

T-692

c. 1870

Benjamin H. Blades House
St. Michaels
Private

A chain of title for this Mulberry Street lot indicates this two-story stepped house was erected during the third quarter of the nineteenth century and probably by Benjamin H. Blades, a St. Michaels carpenter who had a shop on Talbot Street. A listing advertising his skills is included in the small business directory for St. Michaels in 1877. The listing reads,

B. H. Blades, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.

The Mulberry Street house remained in Blades family hands for another generation when Benjamin devised it to his son, Benjamin L. Blades and his daughter, Elizabeth P. Horney. However, as a result of a defaulted mortgage the property was sold in 1913.

The Benjamin Blades house is a typical two-story, two-part frame dwelling that follows a stepped profile like dozens of other houses in St. Michaels. The stepped house carries its period porch with decorative sawn corner brackets. The house stands in a row of contemporary buildings and contributes to the character of Mulberry Street.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic BENJAMIN H. BLADES HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 111-113 Mulberry Street not for publication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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 257

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 125

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-692

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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 Benjamin H. Blades house stands at 111-113 Mulberry Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, two-part frame house faces south with the main gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1870, the two-story stepped main block is comprised of two sections each two bays across. The eastern half, the taller section, contains the original principal entrance. A partially glazed front door is topped by a three-pane transom. Six-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters light the first and second floors. The adjacent slightly shorter section is also two bays across with a separate entrance and six-over-six sash as well. Stretching across the full front is a chamfered post porch with decorative sawn corner brackets and a square baluster handrail. The base to the roof is finished with a boxed cornice with slightly extended eaves.

The gable ends are marked by single six-over-six sash windows that light the first floor, and interior end brick stove chimneys that protrude through the gable ends.

Attached to the back of the house is a two-story service wing.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-692

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/ 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
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

The Benjamin H. Blades house is a typical two-story, two-part frame dwelling that follows a stepped profile like dozens of other houses in St. Michaels. The stepped house carries its period porch with decorative sawn corner brackets. The house stands in a row of contemporary buildings and adds to the character of Mulberry Street.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

A chain of title for this Mulberry Street lot indicates this two-story stepped house was erected during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, and probably by Benjamin H. Blades, a St. Michaels carpenter who had a shop on Talbot Street. A listing advertising his skills is included in the small business directory for St. Michaels. The listing reads,

B. H. Blades, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.

The Mulberry Street house remained in Blades family hands for another generation when it was devised in 1907 to his son, Benjamin L. Blades, and his daughter, Elizabeth P. Horney. (Will 17/46) Blades family ownership of the house ended in 1913. (165/423)

BENJAMIN H. BLADES HOUSE

T-692

YEAR: 1944 VOL: 257 PAGE: 125 PRICE: \$3700
FROM: Lewis J. Duncan and Virginia W. Duncan
TO: Merritt L. Holden and Mildred D. Holden
NOTES: On N side of Mulberry Street adjoining Oliver Sparks; 60 feet on Mulberry extending back 60 feet (!)
To Duncans by Jump 1936, 237/332.

YEAR: 1936 VOL: 237 PAGE: 332 PRICE: \$670
FROM: Helen A. Jump and John W. D. Jump
TO: Lewis J. Duncan and Virginia W. Duncan
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed by James M. Seth to Benjamin H. Blades 1862, 70/486.
Devised by Benjamin Blades 1907, 17/46 to his son and daughter, John L. Blades and Elizabeth P. Horney.
Sold by John W. D. Jump, atty. by foreclosure on a mortgage, Blades and Horney to Jump 1913, 165/423.
Conveyed by John Jump to Helen A. Jump 1936, 237/330

YEAR: 1913 VOL: 165 PAGE: 423 PRICE:
FROM: John L. Blades and Elizabeth P. Horney
TO: John W. D. Jump
NOTES: This is a mortgage for \$400.

YEAR: 1862 VOL: 70 PAGE: 486 PRICE: \$220
FROM: James M. Seth and Louisa Seth
TO: Benjamin H. Blades
NOTES: "All that lot opposite the parsonage of the M-E Church being part of two lots that were purchased by James M. Seth of Miss Mary Tennant devised to her by her father Samuel Tennant saving and excepting those parts of the same that have been sold to Greenbury Marshall and Mrs. Mary Leonard the widow of Daniel Leonard, measuring 60 feet on Mulberry and extending back between Oliver Sparks and Greenbury Marshall 60 feet to a cove behind the P-E Church".

The "parsonage of the M-E Church" referred to above is the Cannonball House!

YEAR: 1852 VOL: 64 PAGE: 410 PRICE: \$1650
FROM: Mary Tenant
TO: James M. Seth
NOTES: Lots 17 (Canonball House), 9, and 10 were on this deed.
This was the property awarded to Mary Tenant in the three-way division of her father Samuel Tennant's estate, between Mary, Edward, and Thomas Tennant.

YEAR: 1839 VOL: 54 PAGE: 253 PRICE:

FROM: Thomas and Edward Tennant

TO: Mary Tennant

NOTES: This deed, one of three in the division of Samuel Tennant's real estate, gives Mary Tennant lots 9, 10, and 17. This is lot number 9.

YEAR: 1839 VOL: PAGE: PRICE:

FROM: Joseph Bruff, William Townsend, John Harrington

TO: Mary, Edward, and Thomas Tennant

NOTES: Distribution of Samuel Tennant's real estate.

YEAR: 1809 VOL: PAGE: PRICE:

FROM: Land Office, Eastern Shore

TO: Samuel Tenant

NOTES: Ref: Talbot County Unpatented Certificate of Survey Number 239

On February 22, 1809, Samuel Tenant (who had made the 1804-06 Survey of the new Town of St. Michaels) was granted an "unpatented Certificate of Survey" for certain "escheated lands" in St. Michaels which he called "The Polygon".

Among the lots included in "The Polygon" were #9 and #10. These had not been previously sold by Braddock, Thompson, or Wignals and, presumably, taxes had never been paid on them. Under Braddock's will they would have belonged to John Thompson or to Wignals by his purchase from Thompson.

YEAR: 1778 VOL: PAGE: PRICE:

FROM: James Braddock

TO:

NOTES: Lots 9 and 10 were among the unsold lots on Braddock's "plat of St. Michaels". Braddock's will left all of his real estate to John Thompson. The unsold lots were then bought by James Wignal in 1784 (21/417) whereupon the title became lost until picked up by Sam Tenant in 1809. They were part of "Jane's Progress".

a minute west one
 in the with South
 side and forty nine
 or west one hundred
 or one hundred and
 fifty feet to the water
 out fifty feet, then
 street, then thence with
 south sixty four degrees
 or feet to Ballston
 the Beginning, containing
 more or less
 Barrow.
 that Country.

been a long time
 £12.0.0

7.6

had by 4.0
 £1 11.6

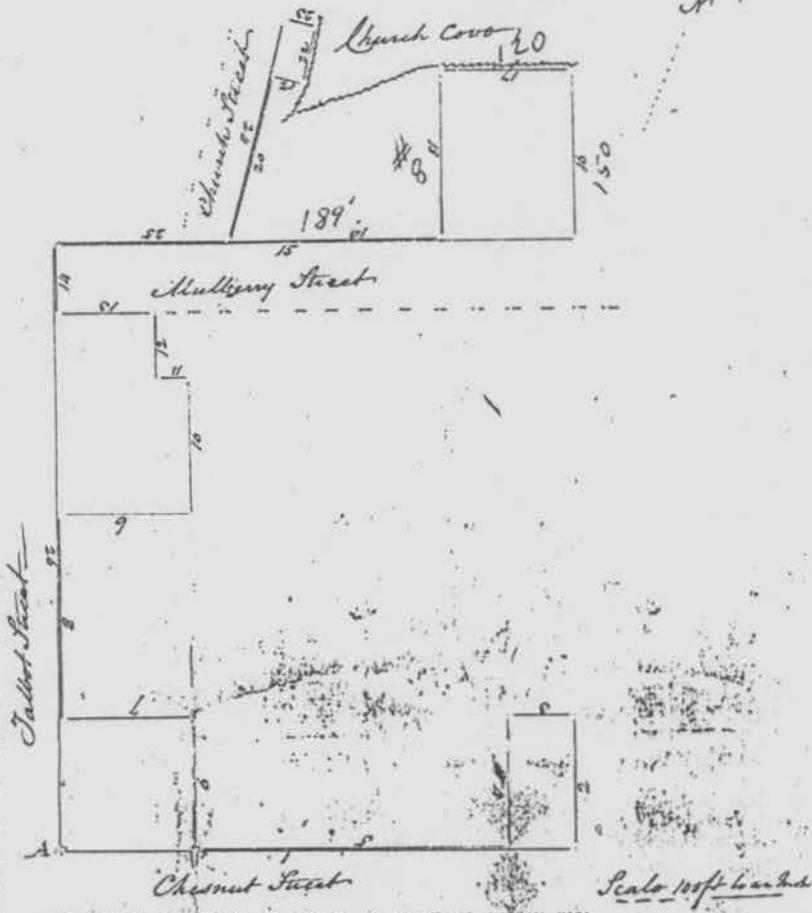


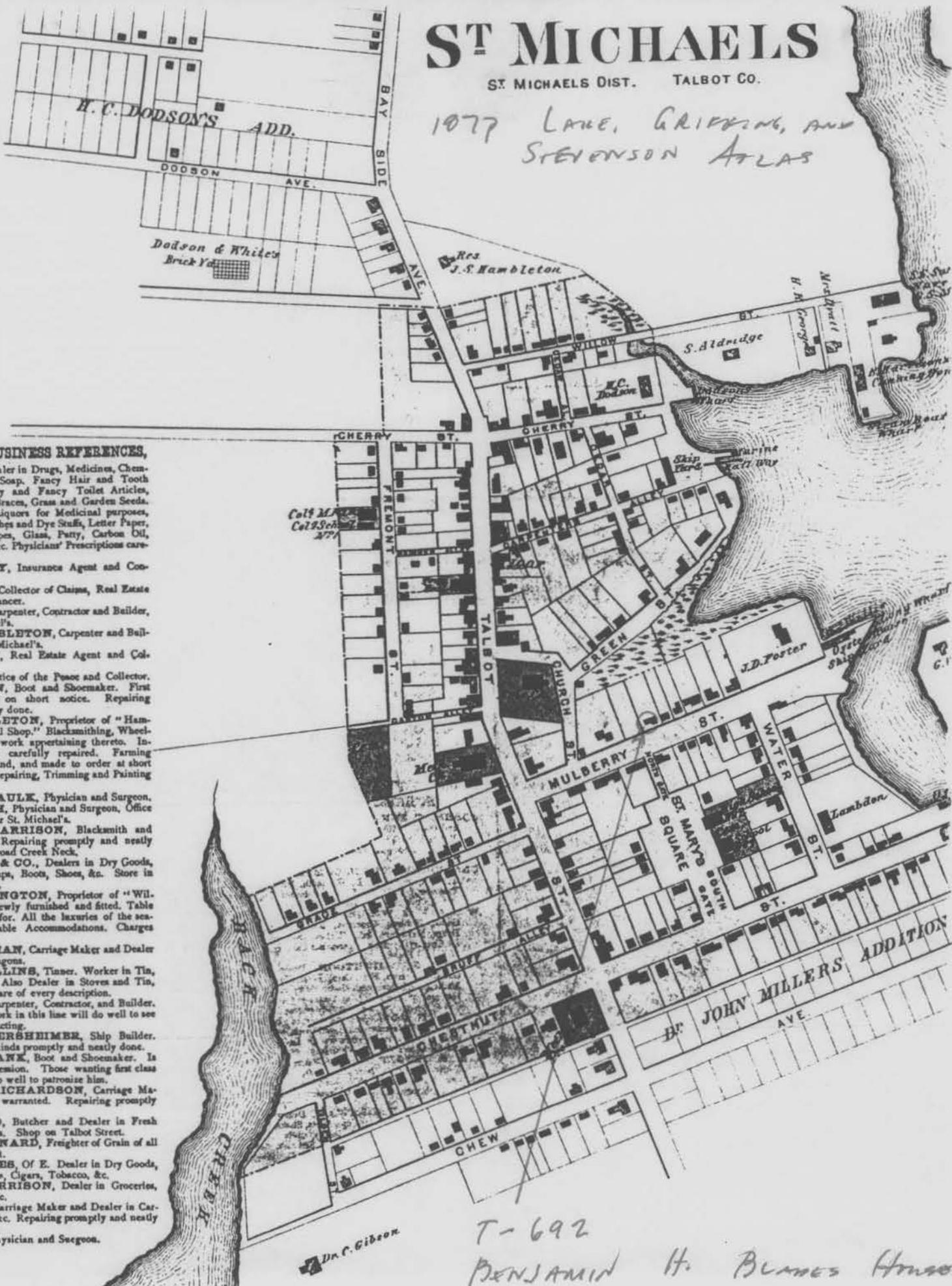
Table of Courses
Beginning at A.

N. 1. N 65° 45' E - 160 feet	N. 14. N 24° 15' W - 60 feet
2. N 24° 15' W - 120.	15. N 65° 45' E - 166. 466' to lat # 11
3. S 65° 45' W - 60.	16. N 24° 15' W - 150.
4. S 24° 15' E - 119.	17. S 65° 45' W - 120.
5. S 65° 45' W - 280.	18. S 24° 15' E - 149.
6. N 24° 15' W - 120.	19. S 65° 45' W - 129.
7. S 65° 45' W - 119.	20. N 8° - W - 149.
8. N 24° 15' W - 130.	21. N 22° - E - 30.
9. N 65° 45' E - 120.	22. N 8° - W - 50.
10. N 24° 15' W - 120.	23. S 22° - W - 32.
11. S 65° 45' W - 30.	24. S 2° - E - 200.
12. N 24° 15' W - 60.	25. S 65° 45' W - 157.
13. S 65° 45' W - 89.	26. Straight to the Beginning containing 1/2 acre

ST MICHAELS

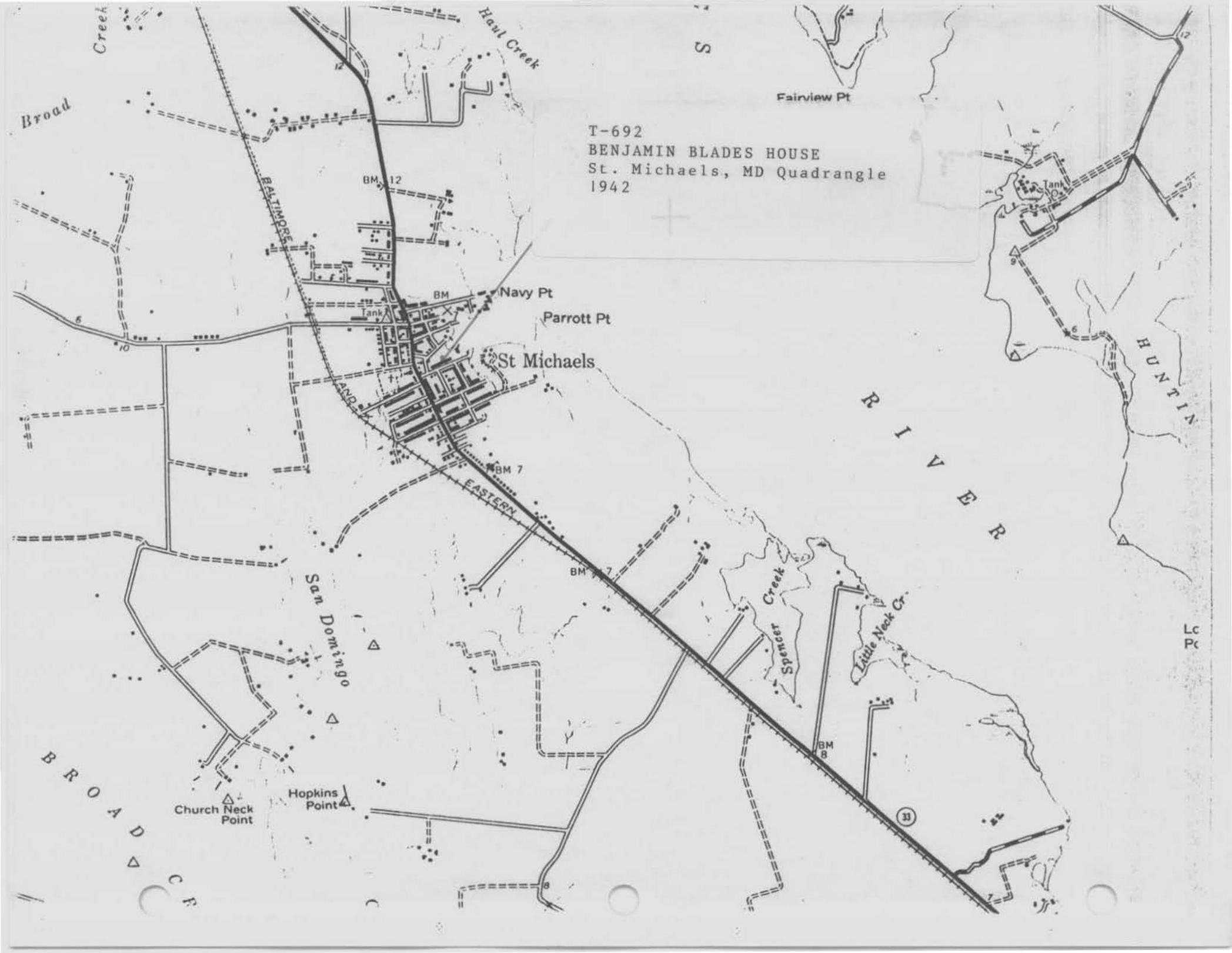
ST MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

1077 Lane, GRIPPING, AND
STEINSON ATLAS



MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,
DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chem-
icals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth
brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles,
Sunglasses, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds,
Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes,
Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper,
Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil,
Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions care-
fully Compounded.
HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Con-
tracter.
W. DEAN, Collector of Claims, Real Estate
Agent and Conveyancer.
IS DYOTT, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder,
Shop at St. Michael's.
ED H. HAMBLETON, Carpenter and Build-
er, Shop at St. Michael's.
IS F. ON, Real Estate Agent and Col-
lector of Taxes.
SPARAS, 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 "Ham-
ilton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheel-
wrighting, and all work appertaining 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 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,
Tobacco, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in
road Creek Neck.
N. T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Wil-
iams 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.
JORGE W. COLLINS, Tinmer. 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.
JEFF HERGERSHEIMER, Ship Builder.
Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.
IVER FAIRBANK, Boot and Shoemaker. Is
skilful in his profession. Those wanting first class
work done will do well to patronize him.
FRISON & RICHARDSON, Carriage Ma-
kers. 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.
THOMAS BLADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods,
Cottons, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.
DEMI HARRISON, Dealer in Groceries,
Candy, &c.
S. KILMON, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Car-
riages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly
done.
A. DODSON Physician and Surgeon.

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 BENJAMIN H. BLAMES HOUSE



T-692
BENJAMIN BLADES HOUSE
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942

Lc
Pc



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BENJAMIN H. BLADES HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

Southeast elevation

6/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



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BENJAMIN H. BLADES HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

South elevation

6/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust