

# FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets USGS Quad Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

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

See Data Sheet	Marion	MRN.R	See Data Sheet
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## Photograph



**Town/City:** Marion

**Place** (*neighborhood or village*): Marion

**Name of Area:** Tremont Advent Christian Campmeeting Association / Camp Marion

**Present Use:** Camp; other religious; secondary housing

**Construction Dates or Period:** 1906-2019

**Overall Condition:** Fair / Good

**Major Intrusions and Alterations:** None

**Acreage:** 10.7

**Recorded by:** Lynn Smiledge

**Organization:** Marion Historical Commission

**Date** (*month/year*): April 2023



see continuation sheet

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.  
*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## INTRODUCTION

The Tremont Advent camp meeting ground is owned by the Tremont Advent Christian Campmeeting Association (TACCA). In continuous seasonal operation in Marion since 1905, it is one of many such camp meetings established in New England by various evangelical Christian groups during the 19th century. Comprising more than 10 acres, the camp meeting ground is located on the western shore of Hammett's Cove (also called Briggs Cove) at the north end of Sippican Harbor. The site and most of the original cottages and other buildings remain largely as constructed during the first quarter of the 20th century. The 43 buildings on the site include 19 owned by the Association and 24 cottages that are privately held on Association-owned land. This resource is important as an intact example of the layout and built fabric of one of the camp meetings so prevalent across New England in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Tremont Advent Christian Campmeeting Association (TACCA) site is a well-preserved landscape showing an intact arrangement of building types associated with the camp meeting. The parcel has a small stretch of frontage on Wareham Street, technically a right-of-way, but is reached by Oakdale Avenue (off Hermitage Road), which runs along the southern boundary of the property. The east side of the parcel borders Hammett's Cove in the upper reaches of Sippican Harbor. The western edge of the property is wooded with pines and deciduous trees that act as a buffer between the Campmeeting grounds and adjacent house lots. The shoreline (eastern) edge of the property is irregular and marked by a sandy beach at the south end that merges into a marshy area to the north. A deteriorated low-stone retaining sea wall built in 1929 (MRN.925) forms the edge of a plateau or greensward (MRN.924) called Nissi Park, on which there is a flagpole and a stone outdoor fireplace. Tall cedar trees line the edge of the Cove behind the fireplace and also mark the location of the old Dining Hall, which was demolished by Hurricane Carol in 1954. Just south of the end of Oakdale Avenue at the shoreline a small dirt parking area provides public access to a beach, but this is not part of the camp meeting parcel. This unique site retains its water frontage, its pine groves, and its collection of deliberately-arranged buildings.

The buildings along Oakdale Avenue (all of which are cottages) have individual address numbers ranging from #21 to #41. The buildings within the grounds north of Oakdale Avenue have letters attached to #45 Oakdale, which is the official campmeeting address. The address numbers/letters used in this area form are those employed by the town assessor's office and used by the campmeeting association; they appear as such on MassMapper, the state GIS map. The addresses are consistent with some, but not all, of the numbers/letters assigned to the buildings on the 2002 MHC Area Form MRN.R for the property. Building types at the site include individual family cottages, which are small, one- or one-and-one-half-story seasonal dwellings; small bunkhouse-type dormitories; larger buildings for dining and assembly; and auxiliary structures including showers, restrooms, and storage sheds. All buildings are of wood construction with the exception of one concrete-block shower building (MRN.375) located near the northwest corner of the property. The larger structures have concrete block foundations, and most others, including the cottages, are raised off the ground on concrete block piers.

The cottage types include front-gabled structures with porches, simple Capes, and Bungalows. Changes made over the years include small additions, enclosures, and siding alterations. Dormers have been added to some of the Capes and Bungalows, expanding the second story space. The most significant change has been the enclosure of front porches, removing the transition between privacy within the home and the community life outside. A few cottages have eave-wall chimneys which were added in the belief that they would stabilize the structures during hurricanes.

The first cottages built display a gable front form, not unlike a tent shape, and are three bays wide and two or three bays deep with a small shed-roofed rear ell. The front porch, traditionally open, is under the second-story overhang and is supported by turned, chamfered or plain posts. Numerous cottages and auxiliary buildings retain vertical board siding, which was the original preferred siding, perhaps because it was suggestive of the tent form. While most of the cottages lack ornamentation, a number have Gothic Revival or Queen Anne trim elements, especially at porches.

The buildings are clustered in the eastern two-thirds of the parcel around a pattern of narrow gravel roads (MRN.922). There are two north-south extensions off Oakdale Avenue including Shalom Avenue along Nissi Park at the waterfront, and Jubilee Way that enters the campground at the midpoint of the southern property line. Jubilee Way has two spurs, Jireh and Bethel Avenues, that run east-west parallel to Oakland Avenue and connect with Shalom Avenue. These roads

*Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.*

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divide the campmeeting grounds into three general areas (See Figure 1). The most prominent area is the southeast portion of the parcel bordered by Oakdale and Jireh Avenues to the south and north and Shalom Avenue and Jubilee Way to the east and west. Within this area five cottages front on Oakdale Avenue, five on Shalom Avenue (the northeast extension of Oakdale Avenue), one on Jubilee Way, and four on the Grove. The clearing known as the Grove, the former pine grove now marked by four pine trees, occupies the center of this area.

## **Southeast Area** (bordered by Oakdale, Jireh, Shalom and Jubilee Way)

Two key buildings face the Grove in the Southeast Area: including the Tabernacle and the Junior Chapel & Fellowship Hall (the former Preacher's Stand).

The Tabernacle (1923, MRN.368), now called the **Stickles Memorial Tabernacle**, is a one-story, 40' x 60', three-bay-by-ten-bay, front-gabled, north-facing building on a scored concrete block foundation. It is clad in shiplap clapboards and has a shallow, asphalt-surfaced roof with exposed rafter tails carrying the deep overhang. The double-leaf glass-and-panel entry centered at the façade (north elevation) is sheltered by a shed-roofed hood. The windows are double-hung, one-over-one replacement sash with flat wood surrounds; they are arranged in pairs on the side elevations. A brass ship's bell mounted over the entrance is used to call the campers to worship. The 2002 MHC Area Form MRN.J for the campmeeting describes interior features including exposed framing carrying tongue and groove vertical roofing panels, and tie beams spanning the width of the building.

**Junior Chapel & Fellowship Hall** (1910, MRN.3), formerly known as the Preacher's Stand, comprises a one-and-one-half story, two-bay-by-two-bay, east-facing, gambrel-roofed main block with a one-story, three-bay-by-eight-bay, gabled addition. The building is wood-shingled with an asphalt shingle roof and a concrete foundation. The open porch at the east elevation of the main block and the platform on which the preacher would stand to deliver his sermons are no longer extant. A gabled dormer at the north roof slope contains a door accessed by a wood staircase that rises from grade. Fenestration at the main block includes a centered entry at the façade (east elevation) and double-hung, six-over-six sash with wood surrounds. The full-width rear addition (Fellowship Hall), which was built at the west elevation in 1984, contains continuous screened openings along the side elevations with wood awning blinds. A double-leaf glass-and-panel entrance is centered between window openings at the west elevation.

The modest, south-facing cottages along Oakdale Avenue in the Southeast Area (MRN.344-348) include three bungalows, a Cape, and a one-and-one-half story end house.

**31 Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1910, Becker Cottage, MRN.344) is a one-story, three-bay-by-three-bay, side-gabled cottage with a distinctive gullwing roof and an integrated, screened-in front porch with a knee wall. It is clad in oversized wood shingles and has one-over-one replacement window sash with flat wood surrounds. The deep porch overhang has widely-spaced rafter tails at the façade and dentil ornamentation at the side elevations. The cottages at 35 Oakdale Avenue, 39 Oakdale Avenue, 45F Oakdale Avenue, 45I Oakdale Avenue, 45J Oakdale Avenue, and 45M Oakdale Avenue also have gullwing roofs.

**37 Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1910, Joanne Robinson Memorial Cottage, MRN.346) is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay-by-three-bay, front-gabled dwelling with an integrated front porch under the second story overhang. It is clad in its original vertical board siding and has exposed rafter tails at the side elevations. A one-story, shed-roofed ell spans the rear (north) elevation. The open porch is articulated with contrasting flat trim and is open at the east elevation. Openings at the façade under the deep shelter of the porch include a side hall entry at the easternmost bay flanked by two wood windows with two-over-two sash. Paired six-over-six windows are centered at the gable. The balance of fenestration includes small, square stair-hall windows at the second story and one-over-over-one replacement sash at the first story.

**41 Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1915, Andrews Cottage, MRN.348) is a square, one-story, hip-roofed cottage with a flat-roofed screened porch wrapping the south and east elevations. It is clad in wood shingles and has a corrugated metal roof. A concrete block eave-wall chimney rises at the west elevation. The porch has a shingled knee wall and heavy wood posts fronting continuous vinyl screen panels. This is the only cottage with a hip roof at the camp meeting grounds.

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The five dwellings in the Southeast Area on Oakdale Avenue (aka Shalom Avenue) facing Hammett's Cove are among the larger and more elaborated cottages. All are one-and-one-half-story, front-gabled structures with full-width porches.

**45A Oakdale Avenue** (1915, Berdos Cottage, MRN.349) is three bays wide and two bays deep. It is clad in wood shingles and has wood trim. The open porch under the second story overhang at the façade (east elevation) has square posts with flatsawn scroll brackets and a slat work railing. The glass-and-panel door at the side hall entry has elaborate molded detailing. The windows include two-over-two wood sash at the first-story porch, square stair hall windows at the north elevation, and one-over-one replacement sash elsewhere. All of the openings have molded wood surrounds.

**45B Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1910, Phillips Cottage, MRN. 350), perhaps the most elegant cottage at the campground, retains many of its original details. (See Figure 3.) It has a double front porch with chamfered posts at the first story and flatsawn posts at the second story, which is screened and enclosed by a slat work railing. The cottage is sided with vertical boards and has wood trim, including a water table. The centered main entry contains an early, molded glass-and-panel door. The windows are two-over-two wood sash throughout with flat wood surrounds. A shed-roofed ell spans the rear (west) elevation.

**45C Oakdale Avenue** (1906, Steven Robinson Cottage, MRN.351) is four-bay-by-three bay Craftsman-style cottage with two rear additions. It has an unusual fenestration pattern at the façade (east elevation) with alternating windows and doors. The main entry at the second-most southerly bay contains an early glass-and-panel door. The door at the most northerly bay is paneled. The wall under the hip-roofed open porch retains its original vertical board siding and the rest of the cottage is clad with wood shingles. The porch has deep eaves with exposed rafter tails, rectangular wood posts, and a shallow, wood-shingled knee wall. The windows include six-over-six wood sash at the façade and a combination of six-over-six and fixed multi-light sash at the side elevations. All of the openings have canted hoods with small, curved brackets. The rear additions include a gabled ell and a shed-roofed open porch that wraps the southwest corner of the dwelling.

## Northeast Area

The Northeast Area, which occupies the northeast corner of the parcel, includes the 11 cottages within the area enclosed by Jireh, Shalom, and Bethel Avenues and Jubilee Way and those fronting Bethel Road from the north.

**45J Oakdale Avenue** (1915, David Brown Cottage, MRN.358) is a side-gabled, three-bay-by-two-bay, one-and-one-half-story dwelling with a gullwing roof and a shed-roofed ell at the rear (north) elevation. Its open integrated porch is supported by square wood columns and has a vertical-board sided knee wall. The cottage is clad in wood shingles. Continuous shed dormers that meet at the roof ridge occupy the north and south roof slopes. A one-story, semi-hexagonal, hip-roofed bay spans the east elevation. Fenestration comprises a centered entry with a vertical board storm door at the façade (south elevation), one-over-one replacement sash with flat wood surrounds, and sliding windows at the dormers.

**45K Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1925, Kidney Cottage, MRN.359) is a very small, one-story, front-gabled, three-bay-by-one-bay cottage with a shed-roofed rear ell. Its flat-roofed porch, which has a knee wall and rectangular wood posts, shelters a tightly-spaced center entry and flanking window openings. The windows at the façade comprise two-over-two wood sash with wood surrounds. The windows at the side elevations contain one-over-one replacement sash.

**45L Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1930, Peckham Cottage, MRN.360) is a one-story, side-gabled, three-bay-by-two-bay cottage with a Cape form. It is clad in wood shingles and has substantial wood corner boards. The centered entry at the façade (south elevation), which contains a six-panel wood door, is flanked by bands of triple-mulled wood windows that extend across the façade and wrap the side elevations. The windows contain double-hung, four-over-four wood sash.

**45N Oakdale Avenue** (1906, Mission Cottage, MRN.362), one of the first cottages built at the campground, now provides housing for camp staff. (See Figure 4.) The cottage is sided with wood shingles and has narrow wood corner boards. It is a one-and one-half-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, front-gabled dwelling with a shed-roofed open porch with square wood

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posts. The porch shelters a centered entry with a glass-and-panel door flanked by window openings. The windows at all locations comprise one-over-one replacement sash with flat wood surrounds.

**45P Oakdale Avenue** (1900, Annex Dormitory, MRN.363), a former barn, was one of the original buildings on the site. First converted to a chapel and later a boarding house, it now serves as a dormitory. It is a simple front-gabled, one-bay-by-four-bay building that retains some of its post and beam and pegged interior framing. Clad in wood shingles with wood trim, it has one-over-one replacement windows with narrow flat wood surrounds.

## West Area

The West Area comprises the western half of the parcel and contains all the structures west of Jubilee Way. The buildings include the cottages fronting Oakdale Avenue at the southern boundary, several dwellings scattered over the area, and a number of auxiliary buildings including dormitories, restrooms, the shower building, and the dining hall. The buildings are sited around the perimeter of a large open space dotted with pine and deciduous trees used for picnics and recreation. The open area also hosts a gazebo, a large octagonal sandbox, and the "Chowder Island." A ballfield with a backboard is located near the northern property line.

**21 Oakdale Avenue** (1960, DeLeo Cottage, MRN.576) is a one-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, side-gabled cottage built in the Shed Contemporary style and clad in shiplap clapboards. Its asymmetrical gabled roof comprises a long west slope that descends towards grade and a short east slope. A full-length screened porch with a knee wall sided with vertical boards spans the west elevation. Fenestration includes triple and paired one-over-one replacement sash with molded vinyl surrounds and a glass-and-panel door with a flat wood surround at the junction of the main block and screened porch.

**23 Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1925, Angell-Mann Cottage, MRN.340) is a one-and-one-half story, front-gabled, three-bay-by-two-bay cottage with a hip-roofed, enclosed front porch. The dwelling is clad in wood shingles and has wood trim elements including corner boards and a water table. A corbeled brick chimney, the only one seen among the camp buildings, rises from the roof ridge. The porch is elaborated at the façade (south elevation) with large, arched, multi-light windows flanking the centered entry. The windows appear to be original wood two-over-two sash with molded wood surrounds.

**45W Oakdale Avenue** (2019, Cookhouse, MRN.371). Built to replace the former cookhouse after its collapse, this 70' by 40' steel-framed structure rises from a high concrete foundation. It is sided with vinyl clapboards at the side elevations and corrugated metal at the gable ends. It has a metal roof. A deep wood deck with a tall railing extends across most of the façade (east elevation) and is accessed by stairways at the north and east elevations. Fenestration comprises one-over-one vinyl windows in groups of two and four. The double-leaf main entry is located at the east elevation and a service entry occupies the north elevation.

**45Z2 Oakdale Avenue** (ca. 1910, Dyer Bunkhouse, MRN.579) is a one-story, five-bay-by-two-bay, side-gabled dormitory with vertical board siding. Rafter tails are seen at the side eaves and the gable ends are embellished with sawtooth trim. A paneled wood door occupies the eastern-most bay at the south elevation. The window openings are covered by wood awning blinds. It has been suggested that these awning blinds resemble tent flaps and are commonly seen on old camp buildings.

Three ca. 1950 former motel units moved to the campground in 1960 are sited in the west area. These single-story buildings include 45X Oakdale Avenue, a triplex (ca. 1950, Curtis Cottage, MRN.373); 45Y Oakdale Avenue, a duplex (ca. 1950, Mary & Martha's Cottage, MRN.374); and 45V Oakdale Avenue, a single unit (ca. 1950, Cobb Cottage, MRN.370).

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## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The camp meeting, as described in *TACCA: An Illustrated History*, is “a protracted series of religious services in an isolated setting, lasting for several days while people literally camped all around the meeting grove.”<sup>1</sup> An American religious innovation, camp meetings first occurred in Kentucky in 1796 among Presbyterians. They were soon embraced by other Protestant denominations and provided a means for itinerant preachers to reach otherwise un-churched frontier communities. Methodists were particularly active in the camp meeting movement and established many large, prominent camps. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century seasonal revival camp meetings had become a common fixture in the landscape of America not only in new territories, but also outside large eastern cities. At first the sites for these meetings were temporary and varied, but eventually the convenience of having permanent camp meeting grounds was recognized. Located in the countryside and often on bodies of water, campgrounds included permanent buildings for common use such as dormitories, kitchens, dining halls, and assembly rooms, and eventually individual residential cottages. These revival meetings featured charismatic speakers and were punctuated with enthusiastic hymn singing. Plentiful food and a wide range of recreational activities were also mainstay aspects of camp meeting life. Camp meetings were described by Transcendentalist philosopher and poet Henry David Thoreau as “a singular combination of a prayer-meeting and a picnic.” They reached their greatest popularity between the Civil War and World War I.

A number of these camp meetings are extant and continue to operate across America, including a handful in Massachusetts. Among them is the Martha’s Vineyard Camp Meeting Association (also known as Wesleyan Grove) established by a Methodist congregation in 1835 in Oak Bluffs (OAK.E). The campground there is a National Historic Landmark known for its colorful and elaborately-decorated Gothic Revival and Queen Anne-style cottages.

The Tremont Advent Campmeeting was established in 1861 by a group of Second Advent (or Advent) Christians. Their belief, expounded by revivalist Baptist preacher William Miller, was that the second coming, or Advent, of Jesus Christ was to take place in 1843. Miller’s followers first became known as “Millerites” and later as Second Adventists. When the second coming failed to happen, the resulting anguish from this prognostic failure was termed the “Great Disappointment.” However, within a decade a number of new Adventist sects emerged from the “disappointed.” By 1860 these groups had resolved their doctrinal differences, and that same year consolidated to form the Advent Christian General Conference of America. The newly-established denomination “was free to move ahead on many fronts and to utilize what until that time had been one of their major tools, the Campmeeting.”<sup>2</sup>

The Tremont Advent Campmeeting was originally located in the Tremont section of Wareham a little more than three miles away (see Figure 2). That site, like the current one in Marion, was conveniently located close to the Fairhaven Branch of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad. The Wareham camp was completely destroyed in a fire on March 31, 1905, and the governing board determined not to build on the existing site, but to relocate. After considering two parcels, one in Lakeville and the other in Marion, they chose the property on Hammett’s Cove. The Marion land was leased for the summer and the Campmeeting was held there July 25-August 6. TACCA purchased the property in October of that year from Harry Gleason of Boston and his brother Dr. C.S. Gleason of Marion for \$2,800. The deed conveyance noted several unspecified buildings, which included those known today as the Junior Chapel and the Annex.<sup>3</sup> The subject area of this form comprises the site of the Tremont Advent Campmeeting, now familiarly known as Camp Marion, which has been in continuous use at this permanent location in Marion since 1905.

The history of the Tremont Advent camp that follows is extracted from the Historical Narrative portion of the 2002 MHC Area Form MRN.R for this area. It describes the development of the camp after the fire of 1905 and has been abridged and edited to reflect current understanding and conditions.

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<sup>1</sup> Brown, David & Berdos, Phyllis. *TACCA Tremont Advent Christian Campmeeting Association: An Illustrated Historical Sketch*. Rehobeth, MA: Stone Studio Design, 2011.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, p.2.

<sup>3</sup> Plymouth County Registry of Deeds Book 992, Page 305.

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By the time of the fire on March 31, 1905, there were more than 50 buildings on the Wareham site, including the Tabernacle, a restaurant and a hotel. Before a decision to rebuild or relocate was made, the present campground in Marion was leased for the summer of 1905 so that there would be no interruption in the yearly camp meeting schedule. The decision to remain in Marion where the Association had rented this property on Hammett's Cove was made in August 1905 when TACCA took ownership of the property. The Marion site on Hammett's Cove was purchased from brothers Harry S. and C.S. Gleason for \$2,800. It included an 8.14-acre parcel with 450 feet of frontage on the Cove and a separate adjacent 0.75-acre parcel with 180 feet of water frontage. The property had a barn and cottage and otherwise was covered with tall pines. Tents had been set up for the first summer (prior to ownership) and although some cottages were being built by the second summer of 1906, the main tent was located on the shore of Hammett's Cove with family tents arranged around it. Families from nearby congregations, many coming by rail from Attleboro and Wareham and others by boat from Mattapoissett, attended the early camp meetings. Entry to the campground was initially made through a right-of-way off Wareham Road but later shifted to Oakdale Avenue.

The first buildings to be erected were the cottage of Samuel J. Bennett, known as "Delight Cottage," (45C, now Steven Robinson Cottage, see Figure 5) and the Mission Cottage (45N, See Figure 4). Both were constructed in 1906 at which time the main tent remained on the greensward at the water's edge, called "Nissi Park." The beach along the park was used for baptisms, swimming, and water sports. Nissi is a biblical name taken from Exodus referring to the altar that Moses built which he called Jehovah-Nissi, meaning "the Lord my banner." The Mission Cottage was built by the Women's Home and Foreign Mission Society and financed by Augustus White, who required that his two daughters would always have a room in the cottage. In this first year of laying out the campground the roads or paths were also given Biblical names beginning with the north-south road at the edge of Nissi Park called Shalom. The east-west roads located from south to north are known as Mizpeh (Oakdale Avenue), Maranatha Avenue (no longer extant), Jireh Avenue and Bethel Avenue. In the early years at this site the camp was known as the Marion Advent Christian Campmeeting Association and many of the cottages had names, including Maranatta, which means "Our Lord Comes," Haven of Rest, and Delight Cottage. Several cottages continue to be identified by either a family name or nickname. In 1907 two sets of gates were installed on the property, one at the entrance to Shalom Avenue from Oakdale Avenue and one on the northern edge near the end of the Bethel path. The gates have not survived but the posts remain at the gate at Shalom.

By 1911 there were 18 to 20 cottages, including nearly all of those on Shalom Avenue facing the water and some that have since been moved back following hurricanes. Names appearing as owners and taxpayers of these properties included Coggeshall, Boyden, Morse, Brooks, Reynolds, Applebee, Macpherson, Stanton, and Spooner. The first cottages constructed had gable fronts with second story overhangs sheltering open porches below. As author Ellen Weiss pointed out in *City in the Woods*, her book on the camp meeting at Martha's Vineyard, the gable front form with vertical board siding emerged as iconographic of the tent and church form. The open porches played an important role in the social life at the camp meeting grounds, something later recognized as a loss with the enclosure of many porches providing more room within the cottage but no place to sit and visit outside. One of the TACCA historians interviewed noted that early photographs of residents passing time on the porches may have indicated the changing nature of camp meetings in the twentieth century. Originally, the camp meeting schedules included little but prayer meetings and preaching. Part of the evolution of the camp meeting was a shift to more leisure time, probably a change that coincided with the Wareham camp's forced move to Marion.

The interior plan of the cottages was simple with a front room, stairs to the second story sleeping quarters, and a back room with kitchen facilities. Many of the cottages had small shed-roofed rear ells as well. The interior plans now vary substantially and many cottages have small additions.

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In the early years the old barn that had been located on the parcel at the time of acquisition was used as the "Tabernacle" during inclement weather. Its relocation next to the Mission Cottage, which had been one of the first built, established the core worship area at the edge of a pine grove where the new Tabernacle was built in 1923 to replace the barn. The plan for this large 40' x 60' building (45), with a seating capacity of more than 200 worshippers, was drawn by the Rev. A.R. Mead who also supervised the construction. Today it is known as the Stuckles Memorial Tabernacle, rededicated in 1951 in memory of a former preacher. A United States Navy Bell is used to call families to worship. Nearby Fellowship Hall (45R), formerly known as the Preacher's Stand, faces east to the Pine Grove. The original second-story overhang of its gambrel roof sheltered the minister who preached from a porch below to gatherings assembled in the grove.

By the 1920s a large dining hall and boarding house had been built on a spit of land at the harbor edge. Meals for all camp meeting attendees were taken in this dining hall, which is reported to have had wonderful views looking down Hammett's Cove to Sippican Harbor. The second story of the dining hall served as a boarding house for those who did not own cottages. The building was completely destroyed in Hurricane Carol of 1954. Salvaged wood was used to build a new cookhouse in 1955 at the opposite (west) end of the campground. That cook house collapsed after a heavy snow storm in 2015 and was replaced by the current Cookhouse in 2019. A New England coastal tradition was maintained for many years at "Chowder Island," a raised mound in the picnic and recreation area in the western portion of the camp near the dining hall. At the end of the season members of summer communities would sail or row to a nearby island and celebrate with a clam chowder fest. At Camp Marion this tradition, which takes place on "Big Sunday" at the end of Family Campmeeting, endures.

The hurricanes of 1938, 1954 and 1991 and the windstorm of 1944 took their toll on the campground. In 1938 many of the trees in the pine grove in front of the Tabernacle and Fellowship Hall were destroyed, while others rotted due to the long immersion in salt water and then fell during the 1944 windstorm. The following year some pines were planted to partially reinstate the grove. The 1938 hurricane inundated the interiors of all of the front cottages with mud. Along with destroying the old dining hall, the 1954 Hurricane filled many of the front cottages with up to eight feet of water, providing the impetus for moving several cottages inland. Twenty-three and 35 Oakdale Avenue, both of which originally faced the water on Shalom Avenue, were lifted off their foundations and moved to safer locations. Twenty-nine Oakdale Avenue, which floated to the north and landed on the ballfield, was moved back to its current location. Taber Cottage at 45l Oakdale Avenue floated to the back of its lot, where it remained until moved to its current location in 1990.

None of the cottages is used throughout the year. The cottages pass from generation to generation, however, and Marion has become a temporary home for many clergy and military families who move frequently. When occasionally cottages are sold, their new owners are bound to lease provisions requiring them to contribute to the spiritual community. Their summer stays at TACCA have provided constancy in their lives and this tie to Marion has resulted in a number of families choosing the nearby Little Neck Cemetery (MID.802) on Hermitage Road as the resting place for family members. This represents an important and lasting connection between the camp meeting site and the history of Marion.

Today the Advent Christians make up a small denomination that is described as fundamental and evangelical. In the mid-twentieth century there were seven Advent Christian congregations in Massachusetts and Rhode Island within 30 miles of Marion, from which most camp participants came. Today only three congregations remain. Campers coming to Marion for camp meeting today represent a number of congregations and are drawn from across New England and beyond.

Family Campmeeting Week, the highlight of the season, has continued at Camp Marion since 1855. It is framed by Little Sunday and Big Sunday, the first and last days of the camp meeting week. Other formal sessions include camp weeks for children, youths (age 8-17), and adults. During camp weeks most residents come together at the Cookhouse for their

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meals, particularly during Family Campmeeting week. A full schedule of camps, visiting preachers, prayer groups and other organized gatherings are part of each summer at TACCA.

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Grove (Pine Grove, open space)	45 Oakdale Avenue			MRN.923	
	Nissi Park (greensward)	45 Oakdale Avenue		1906	MRN.924	
	Sea Wall (retaining wall)	45 Oakdale Avenue		1929	MRN.925	
	Road System (path system)	45 Oakdale Avenue		1906	MRN.927	
	Picnic/Recreation (lawn)	45 Oakdale Avenue			MRN.938	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Gazebo	45Z6 Oakdale Avenue		2007	MRN.939	
	DeLeo Cottage Shed Contemporary	21 (formerly 23) Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #1	1960	MRN.576	1
	Angell-Mann Cottage	23 Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #2	ca.1925	MRN.340	2
	Edmund Brown Cottage	27 Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #3	1955	MRN.341	
	Plummer Cottage Craftsman/Bungalow	29 Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #4	ca.1925	MRN.343	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Becker Cottage Craftsman/Bungalow	31 Oakdale Avenue	12-5A/1 #2	ca.1910	MRN.344	3
	Godsoe Cottage Cape	35 (formerly 33) Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #5	ca.1910	MRN.345	
	Joanne Robinson Memorial Cottage End House	37 (formerly 35) Oakdale Avenue	12-5A/1 #3	ca.1910	MRN.346	4
	Roper Cottage Craftsman/Bungalow	39 (formerly 37) Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #6	ca.1910	MRN.347	
	Andrews Cottage Craftsman/Bungalow	41 (formerly 49) Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #7	ca.1915	MRN.348	5

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Stickles Memorial Tabernacle  No Style	45 Oakdale Avenue	12/5/1 #1	1923	MRN.368	6
	Berdos Cottage  End House	45A Oakdale Avenue	12- 5A/1 #10	ca.1915	MRN.349	7
	Phillips Cottage (formerly Washburn and Peace Haven)  End House	45B Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #1	ca. 1910	MRN.350	8
	Steven Robinson Cottage (formerly Bennett)  Craftsman	45C Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #2	1906	MRN.351	9
	John Chew Cottage  End House	45D Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #3	ca.1910	MRN.352	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Nearing Cottage End House	45E Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #4	1906	MRN.353	
	Davis Cottage (nurse's station) Craftsman/Bungalow	45F Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #6	ca.1910	MRN.354	
	Tillson Cottage End House	45G Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #6	ca.1910	MRN.355	
	Spooner Cottage End House	45H Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #7	ca.1910	MRN.356	
	Taber Cottage (formerly Rose Jones) Craftsman/Bungalow	45I Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #8	ca.1915	MRN.357	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	David Brown Cottage Craftsman/Bungalow	45J Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #9	ca.1915	MRN.358	10
	Kidney Cottage End House	45K Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #1	ca.1925	MRN.359	11
	Peckham Cottage Cape	45L Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #10	ca.1930	MRN.360	12
	Henry/Faulkingham Cottage No Style	45M Oakdale Avenue	12-5 B #11	ca.1925	MRN.361	
	Mission Cottage End House	45N Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #5	1906	MRN.362	13

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Aleicho Cottage End House	45O Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #12	ca.1925	MRN.577	
	Annex Dormitory (former farm building) End House	45P Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #4	ca.1900	MRN.363	14
	Kingman Cottage No Style	45Q Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #5	ca.1925	MRN.364	
	Junior Chapel & Fellowship Hall Colonial Revival	45R Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #2	ca. 1900/1984	MRN.365	15
	David Robinson Cottage End House	45S Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #8	ca.1910	MRN.366	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Vaughan Memorial Dormitory  No Style	45T Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #1	ca.1910	MRN.367	
	Bergeron Cottage  No Style	45U Oakdale Avenue	12-5A #9	ca.1950	MRN.369	
	Cobb Memorial Cottage  No Style Former motel unit moved to site in 1960	45V Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #3	ca.1950	MRN.370	
	Shower Building  No Style	45W Oakdale Avenue		1970	MRN.375	
	Curtis Cottage  Craftsman / Bungalow Former motel unit moved to site in 1960	45X Oakdale Avenue	12-5B #2	ca.1950	MRN.373	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Mary & Martha's No Style Former motel unit moved to the site in 1960	45Y Oakdale Avenue	12-5A/1 #2	ca.1950	MRN.374	
	Cookhouse (dining hall) No Style	45W Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #9	2019	MRN.371	16
	Dusty Row Bunkhouse No Style	45Z1 Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #7	ca.1910	MRN.578	
	Dyer Bunkhouse No Style	45Z2 Oakdale Avenue	12-5 #8	ca.1910	MRN.579	17
	Restrooms No Style	45Z3 Oakdale Avenue		1970	MRN.580	

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Photograph	Historic Name Style/Form	Address	Parcel #	Year Built	MHC #	Image #
	Sheds No Style	45Z4/45Z5 Oakdale Avenue		ca.1910	MRN.341	

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## PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo 1.** 21 Oakdale Avenue, south elevation.



**Photo 2.** 23 Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations.



**Photo 3.** 31 Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations.



**Photo 4.** 37 Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations.

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**Photo 5.** 41 Oakdale Avenue, west and south (façade) elevations.



**Photo 6.** 45 Oakdale Avenue, north (façade) and west elevations.



**Photo 7.** 45A Oakdale Avenue, east (façade) and north elevations.



**Photo 8.** 45B Oakdale Avenue, east (façade) and north elevations.

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**Photo 9.** 45C Oakdale Avenue, east (façade) and north elevations.



**Photo 10.** 45J Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations



**Photo 11.** 45K Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations.



**Photo 12.** 45L Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations.

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**Photo 13.** 45N Oakdale Avenue, south (façade) and east elevations.



**Photo 14.** 45 P Oakdale Avenue, south and east (façade) elevations.



**Photo 15.** 45R Oakdale Avenue, east (façade) and north elevations.



**Photo 16.** 45W Oakdale Avenue, east (façade) and north elevations.

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**Photo 17.** 45Z2 Oakdale Avenue, east (façade) and north elevations.

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## FIGURES



Figure 1. Three general areas comprising the camp meeting site.

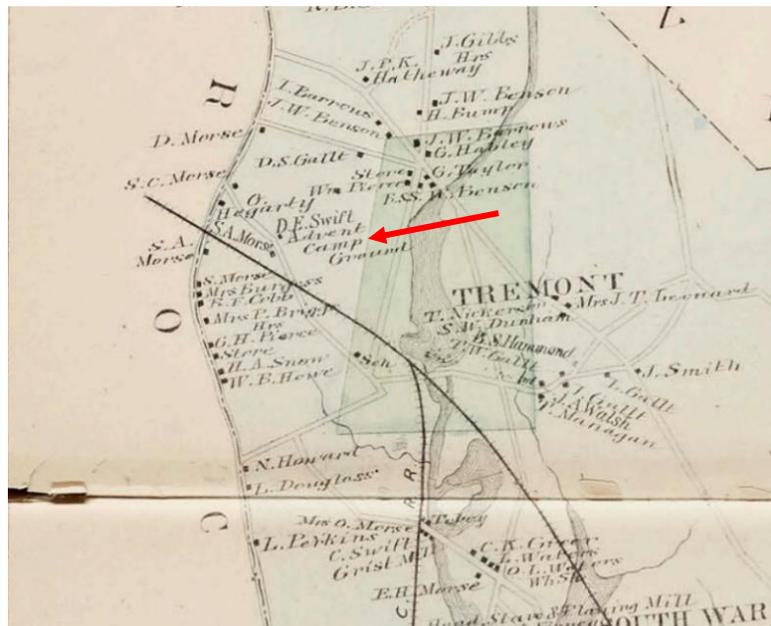


Figure 2. 1879 map. Tremont section of Wareham. Red arrow marks original campmeeting location. Note proximity to railway line.

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Figure 3. Phillips Cottage (formerly Washburn and Peace Haven) ca. 1910. Photograph courtesy of Tremont Advent Campmeeting Association.



Figure 4. Mission Cottage ca. 1910. Photograph courtesy of Tremont Advent Campmeeting Association.



Figure 5. Bennett Cottage (later Joanne Robinson Memorial), Vernon and Alpha Cottages ca. 1915. Postcard image courtesy of Sippican Historical Society.

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Figure 6. Outdoor service at Camp Marion ca. 1915. Joanne Robinson Memorial Cottage in background. Photograph courtesy of Tremont Advent Campmeeting Association.



Figure 7. Camp Marion ca. 1920. Photograph courtesy of Tremont Advent Campmeeting Association.

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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.*

The Tremont Advent Christian Camp Meeting Grounds Area (MRN.R) is recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local and regional levels under Criterion A for Social History and Criterion C for Architecture. The area is named for its original location in the Tremont section of the town of Wareham and for its association with the Advent Christian Church.

The 10-acre camp ground is sited on the western shore of Hammett's Cove) at the north end of Sippican Harbor. In continuous seasonal operation in Marion since 1905, it annually draws campers from the New England region and beyond. The site and most of the original cottages and other buildings remain largely as constructed during the first quarter of the 20th century. The arrangement of resources within the natural landscape is worthy of recognition and is informative about camp meetings as they evolved from their beginnings in the mid-nineteenth century.

**Under Criterion A**, the area is recommended as eligible at the local and regional levels for its association with the campmeeting movement. This resource is important as a unique, nearly-intact example of the layout and built fabric of one of many such camp meetings established in New England by various evangelical Christian groups in the 19th century.

**Under Criterion C**, the area is recommended as eligible at the local and regional levels in the area of Architecture for its collection of buildings that provides a sense of the modest forms and styles employed in the construction of seaside camp structures around the turn of the 20th century. The area contains modestly-scaled, one-and-one half to two-story wood-frame dwellings with porches, including simple end houses, Capes and Bungalows. Some of the cottages are elaborated with Queen Anne details.

The majority of resources at the Tremont Advent Christian Camp Meeting Grounds Area (MRN.R) retain substantial integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, design, feeling, and association. The district would likely meet criteria A and C at the local and regional levels, with areas of significance in social history and architecture.