

ON THE MARKET

About that airport, a fine home goes with it

A pasture or some other private expanse that doubles as a federally designated and licensed airport isn't unheard of in farming communities, but for a person from more congested parts it could appear an oddity. In rural Litchfield County, where development is minimal and spaces are wide open, the small town of Bethlehem is a most suitable example of the seeming dichotomy. It is proudly country as it boasts of three fully approved airports, and if that doesn't make sense everywhere, it makes sense there. Such is the case with Irish Hills Farm, known to the FAA as 33CT, which is now on the market. With property stretching 121 acres, three quarters of which are still farmed and annually produce more than 6,000 bales of hay and silage, there is ample space to allow both a private airport and a 4,500-square-foot contemporary home. No, that house does not serve as a kind of low-lying airport tower. It is a quiet domicile among spectacular vistas, and the tallest things about it are the cathedral ceilings for residents of a taller persuasion. The home is noted for its wood-oil furnace, which wasn't a common feature when the house was built in 1979. But the house with three bedrooms and as many complementing bathrooms, in-

IN THE DETAILS

Listing: Klemm Real Estate

Price: \$3,500,000

Bedrooms: 3 **Baths:** 3

Acreage: 121 **Year built:** 1979

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cluding an in-law apartment, is a comparatively uncommon dwelling around these parts, being that it is of the signature style of Jack Miller. Miller is an architect better known for building homes in the massive Rocky Mountains, not the subdued Litchfield Hills. But at the tail end of the 1970s, he paused his work developing residences at the Colorado ski resort community of Aspen to come put a stamp on Litchfield County. Peter Klemm, of Klemm Real Estate, is the listing broker. When asked about Irish Hills Farm, he doesn't stress the domicile as much as he does the bucolic property and airport. "This is one of the rare properties in Litchfield County that provides the permanent right to house, base, and to fly one's own helicopter," said Klemm. "To Manhattan in 30 minutes."

—Jack Coraggio



An aerial view of Irish Hills Farm, with the contemporary home in the middle of its 121 acres.

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