

Atwood Rich House
Ryder Beach Road
Truro
Barnstable County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MA-719

HABS
MASS,
1-TRU,
35-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

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

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ATWOOD RICH HOUSE

HABS No. MA-719

Location: North side of Ryder Beach Road.
Truro.
Barnstable County.
Massachusetts.

Present Owner: Mrs. Dorothy Schroeder.
Ryder Beach Road.
Truro, Massachusetts.

Present Occupant: Mrs. Dorothy Schroeder.

Present Use: Permanant Residence.

Significance: This is a Cape Cod "house and a half" (3/4 house) which is typical of the early Cape Cod houses built on this part of the Cape. While changes have been made to modernize the house, it retains its early character. The house is located within the area of the proposed Cape Cod National Seashore.

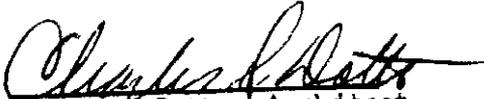
PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Probably early 19th century.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Builder: Unknown.
4. Original plans of construction: None known to exist.
5. Original and subsequent owners: Mr. Silas Clark, Wellfleet Attorney, whose interest has been to trace the titles of some of the property in this area, reported that the first evidence of a deed, which was probably a mortgage, was dated in 1853, from Atwood Rich to Uriah Mayo, Sears Rich, and Jeremiah Paine II. In a deed of 1856, Atwood Rich conveyed the dwelling house, barn, and property to Perez Rich. He deeded the property to Benjamin L. Hatch in 1865, who deeded it to Lydia F. Doyle in 1887, who deeded it to J. M. Ryder in 1901. Present owner is the daughter of J. H. Ryder.*

- * Further information from the present owner concerning a deed in her possession refers to the property being sold by Lydia F. Doyle and William A. Doyle for \$150, and taxes for 1901 in the amount of \$8.93 to J. M. Ryder. "The same being the land conveyed by Benjamin L. Hatch to Lydia F. Doyle February 3, 1887 was recorded at Barnstable Registry of Deeds, libro 170, folio, 510."
6. Alterations and additions: Front entry was removed; a bath was added to the small bedroom next to the east room; a modern kitchen ell was added to the west of the house; an enclosed porch was added to the south of the kitchen. New apartment at north side of kitchen.
 7. Historical events and persons connected with the structure: Present owner's father, J. M. Ryder, who previously owned this house, was a prominent resident of this area. Ryder Beach on the Bay and Ryder Beach Road were named after him.
 8. Important old views: None.
 9. Sources of information: Present Owner; Mr. Silas Clark, Wellfleet, Massachusetts.
 10. Likely sources not yet investigated: Further search could be made of the Truro Town Records and the Barnstable County Records, however the latter are incomplete prior to 1827 because of a court house fire which destroyed many of the earlier records.

Prepared by


Charles S. Dotts, Architect
HABS Cape Cod Survey I
Sept. 2, 1960.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement:

Architectural interest and merit This is a 1 1/2 story, frame construction Cape Cod "house and a half" located within the area of the proposed Cape Cod National Seashore.

Condition of fabric Excellent.

EXTERIOR

Overall dimensions Original house, 26'-0" x 28'-8".

Foundation Brick.

Wall construction Post and beam construction with horizontal sheathing boards observed in east gable end of house, second floor. Clapboard exterior on south or main front, and shingles on other sides. House is painted white.

Porches, stoops Brick stoops at entrances. Enclosed porch, new, at south west corner of house.

Chimneys One rebuilt brick chimney over enter of original house; one transite chimney over kitchen addition. This latter is enclosed by wood, to simulate the old style brick chimney.

Openings - doorways and doors 6 panel door with 4 light transom at south or main entrance.

windows and shutters 6/9 original windows in double hung wood sash. New solid wood shutters, painted green.

Roof - shape, covering Gabled, pitched, asphalt shingles (1935). Original vertical roof sheathing replaced by horizontal board sheathing in 1935.

cornice, eaves Wood, box cornice; narrow eaves.

dormers None.

THE INTERIOR

Stairways One, to second floor, narrow, 10 risers.

Flooring Random width pine flooring, apparently butt joints, painted.

Wall and ceiling finish Plastered walls and ceilings.

Doorways and doors Mostly original 6 panel interior doors.

Trim Mitered trim at windows and doors, probably original. Good fire-place paneling in east room of second floor, and in original kitchen.

Floor plans This house was originally a Cape Cod "house and a half" with the entrance on the south side flanked by a two window east room and by a one window west room. The front door originally opened into a small entry of about 3 x 4 feet in size. The west wall of the entry was removed at an unknown date, and at present, one enters the west room. A door leads to the east room from the former entry. Evidence of the entry partitions are seen on the west room ceiling.

A closet back of the entry was removed by the present owner in 1941 to enlarge the west room. The stair to the second floor is located behind the north wall of the west room, with the entrance in a small hall. A doorway leads from this hall into the living room, which was probably the original kitchen. Off of this room, original kitchen, are located the buttery and small bed room, at the eastern end of the room. This bed room or "borning room", which is seen in similar Cape Cod houses, was joined to the east front room with a doorway at one time. The present owner however built a small clothes closet in the corner of the bed room and the original door now opens to reveal the closet. The front bed room can be entered from the original kitchen. The buttery in back of this room has been converted into a bath room, with entrance also from the original kitchen, or the present living room. A former entrance from the stair hall has been plastered over. This was an exterior entrance.

A modern kitchen ell was added to the west side of the original kitchen by Mr. J. W. Ryder, and this was remodeled and an enclosed porch, living room area was added by the present owner. An apartment consisting of a bed room, bath, and kitchen was also added to the north of this modern kitchen. A breezeway on the west side of the house connects it with the garage.

On the second floor are located an east bedroom, a west bedroom, and an "open chamber" or stair well room. The partitions appear to be where they were originally built.

Hardware Mostly modern.

Lighting Electric.

Heating Floor furnace in present living room, with fireplace "heat-
ilator".

SITE

Orientation The house faces south in typical Cape Cod manner, on lee side of hill, terraced lot.

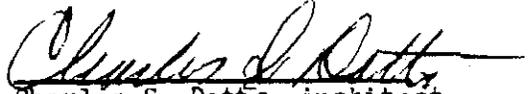
Enclosures None.

Outbuildings Double garage, 1916, 24 feet west of the house and connected to it by a breezeway built in 1947. There is an old wood shed about 50 yards west of the house.

Walks, driveways Blacktop drive from road to garage with parking space and turn-around between the road and garage.

Landscaping Excellent setting of well trimmed lawn, shrubbery and trees.

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Charles S. Dotts, Architect
HABS Cape Cod Survey I
Sept. 2, 1960

References - Measured Drawings, Cape Cod Survey I, Eastham Field Station, Summer, 1960;