

FORM B - BUILDING

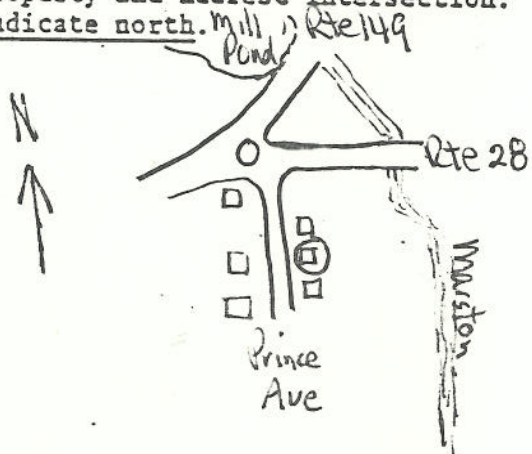
AREA MMA	FORM NO. 30
-------------	----------------

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116



SKETCH HERE

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Town Barnstable (Marstons Mills Center)

Address 42 Prince Ave.

Historic Name Bernard Lovell House

Use: Present dwelling

Original unknown

DESCRIPTION:

Date c 1830-1850

Source Registry of Deeds; atlases

Style vernacular cottage

Architect none

Exterior wall fabric wood shingle

Outbuildings privy

Major alterations (with dates) kintchen: 1903

shed addition: 1967; dech addition: 1968;

dormers on north side: 1975; privy moved: 1968

Moved unknown Date           

Approx. acreage .40

Setting rural residential near Marstons

River

Photo #113-2-A30  
113-1-A30

Recorded by Alice Butler/Pat Anderson

Organization Barnstable Historical Comm.

Date May 1986

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The Lovell House is a vernacular cottage rising  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories to a gable roof, and extended by a rear lean-to addition with stove chimney. It is sheathed with wood shingles and devoid of trim beyond simple cornerboards and window surrounds. Windows contain 6/6 sash. At present the cottage is largely obscured by vines and other vegetation that has grown up since 1935.

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

In 1842, Winslow Marston sold a parcel of land and swamp to Nathaniel Hinckley. (This deed refers back to a grant of land made by the Proprietors in 1704/05 to the Marston family). Hinckley was the owner and operator of the fulling mill and dye shop in Marstons Mills. He began as a  $\frac{1}{3}$  owner in 1824, became  $\frac{2}{3}$  owner in 1832, and then became sole owner in 1836; he owned the complex until 1855. Mr. Hinckley died in 1894, and his widow, Ann J., sold 12 acres with a "building standing on premises" to Albert C. Ryder and Wallace Ryder. In 1895, the Ryders sold  $\frac{1}{2}$  interest to George O. Ladd. The Ryders and Ladd sold the property to Cyrus B. Jones in 1905. Cyrus B. Jones also owned the house a few rods to the south on Prince Ave. Cyrus was involved in the oyster industry in Marstons Mills. Two years later, in 1907, Cyrus sold the house to Eugene R. Childs. The following year, Mr. Childs conveyed the house and land to Bernard Lovell. Bernard and his wife Amy owned the house until 1914 when they sold it back to Cyrus Jones' wife Sarah Etta Jones. According to oral history, Cyrus and Etta spent their honeymoon in the cottage. The Joneses continued to live here until Cyrus' death in 1934, after which Sarah sold the house and land to the Garfields.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES** (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds and Probate.  
Barnstable County Atlases. 1858, 1880, 1907.



OLD BERNARD LOVELL COTTAGE AT 42 PRINCE AVENUE, MARSTONS MILLS

A fragment of its history

The original date of this cottage is unknown as all records were lost when the Barnstable Courthouse was destroyed in 1827. Possibly it may predate that. The original part of the cottage, which measured about 12' by 25' contained two rooms and a narrow food storage closet. There was a sleeping loft over these two rooms reached by a very narrow steep stair. Recently, when some plaster was removed in renovations of this loft, it was found that the area must have been used for many earlier years with only the exposed roof timbers and boarding as they were covered with several different layers of possibly home-made whitewash.

It is definitely known that the smaller shed (kitchen) section on the southernly side was added eighty or more years ago...around 1905. This was stated by Edward Lovell of West Dennis who stopped to revisit the place of his birth in 1969. He said his grandfather (Horace Phinney or Horace Phinney Lovell?) had owned the cottage at the time he enlisted in the Civil War, was captured and endured the hardships of the infamous Andersonville Prison. It descended to his son, Bernard Lovell (our visitor's father) who lived here until about 1906. Mr. Edward Lovell, although very young at the time that the low shed roof section was built, recalled that there occurred a serious forest fire in the area which so frightened their milk-goat that she jumped on the low shed roof, ran up to the ridge, slid down the steeper north roof and was killed.

It has been discovered (during recent renovations) that the original entrance was located on the south side prior to the addition of the shed section. Evidently, during this addition the narrow stair to the loft was plastered. The present owner (Butler) found an 1883 penny in this area.

The original house had no basement but there is a typical Cape Cod small round vegetable and food cellar partly under the newer section. It is of local brick made in West Barnstable. There are timbers over this cellar which indicate by their age and condition that something very much older existed above at some time.

The original construction was very simple with a timber frame filled in by vertical  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " thick plank, shingled on exterior and lath and plastered on inside. The plaster was probably homemade of burned local clam and oyster shells and sand with hair or milk-weed as binder. The means of cooking or heating have long been lost in the changes over the years. Plumbing was the simple primitive outdoor variety. Water was carried from a small well directly behind the house beside the ever-running brook. (Marstons Mills River)

This brook is a herring run. In colonial times the herring was a source of sustenance and fertilizer but, in these affluent days, they go unused. The lowland across the brook was a sizeable cranberry bog. It has long been abandoned.

A few years back an odd-shaped, small black stone was found near the brook. After inspection by an Indian artifact authority it was learned the stone was an Indian hand knife used for cutting or scraping fish, skins, etc. Chipped to a sharp shape on one edge it was smoothed and rounded to fit the hand on the other edge. This showed that trade existed between various tribes of Indians as this hard workable stone was found only in the territory of the st of the Hudson River.