The James R. Jenkins House faces west onto Lovely Street. A driveway and large trees surround the building. Other historic buildings lie to the north and south.
This Italianate-style house consists of three bays, full-length windows of six-over-six sash and a simple one-story porch supported by Tuscan columns. A wide entablature and its square plan are typical elements of the style. Other features are a bay window, a pediment shaped door head and a screened-in porch on the south elevation as well as a lattice foundation skirt and small brick chimney.

In 1867 Hubert C. Hart sold a 3/4 acre lot to James R. Jenkins for $1,000. A stipulation in the deed said the "grantor is to relinquish all claims to said grantee to a certain contract that said grantor made with Charles R. Butler [born in Wethersfield of New Britain husband of Fanny Hart (1848)] to build a dwelling house that is now in progress of erection on said lot and said grantee to pay said Butler the balance of said contracts" (FLR 60:588). Jenkins (1835-1911), a Connecticut Volunteer, Company D, 23rd Regiment (Civil War), married Martha J. Hitchcock (1842-1895). His second wife was Emma (Frisbie) Johnson (1842-1911) whom he married in 1897. Jenkins mortgaged his property for $175, then $150, in 1869 and 1870, through the Farmington Savings Bank, paid off by 1885 (FLR 63:37, 74; 67:86). After Jenkins' death in 1911 his son George Heath (1883-1919) received the property. He married Laura A. Kroher of Hartford in 1913 and six years later was killed in an automobile accident. The property was sold to Jeanette B. Robotham in 1919 (FLR 74:344).

Architecturally intact, the James R. Jenkins House is a good example of Italianate-style architecture.