

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

Hiram Middlebrook, 11 Fair Street, Italian Villa, c1849.

With its fanciful porch posts and trim, wide frieze, and wide overhanging eaves, this house is a good example of the Italianate style, just then becoming fashionable in Guilford. Notice the two false windows in the middle of the facade; they're the tip-off that this was built as a double house with the dividing wall running down the center. After the death of his wife, Clara Hand, Middlebrook sold the property, on which he had paid all of fifty-four dollars in taxes, and retired to Florida. Additions were made in the 1960s and it was later turned into three apartments. In 1983 a new owner, retaining its use as apartments, rescued it from near ruin and the house has again become a credit to the street.