T-694
Roberts-Harrison House
St. Michaels
Private

c. 1873 and earlier

A newspaper notice in the Easton Star pinpoints major construction on this site to the fall of 1873, shortly after Susan A. Harrison acquired this Mulberry Street property. She purchased the lot from Mary E. Roberts for $600, a sum that would indicate the property was improved at the time. It is likely that part of the Roberts house was incorporated in the rebuilt Harrison dwelling. The newspaper article related on October 7, 1873 that

> Alex. Hambleton has completed a house for P. T. Hambleton, corner of Talbot and Cherry streets, probably the largest house in town. He will then start on Miss S. A. Harrison's on Mulberry.

The property remained under the ownership of Susan A. Harrison until her death around 1907 when the house and lot were sold to Walter M. Sewell.

The Roberts-Harrison house represents another example of the two-story, two-part stepped frame dwellings erected in St. Michaels during the mid nineteenth century. The main block follows a side hall/parlor plan while a dining room wing extends to the west on a slightly shorter elevation.

Survey No. T-694

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic ROBERTS-HARRISON HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 205 Mulberry Street ___ not for publication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	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x 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 293

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 55

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-694

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 Roberts-Harrison house stands at 205 Mulberry Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, two-part frame dwelling faces south with the main gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1873, the two-story, two-part stepped frame dwelling is supported by a low brick foundation, and the house is sheathed with asbestos shingles. A layer of asphalt shingles covers the medium pitched gable roof.

The south (main) elevation of the side hall/parlor house includes a side entrance and flanking four-over-four sash windows that still retain their louvered shutters. A gabled hood shelters the front entrance which survives with a heavily molded four-panel front door, three-light sidelights, and a five-light transom. The second floor is illuminated by three unevenly spaced four-over-four sash windows.

Attached to the west gable end is a slightly shorter two-story, two-bay wing with four-over-four sash windows hung with louvered shutters on each floor. The roof to each section is trimmed with a boxed cornice and slightly extended eaves. Rising through the east gable end is an interior end brick stack, and a centrally located brick stove stack protrudes through the west wing. Extending to the north from the west wing is a single story kitchen.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

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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	___ 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 Roberts-Harrison house is another two-story, two-part frame dwelling with a stepped profile similar to dozens of other examples in St. Michaels. The main block, a side hall/parlor plan structure extends to the west with a slightly shorter two-story, two-bay dining room wing. To the north is a single story kitchen. Although this house is not distinctive for any specific exterior feature, it does retain period doors and sash windows and contributes to the nineteenth century character of Mulberry Street.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

A newspaper notice in the Easton Star pinpoints major construction on this site to the fall of 1873, shortly after Susan A. Harrison acquired this Mulberry Street property. She purchased the lot from Mary E. Roberts for $600, which suggests that improvements were located on the property.(79/177) It is likely that part of the Roberts house was incorporated in the rebuilt dwelling. The newspaper article related on October 7, 1873 that

> Alex. Hambleton has completed a house for P. T. Hambleton, corner of Talbot and Cherry streets, probably the largest house in town. He will then start on Miss S. A. Harrison's on Mulberry.

The property remained under the ownership of Susan A. Harrison until her death around 1907 when the house and lot were sold to Walter M. Sewell.(155/289)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-694

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 Historic St. Michaels-Bay Hundred date 10/30/89

street & number telephone

city or town St. Michaels state Md 21663

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: 1951 VOL: 293 PAGE: 55 PRICE:
FROM: Emma M. Sewell, widow
TO: Llewes P. Sewell and Mary Anne Sewell
NOTES: On the north side of Mulberry Street adjoiining on the east T. H. Kirby (now Warner) and on the west Joseph Hunt. Fronting 60 feet on Mulberry Street, extending back from said street to Church Cove.
Conveyed to Walter M. Sewell by Lucy E. Spraker 1909, 155/289.
Devised to Emma M. Sewell by Walter M. Sewell 1924, 20/485.
1951, 293/56 is a mortgage to the County Trust Co. for $1750.

YEAR: 1909 VOL: 155 PAGE: 289 PRICE: $1600
FROM: Lucy E. Spraker, Wm. J. Spraker, and Sarah L. Fairbank
TO: Walter M. Sewell
NOTES: Under the will of Susan A. Harrison the property was devised to Lucy Spraker (1903 - prob.1907) with a charge of $25 to be paid annually to Sarah L. Fairbank.
Conveyed to Susan A. Harrison by Mary E. Roberts 1873, 79/177.

YEAR: 1873 VOL: 79 PAGE: 177 PRICE: $600
FROM: Mary E. Roberts
TO: Susan A. Harrison
NOTES: Begins at a stone on the NW corner of lot #10 on Mulberry Street belonging to Maria Harrison; runs 60 feet with the street to lot #12 belonging to George E. Haddaway; then to Church Cove; with the cove to #10 and with #10 160 feet to the beginning. Lot #11 in Braddock's Square.
Conveyed by Joseph Hunt to Terence Dooris 1823, 43/360. Devised to Sarah Lee for life and to her 4 children by will of Anna Maria Hopkins. Eventually went to Mary E. Roberts, one of the 4 children.

Easton Star, 1873, October 7. Alex Hambleton has about completed a house for P. T. Hambleton, corner of Talbot and Cherry streets, probably the largest house in town. He will then start on MISS S. A. HARRISON'S ON MULBERRY.

YEAR: 1821 VOL: 43 PAGE: 360 PRICE: $45
FROM: Joseph Hunt
TO: Terence Dooris
NOTES: "Part of "Jane's Progress". Lot number 11.

A record of the history of this lot between this date and 1873 has not been found.

YEAR: 1821 VOL: 43 PAGE: 359 PRICE: $135
FROM: Richard Harrington, Trustee of the estate of Impey Dawson
TO: Joseph Hunt
NOTES: Jane's Progress. Lot numbedr 11. There is a separate statement in the deed: "together with the buildings and improvements thereon".

Joseph Hunt is not on the 1826 Tax List.
Impey Dawson is not on the 1817 or 1813 Tax Lists.

YEAR: 1801 VOL: 29 PAGE: 45 PRICE: p150
FROM: Robert Hay
TO: Impey Dawson
NOTES: Jane's Progress Lot number 11. 60 x 120. "one acre"!

Impey Dawson died 1817-1818. His property was offered for sale in the Easton Gazette, July, 1818 by Richard Harrington, Trustee. Impey ran the shipyard on the site of Longfellow's Restaurant.

On the Tax List for 1803, Impey Dawson is credited with 4 lots and 4 framed dwelling houses. One of the 4 lots is listed as having several out-buildings and is obviously Impey's home place. The other three houses are each valued at $25 and were probably used by the workers in the shipyard.

YEAR: 1793 VOL: 25 PAGE: 215 PRICE: p90 cm
FROM: Levin Mansfield
TO: Robert Hay
NOTES: Lot number 11.

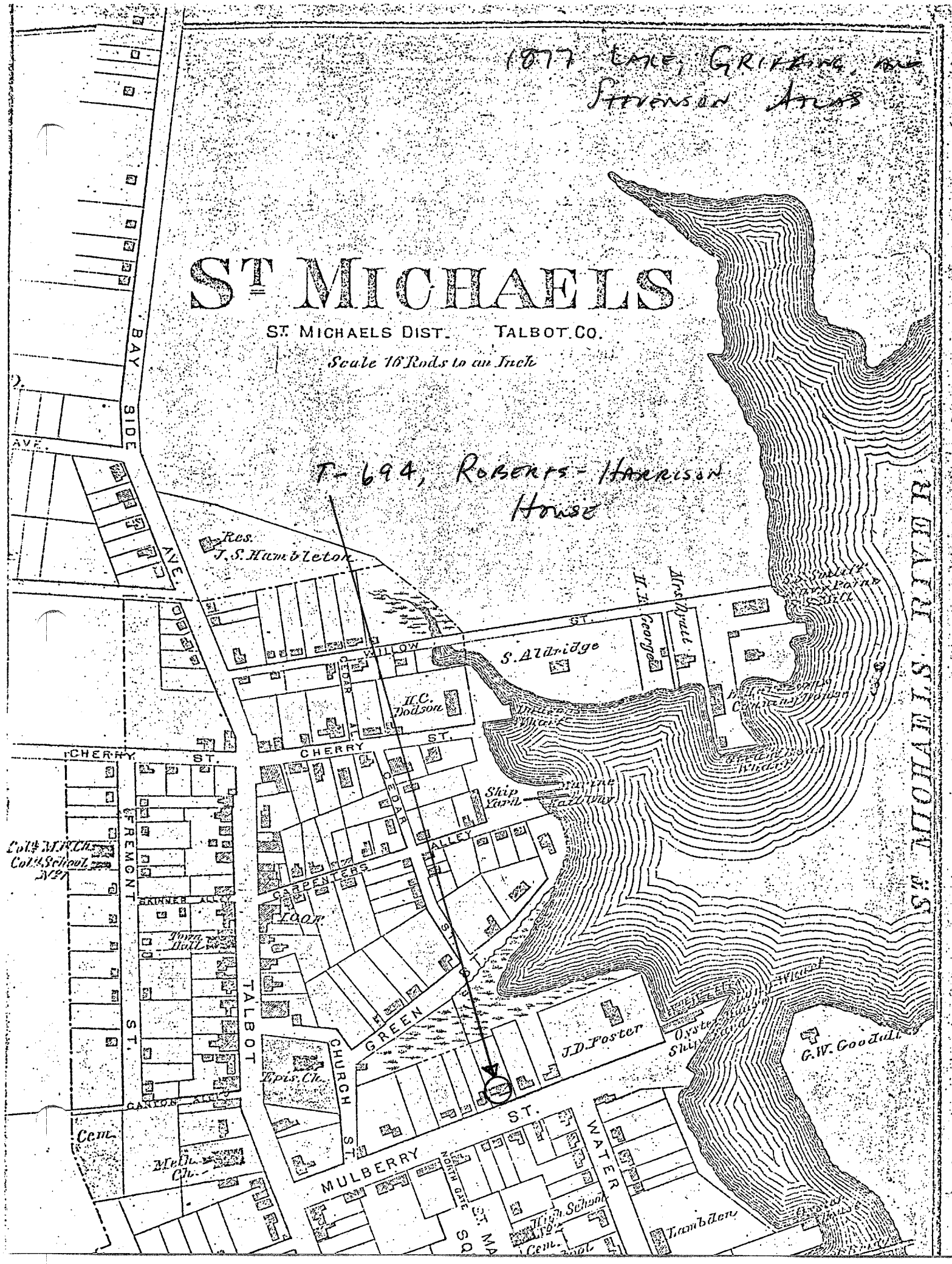
YEAR: VOL: PAGE: PRICE:
FROM: Joseph Boushell
TO: Levin Mansfield
NOTES:

No record of this deed (if one exists) was found in the Land Records. One deed, Boushell to Mansfield concerns Lot 42!

YEAR: 1786 VOL: 23 PAGE: 125 PRICE: p12 s10 specie
FROM: Lambert Robinson
TO: Joseph Boushell
NOTES: Lot #11.

YEAR: 1784 VOL: 22 PAGE: 79 PRICE: p17 sp
FROM: James Wignal
TO: Lambert Robinson
NOTES: Lot number 11. Sale also included lots 29 and 30.
Wignal was engaged in selling the lots which he, Wignal, had bought from John Thompson (1784, 21/413) in an attempt to recover for Gildart & Gawith of Liverpool. This is the first sale of this lot to an individual.

Lots 29 and 30 are over on St. Mary's Square and it looks as though Lambert Robinson was doing a little speculating!


1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
ST MICHAELS
ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.
Scale 16 Rods to an Inch
T-694, Roberts-Harrison House
BAY SIDE AVE.
Res. J. S. Hambleton
WILLOW ST.
S. Aldridge
H. H. George
Mrs. Pratt
H. C. Dodson
CHERRY ST.
CEDAR ALLEY
Ship Yard
Marine Railway
FREMONT ST.
Col'd M.P. Ch.
Col'd School No. 1
SKINNER ALLEY
CARPENTERS ALLEY
Loop
Town Hall
TALBOT ST.
GREEN ST.
CHURCH ST.
Epis. Ch.
CANTON ALLEY
Cem.
Meth. Ch.
MULBERRY ST.
NORTH GATE
ST. MA SQ
High School
Cem.
WATER
J. D. Foster
Oyster House
Ship Yard
G. W. Goodall
Lambden
ST. MICHAELS RIVER

T-694
ROBERTS-HARRISON HOUSE
ST. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942
Fairview Pt
Haul Creek
Broad
Creek
BALTIMORE
AND
EASTERN
BM 12
BM
Navy Pt
Parrott Pt
Tank
St Michaels
BM 7
BM 7
BM 8
RIVER
HUNTIN
San Domingo
Spencer Creek
Little Neck Cr
BROAD CR
Church Neck Point
Hopkins Point
33

FORD

T-694
ROBERTS-HARRISON HOUSE
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD
Southwest elevation
6/89, Paul Touart, photographer
Negative/MD Historical Trust