



A \$2.85M New Canaan Modernist Masterpiece With an Inspired '00s Reboot is For Sale

Monday, April 27, 2015, by [Patrick Sisson](#)

Have a nomination for a jaw-dropping listing that would make a mighty fine House of the Day? Get thee to the [tipline](#) and send us your suggestions. We'd love to see what you've got.



All photos via [William Pitt](http://www.williampitt.com/eng/sales/detail/205-1-742-4525p8/willis-mills-house-new-canaan-ct-06840) <<http://www.williampitt.com/eng/sales/detail/205-1-742-4525p8/willis-mills-house-new-canaan-ct-06840>>

Location: New Canaan, Connecticut

Price: \$2,850,000

Built against a rough outcropping of stone, the humble **Willis Mills Home** has twice been the site of architectural reinvention. The initial transformation, when the namesake architect built his own private residence in 1955, turned a steep, tree-lined incline in New Canaan, Connecticut, into an orderly 4,368-square-foot grid of glass and redwood. Maybe Mills' background as a civic

NEW CANAAN, CONN.

ON THE MARKET

TOP

architect who designed churches, or his affection for the local scenery, led him to add the double-height, glass-ringed living room that cantilevered out amid the tree line. If this was in any other town, you could walk along that elevated walkway, take in views of the forested hills, and believe you were living in the height of modernism. But, even though it [won awards](#) <http://www.preservationnation.org/travel-and-sites/sites/northeast-region/new-canaan-ct/sites/mills-house-2.html> , when **Philip Johnson's Glass House** is up the block, and the **Harvard Five** homes aren't just in a book, but in the neighborhood, it makes it a little harder to stand out.

Mills moved away in 1970, and after a string of inattentive owners, the home was purchased in the late 2000s by Craig Bassam and Scott Fellows, an architect and creative director who saw a promise underneath post hoc layers of tacky gray paint. The pair's [Dwell-worthy renovation](#) <http://www.dwell.com/house-tours/article/pursuing-perfection#6> updated the kitchen and lower level, breaking down a bustling set of passageways and rooms to create an open common area and a sense of flow. While it did introduce significant changes, the overall effect compliments Mills' initial serene statement (as does the Japanese garden and stone-lined pool). For **\$2,850,000**, it's ready for the next owner to add a chapter to the home's history.









- Willis Mills House 1380 Ponus Ridge New Canaan, <<http://www.williampitt.com/eng/sales/detail/205-1-742-45z5p8/willis-mills-house-new-canaan-ct-06840>> [William Pitt]
- All House of the Day posts <<http://curbed.com/tags/house-of-the-day>> [Curbed National]

Recommended

Inside Vince Vaughn's \$13.9M Palmolive Triplex Penthouse

Will Smith Is Living in a \$7.4 Million Home in Villanova

Beast Mode's Beast Mansion: Marshawn Lynch's \$3.6M Home

Credit Cards Are Now Offering 0% APR Through 2017

CompareCards.com
Sponsored

Learn more

Powered by for you

5
Stunning house!

#1. 04/27/15 09:41 PM

MrMann