This converted house faces west onto Cottage Street at the entrance of a small residential neighborhood to the north. A small lawn surrounds the house. A lumber yard complex lies directly to the south and other commercial buildings lie to the southwest.
This late nineteenth-century Stick-style house features a cross plan and two interior placed chimneys. Its steeply pitched gables with overhanging eaves exhibit corner brackets, exposed rafters, simple bargeboards with an embellished chord in the gable end. The west gable wing displays a first-floor base paneled bay with a shed roof flanked by two shed-roofed side entry porches with post supports, stick balustrade, and trellis underneath. The west and north gable ends have second-story, paired two-over-two sash surrounded by imbricated shingles.

The lot on which this house was built was originally part of a six-acre tract of land purchased by E. K. Hamilton in 1850 and stretched along the west side of West Avon Road to Farmington Avenue (FLR 51:254). A section of the raceway and Roaring Brook ran across the land to power E. K. Hamilton's button factory (later hook and eye). When his son James E. sold the land and buildings to Sherman and Frank Sanford in 1884, the northern section probably remained undeveloped (FLR 68:86). Sherman (b. 1835) moved to Unionville in 1861 where he ran a successful logging and lumber business. His nephew Frank (1853-1923) joined him in a partnership. Frank, the son of Edmund and Mary E. (Tillotson) Sanford, married Marion Hawley in 1883 and left the family's Avon homestead to settle in Unionville in 1862. When Sherman retired in 1884 Frank was joined by his brother-in-law C.R. Hawley. Their firm Sanford and Hawley is responsible for subdividing the northern section of this property into ½ acre lots, building an access road (Cottage Street) and erecting numerous houses similar in design. Martha J. Hart purchased the land for $200 in 1886 (FLR 68:239). Mention is made of a dwelling in the deed, so the house was probably built between 1884 and 1886. In 1893 Martha's property was sold to Thomas Wright (1868-1911), a foreman at the Upson Nut Company (FLR 70:354). Thomas' wife, Ida (Diehl) Wright (1869-1939) retained title of the house until her death, after which it passed to her father Louis C. Diehl. The house is significant due to its historical associations with the Sanford and Hawley firm and their families.
