

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name MERCELTA EVELYN ELDREDGE KELLEY HOUSE

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 2610 MAIN STREET N/A not for publication

city or town CHATHAM N/A vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county BARNSTABLE code 001 zip code 02659

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director 1/4/05  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Cara Metz, Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby certify that this property is:
  - entered in the National Register
    - See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register
    - See continuation sheet.
  - determined not eligible for the National Register
  - removed from the National Register
  - other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Edson H. Beall

Date of Action

2/24/05

Mercelia Kelley House  
Name of Property

Barnstable, MA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	_____ building
_____	_____	_____ sites
_____	_____	_____ structures
_____	_____	_____ objects
_____	_____	_____ Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: SINGLE DWELLING

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Queen Anne (porch)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls wood: weatherboard

roof asphalt shingle

other brick chimneys

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 7 Page 1

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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

South Chatham, Massachusetts, where the nominated property is located, is a village of primarily residential dwellings that line both sides of Main Street between the Old Village (Chatham Center) and the Harwich town line to the west. The majority of buildings that line Main Street (State Highway 28) of South Chatham date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and constitute the core of the village. These structures are predominately residential, there having been historically little commercial activity in this section of town. The Merceland Eldridge Kelley House faces south and occupies a rectangular lot that is less than one acre. It is part of a cluster of buildings that have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register as an historic district. Like its neighbors, the house stands toward the front of the lot close to the road.

### BUILDING DESCRIPTION

The 1877 house is wood frame construction with a brick foundation. The frame is constructed of eastern hemlock and eastern spruce, while the exterior is sheathed in cedar clapboards. The main block of the house is 2½ stories high with a gable roof facing the street. This section contains the principal rooms. In the front of the house is the entrance hall flanked by the parlor. Behind the hall is a sitting room, and behind that is a room that probably originally served as a ground floor bedroom. Adjoining those two rooms and behind the parlor is the dining room. The dining room projects east from the main section of the house by one bay in width on a one-story wing (**photo #1**).

Behind the dining room on the rear and offset from the main block of the house is a 1½ story gable roof wing. This section of the house includes the kitchen, the pantry, and a back staircase. On the second floor of both sections of the house are bedrooms and bathrooms.

The windows, except where noted, are original wood double-hung sash with 2/2 lights. The house has two bay windows, one for the historic parlor east of the main entrance on the front of the house, and one for the historic sitting room on the west side. On the east

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 7 Page 2

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side, at the intersection of the parlor and the one-story extension of the dining room, is a wide porch that includes a hexagonal-shaped projection on one side.

The exterior ornamental trim is predominantly in the Italianate style. Under the cornice formed by the eaves of the main block of the house (front and side elevations) are paired brackets. These brackets are duplicated (in smaller scale) at the first floor level for the bay windows, the cornice over the main entrance, the dining room extension cornice, and at the cornice returns of the kitchen wing. At each outside corner of the house are pilasters with panels and molded capitals supporting a cornice (**photo #2**).

The first and second story windows and doors are framed with plain trim except for a simple cornice molding. The exception to this is the main entrance which has a cornice supported on flanking scrolled brackets. Paired wood doors at this entrance have round arched panels with etched glass in a floral motif. Also on the front (south) elevation is an attic window in the peak of the gable that is round arched and framed with an arched molding and keystone block. There are two original blind windows on the west side of the house corresponding to the location of the main hall staircase. The house originally had shutters, which are now stored in the attic.

The porch on the east side of the house is located at the intersection of the main block of the house and the one story dining room projection. The porch posts have brackets in the Italianate style similar to the rest of the house. However, the porch posts are turned and in the Queen Anne style. The porch railing is pierced in a geometric panel that is also in the Queen Anne style. Although a mixture of styles is not uncommon for a vernacular house, Queen Anne style features such as these would have been unlikely as early as 1877. Therefore, this porch was probably enlarged within ten years of the initial construction date of the house. The dining room door off the porch is paneled and in the Italianate style. The kitchen door, also on the east side of the house, has horizontal panels and probably dates to the turn of the century.

On the interior of the house, very little has been altered except for the kitchen wing. The main entrance opens into a small square hall with a staircase on the left (**photo #3**). The

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 7 Page 3

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L-shaped staircase is tightly compressed along the west wall with narrow treads and risers. The newel posts and balusters, as befitting a relatively small staircase, have simple turnings that are more in the style of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century than the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Opposite and to the right of the exterior entrance are paneled doors leading, respectively, to the sitting room and the parlor. Behind the sitting room is a second room that was probably a ground floor bedroom. (See measured drawings of floor plans.)

The parlor to the right of the entrance hall also has a door into the sitting room. Behind the parlor is the dining room. The parlor and the dining rooms each have brick flues on inside walls for the stoves originally used to heat the house. At the base of each wall where the flues are located are round-arched faux hearths. The dining room has multiple doors leading to the west bedroom, a back staircase, a large pantry, the kitchen, and the porch off the southeast corner of the house. The paneled doors in all of these rooms have original painted grained finishes. The architrave trim for the windows and doors for these ground floor rooms have richly profiled period moldings. These rooms also feature wide baseboard moldings and wood floors. The pantry is lined with cupboards and shelves that also have original painted grain finishes.

On the second floor most of the rooms also date to the original construction of the house. All of the window and door trim, as well as the doors themselves, and plain and display no significant moldings or ornamental details. This section of the house originally consisted of the small hall at the top of the stairs, the back staircase, and four chambers.

Off the second floor most of the rooms also date to the original construction of the house. All of the window and door trim, as well as the doors themselves, are plain and display no significant moldings or ornamental details. This section of the house originally consisted of the small hall at the top of the stairs, the back staircase, and four chambers.

### ALTERATIONS

Alterations to the house prior to 2001 were minimal. In 1926 central heating was installed and the old stoves removed. At an unknown date, the brick steps at the front

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 7 Page 4

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entrance probably replaced wooden steps. This brick appears to match the parlor chimney, which suggests both date from the installation of central heating in 1926. Possibly at the same time an open verandah with railing that connected the porch to the entrance to the kitchen wing was eliminated. A small cornice with brackets over the door was also removed.

In 2001-2002 the bulkhead on the northwest corner of the house was replaced by a shed roof structure. The house was renovated with new plumbing and wiring at the same time. At that time the plaster walls were replaced. The most significant alteration to the first floor has been the remodeling of the kitchen. Little remains of interior finishes, and on the rear (north) elevation French doors were constructed to open out to the back yard, replacing a single shed door.

On the second floor of the kitchen an unfinished attic space was converted into a bedroom and bathroom. On the west slope of the roof, a shed roof dormer was added for the bathroom. The design of this dormer, including the windows, is in keeping with the scale of the house and is minimally visible except from the back yard.

The second floor of the main block of the house survives largely intact. The only significant change was the subdivision of two large rooms into two smaller rooms and a bathroom. The renovations to the house by Thomas Ambler, architect, preserve the essential architectural integrity of the house.

### LANDSCAPE FEATURES

An early 20<sup>th</sup> century postcard view shows Main Street in South Chatham with a group of houses on both sides of the street that includes the Merceland Eldridge Kelley House. This view documents the street as a narrower road, with sidewalks and a rail fence running in front of the properties. All but one of the buildings in this view are extant. These landscape features no longer survive. The yard behind the house includes five oak trees reputed to be the age of the house. This yard, with its remnant of the forest that once characterized the area, contributes to the historic setting of the property.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 7 Page 5

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### Archaeological Description

While the Merceland Eldridge Kelley House is located in an area of Cape Cod and Chatham where many ancient Native American sites are known and where a high potential exists for locating sites, no sites have been recorded on the nominated property. Sites may be present. Seven sites have been identified in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property represent some locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that support the presence of ancient sites. The Eldridge House is located on a well drained, level to moderately sloping outwash plain, approximately one-half mile north of Nantucket Sound. Red River, the nearest wetlands, lie slightly over 1,000 feet west of the house. The latter characteristic reduces the overall ancient site potential for this location. Given the above information, the small size of the property (0.95 acres), and construction of the house, which has a basement, the potential for locating significant ancient Native American resources on the nominated property is low.

A moderate to high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources on the Eldridge House property. Additional historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may locate structural evidence of barns, stables, and outbuildings in the area around the house. Similar research might also identify archaeological features related to house construction and alterations to the house. Archaeological evidence of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may also survive in the area around the house and potential outbuildings.

(end)

Mercelia Kelley House  
Name of Property

Barnstable, MA  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS): HPCA #10783**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

**Period of Significance**

1877-1954

**Significant Dates**

1877

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

**Cultural Affiliation**

n/a

**Architect/Builder**

UNKNOWN

Thomas Ambler (2001 alterations)

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mercelia Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 8 Page 1

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### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mercelia Eldridge Kelley House is an intact example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century middle class residence built by a locally important family. Erected in 1877, the house is characteristic of vernacular single-family houses embellished with ornamental trim in the Italianate style. It was built for Mercelia Eldridge Kelley and her husband Cyrus, prominent citizens in the community of south Chatham. The Eldridge family, which owned much of the real estate in the community, was largely responsible for development of the area in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The property is eligible for listing under Criterion C, for a well-preserved example of the Italianate style; and Criterion A, for its associations with the development of South Chatham and its connections with a locally important family. The house is part of an area that has been determined potentially eligible for listing as a Nation Register historic district.

South Chatham is one of several distinct communities of the town of Chatham on the Cape Cod peninsula. The original three Eldridge brothers to settle on Cape Cod were William, Robert, and Samuel. They and their descendants played a major role in the development of Chatham during both the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Levi Eldridge (1819-1898), a descendent of William and the father of Mercelia, in many ways epitomized the entrepreneurial spirit in which a man with minimal formal education was able to prosper during radical changes in the local economy by engaging in a wide variety of enterprises.

Levi began as a carpenter at age 18 and worked in that trade for thirteen years. His father (also named Levi) erected a store in South Chatham in 1839, one of the earliest commercial structures in that area of town. The building, still standing at 2607 Main Street across the road, was later the site of the first post office with Levi, Jr. as postmaster. Beginning in the late 1840s, Levi Jr. began to invest in fishing vessels, as well as in the curing and packing of fish for export. He erected a wharf for that purpose at "Deep Hole" in Harwich, just across the town line. Levi's prominent position on Cape Cod is indicated by the fact that he was president of the South Harwich Marine Insurance Company, vice-president and director of the Cape Cod National Bank, and president of the Five Cent Savings Bank of Harwich. In Chatham he served as selectman for twenty years, assessor, overseer of the poor, and school committee member.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Mercelia Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 8 Page 2

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This was the family that Mercelia Eldridge was born into in 1849. She was the second child of Levi's second wife, Mercy Small. Mercelia first married William W. Eldridge, a cousin, in 1870. He died the following year, followed by their only child, a daughter, in 1876. Mercelia's second husband was Cyrus W. Kelley, a sail maker. The couple married in 1873 at a time when the local economy was undergoing major changes.

The fishing industry was the mainstay of Chatham's economy in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It remained important in the 1870s with most Chatham residents dependant upon maritime activities. In addition to fishing and sail making, Chatham has a fleet of coasters that operated out of the harbor. Sail making, ship building, and the curing and packing of fish all provided employment. Yet the tendency of many individuals like Levi Eldridge to work in a variety of businesses indicated more than simply an entrepreneurial spirit. Fishing harvests declined in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, necessitating an ability to work in a variety of trades. Mercelia's first husband began as a mariner, but was a bookkeeper at the time of his death. Her second husband, Cyrus Kelley, first worked as a sail maker, but later went into partnership with his father-in-law to manage the family lumber and coal business.

In 1887, Levi Eldridge responded to a decline in fishing harvest by selling his six fishing vessels. He then concentrated on harvesting his cranberry fields. By 1890 there were 300 acres of cranberry fields in Chatham. Levi, in partnership with Cyrus Kelley, also moved his Harwich lumber and coal yard from his wharf to the new railroad depot in Chatham. The new depot was the first station of the Cape Cod Railroad to reach Chatham and provided a direct link to Boston. In addition to ending the reliance on coasters to transport goods, the railroad had a major impact on the new tourist industry by providing transportation for summer visitors. Chatham's year-round population has begun a century of decline in 1860. Those that remained, like Eldridge and Cyrus Kelley, prospered by engaging in a variety of enterprises.

On September 29, 1877 *The Chatham Monitor* reported that "Mr. Cyrus W. Kelley is having a two story house built opposite the South Chatham Post Office. It will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks." It is not known where the Kelleys lived prior to the

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 8 Page 3

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construction of their new house. The land was obtained from members of the Eldridge family, and it remained in the family by deeding it to Merceland rather than her husband. The couple, whose only child Mercy E. Kelley had been born in 1875, constructed a house that was not ostentatious, but reflected relatively current architectural fashions.

Unlike the traditional timber frame houses built by her father's generation, Merceland's new house had the more vertical proportions characteristic of frame construction using dimensionally sawn lumber that was readily available by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Indeed, Levi Eldridge owned a lumber yard. Similarly, the principal stylistic features, such as the Italianate brackets and window cornices, were also readily obtainable from lumber mills around New England.

As a vernacular interpretation of the Italianate architecture, the house features vestigial elements of the older Greek Revival style in that there are cornice returns in the gable ends supported by pilasters. Another traditional architectural feature is the main staircase in the front hall. Rather than a long straight run of stairs extending toward the rear of the house, the staircase is constructed tightly into the corner of the hall, creating a steep run of stairs. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century this type of staircase would have been dictated by a central chimney. It is presumably because the staircase cannot make a more grand architectural statement that the newel post and balusters have very simple turnings in a style more characteristic of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. In contrast, the door and window moldings of the principal rooms on the ground floor have boldly molded profiles characteristic of the 1870s.

The small community of South Chatham retains most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century structures that historically lined Main Street. The majority date from the two decades just before and after the Civil War. All are modest interpretations of vernacular architecture. The Kelley House is one of the best intact examples from the post-war period.

The Kelleys made one significant improvement to the exterior, probably within the first ten years of the house's construction. The side porch was very likely enlarged to create more of a verandah. The turned posts and pierced railing are in the Queen Anne style,

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable), MA

Section number 8 Page 4

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although Italianate brackets were used for the new posts. The original porch was probably rectangular with chamfered posts in the style of the pilasters. Both the Queen Anne posts and railing, as well as the way the porch is pushed out into the yard with a corner entrance, would not likely have been found on a house like this as early as 1877.

Another house in South Chatham, at 2621 Main Street, may provide an example of the original porch configuration of this house, except that it does not have the one story extension to the dining room.

With the decline in population and traditional sources of employment, there was no evident general prosperity that enabled people like Mercelina and Cyrus Kelley to build their house. Oral tradition states that Mercelina's father, Levi, was responsible and he may have provided financial support as there were also reasons to invest in real estate in South Chatham at that time. The same newspaper article that noted the construction of the Kelley house also reported on two other new houses and additions made to two more. The article concluded with comments about the seasonal departure of summer visitors, an early indication of this important change to the economy. Coastal communities the entire length of New England were first experiencing summer visitors in large numbers during the 1870s.

It is possible that the enlargement of the verandah on the house occurred as part of an effort to take in summer boarders. A complete record of Cyrus Kelley's varied sources of income has not been established, but it is significant that toward the end of his life the 1901 town directory indicates that he had a confectionary store, and that he operated it from this house.

Mercelina and Cyrus Kelley lived in the house with their daughter Mercy, who later married J. Murray Baker. The Bakers were trained as teachers at the Bridgewater Normal School where they met. They had two children, Cyrus and Harriet. Mercy Kelley died in 1914 and, although Mr. Baker remarried, his son remembers that he and his sister were largely brought up by their grandmother, Mercelina Kelley, in this house. (His grandfather Cyrus Kelley had died in 1908.) Mercelina inherited portions of her father Levi's land

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**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places**

### **Continuation Sheet**

**Mercelia Eldridge Kelley House**  
**Chatham (Barnstable), MA**

Section number   8   Page   5  

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after his death in a carriage accident in 1898. The land included cranberry bogs that she continued to harvest. Mercelia Kelley lived in the house until her death in 1935.

Her grandson Cyrus eventually opened a hardware store across the road at 2597 Main Street which he ran for fifty years before his death in 2003. Mercelia's granddaughter Harriet inherited the Mercelia Eldridge Kelley House. She was the secretary to the superintendent of schools before her marriage to Harold Tuttle, who died in 1978. Harriet passed away in 2002. After 123 years the house passed out of the Eldridge family. At that time the present owner undertook renovations that preserved the architectural integrity of the house.

#### **Archaeological Significance**

Although several ancient Native American sites have been recorded in the Chatham area, most lack descriptive and interpretative information beyond their location. Few sites have been systematically studied limiting their interpretative value making surviving sites in the area potentially significant. Potential ancient Native American sites located on the Eldridge House property may contribute important and needed information relating to the lifeways, subsistence, and settlement patterns of Native Americans in the Outer Cape and Chatham locale.

Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute important information relating to the construction of the Eldridge House and its relationship with any barns, stables, and outbuildings that may have existed on the property during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Much of the above information and detailed analysis of the contents of potential occupational related features may also contribute important social, cultural, and economic information relating to the inhabitants of the house and Chatham's population during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century period. Information derived from the analysis of outbuildings and occupational related features may also contribute significant information relating to summer boarders, extended family occupation, and any commercial activities that occurred at the house.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   1  

Merceland Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable) MA

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**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES**

*Atlas of Barnstable County.* George H. Walker & Co., 1880.

Deyo, Simeon, ed. *History of Barnstable County, Massachusetts.* H.W. Blake & Co., New York: 1890.

Freeman, Frederich. *The History of Cape Cod, Vols. I, II.* Parnassus Imprints: 1965 (reprint of 1858-60 original).

Hawes, James W. *Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Chatham, Massachusetts.* Town of Chatham Celebration Committee, 1913.

Luther, Bradford W. *Eldred, Eldredge, Eldridge in New England,* privately printed, Fairhaven, Massachusetts: 1994.

Monbleau, Marcia. *Home Song Chatham,* 1995.

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*Resident and Business Directory of Cape Cod, Massachusetts.* A.E. Foss Publishing Company, South Framingham: 1901.

Smith, William C. *A History of Chatham, Massachusetts,* 1913.

**NEWSPAPERS**

*The Chatham Monitor,* June 14, 1877; August 23, 1877; September 27, 1877; August 5, 1898.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Mercelia Eldridge Kelley House  
Chatham (Barnstable) MA

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the Town of Chatham assessor's map page 44, parcel 15.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary of the nominated property incorporates the entire parcel of land belonging to David M. Valdez, a total of .95 acres. It includes the house at 2610 Main Street and the open land behind the house.

(end)

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Photographer: Roger Reed**

Date: April 2004

Negatives location: Chatham Historical Commission

1. Exterior, south and east elevations
2. Exterior, southwest corner
3. Interior, front entrance stairhall

(end)



(First Floor)

*Mercelia Eldridge Kelly House  
2610 Main Street, South Chatham, MA*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Kelley, Mercelia Evelyn Eldredge, House

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Barnstable

DATE RECEIVED: 1/11/05                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/14/05  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/01/05                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/24/05  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05000080

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    2/24/05 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Mercelia Evelyn Eldridge House

2610 Main Street

Chatham, MA

Roger C. Reed, Photographer

April, 2014

Negative: Chatham Historical Commission

South and East Views

Photograph #1 of 3



Mercelia Evelyn Eldridge House

2610 Main St.

Chatham, MA

Roger G. Reed, Photographer

April, 2004

Negative: Chatham Historical Commission

South and west corner

Photograph # 2 of 3



Marceliz Evelyn Eldridge House

2610 Main St

Chatham, MA

Roger G. Reed, Photographer

April 2004

Negative: Chatham Historical Commission

~~Scout's Court~~ corner Front entrance stairhall

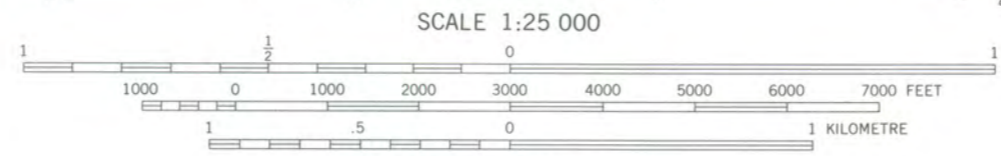
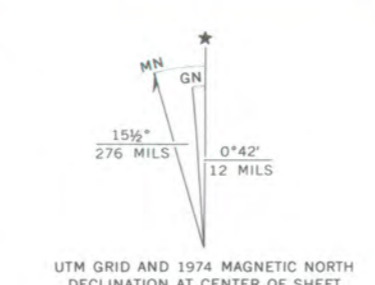
Photograph # 3 & 3



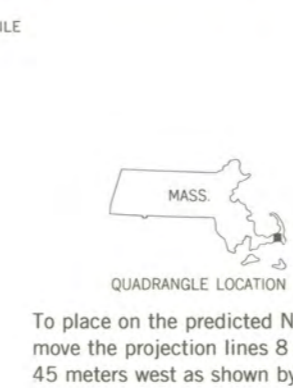
To convert feet to meters  
multiply by 3048  
To convert meters to feet  
multiply by 3.2808

Menelia Evelyn Eldridge House  
2010 Main St  
Chatham MA  
Z 19  
E 414500  
N 4114430

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1939. Topography by planetable surveys 1940  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1973  
Field checked 1974  
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS 257 (1972) and  
581 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational  
purposes  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid,  
zone 19  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9.5 FEET  
IN CAPE COD BAY AND 3.4 FEET IN NANTUCKET SOUND  
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Primary highway, hard surface  
Secondary highway, hard surface  
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface  
Unimproved road  
Interstate Route  
U. S. Route  
State Route

HARWICH, MASS.  
41070-F1-TF-025  
1974  
DMA 6967 11 NE—SERIES V814



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

December 30, 2004

Ms. Carol Shull  
National Register of Historic Places  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Mercelandia Eldridge Kelley House, 2610 Main Street, Chatham (Barnstable), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: David Valdez, owner  
Roger Reed, Preservation Consultant  
Donald Aikman, Chatham Historical Commission  
Douglas Bohman, Board of Selectmen  
Paul DeCoste, Chatham Town Planner  
Sarah Korjoff, Cape Cod Commission

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name MERCETTA EVELYN ELDRIDGE KELLEY HOUSE

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 2610 MAIN STREET N/A not for publication

city or town CHATHAM N/A vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county BARNSTABLE code 001 zip code 02659

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Betsy Friedberg*, National Register Director 1/4/05  
Signature of certifying official/Title Cara H. Metz, Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

*Edson H. Beall* 3/21/05  
Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Documentation Accepted \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Kelley, Mercelia Evelyn Eldridge, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Barnstable

DATE RECEIVED: 3/14/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/27/05  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05000080

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 3/21/05 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*additional Documentation Accepted*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

MAR 14

March 8, 2005

Ms. Carol Shull  
Keeper, National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street N.W., 8<sup>th</sup> floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Chatham (Barnstable), MA: Kelley House

Dear Ms. Shull:

Please substitute the enclosed page for its nomination and correct the NR listing record to reflect the correct spelling for the Mercelia Evelyn Eldridge Kelley House (NR #05000080, listed on February 24, 2005).

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure

cc: David M. Valdez  
Sarah Korjeff, Cape Cod Commission  
Donald Aikman, Chatham Historical Commission  
Roger Reed, consultant