

FORM B – BUILDING
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

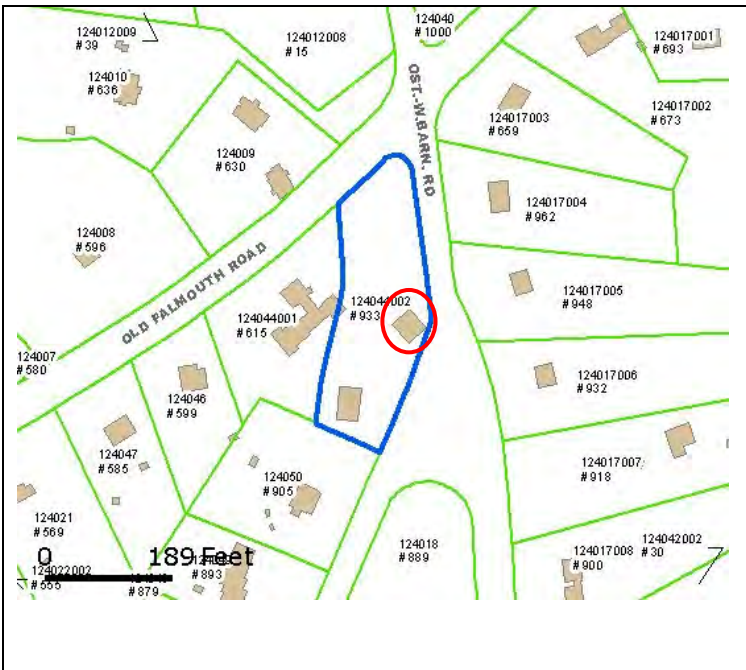
Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

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Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Town: Barnstable

Place: (*neighborhood or village*) Marstons Mills

Address: 933 Osterville-West Barnstable Road

Historic Name: Howland Barn

Uses: Present: Retail store

Original: Barn

Date of Construction: 1886

Source: Architectural details, Probate # 12017, Will 5 Dec. 1894, Barnstable *Patriot* 11 May 1886.

Style/Form: Vernacular, with colonial revival features

Architect/Builder: Edwin T. Howland

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Mortared fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle stained gray

Roof: Composition shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

New barn/workshop built 1982.

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Converted to store 1984.

Condition: Much altered, with remnant features in roof and cellar

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

Acreage: 1.0 Acres

Setting: Rural, at major crossroads of Old Falmouth, Osterville-West Barnstable, and Lumberts Mill Roads.

Recorded by: J. W. Gould. R. Frazee
Organization: Marstons Mills Historical Society;
 Barnstable Historical Commission
Date (*month / year*): May 2009

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

[TOWN]

[ADDRESS]

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55

___ 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 two story retail store converted from an old barn. The foundation 30 x 36 consists of large mortared fieldstones; with an exterior ramp of the same material on the south side. Sawed timbers date from XIXth century. The exterior is cedar shingle stained gray, with white trim. The roof is insulated on the exterior and covered with composition shingles. At both gable ends there is a tall glass window rising to the peak, and a smaller window on the ground floor. On the north gable end is a narrow, parged concrete chimney. The east facing elevation right on the street has a centered doorway with sidelights between two bay windows. On the west side are double windows between a doorway with half-circle window above.

The single outbuilding lies to the north, a tall two story barn on a 30 by 36 foot concrete slab built in 1982. The bowed roof is composed of 20 foot long rough-sawn fence boards sealed with PL 400 construction adhesive.

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 early history of this property is given in the inventory of the Howland Homestead at #615 Old Falmouth Rd.

While there was probably a barn on this property at an early date, the will of Nathaniel Howland dated 5 Dec. 1894 specifically grants the land of the barn which his son Edwin T. Howland (1849-1918) built (Barnstable Probate 12017). It was built no earlier than Edwin's majority (born 9 Nov. 1849), and later than 1870. The *Barnstable Patriot* reported that he dug the cellar in Nov. 1885, finished it in May 1886, and built a cistern for it in Nov.

It was bought with the homestead by the brothers Robert, Louis and Lawrence Arata in 1953, and used as an upholstery shop. In 1961 Lawrence ("Larry") Arata was invited by Jackie Kennedy to do the upholstery for the White House. The Aratas sold the house and barn in 1966. About this time it was used as shop for Letter-Tek, a sign painting business.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds: Deeds 3467/300, 11751/123; Probates 2886, 12017, 18696, 20383 (Howland).

Town of Barnstable vital records.

Barnstable Patriot 24 Nov. 1885, 11 May 1886, 29 Nov. 1886.

Oral interview of Lawrence Arata by Pamela Turnure 1964 at J.F.K. Library.

Interviews with owner, Robert Kesten 7, 13 May 2009, former owner Alice Bunakis 18 May 2009.

Site visit by Robert Frazee and James Gould 13 May 2009.

Inventory form B for Howland Homestead, 615 Old Falmouth Rd.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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Historical Narrative, cont'd:

In 1976 it was bought by Robert and Alice Bunakis as part of the homestead. They were told that it was a hundred years old. They opened an antique shop called Halfway Barn Treasures.

In 1982 the owner Robert Kesten built the new bow-roofed barn. In 1984 he converted the old barn into a retail space for The Huntingest Men which sold antiques and collectibles. The barn was separated from the homestead property at this time. In 2008 Christine Kesten moved her needlepoint store from Osterville to this location.

Locally the intersection is known as "Kesten's Corner".