

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

21-6	Marion		MRN.14
------	--------	--	--------

Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 391 County Road

Historic Name: Oren Vose House

Uses: Present: Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: Possibly ca. 1834

Source: Visual analysis

Style/Form: Greek Revival, significantly altered

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

- Foundation: Granite block
- Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood
- Roof: Asphalt shingle

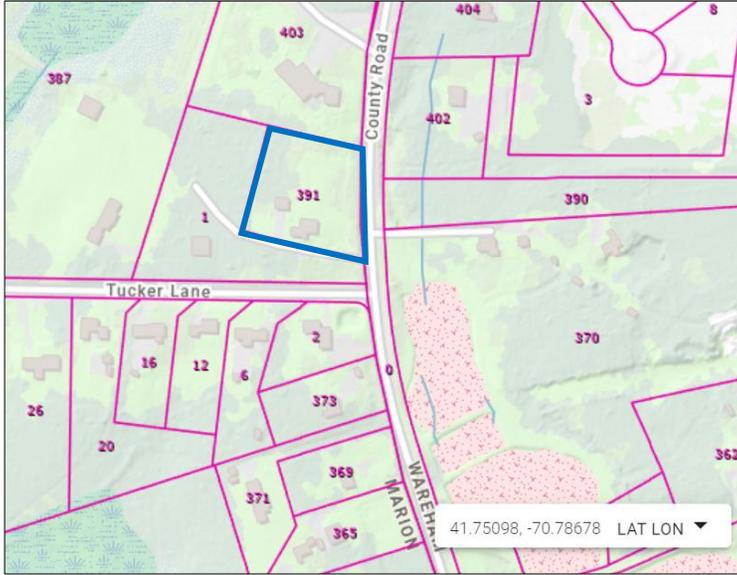
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage

Photograph



Locus Map



Major Alterations (*with dates*):

- Replacement windows
- North & south dormers (20th c.)
- South entry bay & porch (20th c.)
- Ell & enclosed porch (19th c./20th c.)
- Gable wall chimney (20th c.)

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 1.24

Setting: Rural residential area of low housing density and moderate to large-sized parcels. Populated with scattered farmsteads in the late 18th and early 19 centuries with later development occurring in the mid-19th through early 20th centuries. House types range from Federal through Queen Anne.

Recorded by: Lynn Smiledge
Organization: Marion Historical Commission
Date (*month/year*): October 2023

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

391 County Road

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.14

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.

391 County Road occupies a trapezoidal lot on the west side of County Road and faces south. The house is deeply set back from the street near the center of the southern property line. The house is surrounded by lawn dotted with shrubs and mature trees. A low drystone wall bordered by dense vegetation lines the eastern property line along County Road and prevents a view of the house from the street. A gravel driveway enters the property from County Road at the southeast corner of the parcel, runs along the south elevation of the house, and ends at a garage off the northwest corner of the dwelling; several granite fence posts border the driveway along the south elevation of the house. The perimeter of the property is densely vegetated. A vinyl slat work fence encloses a large yard at the rear (west) elevation.

This wood-frame dwelling comprises a one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled, five-bay-by-four bay main block with a cross-gabled ell. Constructed in the 1830s in the Greek Revival style, the main block retains some of its original character-defining features. The dwelling has been significantly altered and although the 1998 MHC Building Form B suggests that the south elevation of the main block constituted the original façade, or primary elevation, an argument could also be made for the east-facing elevation of the house serving as the original main entry. The distinctive triangular vent at the gable peak at the east elevation supports this suggestion. The house rests on a granite foundation and is clad in wood shingles. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles. Three narrow brick chimneys, two with decorative corbeling, rise from the roof ridge of the main block. A brick gable-wall brick chimney rises from grade at the south elevation of the rear addition and pierces the cornice.

The main block is trimmed with a box cornice, frieze boards, eave returns, and corner boards. A projecting bay at the south wall at the junction with the ell contains an entry and a small, semi-hexagonal oriel window. The entry is sheltered by a shed-roofed porch that spans the east wall of the ell. The wood paneled door fronts a granite step and stone deck leading to a stone pathway that joins the driveway. Paired gable dormers occupy the south roof slope and a double hip-roofed wall dormer and a gable dormer occupy the north roof slope. The double-hung windows at the east elevation of the main block are uniform in size but contain a variety of sash configurations with false muntins; the window at the southernmost bay appears to be the sole opening with early, two-over-two sash. Fenestration at the other elevations and at the addition vary in size and sash configuration. All of the window openings have flat surrounds with lipped lintels.

The cross-gabled, one-and-one-half-story rear addition is shown in the footprint of the house on the 1903 map. It is set off the southwest corner of the main block and projects two bays beyond its south elevation. A full-width, shed-roofed enclosed porch with continuous double-hung, six-over-six windows spans the west elevation and contains a slightly recessed single entry where the porch joins the addition.

The front-gabled three-car garage off the northwest corner of the house faces south. It is clad in wood shingles and contains overhead garage doors with integrated transoms. A small shed-roofed storage addition occupies the south wall and an enclosed cupola is centered on the roof.

391 County Road is an altered example of 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 box cornice, frieze boards, corner boards, eave returns, and triangular attic vent.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

391 County Road

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

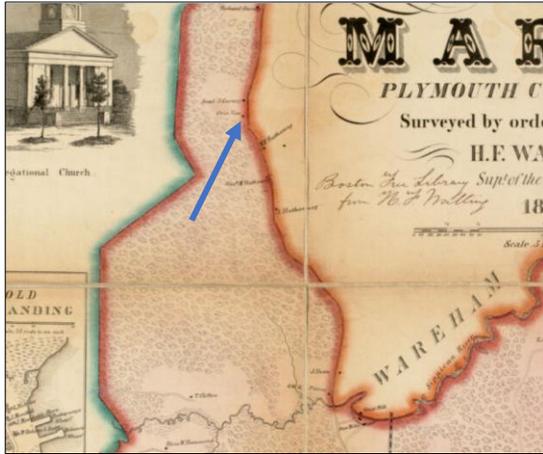
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.14

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.



1855 map.

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. This property is located on County Road in the northwestern part of the town above the Old Landing section of the Village. County Road branches off Front Street (Rte. 105) south of the Marion-Wareham town line and runs north to cross the Sippican River and enters Rochester. County Road was part the thoroughfare which linked many of the towns in southern Plymouth County. This rural area of Marion was settled with scattered farmsteads during the 19th century and remains sparsely settled.

A clear title chain of ownership for the subject property could not be established prior to 1974, when a 29-acre parcel of land was conveyed from the estate of Charles A. Vose to the Hiller Cranberry Company. The historic maps of Marion, however, provide milestones in its early ownership history. The house appears on the 1855 map with Oren Vose shown as the owner and on the 1879 and 1903 maps with B.F. [Benjamin Franklin] Vose as the labeled owner.

Oren [Var. Orrin] Vose (1809-1866) was the son of the Reverend Robert Gates Vose and Mehitable Boies. He was born Berlin, Vermont and was married in 1834 to Eliza Davis Cleveland (1816-1892) in Tisbury. The main block of this building appears to have been a Greek Revival cottage, suggesting that it was likely built by or for Vose around the time of his marriage. The 1850 census recorded his occupation as trader and the 1855 and 1860 censuses listed him as a master farmer. The dwelling was devised to one of Vose's sons, Benjamin Franklin Vose (1853-1926), who was married in Marion in 1882 to Bethia Tabor Handy (1857-1936). Census records showed his occupation as farmer, and according to the 1998 MHC Building Form B for the property, he ran a market garden and poultry farm on the property from the 1870s until his death. The couple's son, Chester A. Vose (1885-1960), was first married in Boston to Edith Deane Perkins (b.1885), and then to Florence Myrtle Henderson (1895-1980) of Fairhaven. The censuses of 1910 and 1930 reported him as a cranberry farmer.

Chester Vose operated a 29 plus-acre cranberry farm on the property until his death in 1960, when the operation was taken over by his wife, Myrtle. Vose had developed a proprietary cranberry varietal called "Vose's Pride."¹ In 1974 the property, which included the subject house, was purchased by a neighboring company, Hiller Cranberries, Inc. Headquartered on St. Mary's Pond Road in Rochester, Hiller is today one of the largest producers, processors, and distributors of cranberries in the area with over 150 acres of bogs. The company was first established in Marion as the Hiller Brothers [Isaac and Robert Hiller] Livery and later expanded into the dairy and cranberry businesses. In 1977 the Hiller company subdivided the property and sold the subject house to Albert and Julie Love.

The property was purchased by the current owners in 2021.

Title Research

Date	Book-Page (Certificate)	Grantor	Grantee
12-01-2021	56102-98	Kathleen M. Levine	John B. & Katherine H. Howard
05-29-2013	43125-32	Todd & Shelley Richins	Kathleen M. Levine
03-03-1995	13463-110	Kathleen S. & Arthur L. Lyons	Todd & Shelley Richins
01-15-1986	6533-77	Albert E. & Julie E. Love	Kathleen S. & Arthur L. Lyons
12-05-1977	4374-468	Hiller Cranberries, Inc.	Albert E. & Julie E. Love

¹ "Bog bounty keeps Marion woman busy," *Standard Times*, New Bedford, November 23, 1972

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

391 County Road

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.14

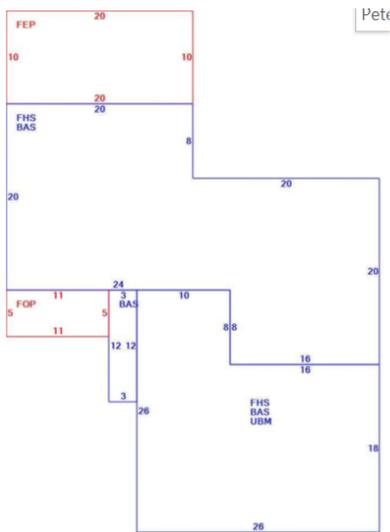
10-08-1974	4024-781	Estate of Chester A. Vose	Hiller Cranberries
------------	----------	---------------------------	--------------------

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
McAlester, 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.



West and south elevations.



Assessor's card plan



Photo of the house appearing with an article on Myrtle Vose in *The National Cranberry* magazine. Ca. 1960s-1970s.