1. **Building Name**: Parsons Brothers' Rental House #2

2. **Town/City**: Farmington
   **Village**: Unionville
   **County**: Hartford

3. **Street and Number**: 1740 Farmington Avenue

4. **Owner**: Kenney, Kimble E. and Linda W.

5. **Use**: Two-family residence

6. **Accessibility to Public**: Yes
   **Exterior Visible From Public Road**: Yes
   **Interior Accessible**: No
   **If Yes, Explain**: Two-family residence

7. **Style of Building**: Colonial Revival
   **Date of Construction**: 1901-03

8. **Materials**: (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
   - [ ] Clapboard
   - [ ] Asbestos Siding
   - [x] Brick
   - [ ] Other
   - [ ] Wood Shingle
   - [ ] Asbestos Siding
   - [ ] Fieldstone
   - [ ] Board & Batten
   - [ ] Stucco
   - [ ] Cobblestone
   - [x] Aluminum Siding
   - [ ] Concrete
   - [x] Cut stone
     **Type**: Brownstone foundation

9. **Structural System**: (Material)
   - [x] Wood frame
   - [ ] Steel frame
   - [ ] Other
     **Type**: Other

10. **Roof**: (Type)
    - [x] Gable
    - [ ] Flat
    - [ ] Mansard
    - [ ] Monitor
    - [ ] Sawtooth
    - [ ] Gambrel
    - [ ] Shed
    - [ ] Hip
    - [ ] Round
    - [ ] Other
      **Material**: Other
      **Type**: Other
    - [ ] Wood Shingle
    - [ ] Roll
    - [ ] Asphalt
    - [ ] Tin
    - [ ] Slate
    - [x] Asphalt shingle
      **Type**: Built up
      **Material**: Other
      **Type**: Other

11. **Number of Stories**: 2½
    **Approximate Dimensions**: 22 x 37

12. **Condition**: Structural:
    - [ ] Excellent
    - [x] Good
    - [ ] Fair
    - [ ] Deteriorated
    - [x] Excellent
    - [x] Good
    - [x] Fair
    - [ ] Deteriorated

13. **Integrity**: On original site
    - [x] Yes
    - [ ] No
    **When Moved**: Aluminum siding, deck addition

14. **Related Outbuildings or Landscape Features**
    - [ ] Barn
    - [ ] Shed
    - [x] Garage
    - [x] Other landscape features or buildings
    **Specify**: Other landscape features or buildings

15. **Surrounding Environment**
    - [x] Open land
    - [ ] Wooded land
    - [ ] Residential
    - [ ] Scattered buildings visible from site
    - [ ] Commercial
    - [ ] Industrial
    - [ ] Rural
    - [x] High building density

16. **Interrelationship of Building and Surroundings**

   Situated on a narrow lot the Parsons Brothers' Rental House #2 faces south onto Farmington Avenue. Other historic dwellings abut the property.
Oriented gable-to-street this large two-family, four-bay dwelling was constructed between 1901 and 1903. The facade displays a single-story, full-length, Colonial Revival-style porch with classical columns and a modest balustrade. On the first and second floors are one-over-one sash. The gable end is enhanced by slight cornice returns and a tripartite window which is decorated with small pilasters, mullions, and an elliptical fanlight motif with a keystone. Note the small brick chimney and 2½ story gambrel-roofed projection on the east elevation. A large deck has been added to the rear facade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architect</th>
<th>Builder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John and Luke Parsons</td>
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This building was erected by brothers John S. (1836-1906) and Luke A. (1871-1936) Parsons between 1901 and 1903. In September of 1900 the Parsons purchased a certain parcel of land in Unionville for $900 from Burnside, Alice, Jane, and Eloise Hamilton (FLR 73:305-07). They sold the eastern 1/3 of the lot to their brother-in-law, Sheldon Porter, in October of 1900 (FLR 71:475). Three years later they mortgaged the other 2/3 of the lot with buildings through the Farmington Savings Bank (FLR 63:611). Both men were the sons of Martin L. and Georgia (Thompson) Parsons. They worked with their father in his successful building firm. The family also owned a lumber yard and hardware store, still operated by Parsons descendants today in Unionville. In June of 1904 Luke sold his interest in the property to John (FLR 71:659). John Stanley Parsons married Alice Latimer in 1882 and had four children: Jay S. (1884-1884), Edna L. (b. 1886), Ward C. (b. 1890), and Robert E. (b. 1892). John sold the house to Herbert W. Hale (1847-1928) in March of 1906 (FLR 77:43). A native of Burlington, Connecticut, Hale married Arabella H. Cowles (1845-1921) of Avon. The house was sold out of the family in 1930 (FLR 74:510).

Although the building has lost some of its historic fabric, some original details still exist. The Parsons Brothers' Rental House #2 is historically significant due to its associations with the Parsons family, one of Unionville's oldest business families.

**Sources**