

WINTERTHUR



Winterthur Press Release

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Contact: Mark Nardone  
[Mnardone@winterthur.org](mailto:Mnardone@winterthur.org)  
302.888.4803

## **Connor Mill-Built Homes Releases Catalogue of Its Winterthur Collection**

Homes inspired by historic properties emphasize modern living, traditional design and high-quality craftsmanship.

Winterthur, DE, May 9, 2019—Winterthur Museum and its licensee Connor Mill-Built Homes of Middlebury, Vermont, announce the release of a new collection of homes: 13 beautiful designs of various sizes inspired by historic homes represented at Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library, where founder Henry Francis du Pont established the world’s most important collection of early American decorative arts. Connor Mill-Built homes are available nationwide as a mill-built architectural package for final on-site completion.

For the first time, the extensive architectural assets of Winterthur Museum have been viewed not just as exquisite examples of historic interiors but to inspire the design of entire houses. The collection’s designer, Linda Connor, says that, “the collection is unique in that it tells a story of American architecture from the 1600s to the 1920s by replicating historic vernaculars from South Carolina to New England but offers layouts designed for 21st-century lifestyles.” Ranging in size from 1,776 square feet to 5,400 square feet, homes in the collection include classic American styles from Neoclassical and Greek Revival to Colonial Revival and Georgian.

In the early 20th century, H. F. du Pont inherited a grand country place at Winterthur in Delaware that today encompasses a 175-room house and 60-acre naturalistic garden within nearly 1,000 acres of woodland and meadows. With an emphasis on both beauty and comfort, H. F. du Pont furnished the rooms of his family home with American antiques and other decorative and fine objects that represented the best in craftsmanship and style available to Americans between 1640 and 1860.

Among the antiques acquired by du Pont were architectural elements that he creatively

incorporated into the design of his house, which opened as a museum in 1951. Like other preservationists of the time, du Pont was motivated by a deep appreciation for historic American craftsmanship and a fear that the skills that had created such exquisite examples of architecture, arts, and crafts were disappearing in the early 20th century. His collection sought to show America as it had been. With such exceptional architecture, attention to detail, and an extraordinary sense of color and proportion, du Pont created a residence that is, in itself, a work of art. It is a mission and passion shared by Mike and Linda Connor, founders of Connor Mill-Built Homes, who were chosen by Winterthur to design a collection of houses inspired by the museum's architectural assets.

“My wife Linda and I share the mission and passion of du Pont. In our 50 years of designing and building new old houses, we too have been driven by an appreciation for historic American craftsmanship, architecture, and attention to detail,” said Mike Connor. In addition to the Winterthur Collection, the company offers dozens of other historic designs. “While accurate historic architecture is often thought to be too difficult and time consuming to build for today's housing market, Connor Mill-Built Homes' innovative factory processes has proven that sophisticated architecture from past centuries is still available and affordable in today's residential building industry.”

The 13 models in the Winterthur Collection range from a 1,776-square-foot Federal cape based on a home from the Virginia colony to a 5,400-square-foot shingle-style home from New York. All homes can be shipped anywhere in the United States of America.

### **ABOUT CONNOR MILL-BUILT HOMES**

All Connor Mill-Built homes are designed and built by traditional craftsmen who marry manual techniques with state-of-the-art technology to produce sophisticated architectural elements of superior quality and reduced cost. All components of each Connor Mill-Built home are made in the company's 50,000-square-foot facility in Middlebury, Vermont, then shipped to the client's home site for efficient construction. The result is classic American architecture that is built to last for generations. To learn more about Connor Mill-Built Homes or to order the new Winterthur Collection catalogue, visit [connormill-built.com](http://connormill-built.com) or call (802) 377-6900.

## **ABOUT WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY**

Winterthur—known worldwide for its preeminent collection of American decorative arts, naturalistic gardens, and research library for the study of American art and material culture—offers a variety of tours, exhibitions, programs, and activities throughout the year. General admission includes a tour of some of the most notable spaces in Henry Francis du Pont’s former home as well as access to the Winterthur Garden and Galleries, special exhibitions, a narrated tram tour (weather permitting), the Campbell Collection of Soup Tureens, and the Enchanted Woods children’s garden.

Winterthur, located on Route 52, six miles northwest of Wilmington, Delaware, and five miles south of U.S. Route 1, is closed on Mondays (except during Yuletide), Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Museum hours are 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday–Sunday. \$20 adults; \$18 for students and seniors; \$6 for ages 2–11. Winterthur is committed to accessible programming for all. For information, including special services, call 800.448.3883, 302.888.4600, or TTY 302.888.4907, or visit [winterthur.org](http://winterthur.org).

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