

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

030127	Cotuit	E	69
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Town: Barnstable

Place: (*neighborhood or village*) Marstons Mills

Photograph



Address: 30 Lake Shore Drive

Historic Name: Whitcomb Barn

Uses: Present: Single family residence

Original: Dairy barn

Date of Construction: 1922

Source: Charles E. Hamblin, local historian.

Style/Form: Eclectic modern

Architect/Builder: David B. Clemence

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle

Roof: Composition shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garden shed to west; chicken coop north.

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Current structure is mostly post-1978 conversion from a dairy barn.

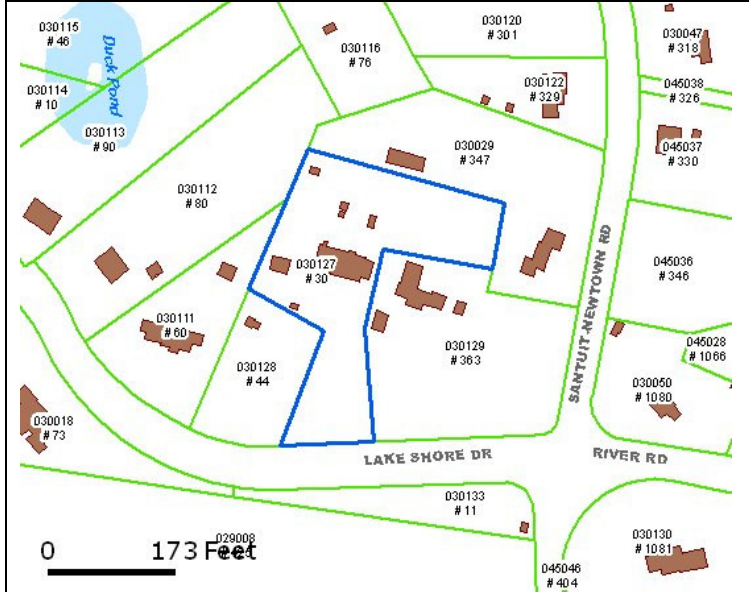
Condition: Only frame of original remains.

Moved: no | X | yes | | **Date** _____

Acreage: 1.44 acres

Setting: Rural/suburban development near junction of River Road and Santuit-Newtown Road.

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: J. W. Gould

Organization: Marstons Mills Historical Society;
Barnstable Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): September, 2009

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

30 LAKE SHORE DRIVE,
MARSTONS MILLS, BARNSTABLE

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

This is an eclectic modern conversion of a prewar dairy barn into a single family residence. The basic core 31 x 41 is the concrete foundation of the original barn, now a two story gambrel roofed home, with three large glass windows on the south face. An open deck extends southward from this core. A 10 x 22 room under a shed roof is appended to the east end. At the west end is a 20 x 23 conversion of the former pit. The exterior is shingle clad. At the interior is a large fieldstone fireplace with a chimney of fieldstone rising to the peak.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The early history is recorded in the inventory for the Benjamin Jones House (MM N-10) at 347 Newtown Road. This was the site of a barn for the farm of Benjamin Jones (1785-1872), inherited by Edmund⁷ Hinckley Hamblin (1837-1911). In 1913 the farm was bought by the Chicago railroad brake manufacturer Franklin L. Whitcomb (1852-1949) of Cotuit.

In 1922, the barn was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. It was replaced by a modern dairy barn, supposedly by unemployed Portuguese laborers. The Whitcomb farm of 187 acres was one of the largest on Cape Cod. The farm was operated by caretakers including Fred Gordon. No Whitcomb lived here, but they summered in Santuit and Cotuit. The property was inherited by Franklin's two sons, Pemberton and Carter Whitcomb.

The farm was sold by Carter in 1964 to developers, including Everett Jackson of Cotuit. Long Pond Associates had mortgaged it to Harvard Trust Co., which sold the barn on 4.6 acres to Evelyn L. Costello and Anne and Peter Reynolds of Milton in 1969. In 1973 the Reynolds and Costello sold it for \$96,000 to the Marlborough developers Thomas Callahan and William F. Curley Jr. In 1977 they sold it as parcel 2 (B1) to Westmarl Group, which sold it at once to the Franklin-Harvard Corp for \$36,000. At last the barn was bought in 1978 for \$25,200 by a private couple, David B. Clemence (b. 1948) and Diane C. Shreiner (b. 1949), who merged their names. Dave was a theater major who taught industrial arts at Penikese Island, Falmouth and Plymouth. He and his students converted the old barn, removing the concrete dairy trough on the lower floor, opening the attic with solar sliders, installing stained glass from Robert Hayden's Treasure Highland, finishing the interior into livable rooms. The massive stone fireplace was built with the guidance of Frank Gomes, using stone from the Falmouth dump. The Clemence-Shreiners raised about 100 chickens in the coop at the rear, selling eggs on Lake Shore roadside. They raised two children, Ian born 1983 and Laurel born 1979. They moved to Loon Mountain in the White Mountains of NH where they are ski instructors. They sold the house in 2007 for \$575,000 to the current owner Roberta C. (nee Smith) Rosenfield, a teacher of special education and information at Barnstable High School.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Deeds 328/487, 780/410, 1364/257, 1401/357, 1443/915, 1963/37, 2459/106, 2785/67, 22140/253, 22833/252; Plans 98/75, 206/135, 303/95.
MHC Form B, Benjamin Jones House MM N-10
Interviews with owners Diane Clemence-Shreiner, Roberta Rosenfield 5 Sept. 2009.
Interview with Charles E. Hamblin, 24 Sept. 2009.

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