

# REAL ESTATE

## HOT PROPERTY

# Stamford home has rich history, unique architectural design

By Robert Storace

This mini-estate in the heart of North Stamford is on 3.53 acres and has a rich history that includes famed actor Douglas Fairbanks Jr.

Built in 1934, the one-of-a-kind home was brought to Connecticut from Vermont by Fairbanks as a barn with plans to turn it into a local theater. Fairbanks was known for starring in adventure films, including "The Mark of Zorro," "Robin Hood" and "The Thief of Bagdad."

The New-York loft-style home — which also features a cottage on the property — is definitely unique, said listing agent Karen Sheftell of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.

"It's just not for everybody," Sheftell said. "It's not your typical cookie-cutter house. It is not your normal five-bedroom colonial. But it's lovely and has wonderful architectural design."

The white home/barn includes a main level and a walk-out lower level and the cottage offers an additional 864 square feet of living space.

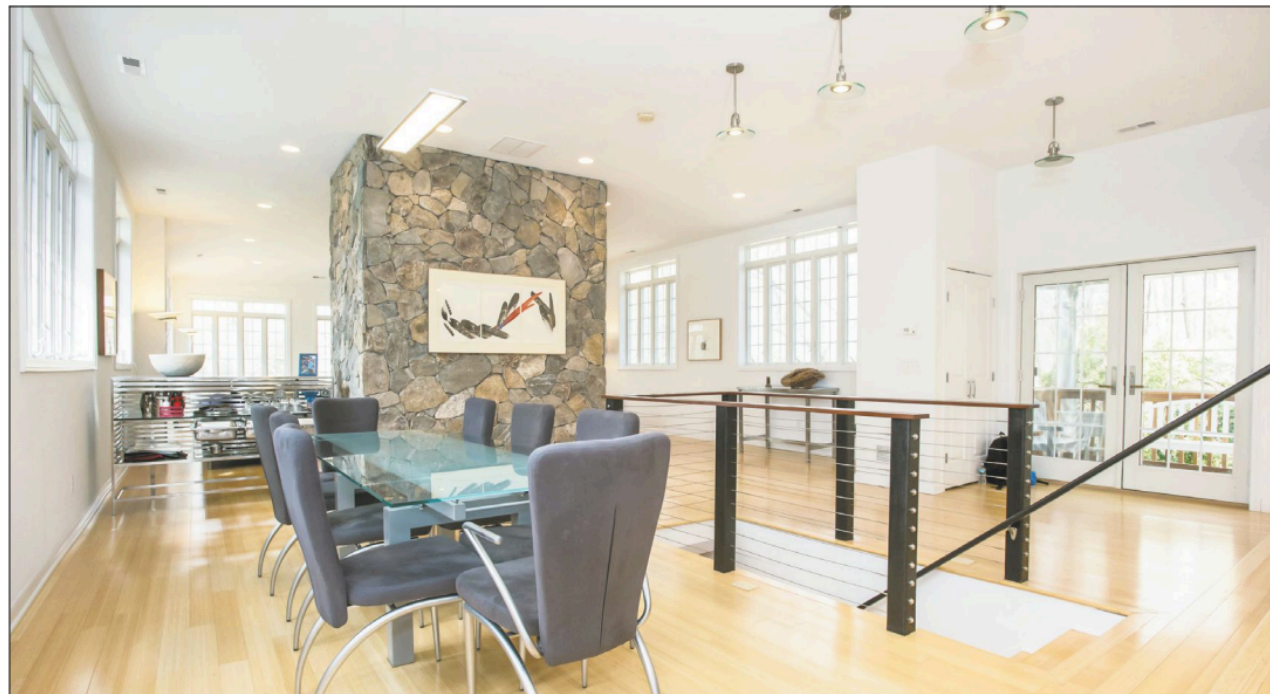
The home was completely rebuilt with today's modern amenities, including bamboo floors, 11-foot ceilings and skylights, Sheftell said.

When you walk into the main level of the home to the right is a stone wall, which is the back of a fireplace. To the left is the kitchen, which was built on the original acting stage. The kitchen, dining room and living room are all in one space that was the barn, Sheftell said.

The kitchen offers top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances, quartz counters and a walk-in pantry. The kitchen counter seats four.

The dining room, Sheftell noted, "is an intricate part of the living experience. And, I just love the living room, which has high ceilings and clean lines."

When you leave the kitchen, Sheftell said, there is a mudroom nearby with a second refrigerator and more cabinets and shelves. The owner, Sheftell noted, is a



William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty

**Above:** The spacious upper level at 369 Briar Brae Road in Stamford offers an open concept with a dining area, a kitchen and a living room, which has a stone fireplace. **Below:** The 3.5-acre property adjoins a 14-acre preserve.

## Details

**Address:** 369 Briar Brae Road., Stamford

**Price:** \$1,379,000

**Rooms:** 9

**Features:** Built in 1934, the one-of-a-kind home offers top-notch architectural design, 11-foot-high ceilings, solar panels and two master bedrooms. It also has a cottage and pool.

**Schools:** Northeast Elementary, Turn of River Middle, and Westhill High School.

chef and baker.

Still on the main level, there are three bedrooms and two baths. There are two master bedrooms, Sheftell said. One is on the main level in the barn section of the house off the gallery and the second is located in the walk-out lower level. Both masters are

glorious, Sheftell said.

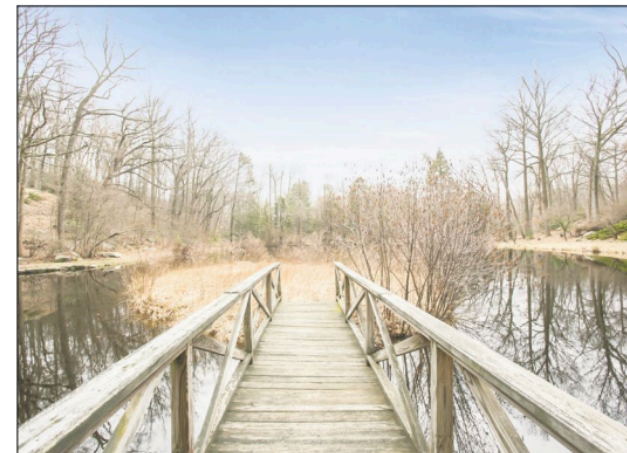
The one on the main level, she said, has a fireplace with a sitting area and porch. The second master also has a fireplace. In total, the property features three indoor fireplaces and one outdoor fireplace. Both masters have up-scale renovated baths, Sheftell said.

The lower level off the mudroom has a large walk-out family room. There is also a gym/office and full bath.

The one-bedroom cottage has cathedral ceilings, a new white kitchen, its own laundry, a patio and skylight.

"The cottage is such a great addition to this property," Sheftell said.

There is also a nice-sized pool between the cottage and the house. The 3.5-acre property adjoins a 14-acre preserve and features a two-car detached gar-



age. The property also has 40 solar panels on the roof in an effort to reduce the cost of heat and electricity.

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