

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

007A_014	Marion, MA		
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Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Address: 918 Point Road

Historic Name: Fernandes/Santos House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residential
Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction c.1920-24

Source: Deeds, Maps, Census

Style/Form: no style/cottage

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:
Foundation: rubble stone
Wall/Trim: vinyl/aluminum
Roof: asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Large, two-bay garage to east

Major Alterations (*with dates*)
Siding and sash altered (in recent decades)

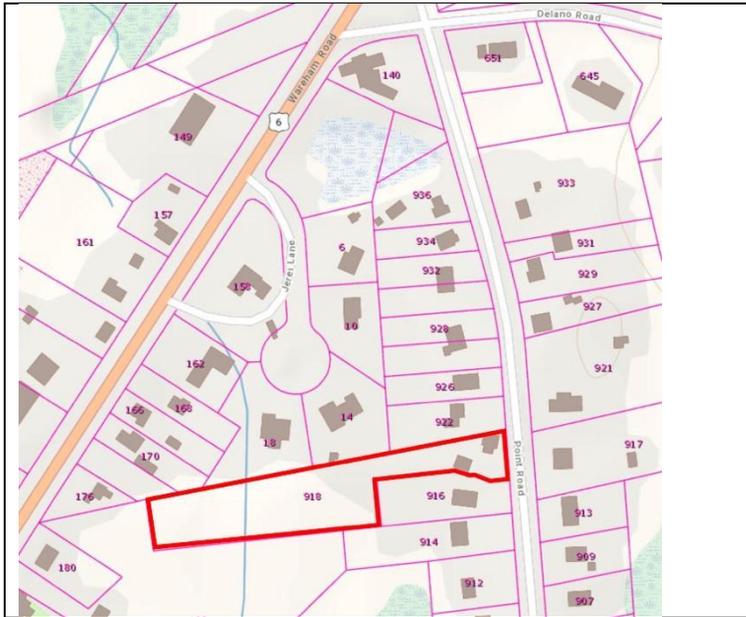
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 1.23 acres

Setting: In a residential area on primary street. Surrounding buildings are primarily single-family residences constructed in the mid-20th century.

Locus Map (*North is Up*)



Recorded by: Zachary J. Violette
Organization: Marion Historical Commission
Date (*month / year*): August, 2020

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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 Fernandes/Santos House is a one-and-three-quarter story, wood-frame cottage. Set on a rubble stone foundation, parged or thickly painted, the main block of the house has a footprint of 22 feet along Point Road and is 20 feet deep. A six-foot deep, two-story lean-to runs along the rear of the main block. A 10-foot wide, 20-foot deep, one-story wing further expands the main block to the south. The upper level forms a high-posted attic, below a shallow side-gabled roof. The building has an asymmetrically-arrange front fenestration, marked by small windows. The front of the south wing is marked by a three-part picture window. A concrete block chimney pierces the ridge line of the main block. Another concrete block chimney runs along the exterior of the south side.

The main entrance is reached through a wooden deck, set on a lattice base. The main door is a modern embossed steel unit with lights. It is sheltered by a small gabled canopy, set on angled brackets. Vinyl siding clads the house, while most trim is covered in aluminum panning. Windows throughout have vinyl 1/1 sash. At the eave line exposed wooden rafter tails remain.

The house is set on a deep, irregularly shaped lot. The house stands at an angle relative to Point Road, from which it is setback generously. Along the south side of the property an asphalt driveway connects to a large, two-bay garage at the rear. Built of concrete blocks, the garage has a side-gabled roof and two wooden vehicle doors. It is marked by a concrete plaque with the date "1954" in it. A poured concrete drive runs from the driveway to the house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Fernandes/Santos House at 918 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. Soon, 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. This house was built by Cape Verdean residents in the early 1920s. 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.

The land on which this house stands had been part of the property of Stephen D. Hadley in the nineteenth century. In 1879 Hadley's estate subdivided a one acre, 116 rod parcel, selling it to Levi H. Haskins.¹ Haskin's relationship to George Haskins, who owned considerable property on the east side of Point Road has not been ascertained. The parcel passed through a series of owners in the subsequent decades, eventually coming to be owned by Frederick H. Delano (1858-1920), who had other property on Point Road (See 933 Point Road, MRN.XXX).² There was no building on this lot at the time of the 1903 Richards Atlas. A 1919 deed between Frederick Delano and his son Elbert Delano also does not include a reference to a building here.³

¹ PCRD 455:200, 1879.

² PCRD 501:156, 1883; 1292:219. See reference 1328:514, 1919

³ PCRD 1328:514, 1919.

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In 1920 Elbert Delano sold this lot, apparently vacant, to Cesar Fernandes and his wife Anna.⁴ Cesar Fernandes (1891-1970) was born on Cape Verde and immigrated in 1911. At the time of the 1920 census he was living on Wareham Street in Marion, near the intersection of Point Road, in a house he shared with his wife Anna and two young children, listed as boarders. Fernandes worked as a mill laborer that year. Fernandes' race was described by census takers as Black. That document noted that Cesar could neither read nor write.⁵ The couple appears to have built this house over the course of the next four years. In June of 1924 Fernandes arranged for a \$790 mortgage on the property, which by that date included buildings, from James M. Monahan.⁶ Fernandes sold the house later that year to Sam Santos.⁷

Samuel "Sam" Santos (1897-1865) was born on Fogo, in Cape Verde and arrived in the United States in 1915. Two of his children were born in Waterbury Connecticut in 1926 and 1927, and Santos was living in Wareham by 1928.⁸ By the time of the 1930 Census he was living on Point Road in Marion, presumably in this house. Santos worked as a laborer at a golf course. He shared the house, valued at \$3000, with his wife Mary (nee Lopes, 1901-1948), their daughters Lillian and Theresa, and sons John and Napoleon.⁹ The family remained in the house a decade later. That year Santos continued to work as a laborer at a golf course. He and Mary had seven children and stepchildren at home that year.¹⁰

Santos would own the property until 1966. That year, Wareham Savings Bank foreclosed on a mortgage it had held on the widower's property since 1959.¹¹ The house and land were sold at auction to Santo's son Napoleon E. Santos (1930-2012), and his wife Maybelle, for \$2280.¹² In 1968 Santos divided a 16,490 square foot lot out of the parcel, representing the southern half of the original parcel's frontage along Point Road. A second dwelling was standing on that lot at the time of a 1968 plan, although this appears to have since been demolished for the house at 916 Point Road. The lot of the older house was reduced to 1.23 acres.¹³ The next year Santos sold the house and reduced lot to Marie G. Rezendes.¹⁴ The house had a series of short-term owners over the next decade and a half. It was sold to its present owner in 1985.¹⁵

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 Topographic Marion
- 1962 USGS Topo Marion

Ancestry.com: see footnotes

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

⁴ PCRD 1380:75, 1920

⁵ 1920 US Census, Marion Enumeration District 118, Sheet 11B

⁶ PCRD 1463:358, 1924.

⁷ PCRD 1474:121, 1924.

⁸ Ancestry.com family tree https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/22425470/person/29359712054/facts?_phsrc=Cxg3&_phstart=successSource citing birth records and city directory.

⁹ 1930 US Census, Marion Enumeration District 74, Sheet 8A

¹⁰ 1940 US Census, Marion Enumeration District 12-113, Page 2B

¹¹ PCRD 2721:60, 1959.

¹² PCRD 3337:345, 1966.

¹³ PCRD Plan Book 3468:425, 1968.

¹⁴ PCRD 3552:142, 1969

¹⁵ PCRD 6064:152, 1985.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

918 POINT ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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View from the south. Photo by Jennifer Doherty



Garage. Photo by Jennifer Doherty

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"Sam" Santos from <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/22425470/person/29359712054/media/e777bb21-9616-4b4c-b598-3ef846294a81>