

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Red Men's Hall or Tilghman Volunteer Fire Department

## 2. Location

street &amp; number Route 33 \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Tilghman \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Fifth

state MD \_\_\_\_\_ 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 Tilghman Volunteer Fire Company

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.:

city, town Tilghman \_\_\_\_\_ state and zip code MD 21671

## 5. Location of Legal Description

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

street &amp; number Talbot County Courthouse \_\_\_\_\_ folio

city, town Tilghman \_\_\_\_\_ state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

Survey No. T-855

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

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

The Red Men's Hall, now the Tilghman Volunteer Firemen's Department, is located on the east side of Route 33 between Elmer Road and Gibsontown Road in the village of Tilghman on Tilghman Island, Talbot County, Maryland. The building faces west, with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

This two-and-a-half story, frame structure is clad in brick and aluminum siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The west (main) facade is covered in brick veneer up to the base of the first floor windowsills. The central doorway is flanked on either side by a two-over-two sash window. The second floor is lit by a pair of two-over-two sash windows. The attic story has one two-over-two sash window inset.

The south elevation has a flat roof addition across the full width of the first floor. This addition connects the Red Men's Hall to a two-story cinderblock building which serves as a large garage and storeroom for the volunteer fire department. The second story of the Hall is lit by four two-over-two sash windows.

The east (rear) elevation has a one-story, gable roof addition on the first floor. The east side of this addition has two six-over-six sash windows with wide wood surrounds. The north side has a door and two one-over-one sash windows. The second story of the Hall is lit by two six-over-six sash windows, and there are a pair of closed, louvered shutters at the attic story. There is an interior chimney towards the east gable end.

The north elevation has a one-story, modern shed addition across the full length of the first floor. The second floor is lit by two one-over-one sash windows.

The interior was not seen.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-855

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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	

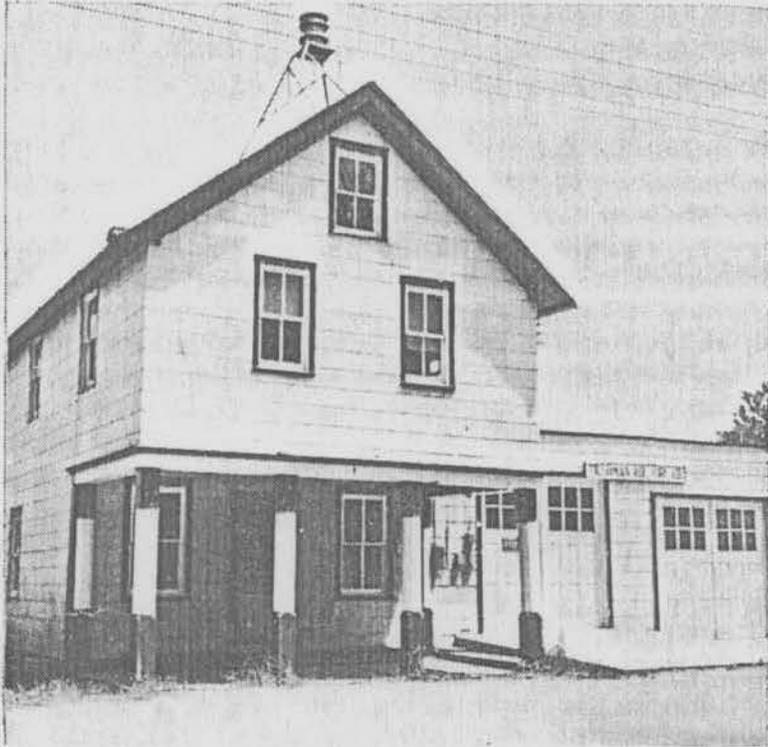
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

In the 1860s Tom Cryer built a hall on this site for the use of the oystermen who had purchased property from his uncle, Captain Henry Cryer, to the north of Dogwood Cove. The first school classes held at Upper Tilghman were held in the upper floor of this hall which Tom Cryer rented to the school board for four dollars per month. At that time the lower floor was operated as a store by Nick Long. This hall was destroyed by fire around 1896.

Sometime in the early 1900s, the Red Men's Hall was built on this site. During the late 1920s Mr. and Mrs. F. W. McCarty operated a store on the first floor of the Hall. In 1938 it was purchased by the Tilghman's Island Volunteer Fire Company and remodeled to suit their needs. Fire was a great threat to the Island because of its isolation from such county services. Canning factories and packing houses were particularly vulnerable to fire, and the close proximity of frame homes in Tilghman allowed even the smallest conflagration to spread quickly.

The site of the Red Men's Hall has been an important social point for the village of Tilghman since the first structure was built there in the 1860s. The fire company is vital to the community both because of the service it provides and the social activities it sponsors. Although the hall itself is very much changed, it remains a significant site for the entire Island.





TILGHMAN'S FIRE HOUSE

From: Raymond R. Sinclair, The Tilghman's Island Story  
(N.p.:n.p., 1954) 112.



RED MEN'S HALL

11-855

TILGHMAN ISLAND, TALBOT COUNTY, MD

NW ELEVATION.

E. HUGHES, PHOTO

8/90