

## **The 2019 Connecticut Treasures Award is Green Farms Academy of Westport Connecticut, Fairfield County**



Green Farms Academy, Fairfield County

Greens Farms Academy, founded in 1925, is a K-12 independent school in Westport, CT. Its main building is a private home that was adaptively reused as a school. The house was designed for Robert Thurlow Vanderbilt, founder of the Vanderbilt Chemical Company. The architect was Harrie T. Lindberg, the Stamford White protégé who was called “the American Lutyens”. Lindberg was versatile and designed in Colonial Revival as well as Elizabethan/Jacobean styles. While he was known for his large carefully proportioned residential commissions all over the country, he also designed the Vanderbilt Chemical Company headquarters in Norwalk, CT. and the US embassy in Helsinki, Finland.

The stone house overlooks a great lawn oriented towards Long Island Sound. Its entry from the opposite side is formed by an oval edged with mature apple trees followed by a stone and brick paved court. The simple geometry of the slate gabled roofline is punctuated by numerous chimneys. The elegant house and approach axis are sufficiently strong to organize additions and detached buildings that comprise the growing campus.