

T-727

Walter W. Fairbank House
St. Michaels
Private

c. 1908

Built during the first decade of the twentieth century, this ell-shaped frame house follows closely the building traditions that had been accepted in St. Michaels since the Civil War. The asymmetrical plan with a gable facing the street allowed for a recessed entrance sheltered by a decorative porch. The bay window as well as the turned porch posts and spindle decoration are typical embellishments for Victorian era houses.

Walter W. Fairbank purchased this corner lot in 1908 for \$300, a sum that would not have included many substantial improvements. Also pointing to an early twentieth century date of construction is the fact that this corner lot remained unimproved through the late nineteenth century. The 1891 Sanborn Insurance map of St. Michaels indicates a vacant lot at this corner site.

Survey No. T-727

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic WALTER A. FAIRBANK HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 412 Water Street ___ not for publication

city, town St. Michaels ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ 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 152

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 111

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-727

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 Walter W. Fairbank house stands at 412 Water Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story ell-shaped frame dwelling faces east with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1908, the two-story ell-shaped dwelling is supported by a low masonry foundation, and the house is sheathed with German type siding. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The east (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with a recessed entrance wall sheltered by a single story turned post porch distinguished by a spindle and bracket decoration in the eave. The partially glazed front door is flanked by a pair of long single-pane sash windows hung with louvered shutters. Framing the door are two-light sidelights and a three-light transom. The second floor is pierced by three single-pane sash windows also hung with louvered shutters. The projecting cross of the L-plan that faces Water Street is dominated by a single story bay window lighted by single-pane sash windows. Below each window is a recessed panel. The second floor is illuminated by a paired single bay sash window with louvered shutters. Fixed within the gable end is a pointed arch louvered attic vent. The eaves to the gable roof are slightly extended with short returns at the base.

The balance of the exterior is finished in a similar manner. Rising through the south gable end is an interior end brick stack.

The interior was not seen.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 Walter W. Fairbank house stands on the northwest corner of the intersection of Water and East Chestnut streets in the heart of St. Michaels. The two-story, ell-shaped Victorian house has not significantly changed since it was built during the early part of the twentieth century. A turned post porch with spindle decoration enhances the front of the house as does the single-story bay window. The house is a late example of the solid, asymmetrically designed houses common to the Victorian era.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Built during the first decade of the twentieth century, this ell-shaped frame house follows closely the building traditions that had been accepted in St. Michaels since the Civil War. The asymmetrical plan with a gable facing the street allowed for a recessed entrance sheltered by a decorative porch.

Walter W. Fairbank purchased this corner lot in 1908 for \$310, a sum that would not have included many substantial improvements. Also pointing to an early twentieth century date of construction is the fact that this corner lot was not improved by the time the 1891 Sanborn Insurance map was published. The property has remained in Fairbank family hands.

WALTER W. FAIRBANK

~~WALTER W. FAIRBANK~~ HOUSE

T-727

YEAR: 1908 VOL: 152 PAGE: 111 PRICE: \$310
FROM: Franklin L. Gifford and Annie V. Gifford
TO: Walter W. Fairbank

NOTES: Begin at the NE corner of the "Ford Lot" now owned by Oliver T. Fairbank; run with the same and the W. A. Burns lot west 120 feet to the John Kirby lot (now occupied by the heirs of John Willen); with Willen north 60 feet to another lot of heirs of W. A. Burns; east 120 feet to Water Street; with the street 60 feet to the beginning.

Conveyed to Gifford by Townsend 1903, 143/208.

The same land Fannie Beswick received under the will of Mary A. Beswick and George H. Beswick 1872, 12/7.

YEAR: 1904 VOL: 143 PAGE: 208 PRICE: \$175
FROM: Fannie B. Townsend and husband

TO: Franklin L. Gifford

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to George M. Beswick by Alex C. Jump 1868, 75/25
George devised to his daughter Fannie 1872, 12/7.

YEAR: 1868 VOL: 75 PAGE: 25 PRICE: \$900
FROM: Alexander C. Jump and Charlotte L. Jump
TO: George M. Beswick

NOTES: same description.

This is lot number 44 of the Braddock's original plan of St. Michaels.

No record of the sale of this lot to Alexander C. Jump has been found.

The next conveyance of the property which was found is in 1826.

YEAR: 1826 VOL: 46 PAGE: 390 PRICE:
FROM: William Wrightson

TO: William Wrightson, Jr.

NOTES: William Wrightson sells this lot and a farm known as "Lurkey" to his son.

YEAR: 1798 VOL: 27 PAGE: 509 PRICE: gift

FROM: Thomas Kemp

TO: Rachel Wrightson

NOTES: A gift of lot 44 to his daughter, wife of William Wrightson.

YEAR: 1791 VOL: 24 PAGE: 229 PRICE: p60 cm
FROM: James Ball
TO: Thomas Kemp
NOTES: The deed is for lots 44, 45, and 46.

No record was found as to how James Ball acquired these lots.

YEAR: 1782 VOL: 21 PAGE: 274 PRICE: p 40 cm
FROM: James Braddock
TO: Lewis Davis

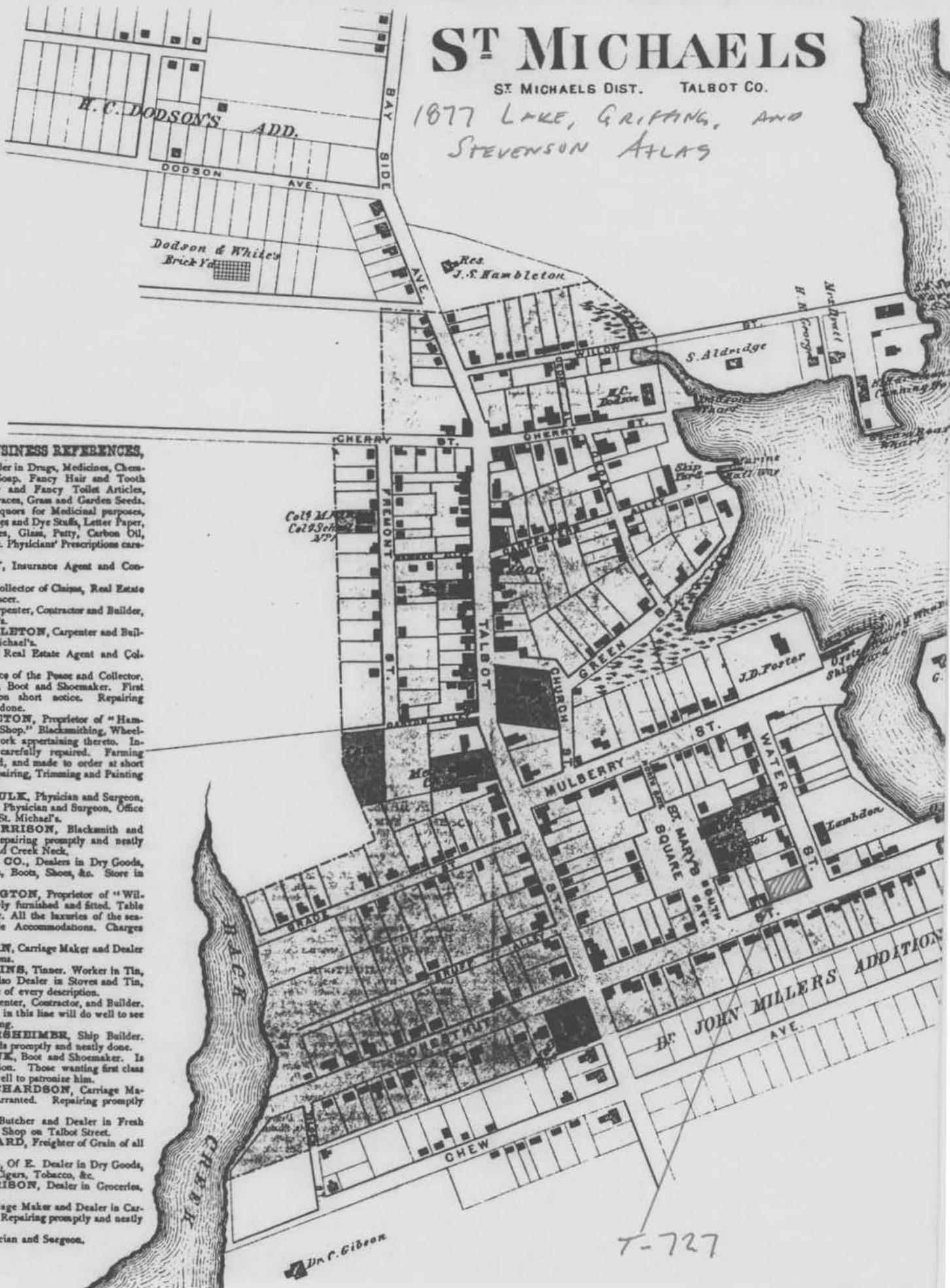
NOTES: Lewis Davis "gent." is described in the deed as "a subject of the Kingdom of France". Nothing has been found to date as to who Davis was, where he came from, or what happened to him. Braddock sold the lots in August of 1782 and were the last sold before his death. Braddock's will was probated in September, 1782.

The tract name is not stated in the deed but the lots were probably part of "Jane's Progress" and on the original boundary with "The Beach".

ST MICHAELS

ST MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

1877 LAKE, GRIFING, AND
STEVENSON ATLAS



ST MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth Brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, Cases, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds, and Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, and Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil, and Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions carefully Compounded.

HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.

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 Builder at St. Michael's.

SON, Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer.

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 "Hambleton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheelwrighting, and all work appertaining thereto. Indicate 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. Office and Residence near St. Michael's.

LIAM S. HARRISON, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.

NEAVITT & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in Broad Creek Neck.

N. T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Williams House." Newly furnished and fitted. Tables 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.

ORGE 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.

IYER FAIRBANK, Boot and Shoemaker. Is skillful in his profession. Those wanting first class work done will do well to patronize him.

RIBSON & 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.

P. T. R. LEONARD, Freightier of Grain of all kinds to any point.

OMAS BLADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

H. HARRISON, Dealer in Groceries, Commodities &c.

S. KILMON, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

A. DODSON Physician and Surgeon.

7-727





T-727

WALTER A. FAIRBANK HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

East elevation

6/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust