

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

**Henry Hale, 29 Whitfield Street, French Second Empire, 1873.**

Hale's outstanding Second Empire house, next to his equally outstanding Second Empire store, is at least the third building to occupy this site. A store on the property was destroyed by that long-remembered fire of 1872, and an earlier building (1790) was the birthplace of the poet Fitz-Greene Halleck (see 25 Water Street). A sketch of this earlier house appears on the flyleaf of Wilson's *Life and Letters of Fitz-Greene Halleck* (1869). Like the store, Hale's house has a mansard roof of patterned slate but its dormers are more elaborate. The windows have now lost most of their decorative trim but the two-story bay and a wonderful succession of brackets show a fine attention to detail. Look at the store to see how the windows might have been. The arched window in the front door and the porch with square posts are both original. Mr. and Mrs. Hale were married for fifty years and lived here for most of them.