

ON THE MARKET

A home - or homes - that brilliantly reflect their town

At two opposite ends of this expansive but somehow secluded lakeside parcel within the Litchfield Hills, two likewise opposite houses concurrently act as a kind of microcosm for the high-class but low-key, high-profile but trouble-free community that has become Kent. Indeed, throughout the generations this historic farm town has evolved into an oasis of sorts for the wealthy and influential, while ceaselessly holding onto its rustic roots. So while these haute structures create one striking juxtaposition — the main house is a pavilion-style manse built in 2001 and the guesthouse is a rustic cape built in 1710 in upstate New York — in the town of Kent, the homes seem to fit. They represent differing eras and reflect the differing aesthetics which are harbored by the homeowner builders — Robert Couturier, a renowned architect and interior designer, and Jeffrey Morgan, a historic preservationist.



“The Dover House” pavilion-styled manse was built in 2001, established by world-renowned architect and designer Robert Couturier, is a veritable museum of history and art.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The property is so compelling that within the past few years it has been featured in a few publications of record, from Introspective magazine to The Wall Street Journal. “Although Couturier’s taste today still leans toward the French, formal and sumptuous, while Morgan likes his antiques local, simple and austere, each man has come to appreciate



A soaring living room boasts a large fireplace and hand-stenciled walls, and overlooks gardens designed by Miranda Brooks.

the 1710 home they called “Dover House” was moved by the owners from its original spot in New York’s Dutchess County after Morgan discovered it falling into ruin. They restored it and made that the guesthouse, and it is now a veritable museum of early American artifacts and furniture. “I’m a purist,” said Morgan. “I was a complete New England snob before, but I figured that since I’ve got a New York house, it was time to delve into New York State furniture.” But the main house is the real preserver of the past. It features a formal entry with a limestone and slate checkered floor, fireplaces enhanced by a late 17th century limestone mantle, a hallway with limestone and slate floors, and a bedroom wing with wide floor boards milled from 18th century chestnut beams. Said wing also includes an office with Indian-design fabric wall treatments and views of the formal gardens, designed by Miranda Brooks, and a library that overlooks North Spectacle Lake. By the way, horror movie fans know that lake as one of the fictional Crystal Lakes, where “Friday the 13th Part 2” was filmed, and Jason Voorhees comes back from the dead to exact brutal revenge on the camp counselors who let him drown years earlier.

ate the other’s aesthetic, and they’ve resolved any decorating differences by having more than

one house on their 16-acre property,” Cara Greenberg wrote in the former magazine in January 2017. “A neo-classical-style



The guest house is a 1710 cape which was refurbished and relocated from upstate New York.

residence, which they built in 2002, with decor masterminded by Couturier, and rustic 18th-century cottages furnished mostly by Morgan.” About a decade ago,

IN THE DETAILS

Listing: Klemm Real Estate
Price: \$5,900,000
Bedrooms: 3 **Baths:** 3
Acreage: 14.4
Year built: 2001

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By Jack Coraggio