

T-679  
John T. Ford House  
St. Michaels  
private

c. 1875

The John T. Ford house stands out on East Chestnut Street as one of the larger and more distinctive frame structures dating from the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. The center hall dwelling is two rooms deep instead of one, and the rectangular structure is covered by a hip roof in contrast to the more common gable roof. Highlighting the front of the house is a well preserved Victorian porch with sawnwork embellishing the eaves. Complementing the intact exterior are unaltered first and second floor rooms surviving with standard Victorian style woodwork.

The chain-of-title for this East Chestnut Street lot points to John T. Ford as the probable owner who financed construction of this prominent dwelling around 1875. He purchased the lot in 1873, and evidently negotiated a loan from H. Clay Dodson and Edward Harrison two years later for \$1970 in exchange for title to the town lot. Seven years later Hettie R. Ford is recorded in the land records as purchasing the property back from the Dodsons and the Harrisons.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JOHN T. FORD HOUSE

and/or common LANE HOUSE

## 2. Location

street & number 105 East Chestnut Street  not for publication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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other:                       |

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

name Regina Lane

street & number 105 East Chestnut Street 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 525

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 606

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-679

|  |                                       |   |   |                    |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved                    | date of move _____ |
| <input 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 John T. Ford house, known for the past ten years as the Lane house, stands at 105 East Chestnut Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, center hall frame house faces south with the hip roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1875, the two-story, three-bay frame house is supported by an infilled brick pier foundation, and the structure is sheathed with a layer of asbestos shingles over plain weatherboards. The weatherboards are exposed on the north side of the house. Covering the structure is a medium pitched asphalt shingle hip roof. Extending northward from the main block is a single-story gable roofed pantry.

The south (main) facade is a symmetrical elevation with a center entrance and flanking four-over-four sash windows. The heavily molded four-panel front door is framed by three-light sidelights and a four-light transom. To each side of the front door are four-over-four sash windows that retain wooden louvered shutters. Stretching across the first floor is a single-story, square post porch covered by a seamed tin hip roof. Rectangular baluster handrails span the distance between the posts, and decorative sawnwork embellishes the top of each bay. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced four-over-four sash windows that retain louvered shutters as well. Trimming the base of the roof is a plain boxed cornice, and a pair of narrow brick stove stacks pierce the center of the roof.

The east and west sides of the double-pile house are marked by four-over-four sash hung with louvered shutters as well, and the back of the house is partially covered by the single-story gable roof pantry.

The four first floor rooms are divided by a center hall which contains the stair. A heavily turned newel post and turned balusters support a molded handrail. The stringer is decorated with a scrolled trim, and the area beneath the stringer is plastered. A four-panel door provides access to the closet below the first landing. The adjacent rooms are entered through four-panel doors, and the front rooms survive with late nineteenth-century mantels and baseboard moldings. In addition, the second floor has remained relatively unaltered.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-679

| 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" 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 John T. Ford house stands out on East Chestnut Street as one of the larger and more distinctive frame structures dating from the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. The center hall dwelling is two rooms deep instead of one, and the rectangular structure is covered by a hip roof in contrast to the more common gable roof. Highlighting the front of the house is a well preserved Victorian porch with sawnwork embellishing the eaves. Complementing the intact exterior are unaltered first and second floor rooms surviving with standard Victorian style finishes.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The chain-of-title for this East Chestnut Street lot points to John T. Ford as the probable owner who financed construction of this prominent two-story, center hall frame house around 1875. He purchased the property in 1873 (79/83), and evidently negotiated a loan from H. Clay Dodson and Edward Harrison two years later for \$1970 in exchange for title to the town lot.(81/339) Seven years later Hettie R. Ford is recorded in the land records as purchasing the property back from the Dodsons and Harrisons for \$1200.(95/409) Since the late nineteenth century the property has been held by ten different owners.



105 EAST CHESTNUT STREET

T-679

YEAR: 1978 VOL: 525 PAGE: 606  
FROM: Francis Eugene Somers and Ann Kelsey Somers PRICE: \$61,000  
TO: Regina S. Lane  
NOTES Begins at the corner of lot 28; run with Chestnut Street 60 feet to lot 30, formerly Mrs. Medford Voshell; 120 feet deep. Is shown as lot 29 on plat 1/243.  
Conveyed to Somers by Winterson 1976, 503/637.

YEAR: 1976 VOL: 503 PAGE: 637  
FROM: Roberta S. Winterson, PR of estate Herman Paul Kernan PRICE:  
TO: Francis Eugene Somers and Ann Kelsey Somers  
NOTES Conveyed to Kernan by Reddie 964, 393/296

YEAR: 1964 VOL: 393 PAGE: 296  
FROM: Wm. Reddie, extr. for Laura A. D. Davis PRICE: \$16,000  
TO: Herman Paul Kernan and Stewart E. Kernan  
NOTES Property sold by authority of the will of Laura A. D. Davis 1949, 33/72 and order of the Orphan's Court #9581, 1964.  
Conveyed to Davis by Voshell 1959, 353/533.

YEAR: 1959 VOL: 353 PAGE: 533  
FROM: Medford H. Voshell and Lola M. Voshell PRICE: \$19,000  
TO: Laura A. D. Davis  
NOTES Conveyed to Voshell by Gillis 1958, 345/287.

YEAR: 1958 VOL: 345 PAGE: 287  
FROM: Lee S. Gillis, assignee PRICE: \$7,400  
TO: Medford H. Voshell and Lola M. Voshell  
NOTES Sold on foreclosure of a mortgage 1955, 326/141, Lawrence W. Marshall to St. Michaels Bank.  
Conveyed to Marshall by Todd 1955, 326/139.

YEAR: 1955 VOL: 326 PAGE: 141 (Mortgage)  
FROM: Lawrence W. Marshall and Priscilla W. Marshall PRICE:  
TO: St. Michaels Bank  
NOTES This is a mortgage for \$8,330.

YEAR: 1955 VOL: 326 PAGE: 139  
FROM: Hollis H. Todd and Sarah W. Todd PRICE:  
TO: Lawrence W. Marshall and Priscilla W. Marshall  
NOTES Conveyed to Todd by Shockley 1945, 261/448.

YEAR: 1945 VOL: 261 PAGE: 448  
FROM: Jesse M. W. Shockley, widower PRICE:  
TO: Hollis H. Todd and Sarah W. Todd  
NOTES To Shockleys by Elizabeth Flynn in a title clearance 1942, 252/124 and  
252/125.  
To Shockley by Hubbard 1911, 160/329

YEAR: 1911 VOL: 160 PAGE: 329  
FROM: Lewis R. Hubbard PRICE:  
TO: Jesse M. W.. Shockley  
NOTES Conveyed to Hubbard by Ross 1909, 155/343.

YEAR: 1909 VOL: 155 PAGE: 343  
FROM: Lewis E. Ross PRICE: \$1150  
TO: Lewis R. Hubbard  
NOTES Conveyed to Ross by Ford 1891, 115/318.

YEAR: 1891 VOL: 115 PAGE: 318  
FROM: Hettie R. Ford PRICE:  
TO: Lewis E. Ross  
NOTES Conveyed in exchange for a house owned by Ross on the south side of  
Grace Street (T-590) with a mortgage for \$400.  
Conveyed to Ford by Edward Harrison and H. C. Dodson 1882, 95/409

1891, 115/319 is a mortgage, Ford to Marianna Benson for \$300 with the lot on  
Grace Street as security.

YEAR: 1882 VOL: 95 PAGE: 409  
FROM: Edward Harrison & Susann and H. C. Dodson & Martha PRICE: \$1200  
TO: Hettie R. Ford  
NOTES Conveyed to Dodson & Harrison by Ford 1875, 81/339.

YEAR: 1875 VOL: 81 PAGE: 339  
FROM: John T. Ford and Hettie R. Ford PRICE: \$1970  
TO: H. Clay Dodson and Edward Harrison  
NOTES Conveyed to Ford by Miller 1873, 79/83

YEAR: 1873 VOL: 79 PAGE: 83  
FROM: Dr. John Miller PRICE: \$525  
TO: John T. Ford  
NOTES Conveyed to Miller by Keithley 1848, 61/80.

YEAR: 1848 VOL: 61 PAGE: 80  
FROM: James Keithley and Sophia PRICE: \$100  
TO: John Miller  
NOTES Conveyed to James Keithley by Thomas Keithley 1813 36/26.

YEAR: 1813 VOL: 36 PAGE: 26  
FROM: Thomas Keithley, Washington, Terr. of Columbia PRICE: gift  
TO: James Keithley  
NOTES Lots 29 and 30 on this deed.  
Conveyed by Richard Keithley to James Keithley 1797, 27/197.

YEAR: 1797 VOL: 27 PAGE: 197  
FROM: Richard Keithley PRICE:  
TO: Thomas Keithley  
NOTES Lots 29 and 30.  
No deed was found for the transfer of these lots to Richard Keithley by a previous James Keithley. James died in 1793 or 1794 and apparently Richard inherited.

YEAR: 1786 VOL: 23 PAGE: 132  
FROM: Lambert Robinson PRICE: p10 cm  
TO: James Keithley  
NOTES Lots 29 and 30.

YEAR: 1784 VOL: 22 PAGE: 79  
FROM: James Wignal, Mariner of Liverpool PRICE: p17 spec  
TO: Lambert Robinson  
NOTES Lot number 11, also 29 and 30. "Lying and being on Market Street"!!!  
Wignal acquired the lots when he purchased all of James Braddock's unsold property from John Thompson 1784, 21/417. They were part of "Jane's Progress".

# ST MICHAELS

ST MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

1877 LAKE, GRIFFING,  
AND STEVENSON

**MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,**  
**DODSON,** Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chem-  
 ists, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth  
 brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles,  
 Brushes, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds,  
 Fine Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes,  
 Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper,  
 Pens, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil,  
 Stumps, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions care-  
 fully Compounded.  
**HADDAWAY,** Insurance Agent and Con-  
 veyancer.  
**W. W. DEAN,** Collector of Claims, Real Estate  
 Agent and Conveyancer.  
**EDDYOTT,** Carpenter, Contractor and Builder,  
 Shop at St. Michael's.  
**RED H. HAMBLETON,** Carpenter and Build-  
 er. Shop at St. Michael's.  
**FRANKSON,** Real Estate Agent and Col-  
 lector of Claims.  
**SPANGLER,** Justice of the Peace and Collector.  
**SMITHMAN,** Boot and Shoemaker. First  
 class work done on short notice. Repairing  
 promptly and neatly done.  
**W. S. HAMBLETON,** Proprietor of "Ham-  
 ington's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheel-  
 righting, and all work pertaining thereto. In-  
 dicate 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 SMITH,** 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.  
**C. NEAVITT & CO.,** Dealers in Dry Goods,  
 Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in  
 Broad Creek Neck.  
**IN T. HARRINGTON,** Proprietor of "Wil-  
 liams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table  
 carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the sea-  
 son. 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.  
**E. BLADES,** Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder.  
 Persons having work in this line will do well to see  
 him before contracting.  
**SEPH HERGERSHEIMER,** Ship Builder.  
 Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.  
**LYVER FAIRBANK,** Boot and Shoemaker. Is  
 skillful in his profession. Those wanting first class  
 work done will do well to patronize him.  
**HARRISON & RICHARDSON,** Carriage Mak-  
 ers. All work warranted. Repairing promptly  
 and neatly done.  
**J. HOLLAND,** Butcher and Dealer in Fresh  
 Meats of all kinds. Shop on Talbot Street.  
**P. T. C. B. LEONARD,** Freighter of Grain of all  
 kinds to any point.  
**THOMAS BLADES,** Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods,  
 Notions, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.  
**W. HARRISON,** Dealer in Groceries,  
 Confectioneries, &c.  
**S. KILMON,** Carriage Maker and Dealer in Car-  
 riages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly  
 done.  
**A. DODSON,** Physician and Surgeon.



T-679



T-679  
JOHN T. FORD HOUSE  
ST. Michaels, MD Quadrangle  
1942



T-679

JOHN T. FORD HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot County , MD

South elevation

4/88, Paul Touart, Photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



T-679

JOHN T. FORD HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

South elevation

4/88, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust