

From Sarah Brown McCulloch's *Guilford: A Walking Guide* (2012):

**Harlow Isbell, 100 Water Street, Grecian Villa, c1850.**

Here is an interesting example of the Grecian Villa style with its cube form topped by a monitor. The quatrefoil openings similar to those at 119 Whitfield Street have been changed and its modified Greek Corinthian columns are now joined by a railing. The front door has been replaced, as has the window on the second floor. Isbell came from Meriden, Connecticut, and was one of the founders of the Guilford Manufacturing Company, which stood next to Jones Bridge at the West River. Established in 1849 as a joint stock company to manufacture steam engines, various machinery, and iron castings, it was very successful at first but failed in 1856. Isbell, his wife, Sarah Snow, and eight children migrated to Kansas with the "Beecher Bible and Rifle Colony," leaving two married daughters behind. The Isbells helped to found the town of Waubensee, Kansas, and, with other settlers who took advantage of the government's offer of cheap land, accomplished the dual purpose of starting a new life and saving Kansas for the Union.