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Key NY document from 1775 on display at Capitol

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ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - A Revolutionary War-era document signifying New York's first unified stance against British rule is back in Albany for the first time in at least a century.

Known as the General Association document, the two-page manuscript is in a display of New York artifacts unveiled Wednesday at the state Capitol and neighboring Empire State Plaza.

Historians say the document, written more than a year before the Declaration of Independence and signed by 100 prominent New Yorkers, is among the most important from the state's Revolutionary War period.

It was thought to have been lost in the state Capitol fire of 1911, but turned up at the Onondaga Historical Association in Syracuse, which rediscovered it in 2007.

The group plans to transfer ownership of the document to the state later this year.

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