

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

13 -31	Marion	MRN.I	MRN.127
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Town/City: Marion

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

Address: 304 Front Street

Historic Name: David Hathaway House

Uses: Present: Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: Ca. 1856

Source: Deed and map research

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite block

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboard & shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Attached garage (after 1998)

Window replacement (2021)

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

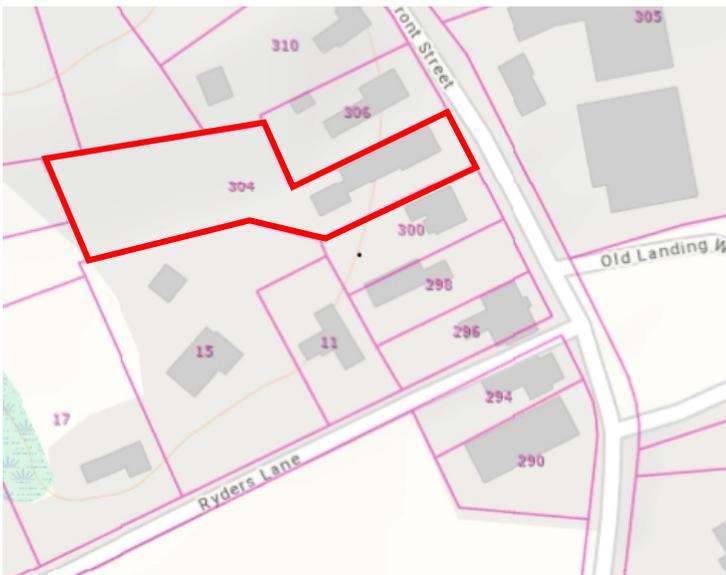
Acreage: 0.72

Setting: Linear development of residences and a boatyard primarily developed in the late 18th–mid 19th centuries. Mid- to large-size wood-frame, single-family houses in the Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival styles predominate. Neighborhood borders the northwestern shore of Sippican Harbor.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lynn Smiledge

Organization: Marion Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): September 2022

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

304 Front 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.

304 Front Street occupies a deep polygonal lot on the west side of Front Street and faces east towards the Burr Brothers Boatyard and Sippican Harbor. The house is positioned near the street along the northern property line and fronts a small lawn; low foundation plantings line the façade (east elevation). The large rear (western) portion of this long parcel is maintained in lawn with mature trees at the perimeter. Granite curbing closely surrounds the house at its southeast corner and along the south elevation. The front lawn is enclosed by a granite curb; a break at the entry walkway is framed by carved granite bollards. A paved driveway enters the property from Front Street along the southern lot line and ends at the attached garage.

This wood-frame dwelling comprises a two-story, front-gabled, four-bay-by-four bay main block with two dependencies. The dependencies include a two-story, four-bay-by-two-bay rear (west) wing, a one-story hyphen, and an attached garage. Constructed around 1856 in the Greek Revival style, this substantial house retains many of its original character-defining features at the main block. The house rests on a high granite block foundation and is clad in unpainted wood clapboards at the façade and unpainted wood shingles at all other elevations. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the south roof slope of the main block near the rear wall (west elevation).

The main block is trimmed with a boxed cornice, one and two-part frieze boards, eave returns, and corner pilasters. A recessed open porch at the southeast corner of the house sits adjacent to the main entry, which is situated at the second most southerly bay. The porch, which appears to have been added in the 20th century, is supported by square columns and shelters a sliding door at the south wall. The main entry contains a four-panel wood door framed by full-height sidelights and pilasters; the door surround shares a heavy entablature with the roof of the adjacent porch. The door fronts a granite stoop and three-step stair and a brick walkway leading to Front Street. A second entry occupies the westernmost bay at the south elevation. The door surround treatment and stone stair at this entry match those at the main entry at the façade.

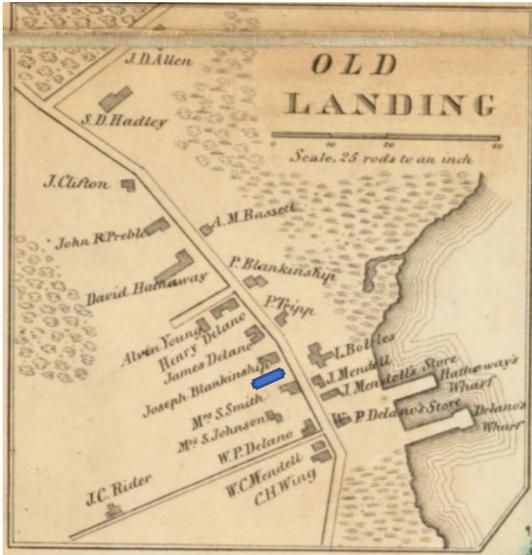
The windows at the main block are single, double-hung, one-over-one replacement sash with flat surrounds and molded, splayed lintels. The windows touch the two-part frieze board at the side elevations.

The two-story rear wing is set back slightly from the south elevation of the main block. A similarly shaped and sized wing is seen on the 1879 map and may represent the current addition, although the latter has been significantly altered. Under renovation at the time of the site visit in July 2022, the rear wing contains an enclosed gabled portico at the second-most westerly bay and an arched garage door opening with a keystone at the western bay. The window openings are modern double and triple casements with single lights. A one-story, flat-roofed hyphen with a matching garage door opening and a roof deck links the rear wing with a one-and-one-half-story garage. The front-gabled, east-facing garage has a single garage door opening with a transom and finished space on the second floor accessed from the roof deck at the hyphen.

304 Front Street was built in the Greek Revival style. Greek Revival was the predominant style of American architecture from about 1830 to 1850, but the form continued to be used well into the second half of the 19th century. Inspired by the architecture of ancient Greek temples and associated with democratic ideals, it was widely disseminated through the house plan books of Massachusetts architect Asher Benjamin. The identifying Greek Revival features of this house include the front-gabled orientation of the main block, boxed cornice, corner pilasters, eave returns, one and two-part frieze boards, splayed window lintels, and door surrounds with full-height sidelights, pilasters, and entablatures.

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.



R.E. Walling 1855 map of Marion.

The town of Marion was established in 1852 when it broke off from the town of Rochester. The Village of Marion, the commercial and residential center of the town, is set on the western shore of Sippican Harbor which leads into Buzzards Bay. The northern portion of the Village running along Front Street, where this house is located, has been referred to historically as Old Landing. While there are several late 18th century buildings in the area, most of the houses along this northern section of Front Street were built in the first half of the 19th century. With a very few exceptions, the first owners of the houses were seamen. Maritime industries were dominant in Marion until the mid-19th century, when the advent of rail service began to facilitate tourism. At the same time, new cultural and educational institutions endowed by the founder of the nearby Tabor Academy, Elizabeth P. Taber, dramatically enriched the town. With this economic shift, some of the properties on Front Street became summer residences for city dwellers. Others were acquired by Tabor Academy for use as dormitories and several became commercial properties, including the boatyard complex on the harbor side of Front Street.

This house does not appear on the 1855 map. Its approximate location is noted in blue at left. The 1879 map shows I.N. Hathaway as owner, and the listed owner on the 1903 map is Mrs. E. Hiller. The first recorded conveyance found for the property registered its sale for \$500 from Franklin and Lydia Hathaway to

David Hathaway in 1859.

Born in Freetown, David Hathaway (1788-1861) was the son of Gilbert Hathaway (1745-1829) and Mary Evans (1751-1826). He was married in Rochester in 1811 to Abigail Keen (1787-1878), daughter of John Keen (1744-1812) and Mary Clifton (1746-1822), with whom he had a very large family. Several sources suggest that David Hathaway was a shipbuilder and owner of one of the two wharves at the head of Sippican Harbor. The 1855 map labels the northernmost wharf on the harbor as Hathaway's Wharf, but the 1850 and 1855 censuses report his occupation as farmer. In the 1860 census his occupation was listed as merchant. Regardless of his vocation, David Hathaway appears to have been quite prosperous. His 1861 will devised his considerable estate, which consisted of a number of properties and businesses, to his wife Abigail and his children. The first deed found for the subject property as noted above is curious in that it conveyed the property in 1859 to David Hathaway from his son Franklin Leonard Hathaway (1825-1868) and his wife Lydia Bolles (b.1828). While not specified in that deed, the \$500 price for the property suggested that it included a house.

The 1879 map shows the property owner as Isaac Newton Hathaway (1819-1892). Captain Isaac Hathaway was married to David and Abigail Hathaway's daughter, Abby (1828-1901). The relationship, if any, between the two Hathaway families has not been determined. Isaac Hathaway was the son of Isaac Newton Hathaway (1786-1833) and Elizabeth Tobey (1793-1884). No recorded conveyance to Isaac Hathaway could be found, but David Hathaway's will left a house and lot, presumably the subject property, to his daughter and son-in-law. In 1862 Isaac Newton purchased from his mother-in-law, Abigail Keen Hathaway, a parcel of land described in later deeds as the "maiden property of Abigail Hathaway."

The 1903 map notes the owner of this property as Mrs. E. Hiller. This is contradicted by title history and is likely an error by the map maker. Isaac Hathaway died in 1892 and the 1900 census reported his widow Abby Hathaway living with the couple's daughter, Alice B. Hathaway (1862-1913). Abby Hathaway's will left her homestead property and the "maiden property" to her daughter Alice. Ten years later Alice married Henry Luce (1865-1929). She died in 1913 and left half interest to her husband Henry and half interest to her nephew Newton D. Hathaway (1895-1961), the son of her brother David Gilbert Hathaway (1864-1906). Newton Hathaway sold his interest in 1920 to his uncle Henry Luce, who then sold the property, which included two parcels — the Hathaway homestead and a portion of the "maiden property of Abigail Hathaway" — to Susan T. Pratt.

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Susan Taber Ruggles Pratt (1836-1925) was born in Rochester, the daughter of James Ruggles (1795-1877) and Elizabeth Tappan (1803-1874). Susan Ruggles attended Wheaton Female Seminary and in 1860 married lawyer Calvin Edward Pratt (1828-1896). Pratt was the son of Edward Ayers Pratt (1802-1882) and Marianna Stratton (1805-1868) of Princeton. Calvin Pratt's 1896 obituary suggests that he was a descendant of Joshua Pratt who landed at Plymouth in 1623.¹ He attended Wilbraham Academy and after first teaching school, studied law in the offices of Judge Henry Chapin of Uxbridge. He was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1852. Pratt served in the Union Army during the Civil War in the 10th Massachusetts Infantry and later with the 31st New York Volunteers. He was made colonel, and after being wounded in 1862 at the battle of Mechanicsville, he was promoted to brigadier general by President Lincoln. After the war Pratt practiced law in Brooklyn, New York, and in 1869 was elected to the New York Supreme Court. Calvin Pratt died in 1896 at his farm in Rochester, Massachusetts. Susan Pratt purchased the subject house in 1920 and was shown living on Front Street in the census of that year. She died in 1925 and the property passed to her daughters, Polly Clapp Pratt Emery (1868-1953) and Anna Stanford Pratt Holmes (1870-1958). The 1930 census reported Polly Emery living on Front Street in Marion. The property was sold in 1938 to Albert E. Jerauld, who with his wife Grace owned the house until 1971 when it was sold to Tabor Academy.

The school sold it 15 years later to Donald B. Wing (1943-12015) and his wife Anne. Wing was born in Greenfield, attended the University of Massachusetts, and began teaching at Tabor Academy in 1967. He became director of the school physical plant and oversaw construction and maintenance of the campus buildings.² The house was purchased by its current owner in 2021.

Deed Research

Date	Book-Page	Grantor	Grantee
09-24-2021	55724-161	Braman C. Wing & Anne C. Wing	Jeffrey P. Dickerson
10-24-2013	43795-1	Donald B. Wing & Anne C. Wing	Braman C. Wing & Anne C. Wing
06-26-2006	32928-267	Donald B. Wing & Anne C. Wing	Donald B. Wing & Anne C. Wing
05-20-1985	6122-189	Tabor Academy	Donald B. Wing & Anne C. Wing
11-04-1971	3723-759	Albert E. & Grace L. Jerauld	Tabor Academy
08-31-1960	2800-133	Albert E. Jerauld	Albert E. & Grace L. Jerauld
11-01-1938	1763-288	Polly C. Emery et al.	Albert E. Jerauld
	Probate	Estate of Susan T. Pratt	Polly C. [Pratt] Emery et al.
08-26-1920	1361-404	Henry C. Luce	Susan T. Pratt
07-27-1920	1368-185	Newton D. Hathaway (50% Interest)	Henry C. Luce
	Probate	Alice Hathaway Luce (50% Interest)	Henry C. Luce
	Probate	Alice Hathaway Luce (50% Interest)	Newton D. Luce
	Probate	Abby Hathaway	Alice Hathaway
12-18-1862	313-231	Abigail Hathaway	Isaac Newton Hathaway
06-13-1859	298-56	Franklin Hathaway & Lydia Hathaway	David 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
 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.

¹ "Justice Calvin E. Pratt Dead," *The Boston Globe*, Boston, MA, August 3, 1896.

² "Donald Wing, 72," *Sippican Week Today*, November 17, 2015.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

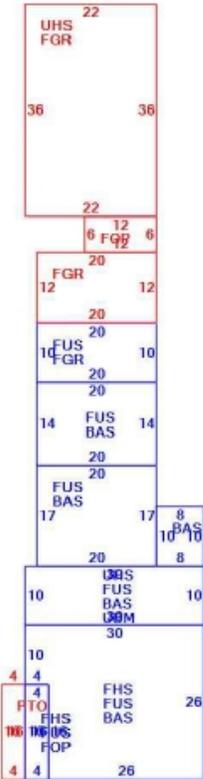
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Assessor's card plan



South and east elevations.

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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 Landing Area of Marion Village. The Old Landing Area (MRN.I) 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 Landing is among the oldest neighborhoods in Marion, with development dating to the 18th century. Historically a maritime community with two wharves and a boat yard near the head of Sippican Harbor, the Old Landing area is a linear development of residences extending from Tabor Academy's campus on the south to Wareham Road (Rte. 6) on the north. The potential district's boundaries are those defined in the 1998 MHC survey for the Old Landing Area (MRN.I).

Under Criterion A, the area is recommended as eligible at the local level for its association with Marion's the maritime industry, upon which the economy of Marion depended from the 18th century to the mid-19th century. Home to two wharves and many mariners in the 19th century, the area today maintains its connection to the sea with the active operation of Burr Brothers Boatyard located on Sippican Harbor along the eastern boundary of the area.

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 late 18th through the early 20th centuries. The Old Landing Area contains mostly moderate- to large-scaled, one-and-one half to two-story wood-frame dwellings on generous lots in the Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, and Queen Anne styles. Along with several high-style examples of these styles, the area also includes several earlier dwellings that pre-date the building boom that began in the second half of the 19th century.

The majority of the resources here retain substantial integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, design, feeling, and association. The district would likely meet criteria A and C at the local level, with areas of significance in social history and architecture.