

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

Captain Joel Stone, 200 Whitfield Street, Italian Villa, 1853.

“The Captain is building his house as though he expects to go to sea in it” was the comment often made by onlookers as this grand house was going up. Stone, the son of Solomon Stone, who was the second keeper of Faulkner's Lighthouse (1809-1818), became a well-known navigator on Long Island Sound steamers and a wealthy steamship owner. When he decided to build his retirement home, he chose a site where he had a good view of the sound and of Faulkner's Island and, supervising the construction with meticulous care, erected one of the grandest homes in Guilford. Built on a solid stone foundation with rigid truss construction of the frame, two-and-a-half stories high with an ell in the rear and a wing on the north side, it is crowned by a monitor reached by a narrow, sheathed-in, winding stairway. A veranda with fluted Corinthian columns runs across the front and was later extended to the entire south side of the house. The windows on the first floor reach from floor to ceiling, and all of the window frames on the street side are ornamented. Decorative cornices and brackets are used throughout the house. The walls are thick, the ceilings high, the woodwork embellished. Edward P. Dickie who bought it in 1886 from Captain Stone's widow was a glass importer and replaced the windows in the main portion of the house with plate glass; he also built the barn.