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*"Rummaging in the government's attic"*

Description of document: National Park Service (NPS) Photos of the Porcelain Tablets in the Hall of Records at Mount Rushmore, 1998, 1999

Requested date: 29-March-2023

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Source of document: FOIA Request  
National Park Service  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102  
Fax: 402-661-1737  
[Department of Interior FOIA Public Access Link \(PAL\)](#)  
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United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Interior Regions 3,4,5  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102

9.C. (MWR-FOIA)

April 18, 2023

Via Email

Reference: DOI-NPS-2023-003618

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on March 29, 2023 and received by the National Park Service (NPS) on March 29, 2023. The Department of the Interior (DOI) tracking number assigned to your request is DOI-NPS-2023-003618. Please cite this tracking number in all future communication with our office regarding your request.

In your request, you stated:

*I request an electronic copy of the photographs of the porcelain tablets in the Hall of Records at Mount Rushmore | Keystone, SD. EXPLANATION: The 60ft faces of presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln in Mount Rushmore is a popular tourist attraction, but behind Lincoln's head is a hidden repository for records. Inside at the entryway, a teakwood box has been placed inside a titanium vault that has been covered by a granite capstone. The repository contains 16 porcelain enamel tablets inscribed with information about Mount Rushmore, including why Mount Rushmore was carved, who carved it, the reasons behind the selection of the four presidents depicted, and a short history of the US.*

In this release we have attached 42 pages which are being released to you in their entirety.

We do not bill requesters for FOIA processing fees when their fees are less than \$50.00, because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. *See* [43 C.F.R. § 2.37\(g\)](#). Therefore, there is no billable fee for the processing of this request.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. *See* [5 U.S.C. 552\(c\)](#). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

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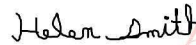
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Sincerely,



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12:55:36 -05'00'

Helen Smith  
Acting FOIA Officer  
National Park Service  
Interior Regions 3,4,5

Attachment

Includes the  
Complete Hall  
of Records  
Text

# MOUNT RUSHMORE'S HALL OF RECORDS

The little-known story of the memorial's sealed vault and its message for future civilizations

*By Paul Higbee*



# MOUNT RUSHMORE'S HALL OF RECORDS

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*By Paul Higbee*



A publication of the  
Mount Rushmore History Association  
P.O. Box 208  
Keystone, South Dakota 57751

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This booklet was expanded from an article by Paul Higbee originally published in *South Dakota Magazine*.

The Hall of Records project was completed in 1998, thanks to the efforts of these Hall of Records Committee members: James Borglum, Mary Ellis Borglum Vhay, Robin Borglum Carter, William A. Burkett, William C. Burkett, Hobart Gates, Tom Griffith, Rubye Klay, Dale Claude Lamphere, Lois Saunders, Arthur J. Smith, Rex Alan Smith, Wanda Smith, Kay Steuerwald, Major General William Stofft, James Swan, Jane Case Williams, June Culp Zeitner, and Ruth Ziolkowski. Making up the project task force were Bob Demersseman, Jim Mirehouse, Paul Reinke, and Richard Wahlstrom. Invaluable through the entire process were Gordon Brownlee, Carolyn Mollers, Jim Popovich, and Dan Wenk.

Mostly mountain goats visit Mount Rushmore's high, secluded Hall of Records.

But a future civilization is the intended audience. Sealed inside the chamber are records of American history and of Rushmore's creation. The hall sits 400 feet above the memorial's public viewing areas, out of sight in a shallow, granite-walled canyon immediately behind the four presidential heads. Completed in 1998 after 60 years, the hall represents the last carving at Rushmore.

In 1938, before the four presidents were completed, Rushmore sculptor Gutzon Borglum began cutting what became an 80-foot tunnel into the canyon wall. The tunnel ran away from, not toward, the emerging Rushmore sculpture, and Borglum envisioned it leading to a great room. "Into this room the records of what our people aspired to and what they have accomplished should be collected and preserved," said Borglum, referring to the American people, "and on the walls of this room should be cut the literal record of the conception of our republic, its successful creation, the record of its westward movement to the Pacific, its presidents, how the memorial was built and, frankly, why."

People of the distant future, the sculptor believed, could very well be awed by the great heads yet clueless as to who or what the figures represent. Said Borglum, "You might as well drop a letter into the world's postal service without an address or signature, as to send that carved mountain into history without identification."

The year 1998 would have seemed like the distant future to Gutzon Borglum, who between 1927 and 1941 led nearly 400 workers in carving the likenesses of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln upon Mount Rushmore. Credit for finishing the hall in its final form, 57 years after work ceased on the rest of the memorial, goes to the sculptor's family, the National Park Service, and a handful of other Rushmore friends who kept



Gutzon  
Borglum,  
1934



Borglum's vision alive across the decades. The hall, these people knew, wouldn't be completed in the grand manner Borglum planned, but would nonetheless carry the identification the sculptor considered so vital. The 1998 work also left Borglum's 1938-39 tunnel, a fine example of his carving technique, largely unaltered. On August 9, 1998, 16 porcelain panels were placed into a teakwood box in the tunnel's floor. Designed with text and pictures, the panels reproduce the Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution, and include biographies of the four Rushmore presidents, as well as a biography of Gutzon Borglum and technical and interpretive descriptions of the mountain memorial.

The first Hall of Records Borglum envisioned was to have been part of his mountain carving honoring the Confederacy, at Stone Mountain, Georgia. Memorial Hall, to be quarried out of the solid granite of the mountain, would also have housed a memorial to the Confederacy's women and a Founder's Roll, listing financial contributors who made the giant sculpture possible. But Borglum didn't complete the Stone Mountain sculpture, let alone Memorial Hall. He angrily left the project after a dispute with some of the very men he previously believed deserving of immortalization on the Founder's Roll. Later, other carvers completed the Georgia sculpture, but not Memorial Hall.





**B**y 1927, Borglum, 60 years old, had relocated 1,500 miles northwest and was blasting George Washington's likeness from South Dakota granite. Several years passed before he mentioned a Rushmore version of Memorial Hall. Here, as a record of the sculpture's meaning, Borglum planned an 80-by-120 foot entablature carved into the mountainside, with a 500-word text that would recount the nation's birth and early history. In 1930, former President Calvin Coolidge wrote a history for the mountain, but relations between him and Borglum turned sour when the sculptor said the text required editing.

With Coolidge's writing dropped from the plans, a national essay contest sponsored by the Hearst newspaper chain drew 847,605 texts by writers from coast to coast. John Edward Bradley won the competition in 1935, but by that time the entablature looked unlikely, primarily because of a short supply of quality granite. Borglum's first attempted carving of Thomas Jefferson, to the viewer's left of Washington, ran into poor stone. That half-formed Jefferson was blasted away, and the sculpture's redesign meant all new figures would go to the right of Washington, leaving little room for even a cursory text.

About 1934, Gutzon Borglum resurrected his idea of a hall cut into a mountain. There had been talk before of a museum on the Rushmore grounds, but in a letter to South Dakota's Senator Peter Norbeck, in 1935, the sculptor signaled his intention of putting the museum inside the mountain.

"I'd very much like to start and get most of the rough stone cut out of the mountain where we would carve the museum," Borglum wrote. "I could roof over the wall inexpensively and go into that cliff, get the stone moved down out of the way and have the project itself in such condition that four to six men could be carrying on through summer and get that great museum pretty well complete."

Sometimes Borglum spoke of a Hall of Records visitors could enter, and sometimes he described it as sealed, yet with a means for visitors to see inside. Either way, he wanted people to climb to the hall via "a great stairway of stone cut from the local rock on the east facade." There's evidence Hollywood may have inspired the stairway idea, according to Jim Popovich, Chief of

Interpretation at Mount Rushmore. The sculptor found a 1935 fantasy movie called “She” intriguing.

“Borglum commented that he and Senator Norbeck, who secured much of the federal money appropriated for the memorial, watched ‘She’ several times,” said Popovich. “In the movie there’s a stairway to the heavens.”

No work was ever done on the stairway, and today National Park Service maintenance crews and others who make the climb to the heads and Hall of Records, up a steep pathway and a set of ladder-like stairs, can’t imagine public access.

The first many Americans heard of the Hall of Records was in 1936, when Borglum spoke of it during the dedication of Rushmore’s Jefferson sculpture before an audience that included President Franklin Roosevelt. Work began on the hall two years later after the sculptor emerged from a fight with the National Park Service and the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Commission with more authority than he previously held. Borglum could direct work as he saw fit. And he saw fit to tackle his hall.

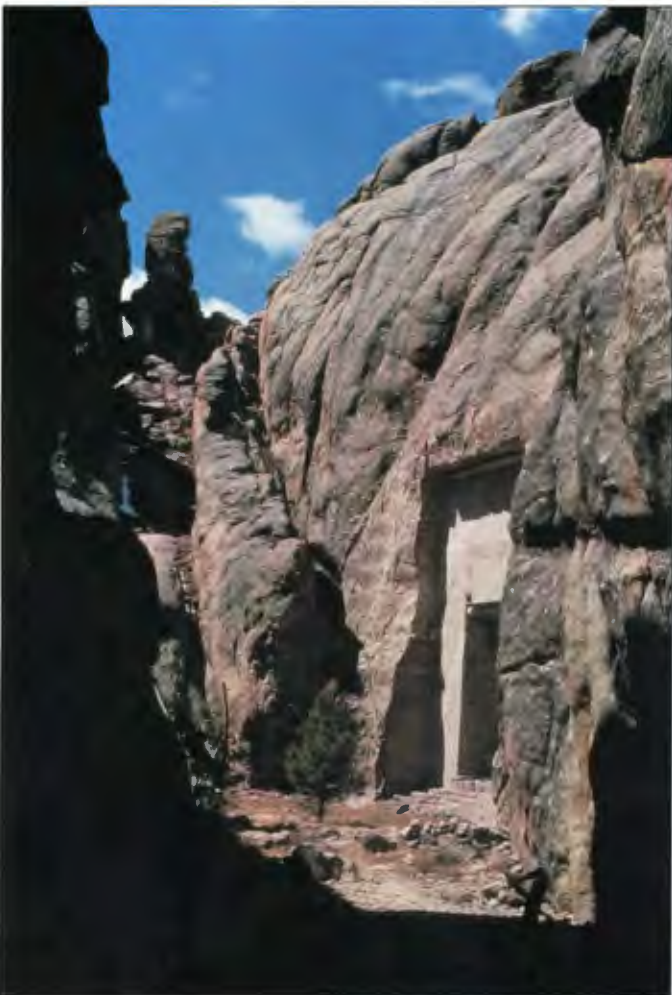
“July 13, I broke the wall of the Mountain where I am cutting the Hall of Records,” he wrote. Within weeks newspapers were telling readers the hall’s interior would feature a bas-relief representation of civilization’s march, and that priceless records would be sealed in cabinets which only an act of Congress could open. In fact, Borglum talked of putting the original Declaration of Independence and Constitution inside Mount Rushmore. Did he really believe that to be a possibility?

“I think he did,” said Popovich. “I think he felt this was a very secure place, a mountain of granite, and he believed Congress would see it that way, too.”

Borglum’s crew found delving into the mountain’s inside difficult and dusty. They inhaled lots of grit. “The granite is very hard—harder than the stone in the great heads...” the sculptor wrote to a mining machinery company in 1938. “It requires a little more labor, and the tools do not last as long.”

*Early Hall of  
Records work*





*Hall of  
Records Entrance*

Tough granite wasn't the only resistance Borglum encountered. He and federal officials disagreed over how appropriated funding should be directed. The Treasury and Interior departments believed federal dollars granted to Rushmore should be used first to finish the four presidents. Then, money left over could go to the hall.

“Senator Norbeck was wholly responsible for introducing it years ago into an act of Congress as a museum,” Borglum argued in response. “It is a part of the law to complete the hall.”

But with the threat of a world war looming, which meant federal funds could vanish at any time, even Borglum's most loyal supporters urged him to concentrate on the presidents. Completed presidents and an unfinished hall, they told Borglum, were preferable to all elements being left incomplete.

So, after spending \$16,000 on it, Borglum stopped cutting the hall in July, 1939, a year after he began. Still, there seemed no doubt in his mind work would one day resume. That same summer he took a public shot at a much-publicized time capsule sealed at the New York World's Fair. Unlike his own letter to the future in South Dakota, he said, the New York effort felt small, its content “too brief to be of consequence to a future generation as a record of our time.”

By contrast, Borglum's Hall of Records plans grew bigger with time. He talked about the Declaration of Independence text cut into granite in three languages, a bronze and lapis blue mosaic entrance, 25 busts of storied Americans, and messages to posterity from great citizens, including Calvin Coolidge. Coolidge, who dedicated Rushmore at the carving's commencement, had died, and Borglum apparently held no grudge over the entablature flap.

For those interested in structural detail, Borglum could produce plans he drew in 1936. His son, Lincoln Borglum, later created a full-dimensional model which can be seen today in the sculptor's studio on the Rushmore grounds. It shows a domed inner room and indicates the actual hall would have had a doorway 12 feet wide and 20 feet high, an entrance hall 28 feet long, and a main room 100 feet long, 80 feet wide, and 35 feet high.

That, at any rate, was Gutzon Borglum's vision at one point. By 1941, the hall on the mountain hadn't expanded an inch, but the one in Borglum's head certainly had.

"There will probably be two large rooms adjoining this first room," he wrote Rose Arnold Powell of Minneapolis, "and then I am making provision in my design for another floor, just below this one, down into the heart of the mountain, where we may have five or six more rooms." Those rooms would showcase the wonders of electricity, American literature, immigration, religions, government—and women.



*Lincoln Borglum*



Rose Arnold Powell was a leading feminist, and Borglum sometimes heard criticism about not carving a woman, like Susan B. Anthony, on Rushmore. “It has been my thought that there would be statues of at least three of our women,” his letter said, “and there will be no question...of a secondary place.”

But just two months after writing that letter, Gutzon Borglum died unexpectedly at age 74, on March 6, 1941. The National Park Service director at that time, Newton B. Drury, said Borglum’s death “stayed the hand of the artist and the work is finished.”

But did that mean only the artistic work of sculpting the presidents, with the interpretive Hall of Records standing in a separate category? Son Lincoln Borglum supervised finishing touches on the heads, shutting down that work on October 31, 1941. But he made it clear he hoped the Hall of Records effort would be revived. Then, in December, the United States was drawn into World War II and federal funding for creating granite presidents and mountain halls disappeared.

Lincoln Borglum served as Rushmore superintendent until 1945. After Franklin Roosevelt’s death that year, Lincoln floated the idea of completing the excavation as Roosevelt Memorial Hall, housing records documenting the late president’s era and legacy. The idea went nowhere.

Occasionally, over the next few years, people mentioned using the hall as a tomb for Gutzon Borglum, interred in California, but his family had no interest in that at all. For half a century, the excavation served as a makeshift storage area, a place crews doing annual autumn maintenance on the sculpture might stash their gear, among compressed-air pipes left over from the carving years.

South Dakota Senator Francis Case tried to revive interest in the hall from time to time, until about 1960. But the Borglums themselves remained the chief advocates, even when their lives took them far from the mountain.

“As long as I live I shall continue the fight to finish my husband’s work,” wrote Gutzon Borglum’s widow, Mary, in 1953.

Recalled Lincoln Borglum’s daughter, Robin Borglum Carter, “I don’t think there was a year, beginning in 1941, when Dad didn’t mention the hall in speeches, and in letters to potential donors. And he talked to each new superintendent at Rushmore about finishing it.”

Lincoln was adamant about the need for the hall, saying without it “the memorial will become a riddle to people a few thousand years from now.”

But Jim Popovich has observed, “I think people sometimes looked at the grand scheme and asked, ‘What can we do?’ ” Mary Ellis Borglum Vhay, the younger of Gutzon Borglum’s two children, agreed with Popovich. “That’s what happened at Rushmore from the very beginning,” she recalled. “People couldn’t imagine doing things that big.” Mary Ellis, after her brother Lincoln’s

1986 death, said she realized, “I was the end of the road as far as the family getting it done.” In the late 1980s, at age 70 and blessed with a streak of determination not unlike her father’s, Mary Ellis began a push to complete the hall in some form.

To her delight, she found an ally in



*Mary Ellis  
Borglum Vhay*





*Driller Brad Johnson  
begins cutting the  
vault*

Rushmore Superintendent Dan Wenk. He believed a small portion of the \$56 million being raised by the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society, primarily for redeveloping visitors' facilities during the 1990s, could go toward the Hall of Records. As a National Park Service employee, Wenk was responsible for making certain anything that happened fit within a 1980 general management plan, which likened the hall to "a sort of unfinished symphony," and predicted it would remain that way. Nonetheless, the plan left the door slightly ajar for composing a coda, providing any Hall of Records work would be done without federal funding, on a reduced scale, and in the same location as the 1938-39 excavation.

A Hall of Records Committee formed, chaired originally by Mary Ellis. The committee and the National Park Service had lots to consider: design, content, an environmental assessment, and the need to maintain

the historical appearance of the original excavation. The Hall of Records tunnel had been placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986, and a commitment to preserve it as Gutzon Borglum left it meant dropping plans for completing an inner room. Instead, the planners focused on a message that could be left in a small chamber—26 inches long, 16 inches wide, 4 feet deep—cut into the tunnel's floor near its entrance.

A Rapid City engineering firm, RESPEC, determined the site to be of good, solid granite where water retention wouldn't be a problem. On June 22, 1998, the first Mount Rushmore drilling in 57 years began. Brad Johnson, who spent several years drilling on the Crazy Horse mountain sculpture, used a hand-held, 53-pound pneumatic drill. A compressor was set up below, along South Dakota Highway 244 near the spot where the Washington head can be viewed in profile, and about 800 feet of hose snaked up the mountain. Johnson, working alone, used a drilling technique that Rushmore's original carvers knew well. Called honeycombing, the technique has the driller

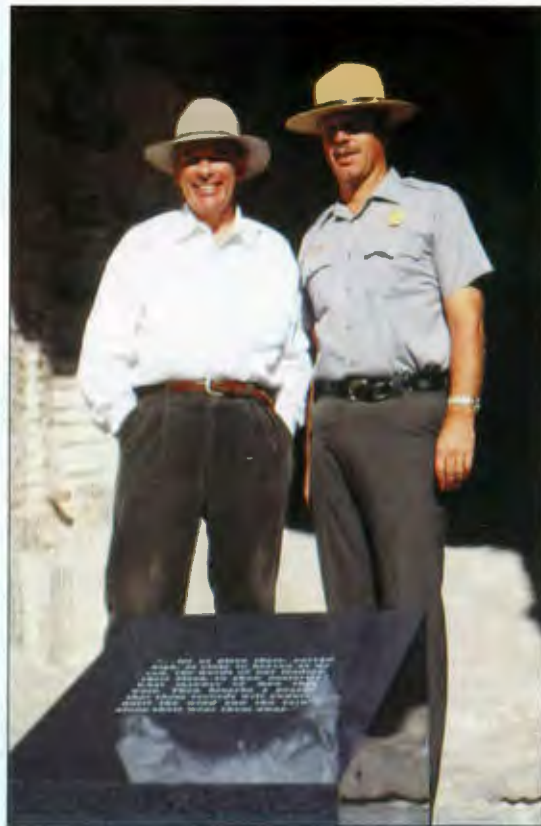
sink a series of holes close together—so the rock looks like honeycomb—and then chisel the granite between the holes away. Unlike the original Rushmore work, no explosives were used in 1998.

The National Park Service took the lead in writing the Hall of Records text, reproduced in this booklet, and seeing it etched onto 16 durable, porcelain enamel panels. Porcelain enamel may seem like a modern material, but it is believed to have originated in ancient Egypt, where Cleopatra perhaps wore porcelain jewelry. It is created when partly fused frit glass is permanently fused to metal, at more than 1,100 degrees F. “There was nothing special about the number 16,” said Jim Popovich of the panels, created by a Georgetown, Ontario, company. “That’s just how many panels it took to include everything.”

Except for the panels, the vault and all elements placed inside were designed by architect Ron Mason of Denver’s Anderson Mason Dale firm. Mason worked closely with the Borglum family and the National Park Service, and also studied Gutzon Borglum’s thinking about the hall. It was decided, Mason said, that the vault “should be celebrated and marked in some way, and we agreed an understated granite marker would be best, designed with the same type of integrity Gutzon Borglum brought to the mountain.” Dark granite from Cold Spring, Minnesota, was shaped into a capstone.

The vault was lined with titanium, a tough and low-corrosion metal used for supersonic aircraft parts. Teakwood—a wood native to India and southeast Asia and known for its extraordinary resistance to rot—was selected for the box that holds the panels. Crafted for Gutzon Borglum’s grandson, James Borglum, by Randy and Julie Sahli of Colorado, the box was slotted so the panels could be slipped inside during the placement ceremony.

Everything cost about \$250,000, and stood ready on August 9. That warm, sunny day saw 119 people, the most ever to climb Mount Rushmore at one time, tackle the steep trail to the hall.



*Ron Mason, Hall of Records architect, with Dan Wenk, Mount Rushmore National Memorial Superintendent*

Ron Mason ↑  
Project Architect

NOT  
Hall of Records Architect

Gutzon Borglum =  
“architect”  
of Hall of Records

*Teakwood box in its  
titanium casing*



Included were four generations of the Borglum family. They, along with National Park Service officials and project workers, took turns sliding the panels into the box.

“Most of us don’t ever get a chance to be part of something permanent,” said Robin Borglum Carter, who commuted from Texas to be one of the Hall of Records Committee’s hardest workers. “I feel like I made a little contribution to Mount Rushmore.”



The ceremony concluded with eight National Park Service employees lifting the 1,200-pound capstone into place, where it will likely remain for thousands of years. That act of finality, and seeing the striking, black granite glisten in the sunlight, was an emotional moment for many present. But even more moving for Mary Ellis Borglum Vhay was hearing the capstone's inscription read. The words were originally spoken by her father in 1930, when the Washington figure was dedicated:

"...let us place there, carved high, as close to heaven as we can, the words of our leaders, their faces, to show posterity what manner of men they were. Then breathe a prayer that these records will endure until the wind and rain alone shall wear them away."

*Dan Wenk and Connie Popovich slide one of the 16 porcelain enamel panels into place. Looking on are, left, Mary Ellis Borglum Vhay and James Borglum, and right, Jim Popovich.*

# The Records

Following is the text sealed in the Hall of Records vault August 9, 1998:

## MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL

Images of four United States Presidents were carved into a mountain called "Mount Rushmore" by sculptor Gutzon Borglum and almost 400 workmen who labored from 1927 through 1941.

Entombed here in southwestern South Dakota in the year 1998 are records of why and how this mountain was carved. Also included are important documents related to the history and growth of the United States of America in relation to these four presidents.

Borglum once wrote:

"We believe the dimensions of national heartbeats are greater than village impulses, greater than state dreams or ambitions. Therefore we believe a nation's memorial should, like Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt, have a serenity, a nobility, a power that reflects the gods who inspired them and suggests the gods they have become.

"As for sculptured mountains - Civilization, even its fine arts, is, most of it, quantity-produced stuff: education, law, government, wealth - each is enduring only as the day. Too little of it lasts into tomorrow and tomorrow is strangely the enemy of today, as today has already begun to forget buried yesterday. Each succeeding civilization forgets its predecessor, and out of its body builds its homes, its temples. Civilizations are ghouls. Egypt was pulled apart by its successor; Greece was divided among the Romans; Rome was pulled to pieces by bigotry and bitterness much of which was engendered in its own empire building.

"I want, somewhere in America, on or near the Rockies, the backbone of the Continent, so far removed from succeeding, selfish, coveting civilizations, a few feet of stone that bears witness, carries the likeness, the dates, a word or two of the great things we accomplished as a Nation, placed so high it won't pay to pull them down for lesser purposes.

"Hence, let us place there, carved high, as close to heaven as we can, the words of our leaders, their faces, to show posterity what manner of men they were. Then breathe a prayer that these records will endure until the wind and rain alone shall wear them away."

*Written in 1930 as a foreword for the first edition of a booklet on the memorial.*

## GEORGE WASHINGTON (1732 - 1799) FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1789 - 1797)

The United States fought the Revolutionary War, 1775 - 1781, to gain independence from Great Britain. Following the war, the three million people who lived in the United States felt it was necessary to frame a constitution that would specifically limit the powers that the federal government would be able to exercise over its citizens. George Washington, a delegate from Virginia to the Constitutional Convention, was elected to preside over the debates that brought forth the Constitution of the United States.

Following the signing of the Constitution, many citizens felt that it did not guarantee personal liberty and property rights for all people so the first Congress created the first 10 amendments called the Bill of Rights. Through 1997, a total of 27 amendments had been added to the Constitution.

## TEXT OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

### Article. 1.

*Section. 1.* All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

*Section. 2.* The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free

Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall Not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

*Section. 3.* The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

*Section. 4.* The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

*Section. 5.* Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

*Section. 6.* The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the

United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

*Section. 7.* All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

*Section. 8.* The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States:

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To Promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the state in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts,

Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings;—And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

*Section. 9.* The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States; And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

*Section. 10.* No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Controul of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

#### *Article. II.*

*Section. 1.* The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows:

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

*Section. 2.* The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; 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, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

*Section. 3.* He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

*Section. 4.* The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

### *Article. III.*

*Section. 1.* The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

*Section. 2.* The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;—to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;—to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;—to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;—to Controversies between two or more States;—between a State and Citizens of another State;—between Citizens of different States;—between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court, shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury;

and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

*Section. 3.* Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attained.

### *Article. IV.*

*Section. 1.* Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

*Section. 2.* The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

*Section. 3.* New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

*Section. 4.* The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

### *Article. V.*

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

### *Article. VI.*

All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

### *Article. VII.*

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the

Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

Done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth.

IN WITNESS whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Articles in addition to, and Amendment of, the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the Original Constitution.

### THE TEN ORIGINAL AMENDMENTS

The first ten amendments to the Constitution were proposed by Congress Sept. 25, 1789, and became effective Dec. 15, 1791. Together they are known as the Bill of Rights, though only the first eight amendments guarantee individuals specific rights and liberties.

#### Amendment 1

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

#### Amendment 2

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

#### Amendment 3

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

#### Amendment 4

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

#### Amendment 5

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

#### Amendment 6

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

#### Amendment 7

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

#### Amendment 8

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

#### Amendment 9

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

#### Amendment 10

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

THOMAS JEFFERSON (1743 - 1826)

THIRD PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1801 - 1809)

On July 4, 1776, members of the newly formed government of the United States declared the colonies to be "free and independent states." Thomas Jefferson was chosen to draft one of history's greatest documents, the Declaration of Independence.

Jefferson later became the third president of the United States. In 1803, he expanded America by purchasing from France a vast tract of land known as the Louisiana Territory. This transaction doubled the size of the United States.

### TEXT OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

*"This text follows exactly the spelling and punctuation of the original document.*

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WHEN in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. ~ We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. ~ That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, ~ That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. ~ Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. ~ He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. ~ He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. ~ He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. ~ He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. ~ He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. ~ He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within. ~ He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. ~ He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers. ~ He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. ~ He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance. ~ He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures. ~ He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. ~ He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: ~ For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: ~ For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: ~ For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: ~ For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: ~ For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury: ~ For



transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: ~ For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: ~ For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: ~ For suspending our own Legislatures and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. ~ He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. ~ He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. ~ He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. ~ He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands. ~ He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. ~

WE, THEREFORE, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. ~ And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

**(CONNECTICUT)**

Roger Sherman  
Samuel Huntington  
William Williams  
Oliver Wolcott

**(NEW HAMPSHIRE)**

Josiah Bartlett  
William Whipple  
Matthew Thornton

**(PENNSYLVANIA)**

Robert Morris  
Benjamin Rush  
Benjamin Franklin  
John Morton

**(DELAWARE)**

Caesar Rodney  
George Read  
Thomas McKean

**(NEW JERSEY)**

Richard Stockton  
John Witherspoon  
Francis Hopkinson  
John Hart  
Abraham Clark

**(GEORGIA)**

Button Gwinnett  
Lyman Hall  
George Walton

George Clymer  
James Smith  
George Taylor  
James Wilson  
George Ross

**(MARYLAND)**

Samuel Chase  
William Paca  
Thomas Stone  
Charles Carroll of  
Carrollton

**(NEW YORK)**

William Floyd  
Philip Livingston  
Francis Lewis  
Lewis Morris

**(RHODE ISLAND)**

Stephen Hopkins  
William Ellery

**(NORTH CAROLINA)**

William Hooper  
Joseph Hewes  
John Penn

**(SOUTH CAROLINA)**

Edward Rutledge  
Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
Thomas Lynch, Jr.  
Arthur Middleton

**(MASSACHUSETTS)**

John Hancock  
Samuel Adams  
John Adams  
Robert Treat Paivre  
Elbridge Gerry

**(VIRGINIA)**

George Wythe  
Richard Henry Lee  
Thomas Jefferson  
Benjamin Harrison  
Thomas Nelson, Jr.  
Francis Lightfoot Lee  
Carter Braxton

The names of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence are listed under the names of the states they represented. John Hancock, then president of the Congress, signed on July 4. Most of the others signed on August 2.

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**ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1809 - 1865)**

**SIXTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1861 - 1865)**

In 1861, the American Civil War, also known as the War Between the States, erupted. The war pitted the Union of 23 northern and western states supporting the Federal government under President Lincoln against 11 southern states which had withdrawn from the Union. The southern states formed an independent government called the Confederate States of America. The war raged for four years, consuming the entire presidency of Abraham Lincoln.

In July, 1863, the Union army defeated the Confederate forces at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. On November 19, 1863, the battlefield was dedicated as a national cemetery. President Lincoln was invited to make a few appropriate remarks. In less than three minutes, Lincoln captured the central idea of the occasion in a speech simply known as the Gettysburg Address.

**TEXT OF THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS**

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But in a larger sense, we can not dedicate — we can not consecrate — we can not hallow — this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us — that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion — that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth."

**THEODORE ROOSEVELT (1858 - 1919)**

**TWENTY-SIXTH PRESIDENT**

**OF THE UNITED STATES**

(1901 - 1909)

President Roosevelt provided support to complete the 51-mile-long Panama Canal which links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. When finally completed on August 15, 1914, the canal was the greatest engineering wonder of the world. This great triumph over nature has been a major influence on world trade.

Theodore Roosevelt did more than any other president to save the natural resources of the United States. He established national parks and more than 125 million acres of national forests. Roosevelt stated:

"I believe that the natural resources must be used for the benefit of all of our people and not monopolized for the benefit of the few.

"I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land; but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us."

Quote by Theodore Roosevelt  
Osawatimie, Kansas, August 31, 1910

**HOW THE MEMORIAL WAS COMPLETED**

From the initial idea in 1923 to the present, the story of Mount Rushmore is a tale full of high hopes, bitter frustration, battling egos, fascinating characters, hard work and triumphant celebrations. South Dakota historian Doane Robinson's idea of a mountain carving to bring tourists to the Black Hills was met with skepticism and criticism. There was also a good deal of enthusiasm.

Sculptor Gutzon Borglum transformed Robinson's vision into a memorial to the ideals of democracy. It was thought the project could be completed in five years for 500,000 dollars. Fourteen years and one million dollars later, carving ended with the death of a visionary and the onset of world war.

In 1923 no one could have foreseen the struggle that lay ahead. Perhaps it is well they did not, for it is unlikely they would have pursued their dream. Their creation became more than a tourist attraction. It is a national symbol. Today, millions of people come to the Black Hills to see the result of that dream, Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

Originally, Robinson envisioned gigantic carvings in the Black Hills of great western heroes. Robinson believed such a spectacular attraction would bring tourists to the area and boost the state's economy. He invited Borglum, a noted sculptor of monumental statues, to give his opinion as to whether such a thing could be done. Borglum enthusiastically confirmed that it could and that he was precisely the man to do it. Robinson then had to win over the skeptical citizens of South Dakota and other critics. With the help of U.S. Senator Peter Norbeck, Congressman William Williamson and Rapid City businessman John Boland, Robinson was able to mobilize support to realize his dream.

Robinson's idea was to carve the likenesses of heroes such as explorers Lewis and Clark, Indian leader Red Cloud or Wild West celebrity Buffalo Bill Cody. The Lakota, who had roamed the surrounding Great Plains during the last century, consider the Paha Sapa or Black Hills sacred because of their natural beauty, abundance of wildlife and spiritual qualities. The influx of miners in 1874 did little to alter these scenic qualities. Fifty years later Robinson believed that these characteristics would attract tourists. But he felt there needed to be something monumental to draw them there in the first place.

Robinson initially contacted sculptor Loredto Taft, but Taft was unavailable, so the historian wrote to Borglum in August, 1924. Borglum was directing a colossal carving commemorating the Confederacy at Stone Mountain in Georgia. The idea of creating a northern memorial gripped Borglum's imagination immediately. He enthusiastically responded, saying he would come to the Black Hills to evaluate the possibility of mountain carving there. He visited South Dakota in September, 1924, and returned in August, 1925, with his 12-year-old son, Lincoln, to search for a suitable cliff. Upon seeing the Needles area near Harney Peak, Borglum declared, "American history shall march along that skyline." Borglum eventually selected a granite outcropping named Mount Rushmore, after a New York City attorney, Charles Rushmore, who had visited the Black Hills in 1885.

Robinson's brainstorm brought praise and criticism. An early supporter, Senator Norbeck, secured much-needed federal funding. Congressman Williamson was instrumental in passage of federal legislation permitting the mountain sculpture. Businessman Boland led local fund raising that enabled the work to begin and later became the project's general manager. Local promoters, businessmen and politicians formed the Mount Harney Memorial Association to raise money and promote the project. Local critics were concerned that they would be required to finance the endeavor. Other critics denounced the project as a desecration of the natural beauty of the Black Hills. They felt no human creation could measure up to that which nature had produced.

Although the construction period stretched more than 14 years, from 1927 to 1941, actual time spent working on the mountain is equal to about six and one-half years. Much time and effort was spent garnering support, both financial and political, through promotion and events. Lack of funds often halted the work. Project delays resulted from political battles over administration of the project. **But through the perseverance and commitment of all involved, progress was made.** This was marked by the successive unveilings of the figures at elaborate, publicity-generating events, which in turn led to increased funding and support, culminating in the monument we see today.

Promotion, the catalyst for the carving, was a primary factor in its completion and Borglum assumed responsibility for that. His strategy included spectacular public ceremonies dedicating each bust. Touring the country, he became a spokesperson in the advertising of several commercial products. The Hearst newspaper chain sponsored a nationwide competition for a brief written history of the United States to be carved on the mountain. The Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society was later established to raise private funds and to promote the project. These efforts were among many to promote general public awareness.

As each figure became recognizable, it was formally dedicated with a dramatic unveiling using a huge American flag. The Washington dedication was July 4, 1930. Jefferson was dedicated August 30, 1936, and Lincoln, the following year on September 17, 1937. Roosevelt was dedicated July 2, 1939.

A project of the size and significance of Mount Rushmore required persistence and forthrightness to make it happen. Borglum possessed these qualities. He worked the halls of power in Washington with a sometimes stubborn and abrasive manner that often alienated the very people whose support he sought. He came up against equally formidable men. Confrontations with Senator Norbeck, Boland and President Calvin Coolidge led to project delays, frustration and bitter feelings.

Borglum also came into conflict with the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Commission, which was charged with project management and financial responsibility, two areas over which Borglum fought for control. The first such commission was formed in 1929 and Borglum was to work alongside it. Because he wanted control of all aspects of the work, Borglum found this arrangement unacceptable and frequently complained loudly about it. A second commission in 1938 replaced the first and effectively gave Borglum complete control and removed Boland from the project altogether.

Borglum's reign was short-lived. In 1939 authority was returned to the federal government under the National Park Service.

The Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society, a non-profit organization, was founded in 1930 by an act of Congress to promote the project nationally and to raise private funds to finance the carving. Through the sale of memberships and operation of concessions, the society amassed funds which, when matched with federal dollars, contributed greatly to early progress on the sculpture. Initially, the organization sold booklets, note cards, photographs, medallions and other souvenirs to raise money and publicize the project. In later years society revenues have supported interpretive efforts and major building improvements. The Society has provided for the sculptor's studio, the Avenue of Flags, numerous brochures, films, books, oral histories, celebrative programming, and many other elements to enhance the visitor's educational experience.

Borglum estimated the project would cost under \$500,000 and it would take only a few years to complete. The intent was to fund the carving with private donations, but it became obvious that federal funding would be essential. In 1929 President Coolidge urged Congress to appropriate \$250,000 which was to be matched with private donations. As the work continued during the next decade additional appropriations totalled \$836,000. These were hard-won dollars that Borglum and Senator Norbeck succeeded in persuading the Depression-era Congress to make available. The final bill amounted to almost twice Borglum's estimate and the carving took nearly three times as long to reach its present stage. In the end, the federal government financed almost the entire project. Private donations amounted to only \$153,992 of the \$989,992 total expenditure.

Gutzon Borglum died March 6, 1941, at age 74 in Chicago from complications resulting from minor surgery. The commission immediately transferred responsibility for completing Mount Rushmore to Borglum's son, Lincoln, who had been project superintendent since 1938. The majority of work on the faces had been completed before Borglum's death. Lincoln did some additional work on the hair, collars and lapels of the four figures. With the imminent onset of World War II there would be no more money for the project. Without further funding and the guidance of its creator, drilling on the mountain concluded on October 31, 1941, and silence returned to Mount Rushmore.

Since carving ceased there has been no let-up of activity at Mount Rushmore. Continuous increases in park visitation over the years have prompted many improvements to facilities. Borglum's tradition of spectacular dedication ceremonies was continued in 1991 when Mount Rushmore was officially dedicated by United States President George Bush, 50 years after work ceased. The memorial has been a host to many prominent visitors over the years. President Eisenhower visited in 1953. But the vast numbers of visitors to the Black Hills and the memorial, more than two million every year, are tourists, thus fulfilling Doane Robinson's dream.

## THE WORK INVOLVED TO CREATE THE FIGURES

Gutzon Borglum was thoroughly prepared when the Mount Rushmore commission came his way in 1925. He boasted of many memorials to famous Americans that he had already completed. He based working models on life masks, paintings, photographs, descriptions, and his own interpretations of the presidents he selected. Plaster copies of the figures were created to guide the carving work.

Borglum transferred the measurements from the working model to the mountain. The models were sized at a ratio of 1:12 — one inch on the model would be equal to one foot on the mountain. A metal shaft was placed upright at the center of the model's head. Attached at the base of the shaft was a protractor plate marked in degrees, and a horizontal ruled bar that pivoted to measure the angle from the central axis. A weighted plumb line hung from the bar; workers slid it back and forth to measure the distance from the central head point, and raised and lowered it to measure vertical distance from the top of the head. Numbers obtained from the model were then multiplied by 12 and transferred to the granite mountain. On the mountain a large scale pointing system was anchored to the top of each figure.

Finding the granite difficult to work, Borglum utilized dynamite to carve 90 per cent of the figures. The dynamite removed large portions of weathered rock to reach granite solid enough for carving. Then the points from the models were transferred to the faces. Skilled blasters then dynamited within a few inches of the finished surface as Borglum carefully studied the heads, making changes as necessary.

After blasting, the features were shaped by workers suspended by steel cables attached to winches on top of the mountain. The workers used pneumatic drills to honeycomb the granite with closely spaced holes to nearly the depth of the finished surface. Excess rock was then removed with chisels and smaller air hammers. Later the workmen "bumped" away the drill holes and lines with air hammers to create a smooth, white surface.

## MOUNT RUSHMORE SCULPTOR GUTZON BORGUM

Gutzon Borglum was 58 years old when he began designing Mount Rushmore in 1925. Although he is primarily known for this great artistic feat, he had been a successful sculptor for decades before this memorial was conceived.

The son of Danish immigrants, Borglum was reared in the Western frontier of America at the end of the 19th century. It was a time of great national confidence and expansion, two characteristics that often found expression in Borglum's work. He was an outspoken man given to immersing himself in any cause to which he thought he could contribute.

In addition to his successful career as an artist, Borglum also fancied himself as a statesman, speaking out and writing about topics from aeronautics to flood control. He was actively involved in national politics and international political affairs. He also was concerned with local community issues. His friends included many prominent people in the arts, politics, science and law.

Borglum was born John Gutzon de la Mothe Borglum on March 25, 1867, to Danish immigrants in the frontier wilderness of Idaho. He was the second eldest of what was eventually to be nine children. The family moved to Utah and St. Louis before settling in Nebraska, where Gutzon's father practiced medicine. Gutzon ran away from home several times in his youth and finally at age 17 he left permanently for California to study art. At age 22 he married his teacher who was 40. This marriage ended 20 years later and he married Mary Montgomery who became dedicated to him and his work. They had two children, Lincoln and Mary Ellis, to whom he was absolutely devoted.

Borglum was determined to leave his mark on the world. He became involved in many organizations and causes on local, national, and international levels, while continually producing art. He participated in arts and civic groups, often in founding or leadership positions. He was an aviation enthusiast who exposed corruption in the aeronautics industry during World War I. He established a training camp for the Czechoslovakian Exiled Army on his estate. Borglum had direct access to United States presidents from Theodore Roosevelt to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He was active in many of their campaigns, supporting some and opposing others. They often consulted with him on major issues and he sought their support for his political and artistic activities. Outspoken on a wide range of issues, he maintained an active nationwide lecture schedule.

Borglum had strong opinions on many subjects, including politics, art, government, world affairs, urban planning, aviation, transportation, athletics, architecture, history, philosophy and social issues. He actively corresponded with presidents, congressmen, world leaders, artists. He wrote numerous articles on a variety of topics.

A constant traveler, Borglum was always available for comment to reporters inevitably gathered at train stations awaiting his arrival. Borglum maintained a demanding pace on the nationwide lecture circuit. His speeches were popular with the general public who came to expect a dynamic, eloquent and humorous speech no matter what the subject. They were never disappointed. His lecture series allowed him to voice his opinion and it was lucrative, which helped to ease his financial difficulties.

Gutzon Borglum was an established sculptor long before he began Mount Rushmore. Deciding on a career as an artist at age 14, he began his studies in California at 17. He studied in Paris, and lived and worked in London and New York City. He began as a painter but quickly turned to sculpture. It was not long before he established himself as a monumental sculptor of note, completing more than 30 public commissions worldwide during his lifetime.

In 1902 Borglum moved to New York City where he sculpted *Mares of Diomedes*, which was the first work by an American sculptor to enter the collection of Metropolitan Museum of Art and *I Have Piped*, later placed at Forest Lawn Cemetery in California, where Gutzon and Mary are buried.

Borglum's 1907 bust of Abraham Lincoln established him as an accomplished sculptor. Based on the success of the Lincoln bust, Borglum won a commission for a Lincoln sculpture in Newark, New Jersey.

In 1916 Borglum began plans to carve a panorama of Southern military heroes, marching men, stamping horses and rolling guns across a mountaintop at Stone Mountain in Georgia. In 1919 he began work on the *Wars of America* memorial for Newark, which has 42 figures including portraits of the artist and his son. After moving to San Antonio, Texas, in 1925, he was commissioned to design the *Texas Trail Drivers' Memorial* and in 1928, the *North Carolina Memorial* at Gettysburg. He sculpted a statue of President Wilson for Poznan, Poland, that was unveiled in 1931, but subsequently destroyed on orders from Hitler when Nazi Germany invaded Poland in 1939.

## THE MEANING OF MOUNT RUSHMORE

The four American presidents carved into the granite of Mount Rushmore were chosen by sculptor Gutzon Borglum to commemorate the founding, growth, preservation and development of the United States. They symbolize the principles of liberty and freedom on which the nation was founded. George Washington signifies the struggle for independence and the birth of the Republic; Thomas Jefferson the territorial expansion of the country; Abraham Lincoln the permanent union of the states and equality for all citizens; and Theodore Roosevelt the 20th century role of the United States in world affairs and the rights of the common man.

The following is a brief history of the United States' first 150 years. This is not meant to be a scholarly version of American history, but to weave the four presidents on Mount Rushmore into the early and important events of America's development.

Between 1700 and 1750 the British colonial population in America increased to more than one million and pressure mounted to occupy the land west of the Appalachians. British expansion was a threat to the Indians, French and Spanish. As a result of the French and Indian War, also known as the Seven Years War, France lost all of its land in North America to Great Britain and Spain.

The French and Indian War demonstrated just how independent the colonists had become. American merchants were trading illegally with French Caribbean sugar islands. The British resolved to reassert control. Customs agents were ordered to crack down on the smugglers and courts were directed to try them. For the first time, Britain posted a large peacetime army in her American colonies.

Dislike of George III dated from an early act authorizing indiscriminate searches of private homes. In 1761 James Otis, an impassioned lawyer, spoke out against such search warrants, saying that man has natural rights upon which no king can infringe. In 1765 a Stamp Act levied taxes to raise funds to support British troops in the colonies. This outraged the colonists who boycotted British goods and forced repeal of the act. In the Virginia House of Burgesses, Patrick Henry in a dramatic speech challenged taxation without representation. Unrest grew when British soldiers fired into angry crowds killing five people in the Boston Massacre. Samuel Adams played a vital role in the rebellion along with John Hancock who helped to organize resistance. In 1773 patriots threw shipments of tea into Boston harbor in protest of these taxes. This incident became known as the Boston Tea Party.

On April 18, 1775, British Major General Thomas Gage sent troops from Boston to Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, to capture colonial leaders and military supplies. Warned by Paul Revere, 70 militiamen met 180 British soldiers at Lexington. Shots were exchanged and the Redcoats marched on to Concord where 450 Americans faced 700 British. By day's end, 50 Americans and 73 British had been killed.

Lexington and Concord transformed a local, political struggle into a full-scale confrontation in which all 13 colonies joined.

American morale had plummeted to its lowest point in 1776 during the terrible retreat that followed humiliating defeats in New York. On Christmas night, 1776, Washington led his men through the snow and sleet in a surprise attack on Trenton, New Jersey, smashing three regiments. Nearly 900 men were either killed or captured. Only four Americans were wounded. After victories at Trenton and Princeton, New Jersey, the army knew that its enemy could be beaten. In the siege at Yorktown, a white cloth appeared on the British ramparts. General George Cornwallis, the British commander, was asking for terms. Surrender followed and an entire British army marched past the quiet ranks of American and French troops to stack its arms. It would be nearly two years before the peace treaty, but the war was over.

Alone among the founders of the United States, George Washington earned the title "Father of his Country" in recognition of his leadership in the cause of American independence. Appointed commander of the Continental Army in 1775, he molded a fighting force that won independence from Great Britain.

On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia put before the Continental Congress the momentous resolution calling for a Declaration of Independence, foreign alliances and a confederation of American states. Thomas Jefferson, a 33-year-old Virginian known for his eloquent and persuasive arguments, was selected to prepare a draft. Benjamin Franklin and John Adams also played an important role. The declaration was a ringing assertion of the right to revolt, carefully erected upon the principle that government ultimately rests upon the consent of the governed.

After the American victory in its war for independence, the treaty of 1783 ceded a region that was larger than much of Western Europe. The delegation to the 1783 Treaty Conference included John Jay, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Henry Laurens and their aide, Franklin's grandson, William. The Americans led by Franklin won a territorial cession stretching from Spanish Florida in the south to British Canada in the north, to Spanish Louisiana beyond the Mississippi River.

Outnumbered by more than two to one, the million volunteers who took up arms for the southern states drew strength from the fact that they were fighting to defend their homes and families. But the North's industrial strength gave the Union vast superiority in ordnance over the Confederates who had to buy military supplies from France and Britain and then run the gauntlet of the Union naval blockade.

While Grant's campaign unfolded, Lee resisted pressure to send troops west to reinforce Vicksburg. He had just won a victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia; another on the northern soil might end the war. Confederate President Jefferson Davis concurred and Lee invaded Pennsylvania. The climactic battle he sought took place over the first three days of July, 1863, at Gettysburg. When fighting ended, more than 51,000 men were missing, wounded or dead. The Union's victory ended the Confederacy's last attempt to invade the North.

Lincoln's struggle to end the bloody Civil War was never realized by him in office. As he attended the play, "Our American Cousin," at Ford's Theater in 1865 he was assassinated. Lee had surrendered his army at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, a few days earlier. Other Confederate forces soon followed.

At war's end debate raged over terms for defeated states' re-entry to the Union. In 1867, Congress required new state constitutions that guaranteed equal rights and the vote for blacks. The southern states refused to carry out the reforms and enacted discriminatory anti-black Jim Crow laws. The states of the South were readmitted. For the most part reconstruction had not produced lasting accomplishments.

The centuries-long conflict between European settlers and native Americans reached its peak in the decade following the Civil War.

In 1868, representatives of the U.S. government signed a treaty at Fort Laramie in Wyoming with the Lakota, Cheyenne and Arapaho nations of the Great Plains. A large area in eastern Wyoming and western Dakota territory was designated unceded Indian country while much of present-day South Dakota was set aside as the great Sioux reservation. But in 1874, gold was discovered in the Black Hills, the heart of the new Indian Reservation, and thousands of miners began to swarm into the region. The army tried to control the influx without success and an attempt to buy the Black Hills failed.

The Lakota and Cheyenne left the reservation and resumed raids on settlements and travelers. The commissioner of Indian Affairs ordered the tribes to return before January 31, 1876, or be treated as hostile. When the Indians did not comply the army was called in to enforce the order. Many battles were fought before the Native Americans were forced to submit.

Territorial growth on the continent ended in 1867 with the purchase of Alaska from Russia for 7.2 million dollars (less than two cents per acre). Hawaii was annexed in 1898 during an era of overseas expansion and remained the only island group to become a state.

In 1871, the United States population exceeded 40 million.

In 1877, the westward movement continued as Congress granted millions of dollars to finance transcontinental rail lines. Settlers purchased railroad lands or homesteaded, populating the region once called "The Great American Desert." In fulfilling the promise of stochod to the settlers, Congress broke up what remained of the Indian ancestral lands. With the buffalo herds virtually exterminated, the tribes were eventually starved into submission to the white man's will. The Army forced American Indians onto scattered reservations. The shrinking of these scattered reservations ended in 1934. Native Americans now number some 1.5 million. They retain their diversity in 500 tribal groups, speaking 250 languages.

With the essential grid of transport and communication networks laid down, America was ready to transform the process of territorial expansion into economic growth. In pursuit of ever higher profits, the nation's entrepreneurs proved as ruthless, and ultimately, as successful as the land pioneers they succeeded. As economic power was increasingly concentrated in the hands of large corporations, Congress responded to the public pressure by drafting legislation to curb price fixing and other excesses of big business monopolies, known as "trusts". The Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 was passed.

In 1898, the acquisition of the Hawaiian Islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean provided a base of operations on a vital route between California and the Orient. Closer to home, the nation's leaders began to realize the strategic and economic importance of the Caribbean, especially when they considered the possibility of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Fresh resources were poured into naval forces and in 1898, following the mysterious explosion of the battleship Maine in Havana, Cuba, which killed 260 Americans, the country entered its first major overseas military adventure against the decaying imperial power of Spain.

As assistant secretary of the Navy (1897-98) Theodore Roosevelt helped prepare the navy for the Spanish-American War. When war broke out he resigned the post and, with Leonard Wood, organized the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, "Rough Riders," and as its lieutenant colonel led the charge up San Juan Hill in Cuba.

Victory added the Philippine Islands and Guam in the Pacific. Puerto Rico

in the Caribbean and considerable influence over the fledgling republic of Cuba.

As president, Theodore Roosevelt was known as a trust buster, a champion of the working man, and a conservationist. For his successful diplomacy in the Russo-Japanese War (1905) he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Aware of the strategic need for a shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific, Roosevelt secured the right to construct the Panama Canal in 1903. Completion of the Panama Canal was a major element in the success of Theodore Roosevelt's presidency.

Gold miners and farmers settled opposite corners of Dakota Territory which became two states in 1889. Ranchers settled Wyoming. Admission of Utah followed its banning of polygamy. Other Northwest territories became states as the railroads pushed westward. By 1912 there were 48 states. Not until 1959, with the admission of Hawaii and Alaska, were there 50 states.

In 1886, "Liberty Enlightening the World" — a giant statue given by France — was dedicated in New York harbor. The statue greeting immigrants from foreign countries to America is called "The Statue of Liberty."

In 1903 a 12-second flight above Kill Devil Hill in North Carolina was the first time, said pilot Orville Wright, that "a machine carrying a man had raised itself by its own power into the air in full flight, had sailed forward without reduction of speed, and had finally landed at a point as high as that from which it had started."

The Wyoming Territory granted women the right to vote in 1869. By 1910, females composed one-fifth of the nation's work force. They shared the vote with men in 11 states by 1914 but, nationwide, suffrage did not come until 1920 with the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

In 1914, war broke out in Europe and the United States tried to remain neutral. President Woodrow Wilson was reelected in 1916, helped in large part by the slogan, "He kept us out of war." This initial neutrality gradually gave way to support for the Allies led by Britain and France. Meanwhile, the Central Powers, led by Germany, launched unrestricted submarine warfare on neutral ships. In 1917, United States declared war on the German empire to make the world "safe for democracy". More than two million American soldiers were sent to Europe in 1917 and 1918. The American assistance led to victory for the Allies in this conflict, known as World War I. President Wilson, in Paris, France, to negotiate the armistice, pushed for a League of Nations to maintain world peace. The United States refused to support Wilson's plan and the country returned to a mainly isolationist foreign policy.

In 1927, work began in the Black Hills of South Dakota to commemorate the first 150 years of America's history by carving a monumental sculpture on Mount Rushmore.

*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."*

Thomas Jefferson  
Declaration of Independence  
July 4, 1776

*"The preservation of the sacred fire of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked, on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people."*

George Washington  
First Inaugural Address  
April 30, 1789

*"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us — that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion...that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."*

Abraham Lincoln  
Gettysburg Address  
November 19, 1863

*"We, here in America, hold in our hands the hopes of the world, the fate of the coming years; and shame and disgrace will be ours if in our eyes the light of high resolve is dimmed, if we trail in the dust the golden hopes of men."*

Theodore Roosevelt  
Address at Carnegie Hall  
March 30, 1912



THE LIFE OF THE LATTER DAYS OF THE APOSTLES





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# THE RECORDS

*Following is the text sealed in the Hall of Records vault August 9, 1998:*

## MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL

Images of four United States Presidents were carved into a mountain called "Mount Rushmore" by sculptor Gutzon Borglum and almost 400 workmen who labored from 1927 through 1941.

Entombed here in southwestern South Dakota in the year 1908 are records of why and how this mountain was carved. Also included are important documents related to the history and growth of the United States of America in relation to these four presidents.

Borglum once wrote:

"We believe the dimensions of national heartbeats are greater than village impulses, greater than state dreams or ambitions. Therefore we believe a nation's memorial should, like Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt, have a serenity, a nobility, a power that reflects the gods who inspired them and suggests the gods they have become.

"As for sculptured mountains - Civilization, even its fine arts, is, most of it, quantity-produced stuff: education, law, government, wealth - each is enduring only as the day. Too little of it lasts into tomorrow and tomorrow is strangely the enemy of today, as today has already begun to forget buried yesterday. Each succeeding civilization forgets its predecessor, and out of its body builds its homes, its temples. Civilizations are ghouls. Egypt was pulled apart by its successor; Greece was divided among the Romans; Rome was pulled to pieces by bigotry and bitterness much of which was engendered in its own empire building.

"I want, somewhere in America, on or near the Rockies, the backbone of the Continent, so far removed from succeeding, selfish, coveting civilizations, a few feet of stone that bears witness, carries the likeness, the dates, a word or two of the great things we accomplished as a Nation, placed so high it won't pay to pull them down for lesser purposes.

"Hence, let us place there, carved high, as close to heaven as we can, the words of our leaders, their faces, to show posterity what manner of men they were. Then breathe a prayer that these records will endure until the wind and rain alone shall wear them away."

*Written in 1930 as a foreword for the first edition of a booklet on the memorial.*

## GEORGE WASHINGTON (1732 - 1799) FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1789 - 1797)

The United States fought the Revolutionary War, 1775 - 1781, to gain independence from Great Britain. Following the war, the three million people who lived in the United States felt it was necessary to frame a constitution that would specifically limit the powers that the federal government would be able to exercise over its citizens. George Washington, a delegate from Virginia to the Constitutional Convention, was elected to preside over the debates that brought forth the Constitution of the United States.

Following the signing of the Constitution, many citizens felt that it did not guarantee personal liberty and property rights for all people so the first Congress created the first 10 amendments called the Bill of Rights. Through 1997, a total of 27 amendments had been added to the Constitution.

## TEXT OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

### Article. 1.

*Section. 1.* All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

*Section. 2.* The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall Not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

*Section. 3.* The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

*Section. 4.* The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

*Section. 5.* Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

*Section. 6.* The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

*Section. 7.* All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

*Section. 8.* The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To Promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the state in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings; And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

*Section. 9.* The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another; nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States; And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

*Section. 10.* No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Controul of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

## Article. II.

*Section. 1.* The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows:

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the

President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation: - "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

*Section. 2.* The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; 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, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law; but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

*Section. 3.* He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

*Section. 4.* The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

### Article. III.

*Section. 1.* The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good

Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

*Section. 2.* The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority; - to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls; - to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction; - to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party; - to Controversies between two or more States; - between a State and Citizens of another State; - between Citizens of different States; - between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court, shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

*Section. 3.* Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

### Article. IV.

*Section. 1.* Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

*Section. 2.* The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall On Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

*Section. 3.* New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

*Section. 4.* The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

### Article. V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that

no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

#### Article. VI.

All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

#### Article. VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

Done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Articles in addition to, and Amendment of, the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the Original Constitution.

### THE TEN ORIGINAL AMMENDMENTS

The first ten amendments to the Constitution were proposed by Congress Sept. 25, 1789, and became effective Dec. 15, 1791. Together they are known as the Bill of Rights, though only the first eight amendments guarantee individuals specific rights and liberties.

#### Amendment 1

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

#### Amendment 2

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

#### Amendment 3

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

#### Amendment 4

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

#### Amendment 5

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

#### Amendment 6

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to

have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

#### Amendment 7

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

#### Amendment 8

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

#### Amendment 9

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

#### Amendment 10

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

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### THOMAS JEFFERSON (1743 - 1826) THIRD PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1801 - 1809)

On July 4, 1776, members of the newly formed government of the United States declared the colonies to be "free and independent states." Thomas Jefferson was chosen to draft one of history's greatest documents, the Declaration of Independence.

Jefferson later became the third president of the United States. In 1803, he expanded America by purchasing from France a vast tract of land known as the Louisiana Territory. This transaction doubled the size of the United States.

### TEXT OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

*\*This text follows exactly the spelling and punctuation of the original document.*

IN CONGRESS JULY 4, 1776.

THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. WHEN in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. - We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. - That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. - That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. - Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. - He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. - He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. - He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. - He has called



**Inside the Hall of Records.**

together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. - He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. - He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within. - He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. - He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers. - He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. - He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance. - He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures. - He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. - He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: - For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: - For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: - For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: - For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: - For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury: - For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: - For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: - For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: - For suspending our own Legislatures and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. - He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. - He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. - He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. - He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands. - He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character

is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. - WE, THEREFORE, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, "That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. - And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

The names of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence are listed under the names of the states they represented. John Hancock, then president of the Congress, signed on July 4. Most of the others signed on August 2.

(CONNECTICUT)	(NEW HAMPSHIRE)	James Smith
Roger Sherman	Josiah Bartlett	George Taylor
Samuel Huntington	William Whipple	James Wilson
William Williams	Matthew Thornton	George Ross
Oliver Wolcott	(NEW JERSEY)	(RHODE ISLAND)
(DELAWARE)	Richard Stockton	Stephen Hopkins
Caesar Rodney	John Witherspoon	William Ellery
George Read	Francis Hopkinson	(SOUTH CAROLINA)
Thomas McKean	John Hart	Edward Rutledge
(GEORGIA)	Abraham Clark	Thomas Heyward, Jr.
Button Gwinnett	(NEW YORK)	Thomas Lynch, Jr.
Lyman Hall	William Floyd	Arthur Middleton
George Walton	Philip Livingston	(VIRGINIA)
(MARYLAND)	Francis Lewis	George Wythe
Samuel Chase	Lewis Morris	Richard Henry Lee
William Paca	(NORTH CAROLINA)	Thomas Jefferson
Thomas Stone	William Hooper	Benjamin Harrison
Charles Carroll of	Joseph Hewes	Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Carrollton	John Penn	Francis Lightfoot Lee
(MASSACHUSETTS)	(PENNSYLVANIA)	Carter Braxton
John Hancock	Robert Morris	
Samuel Adams	Benjamin Rush	
John Adams	Benjamin Franklin	
Robert Treat Paine	John Morton	
Elbridge Gerry	George Clymer	

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### ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1809 - 1865) SIXTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1861 - 1865)

In 1861, the American Civil War, also known as the War Between the States, erupted. The war pitted the Union of 23 northern and western states supporting the Federal government under President Lincoln against 11 southern states which had withdrawn from the Union. The southern states formed an independent government called the Confederate States of America. The war raged for four years, consuming the entire presidency of Abraham Lincoln.

In July, 1863, the Union army defeated the Confederate forces at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. On November 19, 1863, the battlefield was dedicated as a national cemetery. President Lincoln was invited to make a few appropriate remarks. In less than three minutes, Lincoln captured the central idea of the occasion in a speech simply known as the Gettysburg Address.

## TEXT OF THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But in a larger sense, we can not dedicate - we can not consecrate - we can not hallow - this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT (1858 - 1919)

TWENTY-SIXTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
(1901- 1909)

President Roosevelt provided support to complete the 51-mile-long Panama Canal which links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. When finally completed on August 15, 1914, the canal was the greatest engineering wonder of the world. This great triumph over nature has been a major influence on world trade.

Theodore Roosevelt did more than any other president to save the natural resources of the United States. He established national parks and more than 125 million acres of national forests. Roosevelt stated:

"I believe that the natural resources must be used for the benefit of all of our people and not monopolized for the benefit of the few.

"I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land; but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us."

— Quote by Theodore Roosevelt  
Osawatimie, Kansas, August 11, 1910

## HOW THE MEMORIAL WAS COMPLETED

From the initial idea in 1923 to the present, the story of Mount Rushmore is a tale full of high hopes, bitter frustration, battling egos, fascinating characters, hard work and triumphant celebrations. South Dakota historian Doane Robinson's idea of a mountain carving to bring tourists to the Black Hills was met with skepticism and criticism. There was also a good deal of enthusiasm.

Sculptor Gutzon Borglum transformed Robinson's vision into a memorial to the ideals of democracy. It was thought the project could be completed in five years for 500,000 dollars. Fourteen years and one million dollars later, carving ended with the death of a visionary and the onset of world war.

In 1923 no one could have foreseen the struggle that lay ahead. Perhaps it is well they did not, for it is unlikely they would have pursued their dream. Their creation became more than a tourist attraction. It is a national symbol. Today, millions of people come to the Black Hills to see the result of that dream, Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

Originally, Robinson envisioned gigantic carvings in the Black Hills of great western heroes. Robinson believed such a spectacular attraction would bring tourists to the area and boost the state's economy. He invited Borglum, a noted sculptor of monumental statues, to give his opinion as to whether such a thing could be done. Borglum enthusiastically confirmed that it could and that he was precisely the man to do it. Robinson then had to win over the skeptical citizens of South Dakota and other critics. With the help of U.S. Senator Peter Norbeck, Congressman William Williamson and Rapid City businessman John Boland, Robinson was able to mobilize support to realize his dream.

Robinson's idea was to carve the likenesses of heroes such as explorers Lewis and Clark, Indian leader Red Cloud or Wild West celebrity Buffalo Bill Cody. The Lakota, who had roamed the surrounding Great Plains during the last century, consider the Paha Sapa or Black Hills sacred because of their natural beauty, abundance of wildlife and spiritual qualities. The influx of miners in 1874 did little to alter these scenic qualities. Fifty years later Robinson believed that these characteristics would attract tourists. But he felt there needed to be something monumental to draw them there in the first place.

Robinson initially contacted sculptor Lorado Taft, but Taft was unavailable, so the historian wrote to Borglum in August, 1924. Borglum was directing a colossal carving commemorating the Confederacy at Stone Mountain in Georgia. The idea of creating a northern memorial gripped Borglum's imagination immediately. He enthusiastically responded, saying he would come to the Black Hills to evaluate the possibility of mountain carving there. He visited South Dakota in September, 1924, and returned in August, 1925, with his 12-year-old son, Lincoln, to search for a suitable cliff. Upon seeing the Needles area near Harney Peak, Borglum declared, "American history shall march along that skyline." Borglum eventually selected a granite outcropping named Mount Rushmore, after a New York City attorney, Charles Rushmore, who had visited the Black Hills in 1885.

Robinson's brainstorm brought praise and criticism. An early supporter, Senator Norbeck, secured much-needed federal funding. Congressman Williamson was instrumental in passage of federal legislation permitting the mountain sculpture. Businessman Boland led local fund raising that enabled the work to begin and later became the project's general manager. Local promoters, businessmen and politicians formed the Mount Harney Memorial Association to raise money and promote the project. Local critics were concerned that they would be required to finance the endeavor. Other critics denounced the project as a desecration of the natural beauty of the Black Hills. They felt no human creation could measure up to that which nature had produced.

Although the construction period stretched more than 14 years, from 1927 to 1941, actual time spent working on the mountain is equal to about six and one-half years. Much time and effort was spent garnering support, both financial and political, through promotion and events. Lack of funds often halted the work. Project delays resulted from political battles over administration of the project. But through the perseverance and commitment of all involved, progress was made. This was marked by the successive unveilings of the figures at elaborate, publicity-generating events, which in turn led to increased funding and support, culminating in the monument we see today.

Promotion, the catalyst for the carving, was a primary factor in its completion and Borglum assumed responsibility for that. His strategy included spectacular public ceremonies dedicating each bust. Touring the country, he became a spokesperson in the advertising of several commercial products. The Hearst newspaper chain sponsored a nationwide competition for a brief written history of the United States to be carved on the mountain. The Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society was later established to raise private funds and to promote the project. These efforts were among many to promote general public awareness.

As each figure became recognizable, it was formally dedicated with a dramatic unveiling using a huge American flag. The Washington dedication was July 4, 1930. Jefferson was dedicated August 30, 1936, and Lincoln, the following year on September 17, 1937. Roosevelt was dedicated July 2, 1939.

A project of the size and significance of Mount Rushmore required persistence and forthrightness to make it happen. Borglum possessed these qualities. He worked the halls of power in Washington with a sometimes stubborn and abrasive manner that often alienated the very people whose support he sought. He came up against equally formidable men. Confrontations with Senator Norbeck, Boland and President Calvin Coolidge led to project delays, frustration and bitter feelings.

Borglum also came into conflict with the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Commission, which was charged with project management and financial responsibility, two areas over which Borglum fought for control. The first such commission was formed in 1929 and Borglum was to work alongside it. Because he wanted control of all aspects of the work, Borglum found this arrangement unacceptable and frequently complained loudly about it. A second commission in 1938 replaced the first and effectively gave Borglum complete control and removed Boland from the project altogether.

Borglum's reign was short-lived. In 1939 authority was returned to the federal government under the National Park Service.

The Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society, a non-profit organization, was founded in 1930 by an act of Congress to promote the project nationally and to raise private funds to finance the carving. Through the sale of memberships and operation of concessions, the

society amassed funds which, when matched with federal dollars, contributed greatly to early progress on the sculpture. Initially, the organization sold booklets, note cards, photographs, medallions and other souvenirs to raise money and publicize the project. In later years society revenues have supported interpretive efforts and major building improvements. The Society has provided for the sculptor's studio, the Avenue of Flags, numerous brochures, films, books, oral histories, celebrative programming, and many other elements to enhance the visitor's educational experience.

Borglum estimated the project would cost under \$500,000 and it would take only a few years to complete. The intent was to fund the carving with private donations, but it became obvious that federal funding would be essential. In 1929 President Coolidge urged Congress to appropriate \$250,000 which was to be matched with private donations. As the work continued during the next decade additional appropriations totaled \$836,000. These were hard-won dollars that Borglum and Senator Norbeck succeeded in persuading the Depression-era Congress to make available. The final bill amounted to almost twice Borglum's estimate and the carving took nearly three times as long to reach its present stage. In the end, the federal government financed almost the entire project. Private donations amounted to only \$153,992 of the \$989,992 total expenditure.

Gutzon Borglum died March 6, 1941, at age 74 in Chicago from complications resulting from minor surgery. The commission immediately transferred responsibility for completing Mount Rushmore to Borglum's son, Lincoln, who had been project superintendent since 1938. The majority of work on the faces had been completed before Borglum's death. Lincoln did some additional work on the hair, collars and lapels of the four figures. With the imminent onset of World War II there would be no more money for the project. Without further funding and the guidance of its creator, drilling on the mountain concluded on October 31, 1941, and silence returned to Mount Rushmore.

Since carving ceased there has been no let-up of activity at Mount Rushmore. Continuous increases in park visitation over the years have prompted many improvements to facilities. Borglum's tradition of spectacular dedication ceremonies was continued in 1991 when Mount Rushmore was officially dedicated by United States President George Bush, 50 years after work ceased. The memorial has been a host to many prominent visitors over the years. President Eisenhower visited in 1953. But the vast numbers of visitors to the Black Hills and the memorial, more than two million every year, are tourists, thus fulfilling Doane Robinson's dream.

## THE WORK INVOLVED TO CREATE THE FIGURES

Gutzon Borglum was thoroughly prepared when the Mount Rushmore commission came his way in 1925. He boasted of many memorials to famous Americans that he had already completed. He based working models on life masks, paintings, photographs, descriptions, and his own interpretations of the presidents he selected. Plaster copies of the figures were created to guide the carving work.

Borglum transferred the measurements from the working model to the mountain. The models were sized at a ratio of 1:12 - one inch on the model would be equal to one foot on the mountain. A metal shaft was placed upright at the center of the model's head. Attached at the base of the shaft was a protractor plate marked in degrees, and a horizontal ruled bar that pivoted to measure the angle from the central axis. A weighted plumb line hung from the bar; workers slid it back and forth to measure the distance from the central head point, and raised and lowered it to measure vertical distance from the top of the head. Numbers obtained from the model were then multiplied by 12 and transferred to the granite mountain. On the mountain a large scale pointing system was anchored to the top of each figure.

Finding the granite difficult to work, Borglum utilized dynamite to carve 90 per cent of the figures. The dynamite removed large portions of weathered rock to reach granite solid enough for carving. Then the points from the models were transferred to the faces. Skilled blasters then dynamited within a few inches of the finished surface as Borglum carefully studied the heads, making changes as necessary.

After blasting, the features were shaped by workers suspended by steel cables attached to winches on top of the mountain. The workers used pneumatic drills to honeycomb the granite with closely spaced holes to nearly the depth of the finished surface. Excess rock was then removed with chisels and smaller air hammers. Later the workmen "bumped" away the drill holes and lines with air hammers to create a smooth, white surface.

## MOUNT RUSHMORE SCULPTOR GUTZON BORGLUM

Gutzon Borglum was 58 years old when he began designing Mount Rushmore in 1925. Although he is primarily known for this great artistic feat, he had been a successful sculptor for decades before this memorial was conceived.

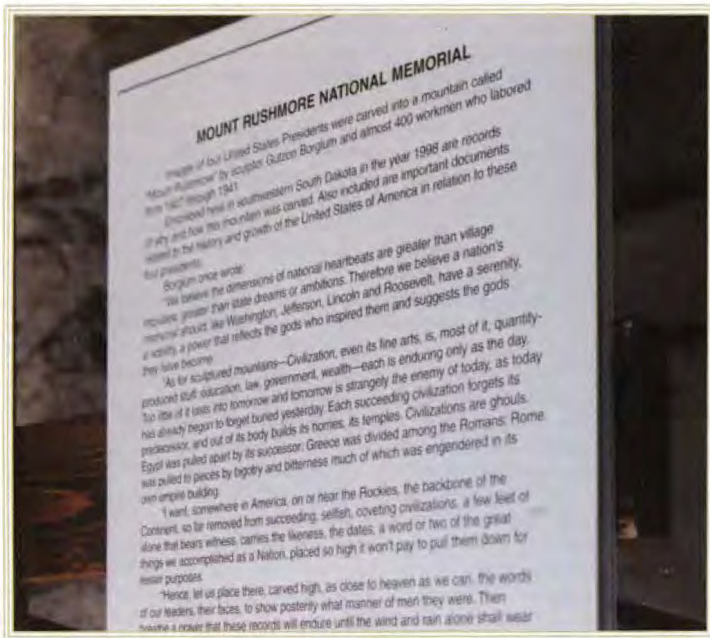
The son of Danish immigrants, Borglum was reared in the Western frontier of America at the end of the 19th century. It was a time of great national confidence and expansion, two characteristics that often found expression in Borglum's work. He was an outspoken man given to immersing himself in any cause to which he thought he could contribute.

In addition to his successful career as an artist, Borglum also fancied himself as a statesman, speaking out and writing about topics from aeronautics to flood control. He was actively involved in national politics and international political affairs. He also was concerned with local community issues. His friends included many prominent people in the arts, politics, science and law.

Borglum was born John Gutzon de La Mothe Borglum on March 25, 1867, to Danish immigrants in the frontier wilderness of Idaho. He was the second eldest of what was eventually to be nine children. The family moved to Utah and St. Louis before settling in Nebraska, where Gutzon's father practiced medicine. Gutzon ran away from home several times in his youth and finally at age 17 he left permanently for California to study art. At age 22 he married his teacher who was 40. This marriage ended 20 years later and he married Mary Montgomery who became dedicated to him and his work. They had two children, Lincoln and Mary Ellis, to whom he was absolutely devoted.

Borglum was determined to leave his mark on the world. He became involved in many organizations and causes on local, national, and international levels, while continually producing art. He participated in arts and civic groups, often in founding or leadership positions. He was an aviation enthusiast who exposed corruption in the aeronautics industry during World War I. He established a training camp for the Czechoslovakian Exiled Army on his estate. Borglum had direct access to United States presidents from Theodore Roosevelt to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He was active in many of their campaigns, supporting some and opposing others. They often consulted with him on major issues and he sought their support for his political and artistic activities. Outspoken on a wide range of issues, he maintained an active nationwide lecture schedule.

Borglum had strong opinions on many subjects, including politics, art, government, world affairs, urban planning, aviation, transportation, athletics, architecture, history, philosophy and social issues. He actively corresponded with presidents, congressmen, world leaders, artists. He wrote numerous articles on a variety of topics.



One of the porcelain panels.



A constant traveler, Borglum was always available for comment to reporters inevitably gathered at train stations awaiting his arrival. Borglum maintained a demanding pace on the nationwide lecture circuit. His speeches were popular with the general public who came to expect a dynamic, eloquent and humorous speech no matter what the subject. They were never disappointed. His lecture series allowed him to voice his opinion and it was lucrative, which helped to ease his financial difficulties.

Gutzon Borglum was an established sculptor long before he began Mount Rushmore. Deciding on a career as an artist at age 14, he began his studies in California at 17. He studied in Paris, and lived and worked in London and New York City. He began as a painter but quickly turned to sculpture. It was not long before he established himself as a monumental sculptor of note, completing more than to public commissions worldwide during his lifetime.

In 1902 Borglum moved to New York City where he sculpted *Mares of Diomedes*, which was the first work by an American sculptor to enter the collection of Metropolitan Museum of Art and *I Have Piped*, later placed at Forest Lawn Cemetery in California, where Gutzon and Mary are buried.

Borglum's 1907 bust of Abraham Lincoln established him as an accomplished sculptor. Based on the success of the Lincoln bust, Borglum won a commission for a Lincoln sculpture in Newark, New Jersey.

In 1916 Borglum began plans to carve a panorama of Southern military heroes, marching men, stamping horses and rolling guns across a mountainside at Stone Mountain in Georgia. In 1919 he began work on the *Wars of America* memorial for Newark, which has 42 figures including portraits of the artist and his son. After moving to San Antonio, Texas, in 1925, he was commissioned to design the *Texas Trail Drivers' Memorial* and in 1928, the *North Carolina Memorial* at Gettysburg. He sculpted a statue of President Wilson for Poznan, Poland, that was unveiled in 1931, but subsequently destroyed on orders from Hitler when Nazi Germany invaded Poland in 1939.

## THE MEANING OF MOUNT RUSHMORE

The four American presidents carved into the granite of Mount Rushmore were chosen by sculptor Gutzon Borglum to commemorate the founding, growth, preservation and development of the United States. They symbolize the principles of liberty and freedom on which the nation was founded. George Washington signifies the struggle for independence and the birth of the Republic; Thomas Jefferson the territorial expansion of the country; Abraham Lincoln the permanent union of the states and equality for all citizens; and Theodore Roosevelt the 20th century role of the United States in world affairs and the rights of the common man.

The following is a brief history of the United States' first 150 years. This is not meant to be a scholarly version of American history, but to weave the four presidents on Mount Rushmore into the early and important events of America's development.

Between 1700 and 1750 the British colonial population in America increased to more than one million and pressure mounted to occupy the land west of the Appalachians. British expansion was a threat to the Indians, French and Spanish. As a result of the French and Indian War, also known as the Seven Years War, France lost all of its land in North America to Great Britain and Spain.

The French and Indian War demonstrated just how independent the colonists had become. American merchants were trading illegally with French Caribbean sugar islands. The British resolved to reassert control. Customs agents were ordered to crack down on the smugglers and courts were directed to try them. For the first time, Britain posted a large peacetime army in her American colonies.

Dislike of George III dated from an early act authorizing indiscriminate searches of private homes. In 1761 James Otis, an impassioned lawyer, spoke out against such search warrants, saying that man has natural rights upon which no king can infringe. In 1765 a Stamp Act levied taxes to raise funds to support British troops in the colonies. This outraged the colonists who boycotted British goods and forced repeal of the act. In the Virginia House of Burgesses, Patrick Henry in a dramatic speech challenged taxation without representation. Unrest grew when British soldiers fired into angry crowds killing five people in the Boston Massacre. Samuel Adams played a vital role in the rebellion along with John Hancock who helped to organize resistance. In 1773 patriots threw shipments of tea into Boston harbor in protest of these taxes. This incident became known as the Boston Tea Party.

On April 18, 1775, British Major General Thomas Gage sent troops from Boston to Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, to capture colonial leaders and military supplies. Warned by Paul Revere, 70 militiamen met 180 British soldiers at Lexington. Shots were exchanged and the

Redcoats marched on to Concord where 450 Americans faced 700 British. By day's end, 50 Americans and 73 British had been killed.

Lexington and Concord transformed a local, political struggle into a full-scale confrontation in which all 13 colonies joined.

American morale had plummeted to its lowest point in 1776 during the terrible retreat that followed humiliating defeats in New York. On Christmas night, 1776, Washington led his men through the snow and sleet in a surprise attack on Trenton, New Jersey, smashing three regiments. Nearly 900 men were either killed or captured. Only four Americans were wounded. After victories at Trenton and Princeton, New Jersey, the army knew that its enemy could be beaten. In the siege at Yorktown, a white cloth appeared on the British ramparts. General George Cornwallis, the British commander, was asking for terms. Surrender followed and an entire British army marched past the quiet ranks of American and French troops to stack its arms. It would be nearly two years before the peace treaty, but the war was over.

Alone among the founders of the United States, George Washington earned the title "Father of his Country" in recognition of his leadership in the cause of American independence. Appointed commander of the Continental Army in 1775, he molded a fighting force that won independence from Great Britain.

On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia put before the Continental Congress the momentous resolution calling for a Declaration of Independence, foreign alliances and a confederation of American states. Thomas Jefferson, a 33-year-old Virginian known for his eloquent and persuasive arguments, was selected to prepare a draft. Benjamin Franklin and John Adams also played an important role. The declaration was a ringing assertion of the right to revolt, carefully erected upon the principle that government ultimately rests upon the consent of the governed.

After the American victory in its war for independence, the treaty of 1783 ceded a region that was larger than much of Western Europe. The delegation to the 1783 Treaty Conference included John Jay, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Henry Laurens and their aide, Franklin's grandson, William. The Americans led by Franklin won a territorial cession stretching from Spanish Florida in the south to British Canada in the north, to Spanish Louisiana beyond the Mississippi River.

Following the Revolutionary War, an issue that threatened to pull the new nation apart was who would control the land beyond the Appalachian mountains. The question pitted large states against small. Many states claimed a slice of the West, based on founding charters that granted "sea to sea" corridors. At the Continental Congress the smaller states led by Maryland argued for the creation of a national domain under congressional control. In 1784, Virginia broke the impasse by ceding to Congress its claim to territory from the Ohio River to Canada, paving the way for the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, which set an orderly course for national expansion.

The Northwest Ordinance set the number of states northwest of the Ohio River at no more than five and no less than three. It also established a plan for territorial governments and a system for the entry of new states into the union.

In May, 1787, James Madison joined 54 other men in Philadelphia at the Constitutional Convention. The 36-year-old Virginian played a commanding role at the convention and his design for a national government prevailed. George Washington was chosen president of the Constitutional Convention and helped guide the deliberations to form a government that to this date has lasted more than 200 years. As president, Washington helped develop the relationships among the three branches of government. He initiated precedents that successfully launched the new government on its course.

Alexander Hamilton, a former aide to George Washington, became Madison's ally at the Constitutional Convention in support of a strong federal government.

From this convention emerged the United States Constitution. Thomas Jefferson's objection to the Constitution when he read it in France was that it contained no guarantee of personal rights. Jefferson and Madison later pressed for the addition of a bill of rights.

As a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, Jefferson was part of the increasingly anti-British faction. He drafted the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, and as a delegate to the Continental Congress he was chosen to be on the committee to write the Declaration of Independence and became its principal author.

Jefferson was governor of Virginia from 1779-81, and minister to France from 1784-89. He was secretary of state under George Washington, vice president under John Adams, and became the third president of the United States (1800-09). He was a man of wide-ranging interests including law, horsemanship, music, agriculture, botany, astronomy, invention and architecture, and was the founder of the University of Virginia.

The first census of the United States in 1790 counted 3,929,214 people.

In 1798 the Alien and Sedition Acts were passed by a Federalist Congress to suppress opposition. Several writers and newspaper editors were tried for attacking President Adams, ten were fined and jailed. Virginia and Kentucky resolutions protested the acts as unconstitutional. Kentucky's, which was written by Jefferson, asserted states' rights to nullify such acts of Congress.

In 1801 Jefferson started to plan an expedition across the far west. Jefferson hired Captain Meriwether Lewis, a frontier officer and a family friend, to be his private secretary, and for two years the men went over plans for the expedition. In 1803 the president asked Congress for financing. In asking for permission to cross the Louisiana Territory, he emphasized the scientific purposes of the expedition, leaving unspoken his desire to increase the legitimacy of the United States' claim to the entire continent.

When Lewis and William Clark returned from their two-year, 7,000-mile journey, they had crossed the Rockies twice; mapped the Missouri River, the Rocky Mountains, and the Columbia River country; collected linguistic, botanical, zoological, geographical and commercial data, and opened the upper Missouri River to the fur trade.

Although Jefferson's hope for a practicable water route across this continent for the purpose of commerce and the dreams of an ice-free Northwest Passage were not fulfilled, the expedition was a success, giving the U.S. an advantage in its bid to secure the Northwest.

During their trip, Lewis and Clark made an important addition to their party, a young Shoshoni woman, Sacagawea. Her presence proved that the expedition was not a war party and her ability to speak Shoshoni enhanced the group's trading for horses needed to travel over the mountains to navigable rivers.

Even before Lewis and Clark had set out on their journey, Jefferson engineered the purchase of the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803 which doubled the national domain by adding a 900,000-square-mile region to the United States at a bargain price of 15 million dollars. Jefferson sent Secretary of State James Monroe to France to accept the French offer.

"Free trade and sailors' rights" was the cry that rallied public support for the War of 1812. British attacks on American shipping and impressment of American sailors during the Napoleonic War were the official reasons given but the deciding vote for war was from the expansionist-minded congressional "war hawks" who saw their chance to rid the continent of the British and take possession of Canada.

By defeating the British at Lake Erie — the first time an entire British fleet was captured — the Americans under Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry took control of Lake Erie and with it most of the old Northwest. The war ended with no clear winner, but for the United States the Northwest was secure, giving the Americans room to expand.

In 1814, the U.S. population exceeded eight million, concentrated along the Atlantic Coast. Andrew Jackson's 1815 victory over the British at the battle of Chalmette fired patriotic fervor. Europe realized that the United States was a power. Later, Jackson chased raiding Seminoles into Spanish Florida, pushing Spain into making concessions. Florida was ceded to the United States by Spain along with her claims to the Oregon country for five million dollars.

An 1818 treaty with Britain demilitarized the Canadian border and prescribed joint control of the Oregon country.

These new territories threatened the North-South balance in Congress. New England opposed more slave states. The Missouri Compromise outlawed slavery north of latitude 36 degrees, with the exception of Missouri which entered the Union as a slave state. Maine entered free. Jefferson lamented that the controversy "like a fire bell in the night awakened and filled me with dread."

The U.S. Government's long standing policy of Indian removal, encouraging or forcing eastern Indians to migrate west, gained momentum after Jackson became president in 1820. Increasing numbers of Chickasaws, Choctaws, Creeks, Seminoles and Cherokees were forced to move west to Oklahoma. Jackson's secretary of war, Lewis Cass, called the movement "the great experiment" but to the Indians, who not only lost their homes but suffered death and disinheritance, it was thereafter known as "The Trail of Tears."

In 1831, a two-day uprising by Virginia field hands led by Nat Turner claimed the lives of about 60 whites before militiamen crushed it, killing perhaps 100 blacks. The rebellion brought harsher laws in the South and greater awareness of the cost of slavery in the North.

The U.S. population exceeded seventeen million people in 1840.

Texas was admitted to the union of states in 1845.

What began in April, 1846, as a skirmish on the banks of the Rio Grande River between Mexican forces and U.S. troops under General Zachary Taylor became a war in May. The bloody victory over Mexico heaped glory on the army and two of its generals, Zachary Taylor and

Franklin Pierce, who would become presidents in the next decade. Others involved in the action included Jefferson Davis and West Point graduates Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant and George McClellan. Mexico ended its remaining claim on Texas and the lands of New Mexico and upper California. The United States gained not only an enormous region of North America but also an equally enormous problem. Where within the new land would slavery be permitted?

In 1847, a potato famine struck Ireland and Irish immigration to the U.S. reached 105,000, doubling that of 1846.

In 1849, speaking out against "the horror of trafficking in the souls and bodies of men," Frederick Douglass became the best known black abolitionist of his age.

In 1857, Dred Scott, a slave who had been taken temporarily into free territory, had his suit for freedom heard by the Supreme Court. The justices decided, seven to two, that Scott was still a slave and even if freed he could not, as a black, claim United States citizenship and sue in federal court. He was considered property.

In 1858, the Republican Party nominated Abraham Lincoln for U.S. Senator from Illinois. His Democratic opponent was Stephen A. Douglas, nationally known as chairman of the Senate Committee on Territories. Lincoln challenged Douglas to a series of debates with the chief issue being slavery. Douglas won. Lincoln lost his bid for the Senate. In the end, however, Lincoln was the winner because Douglas' Freeport Doctrine kept the South from nominating him for the presidency in 1860. The debates brought Lincoln national attention leading to his nomination for president.

Following secession of the southern states, Lincoln, at his presidential inauguration in March, 1861, implored the South to show restraint and tried to dispel its mistrust, but he also pledged to do whatever was necessary to preserve the Union. The South responded by firing on Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, April 12, 1861. The result was four years of bloody conflict.

In January, 1861, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation to free slaves within those states in rebellion, thus raising the war to a higher moral plane. Later in January, 1865, Lincoln secured congressional approval of the 13th amendment that abolished slavery in the United States.

Audacious on the attack, superb in defense, General Robert E. Lee led the Confederate army of northern Virginia. His men held devout, soft-spoken Lee in awe, even in defeat. "We who live shall never see his like again," a soldier wrote at Appomattox Court House.

If Lee embodied cavalier Virginia, his Union counterpart represented pragmatic Yankee stoic. General Ulysses S. Grant's strategy was: "Find out where your enemy is, get at him as soon as you can, and strike him as hard as you can, and keep moving on."

Outnumbered by more than two to one, the million volunteers who took up arms for the southern states drew strength from the fact that they were fighting to defend their homes and families. But the North's industrial strength gave the Union vast superiority in ordnance over the Confederates who had to buy military supplies from France and Britain and then run the gauntlet of the Union naval blockade.

While Grant's campaign unfolded, Lee resisted pressure to send troops west to reinforce Vicksburg. He had just won a victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia; another on the northern soil might end the war. Confederate President Jefferson Davis concurred and Lee invaded Pennsylvania. The climactic battle he sought took place over the first three days of July, 1863, at Gettysburg. When fighting ended, more than 51,000 men were missing, wounded or dead. The Union's victory ended the Confederacy's last attempt to invade the North.

Lincoln's struggle to end the bloody Civil War was never realized by him in office. As he attended the play, "Our American Cousin," at Ford's Theater in 1865 he was assassinated. Lee had surrendered his army at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, a few days earlier. Other Confederate forces soon followed.

At war's end debate raged over terms for defeated states' re-entry to the Union.

In 1867, Congress required new state constitutions that guaranteed equal rights and the vote for blacks. The southern states refused to carry out the reforms and enacted discriminatory anti-black Jim Crow laws. The states of the South were readmitted. For the most part reconstruction had not produced lasting accomplishments.

The centuries-long conflict between European settlers and native Americans reached its peak in the decade following the Civil War.

In 1868, representatives of the U.S. government signed a treaty at Fort Laramie in Wyoming with the Lakota, Cheyenne and Arapaho nations of the Great Plains. A large area in eastern Wyoming and western Dakota territory was designated unceded Indian country while much of present-day South Dakota was set aside as the great Sioux reservation. But in 1874, gold was discovered in the Black Hills, the heart of the new Indian Reservation, and thousands of



**Gutzon Borglum's daughter, Mary Ellis Borglum Vhay, middle, poses with National Park Service staff during the dedication of the Hall of Records in 1998.**

miners began to swarm into the region. The army tried to control the influx without success and an attempt to buy the Black Hills failed.

The Lakota and Cheyenne left the reservation and resumed raids on settlements and travelers. The commissioner of Indian Affairs ordered the tribes to return before January 31, 1876, or be treated as hostile. When the Indians did not comply the army was called in to enforce the order. Many battles would be fought before the Native Americans were forced to submit.

Territorial growth on the continent ended in 1867 with the purchase of Alaska from Russia for 7.2 million dollars (less than two cents per acre). Hawaii was annexed in 1898 during an era of overseas expansion and remained the only island group to become a state.

In 1871, the United States population exceeded 40 million.

In 1877, the westward movement continued as Congress granted millions of dollars to finance transcontinental rail lines. Settlers purchased railroad lands or homesteaded, populating the region once called "The Great American Desert." In fulfilling the promise of statehood to the settlers, Congress broke up what remained of the Indian ancestral lands. With the buffalo herds virtually exterminated, the tribes were eventually starved into submission to the white man's will. The Army forced American Indians onto scattered reservations. The shrinking of these scattered reservations ended in 1934. Native Americans now number some 15 million. They retain their diversity in 500 tribal groups, speaking 250 languages.

With the essential grid of transport and communication networks laid down, America was ready to transform the process of territorial expansion into economic growth. In pursuit of ever higher profits, the nation's entrepreneurs proved as ruthless, and ultimately, as successful as the land pioneers they succeeded. As economic power was increasingly concentrated in the hands of large corporations, Congress responded to the public pressure by drafting legislation to curb price fixing and other excesses of big business monopolies, known as "trusts". The Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 was passed.

In 1868, the acquisition of the Hawaiian Islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean provided a base of operations on a vital route between California and the Orient. Closer to home, the nation's leaders began to realize the strategic and economic importance of the Caribbean, especially when they considered the possibility of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Fresh resources were poured into naval forces and in 1898, following the mysterious explosion of the battleship Maine in Havana, Cuba, which killed 260 Americans, the country entered its first major overseas military adventure against the decaying imperial power of Spain.

As assistant secretary of the Navy (1897-98) Theodore Roosevelt helped prepare the navy for the Spanish American War. When war broke out he resigned the post and, with Leonard

Wood, organized the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, "Rough Riders," and as its lieutenant colonel led the charge up San Juan Hill in Cuba.

Victory added the Philippine Islands and Guam in the Pacific, Puerto Rico in the Caribbean and considerable influence over the fledgling republic of Cuba.

As president, Theodore Roosevelt was known as a trust buster, a champion of the working man, and a conservationist. For his successful diplomacy in the Russo-Japanese War (1905) he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Aware of the strategic need for a shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific, Roosevelt secured the right to construct the Panama Canal in 1903. Completion of the Panama Canal was a major element in the success of Theodore Roosevelt's presidency.

Gold miners and farmers settled opposite corners of Dakota Territory which became two states in 1889. Ranchers settled Wyoming. Admission of Utah followed its banning of polygamy. Other Northwest territories became states as the railroads pushed westward. By 1912 there were 48 states. Not until 1959, with the admission of Hawaii and Alaska, were there 50 states.

In 1886, "Liberty Enlightening the World" — a giant statue given by France — was dedicated in New York harbor. The statue greeting immigrants from foreign countries to America is called "The Statue of Liberty."

In 1903 a 12-second flight above Kill Devil Hill in North Carolina was the first time, said pilot Orville Wright, that "a machine carrying a man had raised itself by its own power into the air in full flight, had sailed forward without reduction of speed, and had finally landed at a point as high as that from which it had started."

The Wyoming Territory granted women the right to vote in 1869. By 1910, females composed one-fifth of the nation's work force. They shared the vote with men in 21 states by 1914 but, nationwide, suffrage did not come until 1920 with the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

In 1914, war broke out in Europe and the United States tried to remain neutral. President Woodrow Wilson was reelected in 1916, helped in large part by the slogan, "He kept us out of war." This initial neutrality gradually gave way to support for the Allies led by Britain and France. Meanwhile, the Central Powers, led by Germany, launched unrestricted submarine warfare on neutral ships. In 1917, United States declared war on the German empire to make the world "safe for democracy". More than two million American soldiers were sent to Europe in 1917 and 1918. The American assistance led to victory for the Allies in this conflict, known as World War I. President Wilson, in Paris, France, to negotiate the armistice, pushed for a League of Nations to maintain world peace. The United States refused to support Wilson's plan and the country returned to a mainly isolationist foreign policy.

In 1927, work began in the Black Hills of South Dakota to commemorate the first 150 years of America's history by carving a monumental sculpture on Mount Rushmore.

**"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."**

— Thomas Jefferson, Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

**"The preservation of the sacred fire of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked, on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people."**

George Washington, First Inaugural Address, April 30, 1789

**"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us — that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion... that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."**

— Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863

**"We, here in America, hold in our hands the hopes of the world, the fate of the coming years; and shame and disgrace will be ours if in our eyes the light of high resolve is dimmed, if we trail in the dust the golden hopes of men."**

Theodore Roosevelt, Address at Carnegie Hall, March 29, 1901