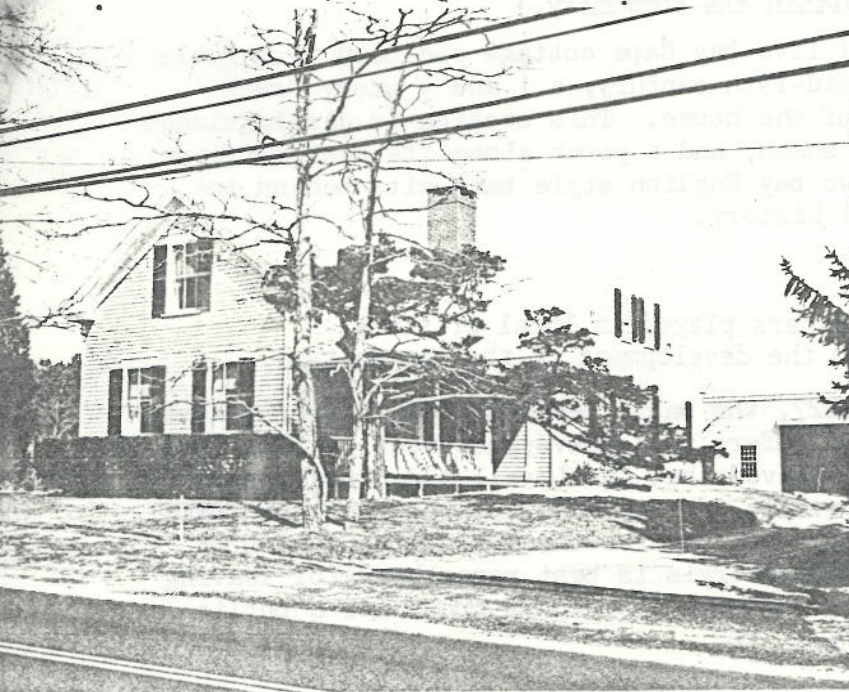


AREA	FORM NO.
MMA	45

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116



Town Barnstable (Marstons Mills)

Address 1874 South County Road

Historic Name Merrill Estate

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION:

Date c1750-1775

Source owner, style

Style Georgian cape

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric shingle

Outbuildings barn, small woodshed

Major alterations (with dates) front wing, c1825-1850

Condition - good

Moved no Date

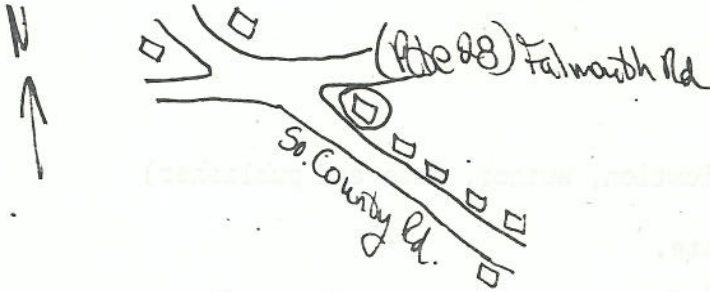
Approx. acreage 3.0 98/8-1

Setting residential street leading from Route 28 to Osterville Center

Photo #86-10-A45

SKETCH MAP

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.



Recorded by Marion Oldham & Patricia J. 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 Merrill Estate is a 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ story, full five bay Cape cottage enclosed by a gable roof with massive center chimney. In the mid-19th century, a 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ story Greek Revival style wing was added to the front of the house. This section is distinguished by windows with projecting lintels and 2/2 shash, and a porch along its eastern flank. The entire structure is shingle clad. A two bay English style barn sits behind the house, testifying to its early agricultural history.

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

Due to a fire in the County Courthouse in 1827, the early deeds to this property have been destroyed. The earliest remaining deed refers to a conveyance made in 1821 from Russell Lovell to William Sturgis. It is believed that the Lovell and Sturgis were early sea captains. Captain Lovell of Osterville was commander of the schooner FOREST CITY which left for New York on April 3, 1863 with hay for the Union Army in South Carolina and was lost with all hands. Captain Sturgis is best remembered for leaving his boyhood home to the town of Barnstable along with \$15,000 in trust for a public library (Area BV/WB).

In 1834, William Sturgis sold this homestead to Harvey Scudder and Theophilus L. Adams, when the first summer people started coming to the Cape. Harvey Scudder and his brother Erastus, along with J.H. Churchill, H.W. Chapin and F.A. Crocker, formed the Osterville Land Co. and acquired most of the beachfront property that is now Wianno (Area OVC). Harvey sold his half of this property to Theophilus Adams in 1841, and Adams in turn sold to Charles Gifford in 1859, retaining a life estate. In 1889, Elizabeth Gifford sold the homestead to Ann E. Merrill of Melrose. The property has remained in the Merrill family to this day.

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

- Barnstable County Registry of Deeds and Probate.
Barnstable County Atlases. 1858, 1880, 1907.
Trayser, Donald G. Barnstable, Three Centuries of a Cape Cod Town. 1939.

