

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

**Ebenezer Bartlett, 25 Water Street, Colonial, 1728.**

A well-preserved example of a five-bay Colonial home, this has a stone center-chimney in the shape of a "T," from several fireplaces. The lean-to was added and the Greek Revival doorway is early nineteenth century. Ebenezer Bartlett was born in 1702, married Deborah Cruttenden in 1729, and had six children. He was one of four men chosen by the selectmen in 1744 to build a wharf at Jones Bridge "for ye free use of all Inhabitants of this Town, as they may be ocation for the Same in a Regular Manner, without Unnecessarily Incumbring the Same to ye Detriment of other Inhabitants of ye Town." In 1765 he became a deacon of the First Church and served until his death in 1775. Fitz-Greene Halleck, a well-known poet in the early nineteenth century who was awarded an honorary degree by Columbia in 1837, retired from his work in New York as confidential secretary to John Jacob Astor, and lived here with his sister Maria until his death in 1867. Two years later his many friends dedicated a monument to his memory at a ceremony in Alderbrook Cemetery on Boston Street where he is buried, which included reading a poem written for the occasion by Oliver Wendell Holmes. In 1877 his statue, the first to honor an American poet, was unveiled in New York's Central Park near the statues of Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott. The poet William Cullen Bryant presided, President Rutherford B. Hayes formally presented the sculpture, and John Greenleaf Whittier wrote a poem especially for the event.