

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

**Douden's Drug Store, 55-57 Whitfield Street, 1926.**

Frank Douden came to Guilford in 1910 from New York City. After his first drug store burned, he bought this site, tore down the old Woodward Tavern (c1800) which stood here and put up a new building of brick with all stone dressings, cornice, and brackets, and windows in metal casings, the glass interlaced with wire, that he hoped would be fireproof. He topped it all with a stone mortar and pestle still visible. Douden gained a reputation for high standards in business but he was best known for his invention of the checkerberry soda which brought hundreds of people to his store, especially during Guilford Fair days. When he retired in 1947 the formula for the popular soda was included in the sale of the store. Douden's, now on the corner of Whitfield and Water streets, no longer has a soda fountain but you can still buy a bottle of checkerberry syrup and make your own. [2012-Douden's no longer in business]