

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

James Norton, 73 Fair Street, Italian Villa, 1856.

Built with vertical planking, this house is a restrained version of an often elaborate style. A 1911 photograph shows, in the angle between front and side wings, a porch with slightly pitched roof and scrollwork at the edge, a full-length shuttered window in front opening out onto a tiny balcony topped by a narrow canopy trimmed to match the porch, shutters on all of the windows, and the planking covered with stucco as now. Norton served on several committees that in 1856 tried unsuccessfully to cope with the deterioration of the old town hall. In 1860 he was a member of a committee which saw to it that resolutions supporting the Civil War were carried out. He later moved to Bristol. John Pitts, who died aged one hundred, lived here for over sixty-five years. New owners have built an addition at the rear that is a sensitive blend of old and new.