

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

|        |        |   |    |
|--------|--------|---|----|
| 057007 | Cotuit | E | 16 |
|--------|--------|---|----|

**Town** Barnstable

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

## Photograph



**Address** 995 Putnam Avenue

**Historic Name** Leonard Hamblin Shack

**Uses: Present** Residence

**Original** Residence

**Date of Construction** 1930

**Source** Assessor's card; Barnstable deeds # 607-427, 454-125

**Style/Form** Vernacular

**Architect/Builder** Leonard Hamblin

**Exterior Material:**

**Foundation** Concrete block

**Wall/Trim** Cedar shingle and vinyl siding

**Roof** Composition

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures**

Small storage shack with shed roof to east.

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

C. 1950, addition of bedroom and bath;  
1971, sunporch added at rear;  
1973, added bedroom and kitchen

## Sketch Map



**Recorded by** James W. Gould

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

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

**Condition** Much altered.

**Moved**  No  Yes **Date**

**Acreage** 1.75 acres

**Setting** Suburban neighborhood near shopping center.

**MM E-16****995 Putnam Avenue, Marstons Mills, Barnstable****BUILDING FORM****ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**  *see continuation sheet*

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

This is a small vernacular style one-story house. The original core to the northeast is shingle-clad under a gable roof measuring 36 x 28 feet. The principal entry is on the north side in a small enclosed porch. At the rear (south) is an enclosed porch 13 x 35 feet on a brick foundation. On the street side, to the east, is a 17 x 34 foot addition with a gable to the street, with yellow vinyl siding and concrete block foundation.

**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.*

In 1910, Leonard Francis Hamblin (1890-1980), a builder who lived to the east on Prince Avenue, built what a local historian and carpenter describes as “an orange crate”. Leonard and his brother Forest had bought from Ephraim and Affie Jones in 1925 a piece of woodland on the east side of the road from Marstons Mills to Cotuit, later known as Putnam Avenue.

In 1938, Hamblin sold the house to Henry S. Baker (1886-1970). During the Second World War, Baker sold it for \$950 to John Viera, who had come to America from Fogo, Cape Verde Islands, in the early 1900s, and intended to start farming here. The house survived the 1945 forest fire which consumed the Holy Ghost Hall across the street and burned down to the salt water shore. After the war, Viera extended the house to include a new bedroom and bath.

In 1971, Viera sold the house to Harry Chester Reed of Boston, who had married Adeline Claire Galvin (1930-1983), the daughter of Benjamin Perry who lived nearby in the Charles Marston house. In 1971, the sunporch was added at the rear. In 1973, the Reeds had a Portuguese builder from Rhode Island build the west extension with bedroom and kitchen. Until the late 1970s, when it was demolished, there was a small shanty out back where Adeline’s older brother Joseph Perry (1914-1997) and his wife Helen (Montiero) lived. After Adeline’s death, the house was inherited (1987) by the current owner, her only daughter Yvonne Sharon Galvin (b. 1955), who had married Thomas F. Brown, of Cherokee Indian and Black heritage. The Browns’ two sons, Alex and Colby, grew up here.

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

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Deeds #: 422-53, 607-425, 1503-397, 1511-309, 5675-223, 5824-164, 6746-310, 1227-223.

Barnstable Town Reports for vital records.

Interviews with current owner Yvonne Brown, December 5, 2007, February 11, 2008.

Interview with local historian Wilbur Cushing February 12, 2008.

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