

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

Nathan Bradley, 72 State Street, Colonial, 1665.

One of the earliest on the street, this house was extensively (some say ruthlessly) remodeled in the late 1800s. Paneling, old doors, sash, flooring, even the chimney were removed in an attempt at modernization. In the early 1900s a restoration was begun and every effort was made to return the house to its seventeenth-century look. Nathan Bradley, aged twenty, had come from England in 1658 with his sixteen-year-old brother and settled in Guilford. He soon built this house but only two years later sold it. Perhaps he didn't enjoy the responsibilities of a homeowner, for it is said that he was a great hunter and explorer. In 1712 he traced the Hammonasset River to its source at "Nathan's Pond." From Nathan Bradley the house passed to Sergeant John Chittenden, son of William, one of the original settlers. John left it to his son Abel in whose family it remained until about 1809, and it is often referred to as the Abel Chittenden house.