The West End Library faces north onto School Street. Its property is bordered to the east by Unionville Fire Department and to the west by the Methodist Church. Modern apartments lie to the south.
This small Neo-classic public building features a tiled hip roof. Set up on a water- 
table, the seven-bay facade displays recessed arch windows of ten panes topped with a 
keystone. A projecting portico with a gable roof, wide entablature, and Tuscan columns 
has been enclosed. Behind the portico entrance lies the original double-leaf door 
highlighted by a glass fanlight. Repeated continuously around the cornice are decorative 
two-paned eyebrow windows. Above the cornice lies a dentil course and large modillions. 
The east and west elevations display an arched window centrally positioned. A brick 
fireplace is located within the interior on the south wall.

### ARCHITECT
Edward L. Tilton

### HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

During Unionville's struggle as a separate entity in the early 1900s, the citizens began 
to organize a library for Unionville. Previous to this time, a small collection of books 
at the Platner and Porter Paper Company had served as a mini-library. In January of 
1902 the West End Library Association was formed as a free public library. It was located 
in the old town hall (demolished) on School Street. In 1914 the Carnegie Library Corporation 
contributed $8500 to build a separate building. Promising to pay $750 annually, a committee 
of the West End Library Association, acting through the Tunxis Hose Company, began its 
construction plans. The land of the Charles G. Bill residence was bought and the library 
building was erected by March of 1917. Since November of 1984, it has served as the 
Unionville Museum.

Designed by architect Edward L. Tilton of New York, the Unionville Library is architecturally 
significant due to its degree of detail and state of preservation, and as a fine surviving 
example of Carnegie building.

### SOURCES
Farmington Land Records; Farmington Probate Records; Farmington Vital Records; Farmington 
Cemetery Inscriptions, W.P.A., 1934; Avon Cemetery Inscriptions, W.P.A., 1934; 1853 E.M. 
Woodford Map; 1855 E.M. Woodford Map; 1869 Baker and Tilden Map; 1878 O.H. Bailey & Co. Map; 
Bickford, Christopher P. Farmington in Connecticut. Canaan, New Hampshire: Phoenix Publish-

### PHOTO

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  Alex Paredes  
**DATE**  5/85  
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**NAME**  Ruth A. Bedrosian  
**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  

[X] Renewal  
[ ] Private  
[ ] Deterioration  
[ ] Zoning  
[ ] Explanation

MISTED NEW 57 BACK.