

# 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:** 1317 Race Lane

**Historic Name:** Hodson Cabin

**Uses: Present:** Vacant, under renovation

**Original:** Summer cabin

**Date of Construction:** 1910

**Source:** Assessor's card

**Style/Form:** Vernacular

**Architect/Builder:** Robert H. Hodson

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: Mortared stone

Wall/Trim: Cedar shingle

Roof: Composition shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

**Major Alterations (*with dates*):** Room added on southwest corner before 1932; renovation 2008.

**Condition:** Close to original with alterations

**Moved:** no | X | yes || **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 0.13 acres (5700 square feet)

**Setting:** Wooded semi-rural area off major east-west thoroughfare.

## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** J. W. Gould

**Organization:** Marstons Mills Historical Society;  
Barnstable Historical Commission

**Date (*month / year*):** August, 2009

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARSTONS MILLS, BARNSTABLE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

E

61

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:

This is a vernacular summer cabin on a rectangular mortared stone foundation measuring 23 x 35. Two hipped roofs roughly 16 x 17 and 17 x 18 are conjoined, with an enclosed porch on the southeast side. It is clad in cedar shingles and roofed with composition shingles. Indications of the age are the mortared stone foundation and the extruding window sills. Window and door apertures are presently covered with plywood.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

This was located on the farm of William Crocker Sr. (1730-1819) whose house was built in 1780, lying about 100 yards east of this at 1295 Race Lane. His son William sold the house in 1823 to cordwainer Benjamin Wright Sr. (1775-1843), father of the famous William Wright of the Moby-Dick tale of the whaler Essex. Benjamin's heirs sold it to Capt. John Grigson in 1850, who sold it to Capt. Harvey Jones Jr. in 1857.

Jones's son Chester gave the house and surrounding land to his wife Annie's brother Ralph Hodson in 1891. The Hodsons were from Banbury, England. The area became known as Hodson's Camp, a summer retreat where a number of cabins were built, including this one. In 1919 Henry C. Cadmus of Auburn ME bought the area from the Hodson estate and sold it to the coal contractor for the city of Boston, Maurice H. Klous. Klous, whose main house was south of this at the present Lynxholm, cut off this tiny parcel and house in 1932 when he sold it to Alice M. Nelles of Stoneham for \$1300, figuring the lot worth \$400, the house \$900. It remained in the Nelles family for 50 years until 1982 when they sold it for \$12,400 to Ann and John Babbitt of Needham who sold it at once to Kenneth W. Johnson of Somers CT. who sold it shortly for \$38,500 to E. Kent Swenson of Centerville. In 2005 he sold it for \$230,000 to Christopher P. Kuhn of Centerville, who has been remodeling it until the collapse of the housing boom in 2008.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds: Deeds 2/249, 39/518, 65/271, 201/60, 368/231, 491/20, 1121/172, 1413/8, 1416/944, 3617/253, 3773/134, 20601/191; Plan 46/49

Town of Barnstable vital records

Andrea Leonard, *A Crocker Genealogy* vol. I.

Barnstable Assessor's records

Vivian Cushing in *Seven Villages of Barnstable* 236.

Interviews with local historian Vivian Cushing, former residents Joseph Brown, John Davidson 25 Aug. 2009.