



**April 24 – John Hancock and Samuel Adams Arrive in Fairfield**  
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With the outbreak of war in Lexington and Concord, revolutionaries John Hancock and Samuel Adams, fearing their imminent arrest by British troops, fled Lexington and arrived in Fairfield on April 24, 1775. Hancock asked his fiancée Dorothy Quincy to leave as well, but she refused, writing, “Recollect, Mr. Hancock, that I am not under your control yet. I shall go to my father [in Boston] tomorrow.” Hancock and Adams sought refuge at the Fairfield home of Thaddeus Burr, located on what is now Old Post Road. Dorothy Quincy later made her way to the Burrs’ home, along with Lydia Hancock, John’s aunt.

Thaddeus and Eunice Dennie Burr entertained many prominent people at their estate during the American Revolution, including Aaron Burr, Jr., second cousin of Thaddeus. The house that stands on Old Post Road today (pictured) was rebuilt around 1790 after their home was destroyed during the 1779 Burning of Fairfield. John Hancock offered to supply the glass for the Burrs’ new home on the condition that it match the style of his own home in Boston. The building was remodeled in the 1800s, which included lifting the roof, adding columns, and altering other features. The Burr Mansion, one of Fairfield’s most prominent historic properties, today hosts community and private events.

Image: Photograph of the Burr Homestead, 1900-1920. The Mabel Osgood Wright Glass Slide Collection, Fairfield Museum.