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PRIVATE PROPERTIES

Westchester's Priciest House Is Listing For \$29.5 Million

The 98-acre property in Mount Kisco, N.Y. was once owned by showman Billy Rose



A rendering of the home when renovated. *ILLUSTRATION: TWIN OAKS*

Candace Taylor

April 9, 2015 2:56 p.m. ET

A century-old house in Mount Kisco, N.Y., is being redeveloped and is listing for \$29.5 million. It is believed to be the highest-priced home for sale in Westchester County.

Site work is currently being done on the property, and co-developer David Fenton said he expects construction to start later this year. He said the house is going on the market now so the buyer can customize the plans.

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The
98-
acre

property, once owned by showman Billy Rose, was built in the early 1900s, according to Mr. Fenton. Mr. Fenton said he and partner Steve Oder will be spending about \$13 million to restore the original brick and limestone house and to expand it to around 23,000 square feet from roughly 8,400 square feet. The partners bought the site from the Legionaries of Christ, a Catholic order which had used it as a retreat center. Mr. Fenton declined to say how much he and Mr. Oder paid for the property.

If the home fetches its asking price, it will set a record for Westchester, according to the Hudson Gateway Multiple Listing Service. The current record is held by the sale of director Ron Howard's Armonk home last year for \$27.5 million.

When finished, the house is expected to have nine bedrooms, and eight full and four half-baths, with a motor court and fountain in front, Mr. Fenton said. There will be two outdoor tennis courts and a basketball court, an infinity pool with waterfall and spa, and a formal English Garden with a landscaped maze. A stone water tower on the property will be restored and used as "a gazebo or clubhouse" with a viewing platform that overlooks the Hudson Valley, Mr. Fenton said.

The site is on a ridge that yields views of the surrounding countryside.

The property is located about 40 miles from midtown Manhattan. Listing agent Dawn Knief of Julia B. Fee Sotheby's International Realty said it is unusual to find such a large piece of property for sale so close to New York City.

Ms. Knief is listing the property with Mary Katchis of Julia B. Fee Sotheby's and Muffin Dowdle of Ginnel Real Estate.

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