

The First 4 American  
Presidents  
& one wannabe  
The Early Republic



# George Washington 1789-1796

## “Father of our Country”

Political Party: none... but essentially was a Federalist

VP: John Adams

### Domestic

Judiciary Act  
Bill of Rights  
National Bank  
Whiskey Rebellion  
11<sup>th</sup> Amendment

### Foreign

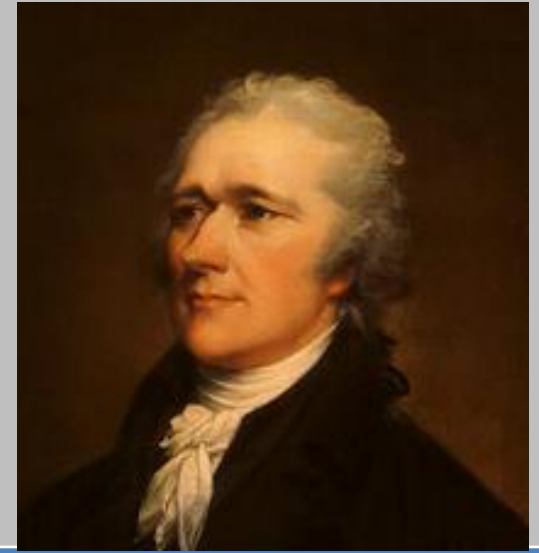
Peace Treaty with Creek Indians  
Battle of Fallen Timbers  
Neutrality in Anglo-French War  
Commissioned warships  
British & French attacks in Caribbean  
Barbary Pirates, Algiers  
Jay's Treaty  
Peace with Spain

### Precedents

2 terms  
Cabinet  
Separation between executive and legislative branches  
Presidents can dismiss staff without Congress

# Alexander Hamilton

“shoulda woulda coulda”



HE WAS NEVER PRESIDENT

Secretary of Treasury under George Washington

Leader of Federalist Party

## Domestic

Assumption (first bail-out)

First Bank of America

*National debt is good*

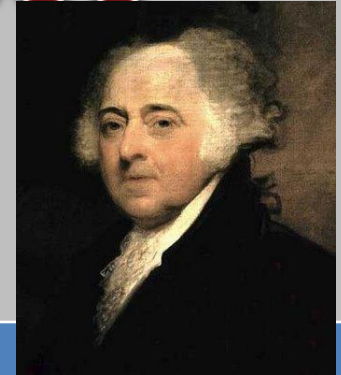
Functional Finance

## Foreign

Strengthened relationship with Great Britain

# John Adams 1796-1800

“Father of the American Navy”



Political Party: Federalist

Vice President: Thomas Jefferson (Republican)

## Domestic

### **Alien and Sedition Acts**

(Naturalization Act, Alien Act, Alien Enemies Act, Sedition Act)

### **Stamp Tax**

### **House Tax**

### **Frie's Rebellion**

### **Appointed John Marshall**

### **Judiciary Act 1801**

### **Midnight court packing**

### Precedent:

Receive oath of office from Chief Justice of Supreme Court

## Foreign

**Continued Neutrality but undeclared war with France on the seas (Quasi-War)**

**Increase size of military/navy**

**Marine Corps, Navy Dept**

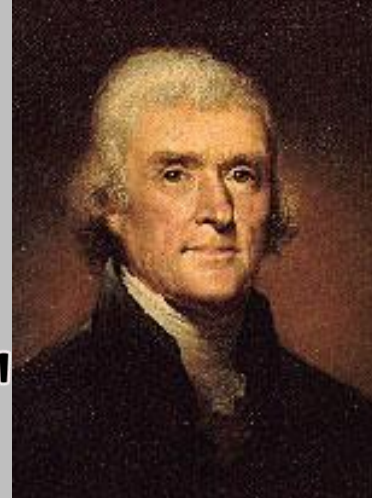
**XYZ Affair**

**Treaty of Mortefontaine with Napoleon ended 1778 alliance and America paid damages to shippers**

# Thomas Jefferson

## 1800-1808

"Man of the People"



Party: Republican

VPs: Aaron Burr &  
George Clinton

Sec.State:  
James Madison

### Domestic

Pardoned those arrested under Alien & Sedition Acts  
New Naturalization law 1802  
Repealed excise taxes  
Louisiana Purchase / Lewis and Clark  
Reduced size of military / Mosquito Fleet of Jeffs  
Reduced national debt and taxes  
Encouraged agriculture  
Repeal of Judiciary Act 1802  
*Marbury vs Madison*  
*12<sup>th</sup> Amendment*  
Aaron Burr tried for treason

### Foreign

Barbary Pirates /  
"Shores of Tripoli"  
British Impressments  
*Chesapeake*  
Embargo Act  
French seizing cargo  
Non-Intercourse Act

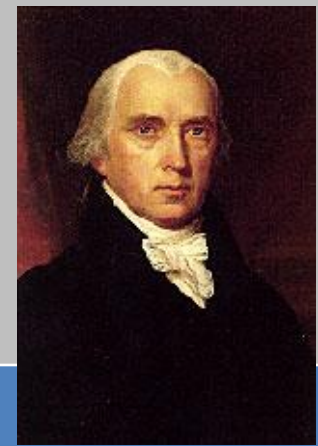
### Precedents:

Pell-Mell seating  
Presidential messages to Congress instead of personal appearances (ended with Wilson)  
Acquiring land and people by purchase

# James Madison 1808-1816

## “Father of the Constitution”

VP: George Clinton, Elbridge Gerry Political Party: Republican



### Domestic

Henry Clay ; speaker of the house  
and “war hawks”

*Fletcher vs Peck*

William Henry Harrison; governor of Indiana and the  
Battle of Tippecanoe

Tecumseh and the Battle of Thames

Andrew Jackson and the Battle of Horseshoe Bend

Old England and New England

Rechartering Bank of United States

Battle of Fort McHenry

Battle of New Orleans

Hartford Convention; Hartford Resolutions

Calhoun’s Bonus Bill vet

### Foreign

British Orders in Council

Macon’s Bill No.2

British Embargo

War of 1812

Invasion of Canada

Treaty of Ghent

### Precedents

Veto of Calhoun’s Bill set precedent  
that presidents should not support  
spending federal dollars on state  
improvements