

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

Caleb Stone and the Regicide Cellar, 6 Broad Street, Colonial, 1749, enlarged 2004.

The land on which this house stands was part of the homelot of William Leete, one of the original company of settlers, whose son John was the first child born in the new settlement. When so many of the prominent leaders left the colony to return to England after Cromwell came into power, Leete stayed on in Guilford. He guided the little settlement through difficult times, becoming governor of New Haven Colony and then of Connecticut. The barn behind the house facing River Street bears a plaque which, according to legend, commemorates a brave deed in a time of danger. "Here in June 1661, William Leete, then Governor of New Haven Colony concealed for three days Whalley and Goffe, two of the judges who signed the death warrant of Charles I of England. They were sought by emissaries of Charles II who after the Restoration ordered the regicides beheaded." It is thought that the cellar under the barn is the site of Governor Leete's house. In 1715, Caleb Stone and his wife, Rebecca Evarts, bought the land from the Leetes and built the present simple center-chimney Colonial house with integral lean-to; a secondary lean-to was added later. Members of the Stone family lived here until 1955. The house had undergone many alterations and modernizations by the time the present owners bought it and restored it to its original handsome self. The picket fence which begins here and continues up to Fair Street connects the houses in a most attractive way.