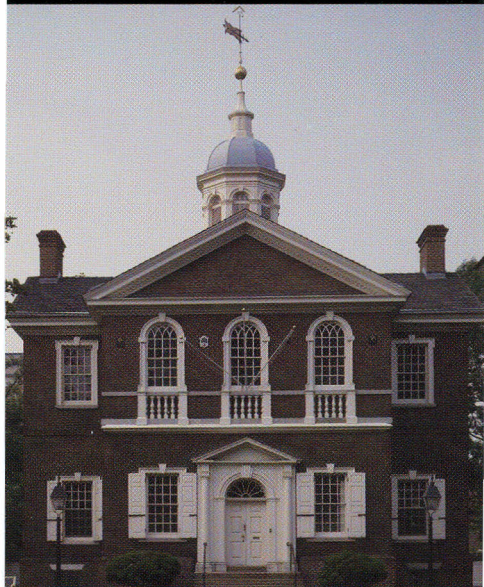


Independence National Historical Park



Carpenters' Hall

THE FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

Carpenters' Hall

built by Carpenters' Company, Philadelphia, 1770.



Constructed in 1770, Carpenters' Hall has served many roles. In the fall of 1774, delegates from 12 colonies met as the Continental Congress to discuss the mounting crisis with Britain. They took the first steps toward war and the birth of a new nation. The next December, Ben Franklin and John Jay met secretly with a French agent, laying groundwork for the alliance that helped gain American independence.

*"We ask but for peace, liberty, and safety."
First Continental Congress to King George III*