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## Framed for Posterity: The Enduring Philosophy of the Constitution

By Ralph Ketcham

University Press of Kansas. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 220 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.3in. x 0.8in. In *Marbury v. Madison* Chief Justice John Marshall defined the Constitution as a superior, paramount law, one that superseded the laws passed by Congress and state legislatures. What makes it paramount This book sets out to recover the enduring principles, purposes, and meanings that inform the founders charter and continue to offer us political guidance more than 200 years later. In so doing it steers a middle course between originalists who constrict interpretation to constitutional specifics and relativists who adapt the Constitution to the moment by ignoring original meaning. Original intent, Ralph Ketcham argues, is best discerned by a study of the political climate that nourished the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and, more particularly, by understanding the broader meanings, intentions, and purposes of the framers. To recover this full context of political thinking, Ketcham delves not only into the meaning of the documents but also into the connotations of the framers vocabulary, the reasoning behind both accepted and rejected propositions, arguments for and against, and unstated assumptions. In his analysis the fundamental or enduring principles are republicanism, liberty, public good, and federalism...



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