

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 30 1978

DATE ENTERED

DEC 14 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Wesleyan Grove

AND/OR COMMON

Martha's Vineyard Campground (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Multiple

roughly bounded by Cottage Pt., Quisqueba, Clinton, Duke's Co., LeBain, Tarkenton & Central Ave.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Oak Bluffs

VICINITY OF

12th

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Dukes

CODE

007

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Land and public religious buildings owned by Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Cottages owned by individual owners (see continuation sheet) Association

STREET & NUMBER

Multiple

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dukes County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Edgartown

STATE Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historical Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Martha's Vineyard Campground is an extensive group of nineteenth century cottages and religious buildings located in the center of the town of Oak Bluffs (formerly Cottage City). The campground is laid out on 34 oak-shaded acres. It is bounded on the north by Sunset Lake, on the northeast by Lake Anthony and Lake Avenue, and on the south and southeast by Circuit Avenue, and on the west by Dukes County Avenue. During the late nineteenth century, a seven foot picket fence was built to define these boundaries and protect the campground from "the temptations of worldliness." Today the picket fence is gone, but the water and avenues adequately outline the boundaries of the homogeneous grouping of buildings which comprise the campground.

The campground includes 306 cottages and 6 public buildings - the Tabernacle (#306), Trinity Methodist Church (#308), Grace Methodist Chapel (#309), the Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association Building (#307), and the Wesley and Attleboro Houses (#310 & 311 and #142). The Tabernacle and Trinity Methodist Church are located in the approximate center of the campground, in Trinity Park, and provide the focal point for the layout of the cottages. The early cottages were built on sites that had been laid out for tents, the original means of shelter in the campground. The first circle of tents, surrounding Trinity Park, was laid out soon after the founding the campground in 1835. It was in this circle that the first cottages, the Association Building, and Grace Methodist Chapel were built in the 1860's and 1870's. Radial avenues extend from Trinity Park, with cottages facing each other across narrow avenues as well as onto the park. In 1864, Forest Circle, located southwest of Trinity Park, was laid out. It is a smaller, cottage-surrounded circle, enclosed by the larger Rural (Grand) Circle of cottages. The following year, County Park, located east of Trinity Park, was laid out. In 1868, the boulevard area along Clinton Avenue was planned; the final division of land, an extension of Clinton Avenue west of Oak Park, was made in 1873.

A typical campground cottage is a simple rectangular structure, approximately 15 feet wide by 20 feet deep. Vertical structural members are six 4 by 4 posts, spaced 14 to 16 feet apart, and attached to floor and eave framing joined by mortise and tenon. The walls of the cottages are a single layer of 3/4 inch random-width tongue and groove boarding. Cottages are 1½ stories, with the gable end always to the front. The facade is composed of double doors and two narrow windows on the first story, and double doors on the second story. The windows and doors of the cottages are adorned with square, circular, and ogive Gothic mouldings. The porches, which have been built onto most of the cottages in the campground, are late nineteenth century additions. Many porches are heavily ornamented with bargeboard trim, frequently with the pattern on the porch differing from that on the gable. Forty-five gable bargeboard patterns have been counted in the campground.

The interior plan of the cottages is derived from the tents they replaced. The first floor is usually divided into two rooms - the front parlor and a smaller back room, containing the stairs to the upper floor. The second floor is one large bedroom. Kitchens, which have now been added to the rear and sides of the cottages, are late

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Martha's Vineyard Campground is significant for its unique architecture, remarkable state of preservation and for its association with nineteenth century religious practices.

The campground was founded in 1835 by the Reverend Jeremiah Pease of Edgartown. The first meeting was held on Monday, August 24 and throughout the following week the participants gathered several times a day for preaching. Friday was "Feast Day", and Sunday everyone departed. The meeting was held on half an acre of land with the preacher's stand in the center of nine communal tents; these were large tents erected by each participating church.

Nineteenth century religious fervor caused the campground to grow rapidly. By 1842 there were 40 tents in the grove, and 1,189 people attended the Sabbath services. In 1885, 200 tents had been erected in the campground, and attendance at the Sabbath services had grown to 5,000. A description of one of these early Sabbath services reveals its emotional intensity: "strong men fell silent, women wept, and conversions and quickenings were reckoned with enthusiasm of true purpose."

In the late 1850's cottages began to supplant tents in the campground, and construction continued at a frantic pace through the 1880's. Forty cottages were built by Edgartown carpenters in 1864 alone. The cottages were built and paid for by their owners on land that is still owned today by the Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association. With the building of permanent cottages, people began arriving in the campground in July, even though the camp meeting did not begin until the middle week in August. It developed into a Christian summer resort, whose religious activities focused around the week-long camp meeting in August. The growth of the campground sparked the resort development of the adjacent land, eventually creating the town of Cottage City in 1880 (renamed Oak Bluffs in 1907). Although the evolution of towns caused by camp meetings became a national phenomenon, it is generally accepted that Martha's Vineyard Campground was the forerunner of this movement.

Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the campground has remained a popular religious community and summer resort. After the First World War religious activity in the campground declined somewhat, and while today it functions largely as a summer resort, the religious life of the community is of important significance to both residents and visitors. The Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association still

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Weiss, Ellen, "The Wesleyan Grove Campground", Architecture Plus, November 1973
Lobeck, A.K., Brief History of Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association, Oak Bluffs, MA 1956
Hough, Henry Bettle, Martha's Vineyard: A Short History and Guide, Dukes County Historical Society, 1956
Hough, Martha's Vineyard, Summer Resort, 1936

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 34

UTM REFERENCES

C	1,9	36,9	5,8,0	4,5	9,0	4,7,0	A	1,9	36,9	8,5,0	4,5	9,0	4,8,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
B	1,9	36,9	3,6,0	4,5	8,9	8,2,0	D						
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Starting at the southeast corner of Lake and Siloam Avenues proceed easterly along the south line of Lake Avenue to the rear property line of the properties on the east side of Central Avenue, then southerly along the rear property line of properties on Circuit Avenue, then northwesterly along the rear property lines of properties on East Clinton Avenue, then northeasterly along the right-of-way of Dukes County Avenue and Siloam Avenue to the starting point.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elizabeth T. Durfee and Andrea Gilmore

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

January 19, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Patricia L. Weslowski

TITLE *Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission*

DATE

6/21/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Ann M. Dwyer*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12-14-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/13/78

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Martha's Vineyard

CONTINUATION SHEET

Campground

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

1

nineteenth century additions as most early campground inhabitants chose to eat in the common dining rooms.

Alterations have been made to many of the cottages. About 50 have been winterized, requiring insulation and new siding. On many of the cottages the original tongue and groove vertical boarding has been covered, at least in part, with wooden or asphalt shingles or clapboards. Additions have been built onto the sides and rear of many of the cottages. The alterations, however, have not significantly altered the nineteenth century character of the campground. Because of the limited size of the plots of land within the campground, additions have been small, in keeping with the original scale of the cottages. Changes in siding, although they destroy the plain surface of the walls of the nineteenth century cottage, do not alter its basic design, the treatment of doors and windows or bargeboard trim.

Nos. 25 Washington Avenue (#254), 8 County Park #71 and 70-71 Trinity Park (#237) provide a representative sampling of the cottages in the campground. 70-71 Trinity Park, built in 1864 is the oldest cottage in the campground. It is a double cottage, occupying two lots. (There are several double cottages in the campground. They were usually the cottages of the preachers and are located around Trinity Park.) Its facade is symmetrical. When divided down the middle, each side of the cottage has the double doors and pairs of windows that compose the typical campground cottage. The gables of the cottage are decorated with delicate bargeboards, and the windows and doors are round-arched. A simple one-story porch has been built onto the front of the cottage. Lattice-work balconies extend across the second story double windows. The original tongue and groove boarding still covers the front of the cottage; the back of the cottage is sided with asbestos shingle.

No. 25 Washington Avenue is a virtually unaltered nineteenth century cottage. Except for an open porch on the east side of the cottage and a small addition at the rear, it retains its original design and detail. The facade is composed of double doors, surrounded by a simple balcony, on the second story. The windows and doors are adorned with ogive mouldings. The original tongue and groove siding covers the cottage.

No. 8 County Park is a cottage that has received several significant alterations. Its typical facade is composed of double doors on the first and second stories. A simple one story porch with decorative brackets has been built across the front and north side of the cottage. Elaborate bargeboards highlight the gable and second story balcony of the cottage. A small dormer has been built into the roof on the north

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Martha's Vineyard
CONTINUATION SHEET Campground ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

side, and small two story addition adjoins the rear of the cottage. Wooden shingle covers the cottage. A comparison of 25 Washington Avenue and 8 County Park illustrates well how additions to a cottage and changes in siding affect the character of the cottages, but do not obliterate their nineteenth century design.

Several cottages have been built recently in the campground, replacing cottages that had either burned down or were torn down. According to the regulations imposed on the campground by the Association, they are small in scale and similar in design to the nineteenth century cottages.

The Tabernacle (#306), an impressive iron structure, was assembled during the summer of 1879 by George Dwight and John Hoyt, galvanized iron dealers from Springfield. At its center, the Tabernacle is square, with arches at the top spanning 61 feet. This central area is surrounded by flared, triple layers of corrugated cement and asbestos roofing which rest upon an elaborate system of delicate supports, creating a circular structure. The supports of the Tabernacle are all composites of angle iron, T-irons and pipes, with few exceeding two or three inches in diameter. The building measures 130 feet across and 100 feet high. It is topped by a wooden cupola and cross.

Trinity Methodist Church (#308) stands northeast of the Tabernacle in Trinity Park. Built in 1885, it is of wood frame construction, with a central entrance and bell tower on the east side of the facade. The main gable of the facade and the gable of the entrance porch are ornamented by simple bargeboards. The church's present siding is white asbestos shingle.

Grace Methodist Chapel (#309), built in 1885, stands on the eastern side of Trinity Park. It is a one story wooden structure with white asbestos siding and is elaborately decorated with bargeboard trim. It was built for the use of ladies' organizations and is still used as a meeting hall.

On the southwestern side of Trinity Park is the Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association Building (#307), erected in 1859. It is a 2½ story, wood frame structure, serving as the administration building of the campground. It was built to provide meeting rooms, the post office, an office for the agent and storage space for tents. Although tents are no longer stored in the building, it still houses the offices of the Executive Secretary, the Program Director, and meeting rooms.

The Wesley House (#310) and the Attleboro House (#142), located on Lake Avenue, are the only hotels that remain in the campground. During the nineteenth century, there

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were 3 hotels and an inn within the campground; they have since been demolished, leaving several large open spaces in the campground. The Wesley House is a four story wooden structure with a mansard roof. A large porch wraps around the front of the hotel and extends across the attached, two story annex. A two story detached annex stands on the northern side of the hotel. These buildings are covered with wood shingle and painted dark green. The Wesley houses a large dining room and several common rooms, as well as numerous rooms for overnight lodging. The Attleboro House is a smaller two story wooden structure. Large wrap-around porches extend across both the first and second stories. The wooden detail in the supports and rails of the porches creates a highly decorated facade. The hotel is sided with clapboards and painted white.

Significance cont.

oversees both the community activities of the campground as well as the regular religious services on Sundays and occasional services during the week. In keeping with the older traditions of the historic past, a Junior Camp Meeting continues to be held for the children during the weekdays for a month each summer.

The religious significance of the campground lies in the important role which camp meetings played in the nineteenth century Methodist church. During that century campgrounds were established throughout the country. In 1875 there were eight permanent campgrounds in Massachusetts alone. The Martha's Vineyard Campground was one of the largest campgrounds and is the best preserved. The layout of the campground reveals the complex planning that was used to create these religious communities. Trinity Park, with the Tabernacle and Trinity Methodist Church, was to be the focal point of the community. The circles and parks, with cottages facing onto them, were designed as preaching areas so that several services could be going on in the campground simultaneously. With the development of Oak Bluffs, a white picket fence surrounding the campground was erected to protect it from the outside world. Martha's Vineyard Campground is a fine example of the nineteenth century Methodist church campground - a rustic, vice-free gathering place, designed for the restoration of spiritual and physical health.

The campground cottages are structurally unique in American architecture. In building pattern books of the 1870's and 1880's, cottages of this design were called "Martha's Vineyard Cottages." These cottages spread to resort areas and campgrounds throughout the country. The Tabernacle is an outstanding example of iron construction. Its

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Martha's Vineyard

CONTINUATION SHEET Campground

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delicate iron supports illustrate well the ability of the metal to support a heavy structure with a large open space beneath. On top of the cupola is a cross, illuminated at night throughout the year, and a well-known landmark to sailors. The Tabernacle is used by the community for theatrical productions, musical events, graduations, and other group activities.

A nineteenth century character pervades the campground today. It is still a very homogeneous community, with religious affiliations. The Martha's Vineyard Camp-Meeting Association owns the land on which the cottages stand and governs the activities of the campground. The owners of the cottages keep them well maintained and join with the Association in its efforts to protect the rustic and peaceful nature of the campground from the crowds and noise of the resort town of Oak Bluffs.

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ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Martha's Vineyard Campground

10 (revised)

1

Starting at the southeast corner of Lake and Siloam Avenues, proceed easterly along the right-of-way of Lake Avenue to the east property line of #67, then southerly along the rear property lines of the properties on the east side of Central Avenue, then southwesterly along the rear property lines of the properties on the west side of Circuit Avenue, then southerly along the rear property lines of the properties on the east side of Clinton Avenue, then westerly along the west lot lines of lots 92, 89, 46 and 47, then northerly along the right-of-way of Dukes County Avenue and Siloam Avenue to the starting point.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE RECORDED DEC 05 1982

RECORDING OFFICE

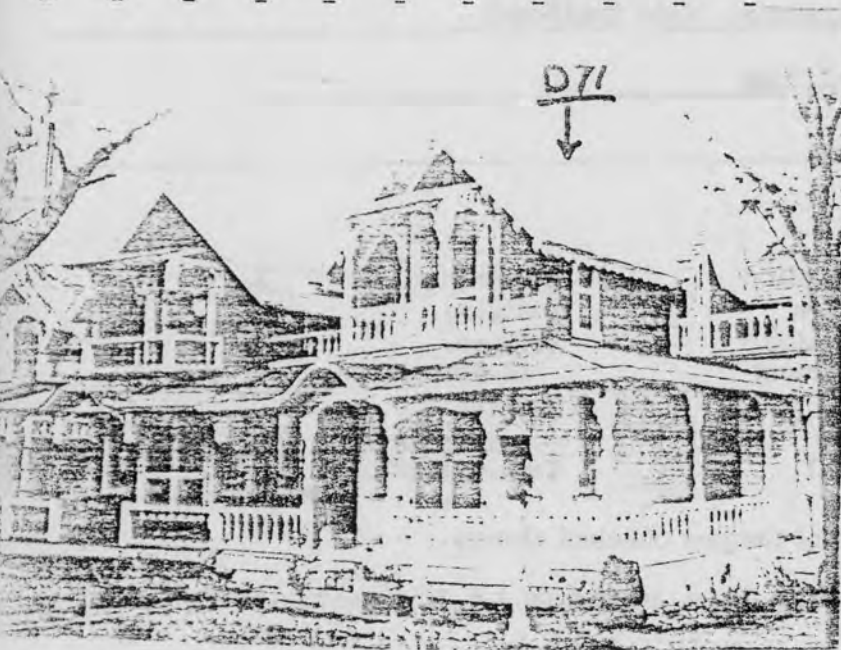
CLASSIFICATION

INITIALS

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. E	Form no. D-71
------------------	------------------



Town Oak Bluffs
Address 34 Trinity Park
Name _____
Present use seasonal private dwelling
Present owner Ronald Descheneaux
Description: _____
Date 1867
Source Camp Meeting Assoc. Records
Style Campground

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

OTHER FEATURES: cross gable;
portico with arched roof;
gingerbread along bargeboards;
white with green and pink.

Architect _____
Exterior wall fabric vertical pine boards,
wood shingles, asbestos shingles
Outbuildings (describe) _____
Other features front covered balcony with
double door; covered post and bracket
porch, 2 sides; open balcony on side;
(continued at left)
Altered bay window Date _____
added
Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:
One acre or less Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 20'
Approximate distance of building from street
15'

6. Recorded by Donald Jacobson
Organization O. B. Historical Survey
Date 6/30/78

Do not film

7. Original owner (if known) Allen S. Simmons, New Bedford

Original use seasonal private dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	<u>X</u>
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	<u>X</u>
Architectural	<u>X</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>X</u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This house is of significance as a portion of the Methodist Camp-ground. It is of the distinctive Campground cottage construction. The formation of the Campground marked the beginning of the development of Oak Bluffs as a unique community and summer resort.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 DATE RECD FEB 28 1979
 _____ IND. B. _____ USE (A1770)
 _____ TEL. H. LINE C. DE. (ATTACHED)
 DATE OF CERTIFICATION _____
 INITIALS _____

8/3/6/179

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

-Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association Records of Leases, Camp Meeting Association Office, Oak Bluffs, Mass.

-Henry Beetle Hough, Martha's Vineyard, Summer Resort, 1835-1935.

-Ellen Weiss, "The Wesleyan Grove Campground," Architecture Plus, 1973.

Property Martha's Vineyard Campground

State Mass.

Working Number 6.30.78.3523

TECHNICAL

Photos 7
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK 7.6.78

Good nomination. Significant as a well-preserved 19th c. campground which represents religious practices of the 19th c. Also significant as an early example of a town which evolved from the continued growth of a campground. Also appears to have architectural significance. See attached sheet re VBD.

HISTORIAN

*Accept
Lightner*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

SIGNIFICANT AS AN EARLY AND IN MANY WAYS MODEL CAMP GROUND. ARCHITECTURALLY IT IS IMPRESSIVE FOR ITS HIGH DEGREE OF INTEGRITY. IN MY OPINION IT TRANSCENDS STATE SIGNIFICANCE AND SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT. ALSO, MORE OF THE TOWN SHOULD BE NOMINATED BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS A CONTINUUM OF THE ORIGINAL CAMP GROUND.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*ACCEPT
Mae Polan
12/12/78*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2-6-79

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered DEC 11 1978
INT:2106-74



Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

DEC 14 1978

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294
Washington St., Boston, MA

#1
Building #58

JUN 30 1978

9

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Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA

1977

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294
Washington St., Boston, MA

#2
Building #156

DEC 14 1978

JUN 30 1978



Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

DEC 14 1978

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294
Washington St., Boston, MA

#3

Building #107,81,260,256,227

JUN 30 1978

10



WESLEY

THE WESLEY

Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA

DEC 14 1978

1977

Joseph Orfant

Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294

Washington St., Boston, MA

#4

Building #310

JUN 30 1978

12

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Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

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Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294
Washington St., Boston, MA

#5
Building #71

JUN 30 1978



Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294
Washington St., Boston, MA

#6
Building #308

DEC 14 1978

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THE
MARY'S VINEYARD
CAMP MEETING ASSOCIATION
TABERNACLE
1908

Martha's Vineyard Campground

Oak Bluffs, MA

1977

Joseph Orfant

Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294

Washington St., Boston, MA

#7

Building #306

DEC 14 1978

JUN 30 1978





Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#8
Building #306

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Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

DEC 14 1978

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#9

Building #206

JUN 30 1978

14



Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

JUN 30 1978

Joseph Orfant

Massachusetts Historical Commission DEC 14 1978

294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#10

Building #158,220,116,61,148,24,197

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Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
294 Washington St., Boston, MA
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Building #237

DEC 14 1978

JUN 30 1978

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Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA

DEC 14 1978

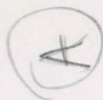
1977

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#12

Building #253

JUN 30 1978



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MARTHA'S VINEYARD CAMP MEETING ASSOCIATION
A PROTESTANT RELIGIOUS CORPORATION

E. BUILT 1899

Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#13
Building #307

DEC 14 1978

JUN 30 1978

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Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

DEC 14 1978

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
#14 294 Washington St., Boston, MA
Building #90

JUN 30 1978



Martha's Vineyard Campground

Oak Bluffs, MA

1977

Joseph Orfant

Massachusetts Historical Commission,

294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#15

Building #254

DEC 14 1978

JUN 30 1978



Martha's Vineyard Campground
Oak Bluffs, MA
1977

DEC 14 1978

Joseph Orfant
Massachusetts Historical Commission,
294 Washington St., Boston, MA

#16
Building #188,190,11,284,194

JUN 30 1978

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

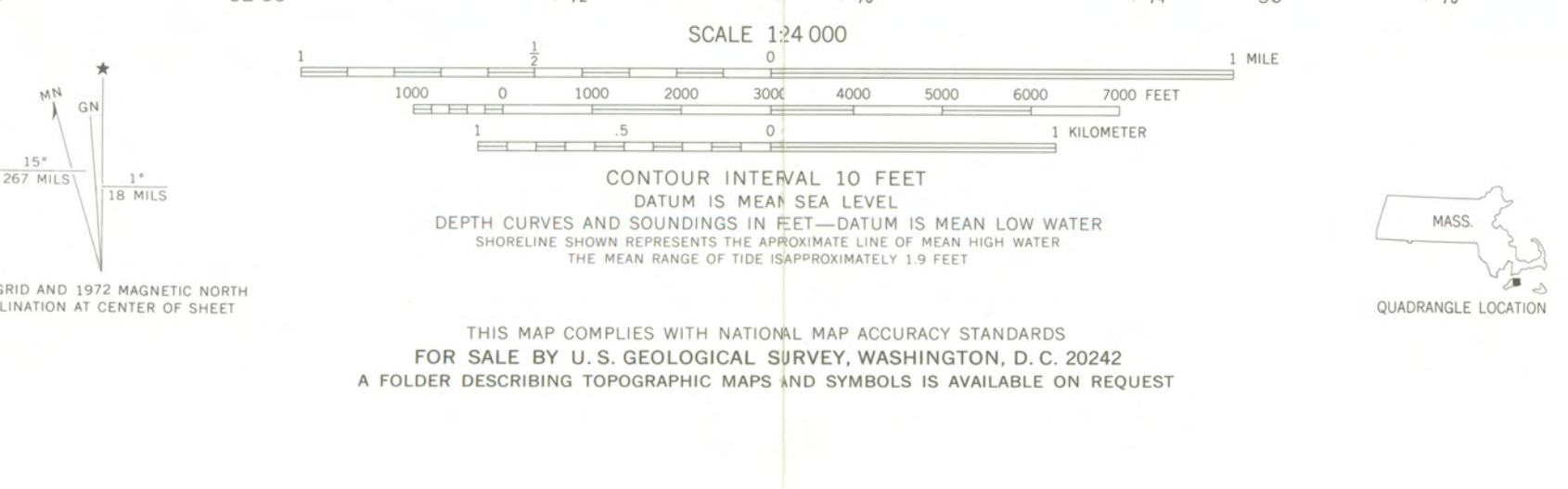
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

EDGARTOWN QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS—DUKES CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Wesleyan Grove
Oaks Bluff, Massachusetts
UTM Coordinates
A 19/369 580/4590 470
B 19/369 850/4590 480
C 19/369 360/4589 820



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planetable surveys 1942
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1972
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 261 and
264 (1970). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
island zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information furnished
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works



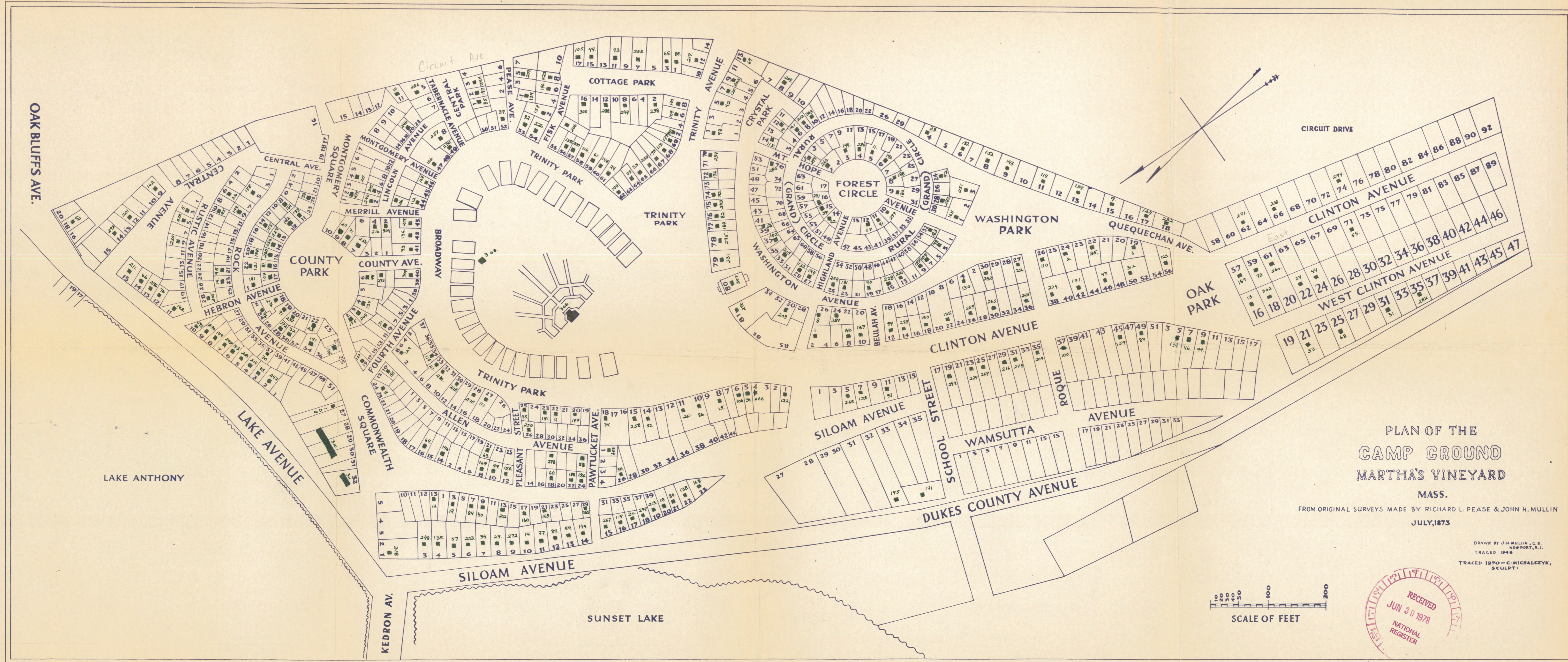
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road

Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

EDGARTOWN, MASS.
N4120—W7027.5/7.5
1972
AMS 6866 1 NE—SERIES V814

RECEIVED JUN 30 1978 NATIONAL REGISTER



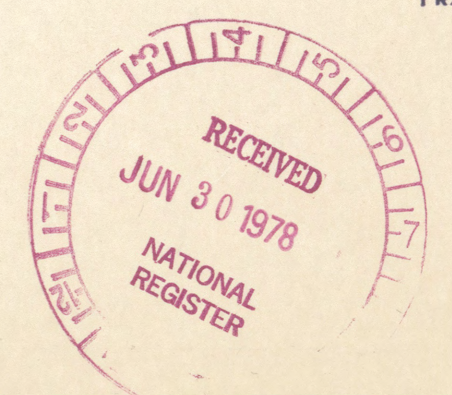
PLAN OF THE
CAMP GROUND
MARTHA'S VINEYARD

MASS.

FROM ORIGINAL SURVEYS MADE BY RICHARD L. PEASE & JOHN H. MULLIN

JULY, 1875

DRAWN BY J. H. MULLIN, C. E.
NEWPORT, R. I.
TRACED 1948
TRACED 1970 - C. MICHALCEYK,
SCULPT.



8761 1 1978

YP

Martha's Vineyard Campground

7-18-78

1-12-79 (Congress)



United States Department of the Interior

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32-NR

OCT 11 1978

Dear Property Owner:

The property you own is located in a historic district that has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the government's official list of historic buildings and other cultural resources worthy of being preserved. This nomination is pending in our office.

If your property is listed in the National Register, there are certain benefits and provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 that may apply to you. We are enclosing information about this law. Soon we will be considering whether your property should be listed, using as our guidelines the "Criteria for Evaluation" shown in the enclosed leaflet. If you wish to comment on whether your property should be listed, we would be pleased to hear from you. Send your comments within 30 days of the date of this letter to me, Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. If you have questions about the National Register program or the enclosed material, you should also address them to me. Please include the name of the district (as shown on the address label on this letter) and property address.

In the enclosed material you will note references to standards for rehabilitating old buildings. These standards are a list of dos and don'ts for people who are fixing up old buildings. If the owner of a building listed in the National Register, either individually or as part of a district, wishes to take advantage of the Tax Reform Act benefits, these standards must be followed. A copy of these standards is available from Technical Preservation Services, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Questions about the standards should also be addressed to that same office.

Sincerely,

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Mrs. Anthony C. Shabica
37 Overlook Rd.
Livingston, NJ 07039

Re: Martha's Vineyard Campground
75 Trinity Park

Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

INT 4819-78
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

We should be very pleased
to be included in the
National Register of
Historical places.

We believe our home is
the most beautiful &
authentic house in this

area. We have already been
recognized by the Mass.
Historical Society, written up in
"Yankee" magazine & used in photos
in various other documents - Our
house has been occupied seasonally by
our family for well over 50 years and always
repaired authentically. Eleanor Wright Shabica

JP
sent
11-2-78

CHARLES E. DAVIS
1 Lafayette Road
Salisbury, Massachusetts 01950

Dr. William A. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service,
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

October 17, 1978

Dear D. Murtagh:

In reply to your letter of October 11, re. our cottage at 14 Forest Circle, Martha's Vineyard Campground, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, (your ref. H-32NR), in which you solicited comments from owners, I would like to say that I am very much in favor of the inclusion of the Campground in the National Register (my cottage included) and would hope others involved would agree. The Campground is unique in its architecture, in that its concept remains unchanged, and most particularly that it survives more or less intact. The ravages of twentieth century improvement efforts are slight, the rule rather than the exception on the part of the cottage owners being restoration rather than remodelling. The Campground Association has thus far been effective in helping cottager's efforts in this direction. Placement of the Campground in the National Register will materially benefit the Campground, the Town of Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard, and the State.

A copy of the history of our cottage has been filed with the compilers. If I may be of further service in this venture please let me know. Thank you.

Sincerely,


October 18, 1978

Mr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Reference to: H32-NR
Martha's Vineyard Campground
68 Trinity Park
Oak Bluffs, Ma.

Dear Mr. Murtagh:

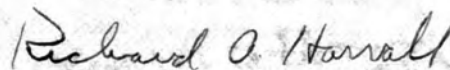
I am joint owner of the above referenced property, and I am in receipt of a letter from your office, dated, October 11, 1978. This letter informed me that my property is within an historic district, that has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. While I am not initially in opposition to this action, I do have some questions which I would like answered. These questions are as follows:

- 1) Which agency has nominated the Martha's Vineyard Campground for listing?
- 2) If the State Historic Preservation Officer has made the nomination, shouldn't I have been notified of the intent to do so in accordance with Section 60.12(c) of the regulations governing such nominations?
- 3) What agency will determine if rehabilitation is done in conformance with the "Standards for Rehabilitation" in order to qualify for benefits under the Tax Reform Act of 1976?

- 4) What tax benefits are available for improvements to a residential property under the Tax Reform Act of 1976, when all benefits would seem to be applicable to depreciation related to commercial or income producing properties?
- 5) What is the possibility of preservation grants being made available to property owners within the historic district?
- 6) If the grants discussed in question 5) are made available, what strings would be attached to receiving such a grant?

I would greatly appreciate an answer to these questions.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Harrall
58 Norris St.
Hamden, Ct. 06517

First Presbyterian Church

121 South Harrison Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

October 18, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Murtagh:

This is in response to your letter of October 11, 1978 (H32-NR).

We are interested in encouraging the consideration of making the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association Area part of the National Register. This area includes our home there which is located at 10 Clinton Ave. Our home is probably the most historic home in that area since it was the house where President Grant stayed when he visited the island. The account of his visit is written up in a number of books and I am sure you are familiar with that story. He spoke to the assembled people from the front balcony of the house.

Furniture purchased for Mr. Grant's visit is still in the house, including the bed and two marble top dressers. The rocking chair purchased for him is currently in the Whaling Museum in Edgartown, MA.

The house itself is an excellent ginger bread model with several unusual features. These include some of the trim around the outside and also the cathedral windows which have sandwich glass in the top.

The house has been written up a number of times in various publications and newspapers. If we can be of further help in answering questions or in furnishing information, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Harold W. Kaser
Pastor

HWK:dph

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NOV 1 1978

YR

11-3-78

INITIALS

AL

Tillson
P. O. Box 176
Watertown, Connecticut 06795

10/24/68

Without question the Matthias Vineyard
Camp grounds should be listed in the
National Register!

Mr. and Mrs. Roger K. Tillson
9 Lake Ave
Oak Bluffs Mass 02557

P.O. Box 763
Edgmont, MA 02539
Oct. 24, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh,
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: Martha's Vineyard Campground
& Rural Circle
Cap Bluffs, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I believe my property at the Martha's Vineyard Campground should be listed in the National Register because the architecture of this cottage embodies distinctive characteristics of a period in the history of the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association.

My cottage is a good example of the transition from tent to wooden structure. As I understand it, the sidewalls and peaks of the original tents were eventually replaced by wooden frames and roofs.

My cottage is small - hardly bigger than a good-sized house tent, although taller - and is, in effect, a "wooden tent", with a simple embellishment of "gingerbread" carving on the peak.

Very truly yours,

Alison B. Piazza

Alison B. PIAZZA

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE NOV 1 1978

48

FILE NO

11-3-78

INITIALS

sd

YP

10/24/78

Martha's Vineyard
Campground
7-18-78

TPS

Mrs. Albert C. Alexander
190 Deerfield Dr.
Hamden, Ct. 06518

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Please list the property below in the National Register. Your initial communication mentioned standards to be followed for rehabilitating old buildings. This information was not included in the above mentioned communication. Please forward a copy of those standards.

Sincerely,

Gloria Alexander

Have sent to Mrs. Murtagh
~~1/7/78~~
~~not signed~~

Mrs. Albert C. Alexander
190 Deerfield Drive
Hamden, CT 06518

Re: Martha's Vineyard Campground
22 Trinity Park
Oak Bluffs, MA

12/4/78 YP





United States Department of the Interior

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

REPLY REFER TO:

*Martha's Vineyard
Campground
FR 7-18-78
TRA - 10-11-78
cc 6-30-78*

ANNOUNCEMENT

On January 25, 1978, Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus announced the creation of a new agency within the Department of the Interior, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service. At that time, all activities of the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, formerly in the National Park Service, were transferred to the new agency. References to the National Park Service in the enclosed material are therefore outdated. Information on the various programs of the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, however, is accurate.

Reply Reference
H32 -NR

October 30, 1978

Gentlemen:

I would be very pleased if our United States Government, through its National Register of Historic Places, will help us to preserve the area know as the Campgrounds, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, where I live.

It is certainly a unique example of preserved Americana of a hundred years ago and carries a deeply spiritual message. It is also a very valuable tourist attraction for the island of Martha's Vineyard.

I purpose to obey the rules you may find necessary for the preservation of our Campgrounds.

Very Sincerely,

Percy J. Lambert
Percy J. Lambert

Rev. Percy J. Lambert
Box 1223, 2 Tabernacle Avenue
Oak Bluffs, MA. 02557

YR
11-3-78
PL

178 High St.
Topsfield, Ma. 01983

October 30, 1978

Dear ~~Dr.~~ Murtaugh,

I am writing in relation to our house which is part of the Martha's Vineyard Campground (Specifically 35 West Clinton, Oak Bluffs, Mass.)

You asked property owners to comment on whether or not our property should be listed in the National Register of Historic places.

I can not say that our house has any more merit than any other house in the campground but we do feel as residents the thread of history that runs through the house. It is evident in the structure the post and beam construction which followed from the original tent site platform to the rather crumbling 7 room

house that now exists.

We are currently engaged in replacing the roof over the porch and dining room. The boards ^(are) were so rotted that they look as though they had been burned.

The floors are bowed and bent but jacking has helped somewhat. The foundation boards look to be rotting and re-shingling will soon be a necessity.

Despite this these old houses seem to survive fierce storms each year.

We understand that an inventor (the combination razor/comb thinner) who was blind and known as the "sage of Oak Bluffs" lived alone in the house in the late 1890's & early 1900's. He was a self taught lawyer and many consulted him regularly.

I think the Campgrounds are truly a special place and I hope that they can be preserved.

Sincerely,
Dorothy T. Wass.
(Mrs Herbert T. Wass)

Re: H32-NR 121 N. Euclid Ave.
Westfield, N.J. 07090
Oct. 31, 1978

Dr. Mustagh:

Re. Martha's Vineyard Compground
18 West Clinton Ave. Oak Bluffs, Ma.
02557

Our house is in a historic district interesting because of C under Criteria in your letter to us. The thousands of visitors to MVCA cottages each summer show that these little gingerbread houses are distinctive.

We would like to see them listed in the National Register

Sincerely,
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Young
(Ruth Young)

TELEPHONE REPORT

OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PROJECT: *Mancha's Vineyard Campground*

TO/FROM: *Candy Jenkins*

DATE: *11- ? - 78*

ADDRESS: *Mass. S&P*

PHONE:

STAFF MEMBER: *Lightner*

DIVISION: *NR*

REPORT:

I called to request a clarification of the VBD since all the street names weren't on map & some properties seemed to be included.

She agreed & said she would send new VBD.

12-6-78 - New VBD received.

See continuation sheets 10-1.

SL

Martha's Vineyard Campground
7/18/78

YP

P. O. Box 874
Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts 02557
November 6, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: Martha's Vineyard Campground
2 Merrill Avenue

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

I'm delighted that the "Campground" has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It is probably one of the most unique places of its kind in the country. There are other "Campground" type communities, some of which have been visited by me; however, most have by now lost their original flavor what with extensive alterations. In this regard, I fear that time is fast running out even here at Martha's Vineyard as yearly I see changes on the "Campground" which are not in keeping with the 1870's original look.

It is obviously true that from the past we learn about the present and the future. The "Campground" represents a part of the social and religious way of life encompassing the past 150 years and its import on our lives today -- it is a living history book.

As regards my own gingerbread cottage which has been spared most modern exterior changes and dates from 1865 and was visited by President Grant, plans are now underway to bring it back to its original 1800's state. I believe the "Campground" in general and my cottage in particular meets all of the criteria necessary to become included in the National Register of Historic Places; for example:

- Criteria A. Revival and retreat meetings - traces religious life style over a period of 150 years
- B. President Grant a visitor
- C. Gingerbread construction
- D. Early communal living

Therefore, please add my voice to those interested in seeing this vital part of our heritage by having the Martha's Vineyard listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely yours,
Louise A. Bugbee
Louise A. Bugbee

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE RECORDED NOV 09 1978

_____ (NAME OF PROPERTY)

_____ (ADDRESS)

_____ (CITY AND STATE)

DATE ACQUIRED 12/4/78

INITIALS ST

YD

Michael V. Maynard Campground
9/18/78

VP

THOMAS CRESWELL FRARY
25 HEREFORD RD.
MARBLEHEAD, MASS. 01945

November 7, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington D.C.

Re: Martha's Vineyard Campground
1 Cottage Park, Oak Bluffs, Ma.

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Your letter of Oct 11, 1978 was very exciting news, as I have been deeply concerned regarding the future of the campground. To be sure, originally this campground was a religious establishment, and the open-air tabernacle is used all summer, but by all religions. It is a most unusual structure of iron and wood and stained glass, that attracts many tourists.

The houses such as mine, are of unusual constructions which I believe cannot be found elsewhere! The "gingerbread" trim is of a different pattern for each of the 300 or more cottages now in existence! As property changes hands, the costs of restoration of this outstanding example of Victorian art becomes almost too much for the new owners and any way to help owners maintain these cottages would be a giant step in keeping these cottages as they were 125 years ago.

We also need fixed rules established to prevent structural changes, additions, and removal of art work without a review by a group of concerned owners of these houses. Since we have still to put in a sewer system in the campground, we also need rules governing washing machines and other pollution causing equipment that are being installed by many owners.

I believe a listing in the National Register of Historic Places

is vitally important and I am sure you would agree if you had the opportunity to visit us.

In regard to the note you were last entitled:

The National Register of Historic Places (H32-NR) under CRITERIA, I feel items A and C particularly apply to the Martha's Vineyard Campground.

Thank you for your consideration and concern.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Frey

VP

INITIALS	BS
DATE RECEIVED	12/14/78
APPROVAL	
REMARKS	
NOV 16 1978	
REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	

Martha's Vineyard Campground
7/18/78

6 Boxwood Drive
East Greenwich, RI 02818
November 8, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

RE: MARTHA'S VINEYARD CAMPGROUND - #5 TRINITY PARK

It was indeed a very wonderful feeling to learn that the "Martha's Vineyard Campground" was being considered for inclusion in the National Register of Historical Places.

The homes in this area are perhaps of one of the most unique architectural periods in American History.

Our home at #5 Trinity Park is of very significant construction. It originally was built in 1867. The exterior walls are of vertical pine boards with a roofed upper balcony, with "southern gothic" door with "arc" trim, covered post and bracket front porch.

This home is of significance as a portion of the Methodist Campmeeting Association Campground. Most homes contain or are trimmed with ornate "gingerbread" woodwork that is almost impossible to have duplicated today.

Our home has been shown on numerous postcards, magazines (Saturday Evening Post), and information brochures of Martha's Vineyard. (A recent brochure is enclosed.)

The formation of the Campground marked the beginning of the development of the town of Oak Bluffs as a unique community and summer resort.

Information concerning the Campground is contained in bibliographies and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, Assessor's records, early maps, etc.).

continued.....

Some of these are:

Martha's Vineyard Campmeeting Association Records of Leases,
Campmeeting Association Office, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts.

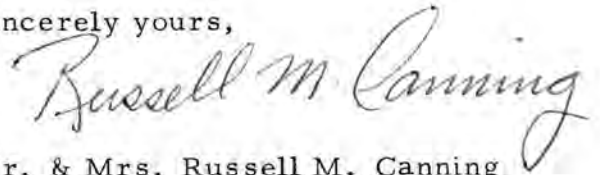
Henry Beetle Hough, Martha's Vineyard, Summer Resort, 1835 - 1935.

Ellen Welss, "The Wesleyan Grove Campground," Architecture Plus, 1973.

Mrs. Canning and I sincerely hope that you will act favorably upon the nomination of including this Historical District in the National Register. We would be most happy to help you gather, or supply you with further information concerning this area.

Please feel free to call upon us at any time if you require any assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russell M. Canning". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name below it.

Mr. & Mrs. Russell M. Canning

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D NOV 16 1978

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFORMATIONAL SENT

RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

D. I. C. G. O. S. 12/4/78

INITIALS: ST

XP

40



The Gillette Company
Personal Care Division

FROM: Joe C. Hagen

Date 10/17/78

TO: Dr. William J. Murtagh

H32-NR

Dear Sir,

In late September 1978 my wife + I purchased the campground house at 25 Washington Street Oak Bluffs from Mrs Jean Spence. Just recently the materials regarding your interest in our house have reached us I realize that its late for comments on the renovation but if we can assist you in any way please contact us. We are greatly interested in the progress that the house and the district are making in the nomination and approval procedure. Please advise us as soon as a decision is reached.

Sincerely,
Joe C. Hagen

P.S. We plan to rebuild the porch & replace sections of the fence as they are needed when we re-paint this coming spring. In the fall we plan to re-shingle the roof & replace sections as necessary. Any assistance from you or any government agency would be appreciated.

DALE + JOE O'HAYER

Mrs. Jean Spencer
59 Cherokee Rd.
Yonkers, NY 10710

1150 CANTON AVE.
MILTON, MASS. 02186

Re: Martha's Vineyard Campground
25 Washington Ave.

Oak Bluffs, MA Putnam Co.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D JAN 18 1979

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS 2/5/79 ALM

Martha's Vineyard
Campground
7-18-78

November 22, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh,
Keeper of the National Register
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Martha's Vineyard Campground
14 Commonwealth Square

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Thank you for the material on the National Register of Historic Places.

We are very pleased to learn of the nomination and wish to offer our help and encouragement.

This is a very valuable and worthwhile program and hope that the work progresses smoothly and rapidly.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Eugene E. Lakso
100 Main Street
Ashburnham, MA 01430



THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE: NOV 30 1978

(NAME)

(CITY)

(STATE)

(INITIALS)

1214/78

ST

YF

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered DEC 14 1978

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Martha's Vineyard Campground	Oak Bluffs Dukes County
Methuen Memorial Music Hall	Methuen Essex County
Alden, John, House	Duxbury Plymouth County

Also Notified

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Paul G. Tsongas
Honorable Gerry E. Studds
Honorable James M. Shannon

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

4P
✍

Martha's Vineyard Campground

Postnet 7-18-78
Ellen Cartier Descheneaux ext 12-14-78

783 Westbrook Dr.
Klamath Falls
Oregon 97601
Feb. 19, 1979

Dear Dr. Murtagh,

I recently received your letter dated Oct. 11, 1978 from Mrs. Edward P. Hawkes, the previous owner of a cottage at Martha's Vineyard Campground, 34 Trinity Park, Oak Bluffs, Ma. Enclosed is information I obtained concerning an historical evaluation of the property. Also, in my possession are the names of all the former owners of this cottage including a B. Norton whose family was of historical significance in the development of the island. I feel strongly that my property should be listed in the National Register.



Please excuse the delay in
this letter. I look forward to
hearing from you in the
near future in regard to
our property.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Deschamps

YP
General
Info - TAX
GRANTS

MARTHAS VINEYARD CAMPGROUND

12-14-78

70 Spruce Drive
Torrington, Conn. 06790
Feb. 28, 1979

Technical Preservation Services
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation,
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

Reference: H 32 - NR

Dear Dr. William J. Murtagh:

We are the owners of a cottage in the Martha's Vineyard Campground, in Oak Bluffs, Mass. The street address is 1 Trinity Avenue. This property was nominated for inclusion in the National Register and from an article in the Vineyard Gazette it appears that it has now officially been included.

We have been restoring the property since purchasing in July 1976 and plan to continue. Will any restoration prior to the acceptance in the Register be eligible for such Federal grants.

We would appreciate any information you can give us as to the availability and type of Federal aid and also information regarding tax reform requirements.

Please advise us at your convenience.

Very truly your,
Randall G. Gerrard
Mr. & Mrs. Randall G. Gerrard

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D MAR 06 1979

 (ATTACHED)

 SENT

 (ATTACHED)

DATE FORWARDED

INITIALS

65/6/8 J
3/9/79



FAMOUS GINGERBREAD COTTAGE
owned by New York Artist
Mrs. Jean Van Vliet Spencer
Oak Bluffs — Martha's Vineyard — Mass.

© Color Photo & Published by J. Lazarus, P.O. Box 367, Hyannis, Mass. 02601

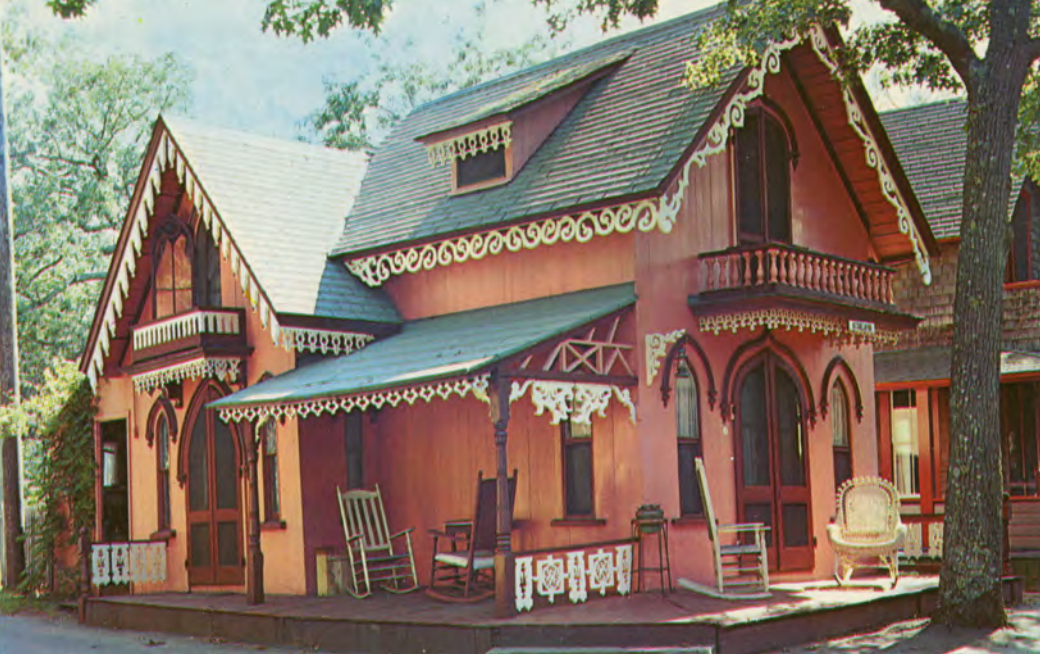
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

POST CARD

Address



132912



A typical "Gingerbread Cottage" in Oak Bluffs, Mass., on Martha's Vineyard. Famous for its hundreds of gingerbread cottages this town was once called Cottage City.

.. Dist. by Edward L. Thomas, Vineyard Haven, Mass. 02568 ..

P33984

POST CARD

 **Plastichrome**[®]
by COLOURPICTURE
BOSTON, MASS. 02130

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: **Martha's Vineyard Campground** 2 OTHER NAMES: **Wesleyan Grove**

3 date of entry: **DEC 4 1978** 4 county code: **07**

5 LOCATION street & number: **(over)** city / town: **Oak Bluffs** vicinity of: **Wesleyan Grove** state: **MA** county: **Dukes** 6 NPS REGION: **NA**

7 OWNER: PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (AGRICULTURE)

8 ADMINISTRATIVE: STATE FEDERAL

9 EXISTING SURVEYS: NONE NAEP NHP FUNDED? YES NO 10 CONGRESS DISTRICT: **12th** 11 SOURCE OF NOMINATION: STATE FEDERAL

12 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO 13 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO 14 ACREAGE: **Elizabeth Durfee, A. Gilmore**

15 CONDITION: deteriorated altered original site
 excellent ruins unaltered moved
 good unexposed reconstructed unknown
 fair unexcavated excavated

17 features: INTERIOR: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 NOT APPLICABLE-7
 EXTERIOR: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-5 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 ENVIRONMENT: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-9

16 ACCESS: YES - Restricted YES - Unrestricted No Access Unknown 18 ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO 19 SAVED? YES NO 20 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ENGINEERING-11 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 POLITICS/GOVT.-21 RECREATION-28
 ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 COMMERCE-6 ENTERTAINMENT-26 LAW-16 RELIGION-22 SETTLEMENT-29
 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 COMMUNICATIONS-7 EXPLORATION-12 LITERATURE-17 SCIENCE-23 URBAN PLANNING-31
 AGRICULTURE-3 CONSERVATION-8 HEALTH-27 MILITARY-18 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 INDUSTRY-13 MUSIC-19 SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 _____
 ART-5 EDUCATION-10 INVENTION-14 PHILOSOPHY-20 TRANSPORTATION-25 _____

22 CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

23 functions: WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: _____ CURRENTLY: _____

24 dates of initial construction: _____ major alterations: _____ historic events: _____

25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION: _____

26 architectural style(s): _____ 27 architect: _____ 28 master builder: _____ 29 engineer: _____

30 landscape architect / garden designer: _____ 31 interior decorator: _____ 32 artist: _____ 33 artisan: _____ 34 builder/contractor: _____

35 NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL: _____
 EVENTS: _____
 INSTITUTIONAL: _____

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP

reviewers initials _____ date _____

IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED, NUMBER & PUT ON REVERSE

over →

5. roughly bounded by Cottage Park, Quequechan, Clinton, Dukes County, Siloam, Lake, and Central Aves.

Martha's Vineyard Campground

(Resource Name)

78000439/05000458

(Reference Number[s])

4 / 5 / 16

(Date form completed)

Dukes

(County)

MA

(State)

WACC

(Completed by)

STATUS:

1. MISSING ___ 2. REMOVED/ DEMOLISHED ___ 3. NHL 4. TR ___ 5. MRA ___ 6. OVER-SIZED ___ 7. NPS - UNDOCUMENTED ___ 8. DOE - OWNER OBJECTION ___ 9. RESTRICTED ___

EXPLANATION:

1. Missing Status: Entire Folder () ; Nomination () ; Map(s) () ; Photos ()
Available on: Microfiche () ; Optical Disk ()

2. _____
(Cause for removal)

_____/_____/_____
(Date Removed)

3. Wesleyan Grove, Ref #05000458
(NHL Name, if different than NRHP Name)

_____/_____/_____
(Date Designated)

4. _____
(If multi-state/county TR, state/county where filed and location)

(TR or MRA Name)

5. _____
(If multi-state/county MRA, state/county where filed and location)

6. _____
(Location of oversize file)

7. _____
(Current source of partial documentation)

_____/_____/_____
(Target Date)

- COMMENTS: _____
(Where found, or source of replacement)

_____/_____/_____
(Date Found/Replaced)