

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION FORM B - BUILDING

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

Town Provincetown
Place *(neighborhood or village)*
Address 374 COMMERCIAL ST
Building ID 1144
Parcel No. (PID) 12-2-027-0
Mapbase # 12-2-027
Building Area 1126.406
Historic Name
Present Use Commercial
Original Use Residential
Date of Construction 1750
Source 1977 Survey
Style/Form Astylistic
Architect/Builder
Exterior Material wood shingle
Foundation brick
Wall/Trim wood
Roof Front gable
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

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

Major Alterations *(with dates)*

Commercial conversion; replacement windows.

Condition Good
Moved no yes **Date**
Acreage 0.046
Setting

Recorded by Johnette Davies

Organization Kise Straw & Kolodner

Date *(month/year)* March 2004

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.

374 Commercial St. is a 2-1/2-story, 3-bay astylistic dwelling converted to residential use; gable-front roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles, gable dormers, small wood cornice; exterior is clad in wood shingles with wood trim, clapboard siding on the gable dormers; building sits on a raised brick foundation; fenestration includes 6/6 replacement DHS windows on the 1st floor, 6/6 replacement DHS in the gable end, and replacement fixed-pane windows with triple awning window transoms at 2nd story, inoperable shutters; central entry is partially below grade and is sheltered by a gabled hood; left side façade contains wood staircase and deck to secondary entries.

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 Del Deo (1977): The owner's history of the house includes the fact that it was originally sitting by itself along the beach with no other houses nearby, especially no houses on the shore side. It was in use originally as a fisherman's boarding house. The small rooms under the eaves upstairs attest to this use. It faces west because of its isolation. There was no street at the time it was built, and the fishermen came up directly from the beach. Its interior boasts wide floor boards and very wide paneling, some boards being as wide as 30" in the upstairs hall. The stairs are traditionally steep and the railing is pine. There were originally five fireplaces in the house, but these are presently boarded. The original doors and all the wainscoting is intact. The sills are low and, of course, crooked. The door frames are crooked and high against the ceiling and the corner posts, as in the house at 72 Commercial, are part of the room's interior decoration. All the wall woodwork is now painted, but the original wood is in place in every room and has not been altered. The house is certainly part of the 18th century, but the exact year of its construction is, to date, unknown.

Two previous owners were Berry and Crocker. The present owner purchased it from John Francis.

House has been converted to commercial use and its exterior further altered.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

Interview with owner, March 14, 1977.

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