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BBC World Service Auction: End of an era

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Thousands of fragments of broadcasting history – ranging from entire studios to a picture of Sir Paul McCartney broadcasting live to fans in Russia – are to go under the hammer in a gigantic online auction.

Bush House in London, stronghold of the BBC World Service since the 1940s, has now fallen silent. The World Service was recently consolidated into Broadcast House, but the vacated halls and studios once part of British broadcasting history are still full of technical equipment, microphones and tape recorders, which over the years were used to interview the great and good from around the world.

Now, anybody hankering for some broadcasting memorabilia can place a bid, as everything inside the building not fixed to the walls is being auctioned off online in two separate sales. To own a piece of BBC history you could scoop up lot 1035, a photograph of [Paul McCartney live on the Russian service](#) or 711, a [Steinway baby grand piano](#). Alternatively, perhaps you could use the opportunity to build up your very own home recording studio?

The first part of the auction will end on 27 July; a second phase will take place in September.

Photos & Video: BBC

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