Facing south onto South Road, the Samuel North House is situated prominently on an elevated site with a spectacular view of the Hartford skyline and areas east. Modern residential development has encroached upon the surrounding area which was once primarily used for agricultural purposes. Interstate 84 borders the property to the north.
Retaining most of its Colonial-period form and details, this house was remodeled during the mid 1800s. This is obvious due to the existence of its full-length windows on the first floor of the front facade and west elevation and open, wraparound porch supported by turned posts. At one time, the porch exhibited a modest balustrade. Today its five-bay facade, center chimney, and overhang between the second and attic stories are prominent features. Two-over-one sash exist on the second story and a western ell, a pre-1906 addition, is visible.

The first mention of a building on this lot is in 1706 when Samuel North (1671-1707), a bachelor, willed his "house and barn, with the moiety or half part of all the lands adjoining" to his one-year old nephew, Josiah North. The other half of the property was willed to another nephew, Daniel (North: 11). A merchant by trade, Samuel North acquired the house lot in December of 1701 from the town of Farmington and shortly thereafter built the house (FLR 1:24). He was residing in Boston at the time of his death in 1707. It is unclear who resided in the house until Josiah North (1705-1777) became of age. In 1736/7 Josiah sold the dwelling house and barn "at a place called two mile and half hill on ye road to Hartford" to his younger brother, another Samuel North. Both men were the sons of John and Mary (Seymour) North and great-grandsons of John North, Sr., one of Farmington's earliest settlers. The second Samuel (1708-1796) in 1737 married Lois Porter (1712-1796), the daughter of Rev. Samuel Porter. They had nine children and farmed the surrounding land. In 1778 Samuel sold to his son, Samuel North, Jr. (1740-1806), "the east part of my dwelling house, half of the cornhouse, cowhouse, and horsehouse together with one acre of land" (FLR 22:192). Samuel, Jr. received the other half of the house upon his father's death in 1796 (FPR 4:294 and 345). Samuel North, Jr. was also engaged in farming and in 1770 married Lucy Deming. She was the daughter of Eliakim and Lucy (Gridley) Deming. The Norths raised ten children. The next owner of the house was Samuel Jr.'s eldest son, Linus (FPR 6:22). Born in the family homestead, Linus (1774-1828) like his father was a farmer. In 1802 he...
married Dolly Woodruff (1774-1830), the daughter of Lot and Martha (Hart) Woodruff. They had one son and five daughters. All of the daughters married and moved west to Ohio or Illinois. Marcus, their eldest child, died at the age of twenty-four. Lewis Barber of Harwinton purchased the farm from the heirs of Linus North in 1829 (FLR 44:180-82; 44:400-401). Thomas Treadwell (1810-1883) of Albany, New York, bought the property in 1853 (FLR 52:587). Born in Farmington, he was the son of George and Nancy Treadwell and grandson of John Treadwell "The last Puritan Governor of Connecticut" (Hurlburt:249). After returning to Farmington, Treadwell served as Town Clerk from 1868 to 1871 and 1873-1879. The next occupant was George Kappell, who owned the house between 1844 and 1868 (FLR 60:53). Samuel Colt of Hartford purchased the farm in 1868 (FLR 61:5). Born in Philadelphia, Colt (1841-1915) was married to Mary Malvina Goodwin (1847-1939), a native of Milledgeville, Georgia. The Colts raised six children and continued to operate the large farm. Two of their sons, David and Harold, built houses across the street. The eldest son Samuel T. worked as an inspector at the Colt Fire-Arms Manufacturing Company. In 1932 the house was devised to Samuel's widow, Mary M. (FLR 74:579). Esther Colt inherited the house from her mother's estate in 1942 (FLR 96:591), and continued running the farm until 1947 when it became necessary to halt its operation. The house was sold to the present owners by the estate of Esther Colt in 1965 (FLR 175:484). During the mid-1960s much of the surrounding land was altered by Interstate 84 and modern residential development.

The Samuel North House derives both architectural and historical significance. It is in a good state of preservation and retains much of its original fabric. It is historically associated with the North family, a prominent family of eighteenth-century Farmington.