

Rich-Cobb House
Prince Valley Road
Truro
Barnstable County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MA-766

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

RICH-COBB HOUSE

HABS No. MA-766

Location North side of Prince Valley Road, between Old County Road and Highway no. 6, in Truro, Barnstable County, Massachusetts.

Present owner G. Harvey Nicholls, 21 E. Maple Ave. Boundbrook, N.J.

Present occupant Mr. and Mrs. G. Harvey Nicholls.

Present use Summer residence.

Significance 19th C. Cape Cod "double house" type, located within the area of the proposed Cape Cod National Seashore.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Original and subsequent owners - Mr. Silas Clark, Wellfleet Attorney, who has traced many of the Titles in this area, stated that first known deed was in 1841 from Joseph Rich to Atkins S. Rich, for dwelling house and store and small piece of land. Latter's heirs sold to Joseph Cobb, Jr. and his heirs to Anna D. Capron in 1896. Other land was purchased also from Burleigh Cobb. Present owner purchased place in 1944 from Caprons. This was verified by present owner.

Date of erection - Before 1841.

Architect - unknown.

Builder Unknown.

Original plans None known to exist.

Alterations and additions - Interior altered somewhat, boarded-up rear stairs, fireplaces blocked.

Historical events connected with structure - None known to exist.

Important old views - None.

Sources of information Present owner; Mr. Silas Clark, Pamet Point Rd., Wellfleet.

Likely sources not yet investigated - Truro and Barnstable County Records.

Prepared by


Charles S. Dotts, Architect
HABS Cape Cod Survey I
August 29, 1960

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural interest and merit - This is a good example of a Cape Cod "double house" located within the area of the proposed Cape Cod National Seashore.

THE EXTERIOR

Overall dimensions About 24 x 30.

Foundations - Brick.

Wall construction - Heavy frame, post and beam, horizontal siding observed in end walls, second floor. Shingle exterior.

Porches, stoops Brick stoop.

Chimneys - One centrally located at ridge, brick.

Openings - doorways and doors 4 panel modern front door, 4 light transom.

windows and shutters - 9/6 windows in d.h. sash.

Roof, shape, covering, construction Gabled, pitched roof, shingles cover. Wood trusses about 5'-0" on center, cross ties pegged to trusses, vertical roof sheathing boards.

cornice, eaves Wood box cornice, narrow eaves. Wood gutter.

dormers None.

THE INTERIOR

Floor plans Typical Cape Cod "double house", with 5 bay front, central entrance, stairs up from the entry, two main rooms in front of house and kitchen in rear, with buttry and small bed room at east end of kitchen. Upper floor has one finished bed room over south west part of house. Rest is open chamber. Circular brick cellar under east part of house.

Stairways, Two, at front entry, and at rear of house, which is blocked up.

Flooring - random width pine flooring.

Wall and ceiling finish - Plastered walls with wainscoting to window stool. Plastered ceiling.

Doorways and doors - Interior 6 panel doors with glass in top two panels.
fireplace

Trim - Mitered molded wood trim. Good mantel and/panel wall in east room
and kitchen.

Hardware - Old lift catches on interior doors.

Lighting - Electric.

Heating - space heaters. Fireplaces blocked.

SITE

Orientation - house faces south, on barren hill, up a lane off of Prince
Valley Road, to the north.

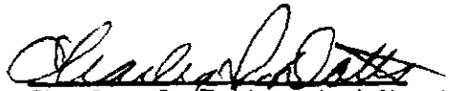
Enclosures - None.

Outbuildings Rental cottsge about 50 yards north of house.

Walks, driveways - No walks; sandy drive up to yard.

Landscaping - Informal planting of trees and shrubbery. Fair lawn.

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