Facing north onto Mountain Road, the Edward O. Hutchinson House sits on a small rectangular lot bordered to the rear by the Noah Wallace School. The surrounding neighborhood contains eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and twentieth-century residential and public buildings.
This modest Colonial Revival-style dwelling exhibits a three-bay facade capped with a steeply pitched pyramidal roof. The facade is enhanced by a single-story, wraparound veranda with classical columns, simple balustrade, and lattice-like skirt. Also note the single-story bay window and hip-roofed dormer. A two-story bay window is found on the west elevation. The one-over-one sash are original.

In June of 1895 Edward O. Hutchinson purchased a small lot of land on the south side of "the road to New Britain from Chauncey Deming" (FLR 71:126). Five months later, in November, Hutchinson mortgaged the property with buildings to Lucius S. Bishop for $1700 (FLR 71:152). Born in Essex, Connecticut, Hutchinson was employed as a bank clerk. He and his wife, the former Susan N. Sloane, had a daughter, Helen in 1899. Whether the family lived here can not be determined. The house was rented to Harris Parker in 1906, shortly before the house was sold. Lucius S. Bishop took title in 1907 and a year later sold the house to George M. Ryan (FLR 76:80, 77:204). Ryan, a train dispatcher, had married Helena Shanley in 1906. In 1912 Hiram R. Woodward acquired the property (FLR 77:436). A native of Chateaugay, New York, Woodward (1854-1923) had previously resided at 50 High Street, where he operated a livery stable. His wife, the former Lucinda Badger (1865-1919) was born in Wolcott, Vermont, to Knox and Sally (Blodgett) Badger. In 1924 the property was distributed by Woodward's estate to his four daughters: Effie Trotter, Bessie Keene, Sara Nichols, and Marion Anderson (FLR 74:411). Shortly thereafter Sara Nichols acquired her sister's portion of the house (FLR 82:188-190). In 1927 the Center School District bought the property (FLR 85:78). Since that time the Town of Farmington has housed a number of town employees here including school teachers, police officers, and town managers. The town still retains ownership of the house today.

The Edward O. Hutchinson House is a well-preserved example of a modest Colonial Revival-style dwelling. The dominant building style in the United States during the (see below)

**SOURCES**

**OWNER'S NAME**  FARMINGTON, TOWN OF
1950-res. (of Town Manager)

**ADDRESS:** 10 Mountain Road

**DATE BUILT:** 1895  FOR: Edward G. Hutchinson

**ARCHITECT**

**MASTER-BUILDER** John Parsons


**REFERENCES:** "Farmington, Conn., 1906", p. 172
This house is pictured on page 172 of the Farmington Book as the Residence of Harris Parker.

It was built in 1895 for Edward G. Hutchinson, who purchased the land from Chauncey Deming on June 15 of that same year. It has been stated that Hutchinson had lived with the Skoglunds and worked for the bank, but it has also been stated that he was a bond salesman. He perhaps built this house for rental purposes.

Harris Parker and his family, occupants in 1906, were tenants. Mr. Parker had a small store in Hartford, thought to have been a toy store, and he commuted to and from Hartford by trolley. The Parkers' son, one of three children, was a school pal of Walter Deming, one of "Tucky" Deming's sons, of the house next west.

Mr. Hutchinson sold to Lucius Bishop on June 25, 1907, but Bishop sold to Geoige M. Ryan on August 18, 1908, so it was perhaps held by Bishop for speculation only. His own home was in the southern section of Avon, around the Cider Brook area, but at various times he had invested in property in Farmington village.

Mr. Ryan sold to Hiram R. Woodward, 1854-1923, on October 8, 1912, after Woodward had sold his property at 50 High Street, where he had operated a livery stable. His wife was the former Lucinda Badger, 1865-1919. Mr. Woodward still owned some horses and wagons while he lived here, and did some work with them, contracted excavation and hauling.

Sarah Woodward Nichols, see 50 High Street, the Woodward daughter, inherited this property after her father's death in 1923, perhaps lived here for a time.

Mrs. Nichols sold to the Center School District in 1927, but a school employee who had lived here earlier than this was Irving Robbins, principal of Center School and later Noah Wallace School, for whom the junior high school at East Farms was named. The Robbins daughter and June Eyers were bosom pals.

Upon consolidation of the school districts the Town of Farmington took title to this house.

Nathan Fuller, a Unionville boy who married Reba Gallagher in 1916, lived here for a time, and was local police officer.

Various town employees have lived here, including Milton Shaw, said to have been the first town manager. Of these others, only the name of Stephen Flis has been mentioned to the writer as having lived here, see next page.

October 5, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Flis and family occupied this house from 1955 until 1963. Mrs. Flis is the former Gloria Holton.

Stephen Flis and Gloria Holton had met as students at the University of New Hampshire, where both were graduated in 1948. Stephen Albert Flis was born in Baldwinville, Massachusetts, the son of John Frank Flis and Agnes Mary Mazur. Gloria Holton was born in Rochester, New Hampshire, the daughter of John Wolcott Holton and Mildred Pauline Rand.

Mr. Flis later earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration at Boston University. He served as assistant town manager in Windsor for six months before being invited to become the town manager of Lancaster, New Hampshire. The Flises "lived in and loved that beautiful New England town for two and one-half years".

Mr. Flis became Town Manager of Farmington in 1955, and they moved into this house on February 17 of that year. They occupied it until December 18, 1963, moving then to the house at 300 Meadow Road which they had purchased and where they presently reside.

Mrs. Flis says "Being town manager of a town like Farmington is, I think, like being the parent of a gifted child. Much challenge is offered, but so much joy can be received". Civic and social work and club memberships are an integral part of the life of the Town Manager and his wife. In addition to this they try to be good neighbors and to keep up with their children. They also entertain, enjoy gourmet cooking, they garden, they read and they travel. Their upcoming November trip will be to Vienna!

The three Flis children are:

Mark Stephen Flis, recent graduate of the University of Arizona,
Michael John Flis, third year Economics major at Trinity College, and
Diane Marie Flis, second year Home Economics major at the University of Rhode Island.

Tenants in this house after the Flis family are not known personally by the writer. He can only offer the following names:

Donald B. Lee, the 1968 tenant,
Orlo H. Brown, Jr., shown in the 1969 phone book, and
Leonard Weiss, appearing in the 1972 edition, the latest one seen by the writer.

September 20, 1974