

REAL ESTATE



Photo courtesy of Sotheby's International Realty

The dining room, adjacent to the kitchen, has sliders that open out to a partially covered deck. It steps down to level lawn, which stretches to direct frontage on Greenwich Cove.

HOT PROPERTY

Beloved family home comes to market

Center-hall colonial has a two-car garage, open-plan family room and third-floor home offices and exercise room

By Gretchen A. Peck

The center-hall colonial at 181 Stanwich Road is newly listed for sale, with an asking price of \$3.5 million. Situated on 1.18 acres, the home is on the market for the first time in 30 years, listing agent Cate Keeney noted. Keeney is a Realtor with Sotheby's International Realty's Greenwich brokerage.

Lori Massad reflected back on the year she and her then growing family moved in 181 Stanwich Road. "We were newly married and had rented houses in Greenwich, but we were looking for a house that would accommodate a family with three or four kids. So, we began looking for an investment, a house that had good bones that we could modify by adding a bedroom, offices or a family room as we needed them," she said.

This home checked off all those boxes, but it was the location that really sold them on the property.

"It's on a private drive of just five houses," Massad said. "My husband and I both grew up in what you may call traditional neighborhoods, where we could ride our bikes. We got together with other kids and played baseball and wiffle ball. When we saw this road, a cul-de-sac, we imagined

Details

Address: 181 Stanwich Rd., Greenwich

Features: Situated on 1.18 acres, on a private cul-de-sac off of Stanwich Road, this center-hall colonial has five bedrooms, six baths, 4,890 square feet of interior living space, a backyard mahogany deck, two fireplaces, central air conditioning, a generator and an attached two-car garage.

Price: \$3.5 million

how our kids could have that, too. And when we moved in, the neighbors were so gracious."

There are 13 homes that make up the neighborhood, including the Edward Dimon Bird House. The Montgomery Pinetum and Greenwich Country Club are within a five-minute drive.

The Massads made a number of transformative improvements to the house over time.

"The very first thing we did was add a nanny suite. We also wanted to add a big family room. Though we had a living room and a den, what I loved is when I'm working in the kitchen and I can see everyone sitting in the family room, watching TV. Or when we have company, I can

be working in the kitchen and still entertain our guests in the family room," she said.

The kitchen now seamlessly spills into the family room, a generously proportioned space with a cathedral, beamed ceiling, skylights and a Palladian window. "It's beautiful, white and bright—a room where we can all gather," she explained. During their tenure in the home, they renovated the kitchen twice.

To liven up the interior rooms, they chose to add pops of color and wall-coverings to accent walls, such as the formal dining room and a few of the bedrooms.

For outdoor entertaining, the house has an expansive deck made of mahogany hardwoods, which steps down to the level, lush lawn.

One of the other improvements they made to the house was adding a third level, where they created two offices, with custom cabinetry. "In my husband's office, it hides his many filing cabinets, and in my office, the closets give me extra space for clothing. It's where I put my spring and summer clothes during the winter. Each of the rooms reflects our personalities, and when COVID hit, they were fortuitous, because we could both work from home," she noted. "It may

be my favorite floor of the house. We also have some gym equipment up there—a treadmill and elliptical. It's a sanctuary for my husband and I to go to work or just read, watch TV and relax."

Two years ago, they invested in some improvements to the exterior of the house. They replaced all the windows, added a new roof, new clapboard siding, a craftsman-style front door with side-lights.

Now that their children are grown and off to start their own lives, Massad said they've embarked on the "empty nester" phase of life—and that it's time to pass along the beloved home to the next owner and perhaps a family who they hope will enjoy it as much as they have.

Over the years, the residents of the private cul-de-sac got together to celebrate birthdays and graduations. "We've taken care of each other, too. We collect packages and water each other's flowers when someone is out of town. ... I'm really going to miss the neighborhood," Massad told Greenwich Time.

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Photo courtesy of Sotheby's International Realty

The owner-sellers added an open-plan family room just off the eat-in kitchen, with a beamed cathedral ceiling, Palladian window and skylights.



Photo courtesy of Sotheby's International Realty

The formal dining room is designed with paneled walls, a large picture window and wallcoverings for a subtle pop of color and texture.

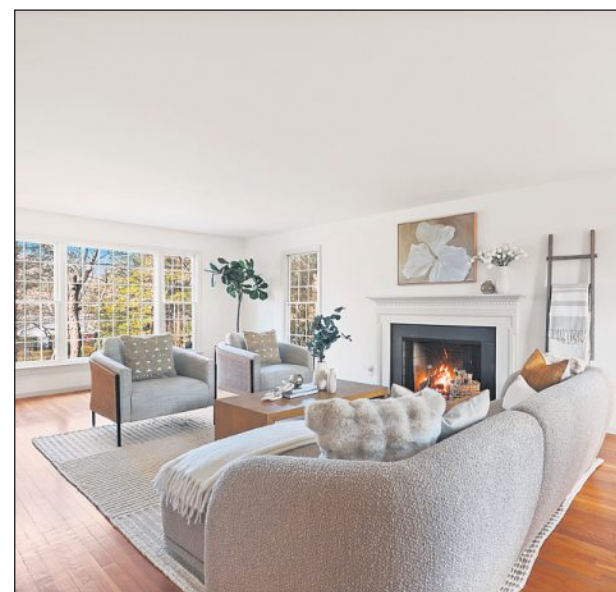


Photo courtesy of Sotheby's International Realty

The living room has one of the home's two fireplaces.