

FORM B – BUILDING

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

124016001

Sandwich

E

42

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

Town: Barnstable

Place: (*neighborhood or village*) Marstons Mills

Photograph



Address: 744 Old Falmouth Road

Historic Name: Howland's Nantucket Cottage

Uses: Present: Single family house

Original: Single family house

Date of Construction: Before 1920

Source: Assessor's card; local information

Style/Form: Nantucket saltbox

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Cement

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle

Roof: Composition shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage to west; two-horse barn and corral to NE

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Major additions 1950s

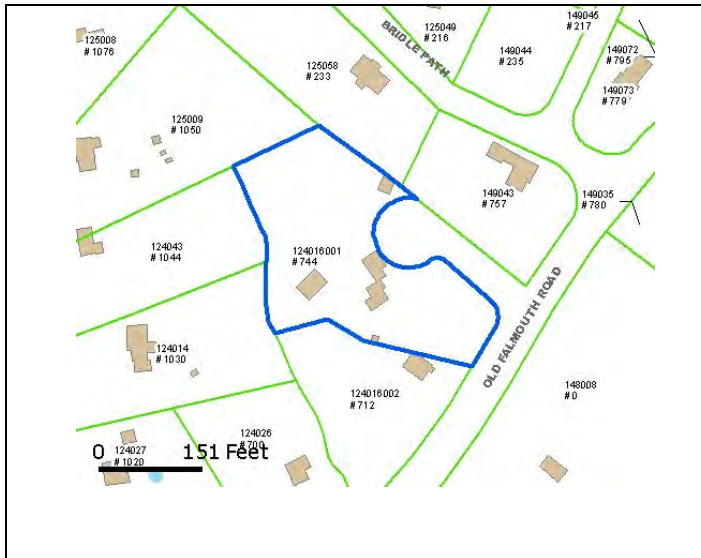
Condition: Much altered

Moved: no | | yes | X | **Date** 1920

Acreage: 2.04 acres

Setting: Isolated white pine woodland on east bank of Skunknet River.

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: J. W. Gould

Organization: Marstons Mills Historical Society;
Barnstable Historical Commission

Date (month / year): May, 2009

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

744 OLD FALMOUTH ROAD, MARSTONS MILLS
BARNSTABLE

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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.

The current form of the house is a rambling one-story letter "W". The oldest part, on the southwest end, is a small 14' x 16' room in the shape of a saltbox, placed on a concrete slab; it is shingled in white cedar painted orange brown. From the west end there is an extension of the same size containing a bedroom and bath and a stair to the attic. North of this is appended the 12' x 20' kitchen with tiled flooring. Again, to the north under a gabled roof is a 16' x 32' living room. All of the additions are in Colonial Revival style, shingled.

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.

There are two unsubstantiated accounts of the origin of the oldest part of the house. The owner was told that it was barged over from Nantucket in 1920. A neighbor believes that it was a shack at the back the Howland homestead (615 Old Falmouth Rd.), was moved to the southeast corner of the intersection, and finally here (Alva M. Roberts). The small building was placed in a white pine woodland on the east side of the Skunknet River that had belonged to the cranberry grower Edwin⁸ T. Howland (1847-1918), (Nathaniel⁷, John⁶, David⁵, John⁴, Isaac³, John²⁻¹ the Mayflower passenger), and inherited by his maiden sister Martha T. Howland (1846-1943). Their sole heir was their brother Darius's daughter Elizabeth H. Titus of Newton, wife of Boston lawyer Percy H. Titus. It was probably she who placed the shack here. It may have been moved by George Doucette, the mover for the Daniel Brothers of Osterville.

Local lore says that the early resident was a hermit Lillian Ford (1896-1956), daughter of George W. Ford and Harriet "Hattie" (Swift) the widow Abner A. Jones of 1009 Old Falmouth Rd., and thus half-sister of T. Maitland of 1044 Old Falmouth Rd., Abner Isaac, and the poet Hattie Blossom. She was later married to Mr. Pinson.

It had been considerably improved by 1972, when Trafton sold it on 3.54 acres to Donald Hall Carr and his wife Elizabeth Ludlow Wordell for \$40,000. Four years later they sold it to the developer Jeffrey M. Moritz as trustee for the Whispering Pines Trust, with Carl R. Hazen as later trustee. In 1987 Hazen sold it for \$235,000 to Linda A. Pavao and Brian F. Eckels of West Yarmouth. Owed \$216,166 in 1992, the bank foreclosed and sold the place in 1994 for \$80,650 to Felicia A. Bareto, who was evidently living there. In 1998 she sold it for \$145,000 to the current owner, Ursula K. Borrer. She is a Chilean of German origin.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Deeds 676/231-2, 1694/21, 2296/267-271, 3077/196, 5787/169, 5791/317, 8060/122, 9487/124, 11586/116; Plan 240/135.

Barnstable County Registry of Probate, Probates 18696, 20383 (Howland).

Barnstable Patriot 18 Aug. 1913, 16 Dec. 1919

Howland, F., *History of Howland Descendants* (1885) 358.

Interviews with current owner Ursula Borrer 23 March 2009, neighbor Taisto Ranta 23 March 2009.

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Additional Photographs:



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