This Arts and Crafts-style house is sited on a large lot surrounded with bushes and trees. Other residences of similar age are visible.

(The page continues on the next page.)
This house exemplifies characteristics of the Arts and Crafts style. Note the steeply pitched roof with a sloped, shed-roofed dormer, and full-length enclosed, one-story porch which hides large square posts. Tripartite windows are visible on the first floor and paired three-over-one sash on the second floor. A small brick chimney rises from the center of the roof.

In 1903 Edith (Fison) Wollenberg (1867-1957) inherited her late husband's estate including any real estate in Farmington (FPR 26:357). Her husband Paul Wollenberg (1861-1903) had owned several pieces of land including this property. Edith had Franklin Jones design and build this house in 1929. During the same year she sold the property to Ada (Fripp) Wollenberg, her daughter-in-law and wife of her son Christopher (FLR 85:516). It has remained in the Wollenberg family since that time.

Historically significant, the Ada Wollenberg House contributes to the early development of Maiden Lane.

**Sources**

OWNER'S NAME: WOLLENBERG, ADA F.

ADDRESS: 12 Maiden Lane

DATE BUILT: 1929 FOR: Edith F. Wollenberg

ARCHITECT: Franklin Jones

MASTER BUILDER: Franklin Jones


REFERENCES:
This house was built in 1929 for Christopher H. and Ada Fripp Wollenberg on land purchased by his parents from Henry W. Barbour in 1899, and by themselves from Chauncey Warren's heirs in 1926.

The house which stood near this site in 1906 is pictured on page 126 of the Farmington Book as the residence of Chauncey Warren. Baker and Tilden's Atlas of 1869 shows the house as "T. Treadwell", who was Thomas Treadwell. Mrs. Hurlburt speaks of him on page 239 of "Town Clerks" in these words:

"Mr. Treadwell returned to Farmington from Albany, New York, in 1867.... He purchased in 1867 (on May 10), the entire north side of Maiden Lane, with its two ancient houses and the still empty site at the corner of the lane and Main Street where the Pitkin house had stood before the fire in 1864. The second house on the lane (now known as 4 Maiden Lane), is now the attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Mason. The third house, at the corner of Canal Street and the lane was razed about 1910 in a bad state of repair. Mrs. Hurlburt wrote this around 1943. The "third house", mentioned two lines above, was the Chauncey Warren house, still standing in 1906.

Just when and for whom the Warren house had been built is not known. It is recorded that Chauncey Warren was married in March 1956 to Eliza Jane Griswold. He may have lived on this site for many years without owning it, as Mr. Treadwell and also the prior owner of the property utilized it as rental property in all probability. Mrs. Warren, daughter of William H. Griswold, died in January 1901.

Chauncey Warren was a "Handyman" who worked for various people of Farmington, taking care of grounds in the summer and shoveling snow in winter, besides other odd jobs similar to these. It has been said that he was mowing the yard at Judge Deming's house at 100 Main Street when a passing car veered off the road and hit him, breaking his leg, and that he commented "I didn't know you had to climb a tree to get away from the dang things!" He appears to have suffered other injuries also, as he died a few days later. Lena Warren, his daughter, is said to have worked as house maid for various families in Farmington.

The Warren house was damaged by fire at one time, after Mr. Warren's death, and it has been stated that a man by the name of McKenna was tried and acquitted of arson in connection with the case, but that later on he was tried and convicted in another like case.

Mrs. Paul Wollenberg purchased this property later on and title was transferred to Ada Fripp Wollenberg, and she and her husband then built in 1929 the house that still stands here, now known as 12 Maiden Lane, in which they presently reside.

May 15, 1974
Mr. Warren's old well is still on the property, toward the street and west of the present house. In the photo on page 126, at the extreme right, stands an old shed adjoining the house. The old well stood to the rear of that shed, which indicates that the Chauncey Warren house stood well to the west of the present one. Col. Wollenberg says: "The old dug well still furnishes water throughout the driest of summers".

Christopher Wollenberg, now Lt. Col. Wollenberg, U. S. Army Retired, is the son of Paul Wollenberg, 1861-1903, and Edith M. Fison, 1867-1957. Mrs. Wollenberg, the former Ada Fripp, is the daughter of Arthur H. Fripp and Margaret E. Tison, of South Carolina. They were married on January 8, 1920, and had lived with Mrs. Wollenberg's mother at 125 Garden Street from then until this house was built.

At 125 Garden Street Mr. Wollenberg had had one of the first radios in Farmington, a home-made crystal set with a six-wire antenna which reached to Garden Street. He had been a founder and one of the charter members of the James Palache Post No. 53 of the American Legion, which was chartered in October 1919. He has served as adjutant of the post for several terms, was its commander for ten terms, and as its service officer he has given many hours to the needy veterans through the state's "Soldiers, Sailors and Marine Fund". He has always been active in civic affairs and was a town constable for several years. He is a member of the town Memorial Day Committee, and has served as the master of ceremonies at the annual Memorial Day services at Riverside Cemetery following the parade for many years.

Christopher Wollenberg was employed by the Connecticut State Welfare Department, but had always kept up his membership in the military reserve forces. In 1940 he obtained leave from his state employment to take a post with the State Defense Department, supervising the setting up and manning of observation post for the anti-aircraft warning service.

When war was declared on December 8, 1941, he was called into active duty from the army reserves and was assigned to Mitchell Field to train officers and men in the aircraft warning service. Following this assignment he taught this service at the Army Air-force's School of Applied Tactics in Orlando, Florida. When radar was put into use and the observation posts were no longer needed, he was assigned to duty at the Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. In 1946 he was assigned the duty of Signal Officer and Army Supply Officer for Task Force I, to test the Atomic Bomb at Bikini, in the South Pacific. This test, known in history as Operations Crossroads, was carried out by the combined armed services in cooperation with civilian scientists and technicians.

He was given a citation by Vice Admiral William Blandy for his work in assembling scarce and hard-to-find material for this first atomic test. He retired from the army in 1955, as a Lieutenant Colonel and returned to his former position in the State Welfare Department. He retired from state service in 1968.

May 15, 1974
The Christopher Wollenbergs have five children: Edith Elizabeth, Phyllis Ada, Christopher Herbert, Jr., Carolyn Louise and William Fripp Wollenberg.

Edith was graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1943 and joined the Marine Corps, being sworn in on the 25th anniversary of her father's enlistment in the Marine Corps for World War I. She married Lt. Thomas Robert Diesel of Hartford on August 14, 1944, upon his return from New Guinea, where he had been stationed after receiving his commission at Officers' Candidate School in Brisbane, Australia. Thomas is a CLU and Brokerage Administrator with Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company of Hartford. Edith at present is a teacher at E. O. Smith School in Storrs, Connecticut, where they reside. They have three children:

Robert Wayne, graduate of Middletown's Wesleyan University, and with a MA from Syracuse University, served in Lahore, Pakistan, with the U. S. Agency for International Development. He is now Budget Analyst for the New York State Assembly at Albany, New York. His wife is the former Carole Dorocz of Willimantic and their children are Geoffrey Scott and Kristen Alexandra.

Thomas Allan (Tad) attended high school as a exchange student at East London, South Africa in 1967, finished high school at Storrs, and was active in athletics at both schools. After serving in the airforce at the Airforce Academy and in Alaska, he is presently a student at the University of Connecticut.

W. Brent attends the University of New Hampshire working toward a bachelor of science degree in Recreation and Parks. His engagement to Sandra Elizabeth Tetrault of Claremont, New Hampshire was recently announced.

Phyllis was graduated from St. Francis Hospital's School of Nursing in Hartford and joined the U. S. Army Nurse Corps. She landed with the invasion forces on one of the Normandy beaches and served on the battlegrounds of France. After finishing her European service she was enroute to the Orient when her ship was turned around and returned to the United States upon receipt of the news that Japan had surrendered. Phyllis was married in February 1946 to Coburn Mirfield of Methuen, Massachusetts, who was in the Navy at that time. They now live in Carlisle, Massachusetts, where Coburn is instrument technician at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital in Bedford, Massachusetts. Phyllis is a school nurse in Carlisle. They have two children, both interested in outdoor activities, swimming, fishing and hunting. See next page.

May 15, 1974
Dale Edward Mirfield attended high school in Concord, Massachusetts, and was a 1969 graduate of Canaan College, New Hampshire. He lives at home and works in nearby Concord.

Neal Coburn Mirfield is a 1970 Forestry graduate of Nichols College, Dudley, Mass., presently employed by the Park Department in Concord, where they live. He was married in 1969 to Rose Lombardo and their daughter Rebecca was born in 1970.

Christopher Herbert Jr., joined the U. S. Airforce right after graduation from high school in 1943, training as armorer at Lowry Airforce Base in Colorado and as aerial gunner in Harlingen, Texas. He served as tail gunner on Boeing B-17's and as S/Sgt in many European air attacks, and was shot down in a mission over Rumania, being a Prisoner of War for seven months. He earned several awards. In 1944 he married Patricia Maureen Dublac of Unionville, who had served with the Coast Guard and was discharged January 1945. They have eight children, and presently reside in Manchester, Conn.

Christopher Herbert III served in the Airforce, trained as insurance underwriter, married Faye Mary Martin of Kensington, is manager of a branch insurance company office in Miami, Florida.

Susan Ellen took part in the first national test of a trial polio vaccine in 1954. She was married in 1968 to Russell Windslow Haynes of Coventry. They live in Rockville with two children, Matthew Stephen and Mary Catherine.

David Michael enlisted in the Army after high school, taking basic at Sandia base in New Mexico, and serving in Guam as maintenance specialist on computers.

Petrina worked for Phoenix Insurance Company after high school and in 1972 married Robert Buccino of Manchester. He was in the Army at Alexandria, Virginia, at that time as computer operator. They have a son, Andrew Patrick.

Robin Paul enlisted in the Army after high school, trained at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and is presently serving in Germany as business machine maintenance man.

The three younger boys, Jonathan Scott, Timothy Mead and Kenneth Dean are in High School in Manchester, Connecticut.

May 15, 1974
Carolyn attended Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, for one year and then in 1948 accompanied her mother and her brother William in joining Col. Wollenberg who was stationed in Japan with the Army of Occupation. She took a job there with the Army Transport Corps, and in her spare time attended art classes. After her return home she was employed in the drafting department at Hamilton Standard in Windsor Locks. In January 1954 she married Woodrow Saccoccio, machine design engineer for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft. They built a house at 172 Garden Street where they and their children presently reside. Mr. Saccoccio is now employed as machine designer by New Britain Machine Company. Carolyn works for the Town of Farmington as map maker for the Transportation Department. She is a member of the Farmington School Board and for 1972-73 was president of the Myth Farmington Players, in which the whole family takes part. Mr. Saccoccio designs and builds sets for the stage, and Carolyn and both children take parts in the plays. The children are Holly Jen and Woodrow Crawford.

Holly played the bass violin in the school dance band (the only girl in it), takes part in the Myth Farmington productions, and attends Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio.

Woodrow (known as Chipper) plays the saxophone in the band and also takes parts in the Myth Farmington plays.

William is a 1949 graduate of Yokahama American High School of Japan and a 1953 graduate of the University of Connecticut, with a BA in Military Science and Government, and a Scabbard and Blade Award. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant U. S. Army on June 24, 1953. He served in Germany from 1954 to 1956, and in 1957 was married to Doris Ruth Stocking of Hutchinson, Minnesota. He served in staff and command positions in Germany 1959 to 1962, and in Vietnam in 1966 and 1972. He was commanding officer of the 4th Battalion, 68th Armor, 82nd Airborne Division in 1970 and 1971, and has earned several medals and decorations including the Legion of Merit. At the present time he and his wife are living in Alexandria, Virginia. He is serving in the Pentagon with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Armor, U. S. Army.

May 15, 1974
Col. Christopher Wollenberg was always a proud and enthusiastic member of the American Legion, and had the following statement made up for the writer, and the writer believes that Col. Wollenberg would like to have it considered an important part of his history.

James Palache Post No. 53
The American Legion
Farmington, Connecticut
November 20, 1970

James Palache Post of the American Legion, Department of Connecticut, was granted a charter by the National Executive Committee of The AMERICAN LEGION on the twenty-second of October 1919.

The original charter was signed by the following veterans of Farmington, who served during World War I.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>State No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence A. Howard</td>
<td>U.S. Navy</td>
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<td>George D. Chase</td>
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<td># 223</td>
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<td>William C. Skinner, Jr.</td>
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<td>Thomas Hewes</td>
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<td>James William Ingerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Joseph H. Rhodes</td>
<td>U.S. Navy</td>
<td>State # 281</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel M. Rhodes</td>
<td>U.S. Navy</td>
<td># 231</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carter Phelps</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td># 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward H. Deming, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncan C. Hooker</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td># 299</td>
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<td>* Christopher H. Wollenberg</td>
<td>U.S. Marine Corps</td>
<td># 146</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbert Knox Smith</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>John F. Rose</td>
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<tr>
<td>John D. Peters</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td># 276</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Signed:

Philo C. Calhoun
State Chairman.

Henry D. Lindsley
Chairman, National Executive Committee.

Eric Fisher Wood
Secretary, National Executive Committee.

* Only living Charter Member, still active.
** No longer a member.