



It was here, in this building, that the Turkish victory in the War of Independence was formally acknowledged and where the Ankara-based Turkish government first met under the leadership and presidency of Atatürk as the sole representative body of the people.

The Mudanya house in which the armistice was signed was built in the nineteenth century by Aleksandr Ganyanof, a Russian timber merchant. The house was later bought by Mehmet Hayri Ipar, a prominent local merchant who had been born in the house and whose family had been its tenants. Ipar bequeathed this house – one of great importance to the history of the Turkish Republic – to the Mudanya municipality so that it could be made into a museum. In the notarised deeds of 21 September 1936, Ipar states:

“As a Turk born in Mudanya, it was my intention to transform this building in which the ceasefire was signed into a museum. This wooden structure on the harbour had previously been purchased by the municipality of Mudanya and the fittings and furnishings had long since been sold or given away as gifts. Having been in a state of decay, I restored the building and the quay to their former glory. I also bought the adjacent wooden houses and had them pulled down. I restored the surroundings and had railings erected to enclose and protect the premises. I even tracked down and purchased the lost and damaged furniture items and had them reinstated in their rightful places. I bequeath and entrust the premises and its furnishings to the municipality of Mudanya so it may be used as a museum.”

The structure, a typical two-storey wooden waterfront building, covers an area of 400 square metres, set within grounds of 800 square metres, and has thirteen rooms and two large halls.

