

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

18-1	Marion		MRN.45
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Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 856 Mill Street

Historic Name: Jared Bates - Ebenezer Snow House

Uses: Present: Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: First quarter 19th century

Source: Visual analysis

Style/Form: Greek Revival Cape

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone & rubblestone

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

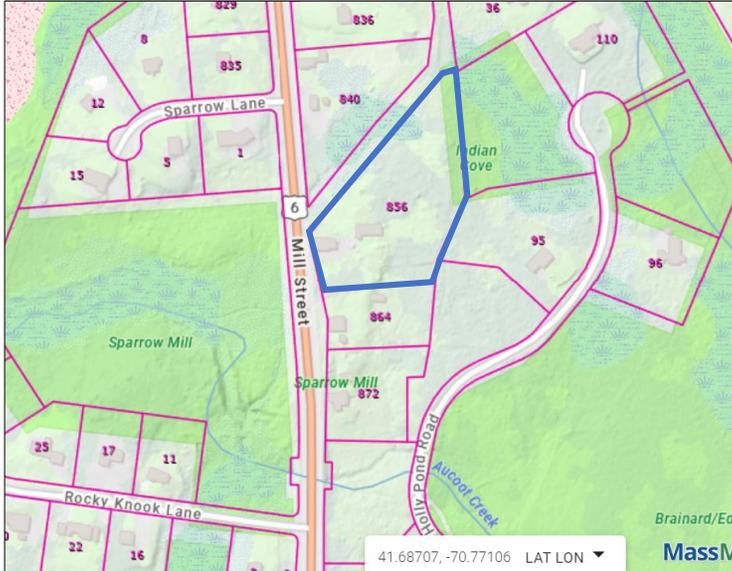
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage (1987)

Photograph



Locus Map



Major Alterations (*with dates*):

East ell (mid-late 19th c.)

Dormers (20th c.)

Gutted, no plumbing or heating (early 20th c.)

Condition: Poor

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 2.78

Setting: Sparsely settled area along Mill Street (Rte. 6) south of Marion Village near the southwest corner of Marion. Rural area of former farmland principally developed in the mid-19th century now features a mix of residential and commercial properties.

Recorded by: Lynn Smiledge

Organization: Marion Historical Commission

Date (*month/year*): January 2024

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

856 MILL STREET

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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.

856 Mill Street occupies a large polygonal lot on the east side of Mill Street. The house is sited close to the road and faces south with its west gable end to the street. The property transitions to marsh land at its northeast corner. Apart from a narrow strip of lawn surrounding the dwelling, the parcel is heavily overgrown with trees and shrubs. Woodpiles, equipment, and multiple vehicles on the site suggest the presence of firewood and salvage operations. A paved driveway enters the property from Mill Street near the midpoint of the western lot line, passes in front of the façade (south elevation) of the house, and curves to access a large garage off the northwest corner of the house.

This dwelling comprises a one-and-one-half-story, five-bay-by-two-bay, side-gabled main block with an east ell. The house was constructed in the first quarter of the 19th century in the full Cape style and retains some of its original character-defining features. The dwelling rises from a fieldstone foundation. The walls are clad in wood shingles and the roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles. A tall brick gable-wall chimney rises from grade at the east elevation of the ell.

Trim elements at the main block include a boxed cornice, short eave returns, and narrow corner boards. The windows at most locations contain double-hung, six-over-six sash with narrow flat surrounds and peaked lintels. The main entry centered at the façade contains a louvered storm door with a narrow flat surround and a shallow peaked architrave. A two-bay shed dormer centered on the south roof slope is flanked by one-bay shed dormers. The north roof slope carries both a two-bay gable dormer and a two-bay shed dormer.

The east ell, which was originally set back one bay from the façade of the main block, acquired a shed-roofed enclosed porch sometime in the late 19th century. The porch is glazed at the façade with a band of triple mullied, eight-light fixed sash separated by mullions.

The Cape Cod house form, a one-story side-gabled house with a central chimney and steeply-pitched roof, emerged in southeastern New England ca. 1700 and saw continued use through the mid-19th century. The full Cape design was one of the later iterations of the house type. Defining characteristics of the Cape style illustrated in this house include the full Cape configuration (five bays with centered entry), side-gabled roof, and assumed presence of a center chimney later replaced by a dormer. The six-over-six window sash configuration and the peaked window lintels are characteristic of the Greek Revival style (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.

Marion Village, the commercial and residential center of the town, is set on the western shore of Sippican Harbor. The town has historically consisted of a northern portion, often referred to as the Old Landing, and a southern portion, known once as Wharf Village or Sippican, but is more commonly referred to today as The Village or Marion Village. This house is located on Mill Street (MA Route 6) which runs north-to-south along the west side of Marion Village. The 1855 map shows this western border of the town center as sparsely settled with a few scattered farmsteads.

The subject house appears on the 1855 map with Jared Bates & E. [Ebenezer] Snow shown as the owners. On the 1879 map the owner is P. [Prince Hiller] Bates and on the 1903 it is labeled Chas.[Charles] D. Bolles Estate. The earliest recorded conveyance found in a clear chain of ownership for the property was its sale by Alice Sponheimer to William H. Bates in 1907.

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Title research discovered an 1843 deed transaction for a parcel of land from Jared Bates to Ebenezer Snow located east of the highway (Mill Street). The conveyance referenced their shared dwelling house.¹ Jared Bates (1776-1877) of Scituate was first married in 1800 to Eunice Allen (1775-1822), and after her death to Jemima Ellis (b.1803) in 1827. He was a farmer and the 1860 agricultural census reported the value of his farm as a modest \$500. Ebenezer Snow (1800-1867), a master farmer as reported in the 1860 census, was married to Rebecca Hiller (1801-1872) in 1820. The appearance of this house suggests that it was built in the first quarter of the 19th century, either by Jared Bates, Ebenezer Snow, or by the two of them together.



Ebenezer and Rebecca Snow had a single daughter, Susan G. Snow (1821-1882), who married Capt. Charles D. Bolles (1812-1893) in 1838. After the death of Susan Snow Bolles, Charles Bolles married Eleanor Snow Bates (1830-1905), the daughter of Jared and Jemima Bates. The property thus remained in the Snow-Bates family.

In addition to their daughter Sarah, Jared and Jemima Bates had two sons, Jared W. Bates (1828-1863) and Prince Hiller Bates (1833-1884). In 1870, the senior Jared Bates conveyed what appears to have been this property to his younger son, Prince Hiller Bates.² The property then passed to Eleanor Snow Bates Bolles (1830-1905), the widow of Jared W. Bates who after his death had married Charles D. Bolles. This is the Chas. D. Bolles Estate noted as the owner on the 1903 map. Eleanor Bolles left the property to her daughter Alice Mortimer Bates Sponheimer, who conveyed the property to her brother William Henry Bates (1857-1944).

1855 map.

According to his obituary, William Henry Bates (1857-1944) drove a bakery wagon for Henry C. Dreyer for 12 years before buying out the business. He then worked in a tin shop and became known as “the handiest man in Marion.”³ William Bates and his wife Harriet N. Faunce (1861-1923) did not appear to live at the subject property, but resided in another house on Mill Street; that two-story Federal-style dwelling, seen in photographs of the William H. Bates house in the collection of the Sippican Historical Society, was eventually razed. The subject property, which included a wood lot according to the obituary of William Bates, was devised to the couple’s only son, John Henry Bates (1892-1965). The house left Bates family ownership when it was purchased by the current owners in 1975.

Title Research

Date	Book-Page (Certificate)	Grantor	Grantee
12-21-1994	13330-79	Katherine H. Borges	Malcolm H. Coggeshall, Jr.
12-16-1994	13330-77	Dennis J. Borges	Katherine H. Borges
01-27-1975	4045-347	Edward C. Brainard II, Trustee	Malcolm, Jr. & Katherine Coggeshall
10-10-1973	3833-247	Edward C. Brainard & Maitland A. Edey, Jr., Trustees	Edward C. Brainard & Maitland A. Edey, Jr., Trustees
09-23-1971	3711-198	Mortimer C. Hill (aka M. Chester Hill)	Edward C. Brainard & Maitland A. Edey, Jr., Trustees
09-11-1968	3471-490	Estate of John H. Bates	M. Chester Hill
Probate	94408	Estate of William H. Bates	
10-10-1907	985-357	Alice Bates Sponheimer	William H. Bates
Probate		Eleanor (Bates) Bolles	Alice Bates Sponheimer

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

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds Book 210, Page 55.
² Plymouth Count Registry of Deeds Book 365, Page 269.
³ William Bates obituary in *New Bedford Standard-Times*, Jan. 15, 1944.

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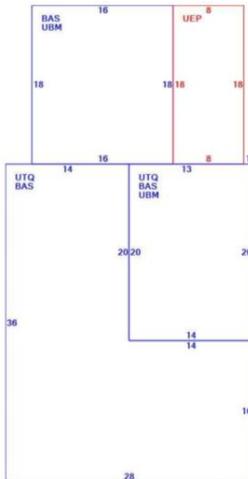
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Map of the Town of Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts 1855 H.F. Walling
McMaster, Virginia Savage. *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2019.
Sommers, Olive Hill. *Three Centuries of Marion Houses*. Marion, 1972.
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Rosbe, 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.



Assessor's card plan