20 Elm Street-Dr. William Sage House-1852
19th c. Vernacular with Greek Revival influence. Dr. Sage (1825-1909) came to Unionville as a young physician in 1850, and became the area’s leading physician. A Yale graduate, he practiced homeopathy, which eventually led to his ouster from the CT Medical Society.

54-56 Maple Avenue-Nathaniel Hayden Apartments-1875
Nathaniel Hayden (1835-1910), wealthy, prominent businessman and badly injured Civil War veteran, moved to Unionville in 1870 and built the tenement house in 1875. It is notable as one of the last remaining tenement buildings constructed for mill workers. The two-and-a-half story brick, gable-roofed facade features two Italianate-style doors and two paired window dormers with a clover motif in the pediments. Note Hayden’s initials and the built date on the east side. UHD

Note: Next door, at 58-64 Maple, is another 19th c. Vernacular tenement built in 1878-89 by John Chamberlain, a mechanic.

Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission
Self-Guided Walking Tour #2
“Clover” Pinney Park Neighborhood

* Photo courtesy of the Unionville Museum

UHD indicates a property within the Unionville Historic District
“Clover” Pinney Park-1880s
Named in honor of Alice Y. “Clover” Pinney (1886-1977), a suffragette who was the first Unionville woman to vote after woman suffrage was attained. She was a reporter for The Hartford Courant and served as the first female tax collector in the state. The park was an open green space for recreation and picnics by neighborhood families. The land may have been owned and maintained by the Platner & Porter paper mill. The Victorian-style gazebo was added in 1986 through the efforts of the Town and the Unionville Museum. UHD

173 School Street-Union School-1939
The Neo-Classical elementary school was built on the site where the Platner & Porter Co. (closed in the Great Depression) had operated its successful paper mill since 1848. The new school building was one of Connecticut’s largest Works Progress Administration projects. Nearly everyone in Unionville was involved in its construction. (The WPA was an FDR-administration project to create jobs during the Great Depression.)

19 Perry Street-“Chas. House Pump House”-1901
Built for the Union Electric Light and Power Co. adjacent to the Chas. W. House felt manufacturer. In 1936, Union Electric merged with other local electric companies to become the Conn. Power Co., which in 1958 became the Hartford Electric Light Company.

Feeder Canal Bed-1830s
This “trench” that runs beside the P&P house at 34 Elm St. is a remnant of the man-made canal system that was the power source for water wheels and turbines in the 19th c. businesses downstream. Many of Unionville’s five paper mills undoubtedly used water power from this canal bed.

28 Elm Street-Platner & Porter Rooming & Boarding House-1854
Vernacular style built for P&P’s skilled workers. P&P, a successful paper mill that produced fine writing and book paper, was one of the largest employers in Unionville. The company built at least five rental houses in the neighborhood: 2 Maple Ave., 6-8 Maple Ave., 16 Maple Ave., 28 Elm St., 34 Elm St., and 87 Main St., at the corner of Elm. 28 Elm St. is historically significant as an example of an early rooming house for mill workers and for its association with immigrants from Great Britain, Italy, and Eastern Europe. UHD

20-22 Maple Avenue-George Bean House-1920
Colonial Revival style. The two-and-a-half story, four-bay duplex was built by George Bean, a contractor and mason. The central open-entry porch constructed of textured cement resembling stucco is enhanced by a semi-circular arch featuring a mosaic of small colored tiles. This unique interpretation of the Colonial Revival style is a good example of an early 20th c. two-family dwelling. UHD

* Photo courtesy of the Unionville Museum