**1. BUILDING NAME (Common)**  
Giblin, John and Mary, House

**2. TOWN CITY**  
Farmington

**VILLAGE**  
Unionville

**COUNTY**  
Hartford

**3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or, location)**  
175 Plainville Avenue

**4. OWNER(S)**  
Levandoski, Helena M.

**5. USE (Present)**  
Residence

**Public**  
☑ Private

**6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC**  
☑ Exterior visible from public road  ☐ Interior accessible  ☐ If yes, explain

**7. STYLE OF BUILDING**  
Nineteenth-Century vernacular

**8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)**  
☒ Wood shingle  ☐ Asbestos siding  ☐ Brick  ☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Board & batten  ☐ Stucco  ☐ Fieldstone  ☐ Cobblestone

☐ Aluminum siding  ☐ Concrete siding  ☑ Cut stone  ☒ Type: brownstone

**9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM**  
☒ Wood frame  ☐ Post and beam  ☒ Balloon  ☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Load bearing masonry  ☐ Structural iron or steel

**10. ROOF (Type)**  
☒ Gable  ☐ Flat  ☐ Mansard  ☐ Monitor  ☐ Sawtooth

☐ Gambrel  ☐ Shed  ☐ Hip  ☐ Round  ☐ Other (Specify)

(Asphalt)  ☐ Roll  ☐ Asbestos  ☐ Tin  ☐ Slate

☒ Asphalt shingles  ☐ Built up  ☐ Tile  ☐ Other (Specify)

**11. NUMBER OF STORIES**  
2½

**APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS**  
24 x 28; rear ell 16 x 16; 21 x 6 porch

**12. CONDITION (Structural)**  
☑ Excellent  ☐ Good  ☐ Fair  ☐ Deteriorated  ☐ Excellent  ☐ Good  ☐ Fair  ☐ Deteriorated

**13. INTEGRITY (Historic)**  
☑ On original  ☐ Moved  ☐ Yes  ☐ Completed

**14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES**  
☒ Barn  ☐ Shed  ☒ Garage  ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)

☒ has slate roof

**15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT**  
☒ Open land  ☐ Wooded  ☒ Residential  ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site

☐ Commercial  ☐ Industrial  ☐ Rural  ☒ High building density

**16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS**  
Set on a small slope, the John and Mary Giblin House stands at the southeast corner of Forest Street and Plainville Avenue. Some modern development has occurred in the immediate neighborhood, which contains a number of late-nineteenth century dwellings built when Unionville was developing as an industrial village.
Oriented gable-to-street, this three-bay, Nineteenth-century vernacular dwelling was built around 1880. The facade is enhanced by a single-story, open porch with beveled square posts and a geometrically designed balustrade. The gable end features wide overhanging eaves and a small, two-over-two, arched window. Two-over-two sash with louvered shutters are exhibited throughout the house. A single-story, hip-roofed bay window is found on the north elevation. A small brick chimney rises from the center of the house. Note the single-story, wood frame garage with slate roof which sits to the southeast of the house.

In 1878 Irish immigrant Mary Burns purchased a one acre plot of land "along the highway to Plainville" from James L. Cowles for $350 (FLR 65:306). A year later in August of 1879 Mary Burns (b. 1857) married John Giblin (b. 1852), also a native of Ireland. The Giblins erected this house sometime between their marriage and July of 1880 when they mortgaged the lot with dwelling house to the Farmington Savings Bank for $700 (FLR 63:292). There is little historical information available concerning the Giblins, although other members of the family also resided along Plainville Avenue. John Giblin, like many other late-nineteenth century immigrants, probably worked in one of Unionville's many mills. In 1919 Mrs. Giblin sold the house to Mary Ellen O'Donnell (FLR 80:127), who resided there until 1963.

Although simple in design the John and Mary Giblin House is a good example of late nineteenth-century domestic architecture in Unionville.