

# MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION FORM B - BUILDING

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BLVD  
BOSTON, MA 02125

### Photograph

*(3"x3" or 3-1/2"x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.*

Roll	Negative(s)



### Sketch Map

*Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.*

**Town** Provincetown  
**Place** *(neighborhood or village)*  
**Address** 631 COMMERCIAL ST  
**Building ID** 1646  
**Parcel No. (PID)** 15-3-002-0  
**Mapbase #** 15-3-002  
**Building Area** 871.412  
**Historic Name** Sea Barn/Motherwell Studio  
**Present Use** Residential  
**Original Use**  
**Date of Construction** 1890  
**Source** NR Nomination  
**Style/Form** Astylistic  
**Architect/Builder**  
**Exterior Material** Wood shingle  
**Foundation** concrete block  
**Wall/Trim** wood  
**Roof** Hipped  
**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures**

### Major Alterations *(with dates)*

Major addition, c. 1960.

**Condition** Good  
**Moved**  no  yes **Date**  
**Acreage** 0.051  
**Setting**

**Recorded by** Vanessa Zeoli  
**Organization** Kise Straw & Kolodner  
**Date** *(month/year)* October 2003  
**Form Status**  new  update

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

*Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.*

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### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings in the community.*

631 Commercial St. is a 3-story, 3-bay dwelling; hipped roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles; exterior is clad in wood shingles on front façade with clapboard siding on secondary facades; wood corner boards and trim; fenestration includes 6/6 DHS wood windows; symmetrical fenestration is same on every story of front façade; balconies on 2nd and 3rd stories; doors and doorways are paired round-head vertical plank; enclosed 1-story section on south facade with roof-top deck. Remnants of hoisting/pulley system remain at roofline on front façade - could indicate historic industrial use of building.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

see continuation sheet

*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.*

As per Josephine DeI Deo (1977): "Robert Motherwell is an internationally recognized painter. He remodeled this and the barn structure recently for a studio and calls it 'Sea Barn'. He was formerly married to Helen Frankenthaler painter and owner of 622 Commercial Street.

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NEED MOTHERWELL HISTORY

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*