

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

Firehouse, 120 Whitfield Street, Eagle Hose Company No. 2, 1907.

This firehouse is built of concrete block cast to look like stone, a construction method rare in Guilford and apparently done by the firemen themselves. An article in the Guilford Bicentennial Pages recalls that John N. Rankin of New York, originally from Guilford, gave Company No. 2 “a cement-blockmaking machine so that the firemen could mix their own cement for the building.” Previously he had donated a “handsome hose carriage, four wheeled, on which to pull apparatus to fires.” The cornice with corbeling below and a stepped parapet above tops three arched windows on the second floor. About 1940 the first floor was entirely remodeled to accommodate larger engines, resurfaced, and painted white. Company No. 2 was founded in April 1888 by a group of young men, some still in high school, after a serious fire on Water Street.