

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

22 -14	Marion		MRN.36
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**Town/City:** Marion

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*): Marion Village

**Address:** 681 Front Street

**Historic Name:** Hammond-Delano House

**Uses:** Present: Residential

Original: Residential

**Date of Construction:** 1830 –1840

**Source:** Title and map research, visual analysis

**Style/Form:** Federal Cape (significantly altered)

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

Barn/garage (late 19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> c.)

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

Gambrel roof additions (late 19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> c.)

Replacement windows (2017)

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

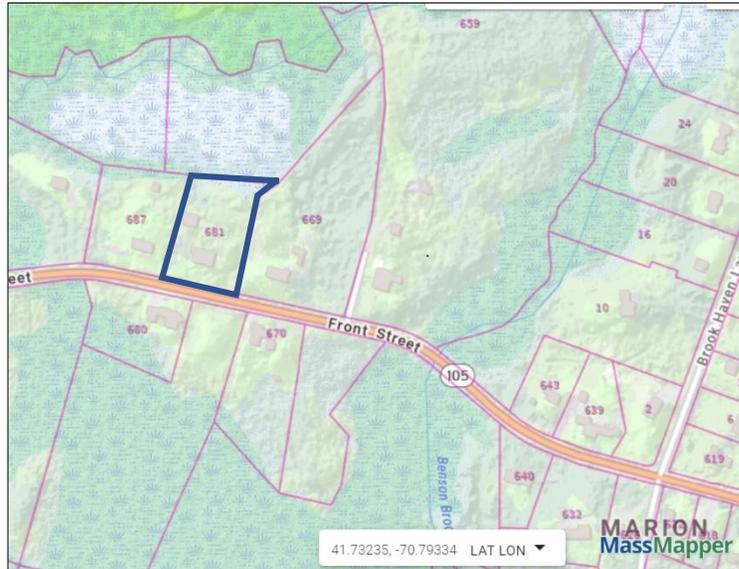
**Acreage:** 1.21

**Setting:** Residential area in the northernmost portion of Marion extending west along Front Street (Rte. 105) towards the town of Rochester. Neighborhood of low to medium housing density and moderate to large-sized parcels. Cape form and Greek Revival houses predominate in the area, which was originally farmland and developed in the early- to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Photograph



## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Lynn Smiledge

**Organization:** Marion Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): April 2023

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

Front Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.XXX

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

**681 Front Street** occupies a polygonal lot on the north side of Front Street. The house is set back from the street at the rough midpoint of the southern property line and faces south. A tall hedgerow obscures the east ell at the façade. The area surrounding the house is maintained in patchy lawn dotted with tall trees and clusters of shrubs. The cleared area behind (north of) the house transitions to marsh land at the northern lot line. A dense border of vegetation lines the western property line. A paved driveway enters the property from Front Street along the west elevation of the house and ends at the barn/garage sited off its northwest corner.

This wood-frame dwelling comprises a two-story, five-bay-by-two-bay, side-gabled main block with a gambrel roof and two dependencies. The dependencies include a two-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, gambrel-roofed east ell and a one-story gabled block at the northeast corner of the ell. An enclosed flat-roofed porch spans the front elevation of the ell and a partly enclosed flat-roofed porch runs along the extent of the north (rear) elevation. The house was constructed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in the full Cape form but was dramatically altered with the addition of gambrel roofs and dormers at both the main block and ell. The house retains some of its original character-defining features. It rests on a stone foundation and has an asphalt-shingle roof. The walls are clad in weathered wood shingles. A brick gable-wall chimney with a rubble stone base rises from grade at the west elevation of the main block. A second brick chimney is carried at the roof ridge at the ell. Solar panels occupy the upper roof slope of the main block at the façade.

Trim elements at the main block include narrow corner and frieze boards and a water table. A substantial two-bay pedimented dormer centered at the façade (south elevation) is flanked by shed-roofed dormers. The windows at both stories at the main block and ell are double-hung, one-over-one sash with flat surrounds; those at the façade have molded architraves and the windows at all other locations have lipped lintels. The centered entry at the façade contains a glass-and-panel door with a large rectangular light; it is framed by a narrow flat surround with a molded cornice. The door fronts a shallow stone stoop and a stone pathway that leads across the façade to the adjacent driveway.

The ell has a distinctively tall and narrow gambrel roof with a single shed-roofed dormer at the façade. The flat-roofed enclosed porch contains a glass-and-panel door at the westernmost bay and continuous multi-light windows over a wood-shingled knee wall. The flat-roofed, one-story porch at the north (rear) elevation partially wraps the west elevation of the main block.

The barn, whose footprint is seen on the 1903 map, is sited off the northwest corner of the house and has been adapted for use as a two-car garage. It is front gabled with a shed-roofed extension with contemporary fenestration along the west elevation. The barn/garage has a stone foundation, wood shingle cladding, and an asphalt shingle roof. A six-over-six window occupies the gable peak and an off-center hay door surmounts the garage door opening at the east bay.

The Cape Cod house form, a one-story side-gabled house with a central chimney and steeply-pitched roof, emerged in southeastern New England ca. 1700 and saw continued use through the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The full Cape design was one of the later iterations of the house type. Defining characteristics of a Federal-era, Cape form house illustrated here include the full Cape configuration (five bays with centered entry), side-gabled roof, trim boards and main entry surround. The Colonial Revival-style alterations to the house include the gambrel roofs and over-sized dormers.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

*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.*



1855 map.

The Village of Marion, the commercial and residential center of the town, is set on the western shore of Sippican Harbor which leads into Buzzards Bay. This property is located in the northernmost portion of the Village a short distance from the Rochester town line, an area which runs along Front Street (Rte.105) north of its intersection with Interstate 195. Throughout the first decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the area was largely settled with scattered subsistence farmsteads owned by seamen. As the importance of coastal shipping diminished with the arrival of the railroad in the mid-century, many of these mariners pursued full time farming and other occupations. The predominant style of the early dwelling houses was the Cape Cod form. As the century progressed farmers sold off parcels of land for the construction of homes for both full time and summer residents. The 20<sup>th</sup> century saw the subdivision of some of the old farms into small housing developments.

The 1855 map shows Eliza W. Hammond as owner of this house. On the 1879 map J. Delano is owner, and on the 1903 map it is Lizzie Delano. The first recorded conveyance found for the property was its sale by Lizzie Delano to Ruth S.G. Delano in 1904.

Although not confirmed by title research, the property owner shown on the 1855 map was likely Elizabeth W. Hadley Hammond (1791-1869), the wife of Reuben B. Hammond (1799-1829). The daughter of Wing Hadley (1767-1853) and Mary Mendall (1759-1845), Elizabeth married Reuben Hammond in 1826 but was widowed three years later. They couple had no children and Elizabeth Hammond did not remarry. At some point after her death the property was purchased by John Delano (1817-1900), son of Capt. James Delano (1789-1875) and Dorothy Wing (1794-1865). John Delano, a master ships carpenter, was married to Elmira B. Benson (1824-1897). The Delanos left the property to their daughter Elizabeth [Lizzie] Richmond Delano. She perhaps had remained at home to care for her mother and father who died in 1897 and 1900, respectively. Lizzie Delano sold the homestead to her brother George Mason Delano and sister-in-law Ruth S.G. Delano in 1904.

Ruth S.G. Delano was the daughter of sea captain Ansel S. Gurney, who owned a house nearby at 403 County Road (1770, Capt. Ansel Gurney House, MRN.XXX). Ruth S. Gurney Delano (1856-1936) attended Wareham High School and later taught school in that town. She was married to George Mason Delano (1853-1939), the son of John Delano (1817-1900) and Elmira B. Benson (1824-1897). George Delano was educated in Marion and went on to study music in Boston. Described in his obituary as a "vocalist," He was the leader of the Methodist Church choir for many years. The couple's daughter Lovicy Delano, who graduated from Tabor Academy and Wellesley College, taught German at Passaic High School in Passaic, New Jersey, which was her primary residence.<sup>1</sup> Lovicy Delano used this house as a summer residence until she sold it in 1977. It was purchased in 1986 by Dr. Leonard S. Bushnell and his wife Anne of Cambridge. Bushnell was the chair of the anesthesia department at Beth Israel-Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. It remained in the ownership of the Bushnell family until 2012 when it was purchased by the current owners.

Title Research

Date	Book-Page	Grantor	Grantee
10-22-2012	42238-234	Anne C. Bushnell, Trustee	Joshua D. & Hillary Hunt
12-16-2011	40895-288	Anne C. Bushnell	Anne C. Bushnell, Trustee
12-06-1996	14855-132	Leonard S. & Anne C. Bushnell	Anne C. Bushnell
02-28-1986	6623-333	Steven C. & Mary Ellen Winters	Leonard S. & Anne C. Bushnell
10-03-1977	4339-90	Lovicy M. Delano	Steven C. & Mary Ellen Winters

<sup>1</sup> "Marion Resident Describes Experiences in Visit Abroad," *Standard-Times*, New Bedford, MA, July 26, 1947.



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*Property of the Sippican Historical Society*

*George Mason Delano residence  
1900-10 681 Front St*

George Mason Delano House, 681 Front St, looking north on Front Street toward Rochester. Taken about 1910 after the addition of a second floor and a deck. Note the barn at right rear. Image and caption courtesy of the Sippican Historical Society.