

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Town Groton
Place (neighborhood or village)
Groton Center

(3"x3" or 3-1/2"x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Address	95 Main Street
Historic Name	Brazer Store - Kilburn House
Uses: Present	Residential
Original	Store
Date of Construction	c. 1820
Source	Previous GHS research (Hurd, p. 546)

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Condition Excellent

Moved no ☒ yes ☐ Date

Acreage .46

Setting Main Street - Town Center

Sketch Map

North Toward Top

113-41

113-40

113-20

113-19

113-21

113-18

113-17

113-16

113-15

113-11

116-1

113-12

116-11

116-12

MAIN STREET (RTE 119 & 225)

CHURCH STREET

Recorded by Sanford Johnson
Organization Groton Historical Commission
Date (month/year) 6/06

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

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

☐ see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

- * The house at 95 Main Street is a Cape Cod form with Federal style detail built on a 5x2-bay, side-gabled, 1 1/2-story plan; the southwest corner is expanded with a 1-story addition oriented parallel to the main block and to Main Street
- * Decorative features include the symmetrical fenestration in the façade, corner boards and classical surround at the center entry that consists of pilasters, sidelights and entablature
- * Windows are mainly 12/12 double-hung sash with heavily trimmed frames that project slightly from the plane of the wall; windows in the side gable peak and rear addition are 9/9 double-hung sash
- * Two prominent brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge
- * A picket fence separates the house from the road which is quite close to the front door
- * A garage in the ground floor of the rear addition is accessed by a descending drive on the south side of the house
- * This is a smaller Federal style house than most others in Groton Center and occupies a parcel adjacent to the Groton Public Library and diagonally across from the First Parish Church

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

☐ see continuation sheets

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners /occupants played within the community.

95 Main Street was built as a store by William Farwell Brazer c. 1820, shortly after the death of his father in 1818. Mr. Brazer was the former business partner of his father, the storekeeper Squire James Brazer who lived at 98 Main Street (MHC #24) and conducted business just north of 117 Main Street (MHC #13). An advertisement in the Boston Columbian Centinel from 1805 confirms the partnership of the Brazers and lists English, India and West India goods as their stock in trade. After William Brazer ceased his commercial operations in the late 1820s, Dr. Jeremiah Kilbourn (also spelled Kilburn) made use of the building as a residence and office and was taxed for ownership of \$1,600 in real property, an average amount for a small house in the village. His occupancy is reflected on the 1832 Butler map, the field notes for which describe the house as yellow and having two stories, suggesting either an error in the field notes, this narrative or that the house was moved slightly. The maps from 1847 and 1856 depict Dr. Kilbourn as the owner of this and two adjacent buildings. State census schedules from 1855 indicate Jeremiah Kilbourn was a farmer instead of a doctor, possibly due to retirement from work, and lived here with his wife Patty and 17-year-old son William, a student. Non-population Census Schedules list Dr. Kilbourn's property as 19 acres, one horse, 5 cows and his crops as canr and barley, among others. Mrs. J. Kilbourne continued to occupy the house until at least 1875 according to the atlas from that year. This may refer to Patty as she is the only family member in the 1865 census at the correct location. Also, the 1875 tax valuations mention the estate of the deceased Jeremiah Kilburn which consisted of two houses in addition to 95 Main Street. The 1889 atlas shows Charles Garrish (also Gerrish) as the owner of this and two nearby houses, one on Broadmeadow Road. It is possible he rented the 95 Main Street to a tenant since the resident directory from 1888 describes his residence as off Main Street, suggesting he lived in his house on Broadmeadow Road.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

☐ continuation sheet

Tercentenary Booklet, p. 69; previous research; 1875 Beers Atlas; 1875 Beers Atlas; 1889 Walker Atlas; 1888 resident directory; 1856 Walling map; Tax records, 1830-1889; 1855, 1865 state census; Hurd, p. 546; Columbian Centinel, June 8, 1805; 1832 and 1847 Butler maps and field notes; Green, Vol. 2, p. 4; Non-population Census Schedules;

**** All properties mentioned in bold type are individually inventoried resources**

- ☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement Form.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Massachusetts Archives Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

95 Main Street

Town
Groton

Property Address

Area(s)

Form No.



Massachusetts Historical Commission

Community Groton

Property Address

95 Main Street

Massachusetts Archives Building

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Y

Form No.

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

Individually eligible **X**

Eligible only in a historic district

Contributing to a potential historic district **X**

Potential historic district

Criteria: **X** A B **X** C D

Criteria considerations: A B C D E F G

Statement of significance by: Sanford Johnson

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

The Federal Style Cape Cod house at 95 Main Street is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as an individual resource at the local level. Ninety-five Main Street was built as a store by William Farwell Brazer c. 1820, shortly after the death of his father in 1818. Mr. Brazer was the former business partner of his father, the storekeeper Squire James Brazer who lived at 98 Main Street (MHC #24) and conducted business just north of 117 Main Street (MHC #13). An advertisement in the Boston Columbian Centinel from 1805 confirms the partnership of the Brazers and lists English, India and West India goods as their stock in trade. After William Brazer ceased his commercial operations in the late 1820s, Dr. Jeremiah Kilbourn (also spelled Kilburn) made use of the building as a residence and office and was taxed for ownership of \$1,600 in real property, an average amount for a small house in the village. The building's associations with historic commercial and medical activity in Groton establish its significance under Criterion A. The design of the house's symmetrical façade, the surviving historic exterior materials and architectural details make the property eligible under Criterion C. The house retains integrity of design, materials, setting and workmanship.