



2. OLD CITY HALL. Broadway & Hudson Ave. (East side). On this site stood the "Stadt Huys," Albany's first public building. It was small — resembling a residence and not a public building. The common council and the city and county courts held regular sessions here. In 1741 a larger three-story brick building was built to accommodate

the needs of the growing city. It was here that one of the earliest colonial episodes of political reform occurred. In the summer of 1754, Benjamin Franklin met at City Hall with representatives from seven of the colonies to propose his Albany Plan -- a roadmap for centralizing the colonial governments in North America. Ultimately, however, the colonial assemblies and the British government rejected it fearing too great an encroachment upon their authorities.