

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

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## Photograph



**Town:** BARNSTABLE

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*) Marstons Mills

**Address:** 1044 Old Falmouth Road

**Historic Name:** Thomas Maitland Jones House

**Uses:** Present: Farmhouse

Original: Farmhouse

**Date of Construction:** 1905

**Source:** Barnstable Deed 272/382

**Style/Form:** Vernacular

**Architect/Builder:** Thomas Maitland Jones

## Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle

Roof: Composition shingle

## Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

2 car garage NE; 4 garden sheds

## Major Alterations (*with dates*):

One story shed-roofed addition on E side, 1921;

One story addition on W side, 1960

**Condition:** Close to original form, with additions

**Moved:** no |x| yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 4.0 acres

**Setting:** Rural, near geographic center of the town

## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** J. W. Gould

**Organization:** Marstons Mills Historical Society;  
Barnstable Historical Commission

**Date:** March, 2009

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

1044 OLD FALMOUTH ROAD, MARSTONS MILLS

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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:

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

This two story vernacular farmhouse has a steeply pitched roof, with gable front to the street, and centered entry door. On either side are one-story additions under shed roofs, the smaller one on the east side, a larger one on the west with separate entrances to the street and rear. The exterior is shingle-clad, with plastic shutters. At the rear is an open porch covered with a shed roof. There are five wooden outbuildings: a two car garage NE facing onto the street, a long storage shed SW, and numerous garden/storage sheds farther E.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*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 land was part of the extensive farm of Abner<sup>7</sup> Austin Jones (1818-95) (Deacon Thomas<sup>6</sup>, Abner<sup>5</sup>, Isaac<sup>4-3</sup>, Jedidiah<sup>2</sup>, Ralph<sup>1</sup>), whose house lay across the ancient road from Barnstable Village to Falmouth. This house was quite close to the geographical center of the village, as determined by town meeting of 1837. in an area then known as The Plains of Marstons Mills, though later residents gave Centerville, Osterville and West Barnstable as addresses.

In 1905 Abner's son Thomas<sup>8</sup> Maitland Jones (1881-1934) acquired a lot of 3 acres and 18 rods as part of his father's estate by quitclaim from his two siblings, Abner Isaac and Hattie Blossom (deed 272/382). To this was later added three other parcels of about 9 acres. His sister Hattie Blossom Fritze was a poet who wrote a book "Horse and Buggy Days on Old Cape Cod" which lovingly tells of life here.

In 1903 Thomas, known by his middle name, Maitland, had married Sophia Cohen Goodspeed (1876-1959), the widow of Leslie Goodspeed. She had found foster homes for two children Marion (1894) and Cecil Irving Goodspeed (1896), who became a prominent insurance agent in Osterville.. Sophia and Maitland had six children who grew up here: Madella (1903-6), Thomas Jr. (1905), Estella (1908), Dorris (1910), Harriet (1913), and daughter b. 1918.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds: Deeds 272/382, 436, 278/196, 479/149, 486/377, 562/345, 566/425, 704/320, 892/330, 22159/298.  
Interviews with owner Robert W. Powers 21 March 2009; local historians Vivian and Wilbur Cushing 20 March 2009; Virginia Goodspeed 23 March 2009; Richard Thomas's brother Arthur 28 March 2009.  
Barnstable Vital Records.  
Jones genealogy by Walter Hamblin 2002.  
*Barnstable Patriot* 10 Oct. 1904, 4 Oct. 1934, 2 April 1959.

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**Historical Narrative (cont'd)**

Maitland and his wife gave the house to her son by Leslie Goodspeed, Raymond L. Goodspeed for 11 months in 1930-1.

On Jones's death in 1934 the house and land were inherited by his wife Sophia. In 1948, Sophia sold the house and about 9+ acres to the plumber "Dick" Richard Ewell Thomas of Osterville (born Sandwich 1927, died California 2008). He worked for plumbing firms in Yarmouth and Hyannis. He was known as "Dinghy" Thomas because he rented out boats at Peter's Pond in South Sandwich. Thomas excavated the cellar, and rebuilt the foundation using cinder block with the original fieldstone foundation. He was married to Gene A. Dunham, by whom he had four children: Merrideth (1947), Elizabeth Lydel (1948), Kathleen (1952), and Richard Ewell Jr. (1952). In 1960 he married his second wife, Joan Ann (Ryan) Holland of West Dennis.

In 1954 Thomas sold the house with nine acres for \$6500 to the current owner, Robert Weigel Powers Jr. (b. 1925). He was a landscaper, planting many rhododendrons and hollies on the land. He was also a lobsterman out of Sandwich, working 3-4 miles out into Cape Cod Bay. His son Robert III who lives here carries on lobstering from a motorboat wintered in the back yard. Powers came from Sandwich where his grandfather, John O. Powers, a New York advertising executive, established a family summer place, "The Camp", on Shawme Rd. Powers added the large addition to the west side of the house by moving part of the Tradewinds Motel in Craigville, which he had demolished for Prendergast after a fire in Nov. 1960. Powers raised animals here: chickens, ducks, turkeys, goats, a cow and pigs. By his wife Rita Louise Signorelli (1926-2005) he had seven children, four born at Tobey in Wareham, and three born in Hyannis: Robert III (1956), Kathryn (1961) and Patricia (1962). Retaining the present four acres, he has given much of the land in back to his children, #1036 to Patricia, #1040 to Janet, and # 1090 to Stephen.