

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

	Plymouth		474
--	----------	--	-----

Town Kingston

Place (neighborhood or village) *Kingston*

Address 55 Landing Road

Historic Name Holmes ShipYard

Uses: Present Vacant - ship yard

Original Open land/wharf

Date of Construction c.1806-1850

Source Maps

Style/Form Utility buildings

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material: wood

Foundation Unknown

Wall/Trim wood

Roof wood/asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

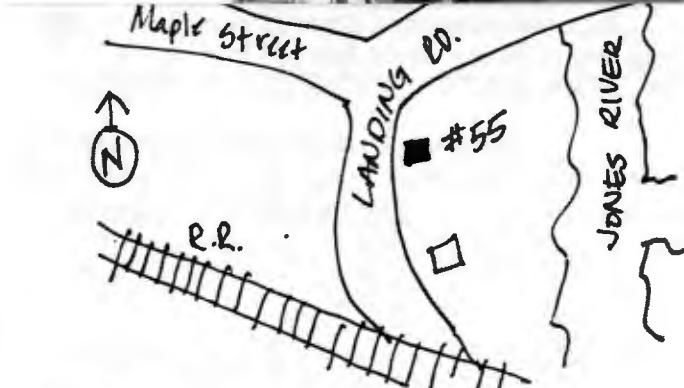
Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition Varies

Moved no yes Date

Acreage .5 acre (approximate)

Setting On Landing Road at intersection of Maple Street on Jones River - RR bridge to west of property



Recorded by Deirdre Brotherson

Organization Kingston Historical Commission

Date (month/year) Summer 2003

RECEIVED

DEC 14 2005

MASS. HIST. COMM

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The main building and various sheds are in different states of repair. The buildings are constructed from a variety of materials including wood and metal sheathing. The two sheds are 3x6 bay, one story buildings with front gable roofs.

The area was fenced and access to the buildings was not available. See photos for more details.

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.

(From Major Bradford's Town: A History of Kingston 1726-1976. By Doris Johnson Melville)

The Landing originally belonged to Major John Bradford's farm and was given by him to his son William in 1713. The first wharf appears to have been built near the present railroad bridge. William Bradford died in 1737. His widow sold off portions of The Landing. The downstream end of The Landing (about where 51 & 55 Landing Road are now located) was owned by Eliphalet Bradford, but was probably used by Samuel Foster and his son, Robert, mentioned in 1765 as having lately built a new wharf thereon. This area was sold in 1765 to Benjamin Walker, shipwright, and it was transferred by various deeds through Elisha Brewster and Stephen Drew to Joseph Holmes, in 1810. Probably all of the owners used the area as a building yard.

Joseph Holmes in 1827 acquired the second Foster wharf (now 33/39 Landing Road) and it was on these two wharves that all of his shipbuilding operations were carried on. Joseph Holmes was born in Kingston and graduated from Rhode Island College (now Brown University) in 1797 when that school was the training school for Baptist ministers, which Joseph became for a while. In 1801, when he was 30 year old, he started building vessels on the Taunton River in Bridgewater. In 1806 he returned to Kingston and began building at the Jones River Landing. Joseph Holmes died in 1863 and his son, Edward, took over the ship yard.

Shipbuilding of large clipper ships was not possible on the shallow, narrow Jones River and by the end of the 1800's steam vessels were the more popular mode of transportation. Alexander gave up the business and became the Old Colony railroad's chief executive until his death in 1868.

In 1895, George Shiverick came to Kingston and started building in this ship yard which he leased from Walter C. Hammond. Shiverick built fast racing yachts. In the 1930's-1950's MacKenzie Boat Shop operated on this property. By 1976 the land was owned by Frank Zwicker.

The land is presently vacant and is currently in transition to a boating school/education facility.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Major Bradford's Town: A History of Kingston 1726-1976. By Doris Johnson Melville
maps & deeds

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

This property may be eligible for the national Register under Criteria A for its associations with shipbuilding and Criteria B for its association with Joseph Holmes and George Shiverick.

KINGSTON # 474
SS LANDING RD

KIN. 474



