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The Independence Hall, Pennsylvania, United States of America

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Introduction

- ▶ UNESCO focus on preserving cultural heritage
- ▶ It defines it as a product or process that generates wealth to a country
- ▶ These wealth are inherited from the past
- ▶ Past generations created them and preserved them for the future
- ▶ The world contains 1121 properties considered as symbols of cultural heritage

The Independence Hall

- ▶ The Independence Hall is a world heritage site
- ▶ It is located in Philadelphia, United States
- ▶ It was adopted during the US declaration of independence
- ▶ It symbolizes freedom



<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/independence-hall-world-heritage-site.htm>

Developing Independence Hall

- ▶ The hall was designed by Andrew Hamilton and Edmund Woolley
- ▶ It was developed to host Pennsylvania Colonial Assembly of the commonwealth
- ▶ It was completed in 1753
- ▶ It comprised a modest brick structure and a shelter for the liberty bell
- ▶ The building has undergone different restorations



World Heritage Site



- ▶ The Independence Hall was declared a World Heritage Site in 1979
- ▶ It became the first US property to be included in UNESCO World Heritage List
- ▶ It was included as it contains documents that are considered fundamental to the US history
- ▶ These documents enabled the US become democratic country
- ▶ The US constitution has influenced other countries towards exercising democracy, thus making the hall a global symbol of freedom.

Archeology



The Assembly Room of the Independence Hall

- ▶ It is considered as the birthplace of America
- ▶ The founding fathers of the country met and debated about the US independence
- ▶ Also, the US constitution was debated and signed within the building
- ▶ Therefore, the new America was formed in the Hall

Significance of Independence Hall

- ▶ The hall was used as a supreme court courtroom
- ▶ This is located on the first floor of the building
- ▶ In 1776, militia from Pennsylvania stormed the room and tore down the court of arms
- ▶ This was after the US declared its independence on the 4th of July
- ▶ Later, during the Centennial, visitors come here to celebrate the birth of the United States



The Courtroom

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Governor's Chamber

- ▶ It was later used by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania to hold meetings in 18th century
- ▶ Pennsylvania also used it as a US District Court
- ▶ It was used to try fugitive slaves in 1850s
- ▶ Currently, it contains a surveyor tool which was used to draw the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland

Importance of Independence Hall

- ▶ It served as a chamber for the Committee of the Assembly
- ▶ The hall was used to store military goods in 18th century
- ▶ It was also used as Marshall's office in 19th century
- ▶ Above the declaration of independence, accused fugitives were tried



Committee of the Assembly Chamber

Thoughts about the Hall



- ▶ Many Americans embrace the hall as a symbol of freedom and national unity
- ▶ Most of them visit the hall to celebrate the birth of America
- ▶ Foreigners also visit Pennsylvania to visit the hall
- ▶ This is a source of revenue to the country
- ▶ It also boosts study and understanding of the US history

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- ▶ Some believe the independence hall has received less attention
- ▶ According to such critics, the hall should be further renovated
- ▶ The hall receives little attention from the government
- ▶ Also, tourists visiting the hall receive unfriendly treatment
- ▶ If this is the case, the problem should be addressed to restore the dignity and the significance of the Independence Hall to the Americans.



Reference

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/independence-hall-world-heritage-site.htm>

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