Sited close to the road on the west side of Mountain Spring Road, the Judah Woodruff House stands amongst large trees. It is bounded by a tall brick wall. Other historic houses are visible from the site.
1. The early history of this house has been researched many times with several different interpretations. According to the survey findings, the house was probably built around 1760 by Captain Judah Woodruff (1722-1799). He was the son of Joseph (1679-1732) and Elizabeth (Curtis) (b. 1681) and a descendant of Matthew Woodruff, one of Farmington’s original proprietors. Woodruff was one of eight children of whom only several grew to adulthood. At his father’s death, Judah was 13 years old and his mother acted as his guardian in order that he could inherit some of his father’s estate. Judah’s brothers, Joseph, Jr. (b. 1716), Zebulon (b. 1717), and Jonathan (b. 1714) each received parcels of land. Joseph, Jr., also received the “homelot where his mother now lives lying near Doc. Thompson” (FLR 6:198); this must have been a house in the village as a house belonging to Doc. Thompson did not exist in the Mountain Spring Road area. In 1750 just three years before Judah’s marriage to Eunice Judd (1732-1792), his brothers Joseph and Zebulon deeded him a 4 acre and 24 rod parcel of land, “part of a piece laid out... by our grandfather John Woodruffe” and “undivided with our other third part of land belonging to Judah Woodruff” (FLR 8:185). The land, bounded on the east by a highway, south by common land, west by a meadow, and north by a brook and the top of the mountain, served as the site of this house. Judah and Eunice’s first child Asenath, born in 1753, also died during the same year and shortly thereafter Judah enrolled in the militia as a first lieutenant in the French and Indian War. He served in 1758 in the Battle of Ticonderoga and returned to Farmington shortly thereafter as his second son Charles was born in 1759. It is most likely that between 1758 and the
outbreak of the Revolutionary War, in which he served as a captain in the 12th Connecticut militia, Judah built this house and ten others in Farmington. However, his greatest contribution was the designing and building the First Church of Christ Congregational, the third meeting house, constructed between 1769 and 1771. It is possible that his self-taught skills combined with talent enabled him to create this masterpiece after making trips to Boston to observe the Old South Church. In 1797 two years before his death Judah was excommunicated from the church he built because his religious beliefs had been affected by the Great Awakening - a time of religious revival. According to Judah's inventory dated 1800, he owned this dwelling house, a barn, shop, and its surrounding 1 acre of land totaling $800. The remaining real estate, consisting of 65 acres of pasture or meadow, was valued at $1450 (FPR 63:122). To his eldest son Charles, Judah willed the value of real and personal property amounting to $170 to his son Noadiah (1760-1835) up to L90, daughter Lowely (1774-1854) up to L80 and granddaughter Charity up to L8 (FPR 5:48). Although Judah's house was not mentioned in the will, it probably was jointly owned by Noadiah and Charles, since their mother Eunice had died several years earlier. Noadiah, however, by 1799 had inherited his Uncle Joseph's property (FPR 5:49) due to the fact that Joseph (1716-1799) and his wife Hannah (1722-1799) were childless. Joseph's property was most likely located on Main Street. Charles died young, so Noadiah probably inherited his brother's interest in his father's house sometime after his marriage to Sally Holly. It is unclear whether Noadiah lived in his uncle's or his father's house. After his first wife's early death in 1787, he married Dorcas (Case) Miller (1764-1847). Noadiah, like his father, listed in the military to serve as a private and sergeant until 1777. He and Dorcas raised two children: Sarah Case (1807-1887) and Eunice Judd (1811-1844) and upon his death in 1835 his surviving daughter Sarah, who married Henry C. Mygatt in 1830, inherited the Woodruff homestead and several pieces of land. On part of the land south of her inherited property, she and her husband built their Greek Revival-style house (29 Mountain Spring Road). Since it was built by 1840 her grandfather's homestead, known as the "Cedars", was probably inhabited by a family employed by the Mygatts. By 1889 Sarah's estate was passed to her foster sister's son Henry C. Rice (FLR 66:640, 74:363). Rice willed it to his children John W. and Jesse M. Rice in 1921 (FLR 74:363). They in turn sold it to Genevieve and Thomas Hewes (FLR 83:364, 5,6) in 1925. Hewes was a Lieutenant Governor of the State of Connecticut and one of the founders of the World Federalist Movement. The Judah Woodruff House is architecturally significant due to its excellent state of preservation and good representation of the Georgian style. It is also historically significant because of its association with the builder and architect Captain Judah Woodruff.
OWNER'S NAME: WILLIAMS, STAUNTON

ADDRESS: 37 Mountain Spring Road

DATE BUILT: ca. 1770? FOR Capt. Judah Woodruff

ARCHITECT: Capt. Judah Woodruff

MASTER-BUILDER: Capt. Judah Woodruff


REFERENCES: "Farmington, Conn., 1906", p. 119 ("Farm Cottage at the Cedars").
WILLIAMS, STAUNTON

ADDRESS: 37 Mountain Spring Road

DATE BUILT: ca. 1735 FOR: Joseph Woodruff
Additions: 1925-26 FOR: Thomas Hewes
(Wing, Kitchen, etc.)

ARCHITECT
For additions: Roy D. Bassett of Hartford

MASTER--builder
" " Vincent of Bloomfield


REFERENCES: "Farmington, Conn., 1906", pp. 118-119 ('The Cedars').
See also "Colonial Dames" pamphlet at State Library under 'Woodruff-Williams House'.

WILLIAMS, STAUNTON

AS OF: 1950

PHOTO NO.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
note the long rear roof and arrangement of side windows.
This is not visible now because of the kitchen wing added by T. Hewes in 1925-26.
The barn was moved across the street about 1924 & is now the residence of C. Rauch.
This house is pictured on page 118 of the Farmington Book as "The Cedars, the old Judah Woodruff place, residence of Henry C. Rice". For some reason Baker and Tilden's 1869 Atlas does not show this house, although it does show the Henry Mygatt house, built about 100 years later, just south of it. This house was written up by Mrs. Mabel S. Hurlburt in 1948, for Alfred Howe Terry, calling it the Woodruff-Williams House.

Mrs. Hurlburt states that Joseph Woodruff #6, son of John Woodruff #2, who lived about on the site of the A. D. Barney house, "maybe built this house". Joseph Woodruff lived from 1679 to 1732. See the account of the George Woodruff house on Woodruff Road for more regarding the early Woodruffs, including Joseph.

Judah Woodruff #25, 1722-1799, was the fourth son of Joseph Woodruff by his second wife Elizabeth Curtis of Wethersfield, born 1681, daughter of John and Lydia Curtis, whom his father married in 1708.

Mrs. Hurlburt says of Judah on page 153 of "Town Clerks":

"He learned the trade of carpenter and became expert in the use of small tools and famous for his original designs and workmanship. He served in the French war, receiving a commission as first lieutenant dated March 22, 1759. He was at the Battle of Ticonderoga, and continued with the army until the close of the war. His services in the French war fitted him for the Revolutionary War in which he served as captain".

His service in the Revolutionary War was under Colonel Noadiah Hooker in the 12th Connecticut Militia. Mrs. Hurlburt states on page 32 of "Farmington, Church and Town", that two of his letters to his commanding officer "bear added testimony to his independence of thought and action". These letters are now at the Sterling Memorial Library at Yale University.

He is reputed to have built the Samuel Smith house, now 27 Main Street, as early as 1769. Even prior to that he was consulting architect when the First Church of Christ was built in New Britain in 1767, and he himself made the seats for it, and finished the woodwork. Mrs. Hurlburt speaks of some of the residences he built, on page 153 of "Town Clerks", mentioning the following:

- Samuel Smith house 27 Main Street
- The long Smith house Razed in early 1900's south of 27 Main St.
- Isaac Cowles house 149 Main Street
- John Mix house 123 "
- Samuel Deming house 66 "
- Martin Cowles house 41 "
- William L. Cowles house 59 "
- William Whitman House 8 High Street
- Elijah Lewis house 738 Farmington Avenue
- Noadiah Woodruff house 24 Main Street
- Major Hooker house 24 Main Street

September 5, 1973
The following regarding Judah Woodruff is quoted from footnotes on page 10 of the reprinted "Historical Discourse delivered at the Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Erection of the Congregational Church". This celebration was held on October 16, 1872.

"Judah Woodruff was born about 1720, and was the youngest son of Joseph Woodruff, who descended from Matthew Woodruff, one of the eighty-four proprietors of the town. His house stood near the site of the one owned and occupied by the late Noadiah Woodruff, at the north end of the village. At about the age of forty he served as First Lieutenant in the French War, under a warrant signed by Thomas Fitch, Esq., Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over His Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut, in New England in America. Given on the twenty-second day of March, in the thirty-second year of the reign of His Majesty George the Second, King of Great Britain, Anno Domini 1759. By his Honor's command, George Wyllys Sec'y. He served through the French War, and was at the battle of Ticonderoga.

After the close of the war he returned home and commenced building, and during the interval between the French War and the war of the Revolution, built ten houses including his own, and also the church of which he was the architect and master builder. At the opening of the Revolutionary War he entered the army and served as an officer. After the close of the war he built four or five other dwelling-houses in this village, which with the ten previously erected, with one or two exceptions are still standing in excellent repair, and with care would last another century.

He was a man of energy and persevering industry, as was proved by his working at late hours, carving upon the pulpit for the church with his knife, after the labors of the day. He was also a man of taste and close observation, and introduced a style of building which added to the respectability of the dwellings of this village. His carving on the front of the pulpit, representing vines of English ivy, was greatly admired. He probably received many hints in Boston, which city he visited several times, performing his journeys on horseback. Captain Woodruff died at the age of seventy-nine, and retained his vigor of mind until the last, while his physical energies were but little impaired until his last sickness. The Rev'd Timothy Pitkin officiated at his funeral, and bore testimony to his earnest piety."

September 7, 1973
Capt. Woodruff also built the Col. Fisher Gay house (see photos on pages 209 and 210) on Farmington Avenue, which was later to become the home of the Farmington Country Club, and was to be burned down in 1901.

"The History of the Corner House", as written for its owners around 1952, states that it also (built in 1783 for Daniel and Eleazar Curtis) was built by Judah Woodruff.

It is thought by some that the house at 149 Main Street was only remodeled by Judah Woodruff, having been built much earlier.

In 1795 Captain Judah made the show window of 32 sashes for the clock shop of Lewis Curtis (see photo on page 9), which is now a part of the Country Club golf pro shop.

Mrs. Hurlburt quotes George Dudley Seymour in his book, "Researches of an Antiquary", in which he says:

"It is clear that Capt. Judah Woodruff must be ranked among the best of our early self-taught architects and builders, worthy of place with such gifted later men as Ithiel Town, David Hoadley, and Samuel Belcher".

Capt. Woodruff did much of the interior finish in the church and on page 48 of the Farmington Book is stated, quoted from Noah Porter, D. D., President of Yale:

"Upon this church Capt. Woodruff bestowed the utmost care --- carving out with his knife the capitals on the pulpit and the fine work of the sounding-board, in which the wondrous green vines were conspicuous, which were the admiration of other generations. He spared no labor or care that the materials should be of the best and that the work should be most thoroughly done".

Unfortunately a lot of this original work was removed in a remodeling of the church's interior in the year 1836.

Judah Woodruff's tools are pictured on page 119 of the Farmington Book and are on view in the Farmington Museum.

Capt. Woodruff was a good customer at Elijah Lewis's store, pictured in page 179 of the Farmington Book, as shown by the long accounting on the next page, including a charge of four shillings for his cattle "doughing damage to my garding, 40 head of cabbage spoilt on November 17, 1786".

Judah Woodruff was to have trouble later, with the church. That is detailed by Mrs. Hurlburt on pages 153 through 156 of "Town Clerks" and on page 32 of "Farmington: Church and Town".

His later years were disturbing to some people because of these differences with the church and his refusal to attend, but perhaps these differences merely point up his independence in thought and action, and not an ungodly spirit.

September 5, 1973
The writer will not attempt to enlarge upon this matter, but will be content with the closing lines on page 32:

"Judah Woodruff withstood all efforts to draw him back into membership of the church, but Timothy Pitkin officiated at his funeral and bore testimony to his earnest piety".

Judah Woodruff had died in 1799.

Capt. Woodruff's wife was Eunice Judd, 1732-1792, the daughter of William Judd and Ruth Lee. Eunice Judd was the sister of the Major William Judd who lived for a time in what is now the Corner House, and was prominent in Farmington's preparation for the Revolutionary War. The Judah Woodruff children, enumerated on page 153 of "Town Clerks", three sons and two daughters, were the following:

Asenath born 1753
Charles " 1757
Noadiah " 1760
Judah Jr
Lowley

Noadiah Woodruff #75, 1760-1835, inherited this house in 1800, his father having died the previous year. He had served in the Revolutionary War in 1777, under Captain Stoddard, and was a sergeant at the age of seventeen.

He had been a member of the Grand Jury in 1792, and was on October 5, 1819, appointed an assessor for the town. In 1825 he was member of a committee to view and decide on the adequacy of roads built by the Farmington Canal Company to replace roads taken over by the Canal. In 1830 he was appointed to a committee to review claims arising from the changes made in the boundary line between the towns of Farmington and Avon.

Noadiah Woodruff's first wife was Sally Holly, daughter of Israel Holly. She died in 1787 and in 1789 he married the Widow Dorcas Miller, the former Dorcas Case, who lived until 1847. Their daughter Eunice died in her teens. Their daughter Sarah Case Woodruff, born in 1807, was married in 1830 to Henry Mygatt, born in 1804, presumably in Wethersfield, the son of Thomas Mygatt and Lucy Oakes.

A girl who was orphaned as a child, and reared by the Noadiah Woodruffs, was Caroline Case of Canton, Mrs. Woodruff's niece. She was married, probably in the later 1820's, to the Rev. Sedgewick Rice (formerly called Royce) of Wallingford, Conn. They moved to Canton, Ohio, where their son Henry Case Rice, was born in 1834.

Noadiah Woodruff gave to his daughter Sarah some land just to the south of his own house, and on this land Henry Mygatt built for his bride the house which was in 1906 the William Hooker house "Pilgrim Path", now the William Lidgerwood house, 29 Mountain Spring Road.

September 5, 1973

1595
Noadiah Woodruff died in 1835 and in 1837 his daughter Sarah Woodruff Mygatt took title as his heir. The Mygatts had no children. They took Mrs. Mygatt's mother in to live with them in their new house, and for many years the Noadiah Woodruff house was used as a farm house.

Mrs. Hurlburt has stated on page 153 of the book "Town Clerks", that Judah Woodruff built the Noadiah Woodruff house, and Jessie M. Rice, in a letter of July 16, 1948, says "The old house, built by Capt. Judah Woodruff for his son Noadiah in 1762, was used as a farm house". Noadiah Woodruff was at the age of two years in 1762. Mrs. Hurlburt writes of this house in her report made for the Colonial Dames in 1948, calling it "The Capt. Judah Woodruff house built by Joseph Woodruff, owned 1948 by Staunton Williams". The writer does not know how to explain these differing statements.

In any case, when Mrs. Mygatt died in 1887, her husband having died in 1882, and having no children of her own, she left to Henry Case Rice, her foster sister's son, the two houses, one at 29 Mountain Spring Road (her own home) and the other at 37 Mountain Spring Road (her ancestors' home).

Henry Case Rice, 1834-1917, born and reared in Ohio, had there married Jessie Jameson, 1835-1910, born in Scotland. Henry and his family had come East, to Springfield, Massachusetts, in the early 1860's. They had four children, the first one born in Ohio, the latter three in Springfield. Upon inheriting Mrs. Mygatt's property on Mountain Spring Road they came to Farmington to live.

Their daughter Jessie, their third child, said:

"My father sold this more modern house (the one built by Mr. Mygatt) to William A. Hooker, and my father had the old original house made comfortable with central heating etc, and we lived there many years".

It was not until 1898 that they sold the newer house to the Hookers. In the meantime they themselves had been living in the Mygatt house. Mrs. Hurlburt in her Colonial Dames report states that the stone chimney of this house, the older one, collapsed soon after they took ownership of it, and that in 1888 it was remodeled, probably the improvement mentioned by Miss Rice.

The Rice children were the following:

Agnes Carolyn Rice 1860-1919
Henry Sedgewick Rice 1864-1912
Jessie Marian Rice 1870-1949
John Weir Rice 1875-1936

Agnes never worked outside the home, and never married. Jessie taught school. She is believed to have been the last teacher at the old North District School before it was closed, and later taught in West District.

September 5, 1973
The Rices had cattle and farmed to some extent. They did not believe in doctors and medical treatments. When the time came to have their cattle tested and treated for tuberculosis they would not have it done, and the Barneys, to protect their herd from the disease, built a second fence, six feet from the former, to prevent contact between the two herds, and keep theirs free from infection.

Henry Case Rice was an inventor. Included in his inventions was the Boston pencil sharpener, the patent for which he sold at once, and a corn-sheller, which he also sold. One patent that he kept was for a calf weaner, which became a very salable product. It was quite simple to make. It was in the form of a metal shield, hanging from the calf's nose. The calf could graze, and eat grain, because when its head was down the shield hung out of the way. When the calf raised its head to suckle, the shield covered its mouth. Mr. Rice manufactured this himself, and the business was successful. For some time Fred Webster and his wife lived in the "farm cottage" (see photo page 118) and part of it was used as the factory. Mr. Webster ran the farm, but in his spare time helped his wife and daughter in the factory. The Rices took care of the business part of the enterprise.

This was the sole manufacturing concern in the village in 1906, as noted at the top of page 203 of the Farmington Book. There it is stated: "Mr. H. C. Rice at "The Cedars" carries on the manufacturing of a patent calf weaner, or muzzle, for which he finds a ready sale."

Mrs. Rice died in 1910 and Mr. Rice in 1917. The business was continued by the two daughters, but Jessie continued to teach. Agnes (Aunt Aggie to her younger relatives) took care of the bookkeeping and the purchasing and shipping, but she died in 1919. The business was continued by Jessie, with more help from the Websters, until the death of their daughter Leeta, after which they left the Rices. It was at this time that the Rice's son John Weir Rice, came to Farmington to take over operations.

Henry Sedgewick Rice at the age of forty-six, was married in 1910 to widow Georgiana R. S. Beach, the former Georgiana R. Smith. They lived somewhere on Mountain Road after their marriage, but Mr. Rice died in 1912.

In 1924 John Rice moved a barn from the Rice property on the west side of Mountain Spring Road, to the east side of the road, converting it to the house which still stands there, now known as 40 Mountain Spring Road. In 1926, before the conversion was completed, he sold it to Richard H. Phillips, later to become Superior Court judge.

In 1925 the two heirs of the Rice house, John and Jessie, sold the house and some of the land to Thomas Hewes, title being transferred on October 2 of that year to Thomas and Genevieve Hewes. John and his family and Jessie rented the Florence Gay house on Main Street until completion of the house on Waterville Road.

Jessie Rice, on June 12, 1929, purchased some land on Hatter's Lane from Margaret Brady, land which John Brady had bought from H. J. Peck on November 28, 1867. Jessie continued living with her brother while she had a house built for her, known as 19 Hatter's Lane, into which she then moved. On June 28, 1948, she sold that house to Walter J. and Mary Schorer Cake. Jessie Rice then moved to Plainville, where she died on March 16, 1949.
The Rice property, at the time of inheritance by Jessie and John Rice, extended all the way from Mt. Spring Road down west even past Waterville Road. Much of it had been sold but some on Waterville Road had been retained, and it was to this that John W. Rice and his family moved.

The Rice story will be continued here however, for two reasons. Reason number one, the least important, is that the house on Waterville Road was not pre-1906, not pictured in the Farmington Book. Reason number two is that the writer is not at all sure that he can describe its location. He believes that two buildings were on the property, a house and also the shop, or small factory, in which the calf weaners were made. It is believed to be the house now owned by Norton I. Virgien, Jr., and that the owners, traced back to the Rices, with dates of acquisition given, would be:

- Norton I. Virgien, Jr. 1967
- Edward L. Pritchard 1961
- Henry M. Pollock 1947
- Clara Ihlo Rice, 1937
- John Weir Rice 1926

It was near the Milton Shaw home.

John Weir Rice, 1875-1936, born in Springfield, Massachusetts, lived his teen-age years on Cedar Street, Farmington, then moved to New York City to work. He there married Clara M. Ihlo of German parentage. They lived in NYC, then in New Britain, and back to NYC before settling in Pennsylvania. There he took an auto dealership near Philadelphia, residing in Philadelphia, then Lansdale, and finally in Aldan, all near the city.

When he received a call for help from his sister Jessie, who could no longer handle their manufacturing business in Farmington, he brought his family to Connecticut. As previously stated, they first lived at 37 Mountain Spring Road before coming to Waterville Road. Mr. Rice continued the manufacturing business until sometime in the early thirties when his son John F. took over. John W. died in 1936.

The John W. Rice children were:
- Dorothy Ihlo Rice born New York City
- Henry Case Rice "
- John Frederick Rice born New Britain

Dorothy Ihlo Rice was married in 1935 to Carl Frederick Baker, born in Quincy, Massachusetts, the son of Clifton Howard Baker and Winifred Seaman. They lived for a time in a rented house in Wethersfield, moved to their present home in West Hartford in 1940. As of July 1972 Mr. Baker, vice president of Chandler Evans of West Hartford, was preparing for retirement. They have a daughter Gail, and a son Guy Frederic.

September 5, 1973

Guy Frederic Baker, married to Lorene Brons, was a much traveled member of the U. S. Air Force, stationed at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Their children were Tracy Ann and Stephen Brent.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker has some mementos from the old house on Mountain Spring Road, including small portraits done on ivory, of Henry Mygatt and Sarah and Eunice Woodruff, also a bulls-eye watch which had been carried by Captain Noadiah during the war.

Henry Case Rice was married in 1928 to Ellen Carolyn Wollenberg, born 1902, daughter of Paul Wollenberg and Edith M. Fison. Henry Rice lived all his working life in Bridgeport, Connecticut, first working with Otis Elevator, later with AVCO. Ellen Rice died in the early 1940's leaving no children. Henry re-married. His second wife was a widow with one daughter, and Frederick, Barbara and Raymond were born of this marriage. Mr. Rice retired from active employment in 1970.

John Frederick Rice lived on Waterville Road, carrying on the manufacturing business which his father had kept up until a few years before his death in 1936. The business had gone well, shipments being made to Africa, Australia and other foreign countries. John F. was married in 1940 to Mary Caroline Wollenberg, born 1904, daughter of Gustave Wollenberg. Mrs. John W. Rice moved to New York City soon after this, her children now all married, to be nearer her relatives where she had been reared.

John F. sold the manufacturing business soon after this, to North and Judd of New Britain. Mrs. Rice was interested in joining her aunt in Bristol in the operation of a small shop there, selling ladies' wear. She and her husband moved to Bristol so she could be near the shop. His mother then sold the house on Waterville Road. Mrs. Mary Rice died in Bristol in 1950, leaving no children. John F. soon moved to New York, to the Greenwich area, and went into selling, but died in 1962.

Mrs. Clara Ihlo Rice died on December 24, 1971, in New Britain, Connecticut.

September 5, 1973

Up-date! As of January 1974 the Carl F. Bakers are living in their new home at South Yarmouth, Cape Cod, and are enjoying it mightily. Mr. Baker retired in mid-1973 and they are now taking full advantage of the leisure time resulting.

January 24, 1974
The following postscript to the story of the Rice family is written principally to clarify the location of the former Rice home on Waterville Road.

Here is a listing of the first houses on the west side of Waterville Road, north of the tennis courts and fairways of the Farmington Country Club's golf course, listed from south to north:

1. A house owned by the Country Club, which was occupied several years by Mr. Dubie.

2. #185. A house built by Mr. Dubie, owned and occupied in 1972 by Ruth Hyatt.

3. #133. A house built by George Miller, or perhaps merely owned and occupied by him and his late wife, who died in July 1973.

4. The former Rice house, sold by the Rice family in 1947 to Dr. Henry M. Pollock.

5. About in front of the Rice house stood their shop, with garage space for three cars underneath it. The portion of the property occupied by the garage and shop was sold separately, and purchased by Charles Shaw, who converted the building to a residence. Later a new house was built on a part of the property for his son Milton, later to become Farmington's Chief of Police.

6. A house built by Raymond Sperry and in which he and his family lived for several years. It is now occupied by John Douglass and his family.

Of the later owners of the Rice house, listed on a previous page, the only one who can be identified by the writer is Dr. Pollock. He is worthy of mention.

Dr. Henry Pollock served in World War II in Europe and in Africa. From the time of his discharge from the army until about 1950 he served in the Newington Veteran's Hospital. He then practiced in Bristol about ten years and in 1960 moved to Togus, Maine. He practiced there at the Togus Veteran’s Hospital, and died there on March 2, 1973, at the age of 67.

January 24, 1974
Thomas and Genevieve Hewes, who purchased this house on November 2, 1925, were not new comers to Farmington. They had lived since 1912 in the house at 50 High Street, the old Deacon Edward Hooker house. They enjoyed restoring old houses, and this one had not had much care for several years. They did not occupy the house immediately, in fact it was two years before the remodeling was completed.

Mrs. Hurlburt, in her 1948 report to the Colonial Dames on this house, makes special mention of its former appearance, noting the five windows on the second floor front, four windows first floor front, with arches above each, the center front door with the arch above it, and the wide center chimney. A 1949 photo shows all these windows and door as they were in 1906.

Kitchen and maids' quarters were added on the south side. This and a north ell were probably added by Mr. Hewes. By 1948 an "old shop well back of the house" had been converted to an apartment.

The "most beautiful maple in Farmington", pictured on page 118 of the Farmington Book, has long been gone from the scene.

Mrs. Hewes died in 1936, and Mr. Hewes later re-married, but his widow says that she never lived in this house, as they moved to West Hartford. More on the Hewes family will be found under the address of 50 High Street, where they had spent more years. This house was sold to Staunton Williams in 1943.

Staunton Williams, born in Hartford in 1899, was a graduate of Hotchkiss School, Yale 1920, and Harvard Law School. He practiced law in New York City four years, became corporation counsel of Capewell Manufacturing Company of Hartford in 1935 and its president in 1937. He was president of the Institute for Living, 1951 to 1962. He retired as president of Capewell in 1964, was chairman of the board until 1969.

His first wife was the former Cornelia Sage, an MPS girl from 1917 until 1919, daughter of Dean Sage, Jr., and Anna Parker, an 1896 MPS graduate. Prior to coming to Farmington they resided on Prospect Avenue, Hartford, in the house now the Governor's Mansion. Their three children were:

- William E. Williams,
- Henry M. Williams and
- Staunton Williams, Jr.

During their residence here this house was twice opened for benefit tours, by the Antiquarian and Landmarks Society in 1947, and for the "16th Annual Exhibition of Houses & Gardens" in 1949. Mrs. Staunton Williams died in 1968 and Mr. Williams later remarried. This house was sold in 1963 to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Rafferty.

Staunton Williams, Sr., then living on Northeast Road, Farmington, died on March 10, 1972.

September 6, 1973
Old Farmington House To Be On Exhibition

This house, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Williams, Mountain Spring Road, Farmington, is one of several that will be exhibited at the sixteenth annual Exhibition of Houses and Gardens May 17 and 18. The house was once that of Captain Judah Woodruff, Farmington's master builder and architect from 1760 to 1790.

The above is not a very clear reproduction of the newspaper photo, but it does show the front windows and door, and the arches over them, as described by Mrs. Hurlburt.

September 6, 1973
FARMINGTON — A "very old" human skeleton was unearthed by a gardener digging an asparagus trench in a Mountain Spring Road backyard Tuesday afternoon.

Police Chief Richard H. Moore said a skull, leg bones, ribs and what is believed to be a pelvic bone were carried away from the scene in a plastic bag by Dr. Elliott M. Gross, chief medical examiner.

Moore said Dr. Gross will turn over the skeleton to an anthropologist in an effort to determine its age. The remains were found in a shallow grave at the home of Bernard Rafferty of 37 Mountain Spring Road. Rafferty said the top of the skull had been sliced off in what appeared to be "a deliberate, neat job."

He said a search for additional bones will resume today.

Andrew Mitchell, a landscaper hired to plant the asparagus, said he dug down about 20 inches when he hit the first bone, in an area that has been open meadows for many years.

"I thought it was a horse's leg, until I dug a bit further and hit the skull," he said.

FARMINGTON — Antropologists have abandoned the search for more skeletons in a backyard asparagus patch where the first skeleton was found three weeks ago.

Dr. William S. Laughlin, a biological anthropologist at the University of Connecticut, said Sunday he is "almost certain" many of the remains of what are believed to be up to six skeletons are part of an anatomical collection.

The skulls, including two adults, a baby, and a child of about eight, were sliced neatly off at the top. In addition, many of the bones have been sawed in half, have drill holes and metal clips — said to be indications they were used by a medical student or doctor. Laughlin said some have no markings, and one skeleton has red pigment.

The red pigment was found on the first skeleton unearthed by a gardener digging trenches for asparagus at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Rafferty of 37 Mountain Spring Road. The remains were turned over to Laughlin for study by Medical Examiner Elliot Gross.

Initals

Some of the skeletons have initials, which are the same as generations of a family that built and lived in the Rafferty house over a 200-year span.

The gravesite was the homestead of Capt. Judah Woodruff, builder of the 200-year old Farmington Congregational Church.

Local records, and a genealogy of the Woodruff family written by Mrs. Morris W. Abbott of Milford, disclose that almost all of the Woodruffs who lived in the house had the initials "J. W."

Dr. Laughlin ruled out any connection between the skeletons and the Woodruffs, however, because the initials on the skeletons included a middle initial, which he refused to disclose. None of the early inhabitants of the house had middle initials because they were not fashionable until the middle 19th century, he said.

Records also show that two other families occupied the Rafferty home after it passed out of the Woodruff family in 1923.

The families of these owners, however, say they know nothing of the skeletons, including the physician sons of Staunton Williams. Williams purchased the house in 1943. His father was a doctor, G.C.F. Williams.

Staunton Williams' sons, Dr. William Williams of Avon and Dr. Henry Williams of West Hartford say they never owned a medical skeleton. Both think their father would not have buried his father's collection, if any, in a backyard.

Dr. Laughlin said an initial "T" also was found on some of the bones, which he thinks may be anywhere from 20 to 100 years old.

Laughlin said his staff will continue to study the bones this summer and Mrs. Rafferty says she finally has been able to plant her asparagus.