

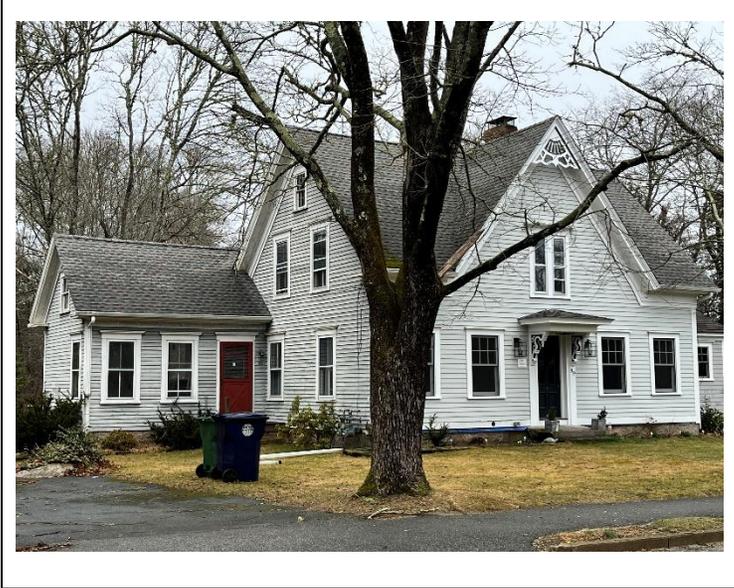
# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

14-18	Marion	MRN.AH, N	MRN.265
-------	--------	--------------	---------

## Photograph



**Town/City:** Marion  
**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*): Marion Village

**Address:** 99 Main Street  
**Historic Name:** Charles A. Clark House

**Uses:** Present: Residential  
Original: Residential

**Date of Construction:** Ca. 1875

**Source:** Deed and map research

**Style/Form:** Gothic Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Joseph H. Clark, Sr. (likely)

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone  
Wall/Trim: Fiber cement & wood clapboard  
Roof: Asphalt shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage/apartment (1984)

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

West ell (after 1903)  
East addition (2021)  
Replacement windows (after 1998)

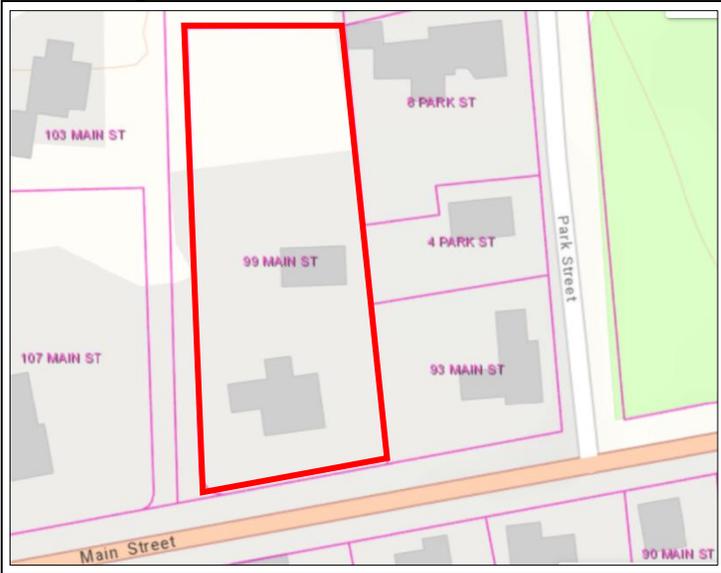
**Condition:** Good

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

**Acreage:** 0.74

**Setting:** Diverse residential neighborhood developed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Housing stock represents a range of styles including Greek Revival, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival. Surrounded mostly by moderately-sized, wood-frame, single-family houses on small to medium-sized lots.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Lynn Smiledge

**Organization:** Marion Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): April 2022

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

99 Main Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

MRN.AH, N

MRN.265

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.*

**99 Main Street** occupies a narrow trapezoidal lot on the north side of Main Street and faces south. The house is positioned in the southern portion of the parcel, which is chiefly maintained in lawn dotted with shrubs and mature trees. The northern portion of the parcel is more heavily vegetated. Low foundation plantings line the façade (south elevation). A paved driveway enters the property from Main Street along the western property line and terminates in a parking area behind the house. A second paved driveway entering from Main Street along the east elevation of the house ends at a two-car garage/apartment set back approximately 20 yards from the northeast corner of the house.

The house comprises a two-story, side-gabled, south-facing, three-bay-by-two-bay main block with a steeply-pitched roof and steep center cross gable. There is a one-story ell added after 1903 off the northwest corner, a one-story side-gabled addition at the east elevation constructed in 2021, and several rear additions not visible from the street. The house was built around 1875 and is a rare example of the Gothic Revival style in Marion. The main block retains the majority of its original character-defining features. The main block and west ell rest on a granite block foundation. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles; a corbelled brick chimney rises from just below the roof ridge at the junction of the main and cross gables. The façade (south elevation) of the main block is sided in fiber cement clapboards and the side elevations and west ell are clad in wood clapboards. The 2021 east addition is clad in wood shingles.

The main block is trimmed with deep box cornices, a water table, narrow corner boards, and deep two-part frieze boards at the façade. The cross gable is ornamented at the gable peak with an elaborate flat-sawn truss. The centered main entry contains a glass-and-panel door framed by a flat surround; it is sheltered by a shallow hip-roofed hood with carved Italianate scroll brackets. The door fronts a granite stoop. Apart from the narrow, one-over-one mulled windows with an architrave at the cross gable, the openings at the facade are replacement double-hung six-over-one sash framed by flat surrounds with lipped lintels. The six-over-one windows replaced two-over-two sash seen in the photograph on the 1998 MHC Area Form N. The windows at the west elevation are double-hung two-over-two sash with flat surrounds and architraves. The main block has been reconfigured for three-family use.

The three-bay-by-one-bay west ell, which is identified as 101 Main Street, is deeply set back from the main block. Trimmed with narrow corner boards and frieze boards, it has double-hung two-over-two windows with flat surrounds and architraves. A glass-and-panel door at the junction with the main block fronts a three-step stone stair.

A two-car garage/apartment is sited approximately 20 yards off the northeast corner of the house. Built in 1984 and clad in wood shingles, it is front-gabled with a shallow roof and a one-story wing at the west elevation.

**99 Main Street** is a rare example of the Gothic Revival style in Marion. Begun in England in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and drawn from Medieval design themes, the style's most important identifying characteristic is a steeply pitched roof with steep cross gables, as seen in this house. Considered a romantic or "Picturesque" style, the Gothic Revival was seen in American domestic architecture between 1840 and 1880 and popularized through the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing. The identifying Gothic Revival features of this house include the steeply pitched roof with steep cross gable, deep eaves, and decorative gable truss. The elaborate scroll brackets at the door hood are an Italianate stylistic feature.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

MARION

99 Main Street

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.AH, N

MRN.265

**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 but more commonly referred to today as The Village or Marion Village. Main Street runs east to west through Marion Village from Sippican Harbor to Mill Street (Route 6). The western portion of Main Street between Spring Street and Mill Street, along with Park Street to the north and Briggs Lane to the south, comprise the neighborhood know as Upper Main. The 1855 map shows this part of Main Street to be sparsely settled compared to the more densely built eastern end of the street. Later maps show that most of the resources in this section of Main Street were built in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The first owners of the earlier houses in this area were typically mariners and farmers.

This property appeared on the 1879 map with "G." Clark, rather than "C." Clark, shown in error as owner. The earliest conveyance found for the property documented the sale of a parcel of land from Stephen W. Hadley to Charles A. Clark in 1875 for \$200. A retired sea captain, Stephen Wing Hadley (1814-1888) was the son a of Stephen W. and Hepsibeth Hadley. Charles Augustus Clark (1833-1917), the son of John and Eleanor Clark, was the brother of carpenter Joseph Henry Clark, Sr. (see 9 Clark Street, ca.1870, Joseph H. Clark, Sr. House, MRN.83) and uncle of John H. Clark, Jr. and Ernest Clark, both carpenters. He was married in 1862 to Susan Clark Berry (1839-1912). Charles A. Clark was a lighthouse-keeper at Bird Island light at the entrance to Sippican Harbor from 1872 to 1891 and then Palmer Island light at the mouth of New Bedford Harbor until 1908. It is probable that this Gothic Revival-style house was built shortly after 1875 when he purchased the land. It is also highly likely that it was built by his brother, Joseph H. Clark, Sr. (1835-1894). Charles Clark's nephew, Joseph H. Clark, Jr., later built a number of houses on Main and Park Streets and was recorded in the 1930 census living with his wife Lizzie at 8 Park Street (1903-1921, Joseph H. Clark, Jr. House, MRN.520).

After Charles Clark's death in 1919, the property was acquired by his daughter, Mercy Clark Handy, who owned it until 1949. A widow, Mercy Clark Handy (1864-1954) was married to Captain Ellsworth C. Handy who was lost at sea on an Arctic whaling voyage. Mercy Clark Handy deeded the house to her son Ellsworth Clark Handy, Jr. in 1949. After his death, his wife Julia C. Handy (nee Ambrose) owned the house and land until 1980, when it was sold to S. Richard and Eunice Manduca and left Clark family ownership.

Deed Research

Date	Book-Page	Grantor	Grantee
08-19-2020	53298-31	Summer Dawn Riker	Summer Dawn & Gerald V. Riker
08-26-2016	47378-207	Eunice C. Manduca Revocable Trust	Summer Dawn Riker
11-15-2006	33726-235	Eunice C. Manduca	Eunice C. Manduca 2006 Revocable Trust
04-28-1998	16144-180	Eunice C. & Joseph W. Manduca	Eunice C. Manduca
03-17-1998	15990-281	S. Richard Manduca	Eunice C. & Joseph W. Manduca
04-03-1993	11764-110	S. Richard & Eunice C. Manduca	S. Richard Manduca
01-09-1980	4780-178	Julia C. Handy	S. Richard & Eunice C. Manduca
12-10-1951	2183-340	Ellsworth C. Handy	Ellsworth C. & Julia C. Handy
09-09-1949	2057-427	Mercy D. Handy	Ellsworth C. Handy
02-19-1923	1513-101	Harry T. & May D. Handy	Mercy D. Handy
10-08-1919	1332-381	Mercy D. Handy	Harry T. Handy
10-09-1919	1332-381	Mercy D. Handy	Mercy D. Handy
08-23-1916	1263-127	Charles A. Clark	Mercy D. Handy (Mortgage Foreclosure)
08-12-1875	420-116	Stephen W. Hadley	Charles A. Clark

**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

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

99 Main Street

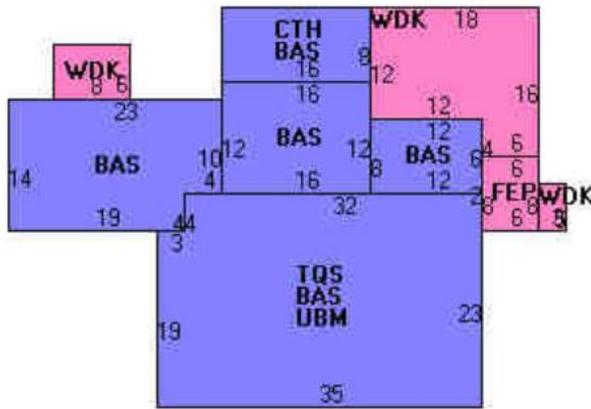
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

MRN.AH, N MRN.265

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.  
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



Assessor's card plan

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

99 Main Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

MRN.AH, N	MRN.265
-----------	---------

## 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

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

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

Statement of Significance by Claire W. Dempsey / edited by Lynn Smiledge

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

This house is recommended as a contributing element in a potential National Register Historic District which would include the Upper Main Street Area. The Upper Main Street Area (MRN.AH, N), a subsection of the larger Wharf Village Area (MRN.N), is a collection of houses constructed in the mid-19th through the early 20th centuries in which simple, small-to-mid-sized dwellings predominate. Along with the other surveyed areas listed below, it is recommended as a contributing element in a potential National Register Historic District for Marion Village. Known variously as Sippican, Wharf Village, and Lower Village, Marion's center is an exceptionally well-preserved harbor village including an important array of public buildings, stores and workplaces, and dwellings dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The village constitutes a small, dense grid along two early and principal streets, Main Street running east-west and Front Street running north-south. Other east-west (Briggs, Cottage, Hiller, and South) and north-south (Spring, Park, Pleasant, School) streets were added as the village grew. The proposed district includes typical public buildings, including churches and schools, as well as a group of exceptional gifts to the town from Elizabeth Taber. The concentration of early dwellings on Main Street is exceptional. Front Street is one of Marion's commercial zones, with shops and other businesses serving the community; some resources from the village's maritime history survive as well, there and on Hiller and off Main. Dwellings here present fine examples of regionally popular forms including Capes, ell houses, end houses, and picturesque cottages, with a handful of later dwellings interspersed. The comparatively small scale of the buildings and lots, as well as the uniform treatment of wood shingles and clapboards, combine to create an extraordinary historic landscape deserving of greater recognition and continued preservation.

The potential district's boundaries are those of the surveyed areas covered during 2020/22, for the Barden-Hiller (MRN.Y), Cottage Street (MRN.Z), Main Street (MRN.AA), South Street MRN.AB), Upper Pleasant Street (MRN.AC), and Upper Main Street (MRN.AH,N,) areas. To these areas should be added the town's public buildings (Town Hall and Library and Natural History Museum (MRN.59 and 60) at 2 and 8 Spring Street as well as their neighbors and might extend further up and down Front Street.

Most of the resources here retain substantial integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, design, feeling, and association. The district would likely meet criteria A and C at the local and possibly at the state level, with areas of significance in architecture, maritime history, and social history.