

REAL ESTATE

HOT PROPERTY

'Harvard House' part of 20th century literary history

By Jennifer Bonnett

Imagine living where one of the most influential 20th Century fiction authors is believed to have penned a well-known book.

Built around 1780, this historic home on Old Redding Road is part of Easton's Aspectuck historic district, an area that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. And, according to the Easton Historical Society, Ernest Hemingway lived here for a while in the late 1920s and wrote parts of "A Farewell to Arms" in the house.

The story goes that since he was married to the niece of the home's owner, Gustav Pfeiffer ("Uncle Gus") during that period, and it's known that he and his wife lived with Pfeiffer during the same period he was writing the book, so it's logical to assume he wrote sections of it here, according to Andrew Wood, director of content at William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.

Pfeiffer too is somewhat of a historical figure, though mostly locally in Easton. He played a major part of the development of the town, bringing a vision to create a "Williamsburg of the north" by acquiring and restoring homes in the Aspectuck area, Wood said.

Gustav Pfeiffer's nephew, Robert Pfeiffer, a Harvard professor known for outstanding scholastic and writing achievement, inhabited the house for a time and gave it the name it is known by today: Harvard House.

Another interesting historic connection Wood pointed out is that the home's current owners, the Carroll family, are descendants of Charles Gordon Carroll, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

But it's not all about history.

The 4,608-square-foot, four-bedroom antique Colonial features post-and-beam construction with a center chimney, huge "walk-in" fireplaces in both the living and dining rooms, wide-board flooring and wrought-iron hardware on many of the doors. In sum, there are four fireplaces



Photos by William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty

Above: It is believed Ernest Hemingway lived on this Aspetuck home in the late 1920s and wrote parts of "A Farewell to Arms" in this house. **Below:** The kitchen has been remodeled using similar wrought iron hardware on the cabinets that is found on the doors of the home.

Details**Address:** 7 Old Redding Road, Easton**Price:** \$1.549 million**Rooms:** 10

Features: This 4,608-square-foot house is believed to have been the site where Ernest Hemingway penned "A Farewell to Arms." It boasts four fireplaces and more than three and a half acres of professionally landscaped grounds with an in-ground swimming pool and pool house.

Schools: Samuel Staples Elementary, Helen Keller Middle, Joel Barlow High

inside the house.

Outside, it boasts more than three and half acres of professionally landscaped grounds with a very private backyard, in-ground swimming pool and pool house.

It also has a partial basement,

walk-up attic and three-car garage, all perfect for storage. The laundry room is conveniently located on the first floor.

Listing agent: Jill Kelly and Sarah Keenan, William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, (203) 255-9900.

