

Trust sells home for \$45M

5 Golfview Road property sold privately by the Gilmour family, which had owned it for 24 years

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A house on private Golfview Road that hadn't changed hands in 24 years has sold privately for just under \$45 million.

The house was sold by Canadian businessman and investor David Harrison Gilmour, as trustee of a trust in his name. Because he and his wife, Jillian, had the house homesteaded as their primary home in the Palm

Beach County tax rolls, she "joined" him on the deed recorded Wednesday.

David Gilmour co-founded Fiji Water in 1996 and sold the imported-water company in 2004 for a reported \$50 million. He also founded and once owned Wakaya Club & Spa, a luxury resort on Fiji's Wakaya Island. His latest venture is Wakaya Perfection, a line of high-end health-and-wellness products, including turmeric, ginger and kava.

A Delaware-registered limited liability named after the address of the property bought the house, which dates to the 1920s, according to property records. Palm Beach real estate attorney M. Timothy Hanlon signed a \$24.9 million, 30-year mortgage on the property as the buyer's authorized representative. The lender was

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A gate leads into the front motor court at 5 Golfview Road, which was just sold by Fiji Water co-founder David Harrison Gilmour for almost \$45 million.

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Outlined in red in this bird's-eye photo, a house at 5 Golfview Road stands on a lot directly facing the Everglades Club Golf Course. The property just changed hands privately for a recorded \$44.93 million. COURTESY PALM BEACH COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

5 Golfview Road

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Citibank, and the mortgage document was recorded simultaneously with the \$44.93 million deed.

Hanlon wouldn't discuss the transaction and declined comment on behalf of his client, whom he did not identify. Because of Delaware's strict privacy laws, no other information about anyone connected to the buying entity was readily available in public records.

The house has five bedrooms and 8,619 square feet of living space, inside and out, according to property records.

David Gilmour bought the house for \$3.75 million in December 1997, court-house records show. In early 1998, he and his wife transferred its ownership to the trust that just sold it.

Over the years, the Gilmours carried out a variety of renovation and maintenance projects at the house, building records show.

Golfview Road runs along the Everglades Golf Course, a block south of Worth Avenue in Midtown.

Standing on a lot of about a half-acre, the house is a rarity — one of only three on Golfview Road built directly on the

Everglades Club Golf Course. Because of its position, the house offers uninterrupted views of the golf course.

It is also one of just four houses on the street of 15 homes not to have been designated a town landmark, meaning that it could be razed and replaced by the buyer.

Husband-and-wife agents Lisa and John Cregan of Sotheby's International Realty handled both sides of the sale, John Cregan confirmed to the Palm Beach Daily News. He declined further comment.

David Gilmour also declined to discuss the sale.

The house was designed by the late architect Marion Sims Wyeth in 1921 in a Mediterranean style and was among the first houses to be built on Golfview Road, according to historical records. But during the 1930s and '40s, architects Maitland Belknap and Wyeth made a variety of revisions to the house. Among their changes, the façade was given a Regency-style overhaul.

The 11 owners of landmarked houses on Golfview Road last month were honored with Robert I. Ballinger awards for historic preservation and stewardship at a ceremony on the street organized by the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach.

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