Byington, Mary T., House #2

**Identification**
- **Town/City**: Farmington
- **Village**: Hartford
- **Street and Number (and w., location)**: 10 Maiden Lane
- **Owner(s)**: Mercaldi, Joseph A.
- **Use (Present)**: Residence

**Historic**: Residence

**Date of Construction**: 1917-1920

**Style of Building**: Colonial Revival

**Materials** (Indicate use or location when appropriate):
- □ Clapboard
- □ Asbestos Siding
- □ Brick
- □ Other (Specify)
- □ Wood Shingle
- □ Asphalt Siding
- □ Fieldstone
- □ Board & Batten
- □ Stucco
- □ Cobblestone
- □ Aluminum Siding
- □ Cement covered
- □ Concrete
- □ Other (Specify)

**Structural System**:
- □ Wood frame
- □ Post and beam
- □ Balloon
- □ Other (Specify)
- □ Load bearing masonry
- □ Structural iron or steel

**Roof (Type)**:
- □ Gable
- □ Flat
- □ Mansard
- □ Monitor
- □ Split level
- □ Shed
- □ Hip
- □ Round
- □ Other (Specify)

**Roof (Material)**:
- □ Wood Shingle
- □ Roll
- □ Asphalt
- □ Tin
- □ Slate
- □ Asphalt shingle
- □ Built up
- □ Tile
- □ Other (Specify)

**Number of Stories**: 2
**Approximate Dimensions**: 28 x 26, addition 24 x 9

**Condition (Structural)**:
- □ Excellent
- □ Good
- □ Fair
- □ Deteriorated

**Integrity**:
- □ On original site
- □ Moved
- □ Side addition

**Related Outbuildings or Landscape Features**:
- □ Barn
- □ Shed
- □ Garage
- □ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
- □ Carriage house
- □ Shop
- □ Garden

**Surrounding Environment**:
- □ Open land
- □ Wooded
- □ Residential
- □ Scattered buildings visible from site
- □ Commercial
- □ Industrial
- □ Rural
- □ High building density

**Interrelationship of Building and Surroundings**:
Sited on the north side of Maiden Lane, the Mary T. Byington House #2 is enhanced by trees and shrubs. Other residences of similar age are visible from the yard.
This Colonial Revival-style building features a gambrel roof and three bays. Twelve-over-twelve sash are found throughout. Note the two dormers on the south elevation and the end brick chimney. Several additions have been made to the west and north elevations.

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<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
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<td>19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE</td>
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In 1917 Edith (Fison) Wollenberg (1867-1957) sold Mary T. Byington a piece of land with a restriction that "no building other than a family residence shall be constructed on said premises" (FLR 77:677). Edith was the widow of Paul Wollenberg (1861-1903). There is little information about Mary Byington, except that she was single. By 1920 she contracted F.F. Hurlburt who built this house and in July she sold it to Lillian Chesney (d. 1908), the widow of Hugh Chesney (FLR 80:184). Her husband operated the greenhouse on Garden Street and eventually built 28 Main Street.

The house contributes to the streetscape due to its state of preservation.

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<td>PHOTOGRAPHER</td>
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<th>COMPILED BY</th>
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<td>ORGANIZATION</td>
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<th>THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE</th>
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<td>X None known.</td>
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<td>Highways</td>
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<td>Vandalism</td>
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<td>Renewal</td>
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<td>Private</td>
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<td>Deterioration</td>
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<td>Zoning</td>
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<td>Explanation</td>
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18 ARCHITECT | F. F. Hurlburt |

#164
OWNER'S NAME: (CHENEY, EDWARD A.) TINGLEY, GEORGE A.

1950-res.

ADDRESS: 10 Maiden Lane

DATE BUILT: 1917 FOR: Mary T. Byington

ARCHITECT: Mary T. Byington

MASTER-BUILDER: F.F. Hurlburt


REFERENCES:
This house is not pictured in the Farmington Book as it was not built until after 1906, but the date of construction is not known.

Lillian Chesney, widow of Hugh Chesney, Sr., purchased this house on July 29, 1920, from Mary T. Byington, "a single woman", according to the deed given. Mrs. Chesney had formerly lived at 28 Main Street, but her husband had died in 1908 and she sold that house just prior to this purchase on Maiden Lane, to James D. Morrell. Mrs. Chesney and her son Hugh lived here until her death in 1950. Miss Mary Byington moved to 12 Porter Road.

Hugh Chesney, born in 1891, served in the army in World War I, and a Farmington resident who knew him well, said of him:

"He had a tremendous record in France in World War I. He was in the battles of St. Mihiel, the Argonne, the Marne, and probably others. He was shot up some too, but never spoke of it. A real good guy, an excellent trout fisherman, always called 'Chet'."

Hugh Chesney worked from 1922 until 1963 for Miss Porter's School, most of the time on interior maintenance of the school's buildings, so many of which are fine old residences. After his retirement from the school he became resident watchman at Hillstead, being always on the premises during absence by the curators. A serious illness in 1969 put him in the hospital for a time, after which he lived a little while at 521 Farmington Avenue. In July 1970 he married Roma M. Bulsa, widow of Felix A. Bulsa, and they lived in an apartment not far from Unionville center. He died in early March, 1973.

Mrs. Hugh Chesney, Sr., had died on August 9, 1950, and this house was sold by her estate on December 13, 1950, to Edward A. Cheney, formerly of Manchester. Edward A. Cheney, son of Frank D. Cheney, was great-grandson of Charles Cheney, one of the eight brothers who founded Manchester's Cheney Mills. See account of 45 Mountain Road for more on the Cheney family.

A graduate of Deerfield Academy, Edward Cheney volunteered for the U. S. Army after two years at the University of Virginia, and served in the Pacific during World War II. He was married to Margaret Stedman and they had four children. After a few years of residence on Maiden Lane they built a house on Reservoir Road. Mr. Cheney died on February 9, 1971. As of that date their children were:

Edward D. Cheney of Syracuse, New York,
Amory S. Cheney of Farmington,
Dexter W. Cheney of Farmington and
Sara Cheney of Farmington.

November 24, 1973

Margaret Cheney served as one of the members of the Committee which held the Village Library's "Roaring Twenties" Open House on April 28, 1974.

September 10, 1974

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