

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

79 Central Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.219  
GEO.220

GEO.220220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

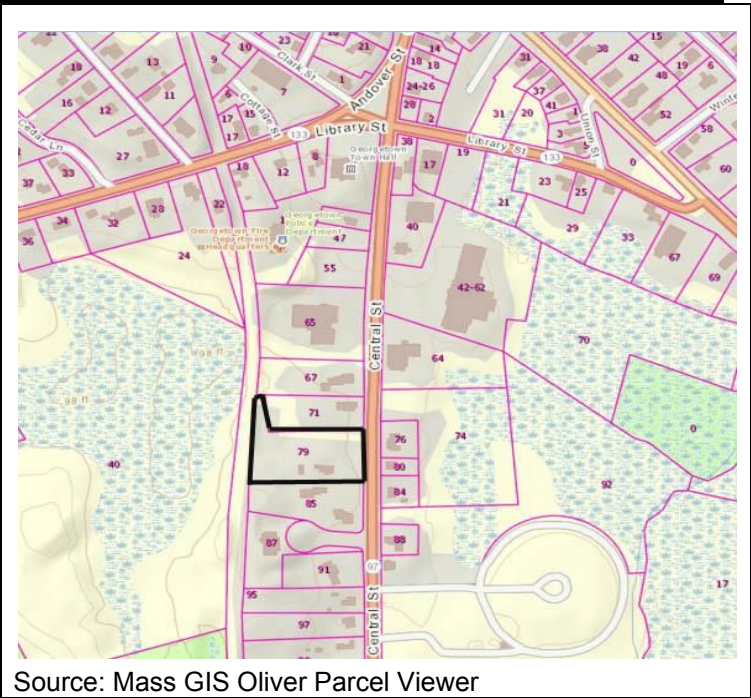
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



View from NE.



**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-7

Georgetown

GEO.219  
GEO.220

**Setting:** Major route into town center with concentration of historic and non-historic residential buildings; cemetery.

**Town/City:** Georgetown

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

**Address:** 79 Central Street

**Historic Name:** Hazen – Dickinson House  
& Shoe Shop

**Uses:** Present: single family residential

Original: single family residential

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1845, ca. 1870

**Source:** deeds & visual assessment

**Style/Form:** Italianate

**Architect/Builder:** Jeremiah Brackett, builder

## Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

## Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Shoe shop, ca, 1845

## Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Major renovation, ca. 1870

Window sash replaced

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 1.40 acres

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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 Hazen-Dickinson House is a two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front gable roof built about 1845. It has a side-hall plan with an off-center entrance on its two-bay front façade. A flat hood mounted on large scrolled brackets shelters a double door. A large two-story bay window with five sash units per floor and paneled kneewalls offsets the entrance. These ornate features probably represent improvements made by the second owner of the house. Two principal rooms are organized front-to-back adjacent to the hall with a chimney centered on the dividing partition. The plan originated with four windows on the side wall, two for each of the rooms there, but later the two in the rear room were replaced with a one-story bay window. The hall side of the plan contains a stair with a room behind it, later enlarged by a large bay window with paneling under the windows; a smaller conventional bay window is located above it in the second story. This enlarged room proximate to the kitchen likely was created for a dining room. A two-story kitchen ell with a flat roof is attached to the rear of the house, aligned with the northern side of the house. An entrance and porch are located on the recessed southern side.

A two-story wood frame outbuilding with a gable roof and a shed-roof wing is located behind the house. It is identified as a shoe shop on historic maps, and its many windows are defining characteristics of the type.

The house, set back on a promontory, and the adjacent shop occupy the southern side of a large lot that extends from Central Street to the railroad; a driveway crosses in front of the house and up the southern side to the shop. A large lawn occupies the rest of the property.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In August 1845 shoemaker Greenleaf Hazen paid Georgetown merchant Joseph Little \$150 for a house lot on west side of Central Street. By early December of the same year, Hazen took out a \$900 mortgage from carpenter Jeremiah Brackett for the same parcel "together with all the buildings now situated thereon."<sup>1</sup> These deeds pinpoint the construction date of 79 Central Street.

Born in Bridgton, Maine, about 1805, Greenleaf Hazen probably moved to Rowley, his mother's native town, as an infant. His father Josiah, descended from one of the first settlers of Rowley, was born in Boxford about 1774 but had moved to Bridgton by 1799; settlement of the town had begun in the early 1770s, and members of both the Hazen and his mother's Perley family, among others from Essex County, had removed there in that decade. Josiah Hazen died in Bridgton in 1704, and his widow Lucy Perley returned to Rowley, where she married again, in 1811, to Daniel Conant.<sup>2</sup> Greenleaf Hazen was living in Boxford in 1828 when he married Susan P. Towne, and three of the couple's first four children were born in that town between 1829 and 1833 (the third child, Jacob Francis Hazen, was born in Georgetown and died in the Civil War battle at Antietam in 1862). The last three children were born in Beverly between 1837 and 1840; the Hazens' seven children were all male.

The 1850 census shows Greenleaf Hazen as a shoemaker with \$1500 in real property in a household with his second wife, the widowed Elizabeth Creasey Boynton (Hazen's first wife had died in Georgetown in 1847), and six of their children. The four eldest—John Greenleaf, then 19; Jacob Francis, 18; Josiah Orville, 17; and Joseph Warren, fifteen—all worked as shoemakers.

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Little to Greenleaf Hazen, 13 August 1845, SECD 361:183; Greenleaf Hazen to Jeremiah Brackett, 2 December 1845, SECD 361:183 (mortgage deed).

<sup>2</sup> Tracy Elliot Hazen, *The Hazen Family in America: A Genealogy* (Thomaston, CT: Robert Hazen, 1947), 173-74, 406-8.

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The household also included youngest sons Nathan Towne and Marshman Williams Hazen and two daughters of Elizabeth Boynton Hazen, Mary and Harriet. By 1860 Greenleaf Hazen and all five of his adult sons living at home were shoemakers or bootmakers, and wife Elizabeth was a tailoress. Given that every family member was employed, the Hazens also housed a domestic servant, Ellen Jackson.

The 1856 Georgetown Center map shows footprints for two buildings on the Hazen property, one of which almost certainly was his shoe shop. In 1866 he sold two tracts—one of them two acres with its buildings, being his residence, and the other a quarter-acre, to Charlotte Ellis Strickland Brown, the wife of shoecutter Lendol Brown, a native of Raymond, New Hampshire, then living in Haverhill. Two years later the Browns sold the property to Jacob Dickinson of Danvers, whose name is attached to the property—a house and a shoe shop at the rear—on the 1872 Georgetown map.<sup>3</sup> The 1870 industrial census for Georgetown lists Jacob Dickinson as a boot manufacturer with \$3000 invested capital, one machine, five male employees whom he paid \$1020 in wages in 1869 over five months' work; he used \$3290 in materials—286 sides of sole leather, 3190 sides of upper leather, and other material—and made 2460 pair of boys' boots valued at \$6150.

Born in Ipswich in 1822, Jacob Dickinson had been living in Georgetown since at least 1850, when he was working as a shoe cutter and boarding in the home of shoe manufacturer George J. Tenney. In 1851 he married Susan M. Stocker, and the 1860 census shows the couple in another part of town living with Stocker's mother, also named Susan, in a two-family house (11 Nelson Ave., GEO.240). The 1870 and 1880 censuses show him and his wife Susan as the sole occupants of 79 Central Street. Jacob Dickinson died in 1893, and his widow is shown alone in the house in 1900. She died in 1907 and left the house to her widowed sister Emma A. Proctor, a native of Vermont. The 1910 census shows Proctor at 79 Central with her widowed sister Julia A. Weston, probably the widow of Georgetown's Samuel Weston. In 1920 Emma Proctor lived alone in part of the house and rented the other part to the family of Fred F. Morrill. She died in 1929, and in the same year the executor of her will sold the property to Raymond I. Holt.<sup>4</sup>

Raymond Irving Holt, born in 1900 to Georgetown shoemaker William Augustus Holt and his wife Mary A. Tidd Holt, was working as a farm laborer in 1920 and living in the rented Central Street home of his widowed mother with his four brothers—Maurice, a shoe factory cutter; Walter, a shoe shop heel scourer; and Louis, then 14 years old and a shoe shop packer; and Chester, 10 years old. In 1928 Raymond Holt was working as an electrician when he married Bernice May Kneeland, a Georgetown native and a shoe worker. By 1930 the census shows the couple at 79 Central, and they rented part of the house to Holt's brother Louis, who worked as a blacksmith in his own shop and lived with his wife Natalie Dole Holt and their young son Louis Jr. The 1940 census shows the Raymond Holt family—wife Bernice and children Muriel, Norma, and Caroline—occupying 79 Central Street. Raymond Holt died in July 1943, and his widow Bernice remained at 79 Central Street until 1977, when she sold the property to Richard J. and Susan M. Stackhouse. The Stackhouses sold 79 Central to current owners Deborah and Raymond Mahoney in 1998.<sup>5</sup>

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

AmericanAncestors.org.

Ancestry.com.

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

<sup>3</sup> Greenleaf Hazen to Charlotte L. Brown, Haverhill, 4 June 1866, SECD 739:79; Greenleaf Hazen to Charlotte L. Brown, wife of Lendol Brown, 1 October 1866, SECD 739:79; Charlotte S. Brown and Lindol Brown to Jacob Dickinson, Danvers, 30 January 1868, SECD 739:80. Hazen had sold his farm property to Brown for \$3075; when the Browns sold it two years later to Dickinson he paid \$1800 and assumed a \$1000 mortgage. The 1870 directory for Georgetown lists Central Street as Maple Street.

<sup>4</sup> Arthur P. Tenney, executor will Emma A. Proctor, to Raymond I. Holt, 22 May 1929, SECD 2808:122. A deed documenting the transfer of title to the property to Proctor was apparently not recorded.

<sup>5</sup> Muriel R. Gordon, Norma L. Abbott, Groveland, and Carolyn E. Erler, Haverhill, to Bernice M. Holt, 79 Central, 27 March 1969, SECD 5598:272; Bernice M. Holt to Richard J. and Susan M. Stackhouse, 4 October 1977, SECD 6404:107; Richard J. and Susan M. Stackhouse to Raymond P. and Deborah Mahoney, 79 Central St, 26 January 1998, SECD 14563:123.

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## MAPS

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.

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



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PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)



View from SE.

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Aerial view from east. Source: bing.com/maps.

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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 Hazen-Dickinson House is a distinctive, ornate example of domestic architecture in the Italianate style. Its many bay windows, apparently were added by the second owner elevating a simpler Greek Revival-style dwelling into a more elegant landmark befitting a successful shoe manufacturer. A two-story shoe shop located behind the house is a rare surviving artifact of Georgetown's shoemaking history; these shops were once prolific in the town center. The Hazen and Dickinson families have direct associations with the local shoe industry. The property is locally significant under National Register Criteria A and C and retains a high level of integrity to its period of significance.