

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

15 72

Marion

N,
AH

MRN.263

Town/City: MARION

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Marion Village -

Upper Main Street (MRN.AH)

Address: 92 Main Street

Historic Name: Fred C. and Mary A. Borden House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: [1914-1920]

Source: Deed research, 1920 Census

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite, fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Wood shingles, clapboards/ Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garden shed

Major Alterations (*with dates*)*:

One-story addition (post-1933, compare Figures 2, 3)

*Based on Property Card and/or observation

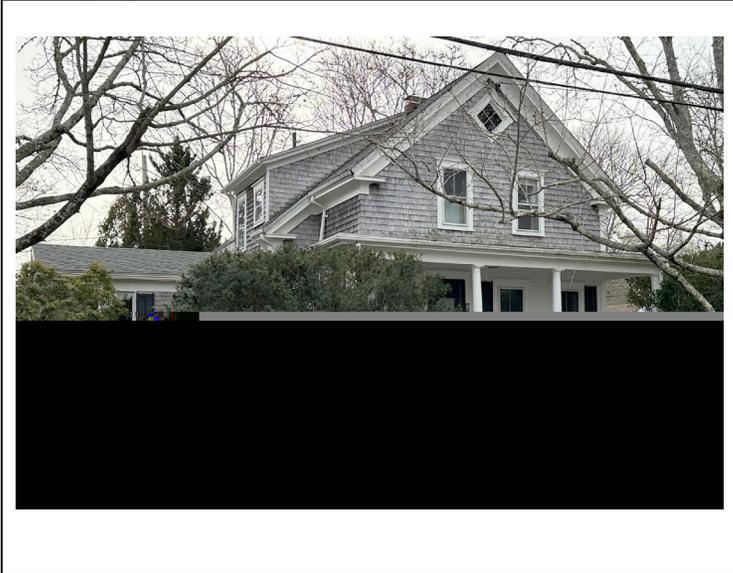
Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.18 acres

Setting: The surrounding area includes mostly 19th and early-20th century houses sited relatively close to the street and to each other along Main Street, although less densely developed than lower Main Street. The immediate surroundings also include Park Street and the former Tabor Academy property across the street. This house is set relatively close to the street on its level parcel. The front yard is landscaped with lawn and foundation plantings. This parcel backs up to Briggs Lane where there is a short asphalt driveway.

Photograph



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

92 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 house is a charming example of the Queen Anne style. The Queen Anne style, popular from ca. 1880-1910, employed different roof shapes and surface materials to enliven a building's elevations and create a more "picturesque" effect than earlier, more formal styles. The main block of this house is similar in form to its neighbor across the street, 93 Main Street (MRN.264), and the house at the west end of this stretch of Main Street – 113 Main Street (MRN.516). The original form of this house consists of a 1½-story, gable-front block. This simple form is animated by unusual low-pitched, shed-roofed wall dormers on both side elevations (wall dormers are dormers that share the wall plain below). This same dormer design is found at 113 Main Street.

The original house rests, like most historic houses in the village, on a raised, rough-cut granite and fieldstone foundation. There is a one-story, gable-roofed addition extending from the left (east) side of the house that rests on a concrete block foundation, built post-1933. The elevations are clad mostly in wood shingles with plain or no cornerboards. The front elevation, under the open porch, is clad in wood clapboards. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles (likely wood shingles originally). The roof has a prominent, projecting molded box cornice with partial returns across the gable ends.

An open porch, supported by Tuscan columns, spans across the front elevation and part of the left (east) side elevation. This porch rests, partially, on a foundation of smaller fieldstones. The porch was first built only on the left side elevation as of the 1921 Sanborn Map (Figure 1), but by 1933 it carried across the front elevation as well (Figure 2). Curiously, a bay window shown on the 1921 Sanborn Map was later removed. Fenestration includes wood, 2/1 double-hung sash (possibly original) set in surrounds with projecting sills and lintels. There is also an unusual square, four-paned window turned 45° set into the front gable peak. The offset entrance on the front elevation has a wood paneled door with a large window set in a simple surround.

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.

The dense development pattern along Main Street, starting in the early-19th century with increasing maritime-related prosperity, extended only as far west as Pleasant Street. Although Upper Main Street (as it is locally called), was set out in 1829, residential development was limited to a few houses on large parcels. The building of the Public Library in 1872 and Tabor Academy in 1876 along Spring Street may have inspired increased residential development to the surrounding area. By the late-19th century, owners of the larger tracts of land on upper Main Street began to build additional houses on their land and/or sell off portions to others.

This parcel was part of a larger tract of land that is shown on the 1903 Plymouth County Atlas with a house at the west end of the parcel with the name "J. O. C. Briggs" (Figure 3). This refers to Capt. John O. C. Briggs (b. 1866). That house, 100 Main Street (MRN.495), was built in ca. 1845 by John Briggs' grandparents, Philip and Priscilla Briggs.

This property stayed in the Briggs family, passing to John O. C. Briggs' son and daughter-in-law, Barnabas (1890-1920) and Erva Briggs (1891-1931). In 1914, Barnabas Briggs sold the land on which this house would be built to Fred C. and Mary A. Borden of Marion.¹ Fred Borden (1870-1950) married Mary Abbie King (b. 1864) in Westport in 1902. By 1910, they were living in a rented house on Main Street in Marion, and he was working as a gardener for a private estate – an indication of how the summer colony had affected local employment. By 1920, they were living in a house they owned on Main Street – an indication that this house had been built by then. In subsequent census and directory records, he was listed as a teamster, carpenter, gardener, and laborer.

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1194/ Page 324.

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In 1928, the Bordens sold this house to Mary E. Smith (b. ca. 1880) of Marion.² She was listed living here, widowed, with her nephew, Albert W. Winters, in the 1930 US Census. Albert William Winters (1904-1980) was then working as a truck driver. He was described in his obituary as having established his own contracting business in 1925, was a charter member of the Marion Fire Association, and engineer for the Fire Department. In 1937, Mary Smith sold this house to Lewis E. and Clara Winters (possible relationship to Albert Winters unknown).³ Lewis Winters (1906-1977) was an auto mechanic who worked nearby at the Marion Garage. They owned this house until 1973.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps and Atlases:

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

1879, *Atlas of Plymouth County, Massachusetts*. Boston: Geo. H Walker & Co, 1879.

1903, *Atlas of Surveys of Plymouth County*. Springfield, MA: L. J. Richards Co., 1903.

1921, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts*. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1933.

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

Ancestry.com – Vital records.

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

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds

Sippican Historical Society Collections.

Smiledge, Lynn. MHC Area Form AH, Upper Main Street, 2022.



Photo 2. View from Main Street, looking southeast.

² PCRD, Book 1556/ Page 287.

³ PCRD, Book 1724/ Page 431.

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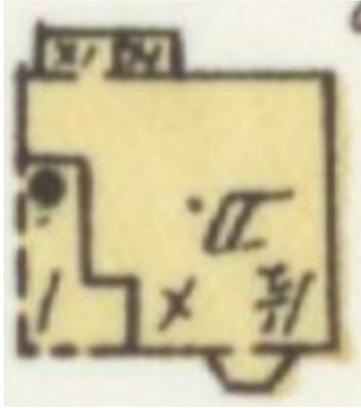


Figure 1. Detail of 1921 Sanborn Map.

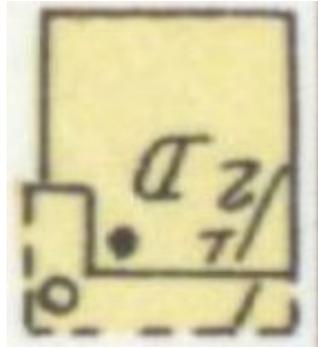


Figure 3. Detail of 1933 Sanborn Map.

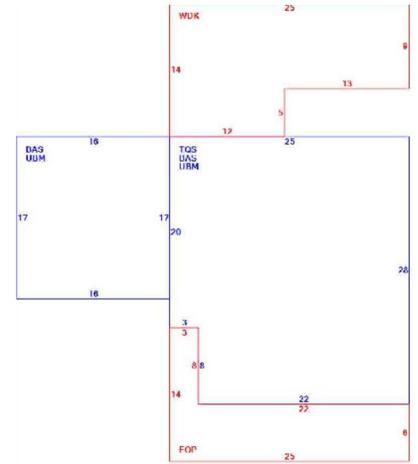


Figure 3. Marion Assessor Sketch (decks, porches in red).

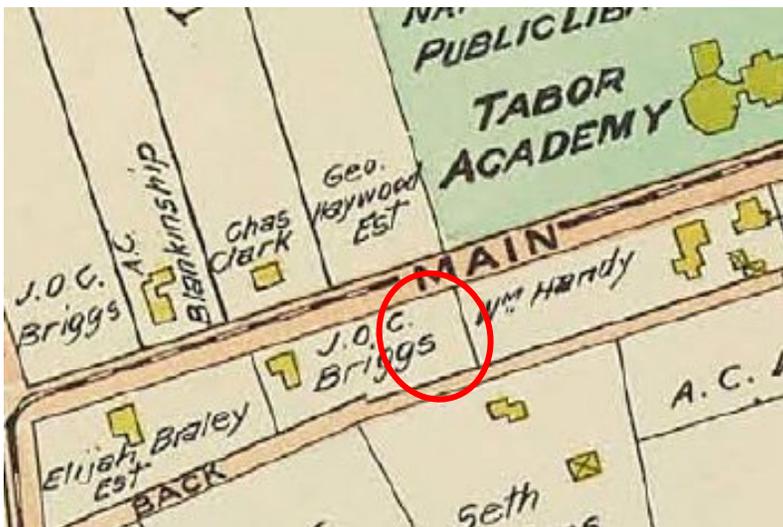


Figure 3. Detail of 1903 Plymouth County Atlas (circle added in location of 92 Main Street).

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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 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).