

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

95 Central Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.222

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## FORM B – BUILDING

Source: Mass GIS Oliver Parcel Viewer

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

**Recorded by:** Kathryn Grover & Neil Larson

**Organization:** Town of Georgetown Historical Commission

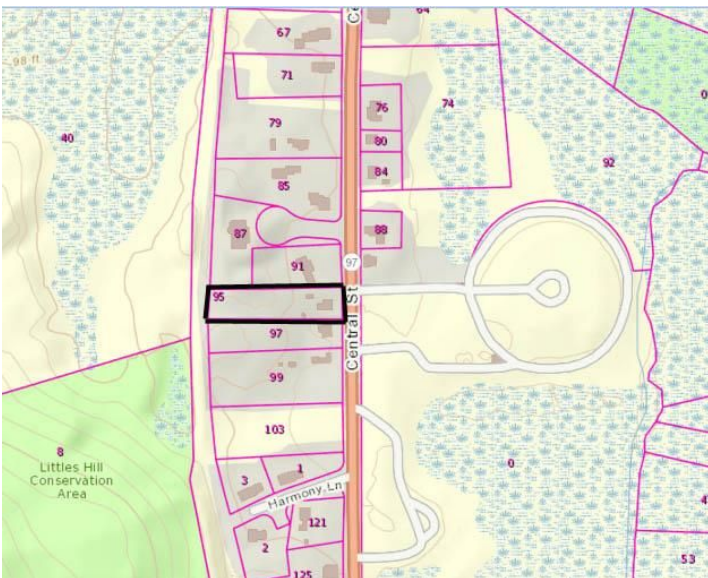
**Date:** June 2017

### Photograph



View from SE.

### Locus Map (north at top)



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

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

10B-9

Georgetown

GEO.222

**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:** 95 Central Street

**Historic Name:** Chaplin - Holt House

**Uses:** Present: single family residential  
Original: single family residential

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1875

**Source:** deeds & visual assessment

**Style/Form:** Gambrel Cape

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood shingles

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
One-car garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):  
Sun porch added north side, early 20<sup>th</sup> cent.  
Rear ell added, mid-20<sup>th</sup> cent.

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.53 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 Chaplin-Holt House is a one-story wood frame single dwelling with a gambrel roof built about 1875 in the form and style of a worker's "cottage dwelling." It has a double-pile center passage plan with an entrance in the center of its three-bay front façade. The doorway with sidelights is an early twentieth-century alteration occurring around the same time that a one-story sun porch was added to the north end in a suburban style. The wood shingle siding probably was added in this period, as well. The ends contain two bays of windows, altered on the north end to create a doorway into the porch on the first floor and add a small bathroom window on the second and on the south by the addition of a raised-sill double window for the kitchen. A one-story cross-gable wing on the rear appears to have been added after World War II. Two tall gabled dormers distinguish the roof on the front; there are small windows beneath the eaves on the rear.

The house is centered on the property's narrow street frontage, set back behind a small yard. A driveway runs along the north lot line and terminate at a one-story wood frame, one-car garage with a front gable roof built in the early twentieth century but altered more recently. A deep rear yard extends back to the railroad.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In 1873 and 1875, Georgetown shoe manufacturer Alfred B. Noyes (1818-1913) sold two lots on the west side of Central Street opposite Harmony Cemetery to Henry Prescott Chaplin (1816-95), also a Georgetown shoe manufacturer.<sup>1</sup> The families were related: in 1840 Noyes's brother, Hiram Howard Noyes, had married Chaplin's daughter Alice, and he was a principal in the shoe firm G. W. Chaplin and Company. Henry P. Chaplin, his brother George Washington Chaplin (1809-97), and their parents Eliphalet (1777-1825) and Martha Spofford Chaplin lived further south on Central Street: Henry at 153 Central Street (GEO.226), George at 161 (GEO.54), and Eliphalet at 169 (GEO.55). With Georgetown's boot and shoe industry thriving, Henry Chaplin probably bought the two lots, altogether 2.52 acres, to build tenant housing. The houses numbered 95, 97, and 99 Central were built on these two lots. When Chaplin's son Laurence Leslie Chaplin (1855-1940) sold the property in 1908, the deed treated these two lots as one and transferred "the three dwellings and other buildings" located on them.<sup>2</sup> In 1900 one of these houses may have been occupied by Wilfred S. Chaplin (1857-1909) and his wife Helen F. McAllaster Chaplin, a native of Bedford, New Hampshire, who married Chaplin in 1879.

After Henry P. Chaplin's death, the three properties passed to his four children—Laurence, Wilfred and Mabel C. Chaplin, and Alice C. Noyes—and after Wilfred Chaplin's death in 1909 his share was conveyed in trust to his wife's younger brothers, John G. and Gilman McAllaster of Manchester, New Hampshire. When Mabel Chaplin died in 1906, her share passed to Laurence, who deeded it to the McAllasters.<sup>3</sup> In 1910 Laurence Chaplin, his sister Alice C. Noyes, and John G. and Gilman McAllaster sold 95 Central Street to Edwin Jackson Holt, an employee at G. W. Chaplin and Company. Born in Georgetown in 1877, Holt was the son of Boston-born shoemaker Augustus P. Holt and his wife Mary E. Hitchcock, a native of Arlington; they lived on Central Street near the Boxford town line. Edwin J. Holt's nephew Raymond, son of his older brother William Augustus Holt, lived at 79 Central Street.

<sup>1</sup> Alfred B. Noyes to Henry P. Chaplin, 25 October 1873, SECD 893:58; Alfred B. Noyes to Henry P. Chaplin, 14 October 1875, SECD 945:22. Chaplin paid \$600 for the first lot, 2 acres and 6 rods, and \$200 for the second, .67 acre.

<sup>2</sup> trust agreement, Laurence L. and Susan T. Chaplin and John G. and Gilman McAllaster, Manchester NH, 16 November 1908, SECD 1951:201. This deed transferred one-quarter share owned by Laurence's sister Mabel, who died in 1906, in seven parcels in Georgetown and Boxford, including the Chaplin shoe factory on the east side of Central Street; the 95-97 Central Street property was the second tract described there.

<sup>3</sup> The disposition of these shares is described in Alice C. Noyes and Laurence L. Chaplin, both Georgetown, and John G. McAllaster and Gilman McAllaster, both Manchester NH, trustees, to Marjorie Lucy Morse, 7 May 1911, SECD 2092:352, which conveyed 99 Central Street.

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In 1903 Edwin J. Holt had married Ida Bernice Fredette of Haverhill, and he is shown as a Chaplin company worker living at 95 Central Street in the 1914 directory. In 1930 he was living in the house with his wife Bernice and their two children. Holt was by then a shoe factory foreman, and his son George, born about 1905, was a sewing machine salesman. By 1932 Holt was a foreman at Shelby Shoe in Salem, and by 1942 he had retired from factory work and was employed at Kelsey's Nurseries in East Boxford. Holt and his family remained at 95 Central Street until 1956, when they sold the property to Homer K. Tapin. Born in Haverhill in 1916, Tapin's father W. Homer Tapin was a barber and a traveling hardware salesman living in Georgetown by 1930. In 1946 Homer Tapin was a draftsman, and by 1948 he was working as an electrician. He and his wife Marion are shown at 95 Central Street in the 1957 directory, and they owned the property until 1976. Current owners Robert L. and Linda D. Arnold acquired 95 Central Street in 1983.<sup>4</sup>

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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HAVE ON CD

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

## DIRECTORIES

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## MAPS

*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."

<sup>4</sup> Alice C. Noyes and Lawrence L. Chaplin, both Georgetown, and John G. and Gilman McAllaster, Manchester as trustees to Edwin K. [sic] Holt, 28 March 1910, SECD 2020:445; Edwin J. Holt to Homer K. and Marion H. Tapin, 2 August 1956, SECD 4293:183; Homer K. Tapin, 95 Central St, to Richard J. and Joyce C. Vertz, Peabody MA, 9 August 1976, SECD 6267:457; Thomas L. and Jill R. Hamelin to Robert L. and Linda D. Arnold, 95 Central, 17 September 1983, SECD 7925:14.



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PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)



View from NE.