

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 2100 Main Street

Historic Name Edgar Weeks House

Uses: Present Single family house

Original Single family house

Date of Construction 1893

Source Barnstable Deed 204-495

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Vinyl Siding and Wood Shingle

Roof Composition Shingle

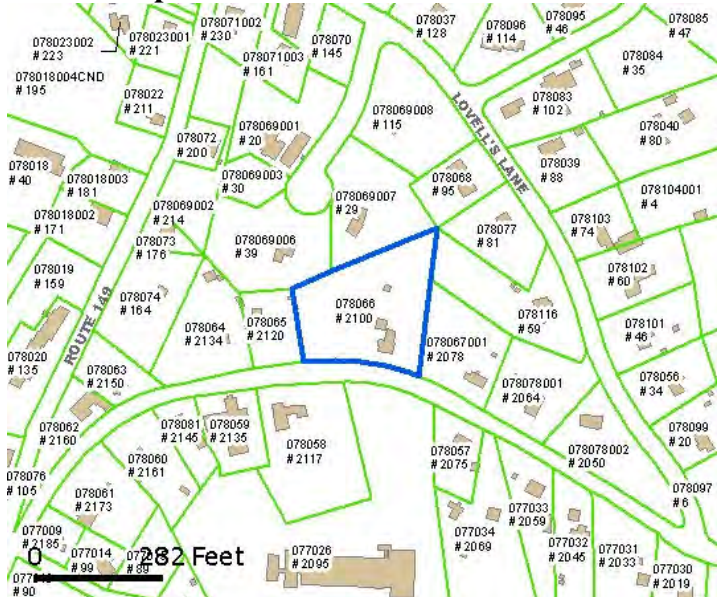
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

One story garage apartment NW (c. 1993)

Major Alterations (with dates)

Kitchen extension c. 1992;
Palladian windows on E side c. 1995/
Two shed dormers on front (S)

Sketch Map



Condition Original form has been modified.

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1.63 Acres

Setting Suburban, close to center of village; opposite entrance to Marstons Mills Elementary School

Recorded by James Gould

Organization Marstons Mills Historical Society,
Barnstable Historical Commission

Date (month / year) September, 2008

BUILDING FORM

MM E-31

2100 Main Street, Marstons Mills, Barnstable

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 typical vernacular Greek Revival house, characteristic of the local nineteenth century construction in the town of Barnstable. The brick foundation measures 33 feet by 16 feet, with a small extrusion on the west side. On the street side is an open porch. At the rear is a one story kitchen under a gabled extension 25' x 16' on a concrete foundation. On the front (south) gable is a cross gable dormer which appears to be original, between two shed dormers which may have been added. The exterior is clad in cedar shingle with unusual imbrication, fish scale below the eaves, and ice cream cone on the rear. Shingle is overlaid with vinyl siding on the east and south sides. The trim is painted brick red. There are two outbuildings: at the northwest is a two-car garage which has been converted to a studio apartment clad in cedar shingle with philodendron leaf imbrication; a small garden shed further north.

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.

The house was built in 1893 by Edgar F. (Foster) Weeks (1857-1931) on a lot given him by his uncle, Robinson Weeks. Robinson owned much of the land on the east side of the village, which he had inherited from William Marston, including land he gave for the library and church. Edgar was nephew of the memorable seaman Seth Weeks (1803-1887), who survived the famous wreck of the *Essex*, and avoided the cannibalism of his shipmates by insisting on stranding on Ducie Island in the mid-Pacific. Edgar, son of Hiram Weeks and Olive (Bragg) Fuller, married in 1887 sixteen-year-old Sarah Jane Hassell (1872-1936), who had come from England at the age of 12 to work for the Robinson household, where Edgar was living. This house was built after the birth of their third son. Although this house does not show on the Walker Atlas of 1907, that map is inaccurate, misspelling neighboring names Winternitz and Mecarta.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds: Deeds 204-495, 539-549, 556-279, 921-334, 1104-344, 1296-620, 7586-34, 9822-156; Plans 123-153; Probates 23719, 25915 (Weeks).

Town of Barnstable Vital Records

Interviews with current owner Pamela Ellis, September 14, 2008; former owner James Ellis, September 14, 2008; local historians Wilbur and Vivian Cushing, September 5, 2008.

Barnstable Patriot, December 15, 1885; January 4, 1887; December 10, 1889, May 6, 1890; December 5, 1893; January 19, 1914; June 14, 1920; April 16, 1925; February 16, 1928.

Paul Chesbro, *Osterville* (Taunton: Sulwold, 1987) II:369-371.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

BARNSTABLE, 2100 MAIN STREET, MARSTONS MILLS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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E

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Prior to their wedding, Edgar and his brother Herbert went to sea, as did many of the young men of the time. Back home, Edgar was a house painter. In 1893 he took his family to New York, where he signed aboard Hyannis Captain Howard Allen's *Titian* as shipkeeper, but returned to Marstons Mills in four months. He was often in village entertainments as a singer and actor in plays. He was one of the first to get an auto, and had an accident in which his wife was seriously injured, turning the car upside down as he came down the hill on Main Street. In 1925, he opened a filling station in front of the house, run by his son-in-law, Raymond Barber. Edgar was an annual candidate for tax collector in the twenties, but was never elected. Their third son, Merle, joined the army and served on the Mexican border in 1914.

When Edgar died in 1931, his real estate was inventoried at \$3400, but in his wife's estate in 1938, the house sold for only \$1500. Meanwhile, the property was leased to the landscapers Dunham and Fish, who stripped the loam from the back fields for golf courses and private estates. As shown on deeds and probate, the property extended back to Hog Alley, now called Lovell's Lane. In 1939, the house was sold to Harry H. Pollard (1882-1963), who had retired from the sea to become custodian of the Marstons Mills church across the street. After the deaths of Pollard and his wife, Stella Holmes (1891-1961), the house went to their daughter, Dorothy Emma Mossey, the second wife of Earle "Shakey" Mossey.

After half a century in the Pollard family, in 1991 the house was sold to carpenter and woodworker James M. Ellis (b. 1957), and his wife and gardener Meg M. Ellis (b. 1959), of Sandwich, for \$69,000. Ellis thoroughly restored the house, replacing the shed roof on the rear with a 12-pitch gabled roof (c. 1992), replacing the staircase (c. 1993), converting the garage into a sun room with philodendron imbrication (c. 1993), and shingling the exterior in fish scale and ice cream cone imbrication and adding the Palladian windows (c. 1994).

In 1993, they sold the house for \$129,000 to the current owner, postal worker Pamela A. Ellis (b. 1960), an enrolled member of the Micmac tribe of Native Americans, whose aunts married members of the Mashpee Wampanoags. She is not related to the previous owner, James Ellis.