

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

7A – 16	Marion, MA		
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Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Address: 917 Point Road
Historic Name: Faustino Lopes Brito House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: Early 20th century

Source: Visual

Style/Form: Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete block

Wall/Trim: Wood shingle / wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Chicken coop

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Foundation rebuilt (date unknown)

Condition: Excellent

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 1.02 acres

Setting: On residential Point Road. Surrounding buildings are single family dwellings and a mix of dates, some late 19th/early 20th century, others postwar.

Locus Map (*North is Up*)



Recorded by: Jennifer B. Doherty

Organization: Marion Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): October, 2020

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

917 POINT 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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Faustino Lopes Brito House at 917 Point Road is a two-story hipped-roof block roughly two piles deep and three bays wide with a center entry. The house is entirely contained in the main block aside from a wide gabled hood sheltering the entry door, a wood ramp and stairs providing access to the door, and a hipped-roof dormer on the main face of the roof. The house sits on a concrete block foundation, is covered in wood shingles, and has an asphalt shingle roof. Windows are vinyl 1/1 sash with a false muntin giving the appearance of 2/1 sash. The house is very simple with no ornate trim or other elaboration. The first floor windows feature a simple Classical entablature, while the second floor windows are set within the wide fascia of the cornice. The gabled hood over the door is supported by plain, square knee brackets. The entry door features ½-height sidelights on either side. A brick chimney projects from the north side of the center of the roof; a second chimney is just visible on the rear of the house, south of center.

Sited on the east side of Point Road, the Brito House faces west across the street. While its one-acre lot is noticeably larger than other surrounding lots, the house is set close to the street in an open area. The rear of the lot is heavily wooded. A wood chicken coop is sited behind the house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Faustino Lopes Brito House at 917 Point Road is located in the northeast part of Marion known in the mid- and late- 19th and early 20th century as Hamblin's Corner and focused on the corner of Point Road and Wareham Road/Route 6 (see 961 Point Road, MRN.xxx). At the turn of the century, the neighborhood became more densely settled, with further development on Point and Wareham roads coming in the 1910s and 20s and then in the postwar years. At this time, the neighborhood became identified with Marion's Cape Verdean community who bought and built houses and businesses here. Portuguese immigrants came to Marion by 1880, but in larger numbers in the 1900s and 1910s until immigration restrictions of 1917, 1923, and 1924 dramatically cut the flow. Most lived in one of two sections of the town, Azoreans and Cape Verdeans first along Mill Street, and Cape Verdeans in Hamblin's Corner, which became the town's largest community of color. Faustino Lopes Brito was a Cape Verdean. Most development of the part of Point Road to the south of Hamblin's Corner came with subdivision of larger lots in the 1950s and 60s, and new dwellings took familiar forms and plans of the period.

While much land in this area was sold as large lots and subdivided in the postwar period, the east side of {Point had been divided into one-acre lots early in the 20th century; see also forms for 921, 929, and 933 Point Road (MRN.xxx, xxx, xxx). The one-acre parcel the Faustino Lopes Brito House stands on was sold in 1916 by Reuben P. Cushing to Faustino Lopes Brito; no buildings were mentioned in the deed.¹ Brito (1884-1951), a native of Santiago, Cape Verde, was a laborer.² He was recorded in the 1920 census in Mattapoisett, at the house of a cousin. Brito was a widower with two children, Fermina and Miguel; their race was listed a Black. By 1930, the three were living on Point Road, presumably in the subject house; their race was listed as

¹ PCRD Book 1263, Page 527, October 24, 1916

² Ancestry.com: Massachusetts, Death Index, 1901-1980; US Federal Census of Population for 1920, 1930; US, World War II Draft Registration Cards.

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Negro. After Brito's death, Miguel Brito sold his interest in the property to his sister Fermina Brito Gamboa.³ The house passed through a series of owners during the second half of the 20th century.⁴

³ PCRD Book 2290, Page 45, August 12, 1953

⁴ PCRD Book 2290, Page 46, August 12, 1953; PCRD Book 2440, Page 450, August 16, 1955; PCRD Book 2440, Page 217, August 15, 1955; PCRD Book 2715, Page 477, July 27, 1959; PCRD Book 14549, Page 125, July 31, 1996; PCRD Book 14849, Page 315, December 16, 1996; PCRD Book 50101, Page 38, July 30, 2018; PCRD Book 51351, Page 279, July 11, 2019

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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps and atlases:

- 1855 H.F. Walling, *Map of the Town of Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts*
- 1879 Geo H Walker & Co, *Atlas of Plymouth County Massachusetts*
- 1903 L. J. Richards & Co, *New Topographic Atlas of Surveys of Plymouth County ... Massachusetts*
- 1918 USGS Topo New Bedford
- 1936, 1941, 1962 USGS Topo Marion

Ancestry.com: see footnotes

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds (PCRD): see footnotes, includes recorded date



The main façade and north elevation of the Faustino Lopes Brito House at 917 Point Road.