

# A NEW PRESIDENTIAL RECTANGLE

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The May 1976 **Word Ways** published a 17x31 rectangle containing the (then) 33 different presidential surnames. With the election of Bill Clinton, I decided to update this rectangle. As shown below, 37 surnames (the previous 33, plus Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton) have been squeezed into a smaller 17x29 rectangle. Taking into account both the increased number of names and the smaller rectangle size, the overall improvement is 16.5 per cent.

Note that the rightmost column contains only one letter, Y. If MCKINLEY could be relocated, further reduction is possible. The area at the upper left is relatively open, as is the one at the lower right. TAFT could be moved to connect with ROOSEVELT, and NIXON then moved to connect with WILSON, leaving possibilities at the upper right. If GORE should be the next president, POLK could relocate to PIERCE and GORE go where POLK now is.

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W A S H I N G T O N           B U S H           P
I           A           C           O           N I X O N
L           R   C           O   J A C K S O N           E
S           F I L L M O R E           E   V           R
O           I   E           L   F           N   E           M C K I N L E Y
N           T   E   V           I   F           N   R           E           I
           A   L   E           D   E           E           J           S
           F O R D           L   G   R           D           A           M O N R O E
H   T           A           E   S   T Y L E R           T   H   O   N
V A N   B U R E N           O           T   A   N   O   H
R           U           D           L I N C O L N   H A Y E S   S   O
D           C           T           P           U           L   O   E   W
I           H A R R I S O N           C A R T E R           O   N   V   E
N           A   U           L           D           R           E   R
G R A N T   M           K           R E A G A N           L
           A   A           M           T
C L I N T O N           M A D I S O N

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