

FORM B – BUILDING

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

14 55

Marion

N,
AA

MRN.247

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

Town/City: MARION

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Marion Village -
Main Street (MRN.AA)

Photograph



Address: 45 Main Street

Historic Name: Col. David and Abigail Hathaway House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: ca. 1810

Source: Vital records, deed research

Style/Form: Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite, concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards, wood shingles/ Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Two-car, side-gable garage (likely mid- to late-20th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Rear addition (poss. late-20th c.)

*Based on Property Card and/or observation

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.26 acres

Setting: The surrounding area includes historic houses sited relatively close to the street and to each other along Main Street. This house is set very close to both Main Street and School Street. A low picket fence borders both streets. An asphalt driveway leads to a detached two-car garage off School Street.

Locus Map



Aerial Imagery, 2021

Recorded by: Eric Dray, Preservation Consultant

Organization: Sippican Historical Society

Date (*month / year*): February 2023

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

45 MAIN STREET

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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.

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.

This unusual house likely began as an early-19th century Full Cape, but alterations were later made that would now classify the house as Victorian Eclectic – meaning it was built (or altered) during the Victorian era but does not have sufficient form and/or ornamental details to clearly identify it with one style. This house has a complex form. The main block, facing Main Street, has a 1½-story, side-gable form that is five bays wide with a centered entrance. This is the form of a Full Cape, but here the front elevation is interrupted by a prominent, centered cross-gable wall dormer, likely one of the later additions. Stepped back on the right side of the main block is a side-gable ell. In front of this ell is an enclosed porch, the roof of which is supported by columns that rest on shingled half-walls. A one-story hyphen off the back of this ell connects to a gable-roofed rear addition, likely built in the late-20th century (Photo 3).

The building rests, like most 19th century Marion Village houses, on a raised, rough-cut granite foundation (except the rear addition which has a concrete foundation). The front elevation of the main block and ell, and the east side elevation of the main block, are clad in wood clapboards – an example often found of “dressing up” the main public elevations. The remaining elevations are clad in wood shingles. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles (wood shingles originally). The roof of the main block and side ell have projecting molded box cornices with partial returns across the gable ends. What looks like a rebuilt brick chimney rises off-center from the main roof ridge.

Features which characterize this house as Victorian Eclectic, in addition to the cross-gable dormer, include the front entrance that has paired doors with arch-topped windows above carved medallions; the door surround with deeply-projecting hood supported by heavy console brackets; and the deep bay window that sits atop this door hood. The windows on the front elevation are modern, replacement 6/6 double-hung sash set in surrounds with projecting molded lintels. The door and surround are typical of the Italianate style.

The porch in front of the side ell is enclosed with a more classically-designed series of columns and panels – Colonial Revival in inspiration. It is unknown when this enclosure was installed. The house, without the rear ell, is shown on the 1908 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map with a shallower, open porch (Figure 1). The 1933 Sanborn map appears to show that the porch had been extended out to its current size (Figure 2).

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.

While there had been some economic activity and residential development in Sippican Village prior to the Revolution, residential development accelerated in the early-1800s, as happened in many coastal Massachusetts towns, with boat building, whaling, coastal schooner trade, and the salt industry driving the economy. The construction of the First Congregational Meeting House in 1799, now Marion General Store (140 Front Street, MRN.22), also helped make Sippican Village the center for spiritual and civic life.¹ Residential (and limited commercial) development was initially concentrated along the Front Street/Main Street axis, and the harbor became the site for maritime-related utilitarian buildings and wharfs. By the time the 1855 Walling Map was prepared, additional streets had been laid out, but Main Street from the harbor west to Pleasant Street was the most densely developed street in the village, including this house (Figure 4).

¹ Marion was first settled in 1679 as Sippican, a district of Rochester, and was not incorporated as a separate town until 1852. The name Sippican Village continues to be used interchangeably with Marion Village.

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The 2021 Main Street Area Form (MRN.AA) dates this house to ca. 1790-1820, which may be accurate. However, that documentation appears to have mistakenly identified this house as that of "R. R. Hammond" on the 1855 Walling Map. In fact, this house is more likely the house next door to the west on the 1855 map with the name "G. Hathaway" (Figure 5). Title research tracks back to an 1863 deed where Abigail Hathaway, widow of David Hathaway, sold property that included this house to Isaac Newton Hathaway.²

Abigail Keen (1787-1878) married Col. David Hathaway (1788-1861) in Marion in 1811. If they built the house around the time of their marriage, the ca. 1810 date may be accurate. David Hathaway was listed as a farmer in the 1850 US Census (the first Census that included occupations), and as a merchant in the 1860 US Census. They would go on to have eleven children. The house is shown with the name G. Hathaway on the 1855 Map. This likely refers to Gilbert Hathaway (1813-1871), their second oldest son.

As noted above, Abigail Hathaway sold this house to Isaac Newton Hathaway in 1863. He (with the same surname) had married one of Abigail and David Hathaway's children, Abby Hathaway (1828-1901) in 1853. Isaac Newton Hathaway (1819-1892) was a mariner, and by the 1880 US Census, he was listed as a retired sea captain. In 1891, they sold this property to Albert C. Vose of Marion.³

New York-born Albert Churchill Vose (1853-1926) married Ada Coggeshall (1867-1964) in Marion in 1891. Albert worked as a physician in general practice. Ada Vose was the daughter of Frank B. and Amanda Coggeshall. The Coggeshalls had inherited the ca. 1828 house at 51 Main Street (MRN.251) from Amanda's father, Capt. Hiram Look. The 1998 Sippican Village Area Form (MRN.N) stated that Ada Vose operated the Village Shop out of this house. In 1931, Ada Vose, now a widow, sold the property to Marion G. Dorr of Marion.⁴ Marion Petersen (1906-1973) moved to Marion as a young child, and was the daughter of Viggo V. Petersen, renowned founder of Petersen's Ice Cream Parlor. She married Harold Dorr in Marion in 1929. This house remained in the Dorr family into the 1980s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps and Atlases:

1855, Walling, H. F. *Map of the Town of Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, 1855.*

1908, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.* New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1908.

1933, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.* New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1933.

Ancestry.com – Vital records.

Dempsey, Claire. MHC Area Form AA, Main Street, 2021.

Gordon, Edward. MHC Area Form N, Wharf Village, 1998.

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds

Sippican Historical Society Collections.

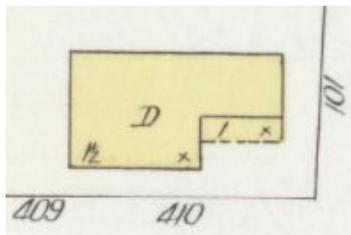


Figure 1. Detail, 1908 Sanborn Map.

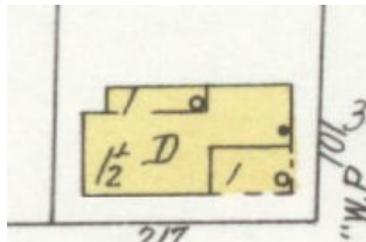


Figure 2. Detail, 1933 Sanborn Map.

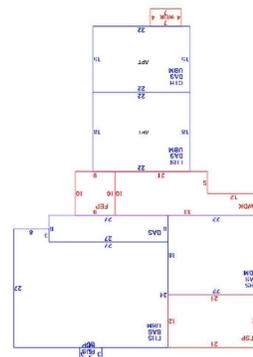


Figure 3. Marion Assessor Sketch (decks, porches in red).

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 313/ Page 231.

³ PCR, Book 660/ Page 93.

⁴ PCR, Book 1619/ Page 376, Book 1621/ Page 552.

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Photo 2. View from Main Street, looking northwest.



Photo 3. View from School Street, looking southwest.

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 Eric Dray, Preservation Consultant for Sippican Historical Society
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

This property is a contributing resource in the combined Areas of Wharf Village-Sippican Village (MRN.N) and Water Street (MRN.L), hereinafter referred to as Marion Village.*

Marion Village is recommended as eligible for listing at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Maritime History. Marion Village contains the great majority of buildings connected to Marion's historical maritime development beginning in the late-18th century. With the rise of saltmaking, shipyards, and whaling, maritime activity increased dramatically into the mid-19th century, as did residential development in Marion Village. In addition to the houses built by those in the maritime industry, Marion Village contains numerous buildings and structures associated with maritime industrial activity, including a chandlery, sail loft, cooperage, and wharves. As Marion Village's prosperity became linked to Sippican Harbor, Marion Village also became the commercial, political and institutional center of the town.

Marion Village is also recommended as eligible for listing at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/ Recreation. Starting in the mid-19th century, maritime activity declined significantly. The decline in maritime activity was eventually replaced by the rise in the 1870s of a summer colony as Marion Village emerged as an elite summer resort. This was facilitated by the arrival of train service in the 1854. Summer visitors, including artists and writers, were drawn Sippican Harbor's beauty and tranquility. A large hotel, the Sippican Hotel, was located at the corner of South and Water Streets, and a few houses were converted to inns. While the hotel was town down in 1929, a large livery complex built by the Hiller Brothers at 147 Front Street (MRN.216) is extant. They provided horse-drawn vehicles to summer visitors registered at the Sippican Hotel, and ferried guests back and forth between the hotel and the train depot. In Marion Village, ownership (or occupancy through rental) of many houses began to shift from local maritime families to seasonal residents, including nationally-noteworthy politicians, businessmen, artists and writers. During this period, Marion Village also saw the addition of high style, architect-designed summer cottages and recreation resources.

Marion Village is recommended as eligible for listing at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Marion Village is a remarkably intact historic town center, including a compact collection of historic dwellings, along with a few churches, schools, commercial buildings and recreation buildings. Marion Village contains a great concentration of Federal and Greek Revival houses; and examples of later Victorian-era styles, including high-style examples of summer house architecture along Sippican Harbor and large institutional buildings not found elsewhere in Marion.

The great majority of resources in Marion Village retain substantial integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, design, feeling, and association.

*The potential Marion Village district boundaries include surveyed areas within the boundary of MRN.N completed in 2020-2022 for Barden-Hiller (MRN.Y), Cottage Street (MRN.Z), Main Street (MRN.AA), South Street (MRN.AB), Upper Pleasant Street (MRN.AC), and Upper Main Street (MRN.AH).