

ON THE MARKET

The house that kept its soul

North of the retail franchise sprawl that of late has gripped Danbury Road, and north of the historic downtown whose brick building blocks protect a lengthy town green, there is a section of New Milford that has rebuffed the lure of suburbia and retained its characteristically rural Litchfield County heart and soul. Known as Gaylordsville, the community that borders Sherman was effectively settled in 1725 when Ensign William Gaylord showed up and pieced



This 1900 Victorian Farmhouse was built in Gaylordsville on Gaylord Road by a member of the Gaylord family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

together a log cabin. This Victorian farmhouse is not that cabin. Nor is its story over. The 3,400-square-foot house,



Much of the interior has been renovated and updated, such as the modernized kitchen with granite countertop island.

one which stands prominently on a 20-acre parcel of the eponymous Gaylord Road, represents a later generation of this desirable community's origins. It is a residence on the bloodline, being that it was built in 1900 by a direct descendant of the aforesaid settler. Native resident John D. Flynn, along with the Gaylordsville Historical Society, last year put out an edition of his book, "The History of Gaylordsville Connecticut." While the text largely describes the overall Gaylordsville

hamlet, and cites its distinction as one of the innumerable sleep sites of General George Washington, it specifically mentions this address. "There were several Williams in the Gaylord family over the years, and one of them built the large house south of the school," stated Flynn, who also listed a few later occupants and their impact. "It has undergone extensive remodeling and at one time housed a deluxe restaurant, known as Brookhill Manor." Likewise, listing agent Irit Granger noted how the interior of the home has been greatly renovated over its generations, as is evident in its modernized and spacious kitchen with the granite countertop island. But it also boasts a new roof, has three fireplaces, and on the main level features an office with a separate entrance. Further, a detached carriage house has been converted into a two-bedroom flat. "And it is next to the original schoolhouse," said Granger, "and the original cemetery where all the Gaylords are buried."

By Jack Coraggio

IN THE DETAILS

Listing: William Pitt
Sotheby's International Realty

Price: \$699,000

Bedrooms: 4 **Baths:** 3

Acreage: 20

Year built: 1900

Do you have a home for sale with a story? We'd love to tell it. Share with Alec Johnson at ajohnson@rep-am.com