

"By the COMMITTEE appointed to report the contract entered into by the superintendents for building the stadt-house with Mr. Charles Wallace, and to enquire into and to report whether the contract hath been complied with by Mr. Wallace, and particularly whether the stadt-house is well secured, from any damage from rain, and for what cause the roof of copper was taken off, and what has been done with the said copper; and further that the said committee enquire into and report whether the galleries have been erected agreeable to the contract made with Mr. Wallace.

"The committee have examined the stadt-house throughout, and are of opinion, that many parts thereof are finished with more elegance than was required by the contract, particularly the front door, great hall, and court, the senate house and house of assembly, the president's and speaker's seats, and the galleries. The other parts of the building appear to be done in a masterly and workmanlike manner, except the upper floor over the senate house, which is indifferent. The roof covered with cypress shingles, and are very good of that kind. That part of the dome being unshingled, the same appears to be receiving damage, and are of opinion that said part ought to be shingled and made secure. The repository for the proceedings of the court of appeals, and for the armory, unfinished; a small part of the plaistering in the parapet unfinished; a door for the cellar, a trap-door on the roof, wanting; also about half the window shutters (although put up) are unhung, and although the chimneys are finished, yet the marble jambs and slabs are wanting.

"Your committee are informed by Mr. Wallace, the contractor, that the roof was covered with copper in 1774, which was blown off in September following a storm, and so damaged and spoiled, as to render it unfit for further use, therefore sold by the contractor, as by his memorial will appear.

"All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

"Signed by order, ¹³
NICH. HARWOOD, Cl. Com."

The disposal of the copper covering blown off the roof became a cause celebre for Wallace. When he replied to the committee of July 1779, he pointed out that:

"...He therefore prays your Honors will Direct that his Contracts and Bonds be given up to him, that he be discharged therefrom and from doing anything further on the said Building, and that he may be indemnified in selling and disposing of the Copper afresaid and in applying it as aforesaid and that he may be paid a Sum of Money equal to the £500 in 1777, which is yet due for Building the Galleries, or a Sum adequate to that Service independent of any agreement.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will Pray ... " ^H