

T-615

Edward Harrison House  
St. Michaels  
private

c. 1795, c. 1915

The Edward Harrison house, more commonly known as the Charles Marshall house, stands on the north side of Green Street in line with the Tarr house and the Bruff-Mansfield house. The three structures were erected within a decade of one another and represent part of a small group of turn of the nineteenth-century houses that include some of the oldest dwellings surviving structures in St. Michaels. The single-story or story-and-a-half, two-room plan houses were evidently erected for middle class residents and their families. Despite the modest size of the various examples, several were fitted with finely crafted period woodwork. The Harrison house, however, was thoroughly reworked during the early twentieth century in an effort to transform the house into a stylish bungalow.

Eighteenth- and nineteenth-century tax records indicate that this Green Street lot, then referred to as Mill Street, was improved in 1804 by a, "framed dwelling house" under the ownership of Mabel Harrison, Edward Harrison's widow. It is certain that the taxed house in the nineteenth-century records is the same structure that stands remodeled as a bungalow. Edward Harrison purchased this lot in 1780 from James Braddock, however the house is estimated to date from the late years of the eighteenth century. Edward Harrison was assessed in 1798 for an unfinished single-story frame dwelling that measured twenty-six by twenty. At the time, the house was accompanied by a twelve foot by eight foot log stable. The late eighteenth-century house remained in the hands of the Harrison family until 1854, when the lot and house were sold to James Benson. Charles D. Marshall purchased the property in 1914.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic EDWARD HARRISON HOUSE

and/or common CHARLES MARSHALL HOUSE

## 2. Location

street & number 105 Green Street  not for publication

city, town St. Michaels  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Vestry of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 624

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 984

city, town Easton state MD 21601

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. T-615

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input 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 of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Edward Harrison house, more recently known as the Charles Marshall house, stands at 105 Green Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The story-and-a-half frame house faces southeast with the gable oriented on a southwest/northeast axis.

The story-and-a-half frame bungalow style dwelling is much older than it appears on the surface. Buried beneath the early twentieth-century design and aluminum siding is a c. 1790-1794 side hall/double-pile frame house erected on a partially excavated common bond brick foundation with cellar. Between 1914 and 1936, the early house was extensively reworked in hopes of turning the house into a stylish bungalow. The house currently rests on a combination brick and concrete block foundation and is sheathed with a mixture of German and aluminum siding. The steeply pitched roof is covered with a layer of standing seam tin. Additions have been made to the original building to extend the structure to the north and west.

The southeast (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a screened-in porch sheltering the first floor. The front wall is pierced by a paired set of two-over-two sash windows as well as a single two-over-two sash light. The front door has been relocated to enter through the west gable end addition. Centered on the south slope of the roof is a shed roofed dormer with three two-over-two sash windows. A small brick chimney rises through the center of the roof.

The northeast side elevation is marked by pairs of two-over-two sash windows that illuminate the first and second floors. The eaves to the house are extended.

The southwest side is largely covered by a single-story two-room addition. The upper gable is pierced by a pair of two-over-two sash windows.

To the rear the original house has been extended with a shed roofed addition that includes a rear vestibule and bathroom. A shed dormer is centered on the north slope of the roof and is lighted by three two-over-two sash windows.

The original interior has been gutted of most of its late eighteenth-century finishes. Turn of the twentieth-century four-panel doors are framed by plain surrounds, and the first floor rooms have been fitted with old barn siding and narrow horizontal boards. The stair was rebuilt as well, and it rises enclosed against the northeast wall.

The second floor is partitioned into three rooms that open from a small upstairs passage. The walls have been covered with textured stucco, and the four-panel doors are framed by plain surrounds with beaded inside corners. At the head of the stair an early twentieth-century style newel post supports a square baluster handrail that stretches to the adjacent wall. Also at the head of the stair is a beaded board-and-batten door to a knee wall closet. The door is one of the few interior features that dates to the former interior.

(continued)

Access into the unfinished attic space revealed that pairs of early rafters survive at each end of the dwelling. The hewn rafters are lapped at the peak and fastened together with wrought-iron nails. The two rafter pairs are also stabilized by original collar beams. Evident on the western pair of rafters is a slight smoke colored stain that indicates the original brick chimney rose through the space between the two roof members.

Entrance into the excavated cellar provides an opportunity to examine the original foundation structure. Three-course common bond brick walls remain on the south and west sides, whereas the north and east walls have been replaced with concrete. The sill and joist system as well as the early nineteenth-century floor remains intact. Pit-sawn floor joists retain a partial coat of whitewash that indicates the cellar space has been used for domestic purposes since the nineteenth-century. The framing system of the floor along the west wall reveals the former location of the interior end brick chimney pile. A triangular shaped space framed by diagonal braces confined the brick stack that supported corner hearths in the two rooms above. Access into the cellar is provided by a ladder stair that was introduced at a later time by cutting a hole through the floor of the stair closet.

#### ADDENDUM

Since the initial inspection of this house in December of 1987, the interior of the first floor has been stripped of its later woodwork to reveal any evidence of the former exterior and interior finishes. Surprisingly, the interior surfaces of the framing members retain a coat of whitewash, which indicates that the finish elements of the house were introduced sometime later, perhaps years after the house was originally erected. A close look at the floor and second floor joists indicate that a partition once divided a side hall or passage from the two rooms that were heated by the corner hearths. Pairs of wrought nails survive in a series of lap mortises along the floor joist above the ghost on the floor that fixes the location of the hall partition. Two doors pierced the hall wall for access into the front and rear rooms, and slight indentations in the partition ghost as well as heavier wear in the flooring indicate the position of the thresholds. Found on the south and north walls are the locations of the front and rear doors. The original stair was evidently fixed in the northeast corner of the hall, and a small, squarish mortise in the flooring seems to suggest the position of the stair post.

Significant to the front and rear rooms was the interior end brick stack, centrally located against the west wall. The first floor fireplaces were built to fit into the corner of the room, and the former location of the hearth size is partially evident in the north room. A continuous set of eighteenth-century studs along the west wall indicates the house was not built with an exposed firewall as seen in the Bruff-Mansfield house or old photographs of the Marshall house. The location of the partition that separated the two rooms is indicated by paint evidence along the floor joists. When the interior brick stack was removed the hole in the floor was filled with sections of wide beaded weatherboards that had been taken from the exterior of the house during the renovation. The smoke darkened ceiling in the

north room and the heavy wear on the floor suggests the back room may have been the kitchen.

During the removal of the later woodwork, sections of original eighteenth-century door surrounds were found, and one segment survives with a molded backband and a wrought-iron nail. Also, a part of the stair handrail was discovered in addition to part of a baseboard.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input 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/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Edward Harrison house, more commonly known as the Charles Marshall house, stands on the north side of Green Street in line with the Tarr house and the Bruff-Mansfield house. The three structures were built within a decade of one another and represent part of a small group of turn of the nineteenth-century structures that include some of the oldest dwellings surviving in St. Michaels. The single-story or story-and-a-half houses were evidently erected for middle class residents and their families. Despite the modest size of the various examples several were fitted with finely crafted period woodwork.

At this point in the survey of St. Michaels structures, the Edward Harrison house is one of only five documented eighteenth-century dwellings to survive in town. In contrast to the other story-and-a-half examples, the Harrison house exhibits important variations in floor plan and finish. The side hall/double-pile plan, although common for the late eighteenth-century, is not repeated by any of the other examples. In light of the scarcity of buildings of this age in St. Michaels, efforts should be made to preserve this structure, and ideally, on the same site where it contributes to the historic row of houses along Green Street.

Tax records indicate that this Green Street lot, then referred to as Mill Street, was improved in 1804 by a, "framed dwelling house" under the ownership of Mabel Harrison, Edward Harrison's widow. It is highly certain that the taxed house in the nineteenth-century records is the same structure that stands remodeled as a bungalow. Edward Harrison purchased this lot in 1780 from James Braddock, however the house is estimated to date from the late years of the eighteenth century. Edward Harrison was assessed in 1798 for an unfinished single-story frame dwelling that measured twenty-six by twenty. At the time the house was accompanied by a twelve foot by eight foot log stable. The late eighteenth-century house remained in the hands of the Harrison family until 1854, when the lot and house were sold to James Benson. (65/367) Charles D. Marshall purchased the property in 1914 (167/167).



LOT NUMBER SIX, GREEN STREET

## INTRODUCTION

The house appears to be located on either lot 5 or 6 of the original string of 6 lots laid out by James Braddock in 1778. These lots were each 80 feet wide (except number 6 which was about 65'). In the survey of 1804, which erected the Town of St. Michaels, lots 5 and 6 were combined. In any case, this made little difference since lots 4, 5, and 6 were bought by Joseph Harrison in 1780 and remained in the Harrison family until 1846.

Over the years - in fact as early as 1794 - the size of the lots has changed so that the only original boundaries are the North line that marks the division between the Harrison property ("Stopper") and that of James Braddock (Jane's Progress) and the South line which is Green (Mill) Street.

Apparently there have been dwelling houses on lots 5-6 for a long time. It is possible that the house was built by Edward Harrison after he acquired the lot in 1794.

YEAR: 1986 VOL: 624 PAGE: 984 PRICE:

FROM: Donald C. Klick and Jean M.

TO: Vestry, St. Michaels Parish

NOTES: On N side Willow St. (formerly Green); 53'6" on Green; N 169'; adjoining P E Parish House; Begin on N side Green Street at stone on NE corner of leasehold blacksmith shop of Joseph B. Hunt; E 53'6" to SW corner of Clarissa and Samuel Jones; N to Perry Porter and Annie Townsend; W to Hope and Caplan to NE corner of blacksmith shop lot; S 169' to beginning.

Conveyed to Klick by Woodall 1983, 577/351.

YEAR: 1983 VOL: 577 PAGE: 351 PRICE:

FROM: Kenneth L. Woodall and Sarah Ann

TO: Donald C. Klick

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Woodall by Beverly Jane Stone 1980, 548/494.

YEAR: 1980 VOL: 548 PAGE: 494 PRICE:

FROM: Beverly Jane Stone and Richard L. Stone

TO: Kenneth L. Woodall and Sarah Ann Woodall

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Stone by Beverly Jane Stone 1978, 522/705.

YEAR: 1978 VOL: 522 PAGE: 705 PRICE:

FROM: Beverly Jane Stone

TO: Beverly Jane Stone and Richard L. Stone

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Alfred E. Rye and Beverly Jane Stone by J. Clifton Jones 1967, 405/475. (Rye died in 1978.)

YEAR: 1965 VOL: 405 PAGE: 475 PRICE:  
FROM: J. Clifton Jones and A. Virginia Jones  
TO: Alfred E. Rye and Beverly Jane Stone  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Jones by Sheridan 1942, 253/53.

YEAR: 1942 VOL: 253 PAGE: 53 PRICE:  
FROM: Ann Marshall Sheridan and Charles N. Sheridan  
TO: J. Clifton Jones and A. Virginia Jones  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Ann Marshall Sheridan by Charles D. Marshall 1939, 244/322.

YEAR: 1939 VOL: 244 PAGE: 322 PRICE:  
FROM: Charles D. Marshall and Millie J.  
TO: Ann Marshall Sheridan  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Charles D. Marshall by Burrows 1914, 167/167.

YEAR: 1914 VOL: 167 PAGE: 167 PRICE:  
FROM: Robert E. Burrows and Gertrude  
TO: Charles D. Marshall  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Burrows by Benson 1911, 160/36.

YEAR: 1911 VOL: 160 PAGE: 36 PRICE: \$350  
FROM: Clifton Doll Benson, trustee  
TO: Elmer Burrows  
NOTES: Per decree Chancery decree 16 Aug 1907 , Clifton Doll Benson, trustee,  
complaintant vs Sardis Chapel. Benson is to sell land. It was sold to John Miles  
but Elmer Burrows was substituted. Described as the East part of the land con-  
veyed to James Benson by Edward Harrison 1854, 65/367.

YEAR: 1854 VOL: 65 PAGE: 367 PRICE: \$383.33  
FROM: Edward Harrison & Susannah; Charles Harrison & Frances M.  
TO: James Benson  
NOTES: In this deed, James Benson bought lot number six - actually a very large  
lot which included all the land from number 5 to the Church Land deeded to the  
church in 1744. It included the land on which the Parish House now stands which  
was not purchased by the church until 1940.  
Edward Harrison probably inherited the property from Edward Harrison, Jr. and  
Elizabeth who purchased it from Joseph Harrison, 3rd (1794, 26/63)

YEAR: 1829 VOL: 48 PAGE: 442 PRICE: \$50  
FROM: John B. Fanning and Ann Fanning and Mary Cooper  
TO: Edward Harrison  
NOTES: Lot number 6 on Mill Street.  
Ann Fanning and Mary Cooper were children of Edward and Mabel Harrison.

YEAR: 1794 VOL: 26 PAGE: 63 PRICE: p3 10s sp  
FROM: Joseph Harrison, 3rd.  
TO: Edward Harrison, Jr.  
NOTES: "Part of a lot". Begins at NE corner of Edward Harrison's dwelling house on Mill Street; run N 41 30' W 162 feet to Thomas Harrison, Sr.'s land; then S 54 W with Harrison to intercept the Church Land; with the Church Land to Mill Street; with Mill Street home.  
Believe this Edward Harrison is he who married Mabel Porter and died in 1804, leaving three children: Maryu, Ann, and Edward.  
On the 1804 Tax List, Mabel Harrison is credited with "one lot in St. Michaels" with a "framed dwelling house p60"  
On the 1813 Tax List, "Edward Harrison's heirs" have a "lot in St. Michaels" with "1 frame dwelling house - \$60"  
On the 1826 Tax List, Edward Harrison has 1 lot and 2 dwelling houses.

YEAR: 1780 VOL: 21 PAGE: 150 PRICE: p80 cm  
FROM: James Braddock  
TO: Joseph Harrison  
NOTES: Lots 4, 5, and 6. The land was part of "Jane's Progress".

# ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.



## MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

- DODSON**, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Fine Toilet Sosp, Fancy Hair and Tooth Brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, Suspenders, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds, Fine Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil, Candles, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions carefully Compounded.
- HADDAWAY**, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.
- W. DEAN**, Collector of Claims, Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer.
- ES DYOTT**, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.
- ED H. HAMBLETON**, Carpenter and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.
- ES DODSON**, Real Estate Agent and Collector of Claims.
- SPARKS**, Justice of the Peace and Collector.
- SMITHMAN**, Boot and Shoemaker. First class work done on short notice. Repairing promptly and neatly done.
- S. HAMBLETON**, Proprietor of "Hampton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheelwrighting, and all work appertaining thereto. Industrial Machinery carefully repaired. Farming Implements on hand, and made to order at short notice. Carriage Repairing, Trimming and Painting Specially.
- WILLIAM CAULK**, Physician and Surgeon.
- JAMES BETH**, Physician and Surgeon, Office and Residence near St. Michael's.
- LIAM S. HARRISON**, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.
- J. NEAVITT & CO.**, Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in Broad Creek Neck.
- IN T. HARRINGTON**, Proprietor of "Williams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the season. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges moderate.
- NIEL J. KILMAN**, Carriage Maker and Dealer in all kinds of Wagons.
- GEORGE W. COLLINS**, Tinner. Worker in Tin, Sheet Iron, &c. Also Dealer in Stoves and Tin, and Sheet Iron ware of every description.
- H. BLADES**, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.
- SEPH BERGERSEHIMER**, Ship Builder. Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.
- IVER FAIRBANK**, Boot and Shoemaker. Is skillful in his profession. Those wanting first class work done will do well to patronize him.
- RRISON & RICHARDSON**, Carriage Makers. All work warranted. Repairing promptly and neatly done.
- J. HOLLAND**, Butcher and Dealer in Fresh Meats of all kinds. Shop on Talbot Street.
- PT. C. R. LEONARD**, Freighter of Grain of all kinds to any point.
- OMAS BLADES**, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.
- EM HARRISON**, Dealer in Groceries, Confectioneries &c.
- S. KILMON**, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.
- A. DODSON** Physician and Surgeon.

Dr. C. Gibson





T-615

EDWARD HARRISON HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

Southwest elevation

11/87, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



T-615

EDWARD HARRISON HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

Southeast elevation

11/87, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust