



# Cornerstones of a New Nation





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## SIDE A The Declaration of Independence

### Program Sequence

Benjamin Franklin reflects on what might have happened to the signators of the Declaration of Independence . . . "Just suppose George Washington hadn't won the Battle of Yorktown . . . we could all easily have been hanged—traitors, every one of us."

Long before Yorktown, things look very bleak for the delegates to the Continental Congress..Another mournful dispatch is received from George Washington: "Forty-five British ships arrived today—I am hopeful that before they attack, I shall get some reinforcements" . . . and a depressing report about the condition of the Continental Army is made by John Adams: "Disgraced, defeated, discontented, diseased, naked, undisciplined, eaten up with vermin."

Also, many of the colonists prefer to stay under King George rather than risk the untried perils of democracy. But then, early in July 1776, the arguments dwindle to a single issue: independence . . . Richard Henry Lee's resolution comes up for a vote—and finally, on July 2, it passes.

A committee of five—Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston—has been chosen to draw up a formal declaration . . . Jefferson is selected to write the document . . . the committee suggests changes . . . then the delegates make further changes . . . the one change most painful to Jefferson is the deletion of his clause abolishing slavery.

The Declaration of Independence is accepted on July 4th . . . it is read and proclaimed throughout the land . . . and the parchment is formally signed on August 2nd, 1776.

### Credits

Script: Mariah Marvin  
Narrator: Ray Reinhardt (as Benjamin Franklin)  
Cast: Mark Bramhall; David Coxwell; Fay DeWitt; Bill Hollenbeck; Scott Hylands; Robin King; Dudley Knight; Bill Paterson; Jerry Walter.

### Musical Excerpts:

*Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean*—Becket (Orchestra); *Symphony No. 2*—Ives (Orchestra)

### Supplementary Music Suggestions

*Fourth of July* (Columbia MS-6889) . . . . .Ives  
*Derry Down* ("Singing Holidays"—Oscar Brand) . . . . .Trad.  
*The Old Soldiers of the King*  
("Singing Holidays"—Brand) . . . . .Trad.  
*Free America* ("Songs of America"—Ewen) . . . . .Anon—Warren

SOCAL 8-15/16

## SIDE B The Constitution and Bill of Rights

### Program Sequence

Ben Franklin: "What do revolutionaries do when they win? . . . How do they get down to the business of making it all worth it? . . . Well, in 1787, we delegates were called again to Philadelphia."

James Madison: "We there at the convention were to design a constitution that would work in the future...in an America of which none of us could have a clear idea."

A 20th Century Black: "You didn't even include a bill of rights...that had to be added when the first Congress met."

Madison: "Yes, I suppose we were naive ... 'We the people,' we said, not anticipating that the people might break into a fellow citizen's home, or censor the press, or keep a man rotting in jail."

20th Century Black: "We the people? Which people? We the *White* people is what you meant, wasn't it?"

20th Century Woman: "We the *White male* people is what they meant."

20th Century Youth: "Let's say they meant the *White male* people *over 21*, shall we?"

Madison: "Granted. But you see, the *machinery* was there." (Dialogue ensues concerning relevancy of Constitution and Bill of Rights to problems of 1970's. Franklin and Madison agree problems cited seem awesome.)

Madison: "Yes. I see. I see. But in the meantime, look to the rights of men. Even those with whom you disagree—especially those with whom you disagree . . . the rights of men have at times been imperfectly guarded here in America, but the ideal is there ... whatever you do with our America, now that she's in your hands, take care."

### Credits

Script: Mariah Marvin  
Cast: Mark Bramhall; Christopher Brooks; Fay DeWitt; Susanne Franklin; Bill Hollenbeck; Scott Hylands; Steve Knox; Bill Paterson; Ray Reinhardt; Jerry Walter.

### Musical Excerpts:

*America, the Beautiful*—Ward (Pete Seeger—Folkways FA-2323)

### Supplementary Music Suggestions

*Enraptured I Gaze* ("American Heritage Song Book") . . . . .Hopkinson  
*The President's March* ("Exploring Music 5" records) . P. Phile  
*Froggie Went A-Courtin'* (Folkways FA 2323) . . . . . Trad.  
*Ode to the Fourth of July* ("A Treasury of American Song" Downes/Siegmeister) . . . . . Garnett

The following special references are acknowledged and recommended:

#### SIDE A

Donald Barr Chidsey: *July 4, 1776*, Crown Publishers, Inc., NY, 1958  
Cornel Lengyel: *Four Days in July*, Doubleday & Co., Garden City, NY, 1958  
Dumas Malone: *The Story of the Declaration of Independence*, Oxford University Press, NY, 1954

#### SIDE B

Catherine Drinker Bowen: *Miracle at Philadelphia*, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1966

## STANDARD SCHOOL BROADCAST

Don Jones, Program Manager

Edward Franklin, Program Assistant—Writing & Production

John Sunier, Program Assistant—Music & Recording

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Side B: Americans Fight for Independence

### CORNERSTONES OF A NEW NATION

Side A: The Declaration of Independence  
Side B: The Constitution and Bill of Rights

### THE NEW NATION IS LAUNCHED

Side A: First Congress—First President  
Side B: The Jefferson Era

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Side A: Madison's War and Monroe's Doctrine  
Side B: Federal Power vs. State's Rights

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Detail from *Declaration of Independence* by John Trumbull (1756-1843)  
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"OUR NATION'S HERITAGE"

Cornerstones of a New Nation

SIDE A

SOCAL 8-15

The Declaration of Independence



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The Constitution and Bill of Rights



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