

Freemasons and the Signing of the Declaration of Independence



Out of all the 56 men who actually signed the Declaration of Independence, 9 were confirmed to be Freemasons. Signers included 2 future presidents along with 3 vice presidents and 10 other future members of congress. John Adams was the first person to sign. The declaration was adopted on July 4, 1776, but was signed by the other 55 men at various times up through August 2, 1776.

Of the 56 signers, the 9 men who were confirmed to be Freemasons are:

- Benjamin Franklin, of the Tun Tavern Lodge at Philadelphia;
- John Hancock, of St. Andrew's Lodge in Boston;
- Joseph Hewes, who was recorded as a Masonic visitor to Unanimity Lodge No. 7, Edenton, North Carolina, in December 1776;
- William Hooper, of Hanover Lodge, Masonborough, North Carolina;
- Robert Treat Payne, present at Grand Lodge at Roxbury, Massachusetts, in June 1759;
- Richard Stockton, charter Master of St. John's Lodge, Princeton, Massachusetts in 1765;
- George Walton, of Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Savannah, Georgia; and
- William Whipple, of St. John's Lodge, Portsmouth, New Hampshire

