Nathaniel Swift House
U.S. Route 6
Eastham
Barnstable County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MA-736

HABS
MASS,
1-EAST,
14-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HABS
MASS
1-EAST
14-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

NATHANIEL SWIFT HOUSE HABS No. MA-736

Location: West side of U.S. Highway No. 6, south of Eastham Town Center.

Eastham, Barnstable County, Massachusetts.

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Daley.
Eastham, Massachusetts.

Present Occupant: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Daley.

Present Use: Residence, and bakery.

Significance: Good example of Cape Cod "double house", ie. with central door flanked by two windows on either side.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Original and subsequent owners - The house is illustrated on p 141 of Eastham Massachusetts 1651-1951, published by the Eastham Tercentenary Committee 1951, Hancock Press, Lexington, Mass. and caption states that the Daley house was residence of "Nathaniel Swift, brother of Gustavus P. Swift, founder of the meat packing firm. . ."
Daleys have owned house since 1939.

Date of erection - verbal date from Daleys, 1741.

Architect - unknown.

Builder - unknown.

Original plans of construction - none known to exist.

Alterations and additions, painted in 1958; Modern kitchen ell at rear, date unknown.

Historical events - may have been home of founder of Swift Packing Co.

Important old views - An old 8 x 10 photo of about 1880's hangs on wall of old kitchen; old calendar paintaing (copy) in north room of house, original reputedly in possession of a Swift in Cambridge, Mass.

Sources of information - owner.

Likely sources not yet investigated - Swift history, if available; Eastham and Barnstable County Records.

Prepared by Charles S. Dotts
Charles S. Dotts, Architect
Cape Cod Survey I, 8/31/60

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural interest and merit - early 18th century Cape Cod "double house".

Condition - excellent.

THE EXTERIOR

Overall dimensions 24 x 32, "double house" 5 bay front.

Foundations - brick.

Wall construction - Vertical plank, heavy timber frame. Shingled exterior.

Porches, stoops, Brick/at front, flush with ground.

Chimneys - One central brick chimney, to right of center, on ridge. Rear brick chimney over kitchen ell, modern.

Openings - doorways and doors- 4 panel fron door with 4 lights in top; pilasters at sides; dentil molding above door.

windows and shutters - 6/9 first floor, double hung wood frame; 6/6 second floor; louvered shutters, may be original.

Roof - shape, covering Pitched, gabled, ridge parallel to road; Modern composition covering. Wood truss construction, 8'-0" on center.

cornice, eaves Wood box cornice; narrow eaves.

dormers, none.

THE INTERIOR

Floor plans, Front entry flanked by two window north and south rooms with original kitchen in rear, center, and this flanked by two small rooms (bed room and buttery) on the north and south. Modern kitchen ell added at rear, west side of house. Second floor changed to 3 bed rooms.

Stairs - Front stair off of entry, L shaped; rear stair between buttery and bed room on north side of kitchen.

Flooring Random width pine.

Wall and ceiling finish- Plastered walls and ceilings, wainscoting to height of window stool in 3 main rooms, first floor.

Doorways and doors 4 panel doors.

Trim - good wood trim, old appearance. Fine Fireplace paneling in north room, south room, and in original kitchen.

Hardware Some old lift latches on first floor interior.

Lighting - Electric.

Heating - Central hot water heating system; 3 fireplaces.

SITE

Orientation - House is located on west side of the road, in a nice setting, facing east.

Enclosures None

Outbuildings - Shed, garage to the rear of the house, other cottages or cabins in the rear.

Walks, driveways - Walk, front of house - driveway to south of house, parking space there.

Landscaping, gardens - Informal planting of trees and shrubs; lawn in good condition.

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