

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

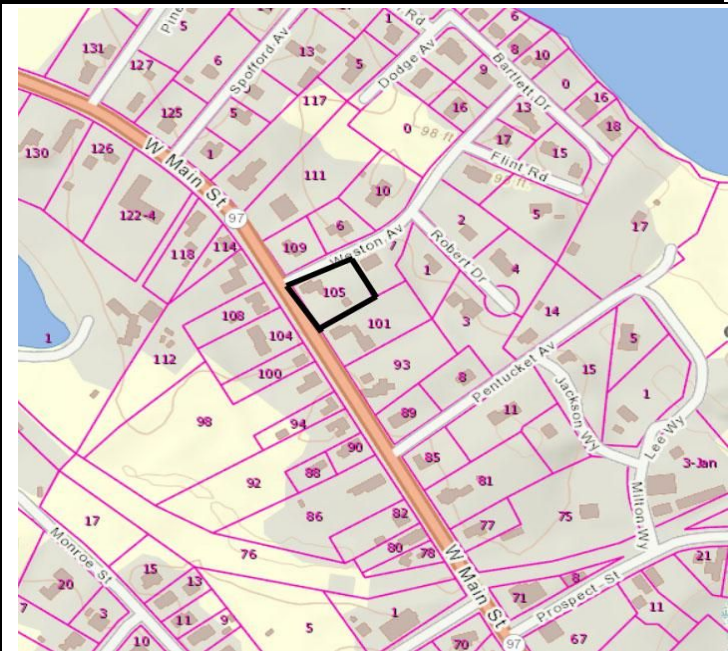
FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



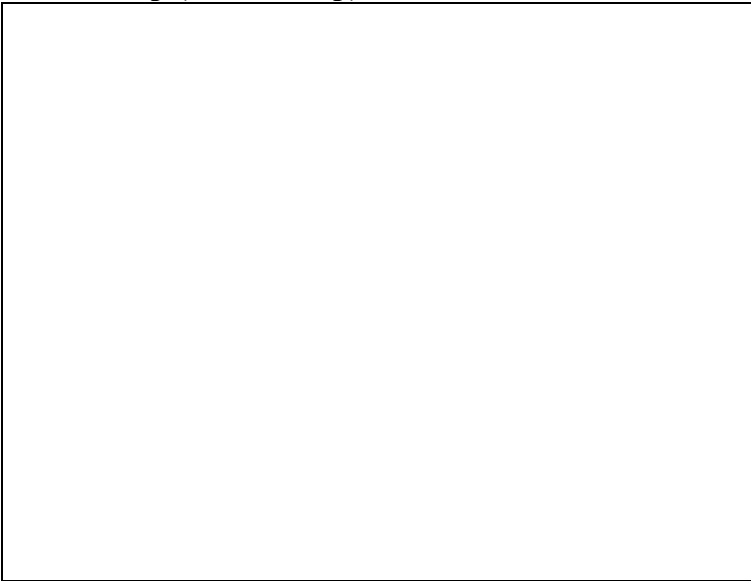
View from SW.



Source: Mass GIS Oliver Parcel Viewer

Recorded by: Kathryn Grover & Neil Larson
Organization: Town of Georgetown Historical Commission
Date: June 2017

Locus Map (north at top)



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

105 West Main Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.321

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

6D-70

Georgetown

GEO.321

Setting: Mixed residential and commercial properties from the 19th and 20th centuries in the town center.

Town/City: Georgetown

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Georgetown Center

Address: 105 West Main Street

Historic Name: Bateman-Brown-Durkee House

Uses: Present: single family residential

Original: single family residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1875

Source: deeds & visual assessment

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: metal clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Dormer added to kitchen wing, rear additions, 20th c.

Metal siding added

Window sash replaced

Condition: fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 0.38 acre

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☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Bateman-Brown-Durkee House is a two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front-gable roof built about 1875. In plan and design, it is an end house with its entrance off-center on the street-facing two-bay gable end. The entrance contains paired doors surmounted by a flat-roof hood mounted on ornate scrolled brackets. It is offset by a one-story bay window with beveled sides. Two second-story windows are aligned with these features, and a single attic window is centered in the gable. The raking edge of the front gable carries a Classical cornice with short returns and paired brackets. The bay window also is distinguished by a bracketed cornice as are the side walls. A cross-gable wing one bay wide on the front and two bays deep is set back behind a one-story porch on the southerly side; the front façade contains an entrance. A one-story kitchen ell is attached to the rear corner of the wing with a front façade containing an off-center entrance with an added wood stoop, and two windows. The eaves of both the wing and the ell are decorated with brackets. Shed dormers have been added to both sides of the kitchen ell. The northerly side of the house has single windows at the rear of each floor. The blank front section corresponds with a staircase on the interior. Two shed-roof additions have been built on the rear end of the house.

The building is situated in the northerly corner of its lot close to the two streets on those sides with minimal yards. A large parking area exists on the southerly side of the house, accessed by a driveway entering from West Main Street. A one-car garage attached to what may have been a small shop is sited at the back of the parking area. The rear of the parcel contains an open yard.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In October 1875 Alfred P. Bateman bought a lot of 98 square rods on the northeast side of West Main Street for \$350 and was living in the house at 105 West Main Street by 1880.¹ Born in 1816 in Rowley, Alfred Preston Bateman was the son of John B. and Betsey Merrill Bateman, and he followed several lines of work: he as a dry goods dealer, a farmer, a shoemaker, a butcher, a sewing machine salesman, and a "huckster" at various times between 1855 and 1880. In 1843 he married Rosamond Little Tenney of Georgetown, who was sixteen years old at the time, and she died "suddenly" in September 1848. Bateman married again three years later, to Abigail Balch Perkins, daughter of Daniel and Betsey Perley Perkins, and the 1880 census shows him and his wife at 105 West Main Street with renter Fanny Perley. The 1884 map, the first to show a house at this location, marks the 105 West Main dwelling "A. Bateman."

Abigail Bateman died in 1892, and in 1900 Alfred Bateman was retired and living in the house with granddaughter Florence B. Pickering and housekeeper Lizette Kneeland. He is shown as a retired merchant living on Main Street in the 1901 directory. He died in 1905, and in 1907 Bateman's nephew and executor Lewis H. Bateman sold 105 West Main Street to Olive Augusta Brown for \$1200.² Born Olive Augusta Hall in Groveland, Olive Augusta Brown was the wife of Luther Leroy Brown, who had been born in Georgetown in 1875 and was the son of Luther and Bessie S. Brown. Brown and Hall married in 1895, and he was working as a shoe factory edge setter in 1900, when the couple lived with Hall's parents Samuel and Sarah J. Hall on their Georgetown farm on Pond Street. They then had a one-year-old daughter, Eleanor Maud. The 1905 directory shows Leroy (sometimes Roy) Brown as a shoemaker on Main Street, and the 1910 census shows the family on West Main with daughters Eleanor and Dorothy and Olive Hall's brother Shirley F. Hall, a shoe factory foreman. In 1920 the Browns and their daughter Dorothy were enumerated in the census at 105 West Main (then numbered 111) with married daughter Eleanor, who had been living in North Conway, New Hampshire, with her husband Harold Douglas Bent, an auto mechanic she had married in 1919.

¹ Frank H. Tyler to Alfred P. Bateman, 1 October 1875, SECD 938:60.

² Lewis H. Bateman, executor estate Alfred P. Bateman, to Olive Augusta Brown, 6 July 1907, SECD 1880:532.

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She worked at Morrison Wood Heel Company and was divorced in 1928. She continued to live with her parents, with her son Robert, born about 1923, through 1945, when she married Haverhill laborer John Fyfe.

In 1958 Olive Augusta Brown deeded 105 West Main Street to herself and her two married daughters, Eleanor Fyfe and Dorothy B. Jones, and in 1959 the three women sold the property to Harland E. and Charlotte Durkee, who own it currently.³

³ Olive A. Brown to Olive A. Brown, Eleanor M. Fyfe, and Dorothy B. Jones, 9 April 1958, SECD 4451:427; Olive A. Brown, Eleanor M. Fyfe, and Dorothy B. Jones to Harland E. and Charlotte Durkee, 3 September 1959, SECD 4604:367.

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

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DIRECTORIES

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MAPS

"Map of New Rowley Surveyed and Drawn by Philander Anderson 1830." Georgetown Historical Society.

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PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)



View from south.

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View from north.

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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible **only** in a historic district
- ☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ **A** ☐ **B** ☒ **C** ☐ **D**

Criteria Considerations: ☐ **A** ☐ **B** ☐ **C** ☐ **D** ☐ **E** ☐ **F** ☐ **G**

Statement of Significance by Neil Larson

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The Bateman-Brown-Durkee House, built about 1875, is a representative example of late nineteenth-century domestic architecture in the town center. Its end house plan and front-gable orientation has characteristics in common with other houses from this period in Georgetown. The house was built for Alfred P. and Abigail Perkins Bateman; he was a dry goods dealer, a farmer, a shoemaker, a butcher, a sewing machine salesman and a "huckster" at various times between 1855 and 1880. Olive Augusta Brown purchased the house from the Bateman estate in 1907. She was the wife of Luther Leroy Brown, a shoemaker. In 1959 Olive A. Brown deeded the property to Harland E. and Charlotte Durkee, who own it currently. In spite of altered siding and windows, the property retains sufficient integrity of location and design to meet National Register criteria A and C as a contributing feature in a potential historic district in the town center, the boundaries of which have yet to be determined.