

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

11-65	Marion	MRN.H	MRN.554
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**Town/City:** Marion

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

**Address:** 365 Front Street

**Historic Name:** William A. Delano House

**Uses:** Present: Residential

Original: Residential

**Date of Construction:** Ca. 1920

**Source:** Deed and map research

**Style/Form:** Craftsman

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Cinder block

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

None

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

None apparent

**Condition:** Fair

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

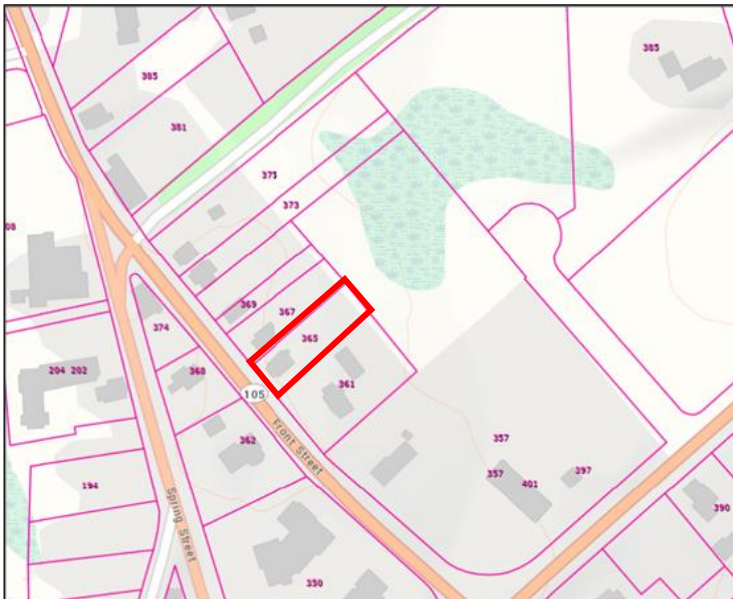
**Acreage:** 0.29

**Setting:** Small, primarily residential neighborhood developed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> 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

365 Front Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.H

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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.*

**365 Front Street** occupies a narrow rectangular parcel on the east side of Front Street. The house is positioned close to the street in the western half of the parcel and faces west. The property is maintained in grass in a small lawn area at the façade but is otherwise heavily vegetated with shrubs and mature trees. A stockade fence extends north from the northwest corner of the house to the property line. A gravel driveway enters the property from Front Street along the western lot line and ends in a parking area behind the house.

The building is a one-story, three-bay-by-four-bay wood-frame house with a rectangular plan and a small, square one-story addition at the east (rear) elevation. It has a shallow gable roof and a shed-roofed, seven-bay-by-one-bay, enclosed porch spanning the facade. Constructed ca. 1920 in a simple iteration of the Craftsman style, it retains its original character-defining features. The house rests on a high cinder block foundation. It is clad in weathered wood shingles and the roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles.

Trim at the main block is limited to a box cornice and water table. Window openings at the enclosed porch comprise a continuous row of six-over-one sash over a knee wall with narrower windows flanking the centered entry; single windows occupy the side walls of the porch. A pair of mullied four-over-four windows with a flat surround and capped lintel occupies the gable over the porch roof. The entry contains a glass-and-panel door and fronts a two-step concrete stair and a concrete walkway leading to the street. Windows at the south elevation include double-hung two-over-one sash with flat surrounds and architraves and a small, square fixed window with a multi-light border. Openings at the north elevation include two-over-one sash, casement windows, and an entry at the westernmost bay.

365 Front Street is a modest, unelaborated example of the Craftsman style, one of several such examples built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> 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, shallow gabled roof, and full-width 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, 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.

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MARION

365 Front Street

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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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 subject property, a grand Greek Revival/Italianate “hybrid” style house at 357 Front Street. 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 20<sup>th</sup> century Allen subdivided his property to create building sites for several smaller houses along Front Street. 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.

This house first appears on the 1921 Sanborn map. The first recorded conveyance found for the property was from the heirs of Captain George Allen to William Delano in 1917 shortly after Allen’s death. This parcel of land was part of Allen’s large estate on Front Street. 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 was a ship’s master by the time he was 25, when he married Magdalena Delano (1850-1905).

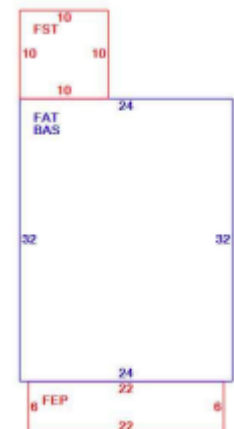
The parcel was purchased by William Augustus Delano (1885-1940), the son of Captain Isaac Delano (1812-1885). William Delano was married to Alice Aurilla Briggs (b.1862), with whom he had one daughter, Candace Chafee Delano (1897-1969). The 1920 census noted Delano’s occupation as carpenter and is likely that he built the house. In 1925 William Delano conveyed the property to his daughter Candace Delano Snow and her husband Edward Otis Snow (1897-1988). The 1930 census reported Snow as employed by the school system as a janitor and living with Candace and his father-in-law on Front Street, presumably in the subject house. In 1946 the couple’s daughter Marjorie Snow was married to Melville Burnett, the son of William W. Burnett of Main Street in Marion. In 1973 after the death of his wife, Edward Snow conveyed the house to his daughter Marjorie Burnett. The house was purchased in 1988 by Charles Bradley, Jr. who owned it until it was purchased by the current owner in 2017.

### Deed Research

Date	Book-Page	Grantor	Grantee
09-02-2020	53560-46	Steven E. Gibbs	SEG Realty LLC
07-19-2017	48704-5	Charles Bradley, Jr.	Steven E. Gibbs
09-26-1988	8729-97	Estate of Marjorie S. Burnett	Charles Bradley, Jr.
04-26-1973	3884-127	Edward O. Snow	Marjorie S. Burnett
11-10-1943	1854-385	Bartlett E. Cushing	Edward O. & Candace D. Snow
11-10-1943	1854-385	Candace D. Snow	Bartlett E. Cushing
10-23-1931	1420-349	Maria W.F. Briggs	Candace C. Snow
05-15-1925	1484-225	William A. Delano	Candace C. Snow
03-27-1917	1273-76	Bertha Holmes et al. heirs of George D. Allen	William A. Delano
Probate		George D. Allen	Bertha Holmes et al. heirs of George D. Allen

### 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  
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*Map of the Town of Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts* 1855 H.F. Walling  
 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.  
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 Smith, Pete. (ed.) *A Picture Postcard History of Marion, Massachusetts*. New Bedford, MA: Spinner Publications, 2008.



Assessor’s card plan

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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-19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> 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-19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> 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-19<sup>th</sup> through the early 20<sup>th</sup> 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.