# Jonathan Trumbull: Governor of Connecticut, 1769-1784

Jonathan Trumbull (October 12, 1710 – August 17, 1785) was an American merchant, politician, and statesman who served as the 15th Governor of the Colony of Connecticut from 1769 to 1784. He was a prominent figure in the American Revolution and is considered one of the Founding Fathers of the United States.



#### Jonathan Trumbull, governor of Connecticut, 1769-1784

by Alissa Quart

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Trumbull was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, the son of Joseph Trumbull and Hannah Treat Trumbull. He graduated from Harvard College in 1727 and then returned to Lebanon to work in his father's mercantile business. He quickly became a successful merchant and was soon involved in local politics. He served as a member of the Connecticut General Assembly from 1733 to 1769 and was Speaker of the House from 1762 to 1769.

In 1769, Trumbull was elected Governor of Connecticut. He served in this position for 15 years, during which time he played a key role in the American Revolution. He was a strong supporter of the Patriot cause and provided much-needed supplies and support to the Continental Army. He also served as a member of the Continental Congress from 1775 to 1778.

After the war, Trumbull continued to serve as Governor of Connecticut until 1784. He then retired to Lebanon, where he died in 1785. He is buried in the Lebanon Cemetery in Lebanon, Connecticut.

#### Legacy

Jonathan Trumbull is considered one of the most important figures in Connecticut history. He was a strong leader during the American Revolution and helped to ensure the success of the Patriot cause. He is also remembered for his many contributions to the state of Connecticut, including his work to establish the University of Connecticut and the Connecticut Agricultural Society.

Trumbull's legacy is also reflected in the many places and things named after him. These include the town of Trumbull, Connecticut; the Trumbull County in Ohio; and the Trumbull Library in Hartford, Connecticut. The Jonathan Trumbull House in Lebanon, Connecticut, is now a museum dedicated to his life and work.

#### **Additional Resources**

- Jonathan Trumbull at Mount Vernon
- Jonathan Trumbull: The Revolutionary Governor at the Connecticut Historical Society

Jonathan Trumbull House in Lebanon, Connecticut

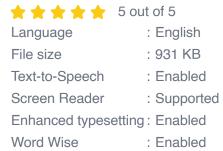
Image: Portrait of Jonathan Trumbull by John Trumbull, c. 1775, oil on canvas, Mount Vernon



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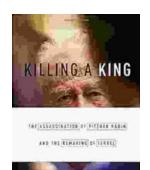
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