| | Candidates For POTUS | Major Issues | Why Formed | Why Dissolved | Why Named | Leaders of Party |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Free | | Onnosing | These | Absorbed | Named due to | Charles |
| Free | Martin Van | Opposing | They | | | |
| Soil | Buren | the | opposed | into | anti-slavery | Francis |
| Party | 1848 | expansion of | slavery in | Republican | positions | Adams, Sr. |
| | | slavery into | the new | Party | | |
| | John P. | the western | territories | | | William |
| | Hale | territories | (agreeing | | | Cullen |
| | 1852 | | with the | | | Bryant |
| | | | Wilmot | | | |
| | | | proviso) and | | | Salmon P. |
| | | | sometimes | | | Chase |
| | | | worked to | | | |
| | | | remove | | | Samuel |
| | | | existing laws | | | Hoar |
| | | | that | | | lioui |
| | | | discriminate | | | Francis |
| | | | d against | | | Kernan |
| | | | freed African | | | Kernan |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | Americans. | | | John Letcher |
| | | | | | | Charles |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Sumner |
| | | | | | | Benjamin |
| | | | | | | Tappan |
| | | | | | | тарран |
| | | | | | | Walt |
| | | | | | | Whitman |
| | | | | | | vvincinari |
| | | | | | | Henry |
| | | | | | | Wilson |
| W/bi~ | \A/illiam | Favored | Opposed to | Destroyed | This pares | |
| Whig | William | Favored | Opposed to | Destroyed | This name | Henry Clay |
| Party | Henry | modernization and | the policies | by the | was chosen to | |
| | Harrison | | of President | question | echo the | |
| | 1841 | economic | Andrew | of | American | |
| | | protections | Jackson and | whether | Whigs of | |
| | John Tyler | | his | to allow | 1776, who | |
| | 1841-45 | | Democratic | the | fought for | |
| | | | Party | expansion | independence | |
| | Zachary | | | of slavery | , and because | |
| | Taylor | | | to the | "Whig" was | |
| | 1849-50 | | | territories | then a widely | |
| | | | | | recognized | |

| | Millard Fillmore 1850-53 | | | | label of choice for people who identified as opposing tyranny. | |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Know Nothing Party | *Daniel Webster 1852 Millard Fillmore 1856 | It strove to curb immigration and naturalization | It promised to purify American politics by limiting or ending the influence of Irish Catholics and other immigrants | In the presidential election of 1856, it was bitterly divided over slavery. | "Know Nothing" term was in the semi- secret organization of the party. When a member was asked about its activities, he was supposed to reply, "I know nothing." | Ex-President Millard Fillmore, Massachusetts Congressman Nathaniel P. Banks, and former congressma n Lewis C. Levin. |

*Whig Party member for the majority of his career