

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

Date (month / year) July, 2007

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

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Town Barnstable

Place (neighborhood or village) Marstons Mills

## Photograph



Southeast and northeast elevations

Address 630 Old Falmouth Road

Historic Name Coloss Wood House

Uses: Present Residence

Original Residence

Date of Construction 1836-7

Source Deeds 16-210, 18-231

Style/Form Vernacular

Architect/Builder Unknown

Exterior Material: Cedar shingle

Foundation Mortared stone

Wall/Trim Wood

Roof Asphalt/fiberglass composite

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures  
Barn to north

Major Alterations (with dates)

Large two story addition to fill ell to NW--1930s?

## Sketch Map



Condition Much altered

Moved  No  Yes Date

Acreage 0.92 acres

Setting Semi-rural on NW corner of major crossroads SE of Round Pond

Recorded by James Gould, Ph.D., Holly Hobart

Organization Marstons Mills Historical Society  
Barnstable Historical Commission

**BUILDING FORM****630 Old Falmouth Road, Marstons Mills, Barnstable, MA****ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**  *see continuation sheet**Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The Coloss Wood house is a two-story vernacular style house on an L plan, under fairly steep gabled roofs. It stands close to the road. The three-bay facade faces south, with entry door east of two windows with 6/6 double hung sash. This original part of the house contains two rooms, a bedroom to the west and parlor in the center, from which the original fireplace and chimney have been removed. The corner posts are boxed. There are 12 to 18 inch white pine board floors. The former steep staircase behind the entry door has been replaced with a modern staircase with landing. With a slightly lower roof ridge, an ell extends to the northeast, and contains two first-floor rooms, the dining room and the kitchen, with a pantry/toilet at the north end. There is a rear entry to the east enclosed in an entryway, and another north from the pantry. The whole of the northwest angle of the ell was filled with a large additional room, perhaps in the 1930s.

The west gable end has vertical sheathing. The whole building has cedar shingle siding, except for some cedar clapboards on the street side. The roof is composition shingle. The foundation is stone fully parged with mortar. There is only one original window, on the second floor of the west gable end, with 2/2 panes.

The barn to the northeast may date from the time of the house, but has no original posts, and appears to be made of reused lumber. To it have been added shed roof extensions both north and west.

**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.*

This modest house was built about 1836 on the northwest corner of the busy crossroad of the main way between Falmouth and the county courthouse and the Osterville-West Barnstable road. Although it is in Marstons Mills many of the vital records record the residents as living in Osterville, since it was on the rural mail delivery for that village. It appears to have been built for the neighboring farmer Shubael Hamblin Crocker (1779-1846), son of Isaac III Crocker and Lydia Hamblin.

It was sold to Dr. Oliver Ford (1786-1864), physician, but it is unclear if they ever lived here. Ford and his wife Patty had been living in Barnstable for a quarter of a century, since the birth of their three children Freeman (1811), Oliver (1812) and Rosella (1815, who married Capt. Sylvester Baxter). His first wife Patty died in 1822. Within a year he married Lydia, by whom he had two more children, Abigail (1823) and Parker (1826). Within seven months Dr. Ford and his wife sold the house to the merchant Daniel Crocker, a distant relation of Shubael.

Daniel Crocker sold it in 1841 to the shipwright (probably in the Crosby yard in Osterville) and yeoman Coloss Wood (1800-79), son of Ansel<sup>2</sup> (son of Francis<sup>1</sup>) and Temperances Jenkins. Coloss(e), as spelled in deeds and his gravestone is evidently a Cape Cod phonetic for Carlos, as shown on the birth record (born 15 June 1800). Coloss and his wife Emmeline Lewis had two children, Lydia (1832) and Waterman (1834). The son, who was paid \$6.25 a year to be town constable (1881, Town Records XIV, 533) eventually inherited the house.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**  *see continuation sheet*

Barnstable Deeds 16/212, 18/231, 26/501, 42/422, 177/136, 251/540, 261/42, 438/114, 4085/267, 4888/243, 5650/80, 14109/303.

Barnstable Probates 4747, 5190 (Ford), 18902, 19001 (Souza).

Barnstable Town Records VI:38, 56; transcripts in Green Book.

Walling map 1856 (C.Wood), Walker atlases 1880 (W.Wood).

On site visit with owner, Philip Roy, 23 May 2007.

Interviews with former resident Elizabeth (Souza) Ranta, local historian Wilbur Cushing, neighbor and Crocker genealogist Peter Hickman.

Bunnell, Paul, *Cemetery Inscriptions...Barnstable*, 166, 394.Leonard, Andrea, *A Crocker Genealogy*, I 62, 63; II 39.Chesbro, Paul, *Osterville*, II 158.

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  
BARNSTABLE

Property Address  
630 OLD FALMOUTH ROAD,

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

Area(s) Form No.

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## Historical Narrative, Cont'd

In 1902 the Woods sold the house for \$450 to Azorean immigrant Nicholas Souza (1868-1919), who worked for a plumber in Hyannis. He and his wife Maria Louise (Rose) had six children, the third of whom, Edward Francis Souza (1894-1982) inherited the house, and raised a family here. He had served in the US Navy as a fireman in World War I, drove a coal truck for the Scudders of Osterville, and ran a gas station on the northwest corner of Rte. 28 and Osterville-West Barnstable Road. The house was inherited by his granddaughter Barbara Ann Bean (wife of Douglas).

After nearly a century in the Souza family, in 1987 the Beans sold it to Robert and Georganna Eidem, who resold it after their divorce the next year to carpenter "Jim" James R. Possiger of North Falmouth. In 2001 he sold it to his friend the realtor Philip Roy, the current owner. Roy has made continuing repairs to the old house.

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MARSTONS MILLS

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## Barnstable County Registry of Deeds Chain of Ownership

- 14109-303**  
**8/21/2001**  
**James R. Possinger of Newton, MA to Philip Roy, the present owner**
- 5650-80**  
**4/7/1987**  
**Robert E. and Georganna Eidem of S. Yarmouth to J. R. Possinger**
- 4888-243**  
**1/18/1986**  
**\$80,000**  
**Douglas J. and Barbara A. Bean of W. Barnstable to Robert E. and Georganna Eidem**
- 4085-267**  
**4/26/1984**  
**Elizabeth M. Ranta, executor of will of Edward F. Souza to Douglas J. Bean**
- 438-114**  
**6/18/1926**  
**Mary L. Suzan, John B. Souza, Manuel Souza, Mary Denello, Emily Ellis, all heirs of Nicholas Souza, all of Barnstable, to Edward F. Souza of Barnstable**  
  
“bounded by land formerly belonging to Nelson W. and Henry E. Crocker.”  
  
“...including the dwelling house and other buildings standing on said land and containing half an acre...”  
  
“Reference is hereby made to deed form Martha A. Wood to Robert H. Cripps...Book 251, Page 540.”
- 261-42**  
**12/2/1902**  
**\$450.00**  
**Robert H. Cripps and Sarah Cripps to Nicholas Souza**
- 251-540**  
**10/1/1901**  
**Martha A. Wood to Robert H Cripps**  
  
“...including the dwelling house and other buildings standing on said land and containing half an acre...”
- 177-136**  
**2/23/1888**  
**Phebe C. Lewis, executrix of will of Edward Lewis, to Waterman Wood**  
  
“...bounded by lands of the heirs of Shubael Crocker...”