

ON THE MARKET

A country home from architect who helped shape New York City

In the vast catalog of buildings designed by legendary architect Wallace K. Harrison, a Colonial home in the quiet Litchfield County town of Washington doesn't stand out as one of his more celebrated. Harrison is the man who designed such famed New York City landmarks as Rockefeller Center, the United Nations building, and Lincoln Center.



Wallace K. Harrison, known for designing the Rockefeller Center and other New York landmarks, designed this 1936 Colonial.

But in 1936, when his sister moved to the leafy Connecticut countryside, he pieced together a Colonial home which blended with the community but nonetheless reflected his signature modernist style, what with its two



Among the home's interesting features are the gym and the sauna.

“With his longtime partner Max Abramovitz, he designed a number of well-known midtown skyscrapers, including the Mobil Building at 150 East 42d Street, the Corning Glass building at 717 5th Avenue, and the Time & Life, McGraw-Hill, Exxon, and Celanese Buildings on the Avenue of the Americas,” Goldberg continued. Given the scale of those urban projects and overall mid-century modern aesthetics he was so clearly fond of, it is a tad surprising that Harrison built a residence, and not just a residence, but one of this nature. But according to Goldberg, “Mr. Harrison was known as a modernist, but he was never a member of the avant-garde, and his work never followed the dictates of a single style.” Listing agent Peter Klemm said that the way Harrison integrated neo-Greek revival pieces to make a streamlined classic yet modernized structure was emblematic of his style. Further, he even employed oversized windows not typical of Greek revival. Plus there's a home gym with an attached sauna.”The confluence works in a way nobody else has done,” said Klemm. “This is a rare one.”

neo-Greek Revival wing makeup. “Mr. Harrison affected the shape of New York as few architects have done,” stated Paul Goldberger in Harrison's 1981 New York Times obituary, before detailing the architecture that made him so renowned. “As director of planning for the United Nations headquarters, he led a team of architects in creating the complex on the East River; he was a dominant force in the overall design of Lincoln Center as well as the architect of the Metropolitan Opera House.

IN THE DETAILS

Listing: Klemm Real Estate

Price: \$2,395,000

Bedrooms: 5 **Baths:** 5

Acreage: 14

Year built: 1936

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

— Jack Coraggio