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

Christ Episcopal Church, 17 Park Street, Gothic Revival, 1838.
Christ Church was organized in 1744 by Samuel Johnson, one of the most distinguished divines of his day in the American colonies. A native of Guilford, Johnson became the founder of Anglicanism in Connecticut. Because of the influence of the Johnson family (see 58 Fair Street), the Anglican community in Guilford increased, despite the hostility of the Congregationalists, and in l748 they built a small church inside the Green. Hostility reached a peak during the Revolution when Anglicans were suspected, often rightly, of British sympathies but after the war, with the reorganization of the Anglican church as the Episcopal Church of the United States, Episcopalianism became respectable and Christ Church began to flourish. In 1834 the old building and even the poplar trees around it were sold to help finance construction of the present church which cost $8000 (the poplars fetched $75). Begun in 1836, it was consecrated on December 12, 1838. A chancel was added in 1872 (William Weld, builder) and an addition to house an organ was built in 1890. With its masonry construction, Gothic detail, and immensely tall tower, Christ Church was long the most notable Episcopal church among Connecticut towns. The architect is not recorded but Guilford's architect-builder Abraham Coan (see 29 Broad Street) is a likely candidate. Today the building has unfortunately lost much of its finery: window tracery has been changed, pinnacles and crockets at the comers of the tower and lacy battlements are gone, as are pinnacles atop the buttresses and the decorative iron fence in front. The majesty of the great stone tower, however, remains.