

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

45 Central Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.218

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING

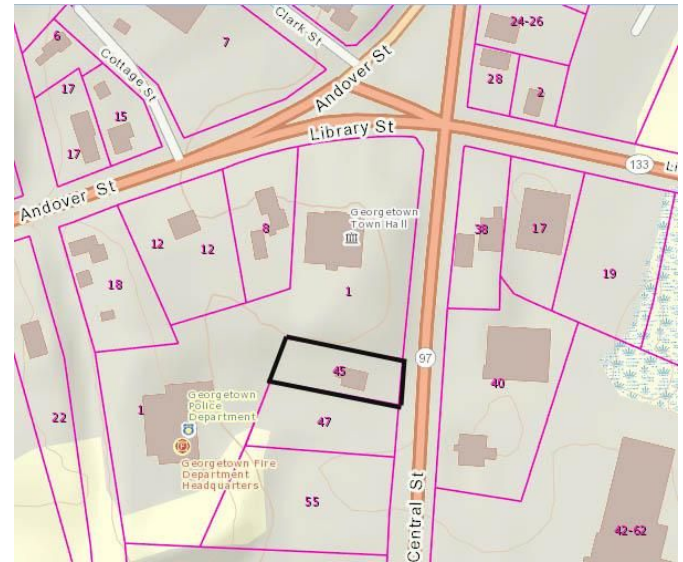
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

### Photograph



View from east.



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

10B-1

Georgetown

GEO.218

**Setting:** Core of town center with dense mix of residential and historic and non-historic commercial buildings.

**Town/City:** Georgetown

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

**Address:** 45 Central Street

**Historic Name:** Edwin & Sarah Carr House

**Uses:** Present: single family residential

Original: single family residential

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1840

**Source:** deeds & visual assessment

**Style/Form:** Gothic Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Edwin Carr, probable builder

## Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
none

## Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Vinyl siding added

Window sash replaced

**Condition:** fair

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.19 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 Edwin & Sarah Carr House is a two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front gable roof built about 1840. It has a side-hall plan with an off-center entrance on its three-bay front façade. Two principal rooms are organized front-to-back adjacent to the hall with a chimney centered on the dividing partition. The hall contains a stair with a small room enclosed behind connecting to a short story-and-a-half kitchen ell in the rear. Typical of the plan, there are four windows on the southern side wall, two for each of the rooms there; a blank area on the northerly side wall corresponds with the location of the interior staircase. The entrance is recessed slightly into the front wall in a manner finding popularity with the Greek Revival style; however, simple raking eave line without returns at the base associate the house with the Gothic taste rather than the Classical. The original clapboard exterior envelope has been covered with vinyl siding and window sash replaced. The house is sited on an elevated terrace set back from the street. A driveway runs along the northern side of the property to the rear of the house.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In February 1840 John Killam of Georgetown sold a house lot bordering the Universalist meetinghouse to the north to housewright Edwin Carr, who had married Sarah G. Palmer of Georgetown the year before. Carr was born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, in 1815. In 1843 and 1844 he bought additional parcels from the First Universalist Society and Killam; one deed from Killam of October 1844 sold 275 feet with one boundary "parallel with the end of said Carr's new House." Just south of his house Carr may have built a long residential building, possibly meant to be a boardinghouse, just to the south, that is shown on the 1856 map of Georgetown Center. This building may have been what is termed "the Block" in a deed of 18 July 1850, executed after Carr had been declared an insolvent debtor and had moved to Lowell. In that deed the assignees of his estate sold to John A. Lovering "the house near the Universalist Meeting House, where the said Carr formerly lived, also the Block so called in Georgetown, with all the land belonging to same, being the same that was mortgaged by Carr to the Haverhill Institution for Savings and Andover Institution for Savings."<sup>1</sup> The 1850 census appears to show this block occupied by two small families and the large family of shoemaker Joseph Perry, who also boarded six shoe factory workers.

Shoe manufacturer John A. Lovering, a native of Exeter, New Hampshire, was living in what became Georgetown by 1829 and owned and occupied the large Federal house at 237 Central Street. Lovering, one of the town's most prominent shoe manufacturers, probably bought 45 Central Street and the "Block" to rent to shoe factory workers. He owned 45 Central Street until 1886, when he defaulted on a mortgage taken out with Haverhill Savings Bank; the bank sold it to boot and shoe manufacturer Walter Brewster in 1891. Brewster also lived elsewhere in Georgetown and no doubt continued to rent the property. In 1911 he sold the property to Porter B. Peabody and Ernest Dole, Dole sold his share to Peabody the same year, and Peabody sold this and another adjoining parcel to Charles F. Winch in 1915.<sup>2</sup> The property changed hands often in the twentieth century and continued to be occupied by tenants: from the early 1930s through at least 1940 Alman Bridges and his wife Jenney, both elderly, occupied part of the house, while Kenneth Marston occupied the other part; by 1940 the widow Daisy Pillsbury and her son Raymond, who worked for the Works Progress Administration, had taken Marston's place. Current owners Frank A. and Julia A. Hauser acquired 45 Central Street in 1999.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John Killam to Edwin Carr, 28 February 1840, SECD 318:281; Paul Dole, Robert Savory, and Sylvanus Nelson, committee of proprietors of the First Universalist Society in Georgetown, to Edwin Carr, 10 April 1843, SECD 339:245; John Killam to Edwin Carr, 11 March 1844, SECD 342:247; John Killam to Edwin Carr, 11 March 1844, SECD 342:247; Jeremiah Russell and Luther Perley, assignees of estate Edwin Carr, Lowell MA, to John A. Lovering, 18 July 1850, SECD 438:11. Carr died in 1898 and is buried at Harmony Cemetery.

<sup>2</sup> John A. Lovering to Haverhill Savings Bank, 3 June 1886, 11751:91; Haverhill Savings Bank to Walter Brewster, 15 May 1891, SECD 1310:266; Walter Brewster to Porter B. Peabody and Ernest L. Dole, 7 April 1908, SECD 1917:14; Ernest L. Dole to Porter B. Peabody, 30 August 1911, SECD 2105:514; Porter B. Peabody to Charles F. Winch, 21 April 1915, SECD 2292:275.

<sup>3</sup> Lawrence J. and Aprille M. Meo, 75 Central St, to Frank A. Hauser and Julie Ann Fiore, Revere, 30 September 1999, SECD 15966:471.

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## DIRECTORIES

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## MAPS

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## PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)

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View from SW.