**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY**

**BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

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**TOWN CITY**
Farmington

**VILLAGE**

**WARD HOUSE**

**COUNTY**
Hartford

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**STREET AND NUMBER**

**78 Garden Street**

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**OWNER**

Cadwell, Frank A., Jr.

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**USE**

Residence and Fuel Oil Business

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**ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exterior Visible from Public Road</th>
<th>Interior Accessible</th>
<th>If Yes Explain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**STYLE OF BUILDING**

Federal/Vernacular

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**MATERIALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicate use or location when appropriate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clapboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Shingle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board &amp; Batten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum Siding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood frame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load bearing masonry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Shingle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt shingle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**STRUCTURAL SYSTEM**

| X Wood frame | X Post and beam |
| X Other      | X Other         |
| X Other      | X Other         |

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**ROOF TYPE**

| X Flat | X Mansard |
| X Monitor | X Sawtooth |
| X Other | X Other |

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**WALL TYPE**

| X Brownstone foundation |
| Other                     |

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**NUMBER OF STORIES**

X 2 1/2

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**APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS**

| X 20 x 31; porch 11 x 6; rear ells 9 x 12; 9 x 9; 11 x 8; 4 x 8; 12 x 10 |
| X Other measures |

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**CONDITION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>X Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Deteriorated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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**INTEGRITY**

| X Yes | X No |

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**RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>X Barn</th>
<th>X Shed</th>
<th>X Garage</th>
<th>X Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X Carriage</td>
<td>Shop</td>
<td>Garden</td>
<td>pump house</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT**

| X Open land | X Woodland | X Residential |
| X Other | X Scattered buildings visible from site |
| X Commercial | X Industrial | X Rural |
| X High building density |

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**INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS**

Facing east onto Garden Street, this dwelling sits on an open lot bordered to the rear by the Farmington River. Part of the Miss Porter's School complex lies across the street to the east. The surrounding residential neighborhood comprises other historic dwellings of similar vintage.
Built about 1845, the Ward House features characteristics of Federal-period architecture. Oriented gable-to-street, the two-bay facade exhibits a pedimented gable end highlighted with an ornate, semi-circular fanlight. An early twentieth-century, two-story, open porch covers half of the facade. The modest facade entry door displays side pilasters. A bay window is featured on both the north and south elevations. The large 2½-story addition with enclosed screened porch erected on the rear of the main block was built in the early twentieth century replacing a smaller 1½ story ell. A diminutive brick chimney rises from the center of the original block. A large wood-frame barn with cupola sits to the rear of the house.

### Architecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architect</th>
<th>Builder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Historical or Architectural Importance

While the building's construction date cannot be clearly determined through the land records, the house was probably constructed by Augustus Ward and his wife, Susan around 1845 as an employee residence. In 1841 Susan (Cowles) Ward (1816-1894) inherited from her father, Seth Cowles, 3½ acres with dwelling house and outbuildings extending from Main Street west to the Farmington River (FFR 10:285). The dwelling house mentioned in this deed is the building at 56 Main Street, which Augustus Ward replaced shortly after acquiring the land. In 1843 Susan Ward's sister, Sarah (Cowles) Carrington quit-claimed all her rights in the 3½ acres (FLR 45:434). Although an exact date cannot be assigned to the house, the Wards probably built it shortly after they inherited the land. Susan Cowles and Augustus Ward (1813-1883) were married in 1840. Mr. Ward was born in Granville, Massachusetts, to Comfort and Phemea (Shepard) Ward. As a young man he was a merchant in New Britain and upon removing to Farmington he engaged in farming. Ward was also a charter member of the Farmington Savings Bank. This house is attributed to the Wards on the 1855 and 1869 Maps of Farmington village. The next owner was George Cooper, who acquired the house in 1887 for $1125.00 (FLR 68:301). The dwelling at this time was leased to Henry Gallagher, who was a janitor at the Old Center School and Town Hall. In 1895 James Louis Gallagher purchased the property (FLR 71:105). An employee of the Railroad Company, Gallagher was tragically killed in a train accident in 1902. He was only thirty years old and left a widow, Margaret (English) Gallagher and two young daughters, Ruth and Reba. Frank A. Cadwell bought the house in 1902 (SEE CONT.).

### Sources


### Threats to Building or Site

- [X] None known
- [ ] Highways
- [ ] Vandalism
- [ ] Developers
- [ ] Other
- [ ] Renewal
- [ ] Private
- [ ] Deterioration
- [ ] Zoning
- [ ] Explanation

### Photographs

- **Photographer:** Alex Paredes
- **View:** NW
- **Negative on File:** 1:22
- **Date:** 5/85

### Compiled by

- **Name:** Elizabeth R. Hart
- **Organization:** Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
- **Address:** 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT

### Subsequent Field Evaluations

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(FLR 74:98) and it owned by his son today. The Cadwell family operates a home heating fuel business from the premises.

Although the dwelling has been altered since its construction, it remains historically significant for its association with the Ward family and contributes to the historic character of Garden Street.
OWNER'S NAME: CADWELL, EST. FRANK A. CADWELL, FRANK A. JR.

ADDRESS: 78 Garden Street

DATE BUILT: after 1847 FOR: farmhouse for Mrs. Susan Ward?

Remodeled ca. 1911 by H.O. Wilcox

ARCHITECT
MASTER-BUILDER

FORMER OWNERS:
F.A. Cadwell from Est. James L. Gallacher, 1 acre &
bldgs, $1525, 12/22/1902, Vol. 74, p. 98; J.L. Gallacher
from George A. Cooper, $1800., 1 acre and improvements there-
on, 1/17/1895; Vol. 71, p. 105; Cooper from Mrs. Susan Ward
$1125, 5/3/1887, Vol. 68, p. 301; Susan Ward by inheritance
from father Seth Cowles through mutual distribution which
included the homestead on Main St., land to the river and
the Straight Path Lot - no mention of any other house. The
house may have been built for Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Ward for
a tenement or for a farmer's cottage.

This house is pictured in the Farmington Book on the page 110 as the residence of Frank A. Cadwell.

The notes given by Mrs. Hurlburt to the Farmington Village Library give the following information:

"Susan Ward by inheritance from father Seth Cowles through mutual distribution which included the homestead on Main Street, the land to the Farmington River, and the Straight Path Lot - no mention of any other house. The house may have been built for Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Ward for a tenement or for a farmer's cottage, after 1847."

Note: Susan Ward was the wife of Augustus Ward who had built and occupied the house now known as "Ward", the Miss Porter's School dormitory at 56 Main Street.

To continue with Mrs. Hurlburt's notes:

"George A. Cooper from Mrs. Susan Ward $1125. May 3, 1887, Volume 68, page 301".


"Frank A. Cadwell from the Estate of James L. Gallagher, One acre and buildings, $1525. December 22, 1902, Volume 74, page 98".

"Remodeled 1911 (ca) by H. O. Wilcox".

The Cadwells have been in the fuel business for some years and it is believed that they still own the property, to the rear of which can be seen what was the old canal basin, for the unloading of freight from the boats traveling the Farmington Canal.

November 14, 1973

James Louis Gallagher, born 1872, who purchased this house in 1895, was the son of Robert Gallagher of 170 Garden Street. He had recently been married to Margaret English, who as a girl had lived at one time in one of the two little houses at 138-140 Main Street, as she had told her daughter. Mr. Gallagher, a railroad employee, was killed in an accident near what is now the Avon Old Farms area, in 1902. Mrs. Gallagher sold this house shortly after his death, moving with her two daughters, Ruth and Reba, into half of the house pictured on page 111 of the Farmington Book.