



DEEDS & DON'TS

INSIDE STORIES BEHIND AREA REAL ESTATE DEALS



History Lessons



WILL BRADY TOUCH DOWN IN CT?

Sweltering August got even steamier, at least in Greenwich, where the media buzzed around a couple of hot home shoppers: Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen. Brady and his Brazilian supermodel wife (and three children) already own a \$20 million condo in Tribeca and have bought and sold properties in locales as diverse as Boston's Back Bay and Brentwood in L.A., a spread snapped up for \$40 million by Dr. Dre in 2014. With the NFL season upon us, the Bradys are busy, we imagine. And because we don't want Greenwich to lose out to Alpine, NJ, where they're also looking,

we are going to circumvent all that time-consuming shopping and pre-select a \$39.5 million, circa-1937 manse on Greenwich Harbor with a private beach and dock, pool and pool terrace and six landscaped acres, perfect for the Brady bunch. It's offered by Sally Maloney of Houlihan Lawrence in Greenwich. 203-962-2100.

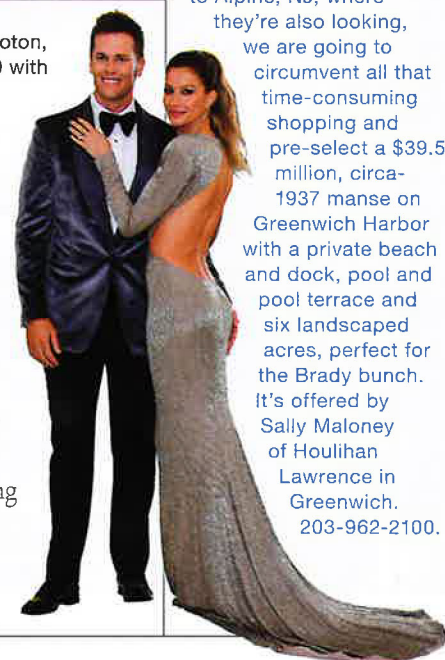
HOUSING TRENDS COME AND GO, BUT antique homes are always in style, at least in our state. Rather like our ousted ancestor, England, we're a small but proud population of people. And what we lack in size, we more than make up for in history—with a long list of iconic home styles to prove it. That's why, as our kids return to the classroom, we've created a veritable curriculum of antique properties, from a Shingle-Style manse to a fancy, turn-of-last-century Victorian. Oh, and bring your checkbook to class, please—they're all for sale!

THE SHINGLE-STYLE MANSE

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CALLS a circa-1895 Groton home "probably the finest Shingle-Style house" in the area. It's located directly on the water on Eastern Point, where the Thames River empties into

Shingle All The Way Located on Eastern Point in Groton, this circa-1895 Shingle-Style home lists for \$995,000 with Tony Walstra of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Old Lyme. 860-460-8825.

Long Island Sound, a one-time fashionable seaside neighborhood and, to this day, a pretty fabulous spot by the looks of it. Because it was built during the Victorian craze, it is tricked out with embellishments of the era, such as a turret, a tower, a wraparound porch and, inside, a fanciful staircase, wainscoting and other custom woodwork. The 3,435-square-foot interiors also offer three bedrooms and five bathrooms, including a master suite with a sitting area overlooking the water. It lists for \$995,000 with Tony Walstra of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.



TOM BRADY AND GISELE BÜNDCHEN: SKY CINEMA/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM



Picture Perfect This restored and expanded circa-1826 Colonial lists for \$2,375,000 with Bettina Hegel of Halstead of New Canaan. 917-842-3349.

THE CLASSIC COLONIAL

THE COLONIAL IS EASILY OUR MOST ubiquitous housing type, mostly because it's the default moniker given to antique homes that are not obviously some other style. Typically, at least across real estate listings, "Colonial" is used to describe an upright, multi-storied house with some combination of clapboard siding, shuttered and gabled windows and a shingled roof. One of the best-dressed Colonials on our list is called Davis Farm, a circa-1826 farmhouse in New Canaan that was restored and expanded a century later by Cameron Clarke, the celebrated architect who crafted and renovated so many of our state's country estates. And nearly a century after that, interior designer Christina Parrott of Catherine Grace Interiors, along with her husband and two boys, rescued it from near "demolition by neglect." The family rehabilitated every square inch of it, saving the wide-board flooring, beamed ceilings, demi-lune windows and handsome mantelpieces, along with the gardens initially designed by Clark's wife, Agnes Selkirk. It lists for \$2,375,000 with Bettina Hegel of Halstead of New Canaan.





On Location A Hollywood movie producer and his actress wife are selling this circa-1795 home in Roxbury, listed for \$1,250,000 with Roger Saucy of Klemm Real Estate in Washington Depot. 203-788-7032.

Because the Colonial is so very Connecticut, we're offering up another one, a circa-1795 estate in Roxbury, owned by movie producer Edward Pressman (*Wall Street, American Psycho*) and his actress wife Annie McEnroe (*Beetlejuice*). The star of the 3.7-acre property is the antique home, which has retained most of its original features, including wide-board floors, exposed hand-hewn beams, antique doors and hardware, and 12-over-12 windows. And on the grounds there's a pool and pool house, a studio, stone terraces and hidden gardens. It lists for \$1,250,000 with Roger Saucy of Klemm Real Estate.

THE QUEEN VICTORIAN

A TRULY MAJESTIC CIRCA-1900 VICTORIAN JUST HIT THE GREENWICH MARKET, located within exclusive Belle Haven. Called the Lawson Cottage for its first owners, it piles on vernacular styling with a light hand. There's a wraparound porch, shingled and gabled rooftops and a turret. Inside, there is extensive carved paneling—especially impressive in the entrance hall—with its beamed ceilings and ornate staircase. The 7,362-square-foot interiors have an open, modern feel, configured in the “paw print” plan of the era, with a circular central space flowing into adjoining rooms, which, in turn, open onto the porch. In all there are eight bedrooms, but we're particularly fond of the master, with its cathedral ceilings, fireplace and sunset views over the water. On the grounds: a pool and pool terrace and a circular drive with an attached portico. It lists for \$8,950,000 with Julie Church of Houlihan Lawrence.



Crown Vic Listed for \$8,950,000 with Julie Church of Houlihan Lawrence in Greenwich, this circa-1900 Belle Haven Victorian has sweeping views over Long Island Sound. 203-869-0700.

Where sheep once grazed, the fit-for-a-princess grounds now feature a classic red barn with rooftop solar panels, horse stalls and a chicken coop



Country Compound
Called the Chauncey Merchant Homestead, this circa-1773 Redding property is offered by Laura Freed Ancona of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Ridgefield. 203-733-7053.



THE FARMHOUSE

WHEN A FARMHOUSE IN CONNECTICUT IS BILLED AS "PRE-WAR," THAT OFTEN means pre-Revolutionary War. And that's the case with the bucolic circa-1773 Chauncey Merchant Homestead, on nearly 5 acres in Redding. While Merchant was a humble weaver, the now 4,256-square-foot home was expanded and fancified by subsequent owners, including one Princess Marie Louise d'Orléans of France. Today, the compound offers such amenities as cedar-shingle roofs, copper gutters, radiant-heated floors, a wine cellar, and a lovely kitchen with a Wolf range, soapstone counters and a butler's pantry, plus French doors that open onto a dining terrace. And where sheep once grazed, the fit-for-a-princess grounds now feature a classic red barn with rooftop solar panels, horse stalls and a chicken coop; a pool and pool terrace; a cottage that can be legally rented; and expansive English-style perennial gardens. It lists for \$1,650,000 with Laura Freed Ancona of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty. —*Diane di Costanzo*