T-607
Blades Carpenter Shop
St. Michaels
private

c. 1880

Blades family traditions relate that Benjamin H. Blades erected this single-story frame building on Talbot Street and operated a carpenter's shop on the site during the late nineteenth century. The rectangular frame building is one of the few single-story commercial buildings to survive in St. Michaels, and it offers an interesting architectural contrast to the neighboring two-story structures. Sanborn Insurance Company maps indicate the building was used for various purposes during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1891 the structure was employed as a residence, while ten years later a grocer was operating out of the building. In 1907 the building was vacant, but twenty years later, in 1927, a tinsmith had use of the site.

Survey No. T-607

Magi No. 2106072611

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic BLADES CARPENTER SHOP

and/or common 405 Talbot Street

2. Location

street & number 405 Talbot Street ___ not for publication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	_x_ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
_x_ building(s)	_x_ private	___ unoccupied	_x_ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	_x_ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	_x_ 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 427

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 588

city, town Easton state MD 21871

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-607

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	x original site
x good	___ ruins	x altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

The old Blades carpenter shop stands at 405 Talbot Street in the southern commercial district of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The single-story, three-bay frame building faces west with the gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1880, the single-story frame shop is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and it is sheathed by a combination of vinyl weatherboard and board and batten style siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The west (main) facade is a symmetrical three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking single-pane sash windows. The front door is a later replacement, and the sash have been replaced as well. Piercing the upper gable is a six-over-six sash window. The eaves are slightly extended.

The north wall of the main shop building is a blank wall surface, whereas the south wall is pierced by a pair of six-over-six sash windows. Attached to the back of the building is a shed roofed section with a brick stove stack rising through the roof against the rear wall of the main shop.

Inside, the building is notable for its pressed metal ceiling, and beaded board wainscoting trims the perimeter of the room.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-607

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	_x_ architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
_x_ 1800–1899	_x_ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B _x_C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state _x_local

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

The old Blades Carpenter shop is one of the few single story commercial buildings remaining along Talbot Street in the center of St. Michaels. The one-room plan building has been reworked with modern exterior materials, but the essential integrity of the building has not been comprimised. Inside, the front room retains beaded board wainscoting and a pressed metal ceiling.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

According to family traditions, Benjamin H. Blades erected this single-story building during the late nineteenth century and used it as a carpenter's shop. Blades purchased the Talbot Street lot in 1875 at the sale of Hugh Marshall's real estate.(81/458) Family ownership of this lot continued until 1930.(222/78) The Sanborn Insurance Company maps indicate the building has been used for various activities between 1891 and 1927. In 1891 the structure was employed as a residence, while ten years later a grocer was operating out of the building. In 1907 the building was vacant, but twenty years later, in 1927, a tinsmith had use of the site.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-607

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	3/7/88
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	(301) 651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PS-2746

YEAR: 1968 VOL: 427 PAGE: 588
FROM: Theodore Allen and Sarah J. Allen PRICE:
TO: Thomas H. and Catharine W. Eaton
NOTES Lot is between R. Spencer Higgins on north and Mrs. Cora Spencer on the south. Is 28'6" front running back 120 feet to Samuel R. Hunt (formerly George W. Tyler).
Conveyed to Allen by Herman E. Nixdorf 1961, 371/406.

YEAR: 1961 VOL: 371 PAGE: 406
FROM: Herman E. Nixdorf and Margaret A. Nixdorf PRICE:
TO: Theodore Allen and Sarah J. Allen
NOTES Same description.
Conveyed to Nixdorf by Norman T. Blades 1930, 222/78.

YEAR: 1930 VOL: 222 PAGE: 78
FROM: Norman T. Blades PRICE:
TO: Herman Nixdorf
NOTES Same description.
Conveyed to Norman Blades by John L. Blades, and others 1918, 178/357.

YEAR: 1918 VOL: 178 PAGE: 357
FROM: John L. Blades and Elizabeth P. Horney, executors PRICE:
TO: Norman T. Blades
NOTES By the will of Benjamin H. Blades 1907, 17/462 his son and daughter (John and Elizabeth) were to sell the property and apply the proceeeds to a mortgage that Benjamin had with Sallie S. S. Covey for $200.
The lot is part of the Hugh Marshall property conveyed to Benjamin H. Blades by Henry H. Goldsborough and William G. Roberts, trustees 1875, 81/458.
1918, 358 Norman T. Blades and Annie L. Blades to the Citizens' Bank is a mortgage for $125.

YEAR: 1875 VOL: 81 PAGE: 458
FROM: Henry H. Goldsborough and William G. Roberts PRICE: $232
TO: Benjamin H. Blades
NOTES High bid for this lot in the sale of Hugh Marshall's real estate. Begins at a line between John Wesley Gardner and Benjamin H. Blades; run with Gardner N 70 30' E 120 feet to G. H. Tyler's lot; with Tyler S 21 E 28 1/2' to William G. Fairbanks; 120 feet to Talbot Street; with street 28 1/2' to the beginning.

According to the 1877 Atlas, the lot was vacant in 1877.
The Sanborn maps have the following: 1891 - dwelling
1901 - grocery
1907 - vacant store
1927 - tin shop
According to descendents of Benjamin Blades, he built and used the structure on the lot as a carpenter's shop.

YEAR: 1876 VOL: 12 PAGE: 415
FROM: Chancery Record. PRICE:
TO:
NOTES Of the several properties of Hugh Marshall offered for sale, there were no bidders for the hotel and property 120' x 120' valued at $2500. Two lots, each approximately 30 by 120 feet were then split off, one going to John W. Gardner for $155, the other to Benjamin H. Blades for $232.
According to the Record of Chancery 12/415, Hugh Marshall had bought the "brick house" on 25 August 1855 at a sheriff's sale by Clement S. Clark for $2100. Clark erred and never made out a title.
In 1854, 65/428 Wrightson Jones, son of the original Wrightson Jones, obtained a mortgage from Harper, Fairbank, Harrington & Benson in which it was stated that the property was sold by Joseph Graham, sheriff to Elizabeth Jones, mother of the present Wrightson Jones. It was apparently a default on this mortgage which gave Hugh Marshall the opportunity to purchase.

YEAR: 1835 VOL: 52 PAGE: 85
FROM: Joseph Graham, Sheriff PRICE: $490
TO: Elizabeth Jones
NOTES This sale was made as a result of a judgement for p10,000 against Joshua A. Faulkner, Robert H. Goldsborough, Wrightson Jones, and Thomas Henrix. The sale included the farm (or shipyard) "Beverly" and a two-story brick house in St. Michaels. Elizabeth Jones, widow of Wrightson Jones, was the highest bidder for the brick house. The deed mentions a "brick house and lot and two unimproved lots". The brick house and lot are here interpreted to mean a lot 120' x 120'.

YEAR: 1816 VOL: 38 PAGE: 424
FROM: Samuel Tenant PRICE: $250
TO: Wrightson Jones
NOTES "Part of The Pentagone".Includes 3/4 of lot number 21, and lots 22 and 23. The description is as follows: beginning at the intersection of Talbot and Mulberry Streets S 23 45' E 180 feet to lot 24; N 66 15" W 120 feet; N 73 45'W 120'; S 56 15' W 30'; N 23 45' W 60' to Mulberru Street; with Mulberry Street S 66 15' W 90' to the beginning. Note: these courses and distances differ greatly from the original description of "The Polygon" due to the ridiculous way in which the tract was drawn up.

YEAR: 1809 VOL: PAGE:
FROM: Land Office PRICE:
TO: Samuel Tenant
NOTES This is a grant based on a resurvey of part of "Janes Progress" to Samuel Tenant. The land is stated to be "escheated" and the name of the tract is "The Polygon". Although Samuel Tenant was the surveyor of the new Town of St. Michaels (1804-1806) the survey is here signed by David D. Barrow, Surveyor, Talbot County.
By this grant Sam Tenant picked up 3/4 of lot 21 (of which 1/4 had been sold by James Braddock to Andrew Orem in 1781, 21/198). Legally, this lot should have gone to James Wignal in 1784, 21/417 when he bought "all" of James Braddock's unsold land from John Thompson. Sam would have noted this when he made his survey of St. Michaels in 1804. There is no record of Wignal selling this lot or lots 22 and 23.
A copy of Samuel Tenant's grant is attached.

YEAR: 1784 VOL: 21 PAGE: 415
FROM: John Dorgan PRICE: p20 sp
TO: James Wignal
NOTES Begins at a cedar post on the E side of the main road. No reason for Wignal's purchase of this land has been found and there is no record of his selling it. This must have been noted by Samuel Tenant during his survey of St. Michaels,1804-1806, and gave him the opportunity to acquire the lots as "escheated lands" in 1809. This 120-foot square was composed of lots 22 and 23 of James Braddock's original plan of St. Michaels, although the numbers were not mentioned in Braddock's deed to Dorgn. T-606 and T-607 are on lot 22.

YEAR: 1781 VOL: 21 PAGE: 231
FROM: James Braddock PRICE: p20 cm
TO: John Dorgan, Blacksmith
NOTES Part of Jane's Progress". Begins at a cedar post with 9 knotches on the E side of Market Street running thence N 66 15' E 120'; then S 23 45' E 120'; then S 66 15' W 120'to another post on Market Street; then N 23 45' W with Market Street to the beginning. The numbers of the lots were not mentioned here, although Braddock referred to them in almost all of his deeds. They were lots 22 and 23, of which lot number 22 is of concern here.

ICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chem-
s, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth
ushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles,
usses, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds.
e Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes,
nts, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper,
s, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil,
mps, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions care-
y Compounded.

HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Con-
ancer.

W. DHAN, Collector of Claims, Real Estate
ent and Conveyancer.

S DYOTT, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder,
op at St. Michael's.

ED H. HAMBLETON, Carpenter and Buil-
. Sh . Michael's.

S B N, Real Estate Agent and Col-
tor of

SPARKS, Justice of the Peace and Collector.

SMITHMAN, Boot and Shoemaker. First
ss work done on short notice. Repairing
omptly and neatly done.

S. HAMBLETON, Proprietor of "Ham-
ton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheel-
ighting, and all work appertaining thereto. In-
cate Machinery carefully repaired. Farming
nplements on hand, and made to order at short
otice. Carriage Repairing, Trimming and Painting
Specially.

WILLIAM CAULK, Physician and Surgeon.

JAMES SETH, Physician and Surgeon, Office
nd Residence near St. Michael's.

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

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

N T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Wil-
ams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table
arefully catered for. All the luxuries of the sea-
on. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges
moderate.

NIEL J. KILMAN, Carriage Maker and Dealer
n 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.

H. 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.

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

RRISON & 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.

OMAS ADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods,
Notion eries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

EMI. ARRISON, 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 Suegeon.

T-607
Blades Carpenter Shop
St. Michaels Quadrangle, 1942
Broad Creek
Hail Creek
Fairview Pt
Navy Pt
Parrott Pt
St Michaels
BALTIMORE AND EASTERN
Tank
BM 12
BM 7
BM 8
San Domingo
Spencer Creek
Little Neck Cr
Church Neck Point
Hopkins Point
BROAD C
RIVER
HUNTIN
33

FOR RENT

T-607
Blades Carpenter Shop
St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD
11/87 Paul Touart photographer
West elevation
Negative/MD Historical Trust

T-607
Blades Carpenter Shop
St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland
11/87 Paul Touart, photographer
Northwest elevation
Negative/MD Historical Trust