



AGAINST THE CURRENT

BY LORI BROOKES

Torn from the pages of “The Great Gatsby,” life on Lake Minnetonka is a seductive nod to an era when America’s economy soared and prosperity was celebrated with opulence, optimism and lively waterfront estates. Wealthy Midwesterners, aristocrats, royalty and U.S. presidents have “summered” along Wayzata’s shores for generations—not unlike the Long Island Gold Coast that Fitzgerald immortalized in his famous novel. The stately mansions that dot the lakeshore to this day are a reminder of the great American Dream—a dream honored by a landmark estate brought to market by Cindy Redmond of Coldwell Banker Burnet.

The home’s location, set along 230 feet of private packed sand and riprap rock shoreline, pays homage to the boating traditions of the Gold Coast. You can feel the nautical winds blow across the lake’s surface, with cresting waves that capture the sun’s rays sparkling like diamonds. Passing boaters even slow down in the midst of their own wake to take long pauses and gaze at the magnificence of the property.

“This estate has breathtaking waterfront appeal, with bountiful perennial gardens and panoramic bay views,” describes Redmond. “An international boating magazine recently listed it among its ‘Best Homes for Boaters.’ It is easily one of the most magnificent historic homes on Lake Minnetonka.”

Built in 1920, the residence itself is one for the history books. The Wayzata Historical Society cites it as a historical resource for Prairie-style architecture, with its strong connection to landscape, overhanging eaves and liberal use of wood.



A 2003 restoration, lovingly undertaken by the home's current owner, introduced the latest amenities into the home without compromising the original character. Taking inspiration from the homes in Nantucket and the New England coast, the interiors adopted a breezy, open feel with light-filled windows and plenty of spaces for hosting guests. The gourmet kitchen was re-envisioned with an all-white palette, stainless steel countertops and Swarovski crystal chandeliers dangling above the work and dining spaces. The third level of the home was also expanded, bringing the home to nearly 10,000 square feet. Designed with entertaining in mind, the third level features an ornate, European-style bar, game room and rooftop patio with a unique hydraulic roof system and gorgeous staircase that leads up to the "widow's walk" spanning the entire length of the home.

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“Needless to say, the views are incredible,” says Redmond. “The rooftop space is great for family entertaining—perhaps watching the kids or grandkids as they make their way down the dock to jump into the lake. The current owner purchased the home with children in mind. It’s a place to make memories for years to come.” Memories will be made in this home. Attention to detail and a loving hand have been applied for the next generation to enjoy. It could be a summer retreat for an evolving family who enjoys water recreation or a legacy home for a couple who wants to spend time with grandchildren.

“The powerful presence of this estate is a reflection of the owner’s love for the home,” adds Redmond. “She perfected every inch of the estate inside and out, from top to bottom, with enthusiasm and care. Her efforts were rewarded with priceless memories with her family, who enjoyed the years together along the shores of the mighty Lake Minnetonka.”

Fitzgerald concluded his novel, “So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.” Sometimes the past is inescapable; and in the case of this historic Wayzata estate, it is the key to one buyer’s future.

Wayzata, Minnesota
7 bedrooms, 7 full baths
Price Upon Request

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