

MAN.C

ONSET

FORM A- AREA

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's Sheets
Map 6

USGS Quad
Marion

Area Letter
C

Form Numbers in Area
C67-73
904



Marion, MA

Neighborhood or village) Allens Point

Area Allens Point

Use Residential

Construction Dates or Period c.1890-1900

Condition Good

Structural Intrusions and Alterations Very intact

#67 - 125 Allens Point Rd ↑

Sketch Map-see attached
Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.

Acreage Aprox.12 acres

Recorded By Edward W. Gordon

Organization Sippican Historical Society

Date (month/year) March, 1998

RECEIVED

DEC 29 1998

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AREA FORM [c]

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION X see continuation sheet

Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community

The Allens Point area is a small enclave of turn-of-the-century residences of unusually high quality craftsmanship and design, as well as their ancillary buildings and an Arthur A. Shurcliff-designed garden. Encompassed within this area are the main house, garden house, stables, boat house and two garages associated with the Fair Oaks estate at 125 Allens Point Road (MHC# C67) as well as the Shingle Style Angier House at 145 Allens Point Road (MHC# C72) and the Colonial Revival Elmer Smith House at 151 Allens Point Road (MHC#C73). Most of these buildings are located on the west side of Allens Point Road, with the noteworthy exception of two stables and a boat storage facility which are on the east side of this road. The c.1903 Tudor Revival residence and secondary buildings at 125 Allens Point Road represents an early work of the Boston architectural firm of Coolidge and Carlson. These buildings occupy most of the small peninsula known as Allens Point which is bounded by the waters of Blankinship's Cove to the north and Sippican Harbor to the south. Allens Point, in turn, extends from Great Neck. Access to these three houses is reached via the long, meandering Allens Point Road which runs south west from Point Road. Although several modern residences have replaced Allens Point's original residences, enough historic fabric and an unspoiled natural setting remain to provide a glimpse of Marion at the height of the town's national fame as a first class summer colony.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE X see continuation sheet

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this relates to the historical development of the community.

Until as late as 1890, Allens Point, was a remote, undeveloped part of Marion. During the early 1890s, the construction of Boston architect Charles Allerton Coolidge's residence at 604B Point Road called attention to the great scenic beauty of the western shores of Great Neck, and their potential for upscale summer residential development. Coolidge's Shingle style residence overlooked Blankinship Cove and Allens Point to the west. Historically, the Necks of Marion had been valued for their pasture land and salt hay. During the 18th and early 19th century a handful of dwellings were built at a considerable distance inland from Allens Point, bordering East, later Point Road. By the mid 19th century Allens Point was part of the Henry D. and Stephen Allen holdings. The Allen houses were located on the west side of Point Road, near its intersection with Cross Neck Road and evidently are no longer extant (further research is needed to verify heir loss). Evidently the Allen's of Great Neck were farmers. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, Henry D. Allen was one of Marion's first three selectmen in 1852-54, serving a second term in 1869-71.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Marion Maps- 1855, 1879 and 1903; Plymouth County Directories: 1867 and 1873/1874; Rochester Directory 1903/04; Wareham Directories: 1907-1926; The American Architect, Vol. CXVI No. 2284, Oct. 1.1919; Boston Public Library Architects File Newton, Norman T., Design on the Land, the Development of Landscape Architecture (1971) Withey, Henry, Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), 1970

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

MRN. C
(2)

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Area(s) A Form No

Town: Marion

Property Address Allens Point

Architectural Description

125 Allens Point Road (MHC# C67) is the finest example of Tudor Revival domestic architecture in Marion, while important landscape features survive from Marion's golden age of summer estates (1885-1915). Judging by its foot print on the 1903 Marion Map, this house may have been reduced in size although further research is needed to verify that this still-substantial house was originally more V-shaped as the 1903 Marion map suggests; it presently possesses a rectangular configuration. Its east elevation over looks a circular driveway leading from Allens Point Road. while the house's west elevation overlooks a great lawn that slopes down to the shores of Sippican Harbor. A substantial Tudoresque stable is located on the north side of the driveway while a garden house is located to the southeast of the main house; its south facade overlooks a c. 1910s, Arthur Shurtcliff -designed garden.

On the north side of the driveway leading westward from Allens Point Road is a substantial **stable** (MHC# C68) whose Tudoresque surface treatments echo those of the main house. Measuring three-bays-by-two-bays, its main (south) facade is dominated by a broad, off-center, half timbered, stucco-parged gable. The center entrance's double doors are surrounded by multi-pane sash. Piercing the smooth, stucco walls, on either side of the double are secondary entrances. In general, windows contain 6/1 wood sash. Flanking the off-center gable are hip-roofed dormers.

Designed c. 1903 by the Boston architectural firm of Coolidge and Carlson, this Tudor Revival house represents a marked departure from the Shingle Style design typical of their **West Drive** residences (see **MHC Area M**). Rising to a height of two-and -one- half stories, the house's walls are parged with stucco and enlivened by the half timbering and a complex roof configuration of intersecting, steeply pitched gables characteristic of Tudor Revival residences. In general, windows contain 6/1 and 8/1 wood sash. Four substantial, corbelled brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge. The main block is divided into three segments: a center pavilion flanked by T-shaped wings. The six-bay east elevation exhibits a gable roofed entrance porch blending Medieval Revival and Craftsmen style sensibilities, the pointed arch of its steeply pitched gable roof supported by vertical timbers. The porch's russett-hued terra cotta tiles echo those of the main block's roof. Steeply pitched gable roofs are located at either end of the main facade. Projecting from the narrow two-bay north elevation is a one story stucco parged porch with arched openings while the three-bay south elevation exhibits a recessed open porch and a single window at either end of this wall.

The 15-bay west or harbor side elevation is noteworthy for the great expanse of its stucco, half-timbered wall. Flanking the center gable are square, projecting enclosed porches which are linked by a tile-covered roof slope. The northern gable shelters an oriel which extends the length of a double bay to the south. The southern oriel's overhang shelters a porch. Single, small dormers capped by segmental arched roofs are in evidence between center and end gables which are of unequal width.

Bordering the south elevation is a hedge enclosed garden. Designed with the intimate feeling of an out door room, its north and south entrances are axially aligned and are picturesquely marked by rustic wooden gable-roofed trellises. Although the flower beds, statuary and paths depicted in a 1919 photograph of this remarkable green space are no longer in evidence, the Arthur A. Shurtcliff- designed garden retains its circular pond enlivened by a statue of a winged cherub.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Area(s) A Form No

Town: Marion

Property Address Allens Point

Architectural Description

Also intact is the one-story, rectangular, stucco-covered garden house which encloses the east side of the garden. Measuring four-bays-by-three-bays this building is enclosed by a tile-covered hip roof. Extending the length of its garden facade is a Tuscan columned arbor. The segment of the property numbered 131, on the north side of Allen Point Road, is accessed via an unpaved driveway leading to two garages and a boat storage facility. These estate buildings are surrounded by a more or less natural landscape that does not appear to have been part of the Arthur A. Shurtcliff landscape design (MHC# 904) still evident within the southern half of the property. Two long rectangular stucco-parged, hip roofed buildings, possibly built as stables are located near Allen's Point Road and at the eastern end of the driveway, on the west side of the boat house's parking area.

The boat storage facility (MHC# C71) is the most interesting of this estate's ancillary building, its distinctive, stucco-parged, half-timbered form is a memorable landmark on Blankinship Cove's eastern shore. Rising to a height of two-and one-half stories its rectangular form is enclosed by a gambrel roof. Extending the full length of the cove-side facade is a bank of tall and narrow, multi-light double windows which overlook a concrete boat launching ramp.

To the south of 125 Allens Point Road, is a modern, c. mid 20th century residence which is not included within this small area of turn-of-the century residences. 145 Allens Point Road (MHC# C72) is a c. early 1900s Shingle Style residence exhibiting a V-shaped form and elements that are reminiscent of those of the West Drive (MHC Area M) residences designed by Coolidge and Carlson. The location of the east elevation's main entrance, at the intersection of the north and south wings, is marked by the deep overhang of a pyramidally capped polygonal dormer. The overhang is supported by heavy arched brackets characterized by a Craftsman style sensibility. In general, the windows' lower sash consists of a single lower sash surmounted by diamond-shaped upper sash. On both the east and west elevations, dormers are in evidence on two levels: the four lower dormers are substantial and pyramidally capped while the upper level exhibits small triangular windows.

The west elevation's south west corner is exuberantly marked by a broad, polygonal bay which is carried through the roof line as a dormer. At the northern end of the north wing is a bank of four narrow windows. Continuing southward, a standard size window is located to the left of an oriel. To the left of the great polygonal corner bay is a wide plate glass window exhibiting a transom with diamond-shaped sash. The water side elevation of the south ell displays a polygonal bay. All of the first floor windows on the west facade exhibit diamond shaped upper sash.

Next door to the south, 151 Allens Point Road (MHC# C73), a handsome, restrained blend of the Shingle and Colonial Revival styles, exhibits an enclosed post modern porch added in recent years which complements the original design. Encompassing a boxy, wood shingle-sheathed two and one-half-story hip roofed main block, a one-and-one-half story ell projects from its north facade.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Area(s) A Form No

Town: Marion

Property Address Allens Point

Historical Narrative

At some point between 1855 and 1879, the Allens sold Allens Point, the West Drive area (MHC Area M) and other tracts south of Point Road to George Delano. The 1879 Marion Map shows a "proposed" oval street extending from Allens Point northward into the West Drive area. Evidently Delano had considered building houses around an oval park, perhaps envisioning a rustic Louisbur Square -like experience. In 1879, residential development at Allen's Point was 15-20 years in the future. Ultimately, the developer of this area eschewed the unifying aspects of the oval, resulting in two separate Allen's Point and West Drive enclaves.

During the late 19th century, Delano owned a large estate at Little Neck called the Hermitage where he entertained President and Mrs. Grover Cleveland during the late 1880s and early 1890s. By the early 1900s, the development of Allens Point for seasonal residential purposes was well underway by Delano's heirs, including Lizzie Delano who owned three undeveloped parcels on Allens Point in 1903.

The remarkably unspoiled summer estate of Horace B. Shephard at **125 Allen's Point Road (MHC#C67)** was built during the early 1900s. Horace B. Shephard was the president of the Shephard and Morse Lumber Company which whose headquarters were located in the Mason Building, 1 Liberty Square, Boston. Shephard was a "whole sale dealer in all kinds of lumber." According to a 1903 Boston Directory advertisement, this firm's stock included "white pine, spruce, Hemlock, North Carolina Pine, Yellow Pine, Poplar and Hard wood." Given Shephard's line of work, he not surprisingly called his Allen's Point estate *Fair Oaks* (later *Dunstone Oaks*) and this house's building materials were undoubtedly supplied by his company. During the early 1900s, Shephard commuted to work from Sharon, MA. By 1916, he lived at 20 Clark Road, Brookline. By c. 1918, this estate was owned by Edward M. Clark.

Shephard hired the Boston architectural firm of Coolidge and Carlson to design 125 Allen's Point Road. This firm designed most, if not all of the houses in the West Drive section of Marion. A direct descendant of Thomas Jefferson, Joseph Randolph Coolidge Jr. (1862 - 1928) was associated with Henry J. Carlson from 1903 until 1922. Following graduation from Harvard in 1885, Coolidge enrolled in a two-year architectural course at M.I. T. In 1887, he sailed for Europe, receiving technical training in Germany and in Paris at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. Returning to Boston in 1898, he organized his own firm, forming a partnership with Carlson in 1903. Among Coolidge's best known work were Byerly and Randolph Halls at Radcliffe and Harvard, respectively, dormitories at Welslesley College and the Bates College Library, Lewiston, Maine. Further research is needed to determine how Joseph Coolidge is related to the better known Boston architect and Marion summer resident Charles Allerton Coolidge (see **604 A & B Point Road, MHC#'s 55 & 56**). Joseph had three brothers including Harold, a lawyer who frequently handled his firm's business affairs, and Harvard History professors Archibald and Julian Coolidge. Additionally, Joseph R. Coolidge Jr. was president of the Boston Society of Architects in 1905-1906.

By c. 1918, 125 Allen's Point Road was owned by Edward M. Clark (further research is needed on Clark). Evidently it was Clark, rather than Shephard that hired Boston landscape architect Arthur A. Shurcliff to design the south garden and probably all of this estate's grounds south of Allen's Point Road.

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Area(s) A Form No

Town: Marion

Property Address Allens Point

Historical Narrative

During the 1880s, Shurcliff (originally Shurtleff) had been a student of the great American landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. Elected to the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) in 1899, Shurcliff, teamed up with Frederick's son Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and step-son, John C. Olmsted, for the re-design of Boston's Fens in 1912 and again, in 1921-1925. During the first quarter of the 20th century, Shurcliff shaped the design of Radcliffe College's campus in Cambridge, MA, producing a Master Plan for Radcliffe with the Boston architectural firm of Perry, Shaw and Hepburn in 1926. Indeed, Shurcliff probably recieved his commission to design 125 Allen's Point Road's lanscape through his Radcliffe and Harvard connections with Joseph Randolph Coolidge, Jr.

During the mid-1920s, Shurcliff was responsible for the radical redesign of Norwood MA's center business district, including the grounds of the town hall. Shurcliff's best known work was his landscape work in Colonial Williamsburg during the late 1920s and early 1930s. Hired by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Shurcliff once again worked in collaboration with Perry, Shaw and Hepburn. Shurcliff's conjectural restoration of the Governor's Palace gardens, based on meticulous research was considered to be particularly successful. By the time of his death in 1957, Shurcliff was the Dean of American Landscape Architects.

Built during the early 1900s, the Shingle Style house at 145 Allens Point Road (MHC#C72) probably represents the work of Coolidge and Carlson. It was built for Boston physician A. E. Angier. The Angiers are not listed here in 1907.

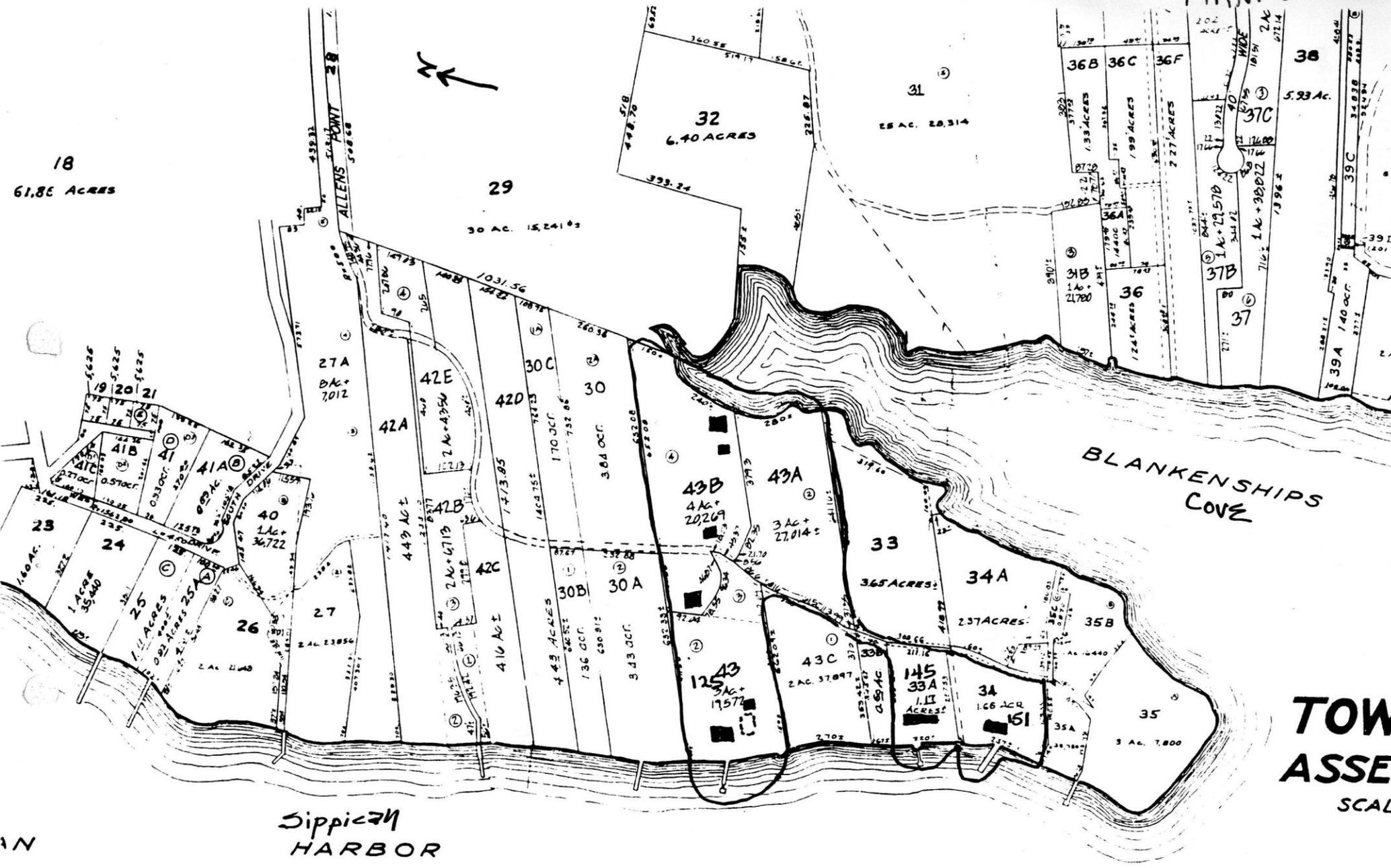
Although Elmer Smith is listed as the owner of 151 Allens Point Road (MHC#C73) during the early 1900s, Neither Wareham or Boston Directories list him as a Marion summer resident.

Further research is needed to determine if any part of the 1890s William S. Whiting residence is still extant. Located at the southern tip of the Allen's Point peninsula, this house was built for Boston brush manufacturer William S. Whiting, President of the John L. Whiting & Son Company. Mr. Whiting came to East Marion in 1892. Born in Boston in 1856, he was a generous philanthropist as well as a successful businessman. Actively interested in the town, he was a member of the Marion Improvement Association. For a number of years he was a member of the New England Paint and Oil Club.

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Sippican
HARBOR

BLANKENSHIPS
COVE

TOW
ASSE
SCAL

AREA: Allen's Point Road

MHC#s 67-73; C904

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

Community: Marion

Property Address: Allen's Point 125; 131; 145; 151 Alleys Point Road

Area(s) C Form No.s C67-C73; C904

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: **X**

Criteria: **A** **B** **C** **D**

Criteria Considerations: **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G**

Statement of Significance

by Edward Gordon

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

Allen's Point-Small area situated on a peninsula between Blankinship's Cove on the east and Sippican Harbor on the west. Encompassing three residences bordering Allen's Point Road, this area is considered eligible by virtue of the high quality of its substantial Craftsmen/Jacobethan, Shingle Style and Colonial Revival residences. The area includes the Coolidge and Carlson - designed 125 Allen's Point Road's, its five ancillary buildings and a garden designed by noted landscape architect Arthur Shurtcliff.

<u>MHC #</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Historic Name</u>	<u>Building Type</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Arch/Bldr</u>
Allens Point Road Area C								
C 67	125	Allens Point Road	c.1900	Fair Oaks -Shephrd-Clark Ho	Res.	Jacobethan	Stucco-wd	Cooldge&Carlso
C 68	125	Allens Point Road	c.1900	Shephard-Clark	Stable	Jacobethan	Stucco-wd	Cooldge&Carlso
C 69	125	Allens Point Road	1910s	Edward M.Clark	Garden Ho.	Utilitarian	Stucco-wd	Undetermined
C 904	125	Allens Point Road	1910s	Edward M. Clark Garden	Landscape	N/A	N/A	A. Shurtcliff
C 70	131	Allens Point Road	1910s	Shephard-Clark	Garage	Utilitarian	Stucco	Undetermined
C 71	131	Allens Point Road	1910s	Shephard-Clark	Boat Ho.	Utilitarian	Stucco	Undetermined
C 72	145	Allens Point Road	c.1900	A.E.Angier House	Res.	Shingle Style	Wd Shingles	Cooldge&Carlso
C 73	151	Allens Point Road	c.1900	Elmer Smith House	Res.	Col R-Shingle	Wd Shingles	Undetermined

904

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MARION

ALLENS POINT

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.
	C



#67 - 125 Al lens
POINT RD



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MRN.67



MRN.70

131 Allens Point Rd.

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

MARION

Property Address

ALLENS POINT

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Area(s)

Form No.

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71 - 131 ALLENS POINT RD



68 - 125 ALLENS POINT RD



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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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Town

MARION

Property Address

ALLENS POINT

Area(s)

Form No.

	C
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69 - 125 Allen's Point RD



73 - 151 Allen's Point RD



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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MARION

ALLENS POINT

Area(s)

Form No.

	C
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#72 - 145 Allen's Point Rd





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