

FORM B – BUILDING

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

11 - 111	Marion, MA		
----------	---------------	--	--

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

Town/City: Marion

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Address: 10 Barros Drive

Historic Name: The Casanova

Uses: Present: Restaurant

Original: Meeting Hall

Date of Construction: ca. 1938

Source: Obituary

Style/Form: No style

Architect/Builder: Alfred H. Barros

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Not visible

Wall/Trim: Vinyl / vinyl

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Shed and shipping container

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Siding (early 21st century); other alterations unknown

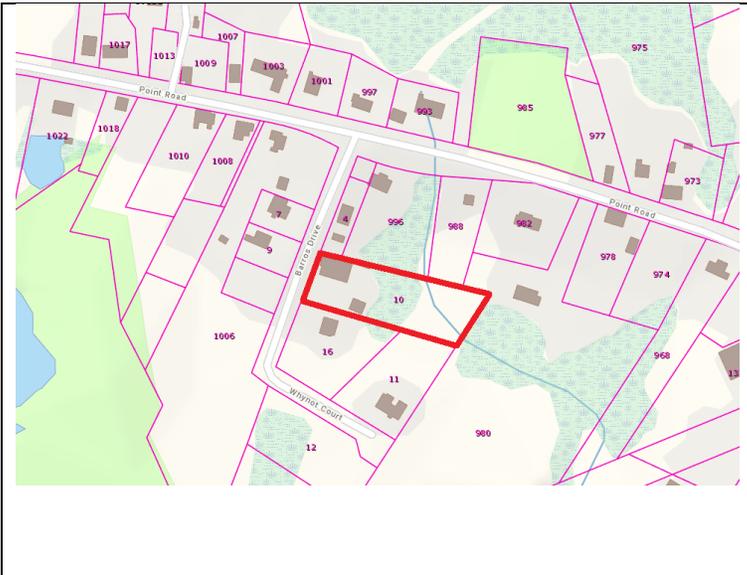
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.84 acres

Setting: In a residential area on a dead-end side street. Surrounding buildings are primarily single-family residences constructed in the mid-20th century.

Locus Map (*North is Up*)



Recorded by: Jennifer B. Doherty

Organization: Marion Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): August, 2020

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Casanova, or the Caz as it is now known, is a one-and-a-half story building that operates as a bar. The main body of the building is a rectangular end-gable structure. This is extended on the south side of the building, where the roof slopes down to a single story to cover what may be an addition along the length of that elevation. A one-story end-gable projection covers most of the north half of the façade. At the rear of the building, a cross-gable section rises to a full two stories. An open wood deck at the second story of the rear elevation is visible from the south side of the building.

The Caz's foundation is not visible, it is covered in vinyl siding, and it has an asphalt shingle roof. The siding is a recent application, as an undated (although presumably recent) assessor's photograph shows the building with vertical wood siding (see below). The building is very sparsely fenestrated. There are two pedestrian entry doors on the main façade; one set within the projection to the north, and a second on the addition to the south. The main façade also includes two windows, one a single fixed pane between the doors and a second in the gable end, a 1/1 vinyl sash. Similar sash are seen on the gable ends of the second story at the rear of the building, where there is also a skylight. While the south entry door is set at grade, the north entry door is reach by a set of concrete stairs and a ramp, with metal tube handrails.

The Caz is set towards the front half of its lot, which is paved all around the building for parking. The rear half of the lot is heavily wooded. A shed and shipping container sit at the southeast corner of the paving area.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Casanova, or the Caz, at 10 Barros Drive is located in the northeast part of Marion known in the mid- and late- 19th and early 20th century as Hamblin's Corner and focused on the corner of Point Road and Wareham Road/Route 6 (see 961 Point Road, MRN.xxx). At the turn of the century, the neighborhood became more densely settled, 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 in Hamblin's Corner, which became the town's largest community of color. The Caz was one of the only commercial buildings constructed away from the main Wareham Road/Route 6 corridor by Cape Verdeans. Most development of the part of Point Road to the south of Hamblin's Corner came with subdivision of larger lots in the 1950s and 60s, and new dwellings took familiar forms and plans of the period.

In 1923, Manuel Santos Barros (ca. 1888-1944), purchased a 40-foot by 60-foot parcel of land from Amos C. Delano, on which the Caz is built.¹ Delano (1878-1953) owned much of the surrounding land and was one of Marion's most important landowners and developers. After attending local schools including Tabor, he worked first as a bookkeeper and later as a contractor before turning to real estate; he was a founder of the East Marion Realty Trust, an active subdivider in this part of Marion.² Manuel Santos Barros was a native of Fogo, Cape Verde, arriving in the United States around 1909. He owned land in the surrounding

¹ PCRD Book 1440, Page 165, September 5, 1923

² Son of mariner Charles Cudwirth and Sarah Howard Briggs Delano, he was raised on Delano Road and lived there after his parents' death; he was single and had no known children. Delano served the town as chair of the Board of Selectman and was a Mason and a member of the Eastern Star and Red Men. Ancestry.com: Delano Family Tree; MA Birth Records; MA Mason Membership Cards; US Census 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930; US Directories, Marion sections of Wareham, 1903, 1910, 1928. US WW I and WWII Draft Registration Cards. Sippican Historical Society, online database search under name; obituary *Standard-Times*, 8/27/1953.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

10 BARROS DRIVE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

area, and worked for an estate. Barros and his family were recorded in the 1930 census on Point Road, although it is unclear where they lived. Notably the family's race was listed as "Negro" in 1930, but "Portuguese" in 1940, a sign of the fluidity with which the race of Cape Verdeans was viewed.

Barros' son, carpenter Alfred H. Barros (ca. 1920-2016), constructed the Caz ca. 1938, and it was initially known as the Al Craftman Hall, which may have stood for "Atlantic Islands," in reference to Cape Verde. It is unclear if the building initially operated as a public bar or restaurant or more as a private social hall. Following his death in 1944, Manuel Santos Barros' other children sold the parcel and surrounding land to their sibling, Alfred H. Barros.³ He owned the property until 1998, when he sold it to the current owner.⁴

The bar has continued in operation in recent years. News articles indicate that there is a living space at the rear of the bar, in the second story, where the current owner lives. The freestanding sign at the edge of the property identifies the bar as "Cape Verdean Owned."

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 Topo Marion

"Alfred H. Barros," *The Standard-Times*, Obituaries. 10 October 2016.

Ancestry.com: see footnotes

Goren, Daniel E. "Suspect sought in shooting outside bar," *South Coast Today*. 3 February 2004."Injuries fatal to Marion man," *The Standard-Times*. 24 June 1944.

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds (PCRD): see footnotes, includes recorded date

³ PCRD Book 2253, Page 269, January 19, 1953; PCRD Book 2253, Page 270, January 19, 1953; PCRD Book 1304, Page 52, October 20, 1953; PCRD Plan Book 16, Plan 971, August 7, 1972

⁴ PCRD Book 15979, Page 334, March 12, 1998

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

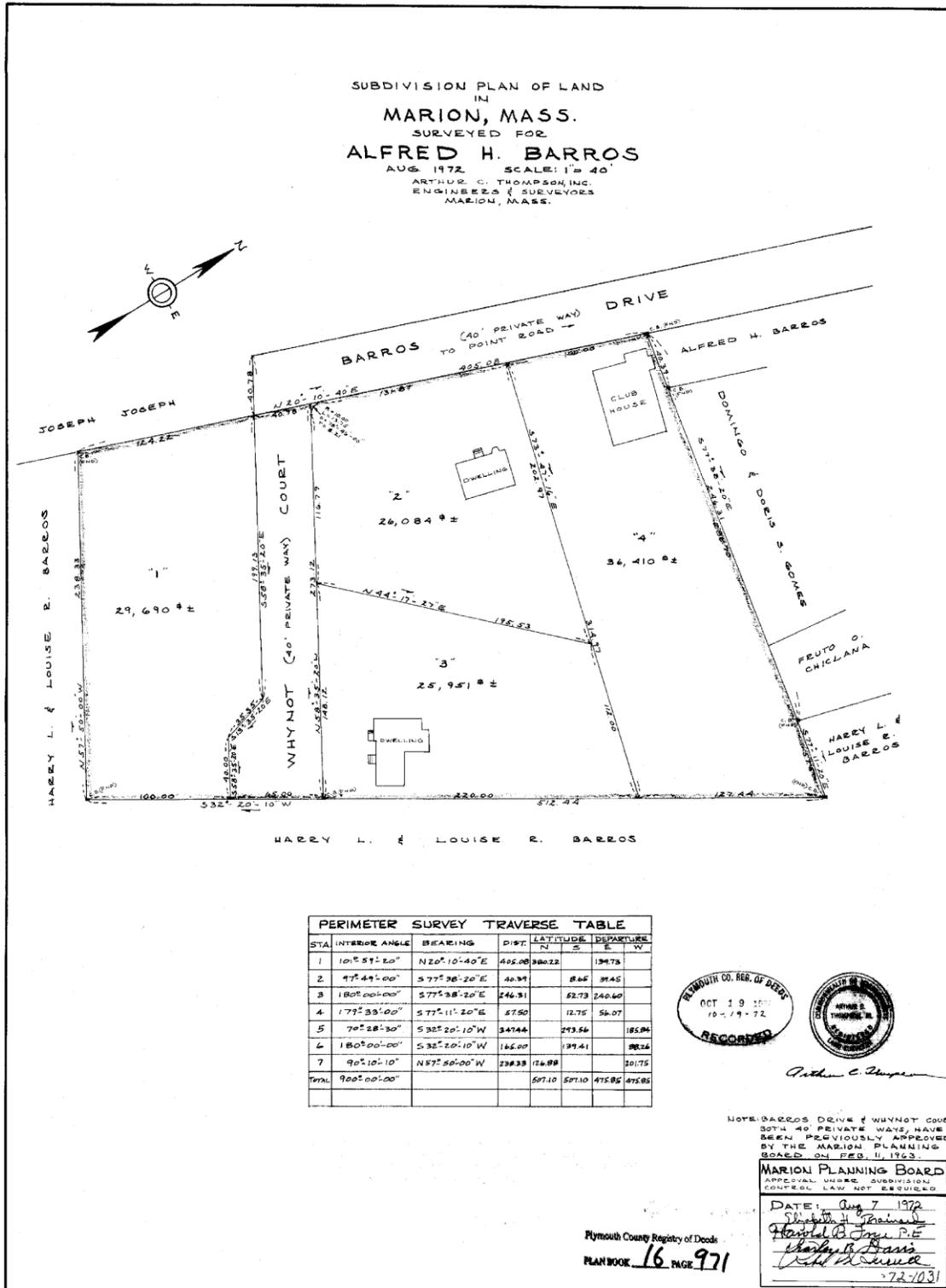
MARION

10 BARROS DRIVE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

10 BARROS DRIVE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

--

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

This 1972 plan shows Alfred H. Barros' property in the area of the Casanova, including the subject property (parcel 4). The Casanova building is identified as a "Club House."

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MARION

10 BARROS DRIVE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



The main façade and north elevation of the Casanova.



An undated photograph of the Casanova from the Marion assessor's database. Retrieved July 24, 2020.