

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets USGS Quad Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

41/34

F

194-215 &
921

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

Photograph



MHC-197

Town: Sharon

Place (*neighborhood or village*): Sharon

Name of Area: Horizon for Youth Camp

Present Use: Recreational - Summer Scout Camp

Construction Dates or Period: 1940s - 1970s

Overall Condition: Fair

Major Intrusions and Alterations:

Acreage: 46.08

Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry & Geoffrey E. Melhuish
Turk, Tracey, and Larry Architects, LLC

Organization: Town of Sharon

Date (*month / year*): July 2008

Topographic or Assessor's Map



____ see continuation sheet

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET

SHARON

HORIZON FOR YOUTH

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

Camp Horizons for Youth, currently known as Camp Horizon, 161 Lakeview Street MHC Sharon Area F is located at the south end of Lake Massapoag on both the east and west sides of Lakeview Street, northwest of Camp Gannett. Camp Horizons for Youth is a unique assemblage of mid to late twentieth century wood frame structures comprised of several administration buildings (1940s -1960s), a dining hall (1960), gate house (1976), twelve cabins/dormitories (1940s-1960s), three lakeside buildings (1940s-1960s), and a wood frame storage shed. The dates of the buildings are from tax assessors records. The approximately fifty acre camp is constructed on a hillside terrain of mixed woodland and wetlands; open ball fields are located to the south of the camp. Access is provided by a paved drive off Lakeview Street. The camp is bordered by 1,200 acres of conservation and park land.

The administration buildings of the camp are along the west side of Lakeview Street; the largest of them is the dining hall. All of the structures are constructed of wood frame and are clad with wood shingles, plywood sheathing panels (T-111) or vertical board siding. The buildings typically are constructed on a concrete pier foundation, although the dining hall, first-aid station, and two one-and-one half story front gable cottages to the north are constructed on poured concrete foundations. Additionally, the majority of the buildings feature gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Many of the buildings feature replacement doors and windows; however some wood casements and double-hung windows (front gable cottages) are featured on several of the buildings.

The cabins are located along the hillside to the west. Like the administration buildings, all of the cabins are constructed of wood frame and are clad with wood shingles, shiplap siding or plywood sheathing panels. All of the cabins are constructed on a concrete pier foundation; some have been poured other blocks. Additionally, the cabins feature a shed roof or a shallow pitched gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Many of the cabins feature replacement doors and windows units are typically metal or vinyl casements.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this relates to the historical development of the community.

Several Camps including Camp Gannett, Camp Horizon for Youth, and Camp Wonderland are located at the southern end of Lake Massapoag. These camps were created during the early twentieth century at a time when residents of Boston were seeking the good air and quiet countryside environment that the Town and surrounding communities offered. Many "Fresh Air Camps" in the area were built to help inner-city children escape the great scourge, tuberculosis that was happening at the time. Additionally, these summer camps made it possible for children to experience summer outside of the city, in a safe, fun, and nurturing camp environment.

Horizons for Youth, originally called Kiddie Kamp, was established in 1938 by the Grand Lodge Knight of the Pythias as a summer camp to provide a positive and supportive summer camp experience to disadvantaged children. Twentieth century USGS maps (1941) show development of the camp off Lakeview Street in a layout that survives today with some infilling to the north and west.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE continued

In 1992, the property was purchased by Horizons for Youth, a non profit organization, which was established to provide a positive camp experience to disadvantaged and under-privileged children. What began as a summer camp for the youth of Boston, the camp evolved into a year-round source of education programming for schools and community based organizations throughout eastern Massachusetts. Camp Horizon for Youth, or commonly referred to as "Camp Sharon" closed in 2006 and the property was purchased by the Town for \$4.85 million at special election Jan 23 2007. In 2008, the Boy Scouts of America, Old Colony Council opened a new Cub scout day camp "Camp Horizon" on the property.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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Griffith, J. Eveleth. *Sharon the Beautiful: an Historical and Descriptive Sketch of Sharon, Massachusetts*. Sharon: Sharon Improvement Association, Publicity Committee, c1912.

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INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET

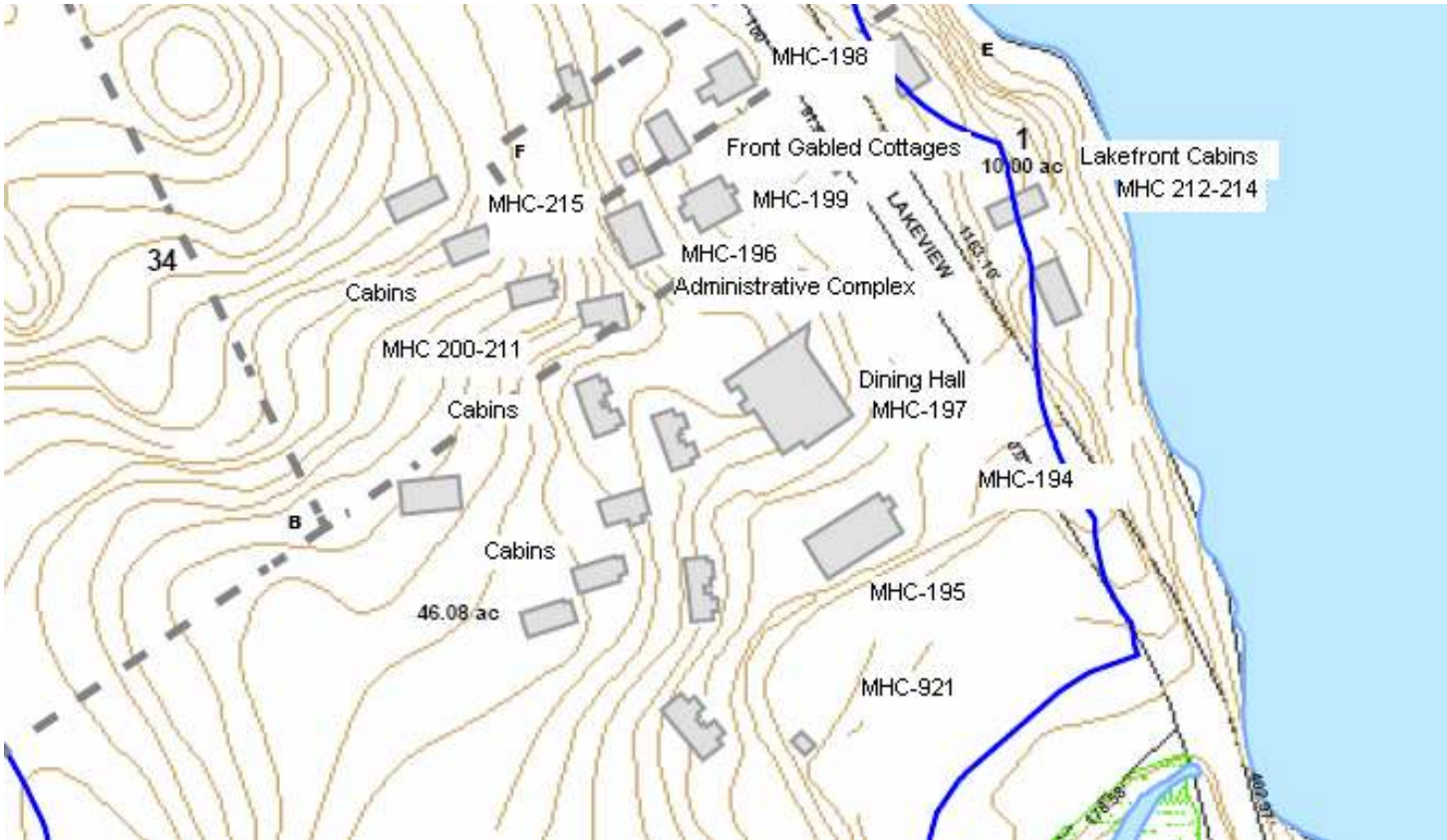
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MHC-194



MHC-195



MHC-196



MHC-198



MHC-199



MHC-200-211

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MHC-200-211



MHC-212-214



MHC-212-214



MHC-215



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