HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic)
Gay, William, Duplex

2. TOWN CITY VILLAGE COUNTY
Farmington

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)
40 Garden Street

4. OWNER(S)
Onidi, Silvio R. and Mary G.

5. USE (Present) (Historic)
Residential Duplex

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Yes No
If yes explain

7. STYLE OF BUILDING
Colonial Revival

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
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9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
Wood frame: X

10. ROOF (Type)
Gambrel: X

11. NUMBER OF STORIES
1 1/2

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS
31 x 25; rear 36 x 16

12. CONDITION (Structural)
Excellent X Good Fair Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Exterior)
On original: X
Moved: Yes No

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
Barn Shed Garage Other landscape features or buildings: Specify

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
Open land Woodland X Residential

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
The William Gay Duplex faces east onto Garden Street. Other residences bound its property lines. Large trees frame the driveway to the south.
This Colonial Revival-style building features a gambrel roof with wide overhanging eaves. Two gable-roofed dormers project from the roof. The double entry porch supported by plain square posts covers two box benches. A recessed porch exists on half of the south elevation. Six-over-six sash is found throughout the main block. A west addition features paired windows of one-over-one sash. A brick chimney rises from the northern section of the roof.

In 1896 the estate of prominent Farmington citizen, William Gay (d. 1889), passed to his son Erastus Gay (1843-1912), a merchant who married Grace Cowles in 1867 (FLR 70:665). It included a 3½ acre tract of land and this tenement house west of New Road (Garden Street). Gay sold the property to Alessandre Speranza in 1910 (FLR 77:290). Three years later Speranza sold it to Laura D. Barney (FLR 77:462). It is recorded that the architect and builder were Stephen B. Lawrence and Franklin Jones although there is no supporting evidence.

The William Gay Duplex contributes to the streetscape and has historical associations with the Gay family.
OWNER'S NAME: ONIDI, RAYMOND

ADDRESS: 40 Garden Street

DATE BUILT: ca. 1917 FOR: Mrs. D.N. Barney

ARCHITECT: Stephen B. Lawrence
MASTER-BUILDER: Franklin Jones


REFERENCES: