 Facing south away from the east side of Main Street, the Sarah Porter Memorial lies in the heart of the village's historic district. Standing on a small lot known as the Meeting House Green, the memorial building faces the tower end of the Farmington Congregational Church (1771). The lot is bordered to the north by residential buildings owned by Miss Porter's School. To the east is the Noah Wallace Elementary School and Village Branch Library.
This ornate Neo-Classical edifice exhibits a seven-bay facade with central projecting
portico in the Ionic Order. The fluted wooden columns support a modest entablature and
pedimented gable adorned with a leaded fanlight and modillioned cornice. Symmetrically
placed along the facade and side elevations are fluted Ionic pilasters supporting a
simple entablature with a modillion course. The raised basement and facade steps are
constructed of grey Maine granite. The arched double-hung sash are embellished by white
marble window crowns and sills. Flanked by classical pilasters, the double leaf entry
door is capped by an ornate leaded transom and broken swan's neck pediment.

Charles O. Whitmore

This building was erected in 1901-02 by former students of Miss Porter's School as a
memorial to their former headmistress, Miss Sarah Porter (1813-1900). Constructed on land
owned by the Farmington Congregational church, the Memorial was a parish house for the
church. Funds for the construction of the parish house were gathered by former pupils
from subscriptions. The architect for the project was Charles O. Whitmore. At the
dedication on October 28, 1902, the program read, "This building is erected in memory of
Miss Sarah Porter by her pupils, in honor of her wise, unwearied, and noble endeavor to
make real to them the Life Eternal." The building today continues to be used by the
Congregational church as their parish house and for meetings of community groups.

Architecturally the Sarah Porter Memorial is an excellent example of an early twentieth-
century public building in the Neo-Classical style. Historically the building is notable
for its association with the Congregational church and as a fitting tribute to one of
Farmington's most prominent citizens, Miss Sarah Porter.
**Owner's Name:** First Church of Christ Congregational (SPM)

**Address:** Main Street & School Street

**Date Built:** 1901-1902

**For:** Parish House, built by the graduates of Miss Porter's School, in her memory.

**Architect**

**Master-BUILDER**

**Former Owners:**

**References:**

- Farmington, Conn. 1906 p46, 195
- "Farmington Town Clerks, 1943 pp 279-284