

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

149024	Cotuit	E	43
--------	--------	---	----

Photograph



Town: BARNSTABLE

Place: (*neighborhood or village*) Marstons Mills

Address: 988 Old Falmouth Road

Historic Name: Abner I. Jones House

Uses: Present: Single family residence

Original: Same

Date of Construction: 1912

Source: Barnstable deeds 313/323, 388/441;
baseboard inscription

Style/Form: Vernacular ;

Architect/Builder: Abner I. Jones;

Ravmond L. Goodspeed

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle

Roof: Composition shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Wooden cottage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Interior renovated early 1950s

Condition: Close to original

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

Acreage: 3.5 acres

Setting: Semi-rural/suburban, on a major secondary road

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: J. W. Gould

Organization: Marstons Mills Historical Society;
Barnstable Historical Commission

Date: March, 2009

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

988 OLD FALMOUTH ROAD, MARSTONS MILLS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

E

43

___ 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 vernacular gable fronted house with a steeply pitched roof on a simple rectangular base 20 x 24. It resembles exactly the core of neighboring house at #1044 Old Falmouth Rd. It is clad in natural white cedar shingle, with white trim. An enclosed entry porch is on the east side, and a shed roof dormer above. To the right of the porch is a diamond shaped window about 24 x 24 inches square. A brick chimney rises from the peak of the composition shingle covered roof. At the rear is a one story cottage of more recent origin than the house. It is cedar-shingled with white trim.

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 current owner of #1044 learned that this house was built as a twin to his house because the builder had lived at #1044, and loved the plan. Although the exterior is the same, the interior layout is said to be different. The house was built for Abner⁸ Isaac Jones (1877-1955), who was born across the road, son of Abner⁷ Austin Jones (1818-1895)(Thomas⁶, Abner⁵, Isaac⁴⁻³, Jedidiah², Ralph¹) and Harriet F. Swift. He probably lived at #1044 with his brother Thomas Maitland Jones before this was built.

It was built on a little over five acres of woodland that were part of his father's farm. Although later residents give West Barnstable, Centerville and Osterville as an address, the original deeds call this The Plains, a designation that has been used in Marstons Mills for two centuries. The deed of July 1912 refers to woodland without reference to buildings, but a date on a baseboard says "1912". The first deeded reference to a building is 1922.

In 1927 Jones sold it to his brother Thomas's wife's son Raymond Leslie Goodspeed of Osterville. Raymond was the son of Leslie Goodspeed and Sophia Cohen (later Jones), and brother of the successful insurance agent Cecil Goodspeed. Raymond had served in World War I, and helped to move the boulder to mark the birthplace of the patriot James Otis. Shortly after buying the house he married Marie Lydia Olivier of West Barnstable; they had no known children, but adopted a son named Richard.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds: Deeds 313/323, 388/156, 449/502, 452/291, 519/127, 583/496, 2118/97, 20559/262.

Barnstable vital records.

Interviews with current owner Martha Thompson 1 April 2009; neighbor Robert Powers 21 March 2009; Osterville historian Paul Chesbro 3 April 2009.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

988 OLD FALMOUTH ROAD, MARSTONS MILLS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

E

43

Historical Narrative (cont'd)

During the Depression, in 1936, the bank foreclosed on Goodspeed, but was unable to sell it until 1941, when William Thompson (1914-1977) bought it for \$900. The house was far from new at the time. Thompson worked on construction jobs, and renovated the interior of the house, opening up the partitions between rooms on the ground floor. He also ran a gas station on the NW corner of Routes 6A and 132, and delivered the *Cape Cod Standard-Times* as far as Provincetown. He was married to Dinella Helen Szeliga (1915-1971), by whom he had one child, William Jr. (1936-2007), born in Hyannis.

The house was given by William Sr. to his son in 1974. William Jr. graduated from MIT in electrical engineering and got his PhD. at Penn State where he became professor of acoustical engineering. He married Martha Cate, born 1936 in Manchester NH, the current owner. Is is leased except in August.