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)
Knibbs, John E., House

2. TOWN CITY
Farmington

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)
108 West District Road

4. OWNER(S)
Morse, Carolyn S.

5. USE (Present)
Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC
X Yes ☐ No
Interior: ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes Explain: 

7. STYLE OF BUILDING
Colonial Revival

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☐ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type:
☐ Cut stone Type:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel

10. ROOF
☐ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ Sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Material:
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll ☐ Asphalt ☐ Tin
☐ Slate
☐ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify)

11. NUMBER OF STORIES
2
APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS
28' x 23'; side additions 10 x 14

12. CONDITION, STRUCTURAL
☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY LOCATION
☐ On original ☐ Moved ☐ Yes ☐ No
WHEN? ☐ Effort/Description IF YES EXPLAIN

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage House ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural ☐ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
This house faces west onto West District Road. It is surrounded by trees and shrubs and the West District School is to the east.

(OVER)
This ridge-to-street Colonial Revival-style house with a gable over gambrel bellcast roof features a three-bay west facade with a second story three-bay roof dormer. There is a pedimented roof with bracket supports over the main entrance at the end bay. The house exhibits one-over-one sash throughout. The north elevation displays a side entry and gable over gambrel end rooflines with slight returns. There is a one-story enclosed porch with low hip roof on the south elevation.

15 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This Colonial Revival style house in Farmington's West District was built in 1926 by John E. Knibbs. The one-acre tract was purchased in April of that year from Elizabeth Wilcox and Flora (Wilcox) Bushley, widow and daughter of former farm owner Thames G. Wilcox (FLR 80:678). In May, John mortgaged the property "with buildings" to the Farmington Savings Bank for $3,000 (FLR 75:442). A builder by occupation, he probably constructed the house himself that year. A widower, he had married widow Margaret (Weicks) Adams that June, and this house may have served as their residence. John was born in 1873 to English immigrants James and Ellen (Collins) Knibbs, longtime residents of the West District. In 1929 he sold the property to his son Milton G. (FLR 85:577). Milton George Knibbs was born in 1904 in Southington to John and his first wife Florence (Root). Milton, a carpenter by trade, had married Bristol-born stenographer Ruth L. Muir in 1923. They apparently lived in this house until 1961, when it was sold to Charles David and Carolyn S. Morse (FLR 155:270).

The John E. Knibbs House contributes to the streetscape due to its typical Colonial Revival-style appearance.