



A Darling Farmhouse Steeped in Revolutionary War History

The masterful restoration makes you feel like you went 230 years back in time.



By Lauren Smith Sep 14, 2015 REAL ESTATE



COURTESY OF WILLIAM PITT AND JULIA B FEE SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY



The original owner of this farmhouse, Jane Ashley, was a total daddy's girl. How do we know? Because her father, John Ashley who served as a [colonel in the Revolutionary War](#), built it specifically for her and her husband back in 1785. Flash forward 230 years and the [Sheffield, Massachusetts estate](#) (known as Bull Hill Farm) is a re-imagination of a classic New England farm, featuring many of the home's original colors and Colonial and Federal design elements – thanks to a couple who spent the past 30 years restoring it.

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Donna (a fashion designer) and Patrick (a fabric importer) Annunziata bought this 3,552-square-foot home as a getaway from the hustle and bustle of New York City, and as long as they have owned it they've driven the 2 hours and 15 minutes north on the weekends to find solitude – and plenty of renovation projects. But to ensure historical accuracy, they enlisted the help of others: An artist helped them uncover the home's original layers of paint so they could mimic those hues, and interior designer Samuel Botero helped them track down antique fixtures and finishes.

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The three-bedroom, two-bath house still has its original wide-board floors and high ceilings, plus a few rooms that were common during the time it was being built. Today, those spaces qualify as luxuries – like a breakfast room (with garden views to boot), two formal parlors, and a taproom. Outside, a Civil War-era barn and guesthouse sit on the 24-acre plot of land, and are used for entertaining. Local garden designer Nancy McCabe consulted on the grounds, too. With her help, the couple planted an "Anglo-India" garden that features both European and zen-like Eastern influences and is the crown jewel of the grounds.

Take a look:











Want to live like the daughter of a colonel during the Revolutionary War? You can for just \$2.475 million. For the sake of farmhouse lovers everywhere, we hope Ashley had more children and built them equally lovely homes.

[via [Today](#)]

From: [House Beautiful](#)

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