

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

22-37	Marion		MRN.13
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Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 137 County Road

Historic Name: George W.K. Pierce – Rufus Savery House

Uses: Present: Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: Mid-19th century

Source: Visual analysis

Style/Form: Greek Revival Cape

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite block

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

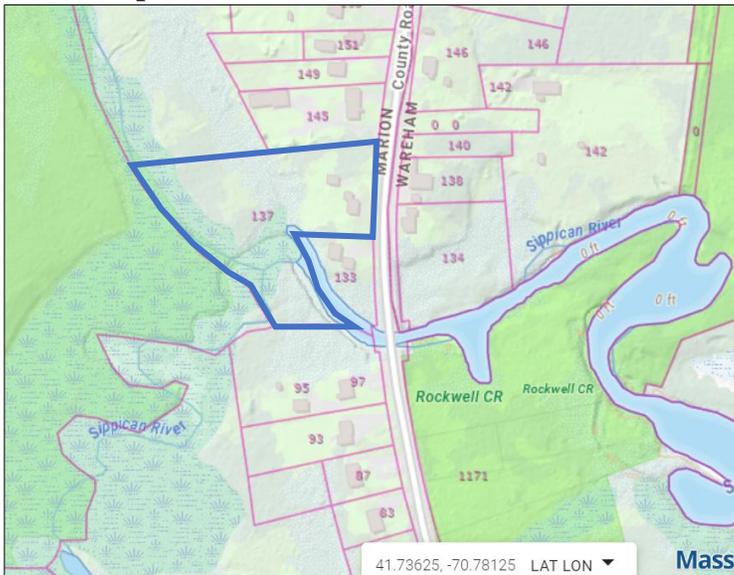
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage

Photograph



Locus Map



Major Alterations (*with dates*):

North ell (late 19th c.)

Dormer (20th c.)

Gable wall chimney (20th c.)

Replacement windows

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 4.12

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

137 County Road

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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.

137 County Road occupies a large polygonal lot on the west side of County Road. Part of the eastern property line borders the Sippican River and its tributary, Hales Brook, runs through the western portion of the parcel, which transitions to marsh land. The house has a moderate setback from the street and faces east. It is surrounded by lawn dotted with mature trees. The parcel is otherwise heavily vegetated. A paved driveway enters the property from County Road, passes between two granite fence posts, and runs along the north elevation of the house to end at a two-car garage sited off the northwest corner.

This wood-frame dwelling comprises a one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled, five-bay-by-two-bay main block with a one-story ell at the north elevation. Constructed in the mid-19th century in the Cape form, it has Greek Revival stylistic details and retains some of its character-defining features. The house rises from a granite block foundation and is clad in weathered wood shingles. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles and carries brick chimney at the west roof slope and a multi-color brick, gable-wall chimney constructed in the mid-20th century at the west bay of the south elevation. A three-bay shed dormer incorporating gable dormers at the outside bays spans the façade.

Trim elements at the main block include corner pilasters and a frieze board at the facade. Fenestration comprises single, double-hung, one-over-one replacement sash with flat surrounds and lipped lintels. The centered main entry contains a glass-and-panel wood door framed by full-height sidelights, narrow Doric pilasters, and a deep, unornamented architrave that touches the frieze board. The door has a granite threshold and fronts a shallow concrete stoop.

The three-bay-by-four-bay ell is set nearly flush with the façade of the main block and extends beyond its west elevation. The east slope of its gullwing roof encloses an entry porch with a north-facing, glass-and-panel door that fronts a paved walkway leading to the driveway. Windows at the ell comprise banks of one-over-one replacement sash.

137 County Road is an example of a mid-19th century Cape form house with Greek Revival details. The full Cape (five bays with center entry) was one of the later iterations of the architectural form, which originated in southeastern New England ca. 1700 and saw continued use through the mid-19th century. Defining characteristics of the Cape form illustrated in this house include the full Cape configuration with centered entry, the side-gabled roof, and the narrow corner boards; the original center chimney, a defining feature of the full Cape form, was removed. The frieze board and door surround with its full-height sidelights and entablature are characteristic of the Greek Revival period (1830-1850).

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.

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 subject property is located in the northwestern part of 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 enter Wareham. This rural area was largely populated with scattered farmsteads during the 19th century and remains thinly settled.

This house appears on the 1855 map with G.W.K. [George Weldon Kilton] Pierce as the owner. On the 1879 map the owner is shown as R. [Rufus] Savery, and on the 1903 map it is R. [Rufus] L. Savery. The first recorded conveyance found for this property was the 1869 sale of an approximately 3-acre parcel of land with a dwelling house from Amanda Fitzalan Pierce to Ansel Gurney.

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1879 map.

might have lived in this more modest dwelling during his period of ownership. R. [Rufus] Savery, shown as the owner of the subject house on the 1879 map, may have been renting the property at the time. The 1900 census showed Gurney, a widower, living with his daughter Ruth S. Gurney Delano (1856-1936), her husband George Mason Delano (1853-1939), and his granddaughter Lovicy M. Delano (1882-1981). The subject property was inherited by Gurney's two daughters, Ruth Delano and Estella Louise Gurney Delano (1851-1927), who sold the property to Rufus L. Savery in 1904.

Rufus Leonard Savery [var. Savory, Savary] (1834-1909), the son of Capt. Stilla Savery and Cordelia Bolles, was married to Harriet Webster Hathaway (1841-1905). Rufus Savery was listed as a mariner in the 1860 census, a fisherman in the 1880 census, and a gardener in the 1900 census. According to the 1998 MHC Building Form B for the property, Rufus Savery ran a garden market and fruit stand on the farm. The property was devised to the couple's two sons, Rufus H. Savery (1881-1920) and Charles Leonard Savery (1880-1964), neither of whom lived in Marion. Rufus H. Savery lived in New York City and Charles Savery lived in Edgartown. The brothers sold the property in 1909 to Weston and Mary Winslow. Weston Hervey Winslow (1860-1941) of Falmouth was married in 1885 to Mary Elizabeth Butman (1859-1926) of Fairhaven. Census records report that Weston Winslow was a truck farmer. The Winslows owned the property until 1924, when it was sold to Fred Parker.

Frederick Linzo Parker (1872-1954) was born in Fairhaven, the son of Robert Dean Parker and Hannah Maria W. Westgate. He was first married to Lillian A. Hathaway (1895-1948), with whom he had four children, and after her death to Eliza Fields Martin (1888-1986). His occupation was blacksmith. In 1950 the property was conveyed to his son Ray G. Parker, who sold it in 1953 to Alden H. Mead. Alden Mead (1903-1980) was married to Emma Mae Hesselthaler (1911-2002). The 1950 census recorded the couple living in Dover with Alden's occupation shown as caretaker/gardener. The property remained in the Mead family until 2016. It was purchased by the current owners in 2020.

Title Research

Date	Book-Page (Certificate)	Grantor	Grantee
07-21-2020	53178-185	John & Courtney Lamb and Peter A., III and Marilu Kane	Mathew J. Pavlisko and Katherine M. McAuley
12-02-2019	52036-27	U.S. Bank National Association	John & Courtney Lamb and Peter A., III and Marilu Kane
12-14-2016	47873-130	Nationstar Mortgage LLC	U.S. Bank National Association
04-07-2007	34393-16	Charles A. Mead & Rita St. Germain	Nationstar Mortgage LLC
10-11-2005	31536-10	Rita St. Germain	Charles A. Mead & Rita St. Germain
09-28-2005	31482-346	Charles A. Mead	Rita St. Germain
		Estate of Emma Mead	Charles A. Mead
04-26-1954	2337-404	William B. Macy	Alden H. Mead
12-29-1953	2321-164	Ray G. Parker	William B. Macy

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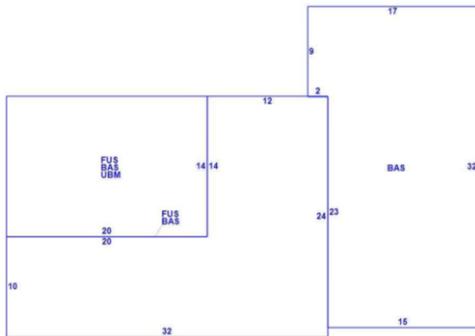
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11-27-1950	2151-383	Frederick Parker et al.	Ray G. & Leah Irene Parker
04-XX-1924	1459-295	Weston H. & Mary Winslow	Fred Parker
06-05-1909	1027-113	Charles L. Savery & Rufus H. Savery	Weston H. & Mary Winslow
12-01-1906	944-360	Rufus L. Savery	Charles L. Savery & Rufus H. Savery
06-01-1904	902-206	Estella L. Delano & Ruth S.G. Delano	Rufus L. Savery
		Estate of Ansel S. Gurney	Estella L. Delano & Ruth S.G. Delano
04-04-1869	356-227	Amanda F. Pierce	Ansel S. Gurney

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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- Atlas of Plymouth County*, Boston, MA: George H. Walker & Co., 1879.
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Assessor's card plan