

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

16-154

Marion

N,
AB

MRN.282

Town/City: MARION

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Marion Village
South Street Area (MRN.AB)

Photograph



Address: 13 South Street

Historic Name: William and Jane Taylor House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: [1875-1879]

Source: Deed research, 1879 Plymouth County Atlas

Style/Form: Greek Revival, Victorian-era add.*

*MRN.AB classifies this house as Italianate

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite/fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Wood shingles/ Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

One-bay garage (Photo 2)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Complete renovation 2022-2023

*Based on Property Card and/or observation

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.15 acres

Setting: This house is located at the eastern end of South Street. The surrounding area is densely-built with 19th and early-20th century houses, most set fairly close to the street on small parcels. This house is undergoing a comprehensive renovation as of this writing, so final landscape features are yet to be determined.

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

13 SOUTH STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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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, built ca. 1875-79, is a late example of the Greek Revival style with Victorian-era embellishments that were removed in a recent renovation. The original T-shaped footprint of this 1½-story cottage can be seen on the 1879 Plymouth County Atlas (Figure 5), and the 1908 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, including the wrap-around deck (Figure 1). By the time the 1921 Sanborn map was prepared, a small one-story rear ell was added (Figure 2). As shown on the current Assessor sketch, that footprint has remained unchanged (Figure 3).

The house, like most 19th century houses in Marion Village, rests on a granite/fieldstone foundation. At the time of this writing, the house is completing a comprehensive renovation. All exterior siding, windows and trim have been removed and replaced with wood shingles. Broad corner pilasters (flat columns – a Greek Revival-style feature) have been replaced-in-kind. As shown on the undated Marion Property Card photo (Photo 3), just prior to this renovation, the house was clad in wood clapboards with corner pilasters. The wrap-around porch had delicate, single and paired turned posts with scroll brackets. Those have been replaced with an open porch with more robust bracketed square posts. The roof's projecting, molded box cornice with partial returns across the gable ends (a Greek Revival style feature which sought to evoke temple forms), has also been replaced-in-kind. The cornice was also decorated with sawcut bargeboards. The recent renovation did not replicate the bargeboard detail.

Fenestration included wood, 2/2 windows. On the front elevation, the first story had a mullioned, four-part, multi-paned window system. Both sides of the gable-front block of the house have shed dormers which may be later additions. The new windows largely replicate the 2/2 muntin pattern, but some have been resized, and the front bay with multi-paned sash now also have 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.

While there had been some economic activity and residential development in Sippican Village prior to the Revolution, maritime-related development accelerated into the early-1800s, as happened in so many coastal Massachusetts towns, with boat building, whaling, coastal schooner trade, and the salt industry driving the economy. The construction of the First Congregational Meeting House in 1799 (now Marion General Store, 140 Front Street, MRN.22), also helped make Sippican Village the center for spiritual and civic life.¹ Residential development was initially concentrated along Main Street, and the harbor became the site for maritime-related utilitarian buildings and wharfs. On an 1830 state road map of Rochester, only Front, Main and Pleasant Streets were in place. Based on deed research, South Street was not laid out until ca. 1836. By the time the 1855 Walling Map was prepared, Main Street from the harbor west to Pleasant Street was the most densely developed street in the village, and substantial residential development had begun along this eastern block of South Street, although this house had not yet been built (Figure 4).

This house is shown on the 1879 Plymouth County Atlas with the name "W. Taylor" (Figure 5). This refers to William Taylor. In 1875, this lot of land, with no reference to buildings, was conveyed to him by George W. Allen of Washington, D.C.² By 1875, the house had been built. William Taylor (1807-1883) was born in Pelham, MA. He married Marion-born Jane D. Hammond (1808-1880) in 1832. They first built the large house at 55 Main Street (MRN.253) in ca. 1834. They appeared to be living there in the 1840 and 1850 US Census. He was consistently listed as a stone mason. They moved to Northampton, MA and sold that house in 1856. They apparently decided to move back to Marion when they built this house in ca. 1875-1879. In the 1880 Census, William Taylor was listed living here, now a widow, but still working as a stone mason.

¹ Marion was first settled in 1679 as Sippican, a district of Rochester, and was not incorporated as a separate town until 1852. The name Sippican Village continues to be used interchangeably with Marion Village.

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 415/ Page 126.

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Photo 2. View looking northwest.



Photo 3. Undated Property Card Photo, pre-renovation.

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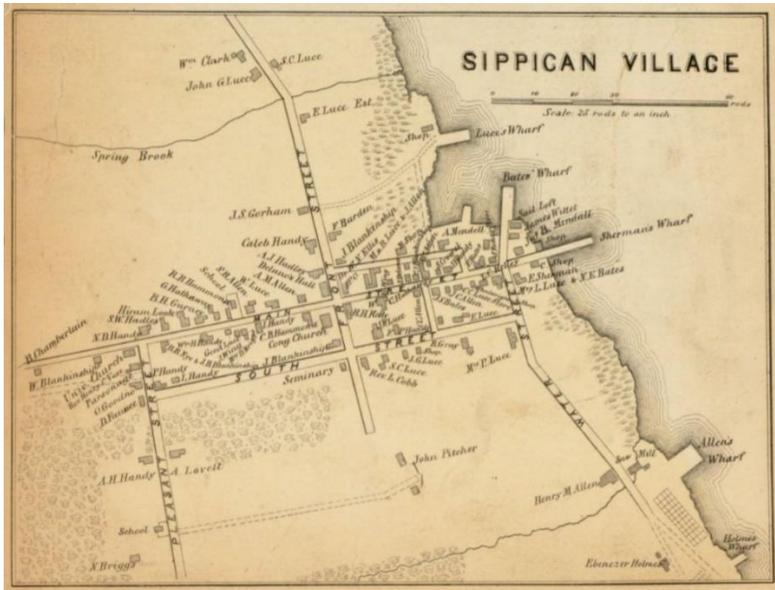


Figure 4. 1855 Walling Map of Marion, Sippican Village Inset Map.



Figure 5. Detail, 1879 Plymouth County Atlas (arrow added).



Figure 6. Ca. 1880-1900 advertisement in Harper's Magazine (arrow added) (SHS 2021.012.001)

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).