

Marine Biological Laboratory,
Shipping/Scuba Building
101 Water Street
Marine Biological Laboratory
~~Woods Hole~~/Falmouth
Barnstable County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MA-1251-D

HABS
MASS
1-FAL,
2D-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY,
Shipping/Scuba Building

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Location: 101 Water Street, Marine Biological Laboratory, village of Woods Hole, town of Falmouth, Barnstable County, Massachusetts.

USGS Woods Hole, Mass. Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
19.360490.4598170

Significance:

Founded in 1888, MBL is the nation's first and most enduring permanent marine biological research and educational institution. This building is a relatively late example of the vernacular wood-frame buildings that characterized MBL in the late nineteenth century and characterized its support buildings constructed in the early twentieth century. It is important as a support building to the Supply Department, reflecting the Department's long term involvement with distribution of marine mammals for research. Also, it reflects a shift in technology to include scuba diving as a collecting technique in the 1950s and 1960s.

Description:

Sited immediately east of the Supply Department on the shore of Eel Pond, this is a small (approximately 20 X 12 feet with a 12 X 12 feet addition) shed constructed in a least two phases and sheathed in weathered wood shingles with simple board trim painted white. The oldest section, probably built in the 1950s, is landward (south). It rises from a concrete slab to a steep-pitch shed roof and has four six-over-six double hung wood sash windows. One window is covered by the later addition. The entrance on the south elevation leads to the shipping room. The north scuba room addition, erected about 1960, has a shallow-pitch shed roof and two high horizontal windows. The entrance is on the west side.

History:

Little is found in the written record about this building. Historic photographs and maps indicate that it was constructed after 1944, and most likely in the 1950s. It has been used for shipping and scuba diving and is part of the Supply Department.

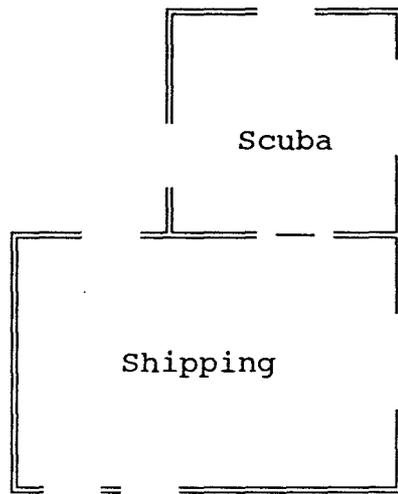
Sources:

Historic photographs, MBL Archives and Woods Hole Historical Collection.
Historic maps.

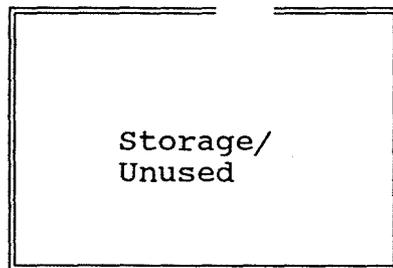
Preparer:

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Floor Plan Sketch



FIRST FLOOR PLAN (not to scale)



SECOND FLOOR PLAN (not to scale)