

# FORM A - AREA

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

|     |        |     |                |
|-----|--------|-----|----------------|
| 002 | Marion | MRN | see data sheet |
|-----|--------|-----|----------------|

## Photograph



Wareham Road (l to r)

**Town/City:** Marion

**Place (neighborhood or village):** North Marion;  
Hamblin's Corner

**Name of Area:** Lopes/ Cruz/ Holmes Area

**Present Use:** residential

**Construction Dates or Period:** ca. 1920 -- ca. 1970

**Overall Condition:** good

**Major Intrusions and Alterations:**

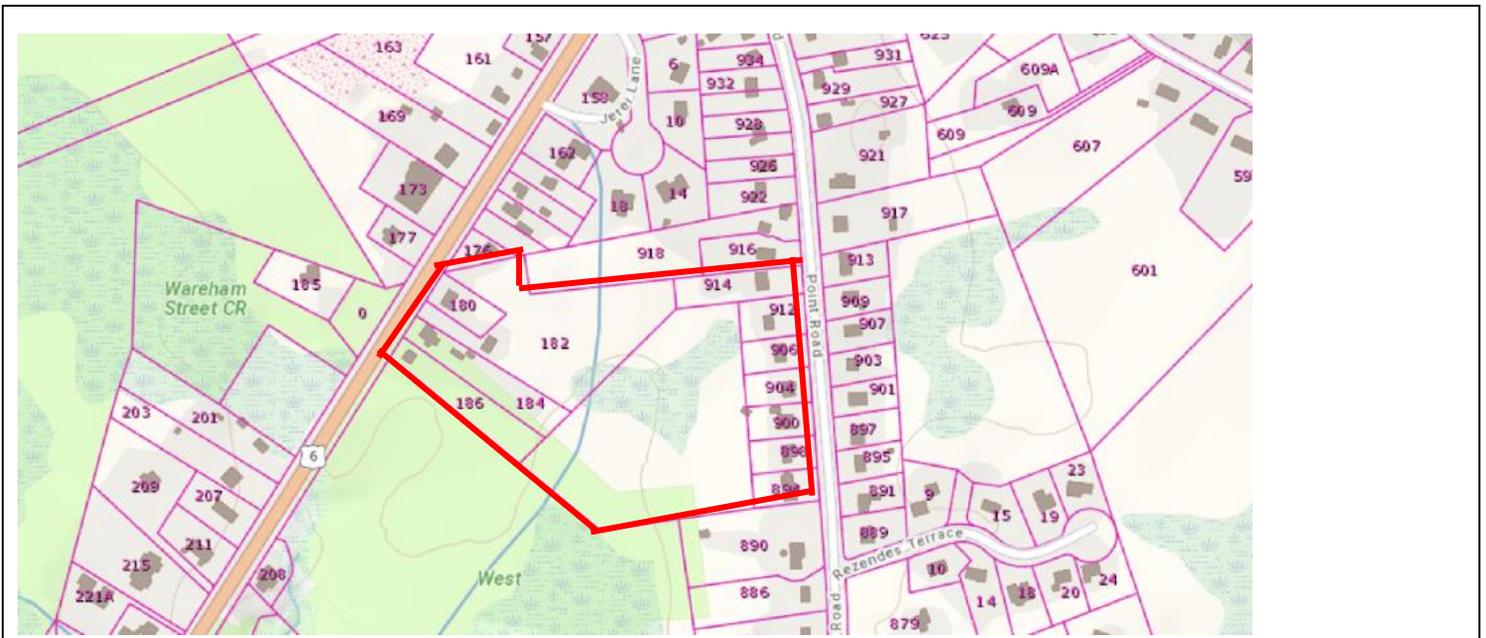
**Acreage:** about 8 acres

**Recorded by:** Claire Dempsey

**Organization:** Marion Historical Commission

**Date (month/year):** February 2021

## Locus Map



see continuation sheet

# INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

MRN.  
see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## INTRODUCTION

The Lopes/ Cruz/ Holmes Area is located in north Marion in a section historically known as Hamblin's Corner. Initially quite rural in character, the neighborhood became more densely settled over the 20<sup>th</sup> century with suburban style lots and houses and commercial enterprises developed along Wareham Road. It was home to Marion's largest Cape Verdean community that grew up here in the early- and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, including dwellings and other buildings constructed in the vicinity of the intersection of Point and Wareham roads. This section includes parcels on the west side of Point Road and on the southeast side of Wareham Road. The land had multiple owners of Portuguese/Cape Verdean descent over the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was acquired and then subdivided in the late 1940s, and most houses here were constructed shortly thereafter. The area includes a total of eleven dwellings, seven built between 1949 and 1964, two in the early 1970s, and one in 1987 according to the assessors' records.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The inland sections of Marion, including this one at its northeast corner, were sparsely settled for most of the town's history, providing a distinct contrast to the dense settlement of Marion Center. The corner of Point Road and Wareham Road/Route 6 was known at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century as Hamblin's Corner, and in 1855 and in 1879, two small buildings were located at the north quadrant of the intersection and labeled Harvey M Hamblin (see 961 Point Road, MRN.xxx, see figure 1). At the turn of the century, the neighborhood became more densely settled, as can be seen on the atlas of 1903 (see figure 2), with further development on Point and Wareham roads coming in the 1910s and 20s and then in the postwar years. At this time, the neighborhood became identified with Marion's Cape Verdean community who bought and built houses and businesses here. Portuguese immigrants came to Marion by 1880, but in larger numbers in the 1900s and 1910s until immigration restrictions of 1917, 1923, and 1924 dramatically cut the flow. Most lived in one of two sections of the town, Azoreans and Cape Verdeans first along Mill Street, and Cape Verdeans at Hamblin's Corner, which became the town's largest community of color. Most development in the subject area came with subdivision of larger lots in the late 1940s and the construction of houses there in the 1950s and 60s, and new dwellings took familiar forms and plans of the period.<sup>1</sup>

This section of the larger neighborhood, located on the west side of Point Road and extending west to Wareham Street, was held at the turn of the century by Nahum P Morse of Rochester (1905-1910), William and Deborah B Clark (1891-1905), and earlier Charles and Cyrissa (?) Washburn.<sup>2</sup> More significantly it is unusual for its early ownership by Cape Verdean owners. This land was acquired from Morse by Theophilo Gonsalves and the Cape Verde (or Verdean or Verdian) Trading Company of Wareham which held the land from 1910 to 1924. Gonsalves (1870-1940), son of Florian and Mary Perry Gonsalves of Brava, came to the US in about 1884, and was naturalized in Providence, RI in 1899. In 1910, he was boarding with Seraphine and Matilda Montero on East Wareham Road in Wareham and working as a contractor in a cranberry bog. In 1916 he was listed in the Wareham Directory as a notary public, by 1920 his occupation was clerk in a law office, and in 1930 he was a real estate agent. He and his wife Matilda B (Ferria, b 1872) were living on Onset Road in Wareham with a niece and nephew in 1920 and on Tyler Road in East Wareham with two nephews in

<sup>1</sup> See Claire W Dempsey, "Marion's Portuguese and Cape Verdean Community: Preliminary Research" (2020).

<sup>2</sup> PCRD: 1064:295 (1910), 906:102 (1905), 906:100 (1891/1905).

# INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

MRN.  
see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

1930. Little has been found about the Cape Verdean Trading Company, though it was apparently located in Wareham and engaged in real estate purchases and sales, perhaps among other pursuits; Gonsalves reported it as his employer in 1918. It is not entirely clear what was the intention for the property, which is shown crossed by a creek and marsh in historic maps (see figure 1 and 2), but there is a plot plan for nearby land that indicates a portion was bog (See Area Belmiro Barros).<sup>3</sup>

In the 1920s, this land, like so much in Hamblin's Corner, was purchased by Amos Delano and the East Marion Real Estate Trust. Delano was a local real estate developer and served the town as selectman, and the EMRT was set up to purchase land, sell shares, develop, subdivide, sell, and rent over a period of ten years from 1925. The Trust purchased land from an array of individuals, some notable for having involved early Cape Verdean landholders in this area. See the additional material added to MRN.D Delano-Cross Neck Area. Many (and apparently unclear) transactions were noted in the sale of this land by Gonsalves to Amos Delano in 1924. A subset of this was the "Fernandes" parcel, a small lot off Wareham Street that seems to have been sold from the larger parcel in 1916 to Agnes Cabral (formerly Fernandes).<sup>4</sup> Agnes may be the woman of that name who married Caesar Fernandez in 1915 when they were both 28; she was a housekeeper, he a gardener at a private estate.<sup>5</sup> The East Marion Real Estate Trust purchased the Gonsalves and the Fernandes land from Amos Delano in 1925 and 1926.<sup>6</sup> They held the land until 1944.

At that time, the Trust sold the land to two men who also seem likely to have been of Cape Verdean descent. Louis/Lewis G Lopes (b ca 1917) may be the son of Lewis and Annie Lopes who lived on Point Road; the senior Lewis worked as a laborer on a private estate. Frank Cruz, married to Margarida Cid, has proved challenging to identify with any certainty. Although there is no plan for the property, its bounds can be traced on today's GIS map and are the bounds of the subject area. The two held the property until 1946 when they sold the south section of 5.6 acres on Point Road to Ebenezer and Evelyn Holmes. The next year, 1947, Lopes and Cruz subdivided what remained into four lots, three facing onto Wareham and one extending to Point; see figure 3. Lopes then sold lot C on that plan to Cruz and retained lots A, B, and D and reorganized them into three lots as seen in figure 4.

Ebenezer Holmes (1902-1966) was the son of a Marion boatbuilder of the same name, whose household in 1900 included two Cape Verdeans, gardener Antoine Santo (age 21) and house maid Mary Perry (age 41). The junior Ebenezer reported his occupation as plumber; his wife Evelyn reported work in a beauty shop in 1940; they lived on Pleasant Street. In addition to this land, they had purchased additional abutting parcels to the west of Point Road. It may have been their plan that resulted in the row of uniform lots along the west side of Point Road, but there does not seem to have been a filed plan for that subdivision. They sold two lots in 1952, one to Antone Fernandes and Julio Texiera and one to Louise R Andrews, but in 1953 they sold the remainder of the parcel.

Once again, the purchasers of the residual land were Cape Verdeans, in this case two couples, Belmiro and Mary Barros and Domingo and Amelia Pina. Belmiro J Barros or deBarros (1917-1987) arrived in Marion with his mother Maria dePina Barros from Fogo in 1922. In 1930 and 1940 the family, including father Carmino, were living on Point Road in Marion. He worked as a gardener on a private estate, an occupation shared by his son in 1940; that estate was identified

<sup>3</sup> Ancestry.com: Richardson Family Tree ([https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/150825611/person/232005415589/facts?\\_phsrc=otw1&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/150825611/person/232005415589/facts?_phsrc=otw1&_phstart=successSource)); RI State and Federal Naturalization; US Census 1910, 1920, 1930; US Directories, Wareham, 1916; US WWI Draft Registration.

<sup>4</sup> PCRD 1471:299 (1924); 1373:149 (1916/19/21); 1504:179, 199, 1509:81 (1926).

<sup>5</sup> Ancestry.com: Marriage Records Wareham 1915; her maiden name was Gomes and she was born in New Bedford; he was born in Cape Verde. Later records which seem to be the same man find him (b 1888 Fogo) in Marion on Wareham Street, married to a woman named Anna (b ca 1906), and working for Galen Stone and later for Paul Burdett. Ancestry.com: US Census 1940, WWI Registration, WWII Registration.

<sup>6</sup> PCRD: 1472:297 (1925).

MRN.

see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

as Francis Countway's (see MRN,XX). Barros married Mary Andrews (1921-2002) and they had a daughter Mary (1947-2009) and a son Belmiro Jr.<sup>7</sup> Belmiro purchased and developed additional land nearby (see Belmiro Barros Area). Domingo R Pina (1920-2001) was the son of Manuel II and Felizarda Pina, the family living on upper Point Road (see MRN Pina Area). When he enlisted in the Army in 1942, he reported his occupation as gardener and groundskeeper. He married Amelia Ann Molizone (1920-2004).<sup>8</sup>

Cruz, Lopes, the Holmes, the Barros, and the Pinas all divided most of the street-facing portions of their holdings into moderate-sized lots, narrow on the street and varying in depth. There seems to have been a small square house or building at 914 Point Road in the 1940s, but the building seems to have been replaced by the building now at that address. The remainder of the buildings were constructed over a ten-year period in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Some houses seem to have been owned by family members of the developers, including the house at 180 Wareham Road, sold by Lewis Lopes to his son Alphonso, for his grandson Jessie, and perhaps 914 Point Road (Mary S Lopes) and 894 Point Road (Harry and Louise Barros). By the 1990s, Louis Barros owned seven lots on both sides of this section of Point Road.<sup>9</sup> Other residents here in the 1960s share Portuguese surnames, the Teixeiras, the DeMirandas, and the Lombas, suggesting they too are Cape Verdean. A 2.2 acre parcel that was part of Lopes land remains intact as 182 Wareham Road and the 4 acre interior portion of the land held by Barros and Pina were later sold to the Town of Marion.

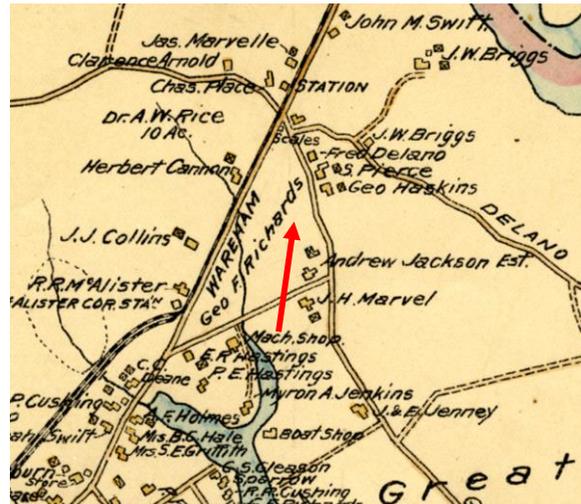


Figure 1, left: Detail from Walker Atlas, Marion plate, 1879.

Figure 2, right: Detail from Richards Atlas, Marion plate, 1903.

<sup>7</sup> Ancestry.com: Jaya Miller Family Tree [https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/111689845/person/250089889145/facts?\\_phsrc=uIC8&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/111689845/person/250089889145/facts?_phsrc=uIC8&_phstart=successSource); Social Security Death Index; US Atlantic Ports Arrivals/Departures, 1922; US Census 1930, 1940; US WWII Draft Cards. Three others seem to have been travelling with the Barros to Marion, including Henriqueta Pina Maia (age 24), Elvira Pina (age 25), and Francisca de Pina (age 56). This typed document includes handwritten notes that describe what happened once they reached Providence, not all of which are legible. Maria and Belmiro were admitted, Henriqueta was deported, and the fate of Elvia and Francesca are unclear.

<sup>8</sup> Ancestry.com: Cape Verdean Family Tree: [https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/165794130/person/422151730424/facts?\\_phsrc=YNV1&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/165794130/person/422151730424/facts?_phsrc=YNV1&_phstart=successSource); US Census, 1940; US WWII Draft Cards; US WWI Enlistment Records.

<sup>9</sup> PCRD: 10190: 95 (1991).

INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

MRN.  
see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

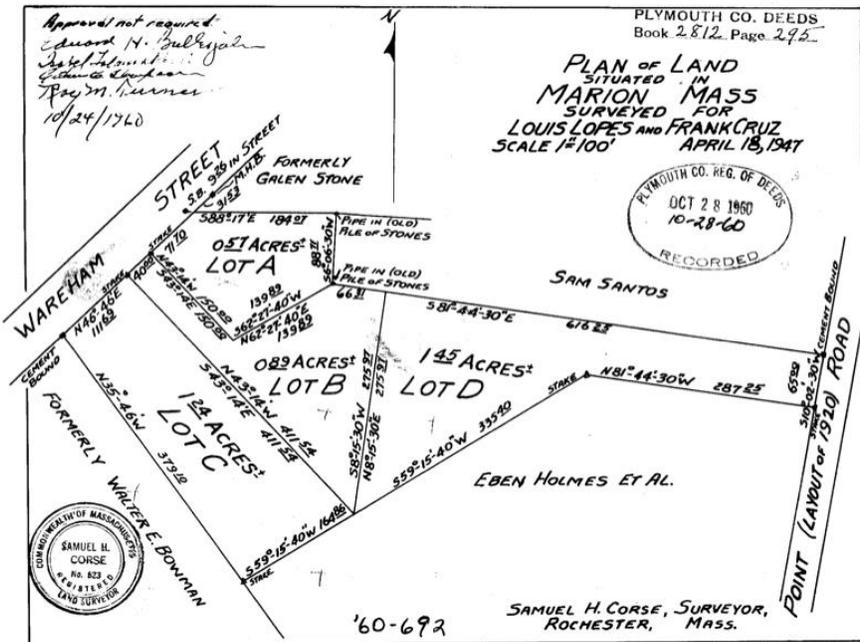
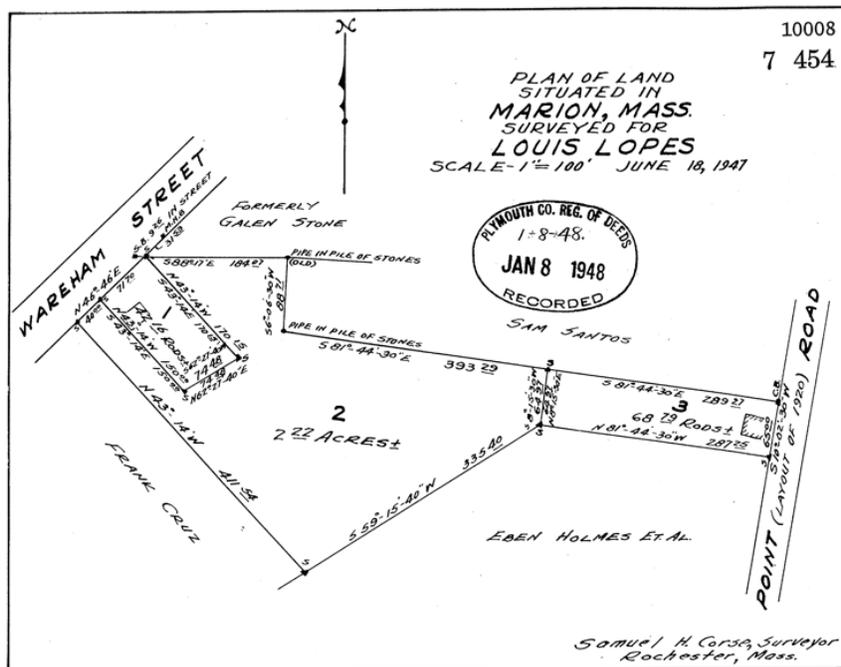


Figure 3: Lopes and Cruz subdivide the land they retain in 1947 (PCRD 1960:692).



**INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET**

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

|                        |
|------------------------|
| MRN.<br>see data sheet |
|------------------------|

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

---

Figure 4: Lopes reorganizes the land he retains later in 1947 (PCRD 7:454).

|                        |
|------------------------|
| MRN.<br>see data sheet |
|------------------------|

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

---

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The most common house type in this neighborhood is the ranch, reflecting the mid- 20<sup>th</sup> century's emphasis on informality and modernism. Among moderate sized houses, the ranch house responded to these trends in forms that emphasized horizontality and informality, and seven examples are found here built between 1949 and 1971. Their long, linear form was useful for effectively separating public from private spaces on a single plane, and most of the houses measure about 36 to 42 feet across and 19 to 26 feet deep. The public area was commonly an open rectangle, including entry into the large living room, an adjoining dining area open to the living room, and an adjacent kitchen; private bed- and bathrooms were clustered on the opposite side of the house. An exceptional Contemporary example is the **Barros House at 894 Point Road (assessor 1952)**, which includes a large projecting window element divided into a 4 by 5 grid of rectangular lights, likely lighting the living room; the shingled house also includes a short breezeway to a single bay gabled garage. A more recent simple example, the house at **906 Point Road (assessor 1970)**, wider and also shingled, included wide picture window. A very similar house is the **DiMiranda House at 182 Wareham Road (assessor 1964)**, set on a high foundation and back from the road. Several ranch houses have projecting elements on one side of their facades, a common way to add space and variety to the design. At **898 Point Road (assessor 1963)**, the gable-roofed projection is quite deep and includes a large picture window, while the rest of the façade is covered by a screened porch; a shed-roofed car port is attached to the right side of the house. At the **Teixiera House at 904 Point Road (assessor 1959)**, the gabled section is cut out for the front door; there is a bay window and a side entry as well. At **914 Point Road (assessor 1971)** there is a shallow rectangular bay and a bowed bay window on the façade. The front section of the building at **184 Wareham Road (assessor 1949)** may be a ranch at its core, though it now has two front entries and a large rear addition.

Two examples in this area are examples of the modern Cape, a regional favorite that drew inspiration from the colonial period and had proved adaptable to modern housing needs. These houses are a single-story in height and employ a double pile plan, some using front and/or rear dormers to provide more spacious upper living space. The **Lopes House at 180 Wareham Road (assessor 1950)** is composed of two shingled volumes, a center entry portion with a picture window and an adjacent smaller section set back from the front plane. The **Teixiera House at 900 Point Road (assessor 1949)** closely resembles the ranches, with a gabled oriel on the façade, cut out for the center entry. The continued popularity of the modern Cape form is demonstrated at **912 Point Road (assessor 1987)**, is a gambrel-roofed house also including dormers. Also popular in this period were two-story houses echoing colonial-era forms and materials, and one of these can be found here in the **Lomba House at 186 Wareham Road (assessor 1950)**. Measuring about 26 feet across and 24 feet deep, the house has a center entry flanked by single windows, with paired windows in the second floor.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps and atlases:

1855 H.F. Walling, *Map of the Town of Marion, Plymouth County, Massachusetts*

1879 Geo H Walker & Co, *Atlas of Plymouth County Massachusetts*

1903 L. J. Richards & Co, *New Topographic Atlas of Surveys of Plymouth County ... Massachusetts*

1918 USGS Topo New Bedford

1936, 1941, 1962 USGS Topographic Marion

Ancestry.com: see footnotes.

*Boston Globe*, see footnotes.

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, in notes as PCRD book: page.

**INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET**

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

MRN.  
see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Research protocol:** Use assessors date, as few other sources are available, confirmed against the Marion Street Lists of 1966 and 1969. **DATA SHEET** to be attached here. Draft available as separate document, will be edited when MHC#s added.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>See Research Protocol</b></p>   |   |
|   | <p><b>Barros House, 894 Point Road, 1952</b>      <b>007A_057</b>      .</p> <p>Contemporary / ranch    link to garage, large projecting window bay<br/>Wall Material: Shingles</p> <p>1966 street list: Barros Harry L b 1927, machinist; Louise R b 1927, domestic.<br/>1969 list: he b Plymouth, she b Marion.</p> |
|  | <p><b>, 898 Point Road, 1963</b>      <b>007A_056</b>      .</p> <p>Traditional / ranch    gabled bay on facade<br/>Wall Material: Shingles<br/>front porch and carport</p> <p>1966 street list: Louise T Cardoza, b 1882, at home; Julio J Teixeira b 1923, stitcher; 1969 sl: she b Cape Verde, he b Marion.</p>    |
|  | <p><b>Teixeira House, 900 Point Road, 1959</b>      <b>007A_055</b>      .</p> <p>Traditional / modern Cape    small, gabled bay on facade over entry<br/>Wall Material: Vinyl</p> <p>1966 no listing; 1969 sl: vacant. Also notes a vacant house at 902; o Domingo P Teixeira.</p>                                   |

**INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET**

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

MRN.  
see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

|   |  |
|---|--|
|    | <p><b>Teixeira House, 904 Point Road, 1959</b>      <b>007A_054</b>      .</p> <p>/ ranch    gabled bay over entry; bay window<br/>Wall Material: Vinyl</p> <p>1966 street list: Dominga P Teixeira, b 1916, caretaker; Barbara T b 1943, stitcher; 1969 sl: he antiques dealer, b Marion; she gone.</p> |
|   | <p><b>, 906 Point Road, 1970</b>      <b>007A_053</b>      .</p> <p>/ ranch    picture window<br/>Wall Material: Shingles</p> <p>1966, 1969 no listing.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>, 912 Point Road, 1987</b>      <b>007A_052</b>      .</p> <p>/ modern Cape    gambrel roof<br/>Wall Material: Vinyl</p> <p>1966, 1969 no listing.</p>   |
|  | <p><b>, 914 Point Road, 1971</b>      <b>007A_051</b>      .</p> <p>/ ranch    projecting square bay, bowed window<br/>Wall Material: Vinyl</p> <p>1966 street list: Mary S Lopes, b 1905, at home.<br/>1969: Francis L Sylvia, b Wareham 1928, Raytheon.</p>  |

**INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET**

MARION

REZENDES

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area Letter Form Nos.

MRN.  
see data sheet

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

|   |   |
|---|---|
|    | <p><b>Lopes House, 180 Wareham Street, 1950</b>      <b>007A_079</b>      <b>.no</b></p> <p>Traditional / modern Cape    two-part form<br/>Wall Material: Shingles</p> <p>1966 street list: Jessie A Lopes, b 1925, TV serviceman</p>   |
|   | <p><b>DeMiranda House, 182 Wareham Street, 1964</b>      <b>007A_078</b>      <b>.</b></p> <p>Traditional / ranch    on high foundation<br/>Wall Material: Shingles</p> <p>1966 street list: DeMiranda, Abilio, b 1901, barber; Cecelia, b 1924, cook; Abilio, jr, b 1941, custodian; Manuel A b 1944, body shop.</p> |
|  | <p><b>, 184 Wareham Street, 1949</b>      <b>007A_080</b>      <b>.no</b></p> <p>/ ranch    front section original?<br/>Wall Material: Vinyl<br/>expanded with large rear addition</p> <p>1966 no listing.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>Lomba House, 186 Wareham Street, 1950</b>      <b>007A_81</b>      <b>.no</b></p> <p>/ center entry    compact, two stories, low gabled roof<br/>Wall Material: Shingles</p> <p>1966 street list: Lomba, Daniel M b 1934, truck driver; Mary G b 1936, electronics.</p>   |