Prominently located in the heart of Unionville's historic center, the Hubert C. Hart house stands on a large, open lot facing south onto Main Street. The surrounding neighborhood contains other historic buildings built in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
The Hubert C. Hart house is by far the town's most outstanding example of Queen Anne-style architecture. Built circa 1885, this large, asymmetrical dwelling features a hipped roof with lower cross gables and a three-story, square turret capped with a pyramidal roof. The facade exhibits a highly ornate, single-story, open, wraparound veranda with Eastlake detailing. Note the intricately turned balustrade, beaded spindlework frieze and spindlework ornamentation in the porch gable. The main entrance features the original double doors. The facade's projecting gable displays an overhanging second-story supported by brackets. Note the first-story cutaway corner window embellished with ornate sawn corner brackets and pendant. Another common characteristic of the Queen Anne style is the variation of wall textures. Decorative

This large, elaborate dwelling was built by prominent businessman and inventor Hubert Chauncey Hart around 1885. In 1874 his wife, Evaline M. Hart purchased the John Thomson House (see #134 Main Street) from Helen M. Woodford for $5700 (FLR 61: 696). The Hart family resided in the old house until 1885 when they moved it to the rear of the lot and erected this grand house on the front portion. A $5000 mortgaged deed dated March 23, 1885, from the Harts to the Farmington Savings Bank mentions "two dwelling houses" on the lot (FLR 63:395). Born in Farmington, Hubert C. Hart (1843-1940) was the son of Chauncey and Sarah Jane (Hooper) Hart and was a descendant of Deacon Stephen Hart, an original proprietor of Hartford and Farmington. At the age of seventeen Hubert went to work in his father's trap shop in Unionville where they manufactured rakes and animal traps. In 1867 Chauncey Hart made his son a partner in the firm, which was to be called C.S. Hart and Sons. Between 1876 and 1880 Hubert was employed by P. & F. Corbin Company of New Britain where he had sold one of his inventions, a carpenter's bit brace. Around 1880 he returned to Unionville and commenced in the cutlery manufacturing business. Hart produced forks, knives, and spoons as well as edge tools. Although there is conflicting documentation concerning specific dates, Hart became a partner with Lucius D. Pond, who was later bought out by a man named Meech. In 1884 Hart joined with Andrew Upson to establish the firm of Upson and Hart Company, which manufactured cutlery. This firm reorganized in 1892 as the Union Cutlery and Hardware Company and shortly thereafter

panels are found between the first and second floors, in the gable ends and beneath the eaves. Imbricated shingles are also displayed in the gable ends and on the third-story of the tower. The overhanging eaves are enhanced by extended rafters. The gable ends on all elevations feature ornamented vergeboards, heavy supporting brackets and large decorative trusses. Note the east elevation exhibits a two-story cutaway bay window. The roof is covered with patterned slate tiles. One-over-one sash are featured throughout the house, although the third-story windows feature eight-over-two sash with colored glass. A number of small additions extend from the rear. A large Victorian-period barn sits to the northwest of the house.

19. Hart sold his interest in the company to J.J. Ramage. After leaving the Cutlery business, Hart invented a machine that made washers from wire. He formed the American Wire Washer Company, which was later leased to the Spencer Wire Company of Worcester, Massachusetts. This invention proved to be quite prosperous for Mr. Hart and by 1919, the firm was manufacturing spring washers for automobiles. In 1905 Hart returned to the cutlery business when he organized the H.C. Hart Manufacturing Company which produced cutlery, pliers, can openers and the Supreme Adjustable Safety Razor. In the Encyclopedia of Biography it states that Mr. Hart took one hundred patents and "his inventions employed thousands of men throughout the United States" (p. 27). Mr. Hart was president of numerous companies, including the Mutual Plate Glass, H.C. Hart Manufacturing Company, and the Aetna Safety Appliance and Hardware Company which made automobile parts and water faucets. He retired in 1928 and his cutlery factory remained in business until the depression shut it down in 1932. In 1862 Hart married Evaline M. Moses (1844–1923), the daughter of Orvin and Mary (Tuttle) Moses of Burlington. The Harts had six children: Arthur, Ernest, William, Edison, Carl, and Nellie. Upon her father's death in 1940, Nellie M. Hart (b. 1885) received the house (FLR 96:65). The house was sold to its present owners in 1960 (FLR 149:182).

Architecturally, this house is significant as Farmington's most elaborate and well-preserved example of Queen Anne-style architecture. It's first owner, Hubert C. Hart, played an important part in the development of Unionville as a manufacturing center and is well remembered for his many useful inventions.