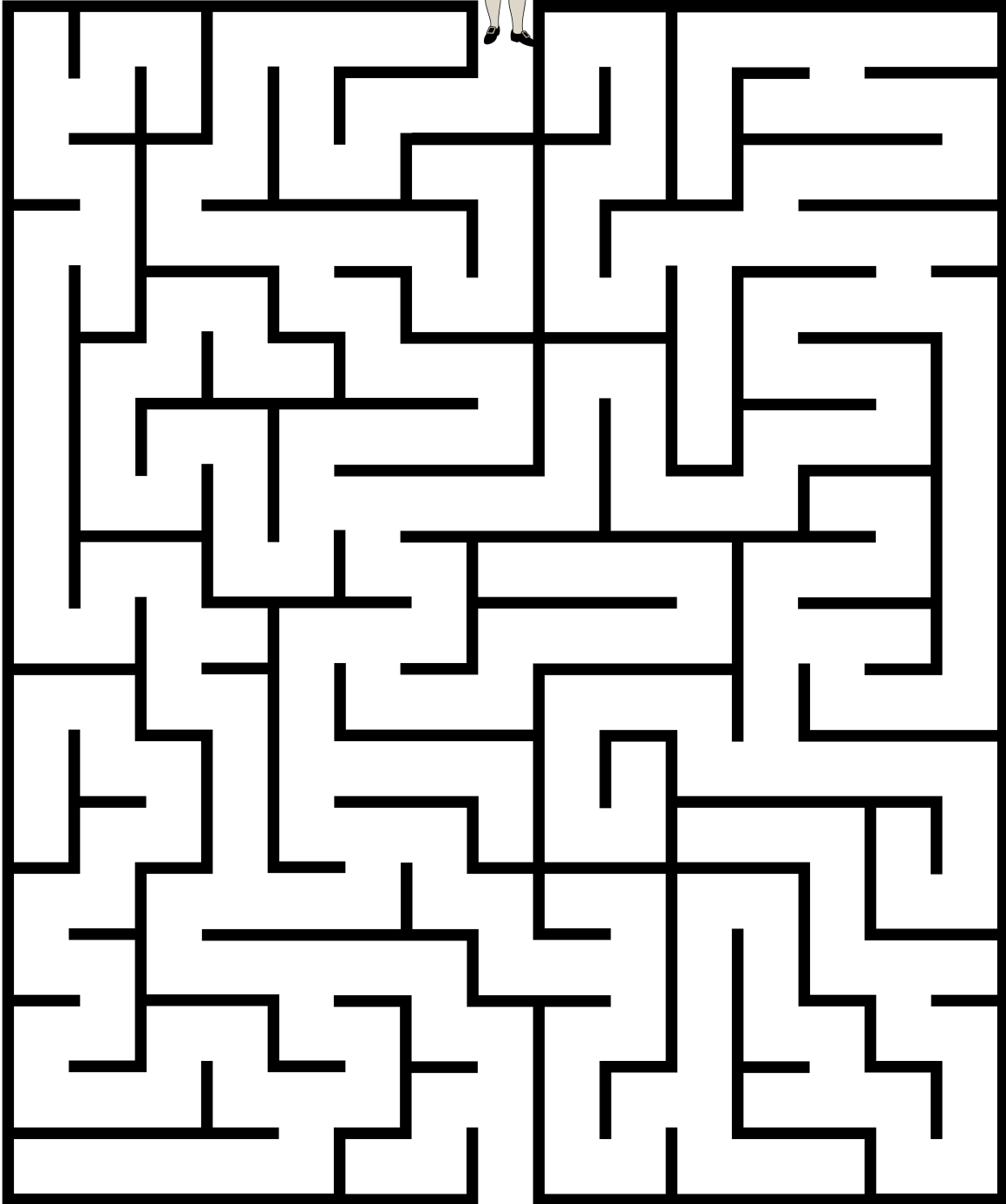


Halifax Resolves

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Halifax Resolves



On April 12, 1776, leaders from across North Carolina met in Halifax for the Fourth Provincial Congress (*a meeting of leaders from the colony who helped make important decisions*). After months of local meetings and discussions, they made a bold choice: they gave their representatives at the Continental Congress (*a big meeting in Philadelphia where delegates from all the colonies worked together*) permission to vote for independence from Britain. These decisions were written down and became known as the Halifax Resolves.

The Halifax Resolves were the first official action by any American colony calling for independence (*separating from Britain and becoming their own country*). All 83 delegates (*people chosen to represent others*) at the meeting agreed. North Carolina sent copies of the Resolves to leaders in Philadelphia, where they helped encourage other colonies to think about independence too.

Soon after, other colonies followed North Carolina's lead. Just a few months later, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence (*the document that officially announced the colonies were free from Britain*) was adopted. Three North Carolinians—William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and John Penn—signed the document.