

**FORM B – BUILDING**

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

058050	Cotuit	E	7
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Town** Barnstable

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

**Photograph**



Central Building

**Address** 70 Industry Road

**Historic Name** Cotuit Oyster Company

**Uses: Present** Retail store

**Original** Oyster shack

**Date of Construction** About 1912

**Source** Assessor's card

**Style/Form** Vernacular

**Architect/Builder** Harry Height (?)

**Exterior Material:**

**Foundation** Concrete

**Wall/Trim** White cedar shingle

**Roof** Composition shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures**

None

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*)

Placed on concrete foundation,  
 Rebuilt

**Condition** Entirely altered, few original timbers remain

**Moved**  No  Yes **Date** c. 1945

**Acreage** 1.01 acres

**Setting** Crowded among modern commercial buildings  
 and a boatyard.



**Recorded by** James W. Gould, Holly Hobart

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

**Date** (*month / year*) October, 2007

## BUILDING FORM

MM E-7  
70 Industry Road, Marstons Mills, Barnstable, MA

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

The Oyster Shack is a simple gabled building of one store about 20' x 30', set upon a modern concrete cellar. One the southeast side an 8' x 10' shed roof has been added on concrete pillars. It is sheathed in white cedar shingle and roofed with asphalt composition shingles.

### 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.*

According to Richard Nelson, this shack was built by the Cotuit Oyster Company at Little River in Cotuit. It was the middle shack of the five buildings at Little River, located on the north side of the present town landing. It may have been built about 1912 when Harry Height of the Eastman Kodak Co., who summered in Wakeby, formed the Cotuit Oyster Company and put some capital into the business (see photo in Gould and Grasseti, p. 27). Successive managers of the company, Mr. Ross, Royce Baker, and Henry Robbins, used the shack to store, sort, and ship oysters. This was the only shack rebuilt after the 1938 and 1944 hurricanes. About 1945 it was moved by Robert Hayden of Marstons Mills to his storage yard, "Treasure Highland". It can be seen near its present location in a 1952 aerial photo. Hayden's son Bob modernized it with a new foundation and rented it as a store. For a decade in the nineties it was an art gallery run by artist Yvette Bouchard and photographer Eric Michelson.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Photographs: 1912, in Cotuit Historical Society; 1952 with Robert Hayden.  
Gould, James and Grasseti, Jessica R., Cotuit and Santuit, Charleston, SC, Arcadia Images of America, 2003.  
Smith, Mrs. Robert, "The Cotuit Oyster Company", Cotuit Historical Paper #17, 1964.  
Interviews: Owner Robert Hayden; Richard Nelson, owner of Cotuit Oyster Co., October 11, 2007.  
Massachusetts Historical Commission Form B, 28 Little River Road, Cotuit, MA, CLR-43.

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

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Town

Property Address

BARNSTABLE, 70 INDUSTRY ROAD, MARSTONS MILLS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

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E	7
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Aerial Photo, with oyster shack building circled.

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Title Search****26783  
5/11/1961****Decree of Land Court granting land to Robert F. Hayden**

See Subdivision Plan of Land dated March 21, 1963, filed with Certificate of Title 26783.

Lot 102 on the Subdivision Plan is 70 Industry Road, Marstons Mills.

**632-76  
7/12/1945  
\$1300.00****From Rose H. Callahan of Brockton, executor of William J. Callahan, to Robert E. Hayden**

Three parcels.

Parcel 1: "... on northerly side of road from Santuit to Marstons Mills: Beginning at a stake and stones standing on the north side of aforesaid road and by land of heirs of David Crocker, ... thence northerly and thence easterly by said heirs land to land formerly of Winslow Marston; thence; on his line by trees marked to the road aforesaid...and by said road westerly to the first mentioned bound and contains eleven acres."

Parcel 2: "... at a concrete post on south side of the old and original road leading from Barnstable to Falmouth; Thence; running in a southerly direction by a road and land formerly of Benjamin Marston till it comes to a concrete post and road leading from Marstons Mills to Crocker's Farm ... then by said ... road westerly till it comes to a concrete bound directly south of a once well-known Cedar Bush; Thence; north to said bush and so on the same course to the said road leading from Barnstable to Falmouth ... Thence: easterly by last mentioned road to the first mentioned bound."

Parcel 3: "... at a concrete post located at a junction of a road leading from Marstons Mills to Santuit and a road leading from Charles Pierce's to the Tallman road so called, thence following the first mentioned road in a westerly direction... to a stone ...by land of E. W. Lapham; Thence; in a northerly direction by land of said Lapham; Thence; in an easterly direction by land of Andrew Phinney and Zenas Marston; Thence; in a southerly direction by road leading from Charles Pierce's ... stopping at the first mentioned bound." Twenty acres.

**529-60  
6/7/1937****From Rose H. Callahan to William J. Callahan (a Justice of the Peace in Taunton)**

The same three parcels as in the deed above.

**485-459  
11/12/1931****From Sarah Glaser and Louis Dorfman of Taunton to Rose H. Callahan, foreclosure of mortgage**

The same three parcels as in the deed above.

**431-15  
1/30/1926****From Leonard F. Hamblin and Forest C. Hamblin (both unmarried) to Sarah Glaser and Louis Dorfman.**

Parcel 1

**431-15  
1/30/1926****From Leonard F. Hamblin and Forest C. Hamblin (both unmarried) to Sarah Glaser and Louis Dorfman.**

Parcel 2

**431-16**  
**1/30/1926**

**From Leonard F. Hamblin and Forest C. Hamblin (both unmarried) to Sarah Glaser and Louis Dorfman.**

Parcel 3

**429-324**  
**12/29/1925**

**Irving B. Phinney and Ina F. Nickerson of Barnstable and Isaac W. Phinney of W. Somerville to Leonard F. Hamblin and Forest C. Hamblin**

Parcel 2

**429-325**  
**12/29/1925**

**Irving B. Phinney and Ina F. Nickerson of Barnstable and Isaac W. Phinney of W. Somerville to Leonard F. Hamblin and Forest C. Hamblin**

Parcel 3

**431-13**  
**2/21/1926**

**Elmer W. Lapham to Leonard F. Hamblin and Forest C. Hamblin.**

7/9 of Parcel 1

**431-14**  
**2/8/1926**

**Rebecca Grauer of Barnstable to Leonard F. and Forest C. Hamblin**

2/9 of Parcel 1