

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

8-25	Marion		MRN.15
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**Town/City:** Marion

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

**Address:** 62 Creek Road

**Historic Name:** James H. & Ellen J. Marvel House

**Uses:** Present: Residential

Original: Residential

**Date of Construction:** Possibly ca. 1875

**Source:** Visual analysis

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival / Italianate

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

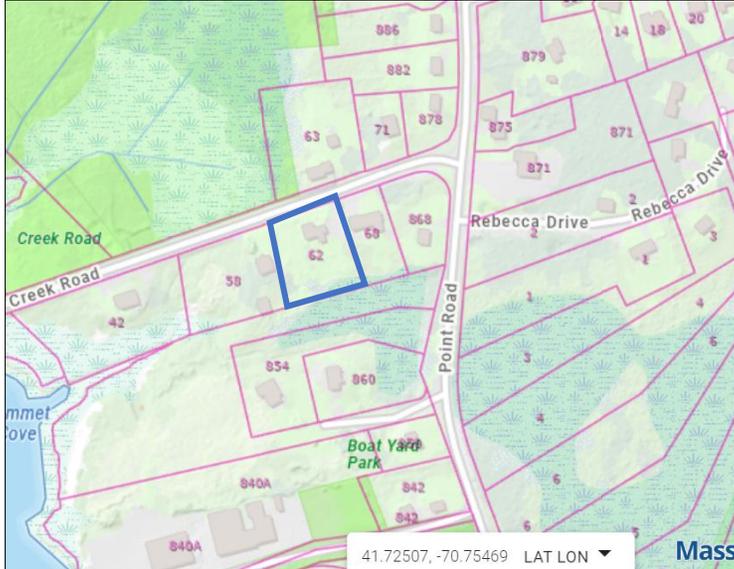
**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

None

## Photograph



## Locus Map



**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

Replacement windows (late 20<sup>th</sup> century)

**Condition:** Fair - Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.74

**Setting:** Moderately settled residential neighborhood between Route 6 and the northern shore of Hammett's Cove. Scattered farms in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century with residential development in the late 19<sup>th</sup>– early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Predominately small- to moderate-sized houses on small- to moderate-sized lots.

**Recorded by:** Lynn Smiledge

**Organization:** Marion Historical Commission

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

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

62 Creek Road

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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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.*

**62 Creek Road** occupies a trapezoidal lot on the south side of Creek Road and faces north. The house is positioned close to the street and fronts a shallow lawn bordered by a low hedgerow at the street; the hedgerow transitions to a stone wall west of the house. Small trees and heavy foundation plantings partly obscure the façade (north elevation). The side and rear yards along the south and west elevations of the dwelling are maintained in lawn with a perimeter of heavy vegetation. A massive boulder near the northeast corner of the parcel lends a distinctive landscape element to the property. A paved driveway bordered by a tall hedge enters the property from Creek Road along the eastern lot line and ends at the east elevation of the house.

This wood-frame house comprises a one-and-one-half-story, front-gabled, two-bay-by-four bay main block with a four-bay-by-two-bay east wing and a one-story rear (south) addition. Constructed around 1875 in the Greek Revival style with Italianate details, the house appears to retain all of its original character-defining features. The footprint of the house matches the plan seen on the 1903 map. The house rests on a high fieldstone foundation. It is clad in wood shingles and has an asphalt shingle roof. A brick chimney rises from the west roof slope at the main block.

The house is trimmed with a box cornice, two-part frieze boards, corner pilasters, eave returns, a water table at the façade. The side hall main entry at the west bay at the façade contains a two-leaf, wood-paneled door with arched glass insets. The double door is framed by a flat surround and sheltered by a deep flat-roofed hood supported by saw-cut scroll brackets with pendants. The door fronts a shallow porch and three-step wooden stair with finial-topped newel posts and a spindle railing. A stone pathway leads from the stairs to a wooden gate at the hedgerow. A semi-hexagonal bay window flanking the door contains narrow, one-over-one sash with deep molded surrounds rising from a paneled apron. The other windows at the façade are single, double-hung, one-over-one replacement sash with flat surrounds, shallow architraves, and blinds.

Fenestration at the east wing includes an entry at the easternmost bay. It contains a glass-and-panel door with a flat surround and architrave and fronts a brick stoop and two-step stair leading east to the driveway. Openings at the east elevation of the east wing include a single window at the gable peak and mulled two-over-one sash at the first story.

62 Creek Road reflects a blend of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. 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. The identifying Greek Revival features of the subject house include the front-gabled orientation of the main block, box cornice, two-part frieze boards, corner pilasters, and eave returns. The Italianate elements of the house comprise the bay window and the double entry with its door hood and scroll brackets. The Italianate style, which was popularized in America by the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing and employed between 1850 and 1880, emphasized informality and decorative detailing.

## 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 commercial and residential center of Marion is set on the western shore of Sippican Harbor which leads into Buzzards Bay. The subject property is located on Creek Road, a short street northeast of the town center that runs west to east between Wareham Street (U.S. Rte. 6) and Point Road. The road crosses Jenney's Creek which flows into Hammett's Cove (also called Briggs Cove).

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

MARION

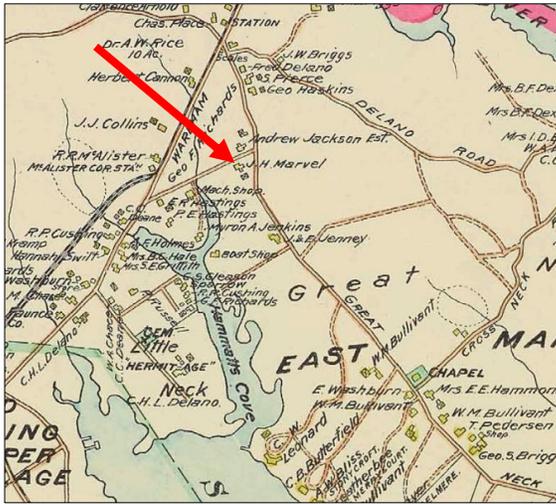
62 Creek Road

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The subject house appears on the 1879 map with J. [James] Marvel shown as the owner and on the 1903 map with J.H. [James Hiram] Marvel shown as owner. The first recorded conveyance found for the property was the 1874 sale of a one and three-quarter acre parcel of undeveloped land by Polly Jenney to James H. Marvel.

James Hiram Marvel (1847-1925) was born in Swansea, the son of Bennanuel Marvel III and Harriet Elizabeth Lawton. He was married in Marion in 1875 to Ellen M. Jenney (1849-1933), the daughter of David Jenney and Polly Delano. The 1855 and 1879 maps show David and Polly Jenney's farm nearby on Point Road, southeast of the subject house. The land on which the house stands was conveyed to James Marvel by his mother-in-law Polly Jenney shortly before his wedding to her daughter. It is assumed that this Greek Revival/Italianate-style dwelling was built around the time of the couple's marriage. Census records show that James Marvel was a farmer all of his working life. His widow Ellen Jenney Marvel lived in this house until her death in 1933. The property was purchased in 1940 by Kenneth and Edith Peckham.

1903 map.

According to census records Kenneth Barker Peckham (1908-1989), the son of Alva Ray Peckham and Annie W. Nicholson (1875-1931) of Acushnet, worked as a poultry man on the Stone Estate on Great Neck. The property was purchased in 1950 by Clarence and Helen Chiasson. Clarence Chiasson was born in Maine and worked as a salesman for IBM. The house was purchased in 1971 by Lawrence and Eleanor Brown and remains in Brown family ownership.

Title Research

Date	Book-Page (Certificate)	Grantor	Grantee
12-28-2009	38072-348	Lawrence & Eleanor L. Brown	Lawrence & Eleanor L. Brown, Trustees
01-26-1996	14129-287	Lawrence & Eleanor L. Brown	Lawrence & Eleanor L. Brown
07-16-1971	3690-284	Marshall E. & Rose M. Jackson	Lawrence & Eleanor L. Brown
10-14-1969	3557-118	Helen M. Leies	Marshall E. & Rose M. Jackson
01-25-1967	3346-382	John R. Leies	Helen M. Leies
08-27-1956	2520-147	Helen F. Chiasson	John R. & Helen M. Leies
11-03-1950	2122-277	Minnie E. Winters	Clarence J. & Helen F. Chiasson
02-05-1947	1944-495	Kenneth B. & Edith E. Peckham	Minnie E. Winters
07-31-1940	1793-111	Albert W. & Karin F. Winters	Kenneth B. & Edith E. Peckham
01-27-1939	1763-103	Bertha E. Hayes & Florence E. Marvel et al.	Albert W. & Karin F. Winters
12-04-1874	413-83	Polly Jenney et al.	James H. Marvel

**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.

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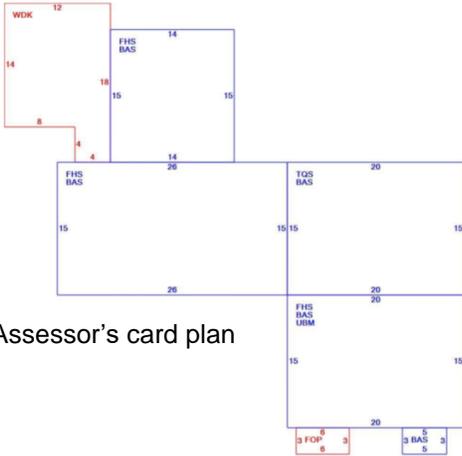
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Assessor's card plan



East and north elevations. Boulder at left.