1. BUILDING NAME (Common) | Ryan, Michael, House
2. TOWN CITY | Farmington
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) | 90 Copper Mine Road
4. OWNER(S) | Callahan, John P. and Josephine
5. USE (Present) | Residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: | Yes
7. STYLE OF BUILDING | Nineteenth-century vernacular
8. MATERIALS (Indicate use or location when appropriate) | Clapboard
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM | Wood frame
10. ROOF (Type) | Gable
11. NUMBER OF STORIES | 2½
12. CONDITION (Structural) | Excellent
13. INTEGRITY (Exterior) | On original site
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES | Barn
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT | Open land
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS | This house sits on the north side of Copper Mine Road just past the intersection of Red Oak Hill Road. Large shade trees exist to the east and north. Other houses of similar age are visible from this property to west and south.
This gable-to-street, "L" shaped house features a three-bay facade with an Italianate-styled arched attic window. The entry door exists on the west elevation and has been enclosed by an "L" shaped porch capped with a shed roof. Six-over-six sash are found throughout the house. A small central brick chimney rises from the roof. Since the building displays little detail, stylistically it is a nineteenth-century vernacular building.

The Michael Ryan House was probably built around 1862. Little historical information exists about Ryan (1816-1905) except that he was the son of Irish immigrants John and Anna (Connell) Ryan. In 1862 he purchased "thirteen acres with buildings" from Winthrop M. Wadsworth (FLR 58:379). It was known as the "William Kelly Place", although it does not appear on the 1855 or 1869 maps. Ryan mortgaged the property for $80 during the same time through the Farmington Savings Bank (FLR 58:426) and might have built the existing house after removing or incorporating an older house(s). Minnie (Webster) Brewer of Watertown, New York, purchased it next in 1899 for $1000 (FLR 71:403). She sold it to farmer Harrison W. Davis (b. 1872) in 1905 (FLR 77:18) after his marriage to Harriet G. Bell in 1904. Davis was the son of Henry and Mary (Webster) Davis. Five years later William Wilson Clark purchased the property (FLR 77:359). Born on a British ship crossing to America, Clark (1862-1941) married Grace Goodwin who inherited the property through a quit-claim deed in 1937 (FLR 82:675). Since that date, it has changed hands several times.

The Michael Ryan House is historically significant to the development of the West District area due to its association with the Ryan family.

SOURCES


PHOTOGRAPHER

K.J. Istok

DATE

10/85

VIEW

NEGATIVE ON FILE

NW

8:34

NAME

Ruth A. Bedrosian

DATE

10/85

ORGANIZATION

Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

ADDRESS

27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT

SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

X None known. □ Highways □ Vandalism □ Developers □ Other

□ Renewal □ Private □ Deterioration □ Zoning □ Explanation