

The 2019 “Landmark Homes of Weston” House Tour

The Six Historic Homes on the Tour



Fritz Reiner Home

Rambleside was built by Frederick Martin “Fritz” Reiner (1888-1963), who was an internationally known conductor, who directed the Metropolitan Opera and the Chicago Symphony. As a teacher, his students included the young Leonard Bernstein. Mr. Reiner’s home hosted luminaries of the music world, including composer Béla Bartók, who lived with the Reiners when he first arrived in the U.S. The cast party from the Metropolitan Opera’s famous production of “Carmen” was held there. The current owners have preserved notable memories with photos that fill the Music Room.



Godfrey Family Home

Built around 1830, the house changed hands several times in its early years among three brothers in the Godfrey family, one of the earliest to settle and farm in Weston shortly before the American Revolution. The house is a fine example of Colonial construction. In the 20th century, one prominent owner of the house was famed violinist and conductor Nikolai Sokoloff.



The Katharine Ordway House

Located with outbuildings on more than 11 acres next to a nature preserve, the house was the home of Katharine Ordway, an ecologist, conservationist and art collector, who is best known as by the Nature Conservancy’s biography, “The Lady Who Saved the Prairies.” As an heiress to the 3M fortune, she saved land in throughout the U.S. We know her for her contributions to Weston. Today, the Lucius Pond Ordway Devil's Den Preserve encompasses 1,746 acres. It is the largest preserve in Fairfield County, and one of the larger preserves in the entire metropolitan New York area.



The Eva Le Gallienne House

The house is an antique farmhouse surrounded by beautiful landscaping and a dozen acres of nature preserve. This was once the home of Eva Le Gallienne, one of the legendary greats of the American theater. By the age of 21, she was a Broadway star. She also became a major figure in the American theater as an actress, director and producer. She was a major driving force of the American Repertory movement, the roots of what we know today as Off-Broadway.



The Alice DeLamar House

In the 1930s, New York socialite Alice DeLamar was one of the richest young women in America, having inherited her father's wealth as his only child. She moved to Weston, seeking out its peace and beauty for herself and her friends from the arts and theater. She established a magnificent home, and purchased Cobb's Mill Inn, where she opened a restaurant to entertain her friends, who included major names from show business. She contributed some of her land to establish a preserve maintained today by the Aspetuck Land Trust.



Samuel Rowland House

Situated on four acres directly across from Weston's iconic Norfield Congregational Church, the Samuel Rowland house is an antique colonial, built in 1850, and is widely considered a classic example of Connecticut architecture. The spacious house features a unique amenity: a log cabin room with its own fireplace. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places. One of its more prominent owners was John Orr Young, co-founder of the groundbreaking Young & Rubicam advertising agency.