Situated along the east side of Main Street in the center of Farmington's historic village, the Frederick L. Scott House stands on a slightly elevated site shaded by large maples. The surrounding residential neighborhood contains primarily eighteenth and nineteenth century dwellings. St. Patricks Catholic Church is located across the road to the west.
Oriented gambrel-to-street, this large two-and-one-half story, Colonial Revival-style dwelling was built in 1894. The two-bay facade exhibits paired one-over-one sash and an open, wraparound veranda enhanced by turned balustrade, classical columns and lattice base. The side-hall entry door features sidelights. Note the attic-story Palladian-type window and slight cornice returns in the front facing gambrel. Shed-roof dormers are found on the side elevations and modest entablature extends around the house beneath the eaves and across the facade.

The house was erected in 1894 by Frederick L. Scott on land he acquired from Adrian R. Wadsworth (FLR 68:662). A $4000 mortgaged dated August 25, 1894, mentions buildings on the lot (FLR 71:54). Born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, in 1860, Scott married Alice F. McKeen (1856-1912), a native of Brunswick, Maine, in 1892. He was a partner with Edward H. Deming in a general merchandise store located on the west side of Main Street. In 1902 Mr. Scott bought out Deming's interest in the business. Scott also served as postmaster for a number of years, as the post office was located in his store building. His wife, a music instructor at Miss Porter's School, also directed the Congregational church choir for many years. Scott sold the store in 1920 and later, after removing to Brunswick, Maine, sold the house to Herbert Mills Smith (FLR 80:185).

Typical of many late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century homes, this well-preserved Colonial Revival-style building makes a significant contribution to Farmington's historic character.
SMITH, GRANVILLE G. & HARRIET B.

1950-res.

ADDRESS: 113 Main Street

DATE BUILT: 1893

FOR: Frederic L. Scott

ARCHITECT

MASTER-BUILDER Nelson O. Keyes

FORMER OWNERS:
B.K. & C.J. Hamer from Ronald MacDonald 7/20/1945, Vol. 95, p. 270;
Katherine G. Mansfield from Herbert M. Smith 10/16/1923, Vol. 80, p. 461;
H.M. Smith from Frederic L. Scott 7/30/1920, Vol. 80, p. 185;

REFERENCES: "Farmington, Conn. 1906", p. 95-'Ingleside'.
This house is pictured on page 95 of the Farmington Book as "Ingleside, Residence of F. L. Scott".

It was built by Frederick L. Scott in 1893-94, on land which he purchased from Adrian R. Wadsworth, part of the land on which the Wadsworths settled around 1660.

Mr. Scott had come to Farmington in the 1880's and had worked for Edward H. Deming in Mr. Deming's store which was situated on the west side of Main Street just south of the present house at 80 Main Street, right at Mill Road. In 1892 Mr. Deming took Mr. Scott in as his partner. In 1901 Mr. Scott purchased the Deming interest in the store, and in 1902 he also succeeded Mr. Deming as postmaster, the postoffice having space in the store building.

Frederick L. Scott was married here in Farmington in June 1892 to Alice F. McKee, born 1856, the daughter of Joseph McKeen of Massachusetts, and Elizabeth Farley of Maine. Miss McKeen, born in Brunswick, Maine, had been and continued to be a music instructor. Their daughter Elizabeth was born in 1894. Mrs. Scott's sister lived here with them, but died sometime prior to 1912.

Mr. Scott operated the store and was postmaster for many years. See his photo on Page 206 of the Farmington Book, where he is shown as postmaster. Mrs. Scott, who had come to Farmington to Teach at Miss Porter's School, also organized the choir at the Congregational Church. She encouraged her husband to take a strong lead in the choir. He took this very seriously, and his red face would show the effort he was putting forth.

Mrs. Scott died in March 1912, and soon afterward Mr. Scott sold the store business to a partnership of Mr. R. B. Mansfield and a Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams served in World War I and on his return sold his share of the business to Mr. Mansfield, the suburban atmosphere of Farmington never having appealed to him too much.

Richard Bemish Mansfield had been in the insurance business in New York City, but his physician had recommended for his a change to country living, which he believed would be beneficial to Mr. Mansfield's health. He came here with his wife, the former Katherine Good, and his daughter Lillian, a sixth-grader at that time.

Mr. Scott retained this house for himself and his daughter, so the Mansfields remodeled the second floor of the store building, which provided them with an apartment for living quarters.

Franklin P. Kearney, presently of New Hartford, says that when they came to Farmington around 1912 or 1913, the house they rented to live in first, was the house across from the present Catholic Church, and the writer assumed that it was the Scott house, and that possibly the Scotts were away for a time after the death of Mr. Scott.

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On August 1, 1919, Mr. Scott leased this house to Herbert Mills Smith. The lease was for one year and with an option to purchase, and on July 30, 1920, Mr. Smith did buy the house. Mr. Smith's wife was the former Emma Lord, and they had a daughter Barbara.

Mr. Smith was with Landers, Frary and Clark of New Britain, perhaps in research and development of new products, as he was considered somewhat of an inventor. Some say that Mr. Smith died and that his widow and daughter lived for a while in what is the Corner House. This is not confirmed.

The house was sold in October 1923 to Katherine G. Mansfield, and the Mansfields moved here from their apartment over the store.

As has been noted, the postoffice occupied space in the store while it was operated by Mr. Deming and his successor Mr. Scott, but when Mr. Scott sold out in 1912 it was decided to move the post office operation to the Town Hall, the second building to the north of the store. There it was supervised by a full-time postmaster, or postmistress, Mrs. Ruic being in this post for some time.

Mr. Mansfield's daughter Lillian has told something of the operation of the store in those times. Although small, it took several people to operate it. Customers who had phones would call in their orders. Other regular customers were called on by store employees, who took their orders and delivered later. These men carried with them some staples, but they usually had to make a second trip. Pre-packaging had not yet become the custom, so most of the goods delivered had to be weighed or measured or counted, and then packaged for delivery. On Saturdays there were plenty of helpers available, as schoolboys were always anxious to ride around in the delivery wagons, and helped to handle the merchandise.

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Mrs. Mansfield died in 1937, leaving the house to her daughter Lillian. Mr. Mansfield gave up the store business and later married Miss Anna Blakesley of Thomaston, who had been Mrs. Ruic's assistant while the latter was postmistress. Mr. Mansfield moved to Thomaston.

When Lillian Mansfield entered school in Farmington the sixth and seventh grades were under one school teacher, and the eighth grade was taught by the school principal: Mr. Gorham was High School principal when Miss Mansfield was graduated in Unionville in 1918, and Lewis S. Mills was Superintendent of Schools. Enrollment in High School was perhaps not over 100 or 125, but there were plenty of activities. Basketball was popular and the girls' team played as far away as Essex, staying overnight when so far from home. There was also debating, literary society, the school paper, and of course the boys' athletic program was quite extensive. Graduation exercises were held in the Unionville Town Hall, where chicken wire screens were the support for thousands of daisies and roses. Lillian was valedictorian of her class in 1918.

Miss Mansfield was graduated from Mt. Holyoke in 1922 and taught for a few years in Farmington, later obtaining a Master's in History from Columbia University. Further postgraduate work was done in Yale, University of Mexico and University of North Carolina.

While living in Farmington and commuting to Hartford to teach, she had another teacher, a college friend, rooming here also. She pleased her young neighbor Harriet Lodge very much when occasionally Lillian permitted her to help in the correction of papers.

Miss Mansfield can now include Oxford School, Weaver High, Kobe College in Japan, and Pierce College in Athens, Greece, in the list of schools in which she has taught, in addition to having been Chairman of the history department at Weaver. She has been president of several professional organizations, and co-authored a history of the Asylum Hill Church in 1965. She has a close connection with Hartford College for Women and was director of its first community service project in 1967-68, and is a member of its Lecture Series Committee. In 1970 she was president of the Charter Oak Study Club founded in Hartford in 1919. As of now she has just returned from Boston where she has been doing research work at the Houghton Library at Harvard, in connection with the history of Pierce College, which started as a Mission School in Greece.

Lillian Mansfield presently resides on Brunswick Avenue, West Hartford.

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Pictured in the Hartford Courant of December 4, 1972, were Lillian Mansfield and Mrs. Allan Taylor of Manchester, both past presidents of the Mt. Holyoke Club, which had recently held its annual dinner in the Gengras Center at University of Hartford.
On April 5, 1938, Miss Mansfield sold this house at 113 Main Street to Ronald McDonald, who worked for New Departure in Bristol. The McDonalds rented rooms to defense workers, and Mrs. McDonald operated a tea room with tables set in the large living room. Miss Harriet Lodge of the house next door helped her with the care of rooms and with the setting of the tables. Mrs. McDonald had a son, William Fitzmaurice, by a previous marriage. It is said that they moved to California when they left here.

The house was purchased in 1945 by C. J. Hamer, said to have been a salesman for Palinville Wayside Furniture. Mr. and Mrs. Hamer also rented rooms for a while. They had two girls and a boy.

In 1948 the house was purchased by Granville G. and Harriet B. Smith. Granville Graves Smith is the son of Willis Norton Smith and his wife, the former Gertrude Wright, of the house at 45 High Street. Mrs. Granville Smith is the former Harriet Boyd Hunt of Philadelphia. Granville's parents had moved here from West Hartford when he was about six years old so he grew up in Farmington. When first married he and his wife lived in what was called the Swanston house, just east of what is now Zarick Gallery at 768 Farmington Avenue, probably living there about four years before buying this house.

One of the first things Mr. Smith did here was to put in the privet hedge on the north line of the house lot, transplanting it from the front of the old Noah Porter house across the street, as its owners wanted to get rid of it. Mr. Smith worked for United Aircraft for some years, but in 1968 had been working for Fafnir Bearing of New Britain. They assigned him to the Seattle, Washington, area, and they left for the move to Seattle in February of 1969. Mrs. Smith had been for some time the alumnae secretary for Miss Porter's School, having taken over this post from Mrs. Ralph Perkins of New Hampshire, formerly of New York, who had attended Miss Porter's School but had never lived in Farmington. Mrs. Smith was succeeded by Mrs. Hube of 144 Main Street.

The Smiths have one daughter, Elizabeth Longstreth Smith, known as Heidi, who in 1969 was chief bacteriologist at Doctors' Laboratory, Portland, Oregon. The Smiths lived in Bellevue, Washington, just east and across the lake from Seattle, but a recent report indicates that they have moved to California.

The house was sold on June 16, 1969, four months after the Smiths had moved out, to Dr. James F. and Marita F. O'Rourke. Dr. O'Rourke spoke out in a letter to the Courant in June 1971, asking for more benefits to ex-servicemen for educational purposes. The old World War II so-called G. I. Bill never having been renewed to its fullest extent to aid veterans of later fighting.

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