

# **THE FOUNDING**

## **ANNOTATED RESEARCH SOURCES**

**Benjamin Franklin: An American Life by Walter Isaacson  
Simon & Schuster. 2003.**

**Definitive biography of American polymath & statesman**

**Federalist Papers #10 & #51 by James Madison**

**Library of Congress Research Guides. 1787-88.**

**Essays promoting ratification of the American Constitution**

**We The People by Jill Lepore**

**W. W. Norton & Company. 2025.**

**The primacy of amendment in constitutional democracy**

**The American Soul by Jacob Needleman**

**Tarcher, New York. 2003.**

**Inner beliefs & search for wisdom of America's founders**

**Benjamin Franklin Historical Society: research website**

**University of Massachusetts. 2014.**

**Wide variety of articles on Franklin's life & 13 Virtues**

**George Washington's Mount Vernon: research website**

**The Mount Vernon Ladies Association. 2026.**

**Videos & digital resources on Washington's life & times**

**Benjamin Franklin House: museum**

**National Heritage Site – United Kingdom**

**London dwelling place of Franklin from 1757–1774**

**Benjamin Franklin documentary by Ken Burns**

**Public Broadcasting System. 2022.**

**Four-hour depiction of Franklin's life & times**

**The American Revolution documentary by Ken Burns**

**Public Broadcasting System. 2025.**

**Twelve-hour depiction of the forces that forged a nation**