A handsome Georgian Grade II Listed house in an exquisite garden
GODDARDS
Hunsdon Road, Widford, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 8SE

A beautiful Georgian house on the edge of a delightful village in just under 2 acres of gardens.

- Grade II Listed
- 6 Bedroom
- 3 Reception rooms
- Master bedroom with en-suite bathroom and dressing room
- Garden store
- Garage Lapsed planning for an indoor swimming pool complex
- One bedroom annex
Description
Listed Grade II being of architectural and historic importance, Goddards was originally constructed between 1725 and 1750 with the North East wing being added in the late Victorian era. In the early 19th Century Goddards was ‘a Young Gentlewoman’s Academy’ run by Elizabeth and Jane Norris and visited regularly by Charles Lamb and described by Mary Lamb in ‘Mrs Leicesters School’.

The house is constructed of mellow red brick under a clay tiled roof, part mansard to the 19th Century addition. Internally, the house combines light and spacious formal reception rooms with comfortable bedroom accommodation on the first and second floors. The ground floor has a well-proportioned drawing room with high ceilings and original open fireplace and enjoys views over the gardens and grounds. The drawing room leads out to a bright glazed orangery which opens out to the gardens, perfect for alfresco dining. There is a super sitting room which leads to the kitchen breakfast room also opening to the rear garden. On the first floor is the master bedroom with walk-in wardrobe and en-suite bathroom with his and hers basins and double shower. The first floor has three further double bedrooms and a family bathroom with shower and bath.

On the second floor, there is additional bedroom accommodation and a self-contained one bedroom annexe.

Goddards lies on the edge of the pretty Hertfordshire village of Widford, east of Ware. The village of Widford itself has a church, a village hall, cricket club and the popular Widford Primary School. Ware is situated only 4.5 miles away while Bishop’s Stortford is 10 miles away, both offer a selection of daily amenities including supermarkets, restaurants and boutique shops.

The gardens and grounds provide a charming, tranquil setting for the house. Divided into “rooms” and laid mostly to lawn, an attractive ornamental pond is centrally situated with a classical pavilion beyond, providing a focal point and overlooked by a paved terrace.

To the south beyond a pleached Beech tree avenue is a further area of lawn with a strand of silver birches and further mature specimen trees whilst to the north is the old vegetable garden.

Outbuildings
Lying to the north of the house is a traditional red brick garage block with an adjoining utility room. Planning consent was previously granted for the extension of this building to provide secondary accommodation. There was also planning consent (now lapsed) for the construction of an indoor swimming pool on the south lawn.

Historical Note
The name associated with the site refers to William Goddard mentioned in 1294. In the early 19th Century it was the Young Gentlewomen’s Academy run by Elizabeth and Jane Norris visited frequently by Charles Lamb (1775 - 1834). Charles Lamb was an English essayist with Welsh heritage, best known for his Essays of Elia and for the children’s book Tales from Shakespeare. Elizabeth and Jane Norris were daughters of Lamb’s old and dear friend Randall Norris.

Directions
Communications are excellent by both road and rail. Fast and frequent trains leave Harlow station reaching London Liverpool Street in 35 minutes. There is also a mainline station in Hertford which offers a direct rail service into London Moorgate taking approximately 42 minutes. There is easy access to the A10, A1(M) and M11. London Stansted Airport is approximately 13 miles distant. Hertfordshire is renowned for its well-regarded schools and Goddards is conveniently located for the wide selection including St Andrews Church of England Primary School in Much Hadham, St Edmund’s College, Bishop’s Stortford College, Heath Mount School and Haileybury College. There are a number of excellent golf courses in the surrounding area including Much Hadham Golf Country Club and Hanbury Manor. There is also a cricket club in Much Hadham and racing at Newmarket.

Viewing
Strictly by appointment with Savills.
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Savills Country Department
Tim Phillips
33 Margaret Street, London, W1G 0JD
tmphillips@savills.com
0207 075 2806
07870 867218
savills.co.uk

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