

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

11-61A

Marion

MRN.H

MRN.119

Town/City: Marion

Place:(*neighborhood or village*): Marion Village / Old Depot

Address: 375 Front Street

Historic Name: Charles B. Hathaway House

Uses: Present: Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: Ca. 1925

Source: Deed and map research

Style/Form: Craftsman

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete block

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Cottage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Dormer

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

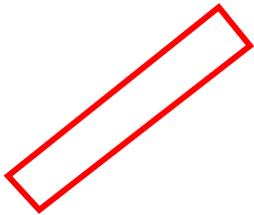
Acreage: 0.77

Setting: Small, primarily residential neighborhood developed in the mid-19th – early 20th centuries. Housing stock represents a range of styles including Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Craftsman and Colonial Revival. Surrounded mostly by moderately-sized, wood-frame, single-family houses on small to medium-sized lots.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lynn Smiledge

Organization: Marion Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): July 2022

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

375 Front Street

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MRN.H

MRN.199

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.

375 Front Street occupies an extremely long rectangular parcel on the east side of Front Street. The house is positioned close to the street in the western eighth of the parcel and faces west. The property surrounding the house is maintained in lawn but apart from a large paved parking area behind the house is otherwise heavily vegetated with shrubs and mature trees. The parcel transitions to marsh land at its easternmost portion. A paved driveway enters the property from Front Street along the south elevation and ends at the parking area.

The building is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, front-gabled wood-frame cottage with a rectangular plan and one rear dependency. A hip-roofed open porch spans the facade. Constructed ca. 1925, it is a simple iteration of the Craftsman style and retains the majority of its character defining features. The house rests on a concrete block foundation. It is clad in wood shingles and has an asphalt shingle roof. A narrow brick chimney rises from the north roof slope near the ridge. This house and its neighbor to the south at **373 Front Street** (ca. 1925, Charles B. Hathaway House, MRN.118) were built to the same plan – both are 22 feet by 26 feet with an 18-foot porch.

Trim is limited to narrow corner boards and deep eaves. Openings at the facade comprise a center entry flanked by double-hung, four-over-four windows with flat surrounds. Paired, mullied one-over-one windows occupy the gable peak. The entry contains a glass-and-panel door. The windows at the side elevations include paired, one-over-one double-hung sash and small, single fixed sash with flat surrounds. The majority of windows have blinds. A three-bay shed dormer with double-hung one-over-one windows occupies the south roof slope. The full-width, hip-roofed porch has substantial square posts, a slat work railing, and a vertical slat skirt. A centered three-step brick stair leads from the porch to a narrow concrete walkway joining the street.

A one-story, shed-roofed addition with an entry at the north elevation spans the rear (west) elevation. A terraced paved patio at the west elevation of the main block is shielded from the street by a vertical slat fence and pergola. A small, wood-shingled workshop comprising gabled and shed-roofed blocks is sited behind the house; it was built in 1987 according to town assessor's records.

373 Front Street is a modest, unelaborated example of the Craftsman style, one of several such examples built in the early 20th century on this part of Front Street. The American Craftsman architectural movement was inspired by the British Arts and Crafts movement, a response to Europe's Industrial Revolution that promoted hand-worked goods and buildings over the mass-produced. The predominant style for smaller homes throughout the country from 1905 to 1930, it emphasized simplicity and modesty in architecture. The style was spread by pattern books and popular magazines and through the efforts of its best-known proponent, furniture designer Arthur Stickley. Craftsman-style homes are typically one or one-and-one-half stories tall and characterized by low-pitched roofs with overhanging eaves; exposed beams, brackets and rafters; wide open porches with thick columns; and large bay or picture windows. The Craftsman characteristics of this house include its size, simplicity, deep eaves, and open porch.

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 town of Marion was established in 1852 when it broke off from the town of Rochester. The Old Depot area of Marion (MRN.H) is named for the building which housed Marion's first rail station. It was the location of the Marion stop on the Fairhaven Branch of the Cape Cod Railroad which brought rail service to the town in 1854. Located in the northern section of Marion Village (Old Landing), the area's residences are located in or around the triangle formed by the intersection of Wareham Road,

Continuation sheet 1

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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Spring Street, and Front Street. The 1855 map shows this section of town with very few buildings — the train station, a school, and a lone house. The advent of rail service to Marion sparked the town’s growth as a desirable vacation destination for well-to-do city dwellers from Boston and New York. A coach service carried passengers arriving at the station to various hotels or cottages located in Sippican Village.

As rail service expanded, the 1855 depot was replaced by a larger building. The depot was sold to the prominent Front Street resident, Captain George Delano Allen (1843-1916) who lived in the grand Greek Revival/Italianate “hybrid” style house at 357 Front Street (ca.1860, Capt. George D. Allen House, MRN.113). Allen moved the old depot building approximately 150 feet to a site on his large estate. This area came to be known as Allen’s Corners after the enterprising seaman who converted the old depot building into a combination store and pool hall. Near the turn of the 20th century Allen subdivided his property to create building sites for several smaller houses along Front Street, including this modest subject house. By 1903, there was a cluster of houses in this area supported by several stores. Today, a number of the historic resources in the area are used for commercial or mixed-use purposes.

The 1903 map shows the property on which this house is located as part of the estate of Captain George D. Allen. The house does not appear on the 1921 Sanborn map, but it is shown on the 1933 Sanborn map. The earliest conveyance found for the property was in 1924 with the sale of a parcel of land to Charles B. Hathaway by Amos C. Delano. While a clear chain of ownership could not be established, Delano appears to have purchased a tract of land from Bertha Allen et al., the heirs of Captain Allen, presumably shortly after his death. Captain George Delano Allen (1843-1916) was the son of carpenter John Delano Allen (1815-1904) and Sarah Hathaway Allen. According to the 1860 census, George Allen was at sea at the age of 16 and a ship’s master by the time he was 25, when he married Magdalena Delano (1850-1905).



In the 1930 census, Amos Delano’s occupation was noted in the 1930 census as real estate agent. He sold this parcel to the proprietor of the Marion General Store, Charles B. Hathaway. Hathaway would divide the property into two building lots, this subject property and 373 Front Street (ca. 1925, MRN. 118). No mention of buildings was made on Delano’s deed to Charles Hathaway. It is therefore probable that this modest house was built by or for Hathaway sometime between the 1924 sale of the land and the 1933 Sanborn map. It is not clear if Hathaway and his wife Delia lived in either of these two houses or if they were used as rental properties.

Albert “Babe” Serpa (1916-2008) and his wife Bertha (1917-2004) purchased the property from Charles Hathaway in 1948 and it remained in the Serpa family for almost 70 years. Albert Serpa was a volunteer firefighter and long-time caretaker for a local family.

1933 Sanborn map.

Deed Research

Date	Book-Page	Grantor	Grantee
12-29-2016	47948-92	Mary Campbell	375 Front Street LLC
10-04-2016	47588-207	Estate of Sally Serpa	Mary Campbell
08-18-1993	12159-82	Albert & Bertha Serpa	Suzann Serpa & Salle Serpa
09-01-1948	2013-234	Charles B. Hathaway	Albert & Bertha Serpa
09-01-1948	2013-234	Amos C. Delano	Charles B. Hathaway (Confirmatory Deed)
12-10-1924	1475-479	Amos C. Delano	Charles B. Hathaway

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org: census records, vital records, city directories
Atlas of Plymouth County, Boston, MA: George H. Walker & Co., 1879
Atlas of Plymouth County, Boston, MA: L.J. Richards Co., 1903
Map of the Town of Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts 1855 H.F. Walling

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

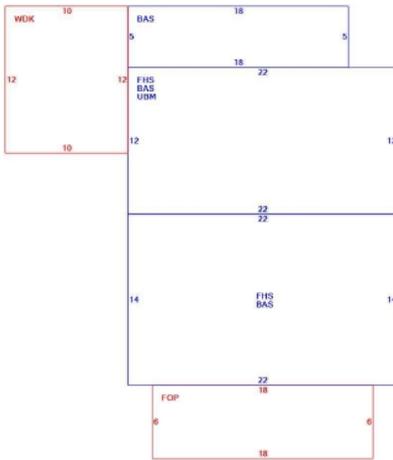
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- McMaster, Virginia Savage. *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2019.
Sommers, Olive Hill. *Three Centuries of Marion Houses*. Marion, 1972.
Plymouth County Registry of Deeds
Rosbe, Judith. *Marion*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2000.
Rosbe, Judith. *Marion in the Golden Age*. Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2009.
Sippican Historical Society: online database
Smith, Pete. (ed.) *A Picture Postcard History of Marion, Massachusetts*. New Bedford, MA: Spinner Publications, 2008.



Assessor's card plan



2016.051.001

Mow-sying along

The heat and humidity that just won't quit doesn't keep Marion resident "Babe" Serpa from mowing the lawn at his Front Street home. Meteorologists say the steamy weather could break soon.

Owner "Babe" Serpa in front of his house. Date unknown.
Photograph courtesy of the Sippican Historical Society.

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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 _____ Lynn Smiledge _____

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

This house is recommended as a contributing element in a potential National Register Historic District for the Old Depot Area of Marion Village. The Old Depot Area (MRN.H) is recommended as eligible for listing as a National Register District at the local level under Criterion A for Social History and Criterion C for Architecture. Old Depot is an area of mid-19th to early 20th century residences on and around a triangle of land formed by Spring Street, Front Street, and Wareham Road (Route 6). It is named for the building at the apex of the triangle, Marion's first rail station. The area has significant historical associations with transportation improvements in Marion, including the introduction of the Fairhaven Branch of the Cape Cod Railroad and the New Bedford and Onset Street Railway lines during the mid-19th and early 20th centuries, respectively. The potential district's boundaries are those defined in the 1998 MHC survey for the Old Depot Area (MRN.H).

Under Criterion A, the area is recommended as eligible at the local level for its association with transportation advances in Marion, including the arrival of rail service in 1854 and the building of a rail station now at 381 Front Street (1855, Old Depot, MRN.120). The advent of rail service sparked the town's growth as a desirable vacation destination for well-to-do city dwellers from Boston and New York and had significant impact on the community's economy.

Under Criterion C, the area is recommended as eligible at the local level in the area of Architecture for its nearly intact collection of houses that provides a sense of the progression of architectural styles from the mid-19th through the early 20th centuries. The Old Depot Area contains a range of small- to large-scaled one-and-one-half to two-story wood-frame dwellings that represent the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles. Several of these houses have been converted to commercial use.