The Ernest M. Hart House is situated on a 3/4 acre lot facing south onto Main Street. The lot has been cleared of most trees, allowing for sizeable front, east, and north lawns. A row of trees along the eastern property line mark the north boundary. St. Mary's Church lies west of the house.
This large asymmetrical Queen Anne-style house, oriented gable-to-street, features a hip roof with cross gables, clapboarded first story, and shingled second and attic stories. The south facade exhibits a three-story, truncated, octagonal tower with windows on each side. The gable ends feature decorative vergeboards with dentils and ornate carved brackets. The attic story window in the gable has a sunburst and wooden keystone. Other details include second story paired windows and an one-story, open Colonial Revival-style porch with a hip roof and pedimented gable adorned with sunburst molding. The porch, with a dentil course beneath the eaves, is supported by half-height, grouped classical columns resting on a spindled balustrade. Two-story cutaway bays, octagonal shingles, and a Venetian-like window (CONT)

Ernest M. Hart was born in 1868 to Hubert Chauncey (1843-1940) and Evaline (Moses) Hart. He was a descendant of Deacon Stephen Hart, one of Hartford's and Farmington's original founders. Ernest's father Hubert C. was an inventor and manufacturer of cutlery. In 1887 at the age of 19, Ernest married Ida G. Allen (1867-1960) of Westfield, Massachusetts. Ernest purchased a 3/4 acre lot on Main Street from William H. Sage of New Haven in 1896 (FLR 71:226). No mention of any dwelling is made in property transfers until 1965, when his son Nathaniel Hayden Hart acquired ownership of the property after Ernest died (FLR 177:8). Presumably, however, the house was built in the summer and fall of 1896 for Ernest and Ida and their two children. In 1887 his occupation was listed as contractor and the Harts did not mortgage this property. Ernest went on to become treasurer of the H.C. Hart Manufacturing Company. Manufacturers of tableware founded by his father by 1907, he later served as an executive at the Metal Manufacturing Company.

The Ernest M. Hart is historically significant through its associations with the Hart family in Unionville, and is an excellently-preserved Queen Anne-style house with Colonial Revival influence.

Sources:

M. Paredes 5/85

Gilbert Ramos 8/85

Greater Middletown Preservation Trust 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT

X None known. ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☐ Developers ☐ Other

☐ Renewal ☐ Private ☐ Deterioration ☐ Zoning ☐ Explanation
are featured in the gable ends. Two small stained glass windows decorate the stairwell on the southwest corner. The north elevation displays a two-story open porch with a turned balustrade.