

28-103

Cotuit

MM N-7

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



Location (neighborhood or village) BARNSTABLE
Newtown (Marstons Mills)
Address: 640 Wakeby Rd.
Historic Name: Manuel C. Medeiros Homestead
Uses: Present: Residence
Original: Farmhouse
Date of Construction: 1911
Source: Barnstable Deed
Style/Form: Azorean Vernacular
Architect/Builder: Manuel C. Medeiros
Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete block
Wall/Trim: Vinyl
Roof: Composition
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Two: Barn to north, Garage beyond.

Major Alterations (with dates): Vinyl siding 1980s?

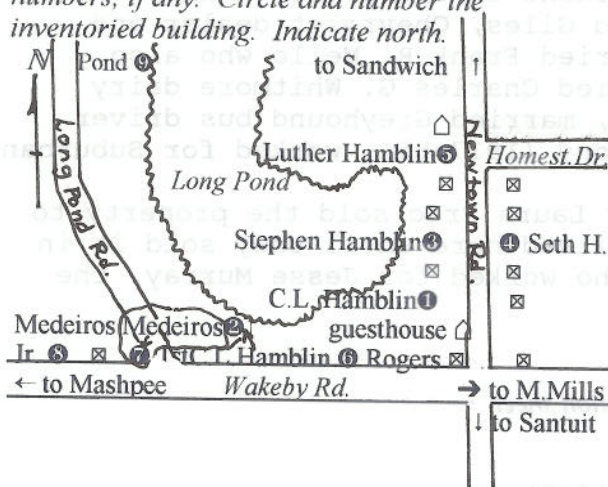
Condition Close to original

Moved no yes Date:

Acres: 1.01

Setting: On wooded triangle at northwest junction of Long Pond Rd. and Wakeby Rd.

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: 31 March 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 Manuel Medeiros Homestead is Portuguese Azorean vernacular farmhouse similar to that built on Falmouth Rd. and Newtown Rd. in Santuit. The plan is a simple rectangle with with steep gabled roof two stories high, with a one story addition to the back (north side) under a hipped roof. The principal entry is on the south gable end. The exterior is clad in white vinyl over the original cedar shingle. The trim is white. The roof is composition, with three brick chimnies, one at the peak, a larger and newer one to the west, and an older kitchen chimney at the rear. There are two outbuildings, the original one and a half story woodframed and shingled barn to the north, and beyond that a one story gabled wooden garage.

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.

Manuel C. Medeiros (1876-1945), an immigrant farmer from the island of St. Michaels in the Portuguese Azores, and his schoolteacher wife Isabel C. Perreira (1882-1943), had this house built in the remote woodland at the west edge of the town of Barnstable, on what the deeds call the "Old Bourne Road", near the homestead of Stephen Crocker (1816-91). They were the second Portuguese family to settle in Newtown, after the John Rogers family which settled on the west side of Long Pond, a mile north. Manuel was probably attracted by the fertile Enfield silty soil that extended north of Lovell's Pond, and had been farmed from early times by the Crocker and Jones families.

The Medeiroses raised seven children here, three girls, two boys, and a twin boy and girl. The oldest, Manuel Jr. (1904-90), was given a piece of land to the west, where he built his house (N-8). The second son, John Caton (1911-55) became a fine finish woodworker at Crosby Yacht in Osterville. Mary (1908-64) became a surgical nurse, and married Harold Giles, Chevrolet dealer and politician in Plymouth. Elsie (1912-2000) married Frank R. Mello who also worked for Crosby Yacht. Hilda (b. 1914) married Charles G. Whitmore dairy farmer in Forestdale. Laura (1917-93), a twin, married Greyhound bus driver Michael Proc of Hyannis. The other twin, Anthony (1917-85), worked for Suburban Gas Co.

After Manuel's death in 1945 his daughter Laura Proc sold the property to Jerome D. and Fannie Pierce of Hollis ME. who lived here until they sold it in 2000. Pierce was a heavy equipment operator who worked for Jesse Murray, the road contractor.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

- Barnstable deeds 310/390, 635/142.
- Barnstable Probate 29573 (Manuel C. Medeiros, 1945).
- Interviews with local historian Charles E. Hamblin 18 March, 3 April 2000.
- U.S.Dept. of Agriculture, *Soil Survey of Barnstable County* (March 1993), map 27, p. 103.
- Medeiros family chart from Barnstable Vital Records, comp. by J.Gould 30 July 2000.

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