

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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Town: Barnstable

Place: (*neighborhood or village*) Marstons Mills

Photograph



Address: 1028 Old Falmouth Road

Historic Name: Henry L. Williams House

Uses: Present: Single family residence

Original: Single family residence

Date of Construction: 1943

Source: Barnstable deeds 566/425, 426.

Style/Form: Cape Cod revival

Architect/Builder: Henry L. Williams

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle

Roof: Composition shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Two wooden sheds to west.

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Addition to north end in 1950s.

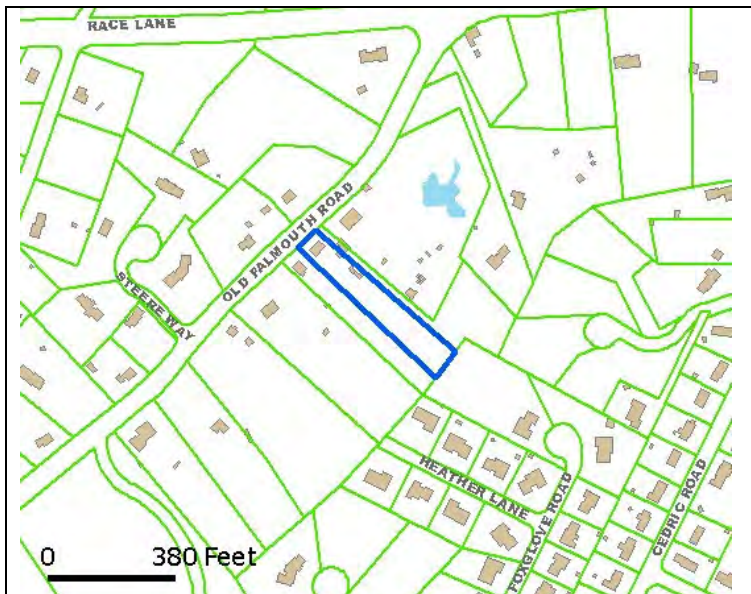
Condition: Close to original, with addition.

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

Acreage: 1.0 acres

Setting: Rural suburban, close to geographic center of town.

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: J. W. Gould

Organization: MMHS, BHC

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

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

[TOWN]

[ADDRESS]

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

E

56

___ 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 is a vernacular Cape Cod revival cottage of one story on a concrete foundation 24 x 38. The facade to the street has a centered entry door, with two windows to the right, like a half Cape, and a single window to the left in the addition, which can be seen from the break in the ridge line. The house is clad in cedar shingle, roofed in composition shingle. A wooden deck extends to the rear. There are two wooden sheds to the rear, the first a garage, the second a longer storage shed.

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.

This is unusual for having been built during World War II when no new building material was available. It was constructed entirely of reused lumber of unknown origin. It was put up by Henry L. Williams, a person of unknown origin, though a person of the same name from Lowell owned two lots in Bourne in 1912 (deed 316/349). His wife was Pauline L. Williams.

Williams sold the house in 1946 to the family of the present owner. The buyer was Elizabeth Mary (Donlan) Childs (b. 1916) and her husband (Murdock ("Murdie" in the deeds, but known as "Stewie") Stewart Childs (1916-65), second son of Howard Childs (1882-1961), caretaker/farmer of the Whitcomb estate in Newtown. Murdock was born in Dunvegan, Ont. where his father had moved after his marriage to Mary Anne Stewart, whom he met as a maid at the Cotuit summer home. Howard was the son of Braddock Childs, son of Reuben, a distant relation of the Childs family across the street.

Elizabeth and Murdock had four children, Howard James (b. 1940), William Stewart (b. 1941), Donna Marie (b. 1944) who married John Paul O'Brian, and Carolee (b. 1945) who married David Arthur Kelley of South Yarmouth.

The eldest son Howard, called "Jimmy", is the current resident, with his wife Carolee Lee Gagner (b. 1944). They had three children: Wendt b. 1968, Scott b. 1970, and Jaime b. 1976. Jimmy is a mason and works in marine construction.

The residents variously list their residence as West Barnstable, though the historical name of the area is the Plains, part of Marstons Mills. The land was part of the Thomas M. Jones farm, and the Abner A. Jones farm before that.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Deeds 566/425-6, 648/80, 1507/373, 21010.

Town of Barnstable vital records.

Interview with owner Jimmy Childs 21 March 2009, local historians Wilbur and Vivian

Cushing 20 March 2009.