# Historic Leigh Court mansion in Bristol goes on sale for £5.5 million



Leigh Court, a historically significant mansion located on the outskirts of Bristol, is now available for sale with a minimum asking price of £5.5 million. The estate, set in 22 acres of parkland and woodlands at the western edge of Leigh Woods, has been notable for its use as a filming location in popular television series such as Bridgerton, Doctor Who, and Sanditon. Currently operating as a wedding, events, and conference venue under the ownership of Business West, the decision to sell is attributed to a shift in operations as many employees have transitioned to remote working arrangements.

The mansion's historical roots date back to 1558 when the original house was constructed. However, this building was demolished in 1812, and the existing Georgian Palladian mansion was erected by Philip John Miles, a prominent landowner and entrepreneur, who is remembered as Bristol's first recorded millionaire upon his death. Business West acquired Leigh Court in 2004, transforming it into a venue for events and as their organisational headquarters.

Simon Price, a partner at Alder King, the agency tasked with marketing Leigh Court, commented on the sale, stating that it represents "a rare opportunity to acquire a property with significant historical and architectural value in a well-connected location." He also noted the potential for various alternative uses for the estate including a hotel, private residential home, apartments, or a retirement living scheme, subject to necessary planning consents. The agency highlighted that the 1.27-acre car park could also allow for further development.

However, the anticipated sale has elicited criticism from local businessman Johnny Palmer, who owns a converted stable block adjacent to the mansion. Palmer has expressed concerns regarding proposals from agents indicating that potential buyers might consider constructing new homes on the car park. He believes such developments would not be viable or ethical and could detrimentally affect the ecological integrity of the area.

Speaking about his investment in the Leigh Court estate, Palmer stated, "We purchased the stables of the Leigh Court estate in 2022 and have enjoyed developing this stunning location." He emphasised a commitment to preserving the estate as a valuable community asset rather than converting it to high-density residential use which he fears would threaten the area's rich biodiversity.

Palmer elaborated on the complexities surrounding the estate's title and access rights, declaring, "There are also many restrictions on the estate due to its historical importance, listed status and complex ecology." He and other leaseholders are worried that the sale could lead to developments that compromise the vibrant ecosystems that currently flourish on the estate.

In his remarks, Palmer highlighted the importance of community engagement in the future of Leigh Court, urging prospective buyers to consult with current owners before making offers. "We hope that before anyone purchases the estate they will come and speak with the established community who will remain on the estate," he remarked, stressing the necessity of understanding the challenges related to any intended alterations or developments.

As the sale progresses, stakeholders continue to voice their opinions and concerns regarding the future of Leigh Court and its potential impact on the surrounding community and environment.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/south-west/news/19972-landmark-building-used-as-filming-location-for-bridgerton-and-dr-who-up-for-sale> - This article confirms that Leigh Court is for sale with a price tag of £5.5 million and serves as a filming location for shows like Bridgerton and Doctor Who. It also provides details about the property's size and potential uses.
* <https://www.bristolworld.com/lifestyle/homes-and-gardens/historic-country-house-bristol-bridgerton-doctor-who-5046050> - This piece supports the information about Leigh Court's use as a filming location and its current role as a corporate and events venue. It also discusses potential future uses of the estate and concerns regarding development.
* <https://www.bristol247.com/news-and-features/news/leigh-court-for-sale/> - This article corroborates Leigh Court's sale and its historical significance, mentioning its Grade II-listed status and its use in popular TV series. It also highlights concerns from local businessmen about potential developments on the estate.
* <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/492eca/siteassets/publications/benchbooks/evidence/evidbb.pdf> - This document, while not directly related to Leigh Court, provides a broader context on legal evidence and procedures, highlighting the importance of authenticating evidence in legal proceedings.
* <https://www.mass.gov/guide-to-evidence/article-xi-miscellaneous> - Similar to the Michigan courts document, this guide from Massachusetts offers insights into evidence procedures in legal contexts, though it does not directly address Leigh Court.