This building sits at the northwest corner of Farmington Avenue and Walnut Street in a densely populated residential neighborhood which developed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
Built around 1883, this large asymmetrical, Queen Anne-style dwelling is capped with a steeply pitched hip roof. Italianate-style embellishments include the bracketed single-story, facade bay window and a small corner entry porch with scroll-sawn brackets and a solid balustrade. Gable-roofed dormers are found on all elevations and a 1½ story ell has been incorporated into the rear elevation.

In April of 1883 carpenter John S. Parsons (1863-1906) purchased a 78 x 190 parcel of land along the north side of Farmington Avenue from Nelson J. Tuttle (FLR 68:22).

It is probable that Parsons built the house soon after he purchased the land because in 1894 Parsons mortgaged the "land with buildings" to the Bristol Savings Bank for $1500 (FLR 71:10). Born in Farmington, John was the son of Martin L. Parsons, one of Unionville's most prosperous contractors. Parsons also operated a successful lumber/hardware store, which is still run by family members today. As a young man John was taught the building trade by his father and became his partner in 1888. Upon Martin's death in 1897 John continued the business and was responsible for the construction of a large number of buildings in the Unionville area. In 1882 he married Alice Latimer, daughter of Amon and Lucia Amanda (Case) Latimer of Simsbury. Mary E. Gridley, wife of Norman S. Gridley, bought the house in 1896 (FLR 77:202). The Gridleys who resided at 1773 Farmington Avenue most likely rented the house. In July of 1908 the house was acquired by Carrie B. Gridley of Hartford (FLR 77:203) who shortly thereafter sold it to John S. Hawley (FLR 77:242). The property passed through a number of owners in the early twentieth century and in 1922 was purchased by the Zamkovsky family (FLR 80:370), whose heirs still own the house today.

This house is historically significant for its association with John S. Parsons, a prominent citizen of Unionville in the late nineteenth-century.

Sources: