

The story of American architecture is one of innovation and adaptation. Resourcefulness and adaptation, combined with influences from European heritage, laid the foundation for a rich and evolving architectural landscape. This style retained the Georgian emphasis on symmetry and proportion but introduced distinctly American elements like fanlights above doorways and oval windows. The symmetrical design and classical details of structures like the Virginia State Capitol conveyed a sense of order and permanence, important for a newly formed nation. Additionally, American architects began incorporating elements that reflected their independence, such as using local materials and simplifying classical ornamentation. These grander houses, with their symmetrical facades and central hallways, reflected a more prosperous lifestyle. Buildings like Independence Hall in Philadelphia exemplify this transitional period, showcasing a style that was both rooted in tradition and uniquely American. Unlike their European counterparts with established traditions, the colonists arriving in North America had to start fresh. Colonists in different regions drew inspiration from their European heritages. However, American colonists weren't simply replicating European styles.