Inventing the Presidency

George Washington &
the Expansion of Executive Authority

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ELEMENTS OF THE PRESIDENCY

- Social Interactions
- Relationship with Other Branches of Government
- Executive Branch Work Environment
George Washington’s Inauguration
April 30, 1789

George Washington’s Inauguration as the first President of the United States
Ramon de Elorriaga, Encyclopedia Britannica
SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

Open Houses
Levees
Drawing Rooms
State Dinners
A Man of the People
The President’s House

“Residence of Washington in High Street, Philada.”
3D Virtual Creations of
the President’s House
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History
The Past | The Promise
The Presidency
“Lady Washington’s Reception Day”
Daniel Huntington, Brooklyn Museum
A Man of the People

George Washington’s Coach Carriage
Mount Vernon
A Man of the People

Washington's Inauguration Suit
Donald W. Reynolds Museum, Mt. Vernon

Washington's Shoe Buckles
Donald W. Reynolds Museum, Mt. Vernon
RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Visit to the Senate
Neutrality Crisis
Whiskey Rebellion
Executive Privilege
Visit to the Senate

FEDERAL HALL, WALL STREET AND TRINITY CHURCH, NEW YORK, IN 1789.

FEDERAL HALL, New York 1789
Archibald Robertson, New York Historical Society
Proclamation of Neutrality

By Authority

By the President of the United States of America,
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it appears, that a War of War exists between Austria, Prussia, Sardinia, Great Britain, and the United States of America, and the United Netherlands, by the support and France on the one side, and the King of Prussia and the United States of America on the other, and the duty and interest of the United States require, that they should with firmness and good faith adopt and pursue a conduct friendly and impartial towards the belligerent powers:

I have therefore thought fit by these preserves to declare the belligerent of the United States to observe the conduct towards the belligerent powers respectively, and to respect and war the citizen of the United States, carefully to avoid all spite and proceedings whatsoever, which may in any manner tend to inconvenience those belligerents.

And I do hereby also make known, that whereas the citizens of the United States shall render assistance, militarily or otherwise, under the law of nation, by committing, aiding, or assisting in making different alliances, against any of the said powers, or carrying on any of the said articles, which are deemed contrary to the law of nations, and not receive the protection of the United States against such punishment or forfeiture; and further, that I have given instructions to each officer, to whom it belongs, to cause the proclamation to be expounded against all persons who shall, without the knowledge of the President of the United States, exceed the laws of nations, with respect to the powers at war with any of them.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed to this instrument, and signed the same, with my hand. Done at the City of Philadelpia, the twenty-second day of April, one thousand seven hundred and ninety three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and twenty.

By the President,
TH. JEFFERSON.

Washington Reviewing the Western Army, at Fort Cumberland, Maryland” attributed to Frederick Kemmelmeyer, c. 1795
Jay’s Treaty & Executive Privilege

“John Jay Burned in Effigy”
New York Public Library
EXECUTIVE BRANCH WORK
ENVIRONMENT

Article II, Section 2
Individual Conferences
First Cabinet Meeting
B Team
“...he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices...”
Individual Conferences
First Cabinet Meeting
November 26, 1791
B Team

2. “Oliver Wolcott, Jr.,” John Trumbull
PRECEDENETS

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