

Name _____



The 20th Amendment

Beginning with George Washington's second inauguration in 1793 Inauguration day took place on March 4th. This date was chosen because it is the anniversary of the day the Constitution went into effect in 1789. However, the presidential election takes place in November, and many people thought that four months was too long to wait between electing a new president and their formally assuming the office. The 20th Amendment to the Constitution, ratified on January 23, 1933, changed the dates on which presidential terms began and ended. Since then, inauguration day has been on January 20th. Franklin Delano Roosevelt's was the first president to be inaugurated on January 20th at his second inauguration in 1937.

Why did Inauguration Day change?

Who was the first president to be inaugurated in January?