Facing south onto the Farmington Avenue, the George N. and Edward T. Thompson House sits in a densely-populated, residential neighborhood containing a variety of domestic architecture dating from the early nineteenth century.
This elaborate "T"-shaped Italianate-style building was erected in 1884. The first story of the three-bay facade features a central doorway flanked by two highly ornate bay windows embellished with brackets, decorative molding, beveled corners and molded base panels. The facade also exhibits an open, polygonal wrap-around veranda with turned posts and balustrade, spindled frieze and decorative brackets. The east elevation of the porch displays square posts with beveled corners and scrolled brackets. The roof's wide overhanging eaves are supported by decorative single brackets. Both ells on the east and west elevations feature similar ornamentation. A single-story, open porch with turned columns, spindled balustrade and scrolled brackets is found on the western elevation. Both one-over-one and two-over-two windows are exhibited throughout the house.

This dwelling house was constructed in 1884 by brothers George N. and Edward T. Thompson, on a lot of land they had purchased from William H. Jenkins in December of 1883 (FLR 68:75). By October of 1884 the Thompsons had mortgaged the property "with dwelling house" to the Farmington Savings Bank for $700 (FLR 63:384). Both men were born in Avon to farmer Amon and his wife Jane E. (Woodruff) Thompson. There is little historical information concerning George N. Thompson (1858-1893) except that he was employed as a merchant and was married to Adaline F. (a.k.a. Francis A.) Bemis (b. 1852). Edward T. Thompson (1861-1915) came to Unionville at the age of 16 and worked as a clerk in the store of C.T. Georgia. Later he was employed by A.S. Hart and Son before leaving Unionville in 1885 to work as a carpenter in Litchfield. Between 1886 and 1890 he worked in Hartford as a clerk and circulation manager of the Hartford Telegram. In 1890 Thompson returned to Unionville and established a grocery store and fish market in the Merriman Block. Later he worked for L. Saurer in the meat business and in 1896 he was hired by M.C. Woodford to assist one of the village's most successful general stores. Upon Woodford's retirement in 1899 Thompson continued to operate the store. He married Nettie A. Rexroth (b. 1865) of Canton, Connecticut, who received her husband's portion of the house in 1888 (FLR 69:112-13). George's wife Addie also received her husband's half of the property in 1889 (FLR 68:450-51). In 1910 Nettie Thompson sold her "half interest of the double dwelling house" to Addie Thompson (FLR 77:289). Addie, who was widowed suddenly in 1893 when George died of typhoid fever, later remarried and moved to Granby, Connecticut. She (SEE CONT.)


Photographer
Alex Paredes

Date
5/85

VIEW
NW

NEGATIVE ON FILE
4:36A

NAME
Elizabeth R. Hart

DATE
8/85

ORGANIZATION
Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

ADDRESS
27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT

Threats to Building or Site

X None known.

Highways  Vandalism  Developers  Other

Renewal  Private  Deterioration  Zoning  Explanation
sold the house out of the family in 1926 (FLR 80:676).

Relatively unaltered since its construction, this well-preserved house is a good example of the Italianate style.