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Historic Boston Home of Founding Father John Hancock Hits the Market

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— Categories: Real Estate



A rare piece of American history is now up for sale in the heart of Boston. The former residence of John Hancock, the first man to sign the Declaration of Independence and a key figure in the American Revolution, has been listed on the real estate market, offering a unique opportunity for buyers interested in owning a part of the nation's founding legacy.

The 5,748-square-foot property, now functioning as a law office, is the only known building in Boston still directly tied to Hancock. Listed through LandVest real estate, the home is located in the city's historic center and is registered on the National Register of Historic

Places. The listing notes it is “the last extant property associated with the founding father in Boston.”

Colonial Treasure

Dating back to the mid-1700s, the three-story building showcases original Later Georgian interior design elements. Despite its age, the structure remains remarkably well-preserved and continues to serve a functional purpose in the city. Situated along the iconic Freedom Trail, the home offers immediate access to key Boston landmarks including City Hall, Faneuil Hall, and North Station.

“A fixture on Boston’s iconic Freedom Trail, the property is minutes from City Hall, Faneuil Hall, North Station, the Haymarket and Government Center T stops, and is a short walk across the Greenway to the North End, the Waterfront, and the Boston Harbor commuter ferry services,” the listing reads.

John Hancock played a central role in early American politics. In addition to signing the Declaration, he served as president of the Second Continental Congress and later as the first governor of Massachusetts. He began his public service in 1765 as a Boston selectman and quickly emerged as a vocal opponent of British taxation on the colonies.

In 1768, British customs officials seized Hancock’s ship, the Liberty, for allegedly avoiding import taxes. This event ignited public outrage. As the History Channel states, “Hancock was a popular figure in Boston, and the seizure of his ship led to angry protests by local residents.”

He remains best known for his oversized signature on the Declaration of Independence. According to legend, he wrote it so large that “the English king would not need glasses to read it.” Lesser knows that Hancock was also a candidate in the nation’s first presidential election, although he lost to George Washington, receiving only four votes.

Hancock died on October 8, 1793, at age 56 and was buried at Boston’s Granary Burying Ground, not far from the home now for sale.

The asking price for the property has not been made public. Interested buyers must request pricing details directly through LandVest’s website, where they can also schedule a private tour. Dave Killen is the listing agent and can be contacted at (508) 451-0020.

Though Boston assessed the building at \$1.6 million, its historical value may far exceed that figure. This home offers more than just brick and mortar; it provides a tangible connection to one of America's most iconic patriots.