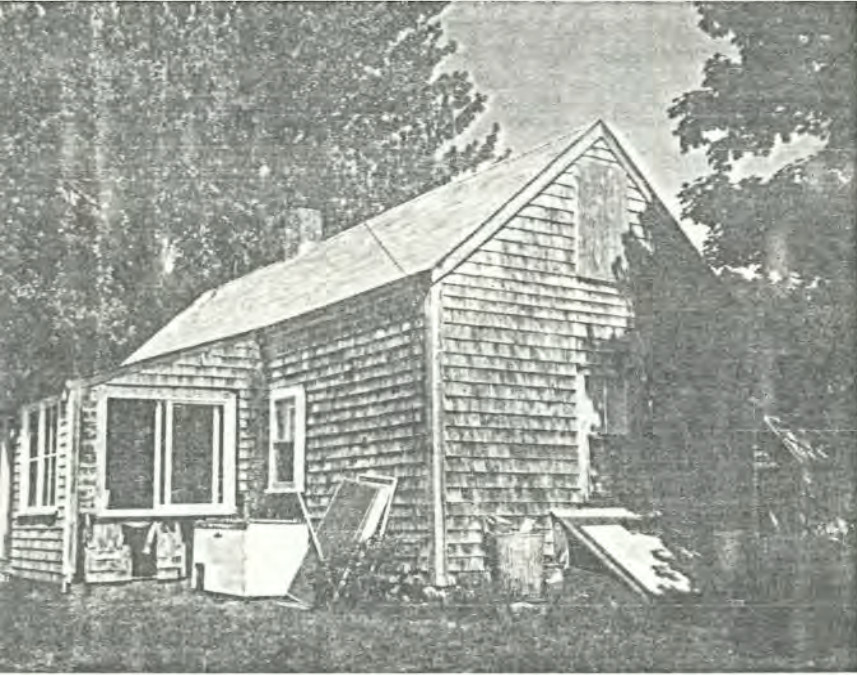


FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
MMA	29

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116



Town Barnstable (Marstons Mills Center)
 Address 50 ACADIA DRIVE
Unpaved road off Rte 28
 Historic Name Fuller/Pierce/Eldridge House

Use: Present dwelling
 Original same

DESCRIPTION:

Date c1853

Source Registry of Deeds, atlases

Style vernacular cottage

Architect none

Exterior wall fabric wood shingle; tar paper

Outbuildings old sheds

Major alterations (with dates) _____

e11 added before 1900

shingles partially removed recently

Moved unknown Date c 1850

Approx. acreage 12.75 058/012

Setting rural residential

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Vivian Cushing/Pat Anderson

Organization Barnstable Historical Comm.

Date June 1986

117-12-A29
 117-13-A29

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and
evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

The Fuller/Pierce/Eldridge House is a 1½ story vernacular cottage of the mid-19th century. It is enclosed by a gable roof with central stove chimney. It is sheathed with wood shingles and is devoid of trim beyond simple cornerboards and window trim. Windows contain original 6/6 and later 2/2 sash. Recently some shingles have been stripped from the building leaving tar paper exposed. There is a rear ell and some old sheds on the property.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state
history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

see continuation sheet

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

- Barnstable County Registry of Deeds and Probate.
Barnstable County Atlases. 1858, 1880, 1907.
Town of Barnstable Annual Reports: Vital Records.
Deyo, Simeon. The History of Barnstable County, Massachusetts. 1890.
Otis, Amos. Genealogical Notes on Barnstable Families. 1888.

The land on which this house sits was once owned by Zaccheus Fuller although no deeds of record are to be found of his ever having bought or sold any land. No doubt these were burned in the Courthouse fire of 1827 and those concerning Zaccheus were never re-recorded. Yet we know he did own land in this locus as he is mentioned as an abutter in various deeds of land in the same area. Also, on this property is a cleared area which, by family tradition in the Pierce and Eldridge line, is still referred to as "Zack's garden". There are no Probate Records for Zaccheus either. Deyo says that this family came originally from Nantucket. Supposedly Zack had a house near by.

This property somehow came to Zaccheus' son David Fuller, a Master Mariner, his 4th child, who was born in 1795. (He died at sea on Aug. 17, 1854).

Family tradition also says that at some point in time the house being documented was moved from one location on the same property to another location. It is felt by this recorder that this move was made sometime during this period, either while David owned it or shortly after he had sold it.

In 1845 David Fuller sold the property to Heman Thomas. The deed mentions a house and other buildings and 35 acres. As to Heman's family background, little is generally known. He was born in 1816 and is reported to have gone to the gold fields of California sometime shortly after 1849 and to have returned to Cape Cod with some wealth to show for his troubles. He married, probably on his return, to Olive M. Ames who was born in 1822. It may have been he who moved the old Fuller house to its present location. The Thomas couple lived in the house and raised their family of 4 children there, the first arriving in 1856.

Previous to 1880 Heman Thomas purchased the old Judge Nymphas Marston house on Route 28, adjoining the above property, (since moved to Oyster Harbors.) He moved into it, but continued to own the house being documented, which was occupied by his daughter, Clara A. and her husband, George William Pierce, who had married in 1877. In 1882 Heman sold this property, now 9 acres, with dwelling house, barn and other buildings, to his son-in-law, George, for \$400.00.

George W. Pierce died Feb. 22, 1904, leaving the homestead estate in possession of his widow, Clara A. She died May 27, 1914 and the property came to her children as her heirs.

On June 6, 1914 the Heirs of Clara A. Pierce deeded to Charles H. Pierce, (her son and their brother), the above property. Charles H. died on Mar. 27, 1953, leaving his estate to his widow, Ethel (Tarr) Chase Pierce. Although they had no children of their own, Ethel had a daughter, Ethel May Chase, from a previous marriage. Ethel May married Austin Francis Eldridge on Sept. 9, 1928 and among their children was a son, Charles H. Eldridge who lived with his grandmother for a lengthy time. On Feb. 12, 1964, Ethel M. Pierce, widow of Charles H. Pierce, deeded the property to her grandson, Charles H. Eldridge, who is the present owner.

This house had stood vacant for quite some time until very recently, and had become quite neglected and run down. In the spring of 1986 it was rejuvenated with many inside repairs being made to make it liveable again. In doing some of this work it was discovered that the boarding of the outer walls was, in many instances, on the inside, papered with old wallpaper of various designs, or painted with different colors, all in a random fashion, thus indicating that the house was built of used lumber. This is perhaps a clue that it might be the old Zaccheus Fuller house which once stood near by on the same property.