

FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Sketch Map



Recorded by James W. Gould

Organization Marstons Mills Historical Society
Barnstable Historical Commission

Date (month / year) October, 2008

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

101059001	Cotuit	E	24
-----------	--------	---	----

Town Barnstable

Place (neighborhood or village) Marstons Mills

Address 379 Flint Street

Historic Name Senator Cusick Country House

Uses: Present Summer home

Original Summer home

Date of Construction 1926

Source Barnstable Deeds 428-83, 437-81.

Style/Form Colonial revival with American Foursquare characteristics

Architect/Builder Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Poured concrete

Wall/Trim Cedar shingle

Roof Composition

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Two car garage under hipped roof NW

Major Alterations (with dates)

Complete remodel with electric wiring, 1928

Condition Close to original

Moved No Yes **Date**

Acreage 0.53 Acres

Setting Suburban, west of Shubael Pond

BUILDING FORM

379 Flint Street, Marstons Mills, Barnstable MM E-24

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 two and a half story Colonial Revival summer home on a 26' x 30' concrete foundation. The full front facing east to the street has an open porch. On the front attic is a wide dormer consisting of two gabled dormers connected by a shed roof over two windows. At the rear attic is a single gabled dormer. All of the original windows are two over one. On the north side of the exterior is a brick chimney rising from the fireplace. At the rear is a hip-roofed porch with turned supports. The exterior is clad in cedar shingle with light blue trim. Northwest is a two car garage under a hip roof, shingled, with a cellar at the rear under a shed roof.

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.

Although the assessor recorded the date of 1900, there is no record of any building here until 1927. Most of the area between Shubael and Hamblin Ponds belonged to the Cammett family which had succeeded to the land of "Pewter" John Hamblin, whose house was on the west side of Shubael Pond. What was renamed Flint Street in the early fifties was previously named Edgewood Road for the Morse dairy farm on Shubael Pond (see inventory of Joel Hamblin House at 358 Flint Street). Earlier, it was called "the road from the Plains to Osterville". Heading west on the south side of the house was an old wood road that ran down to the old herring run, then north along the east side of the ditch.

In 1925, Chester Grant Cammett (1876-1940) sold 40 acres to Everett P. Childs (1859-1944), who had driven the stagecoach from Osterville to West Barnstable on this route during the decade of the transition from horse-drawn vehicles to automobiles. There is no reference in the deed to any building. Neither Cammett nor Childs are known to have been in construction work, and Childs did not live here. In 1926, Childs got a \$4000 mortgage on the house (the first reference) and land from a bank, which foreclosed the next year. Childs' daughter Marian served as a nurse in France during World War I, after which she married Joseph Daniel, son of Osterville builder Charles Daniel. We do not know whether the Daniel brothers were involved in building this house, which appears to have characteristics of the American Foursquare style that are common in this area.

In 1927, Sandwich Cooperative Bank sold the house and three parcels of land totaling 52 ½ acres for \$4600 to former state senator (1906) and lawyer John Francis Cusick (1888-1945) of Boston (Deed 453-356). Cusicks were said to be a wealthy family from Brookline who had a house in Wianno, and brought a staff of servants who roomed in the large attic. Cusick installed electricity and planned to reforest the land. "Built in 1928" is carved in the garage. Cusick campaigned locally for the Democratic presidential candidate Al Smith. The property remained in the Cusick family for a quarter of a century.

After the deaths of John Cusick and his wife Rosina, the house was sold in 1951 to John R. Shuttleworth of Hyannis (Deed 789-26), who grew potatoes in the field, keeping his tractor in the back shed. In 1962, it was sold to the neighbors who ran Fair Acres Day Camp across the road, Cornelius and Arlene Fair (Deed 1173-472). After the camp closed in 1968, this house and land were sold with the campgrounds to Charles E. and Carolyn Larson (Deed 1447-788), who lived here for many years. In 1980, they sold the house to Alden Homes, which developed most of the land to the northwest (Deed 3087-341). The house itself was sold by Alden in 1980 to Michael P. Walsh of Charlestown for \$65,000 (Deed 3186-254). In 1985, Walsh sold the house to the current owner, Carolyn E. Hedlund of Rockport, MA, for \$100,000 (Deed 4705-337). She is an occupational therapist. She comes here in the summer and rents it out for the rest of the year.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Deeds 428-83, 437-81, 452-356, 789-26, 1173-472, 1447-472, 3753-245, 3087-341, 3186-254, 4705-337; Plans 233-121, 334-5.

Interviews with former owner Arlene Fair, August 22, 2008; son of former owner Craig Larson, August 22, 2008; neighbor Kay VanLeeuwen, July 12, 2007; local residents Zilpha and William Wright, August 24, 2008, local historians Vivian and Wilbur Cushing, August 25, 2008; current owner Carol Hedlund Nash, September 5 and October 14, 2008.

Barnstable Patriot, October 11, October 18, 1928; December 29, 1927, February 3, 1919, November 12, 1917, April 13, 1913.

Inventory of Joel Hamblin House, 358 Flint Street.

Chesbro, Paul, *Osterville*, Vol. II (1989), pp. 75-7.

Pamela Schofield, Reference Department, Massachusetts State Library

Walker Atlas, 1908, page 21b.