

Greenwich Historical Society to Celebrate Town's Architectural Heritage

Greenwich Historical Society to celebrate Town's architectural heritage on April 27 with presentations by architect-author Peter Pennoyer and author Anne Walker, and presentation of Landmark plaques to four historic homes and the Round Hill Club

Cos Cob, CT, March 11, 2014-- For more than 25 years, the Historical Society has actively sought to recognize structures for their architectural or historical distinction. This year in its annual Landmark Recognition Program the Greenwich Historical Society will plaque the Round Hill Club and four homes dating from 1750 to 1929.

According to Landmark Recognition chairman Jack Morris, "We were delighted by the number of owners who sought recognition of their homes this year. It evidences a strong interest in preservation and indicates how much excitement there is in celebrating the town's architectural heritage. Greenwich's Landmark homes represent a surprising variety of styles, sizes and periods. We wish we had the resources to document them all right now."

Commenting on the significance of the program, Morris further remarked, "We believe that collecting and making information about our town's architecture and history available to the public instills pride in ownership of historic properties and encourages preservation. Most importantly, we intend that the program draw the community's attention to the significant work the Historical Society does in documenting Greenwich's remarkable visual heritage in a climate where historic buildings can disappear overnight."

In addition to presenting landmark plaques, the event will feature a lecture by Peter Pennoyer and author Anne Walker entitled *Narratives of Manners and Style: The Houses of Cross & Cross*. Complementing the Historical Society's *Great Estates of Greenwich* exhibition, which runs from April 9 through August 31, 2014, the lecture will focus on country houses and estates designed and built by brothers John Walter and Eliot Cross whose ambitious portfolio included homes for a list of renowned clients, including Electra Havemeyer Webb and Henry Francis du Pont, and such iconic New York City structures as the RCA Victor (GE) Building on Lexington Avenue and Tiffany & Co.'s Fifth Avenue flagship building.

Peter Pennoyer, AD100 (Architectural Digest's list of the world's preeminent architects and designers) and chairman of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art, has been called "one of the leading lights among today's Modern Traditional architects" by Robert A.M. Stern, dean of the Yale University School of Architecture. With coauthor Anne Walker, Pennoyer recently completed a book about Cross & Cross entitled *New York Transformed*. The book explores the brothers' significant influence on real estate development and the architecture of their era and will be available for purchase and signing at the program.

This year's event will also designate the Round Hill Club as a Greenwich Landmark. The clubhouse was designed by William Delano of Delano & Aldrich and completed in 1924. Its 18-hole golf course, the town's second, was designed by Walter J. Travis, a renowned golfer, and opened officially in July 1924, complemented by tennis courts and riding stables.

The Landmark Recognition Program, which was begun by the Historical Society in 1987 as "Signs of the Times," will have presented plaques for 288 sites, including those recognized at the event.

Each plaqued property is professionally researched and documented, and undergoes a complete title search. This information and photos of architectural features are then kept on file in the Historical Society's Archives. Over the years, these documents have proven to be very popular and useful to homeowners, researchers, scholars, designers, builders and real estate professionals alike. Morris noted that plaquing does not restrict a property's future use in any way.

The Landmark Recognition Program is generously sponsored by Northern Trust and by David Ogilvy Associates, an exclusive affiliate of Christie's International Real Estate. Moffly Media's *Greenwich Magazine* is the exclusive media sponsor.

Sunday, April 27, 2014

5:00 to 7:00 pm

The Round Hill Club, 33 Round Hill Club Road, Greenwich, CT 06831

\$75 per person; \$250 for Patron level; \$500 for Benefactor level

Champagne, wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Advance reservations required.

Reserve at www.greenwichhistory.org or call 203-869-6899, Ext. 10.



Photograph of the west side of the Round Hill Club circa 1929 from the Greenwich Historical Society collection.