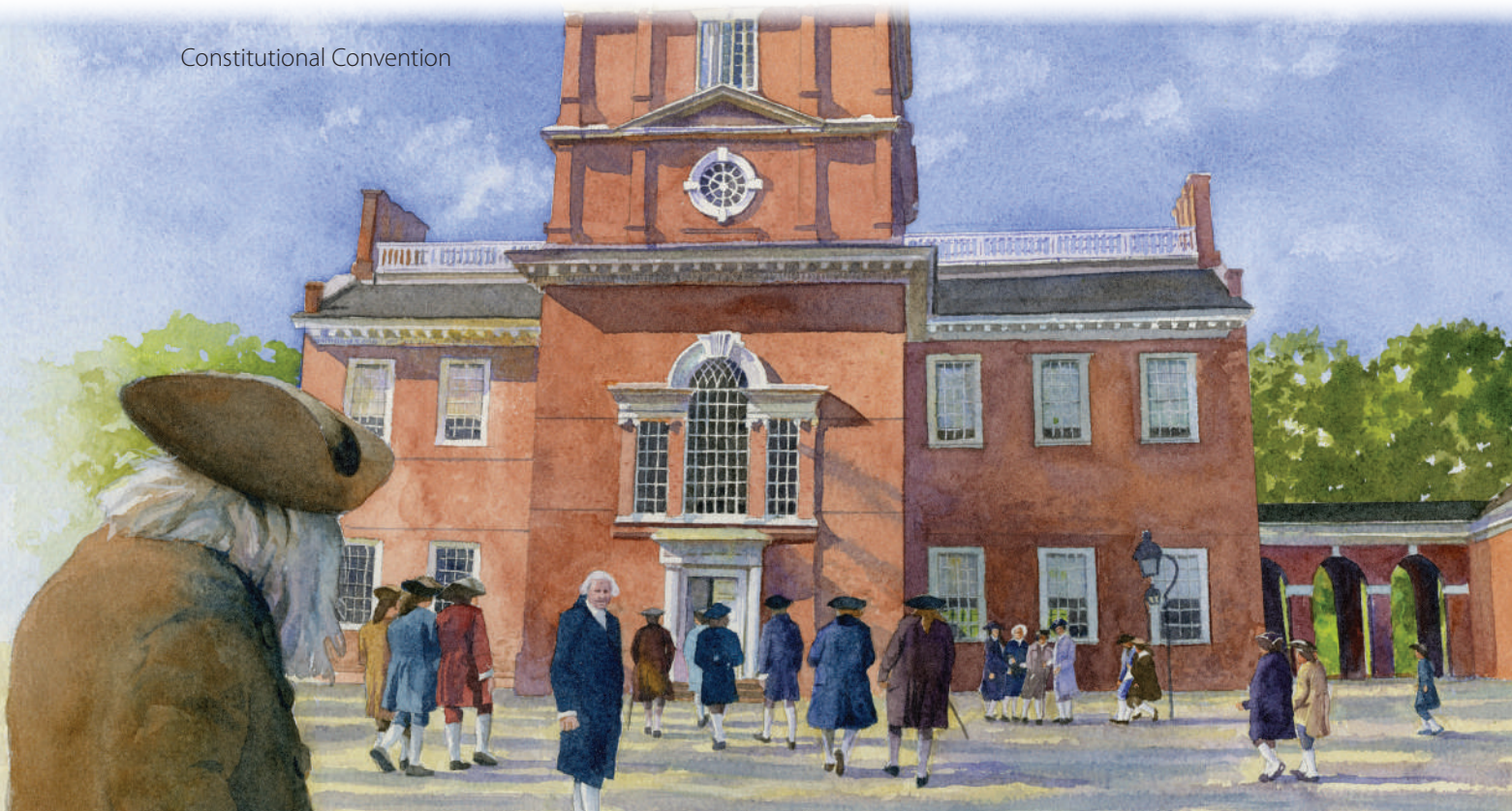
Elizabeth Freeman



Northwest Territory



Constitutional Convention



Founding a New Nation

Student Workbook



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Founding a New Nation

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Chapter 1: Early Challenges and the Articles of Confederation

Framing Question: What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?

Student Reading Notes

Use the information in your Student Reader to fill in the chart.

Section	Notes
Constitutions for the States	
Figuring Out How to Govern a Nation	

The Articles of Confederation	
Too Little Power	
The Northwest Ordinances	

Primary Sources

PRIMARY SOURCE A: FROM THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION (1777)

Article II. Each state keeps its sovereignty, freedom, and independence. Each state also keeps every power and right that is not by this confederation expressly given to the United States. . . .

Article IV. . . . The people of each state shall be free to travel to and from any other state. They shall be able to trade and conduct business and shall be subject to the taxes and laws of the state in which the trade or business occurs. . . .

Article V. For the easier management of the general interests of the United States, delegates shall be annually appointed by state legislatures to meet in Congress. . . .

Article VIII. All charges of war, and all other expenses for the common defense or general welfare, shall be paid out of a common treasury. The treasury will be supplied by the several states. . . .

Article IX. . . . Congress shall never engage in war, enter into any treaties or alliances, coin money, borrow money, raise taxes, decide on the number of vessels of war to be built or purchased, decide on the number of land or sea forces to be trained, or appoint a commander in chief of the army or navy unless nine states agree. . . .

Article XIII. . . . No change can be made to these articles unless the change is agreed to in a Congress of the United States and approved by the legislatures of every state.

Source: Adapted from Articles of Confederation; 3/1/1781; Miscellaneous Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774–1789; Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention, Record Group 360; National Archives Building, Washington, D.C.

Primary Source Analysis

<p>Describe the source.</p>	<p>Connect the source to what you know.</p>
<p>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</p>	<p>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</p>

SOURCE:

Primary Sources

PRIMARY SOURCE B: FROM THE VIRGINIA STATUTE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM (1786)

People in Virginia lacked religious freedom under British colonial rule. Protestants, especially Baptists and Presbyterians, were eager to see their rights protected after the United States became an independent country. Authored by Thomas Jefferson and adopted by the Virginia legislature in 1786, the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom was opposed by some who feared that the Anglican Church would struggle if disestablished and thereby denied support from taxes.

Be it enacted by General Assembly that no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, . . . or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief, but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of Religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge or affect their civil capacities. And though we well know that this Assembly elected by the people for the ordinary purposes of Legislation only, have no power to restrain the acts of succeeding Assemblies constituted with powers equal to our own, and that therefore to declare this act irrevocable would be of no effect in law; yet we are free to declare, and do declare that the rights hereby asserted, are of the natural rights of mankind, and that if any act shall be hereafter passed to repeal the present or to narrow its operation, such act will be an infringement of natural right.

Source: "Act for Establishing Religious Freedom, January 16, 1786," *Document Bank of Virginia*.

Primary Source Analysis

<p>Describe the source.</p>	<p>Connect the source to what you know.</p>
<p>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</p>	<p>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</p>

SOURCE:

Primary Sources

PRIMARY SOURCE C: FROM "WHAT IS AN AMERICAN?" BY J. HECTOR ST. JOHN DE CRÈVECOEUR

... What then is the American, this new man? He is either an European, or the descendant of an European, hence that strange mixture of blood, which you will find in no other country. I could point out to you a family whose grandfather was an Englishman, whose wife was Dutch, whose son married a French woman, and whose present four sons have now four wives of different nations. *He* is an American, who, leaving behind him all his ancient prejudices and manners, receives new ones from the new mode of life he has embraced, the new government he obeys, and the new rank he holds. ... Here individuals of all nations are melted into a new race of men, whose labours and posterity will one day cause great changes in the world. Americans are the western pilgrims, who are carrying along with them that great mass of arts, sciences, vigour, and industry which began long since in the east; they will finish the great circle. The Americans were once scattered all over Europe; here they are incorporated into one of the finest systems of population which has ever appeared, and which will hereafter become distinct by the power of the different climates they inhabit. The American ought therefore to love this country much better than that wherein either he or his forefathers were born. Here the rewards of his industry follow with equal steps the progress of his labour ... without any part being claimed, either by a despotic prince, a rich abbot, or a mighty lord. Here religion demands but little of him. ... The American is a new man, who acts upon new principles; he must therefore entertain new ideas, and form new opinions. From involuntary idleness, servile dependence, penury, and useless labour, he has passed to toils of a very different nature, rewarded by ample subsistence.—This is an American.

Source: Crèvecoeur, J. Hector St. John de. "Letter III: What Is an American?" In *Letters from an American Farmer*, edited by W. Barton Blake. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1926, pp. 43–44.

Primary Source Analysis

<p>Describe the source.</p>	<p>Connect the source to what you know.</p>
<p>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</p>	<p>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</p>

SOURCE:

PRIMARY SOURCE D: FROM THE MEMORIAL OF HANOVER PRESBYTERY (1776)

To the Honorable, the General Assembly of Virginia: . . .

In this enlightened age, and in a land where all of every denomination are united in the most strenuous efforts to be free, we hope and expect that our representatives will cheerfully concur in removing every species of religious as well as civil bondage. Certain it is, that every argument for civil liberty gains additional strength when applied to liberty in the concerns of religion; and there is no argument in favor of establishing the Christian religion but may be pleaded with equal propriety, for establishing the tenets of Mohammed by those who believe the Alcoran; or, if this be not true, it is at least impossible for the magistrate to adjudge the right of preference among the various sects that profess the Christian faith, without erecting a claim to infallibility, which would lead us back to the Church of Rome. . . .

We would also humbly represent, that the only proper objects of civil government are the happiness and protection of men in the present state of existence, the security of the life, liberty, and property of the citizens, and to restrain the vicious and encourage the virtuous by wholesome laws, equally extending to every individual: but that the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can only be directed by reason and conviction, and is nowhere cognizable but at the tribunal of the universal Judge.

Therefore we ask no ecclesiastical establishments for ourselves; neither can we approve of them when granted to others. This, indeed, would be giving exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges to one set of men, without any special public services, to the common reproach and injury of every other denomination. And for the reasons recited, we are induced earnestly to entreat that all laws now in force in this commonwealth, which countenance religious domination, may be speedily repealed; that all of every religious sect may be protected in the full exercise of their several modes of worship; exempted from all taxes for the support of any church whatsoever, farther than what may be agreeable to their own private choice or voluntary obligation. This being done, all partial and invidious distinction will be abolished, to the great honor and interest of the State, and every one be left to stand or fall according to his merit, which can never be the case so long as any one denomination is established in preference to the others.

Source: *The Religious Liberty Library*. No. 7, March 1893, pp. 10–12.

Primary Source Analysis

<p>Describe the source.</p>	<p>Connect the source to what you know.</p>
<p>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</p>	<p>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</p>

SOURCE:

PRIMARY SOURCE E: FROM THOMAS JEFFERSON'S *NOTES ON THE STATE OF VIRGINIA* (1785)

Many of the laws which were in force during the monarchy being relative merely to that form of government, or inculcating principles inconsistent with republicanism, the first assembly which met after the establishment of the commonwealth appointed a committee to revise the whole code, to reduce it into proper form and volume, and report it to the assembly. This work has been executed by three gentlemen, and reported; but probably will not be taken up till a restoration of peace shall leave to the legislature leisure to go through such a work.

The plan of the revisal was this. The common law of England, by which is meant, that part of the English law which was anterior to the date of the oldest statutes extant, is made the basis of the work. It was thought dangerous to attempt to reduce it to a text: it was therefore left to be collected from the usual monuments of it. Necessary alterations in that, and so much of the whole body of the British statutes, and of acts of assembly, as were thought proper to be retained, were digested into 126 new acts, in which simplicity of style was aimed at, as far as was safe. The following are the most remarkable alterations proposed:

To change the rules of descent, so as that the lands of any person dying intestate shall be divisible equally among all his children, or other representatives, in equal degree.

To make slaves distributable among the next of kin, as other moveables.

To have all public expenses, whether of the general treasury, or of a parish or county, (as for the maintenance of the poor, building bridges, court-houses, &c.) supplied by assessments on the citizens, in proportion to their property.

To hire undertakers for keeping the public roads in repair, and indemnify individuals through whose lands new roads shall be opened.

To define with precision the rules whereby aliens should become citizens, and citizens make themselves aliens.

To establish religious freedom on the broadest bottom.

To emancipate all slaves born after passing the act. The bill reported by the revisors does not itself contain this proposition; but an amendment containing it was prepared, to be offered to the legislature whenever the bill should be taken up, and further directing, that they should continue with their parents to a certain age, then be brought up at the public expense, to tillage, arts or sciences, according to their geniuses, till the females should be eighteen, and the males twenty-one years of age, when they should be colonized to such place as the circumstances of the time should render most proper, sending them out with arms, implements of household and the handicraft arts, seeds, pairs of the useful domestic animals, &c. to declare them a free and independent people, and extend to them our alliance and protection till they have acquired strength. . . . It will probably be asked, Why not retain and incorporate the blacks into the state . . . ? Deep rooted prejudices entertained by the whites; ten thousand recollections, by the blacks, of the injuries they have sustained; new provocations; the real distinctions which nature has made; and many other circumstances, will divide us into parties, and produce convulsions, which will probably never end but in the extermination of the one or the other race.

Source: Jefferson, Thomas. *Notes on the State of Virginia*. 8th American ed. Boston: Printed by David Carlisle for Thomas & Andrews, 1801, p. 202.

Primary Source Analysis

<p>Describe the source.</p>	<p>Connect the source to what you know.</p>
<p>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</p>	<p>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</p>

SOURCE:

PRIMARY SOURCE F: FROM THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE OF 1787

An Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States North-West of the River Ohio.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, That the said territory, for the purposes of temporary government, be one district; subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient. . . .

Sec. 3. Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a governor, whose commission shall continue in force for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in one thousand acres of land, while in the exercise of his office. . . .

Sec. 5. The governor and judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district, such laws of the original states, criminal and civil, as may be necessary, and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress, from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the general assembly therein, unless disapproved of by Congress; but afterwards the legislature shall have authority to alter them as they shall think fit.

Sec. 6. The governor for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of general officers; all general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress. . . .

Sec. 9. So soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants, of full age, in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the governor, they shall receive authority, with time and place, to elect representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the general assembly; provided that for every five hundred free male inhabitants there shall be one representative, and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five, after which the number and proportion of representatives shall be regulated by the legislature; provided that no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative, unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years, and in either case shall likewise hold in his own right, in fee simple, two hundred acres of land within the same:—Provided also, that a freehold in fifty acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the states, and being resident in the district; or the like freehold and two years residence in the district shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative. . . .

Sec. 14. It is hereby ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original states and the people and states in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to wit:

Art. 1. No person, demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments in the said territory.

Art. 2. The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus, and of the trial by jury. . . .

Art. 4. The said territory, and the states which may be formed therein, shall forever remain a part of this confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made; and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled. . . .

Art. 5. There shall be formed in the said territory, not less than three nor more than five states . . . and whenever any of the said states shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such state shall be admitted by its delegates into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original states in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and state government. . . .

Art. 6. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

Source: Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States North-West of the River Ohio. July 13, 1787. Miscellaneous Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774–1789; Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention, Record Group 360; National Archives Building, Washington, D.C.

Name _____ Date _____

Primary Source Analysis**Describe the source.****Connect the source to what you know.****SOURCE:****Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.****Draw a conclusion from or about the source.**

[illegible]

Chapter 2: The Constitutional Convention

Framing Question: Why is the Constitution considered a document of compromises?

Student Reading Notes

Use the information in your Student Reader to fill in the chart.

Section	Notes
To Amend or Replace?	
Alexander Hamilton	

Madison's Ideas	
The Constitutional Convention	
The Virginia Plan	

A Document of Compromises	
The Convention Completes Its Work	

Primary Sources

PRIMARY SOURCE G: FROM BENJAMIN BANNEKER'S LETTER TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, AUGUST 19, 1791

Sir, Suffer me to recall to your mind that time in which the Arms and tyranny of the British Crown were exerted with every powerful effort in order to reduce you to a State of Servitude, look back I intreat you on the variety of dangers to which you were exposed, reflect on that time in which every human aid appeared unavailable, and in which even hope and fortitude wore the aspect of inability to the Conflict, and you cannot but be led to a Serious and grateful Sense of your miraculous and providential preservation; you cannot but acknowledge, that the present freedom and tranquility which you enjoy you have mercifully received, and that it is the peculiar blessing of Heaven.

This Sir, was a time in which you clearly saw into the injustice of a State of Slavery, and in which you had just apprehensions of the horrors of its condition, it was now Sir, that your abhorrence thereof was so excited, that you publickly held forth this true and invaluable doctrine, which is worthy to be recorded and remember'd in all Succeeding ages. "We hold these truths to be Self evident, that all men are created equal, and that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happyness."

Source: "To Thomas Jefferson from Benjamin Banneker, 19 August 1791," Founders Online, National Archives.

Original source: *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*, vol. 22, 6 August 1791–31 December 1791, edited by Charles T. Cullen. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1986, pp. 49–54.

Name _____ Date _____

Primary Source Analysis

Describe the source.	Connect the source to what you know.

SOURCE:

Primary Sources

PRIMARY SOURCE H: EXCERPT FROM BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S SPEECH IN CONVENTION, SEPTEMBER 17, 1787

In September 1787, after nearly four months of compromise and debate, the Framers of the Constitution were ready to vote on the final document. Benjamin Franklin, a delegate from Pennsylvania, gave a simple but effective speech in favor of adopting the Constitution.

I doubt too whether any other Convention we can obtain, may be able to make a better Constitution. For when you assemble a number of men to have the advantage of their joint wisdom, you inevitably assemble with those men, all their prejudices, their passions, their errors of opinion, their local interests, and their selfish views. From such an assembly can a perfect production be expected? It therefore astonishes me, Sir, to find this system approaching so near to perfection as it does; and I think it will astonish our enemies, who are waiting with confidence to hear that our councils are confounded like those of the Builders of Babel; and that our States are on the point of separation, only to meet hereafter for the purpose of cutting one another's throats. Thus I consent, Sir, to this Constitution because I expect no better, and because I am not sure, that it is not the best. The opinions I have had of its errors, I sacrifice to the public good. I have never whispered a syllable of them abroad. Within these walls they were born, and here they shall die.

Source: Franklin, Benjamin. "Speech in Convention, September 17, 1787." In *The Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787 Which Framed the Constitution of the United States of America*, reported by James Madison, edited by Gaillard Hund and James Brown Scott. New York: Oxford University Press, 1920, p. 578.

Name _____ Date _____

Primary Source Analysis

Describe the source.	Connect the source to what you know.

SOURCE:

Chapter 2 Check for Understanding: Why is the Constitution considered a document of compromises?

[illegible]

Name _____

Date _____

Activity Page 2.1

Use with Chapter 2

Domain Vocabulary: Chapters 1–2

For each word or phrase, write the letter of the definition.

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|----|---|
| _____ 1. | provision | a) | relating to a system of government in which the national government shares power with other levels of government, such as the states; can also refer to national government |
| _____ 2. | assemble | b) | a sense or belief a person has that a certain action is right or wrong |
| _____ 3. | conscience | c) | an agreement reached when each side gives up some of what it wants to end a disagreement |
| _____ 4. | abolitionist | d) | to change or add to a law or document |
| _____ 5. | infringe | e) | an item in a legal document that states a condition or requirement |
| _____ 6. | compliance | f) | the act of doing what is expected or what is ordered by law |
| _____ 7. | federal | g) | to bring goods into one country from another |
| _____ 8. | precedence | h) | to intrude on someone's rights or possessions |
| _____ 9. | compromise | i) | priority, or first importance |
| _____ 10. | bicameral system | j) | a type of organization in which two related parts work together |
| _____ 11. | import | k) | to gather together |
| _____ 12. | amend | l) | a person who worked to end slavery during the 1700s and 1800s |

Name _____

Date _____

Performance Task Activity: *Founding a New Nation*

Prompt: In the first decade after independence, to what degree was the United States united?

Respond to the prompt with a well-organized essay in which you make a claim and support it with evidence from the unit readings and activities.

Use the Claims and Evidence Activity Page (AP 1.3) and the lines below to take notes and organize your thoughts. Remember to include details from the chapters and primary sources in *Founding a New Nation*, as well as from the sources and resources in the unit activities.

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal gray lines across its entire width, providing a guide for handwriting or typing. The background is a clean, solid white color.

Name _____

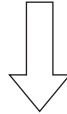
Date _____

Activity Page 1.3

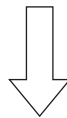
Use with Performance Task

Claims and Evidence

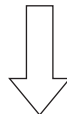
STATE THE CLAIM *What opinion or position are you defending?*



STATE THE REASON *Why should someone agree with this claim?*



IDENTIFY THE EVIDENCE *What details from the text and sources support the reason?*



RECOGNIZE A COUNTERCLAIM *What different opinion or position might someone have?
What argument might be used against you?*

ANSWER THE COUNTERCLAIM *How will you disprove the counterclaim?*

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"Gift of Thomas Jefferson Coolidge IV in memory of his greatgrandfather, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, his grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge II, and his father, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge III / National Gallery of Art": i

"Independence Hall and delegates, 2009 (w/c on paper), Wood, Rob (b.1946) / Private Collection / © Wood Ronsaville Harlin, Inc. USA / Bridgeman Images": Cover D

On 4th July, 1776, members of the Second Continental Congress leave Philadelphia's Independence Hall after adopting the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, from a 19th century print (colour litho), American School, (19th century) / Private Collection / Photo © Ken Welsh / Bridgeman Images: Cover A

Portrait of Elizabeth 'Mumbet' Freeman, 1811 (w/c on ivory)/Sedgwick, Susan Anne Livingston Ridley (fl.1811) / American/Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA, USA/ © Massachusetts Historical Society / Bridgeman Images: Cover B



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Colonial America

Colonial Louisiana

The Road to Independence

Founding a New Nation

The Government of the New Nation

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