

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SWN.148
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Davol, A. P. House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	28 Mattapoisset Ave
<b>City/Town:</b>	Swansea
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	South Swansea; Gardner's Neck;
<b>Local No:</b>	4;
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1896
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Colonial Revival; Shingle Style;
<b>Architect(s):</b>	Darling, Joseph Monroe; Marvell, Edward I.;
<b>Use(s):</b>	Secondary Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House;
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Recreation;
<b>Area(s):</b>	SWN.F
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Nat'l Register District (02/16/1990); Nat'l Register MRA (02/16/1990);
<b>Building Materials:</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wall: Wood Shingle;
<b>Demolished</b>	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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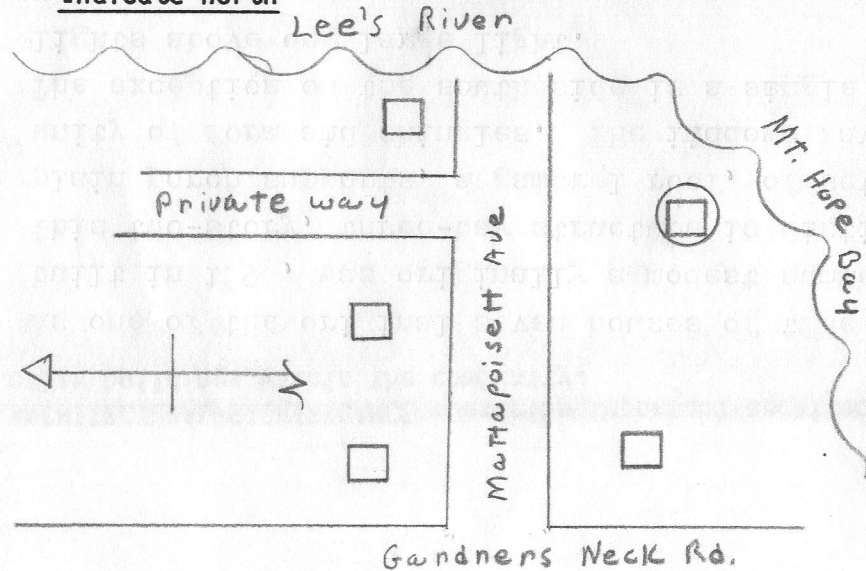
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 AREA E FORM NO. F 148  
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Town SWANSEA  
 Address 28 Mattapoisett Avenue  
 Historic Name A. P. Davol House  
 Use: Present Residence  
 Original Summer Residence

DESCRIPTION  
 Date 1896  
 Source Bristol County Registry of Deeds-Fall River, MA  
 Style SHINGLE  
 Architect Probably Mr. Edward Marvel  
 Builder J. M. Darling  
 Exterior Wall Fabric Shingles  
 Outbuildings None

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Intersection(s).  
 Indicate north



Major Alterations (with dates)  
 Ell added c. 1924  
 East porch extended and glassed in c. 1928  
 Condition WELL PRESERVED

Moved No Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Acreage One acre or less  
 Setting Overlooking Mt. Hope Bay and New England Electric Co. on an open and naturally landscaped site

UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_  
 USGS QUADRANGLE Fall River, Mass. RI 1967-79  
 SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by Kay Flynn/E. A. Waring  
 April, 1978  
 Organization Swansea Historical Commission  
 Date January, 1986



## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

As one of the original seven houses of "The Colony," No. 28 Mattapoissett Avenue, built in 1896, was originally a modest summer dwelling in the Shingle Style. This two-story, three-bay structure is distinguished by its wrap porch with plain porch supports, a gambrel roof, offset single chimney and its cohesive unity of form in shingles. The windows have two over one lights in equal sash. The exception on the south side is a single decorative window with two small lights above one large light.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

At the turn of the century, the point of land at the end of Gardners Neck, facing Lee's River and Mt. Hope Bay including No. 28 Mattapoissett Avenue, was ideal for summer recreational activities. It was one of the seven houses built in this area between 1896 and 1902 for Fall River families who came to spend the summer in Swansea. This group of houses was known as "The Colony." "The Colony" is described in area \_\_\_\_\_ form.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Eristol County Registry of Deeds, Fall River, MA  
Deed from Robert A. Wilcox and Eric Borden to Abner P. Davol  
March 11, 1896 - Book 38, page 225

Diary of Abner P. Davol in possession of granddaughter,  
Mrs. Lincoln P. Holmes, 55 Perch Road, Westport, MA.

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. A	Form no. 148
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1. Town SWANSEA  
Address 28 Mattapoissett Avenue  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Present use Summer residence

Present owner Ruth A. Holmes

3. Description:  
Date 1896  
Source \_\_\_\_\_  
Style SHINGLE

Architect - Probably Mr. Edward Marvell  
Builder - J.M. Darling  
Exterior wall fabric Shingles

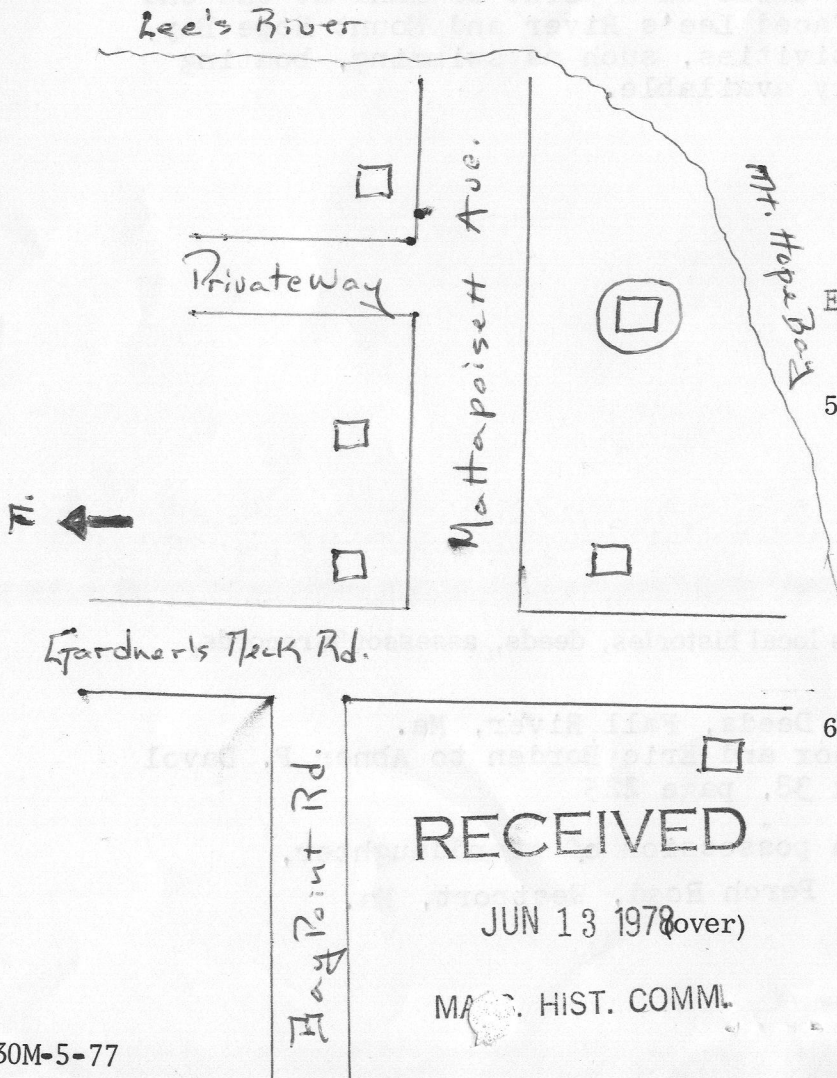
Outbuildings (describe) None  
Other features Tongue and groove sheathing inside house.

Altered Ell added Date c. 1924  
East porch extended and Moved glassed in Date c. 1928

5. Lot size:  
One acre or less  Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate frontage 80'  
Approximate distance of building from street 20'

6. Recorded by Mrs. Ellis A. Waring  
Organization Swansea Historical Society  
Date April 25, 1978

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.





7. Original owner (if known) Abner P. and Harriet M. Davol

Original use Summer residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Same to present

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<u>      </u>	Conservation	<u>      </u>	Recreation	<u>  X  </u>
Agricultural	<u>      </u>	Education	<u>      </u>	Religion	<u>      </u>
Architectural	<u>  ✓  </u>	Exploration/ settlement	<u>      </u>	Science/ invention	<u>      </u>
The Arts	<u>      </u>	Industry	<u>      </u>	Social/ humanitarian	<u>      </u>
Commerce	<u>      </u>	Military	<u>      </u>	Transportation	<u>      </u>
Communication	<u>      </u>	Political	<u>      </u>		
Community development	<u>  X  </u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Community development:

This house was one of seven built between 1896 and 1902 for Fall River families who came to spend the summer in Swansea. The group of houses was known as "The Colony" and is described as an Area on another sheet.

Recreation:

Since these houses were built on a point of land at the end of Gardner's Neck and faced Lee's River and Mount Hope Bay, summer recreational activities, such as swimming, boating and fishing were readily available.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Fall River, Ma.

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