

T-630  
John H. Blades House  
St. Michaels  
private

c. 1868

The research assembled for this East Chestnut Street lot suggests the house was erected during the ownership of John H. Blades, who acquired the property in 1868. Blades' heirs sold the house in 1908 to Edward S. Harper for \$700, a transfer price that at the time would have included the value of a house this size. The mid nineteenth-century features of this side hall/parlor dwelling, and its location on the 1877 St. Michaels town map further support the estimated date. The house stands in a row of well preserved mid to late nineteenth-century frame dwellings and contributes to the period character of East Chestnut Street.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JOHN H. BLADES HOUSE

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 112 East Chestnut Street  not for publication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 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller

street & number 112 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 260

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 60

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-630

<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.

Historically known as the John H. Blades house, this two-story side hall/parlor frame house stands at 112 East Chestnut Street in the town of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story frame house faces north with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1870, the two-story, two-part frame house is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and it is sheathed with a combination of plain weatherboards and artificial siding. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Standing behind the house are single story frame storage or utility buildings.

The north (main) facade is an asymmetrical two-bay elevation with a side entrance and flanking six-over-six sash window. The four-panel front door is framed by a four-light transom and three-light sidelights. The adjacent window is flanked by louvered shutters. Stretching across the front of the house is a square post, shed roofed porch with sawn brackets and sawn balusters.

The second floor is pierced by two unevenly spaced six-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters as well. Trimming the cornice is a series of widely spaced brackets.

The west gable end is a plain weatherboard wall with slightly extended eaves. An interior end brick stack protrudes through the gable end. The east end is largely covered by the slightly shorter two-story, two-bay service wing that is lighted by six-over-six sash windows on each floor. Aside from an exterior brick stack that has been added to the gable end, the exterior details are similar to the main block. To the south a shed roof addition encloses a modern kitchen.

The south side of the main house is defined by a two-bay elevation as well with a side rear entrance and flanking six-over-six sash window. The rear door is topped by a three-light transom and sheltered by a shed roof hood.

The interior has been remodeled somewhat through the past twenty years. The stair, although altered, remains in the same location, and four-panel doors open into the various first and second floor rooms. A mid nineteenth-century post-and-lintel style mantel survives in the eastern two-story wing that is now used as the dining room.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-630

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:  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 H. Blades house stands in a well preserved row of mid to late nineteenth-century frame dwellings on East Chestnut Street. The two-story side hall parlor frame dwelling extends eastward by a slightly shorter two-story two-bay wing. Both sections appear to date from the same period and are finished with like materials. The house survives largely intact with many mid nineteenth-century finishes undisturbed. The house contributes to the distinctive period character of East Chestnut Street.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The research assembled for this East Chestnut Street lot ~~Dot~~ suggests the house was erected during the ownership of John H. Blades, who acquired the property in 1868.(75/16) Blades' heirs sold the house in 1908 to Edward S. Harper for \$700, a price that at that time would have included the value of the house.(153/86) The mid nineteenth-century features of the two-part dwelling, and its location on the 1877 St. Michaels town map further support the estimated date.



YEAR: 1944 VOL: 260 PAGE: 60  
FROM: Helen Wells Heppenstall and C. W. Heppenstall PRICE: \$2000  
TO: Mary R. Radcliffe and Charles W. Radcliffe  
NOTES Begins at the NE corner of the heirs of Charles S. Blades; run with  
Blades South 125 feet to an alley; with the North side of the alley East  
60 feet to the former Annie E. Radcliffe; then North 125 feet to the South  
side of Chestnut Street; with street West 60 feet to the beginning.  
Conveyed to Heppenstall by Reitz 1941, 250/271.

YEAR: 1941 VOL: 250 PAGE: 271  
FROM: Philip J. Reitz PRICE: \$1550  
TO: Helen Wells Heppenstall  
NOTES Same description.  
Conveyed to Reitz by Eastern Shore Trust Co. (Citizens' Bank of St. Michaels)  
1931, 227/239

YEAR: 1931 VOL: 227 PAGE: 239  
FROM: Eastern Shore Trust Co. (Citizens' Bank of St. Michaels) PRICE:  
TO: Philip J. Reitz and Sarah E. Reitz  
NOTES Same description.  
Conveyed to Eastern Shore Trust Co. by County Treasurer 1931, 227/238  
1931, 227/240 is mortgage for \$650 to Citizens' Bank

YEAR: 1931 VOL: 227 PAGE: 238  
FROM: Henry P. Turner, late Treasurer of Talbot County PRICE: \$210  
TO: Eastern Shore Trust Co. Trading as Citizens' Bank of St. Michaels  
NOTES Same description. Sold for default of taxes in the amount of \$15.45  
by Edward S. Harper.  
Conveyed to Harper by John H. Blades 1908, 153/86.

YEAR: 1908 VOL: 153 PAGE: 86  
FROM: Heirs of John H. Blades PRICE: \$700  
TO: Edward S. Harper  
NOTES Same description. Heirs of John H. Blades were: John H. Blades and Susan,  
Annie E. Radcliffe, Almira Rosella Blades, Mary Jerusha Mansfield and John T.  
Mansfield, Boax A. Blades and Sallie S. Blades.  
Conveyed to John H. Blades by William Gardiner and others 1868, 75/16.

YEAR: 1868 VOL: 75 PAGE: 16

FROM: William Gardiner and others\* PRICE: \$301

TO: John H. Blades

NOTES Begins at the NEcorner of Thomas Blades of Levin; run South 125 feet to Dr. John Miller; East 60 feet to Annie E. Blades; then North 125 feet to Chestnut Street; with the street West 60 feet to the beginning.

The "others" were: Julia A. Gardiner, Mary E. Blades, Louisa Blades, Aquila H. Greenfield, and Laura V. Greenfield. They were the heirs of Levin Blades, son of Levin Blades, Sr.

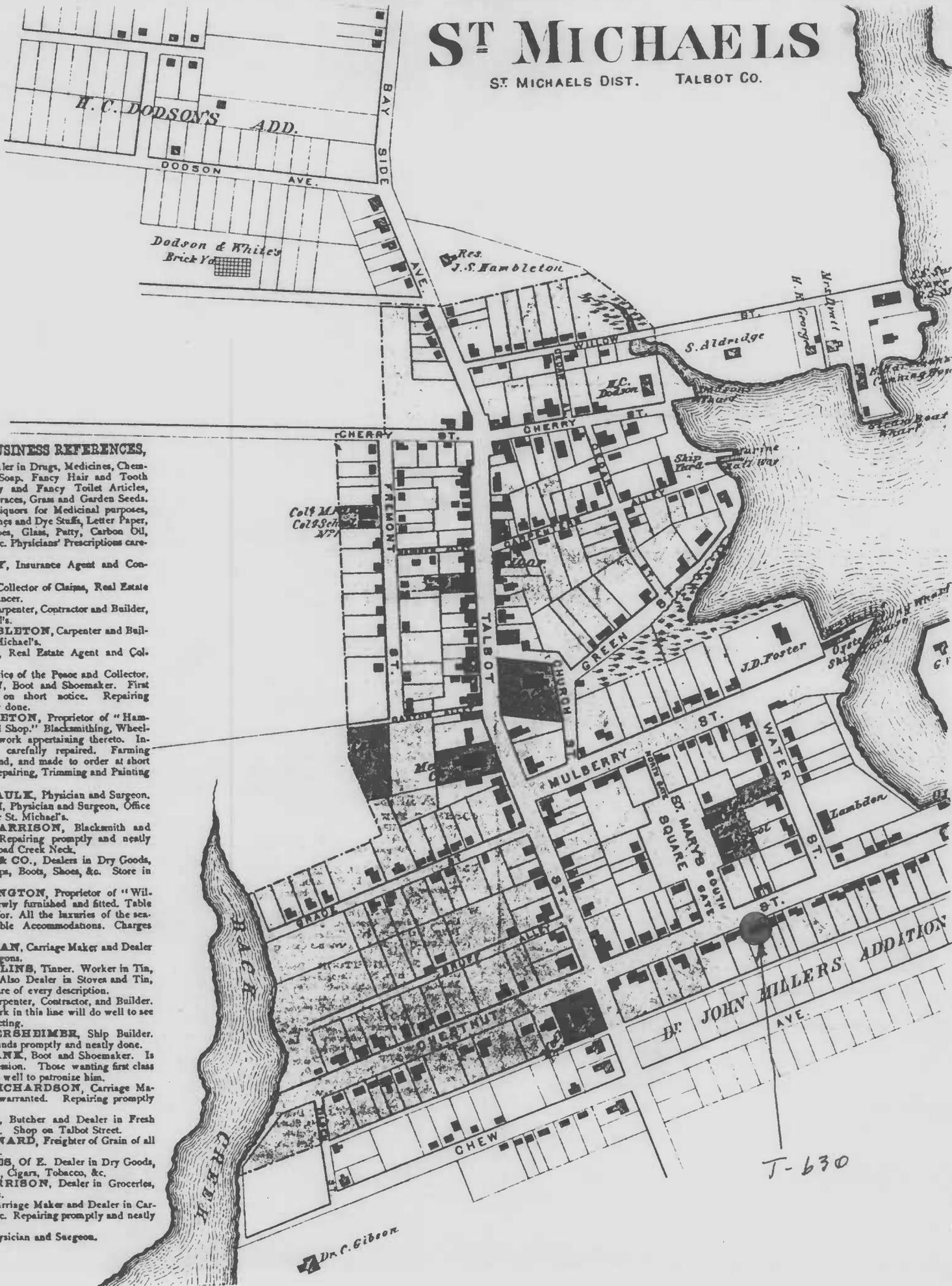
Levin Blades, Sr. died in 1840 and his real estate was divided by an agreement between his children finalised in 1841, 55/510. Under this agreement, Levin Blades was awarded "the house, lot, and premises where he now resides and also the sum of thirty dollars." The fact that Levin's heirs sell this house and lot is used as the basis for assuming that lot 67 (with a house) was that which was awarded to Levin Blades in 55/510.

No deed for the property to Levin Blades, Sr. was found. He probably acquired it from John Dorgin, Sr. before Dorgin's death about 1830.

The land was part of "Jane's Progress" which Dorgin obtained as a result of a suit in Chancery Court (1812, 36/291 and 1813, 36/288.

# ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.



## MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

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

**HADDAWAY**, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.

**W. DEAN**, Collector of Claims, Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer.

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

**ED H. HAMBLETON**, Carpenter and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

**S. BROWN**, Real Estate Agent and Collector of Claims.

**S. P. JAMES**, 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. In-icate 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 Carriage Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.

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

**N. T. HARRINGTON**, Proprietor of "Williams House." Newly furnished and fitted. Table carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the season. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges moderate.

**NIBL 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 BERGERSHEIMER**, Ship Builder. Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.

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

**ERISON & 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.

**ET. C. R. LEONARD**, Freighter of Grain of all kinds to any point.

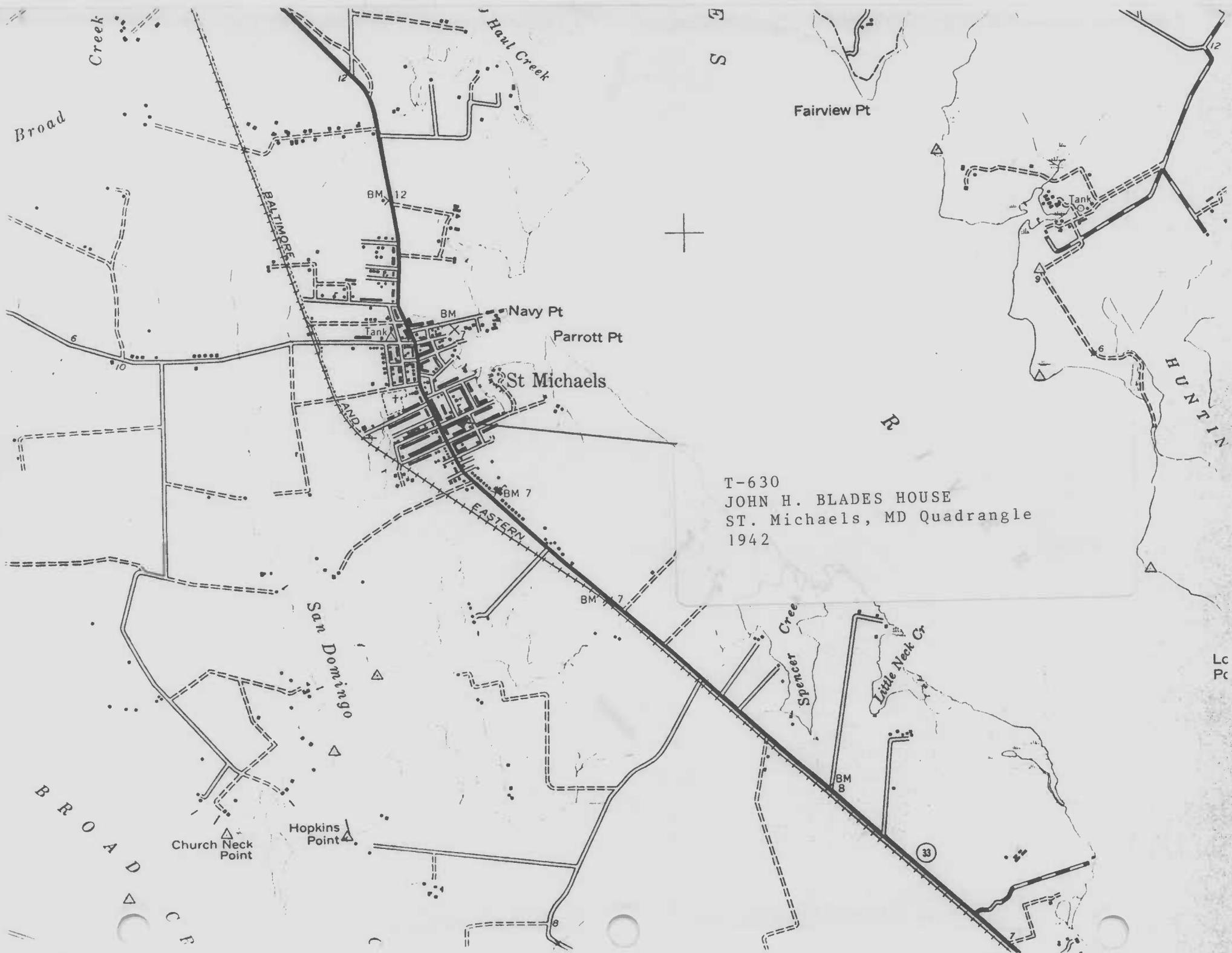
**MAS BLADES**, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

**EM HARRISON**, Dealer in Groceries, Confectionery, &c.

**KILMAN**, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

**DODSON** Physician and Surgeon.

T-630



T-630  
JOHN H. BLADES HOUSE  
ST. Michaels, MD Quadrangle  
1942

LC  
PC



T-630

JOHN H. BLADES HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

~~North~~west elevation

4/88, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



T-630

JOHN H. BLADES HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

North elevation

4/88, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



T-630

JOHN H. BLADES HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

~~North~~ elevation

4/88, Paul Touart, Photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust