

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

12 Summer Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.299

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)

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

Setting: Concentrated neighborhood of single-family homes in town center.

11B-134

Georgetown

GEO.299

Town/City: Georgetown

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

Address: 12 Summer Street

Historic Name: David & Mary Haskell House

Uses: Present: single family residential

Original: single family residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1850

Source: deeds & visual assessment

Style/Form: Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder: David Haskell, probable builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
Rear additions
Window sash replaced

Condition: good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.26 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 David and Mary Haskell House is a two-story wood frame single dwelling built about 1850. It has a modified end house plan with its entrance on a one-story aisle on the west side of the building. The front-gable façade contains two bays of windows and a single attic window centered in the gable; the roof edge is decorated with scroll-sawn verge boards. The entrance is located on the front of the side aisle recessed under a short porch. It enters a stair space situated between front and rear principal rooms indicated by a single window on the front and two windows on the rear of the second story above the aisle. The east side of the house contains three windows on each story; two on the first floor have been replaced and a vestibule for a basement entry added in the front. Three short wings telescope from the rear in which most of the windows have been replaced.

The house is sited on a large lot with open yards on either side and woods in the rear. A driveway enters the lot on the west side of the house and terminates in the rear where a one-story one-car garage, converted into domestic space, is located.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In August 1850, Moses Atwood, who lived at 28 Summer Street, sold a lot of land on the north side of Summer Street west of his house to David Haskell for \$225.¹ Atwood was a patent medicine manufacturer who had acquired the larger tract just south of the First Baptist Society's parsonage farm over two years earlier (see GEO.303). Born in Ipswich in 1810, David Haskell was a carpenter, and he and his first wife Hannah Lofty Haskell (1811-44) had moved to New Hampshire by 1835, where their daughters Ruth Ann and Sarah Adams Haskell were born. The family had moved to Georgetown by 1841, and after Hannah Haskell's death, David Haskell married Mary E. Atwood of Georgetown—related if at all only distantly to Moses Atwood—in 1845. The 1850 census enumerated Haskell in this vicinity, with real property valued at \$800, as head of a household containing his second wife, their 3-year-old son Arthur, and his two eldest daughters from his first marriage. By 1855 the Haskell's had another child, Anna M., and shared the house with farmer Stephen Searles, his wife Sarah, and their two adult children.

The 1856 and 1872 Georgetown maps attach Haskell's name to this property. The 1865 census shows him, his daughter Sarah, and a daughter named Delice Haskell, born in Vermont, as shoe stitchers; also in the household was Mary E. Haskell, 14-year-old daughter Anna M., and a boarding shoe stitcher named Fannie Foster. By 1870 Haskell is shown with \$3000 in real property in a house with his wife, daughter Sarah (then a post office clerk), daughter Anna, and mother-in-law Mary H. Atwood, then 77 years old. The 1880 census shows Haskell as a farmer and an inventor in the Summer Street house with his wife and daughter Annie, then a dressmaker.

In 1876 Haskell deeded land and buildings at the corner of North and Summer Streets to his daughter Annie M. Haskell. After he died in June 1885, his widow continued to live in the house until her death in 1906; his daughter Annie was living there in 1910 with two elderly widows. In 1933 Haskell added Grace H. Kelman of Los Angeles, California, to the title. Kelman, born Grace Holt in Iowa, was the daughter of Andover native and millwright Newton Holt and Sarah Adams Haskell, Annie M. Haskell's older half-sister. Annie M. Haskell died in July 1936. Fourteen years later Kelman sold 12 Summer Street to Leonard E. and Minette W. Lee. Born in Georgetown in 1915, Leonard Edward Lee was the son of ice company worker and coal yard teamster Leonard Sherman Lee and his wife Bessie Brocklebank, and he had grown up at 89 West Main Street and 15 Pentucket Avenue (GEO.290). The Lees subdivided a lot on the corner of Summer and North Streets and sold it to John and Hazel DiBiao in 1951. Leonard E. Lee died in 1987, and in 1988 his widow Mannette sold the property to Barbara Lee Robinson, probably her

¹ Moses Atwood to David Haskell, 31 August 1850, SECD 433:117.

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married daughter, and reserved for herself lifetime occupancy in the house. Robinson sold the property to current owners Tyler P. and Amanda M. Libby in 2015.²

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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Assessor's Records, Georgetown and Rowley. 1883, 1902, 1920, 1933.

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Nelson, Henry M. "Town of Georgetown History." In Hurd, D. Hamilton. *History of Essex County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men*. Vol. 1. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis and Co., 1888.

Southern Essex County Registry of Deeds website, salemdeeds.com.

MAPS

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

Map of Georgetown. 1856. In Walling, H. F. *A Topographical Map Essex County Massachusetts*. Boston: Smith and Morley, 1856.

Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: D. G. Beers and Co., 1872). Plates 59 and 61.

"Town of Georgetown Mass." and "Village of Georgetown Mass." In *Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts* (Boston: George H. Walker, 1884).

"Georgetown, Mass. 1887." Drawn and Published by George E. Norris, Brockton, Massachusetts. Troy, NY: Burleigh Lithographic Establishment, 1887."

PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)

² David Haskell to Annie M. Haskell, 8 July 1876, SECD 958:15; Annie M. Haskell to Everett R. Larnier, Haverhill, 3 August 1933, SECD 2958:133; Everett R. Larnier, Haverhill, to Annie M. Haskell and Grace H. Kelman, Los Angeles CA, 3 April 1933, SECD 2958:133; Grace H. Kelman, Los Angeles CA, to Leonard E. and Minette W. Lee, 5 October 1950, SECD 3788:428; Mannette W. Lee to Barbara Lee Robinson, 12 Summer St, 8 March 1988, SECD 9424:391; Barbara Lee Robinson to Tyler P. and Amanda M. Libby, 28 April 2015, SECD 34120:503.

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View from SW.

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View from SE.



Aerial view from west.

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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 David and Mary Haskell House, built about 1841, is a representative example of mid 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. It was built for and probably by David Haskell, a carpenter, recently arrived from New Hampshire with his family. He also played a role in the development of properties he subdivided north and south of his house. The house remained in the Haskell family until 1936. The property meets 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.