

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 68

Marion

N,
AH

MRN.512

Town/City: MARION

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Marion Village –
Upper Main Street (MRN.AH)

Address: 104 Main Street

Historic Name: Joseph and Lizzie Clark House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: ca. 1910

Source: Title research

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder: Unknown/ Joseph Clark, Charles
Chadwick (poss.)

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite, fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Synthetic clapboard/ Synthetic trim, wood

Roof: Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

Major Alterations (*with dates*)*:

Synthetic siding (date unknown)

*Based on Property Card and/or observation

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.17 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. This house is set back slightly from the street. The front yard is minimally landscaped with lawn and foundation plantings. A brick walkway leads to the front entrance. This parcel backs up to Briggs Lane where there is a short gravel driveway. The back yard is obscured by a stockade fence.

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

104 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

N, AH	MRN.512
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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 was likely nearly identical to its neighbor at 102 Main Street (MRN.266) – both were built in ca. 1910 by the same person (see Historical Narrative below). This house appears to retain much of its original form, while the neighboring house has received some additions and alterations. Both houses can be characterized as modest examples 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. In this case, the unusual overall form consists of its two-story, L-shaped footprint with hipped roofs.

The house rests, like most historic houses in the village, on a raised rough-cut granite and fieldstone foundation. The elevations are clad in synthetic clapboard siding (the original siding may lie beneath). The roof is clad in asphalt shingles, and has a box cornice. A chimney rises from the ridge of the rear block. The front block is two bays wide, and the rear block extends one bay farther to the east. Entrances are located on the street-facing elevations of both blocks. Both appear to be replacement doors set in simple frames. The porch is supported by narrow turned posts with a simple balustrade in between. Fenestration includes modern, replacement 2/2 windows.

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 in 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. The 1903 Plymouth County Atlas shows the scattered development along this stretch of Main Street just prior to this and other houses being built (Figure 2).

This house has an Assessor date of 1895, but that is not accurate – there is no house in this location on the 1903 Plymouth County Atlas. Title research goes back to a 1909 deed where Sylvia Dodge of Fairhaven sold this property, with reference to buildings, to Joseph H. Clark of Marion.¹ That 1909 deed states that Sylvia Dodge was devised this property (i.e. inherited it) from Elijah Braley. A house with the name "Elijah Braley Est." is shown on the 1903 Atlas - that is the ca. 1845 house at 108 Main Street (MRN.268). A search of vital records has not yet revealed why Braley, who died in 1896 in Fairhaven, left Sylvia Dodge this land.

This house, the adjacent house at 102 Main Street (MRN.266), and the house across the street, 93 Main Street (MRN.264), were all built in ca. 1910, and were all likely built by Joseph H. Clark and possibly his father-in-law, Charles H. Chadwick (1848-1940), both of whom were listed as house carpenters in some census records. The Chadwick's daughter, Lizzie Bassett (Nye) (1870-1950) had married Joseph H. Clark (1861-1933) in Marion in 1896.

Joseph Clark was very active in real estate at this end of Main Street and elsewhere in the village from the late-19th into the early-20th century. Lizzie Chadwick's parents, Charles and Harriet Chadwick, lived across the street at 93 Main Street (MRN.264). They were all listed living on Main Street in houses they owned near each other, and the house next to the Clarks was a rental. Perhaps

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1014/ Page 318.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

104 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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Lizzie and Joseph Clark lived in 102 or 104 Main Street for a time, and rented out the other. By 1920, the Clarks were living on Clark Street, a short street connecting Pleasant Street to Converse Road (perhaps the Clarks had a role in naming that street).

In 1921, they sold this house to Charles and Cynthia Church of Marion.² Charles Church owned the Church & Stowell hardware and plumbing store on Front Street. The store was located in the old Andrew Hadley House that was later torn down to make the parking lot next to the General Store. Subsequent owners of this house included James Barlow, who owned Barden's Market and Freezer at 154-156 Front Street (MRN.395), and Warren Washburn as of 1952, owner of Washburn Electric Company.

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.

Ancestry.com – Vital records.

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

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds

Sippican Historical Society Collections.

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

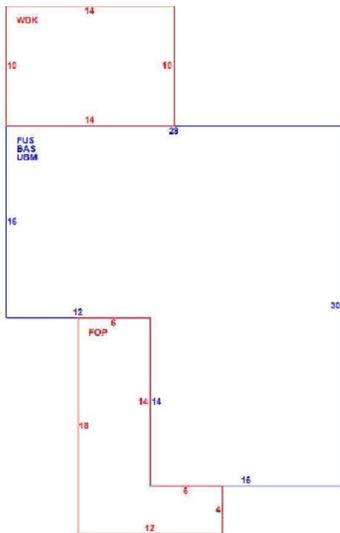


Figure 1. Marion Assessor Sketch.



Photo 2. View from Main Street, looking southeast.

Figure 2. Detail of 1903 Plymouth County Atlas.

² PCRD, Book 1401/ Page 184. The original house on this original larger parcel, 108 Main Street (MRN.268), was sold by the Clarks in 1925.

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).