The George L. Richards House sits recessed on the west side of River Road at the intersection of Route 4. To the east lies the Lawton-Miner Company. The remains of old gardens are visible to the north and south.
This Greek Revival-style building features three bays, six-over-six sash, and an elaborate entry. A transom and sidelights flank the entry which is covered by an open, full-length porch. Boxed pilasters mark the building's corners. A heavy pediment with a wide entablature and rectangular window vents are found in the gable end. Several 1½ story additions stem off of the east and west sides of the house. They display half-windows, and one of the two porches is open.

In 1832 George L. Richards (1800-1880), a miller and son of Solomon Richards (1767-1848), purchased ½ interest in the business of Thomas and Joshua Youngs for $650 (FLR 46:142). Sited on a 1 acre plot, the property included a small dwelling house, grist mill, saw mill, and other buildings. The Youngs had operated the mills, some accounts say, at the time of the Revolution. Joshua Youngs is recorded as being the first settler to free his slaves including Titus, after whom Titus Hill is named. In 1837 Richards' bridge was built to connect Main Street with River Road. George purchased the Youngs' remaining ½ interest in the milling business in 1845 for $1200 (FLR 49:63).

He with his wife Lucy and three sons: Lucas (1824-1895), Solomon (1829-1906), and George M. (1835-1839) probably built this house around 1845 as the above referenced deed includes a ½ acre of land more than the first deed. By 1850 a siding was built so that cars carrying grain could be sent over to the mill for grinding flour. Richards was involved in other activities: the founding of the First Church of Christ, Congregational, Unionville, tax accessor in 1859 and postmaster for twenty-eight years. According to Raymond Brooks, seven years later after George's death the mill burned and a new building was erected. The estate passed to the oldest son Lucas, a papermaker, in June of 1882 (FPR 16:146) and by September the land, mill, and presumably this house were quitclaimed to the second son Solomon, also a miller (FLR 66:218). Solomon's first wife was Margaret (1823-1857) followed by Myra Edyman (see cont. pg.).

(1837-1872) of Southampton, Massachusetts. In 1901 Solomon granted his sister-in-law, Maria (Hall) Richards, the use of water to tenants in the "dwelling house" (FLR 78:455). After 1914 Solomon's estate was sold to Thomas M. Heafey (FLR 78:497) who sold it three years later to the Lawton family (FLR 77:660).

The George L. Richards House is a significant building due to its architectural style and associations with one of the first grist mills in Unionville.