

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_011	Marion, MA		
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Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



View from South. Photo by Jennifer Doherty

Address: 933 Point Road
Historic Name: Delano/Wilson House
Uses: Present: Single Family Residential
Original: Single Family Residential
Date of Construction: c.1899
Source: Deeds, Maps
Style/Form: No style/gambrel cottage
Architect/Builder: unknown
Exterior Material:
Foundation: rubble stone
Wall/Trim: wood shingle/wood
Roof: asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Shed at rear

Major Alterations (*with dates*)
Fenestration altered; some windows replaced.

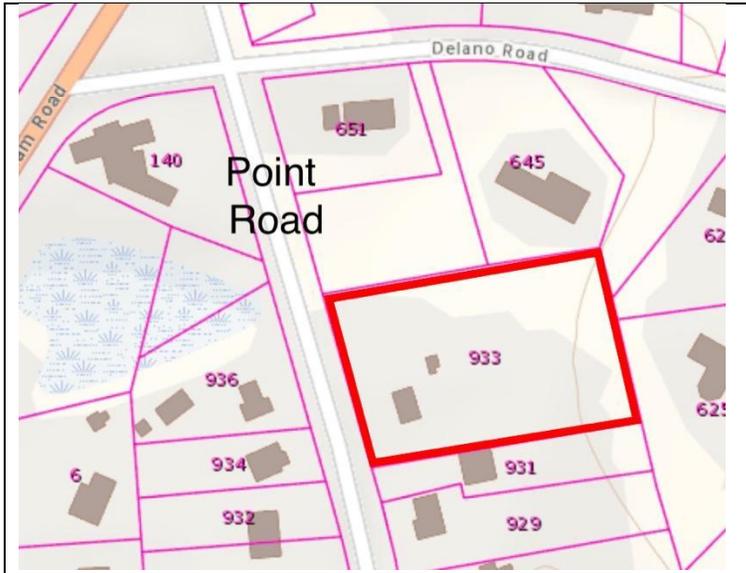
Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.9566 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 Delano/Wilson House is a one-and-one-half story, wood-frame, center-hall cottage, rising from a low foundation of rubble stone or poured concrete. The house has a single-pile main block 30 feet wide, and 16 feet deep. A one-story, lean-to addition runs across the rear of the house, eight feet deep. This is further enlarged by an eight-by-ten-foot bump-out. The main block has a high gambrel roof, with its ridge line set perpendicular to the road. It is broken by a gable wall dormer centered on the front elevation. The main elevation has a centered front door, with two bays of fenestration to the left. The right side, likely originally two bays, has been altered with a large, fixed-light window. The side elevations have irregular fenestration. A wide brick chimney rises from the center of the main block at its ridge. A gabled-roof basement bulkhead extends from the east elevation, sheltered by a pent roof.

Entrance is centered on the main block. The front door is wooden, with panels and light; it is covered by an aluminum storm door. A small door hood, set on modest scroll-sawn brackets, shelters the front door. The building is clad in wooden shingles, with wooden corner boards. Windows on the west side of the front elevation and in the front dormer retain wooden architraves, with modest cap moldings; the fixed-light window on the east side is framed with flat wooden trim. Three of the openings on the front elevation retain wooden 2/2 sash windows, with aluminum storms. Modern vinyl 1/1 windows fill the openings on the side walls. Trim has been removed from these openings.

The house is deeply set back from Point Road. The front yard is heavily planted with evergreen trees and shrubs. A gravel driveway runs along the east side of the property. Wooden fences enclose portions of the rear of the lot.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Delano/Wilson House at 933 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. Built during the first years of the twentieth century, this house is an example of that trend. Soon, the neighborhood became identified with Marion's Cape Verdean community who bought and built houses and businesses here, the town's largest community of color. However, this house remained owned by White property owners through most of the twentieth century.¹

One of the earliest sections of Hamblin's Corner to be more intensively developed was the east side of Point Road just below Delano Road. For most of the 19th century, no buildings were noted beyond the property that gave the neighborhood its name (961 Point Road, MRN.xxx). By the end of the 19th century, this stretch of road was flanked by three regular and identical one-acre parcels (16 by 10 rods) that would be developed with houses just before they were recorded on the atlas of 1903. The three houses aligned along this section of the street were occupied, north to south, by the households of Frederick Delano (this property), Samuel Pierce (929 Point Road), and George Haskins (921 Point Road). Delano and Haskins purchased their properties from a near-by resident, Joseph Briggs, while the Pierces purchased from a Middletown investor, Judah Hathaway.

¹ Portuguese immigrants come 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.

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To the south of these parcels, a narrower and deeper parcel, also an acre in size, was sold by another neighborhood resident, Reuben Cushing, to Faustino Britto, who built 917 Point Road shortly thereafter.²

The one-acre parcel of land on which this house now stands was sold in February of 1899 by Joseph W. Briggs to Frederick H. Delano (1858-1920) for \$40.³ Briggs owned a considerable amount of land in the area, and lived in a house to the north of the subject property, on what is now Delano Road, just south of the Weweantic River. Simultaneously to that purchase Delano arranged for a \$400 mortgage on the property from Judah Hathaway of Rochester.⁴ That transaction likely financed the construction of the current house, which appears as the property of Delano on the 1903 Richards map. Delano was born in Marion, the son of Harper Delano, a mariner. By 1880 Frederick Delano also listed his occupation as mariner.⁵ He cannot be located in the 1900 US Census. The mortgage was discharged in 1906.⁶ Later that year Delano sold the house to Evelyn F. Phelps of Marion and her daughter Evelyn E. Wilson, then of New Bedford.⁷ Delano later moved to New Bedford; he is found there at the time of the 1910 census, where he listed his occupation as house carpenter.⁸ Briggs, Delano, and Wilson were born in Massachusetts and listed their race as White.

It is unclear if the Wilson family occupied the house immediately; they cannot be located on Point Road in 1910. By the time of the 1920 census they were living here. The household was headed by Evelyn's husband Jerimiah, who worked as a teamster on a private estate. The couple had one child at home, daughter Phyllis E, who worked as a clerk in a dry goods store.⁹ The couple remained here a decade later. That year, Jerimiah listed his occupation as boat builder. Along with their daughter Phyllis, they shared the house with two young grandsons, Robert and Roger, likely Phyllis's children.

The house would remain in the Wilson family for most of the remainder of the twentieth century. In 1976 Phyllis Wilson (later Wolfe), who had come to own the house through the estate of her mother, briefly transferred the property to Robert Wilson.¹⁰ The transfer was reversed in a deed two years later.¹¹ At Phyllis's death the property passed to Roger Wilson. He sold the property to Scott H. Brady in 1993.¹² Brady continues to own the property.

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

² A later owner of the Pierce property, Lizzie Vose, subdivided it, selling a section to the south to Aurelio and Caroline Rose, who built 927 Point Road in about 1920, and the section to the north to Vesto and Mary Pina, who built a house that formerly stood at 931 Point Road at about the same time. These sales mark the growth of the Portuguese or Cape Verdean community in Hamblin's Corner, which began first further north on Point Road, above Wareham Road, and would expand further in this area in the postwar era.

³ PCRD 776:29, 1899.

⁴ PCRD 773:492, 1899

⁵ 1880 US Census, Enumeration district 545, Page, 26

⁶ PCRD 947:310, 1906

⁷ PCRD 944:80, 1906.

⁸ 1910 US Census, New Bedford

⁹ 1920 US Census, Marion, Enumeration District 118, Sheet 11B

¹⁰ PCRD 4210:639, 1976

¹¹ PCRD 4410:55, 1979.

¹² PCRD 11570:297, 1993.

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



View from the north. Photo by Jennifer Doherty.

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1903 Richards atlas, subject house marked "Fred Delano."