

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's Number

USGS Quad

Area(s) Form Number

60-1

Cotuit

MM N-25

060-039

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Place (neighborhood or village) BARNSTABLE  
Newtown (Marstons Mills)

490 River Road

Name: Domingos Gracie Rosa House

Use: Residence

Material: Same

Construction: 1913

Barnstable deed 321/280

Vernacular bungalow

Builder: Domingos Gracie Rosa

Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Clapboard

Roof: Composition

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: One story shed NE

Major Alterations (with dates): Extended at back 19xx;  
Wing added onto west c. 1992.

Condition: Altered and modernized.

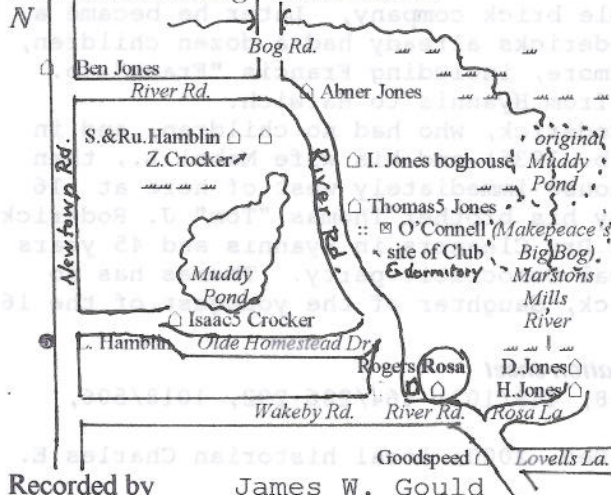
Moved  no  yes Date:

Acres: 1.3

Setting: Rural upland below cranberry bogs of  
Old Muddy Pond, west of Marstons Mills  
River.



natural features. Show all buildings between  
inventoried building and nearest intersection or  
natural feature. Label streets including route  
numbers, if any. Circle and number the  
inventoried building. Indicate north.



Recorded by James W. Gould

Organization Marstons Mills  
Historical Society

Date (month / year) 27 Oct. 2000



## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

*see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The Gracie Rosa House is a vernacular style bungalow of one and a half stories, laid out in a "T" on a concrete foundation. The original core gable front is to the south, with enclosed porch under a hip roof on the gable end to the street, an extension to the rear, and a new cross gable to the west. At the exterior of this extension is a large brick chimney. There is a wide open deck leading to the new front door in the extension, continuing in front south side. The exterior is clad in grey clapboard, with white trim. The roof is composition shingle, with a small brick chimney on the east side at the rear. The single outbuilding is a one story wooden shed with gable roof, lying to the northeast.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The house was built in 1913 by Domingos Gracie Rosa ((1889-1943), born on the island of Fayal in the Portuguese Azores, son of Jose de Gracie Rosa who had bought the David Jones estate on the east side of the Marstons Mills River (see MMA 39 & 40), and his wife Frances Gloria. Domingos had married Grace A. Sinnett (1891-1980), whose sister Dorothy married Benjamin Pond (see MM N-9, and brother Raymond married Mary Crocker (see MM N-18). He bought the vacant land in 1913 from Lucy J. Jones. The description of the lot begins at the flume at the south side of the original Muddy Pond, and goes down the Marstons Mills River. Domingos raised cranberries and other vegetables, and dealt in sand and gravel from the Mills River, where he made concrete blocks.

In 1921 Rosa sold the house to George F. Crocker Jr. and his wife Fannie. In 1926 they sold it to George T. Mecarta who sold it within a year to Myra (Rogers) A. Raposa (1906-86), daughter of the wheelwright farmer John Rogers who lived on the west side of Long Pond (see MM N-9), and married truck driver John Repose Jr. (1908-58), who had come to the U.S. at age two with his parents from San Roque, in the Portuguese island of St. Michaels, Azores.

In 1929 Myra sold it to the family of the current owners, the Roderick family. The buyer was Manuel Roderick (1892-1980) and his wife Louisa Fernandez (1890-1980), who had come from the Portuguese island of Fogo in the Cape Verde Islands to Marstons Mills where they were married in 1915, but lived in West Barnstable. He emigrated to New Bedford on the sailing ship *Luzitania* in 1905 and found work for Abel Makepeace in his Big Bog, just north of this house, and lived in the Cape Verdian dormitory on River Rd. Luiza came to the U.S. after 1905 when her way was paid by her sister Mary, married to Benjamin Perry, a Makepeace cranberry foreman living on the Falmouth Rd. Later the Rodericks moved to Barnstable where he was employed in the W. Barnstable brick company, Later he became a greenskeeper of Wianno Golf course. By 1929 the Rodericks already had a dozen children, one of whom had died. In this house they had four more, including Francis "Frank" (b. 1930) who became foreman of Makepeace's operations from Hyannis to Harwich.

The house was inherited by their son August Roderick, who had no children, and in 1964 gave it to his contractor brother Manuel Jr. (b. 1935) and his wife Mabel L., then living on Old Mill Rd. in Osterville, and built a house immediately west of here at 516 River Rd. The house has been occupied since then by his brother Thomas "Tom" J. Roderick (b. 1924), Justice of the Peace, presser at Spartan Dry Cleaners in Hyannis and 45 years political worker for the Kennedy family and the local Democratic party. Thomas has no children, but lives here with his niece Tena Roderick, daughter of the youngest of the 16 children, Marian May (b. 1938).

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

*see continuation sheet*

Barnstable deeds 321/280, 386/20, 440/510, 443/547-8, 449/103, 464/286-292, 1018/506, 1271/562, 10333/229.

Interviews with family historian Frank Roderick 21 Dec. 2000; local historian Charles E. Hamblin and resident Tena Roderick.

Roderick Genealogy comp. by Vivian Cushing Dec. 2000.

Bunnell, Paul, *Cemetery Inscriptions of Barnstable*, p. 364.

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