

T-717  
Mary Thomas House  
St. Michaels  
Private

c. 1860

The Mary Thomas house is a standard two-story, three-bay frame dwelling that follows a side hall/parlor plan. Undistinguished by any notable exterior feature, the house nevertheless contributes to the historic nature of Mulberry Street with its consistent height and fenestration with the neighboring houses.

This house is thought to incorporate at least part of the dwelling of Mary Thomas, which was standing on this lot in 1877 when her property was advertised in a local paper. The description of the property related, "It is improved by a single story Frame Dwelling and back buildings in fair repair, and a carpenter's shop on the corner of the lot next to Church street." Mary Thomas' ownership of the Mulberry Street lot dates to 1845 when she acquired part of the town property of John and Mary Thompson for \$97.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic MARY THOMAS HOUSE

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 103 Mulberry Street  not for publication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	
<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

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 400

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 523

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-717

<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.

The Mary Thomas house stands at 103 Mulberry Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces south with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1860, the two-story, side hall/parlor main block is supported by a low brick foundation, and the house is sheathed with a layer of asbestos shingles. A layer of asphalt shingles covers the steeply pitched gable roof. Attached to the back of the house is a frame wing.

The south (main) elevation is a three-bay facade with a side entrance sheltered by a gable roofed hood supported on stick brackets. Six-over-six sash windows hung with louvered shutters fill the two bays to the east. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows which also retain louvered shutters. The cornice is boxed.

The gable end are marked by six-over-six sash windows on each floor, and the roof is finished with a slightly extended eave with short returns at the base. Protruding through the east gable end is a narrow brick stove chimney.

The interior of the house was not seen.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-717

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### 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 Mary Thomas house is a standard two-story three-bay frame dwelling that follows a side hall/parlor plan. Undistinguished by any notable exterior feature, the house nevertheless contributes to the historic nature of Mulberry Street with its consistent height and fenestration with the neighboring houses.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

This two-story frame dwelling is thought to be the residence of Mary Thomas, who acquired possession to this Mulberry Street lot as early as 1845, when she purchased for \$97 the parcel mentioned as #3 at the public sale of John and Mary Thompson. At the time the property was unimproved. Thirty-two years later a chancery court case ensued in an effort to settle the property of Mary Thomas. An advertisement in the local paper stated, "It is improved by a single story Frame Dwelling and back buildings in fair repair, and a carpenter's shop on the corner of the lot next to Church street." It is not known for sure if the single story house of Mary Thomas was later incorporated into the present two-story dwelling that stands on the lot today.



MARY THOMAS' HOUSE

T-717

YEAR: 1965 VOL: 400 PAGE: 523 PRICE:  
FROM: Edward Walter Colborn and Beverly Palmore Colborn  
TO: John Lee Dunlap, III. and Margaret Voshell Dunlap  
NOTES: Begins at the SE corner of John Q. Larrimore, run N with Larrimore 43'3";  
then NE 6'; then N with Larrimore 70'5"; then W with Larrimore 12'7" to Church  
Street; then N with Church Street 25'7" to Commissioners of St. Michaels; then E  
with said lot 54'8" to Thomas E. Burns; then S with Burns 146 ' to Mulberry  
Street; W with Mulberry 52'10" to the beginning.  
This is end of a title clearance.  
Conveyed to Colborn by Dunlap 1965, 400/521

YEAR: 1965 VOL: 400 PAGE: 521 PRICE:  
FROM: John Lee Dunlap, III. and M. V. Dunlap (formerly Margaret J. Voshell)  
TO: Beverly Palmore Colborn  
NOTES: Title clearance.  
Conveyed to Dunlap and Voshell by Romaine 1964, 394/472.

YEAR: 1964 VOL: 394 PAGE: 472 PRICE: \$9,500ovc  
FROM: Edward H. Romaine and Edna C. Romaine  
TO: John Lee Dunlap, III. and Margaret J. Voshell  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Romaine by Jones 1962, 376/23

YEAR: 1962 VOL: 376 PAGE: 23 PRICE:  
FROM: Vera B. Jones, widow  
TO: Edward H. and Edna C. Romaine  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Jones by Roe 1950, 286/179.

YEAR: 1950 VOL: 286 PAGE: 179 PRICE:  
FROM: Lawrence E. Roe and Dorothy S. Roe  
TO: William T. Jones and Vera B. Jones  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Roe by Tarbert 1948, 278/414.

YEAR: 1948 VOL: 278 PAGE: 414 PRICE:  
FROM: Ruth C. Tarbert, divorced  
TO: Lawrence E. Roe and Dorothy S. Roe  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Tarbert by Cunningham 1946, 269/261  
1948, 278/415 is a mortgage for \$5000 to St. Michaels Bank.

YEAR: 1946 VOL: 269 PAGE: 261 PRICE:  
FROM: Helen V. Cunningham, divorced  
TO: Ruth C. Tarbert  
NOTES: Same description. There is a mortgage for \$3000.  
Conveyed to Cunningham by Marshall, 1946, 268/559.

YEAR: 1946 VOL: 268 PAGE: 559 PRICE:  
FROM: J. Norman Marshall and Ethel D. Marshall  
TO: Helen V. Cunningham  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to Marshall by County Trust Co. 1939, 245/393.  
1946, 268/561 is mortgage for \$3000 to Talbot Bank.

YEAR: 1939 VOL: 245 PAGE: 393 PRICE:  
FROM: County Trust Co.  
TO: J. Norman Marshall and Ethel D. Marshall  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed to County Trust Co. by Granger 1939, 244/476.

YEAR: 1939 VOL: 244 PAGE: 476 PRICE:  
FROM: Harry O. Granger and others  
TO: County Trust Co.  
NOTES: Same description.  
Conveyed by Thomas B. Jones to George L. Granger and Eleanor Granger 1920,  
186/378. George died 1925; property went to Eleanor, then to her heirs.

YEAR: 1920 VOL: 186 PAGE: 378 PRICE: \$1500  
FROM: Thomas B. Jones  
TO: George L. Granger and Eleanore Granger  
NOTES: Same decription.  
Conveyed to Jones by Thomas Baker, atty. 1906, 148/296.

YEAR: 1906 VOL: 148 PAGE: 296 PRICE: \$650  
FROM: Thomas B. Baker, atty. for Annie M. Collins (and 10 others)  
TO: Thomas B. Jones  
NOTES: Same description. The grantors are the heirs of Johanna Collins.  
Same description.  
Part of the lot which Johanna Collins obtained from Joshua W. Bryant, trustee  
1878, 85/41.  
1906, 148/298 is mortgage for \$400.  
This deed erects the 52'10"-front lot as it is today.

YEAR: 1878 VOL: 85 PAGE: 41 PRICE: \$505

FROM: Joshua W. Bryant, trustee

TO: Johanna Collins

NOTES: The lot is 60 feet on Mulberry Street, lying west of and adjoining Lot #1 sold to James Benson and east of Lot #3 sold to Edward Harrison. It is 146 feet deep and is improved by a dwelling house.

Bryant is disposing of the property in accordance with a Circuit Court decree of 6 Feb 1877 in the Case, Martha A. Benson vs Frances Thomas and others.

YEAR: 1879 VOL: 15 PAGE: 297 PRICE:

FROM: Circuit Court Record, Case Martha A. Benson vs heirs of Mary Thomas

TO: Decree dated 6 February 1877.

NOTES: In 1842, a court-ordered Public Sale disposed of the real estate of John and Mary Thompson. Martha Benson stated that she gave a friend, Mary Thomas the money to bid in one of the lots in the sale for her, but the fact was to be kept secret. Mary Thomas bought the lot, 130 feet on Mulberry Street, for \$97.

About 1874, Mary Thomas died intestate leaving heirs who claimed no knowledge of Mary's dealing with Martha Benson. Martha sued to be declared the sole owner of the lot. The Court disallowed Martha's claim but ordered the property sold.

The trustee, Joshua W. Bryant divided the lot into three parts: #1. a 30-foot lot on the east; #2. a 60 foot lot in the middle; #3. a 38 foot lot extending to Church Street.

Johanna Collins bought lot #2 (improved by a dwelling house) for \$505. She also bought lot #3 from Edward Harrison, thus owning a total of 98 feet on Mulberry Street.

YEAR: 1845 VOL: 58 PAGE: 414 PRICE: \$97

FROM: Samuel Hambleton, Jr., trustee

TO: Mary Thomas

NOTES: The parcel mentioned as #3 at the Public Sale of the real estate of John and Mary Thompson. It consisted of 130 - 135 feet on Mulberry Street extending back 146 feet more or less to the marsh of Church Cove. Sixty feet of the lot comprised Lot number 7 of James Braddock's plat of St. Michaels (lost) and 75 feet comprised lot number 6, created by the surveyor at the time of the survey of the Town in 1804-1806. Apparently, lot number six was considered an integral part of John Thompson's lot number 7.

By the deed, Mary Thomas bought lot #2 as an "unimproved lot". In the advertisement of the sale it is described as having a "very old brick building". The brick structure had been mentioned as early as the 1783 Tax Assessment as a "60 foot brick house". It may have been torn down during the two years between the sale and when the deed was written and recorded.

YEAR: 1784 VOL: 21 PAGE: 413 PRICE: p500 sp

FROM: James Wignal

TO: John Thompson

NOTES: In 1782, under the terms of James Braddock's will, John Thompson inherited all of Braddock's unsold land (including lot #7). In 1784, Thompson (under pressure ?) sold James Wignal all that he had inherited. He immediately bought back all of the land south of the main road and lots 14 (the "shipyard") and #7 which are specifically mentioned in the deed.

Lot number #7, described as "a corner lot on Mulberry Street", lost this distinction when the 1804 survey of the town created lot number 6 between #7 and Church Street. This apparently made little difference, as #6 was included with #7 in Thompson's estate.

The land was part of "Jane's Progress" bought by James Braddock from the estate of Philip Wetheral 1779, 21/66.

property will be surveyed and plat of the whole or such lots it may be divided into exhibit  
day of sale. The terms of sale are one hundred dollars in cash on the day of sale  
and in six twelve and eighteen months with bond and approved, bearing interest  
the day of sale. On the payment of the whole purchase money, and not before, the  
I will convey the property free, clear and discharged, of all claims of John Thompson  
Mary Thompson dec<sup>d</sup> or those claiming by, through or under them or either of them.

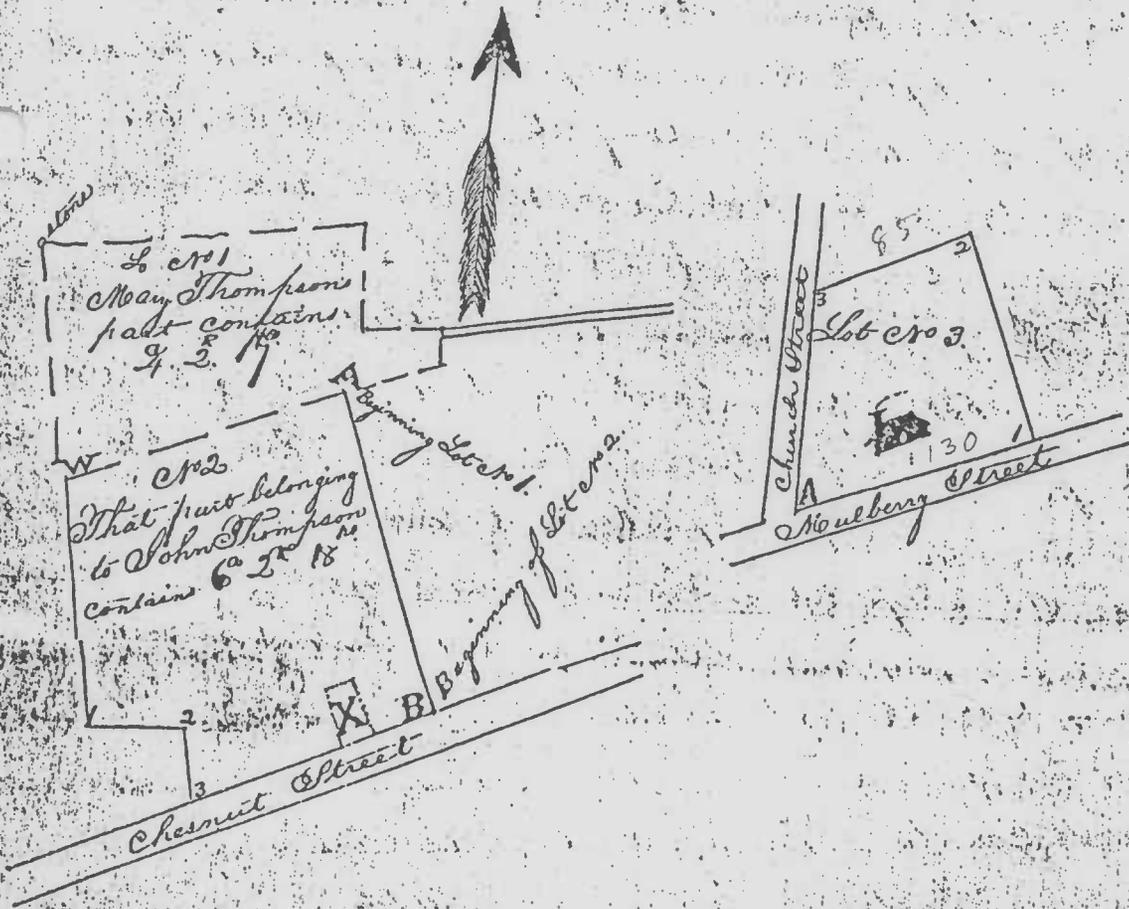
Sam. Hambleton Jr. Esq. Trustee

To A. Graham Esq.

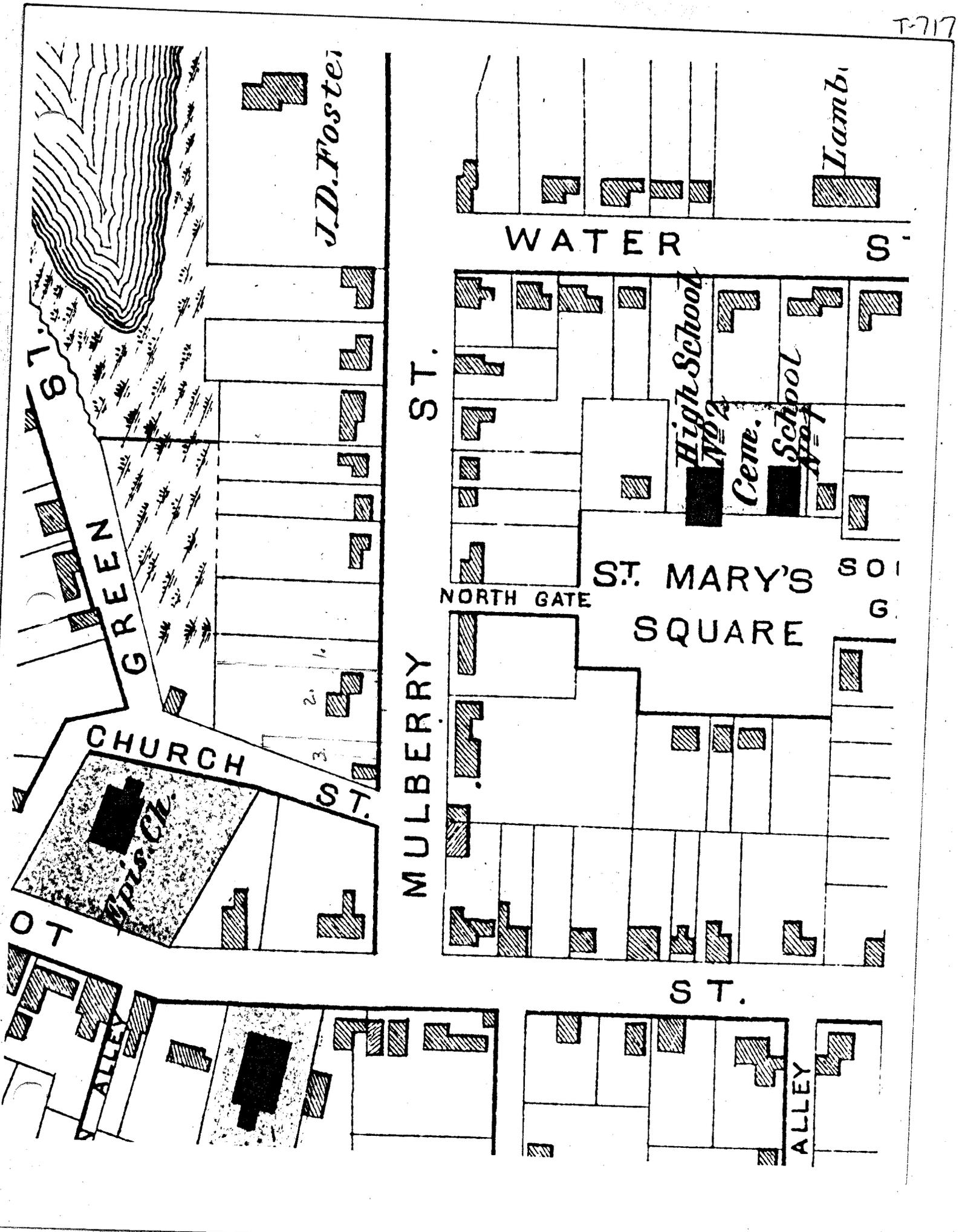
here 25, Adv. Public sale real Estate of Thompson 3 pp. Lt #3.75

herely Certify that the annexed advertisement of the sale of John and Mary Thomp  
and has been published for three successive weeks in the Eastern Gazette.

A. Graham



County to wit: I do hereby certify that by the direction of Saml Hambleton Jr Esq  
for the sale of Mary Thompson and John Thompson real estate I have surveyed an  
shown the same as follows Lot No. 1 is Mary Thompson's Land as per Deed from Joseph  
and is bounded as follows Beginning at the letter A



J.D. Foster

Lamb.

WATER ST.

S

MULBERRY ST.

High School  
No. 2

Cem.  
No. 1

School  
No. 1

NORTH GATE

ST. MARY'S  
SQUARE

S  
G

GREEN CHURCH ST.

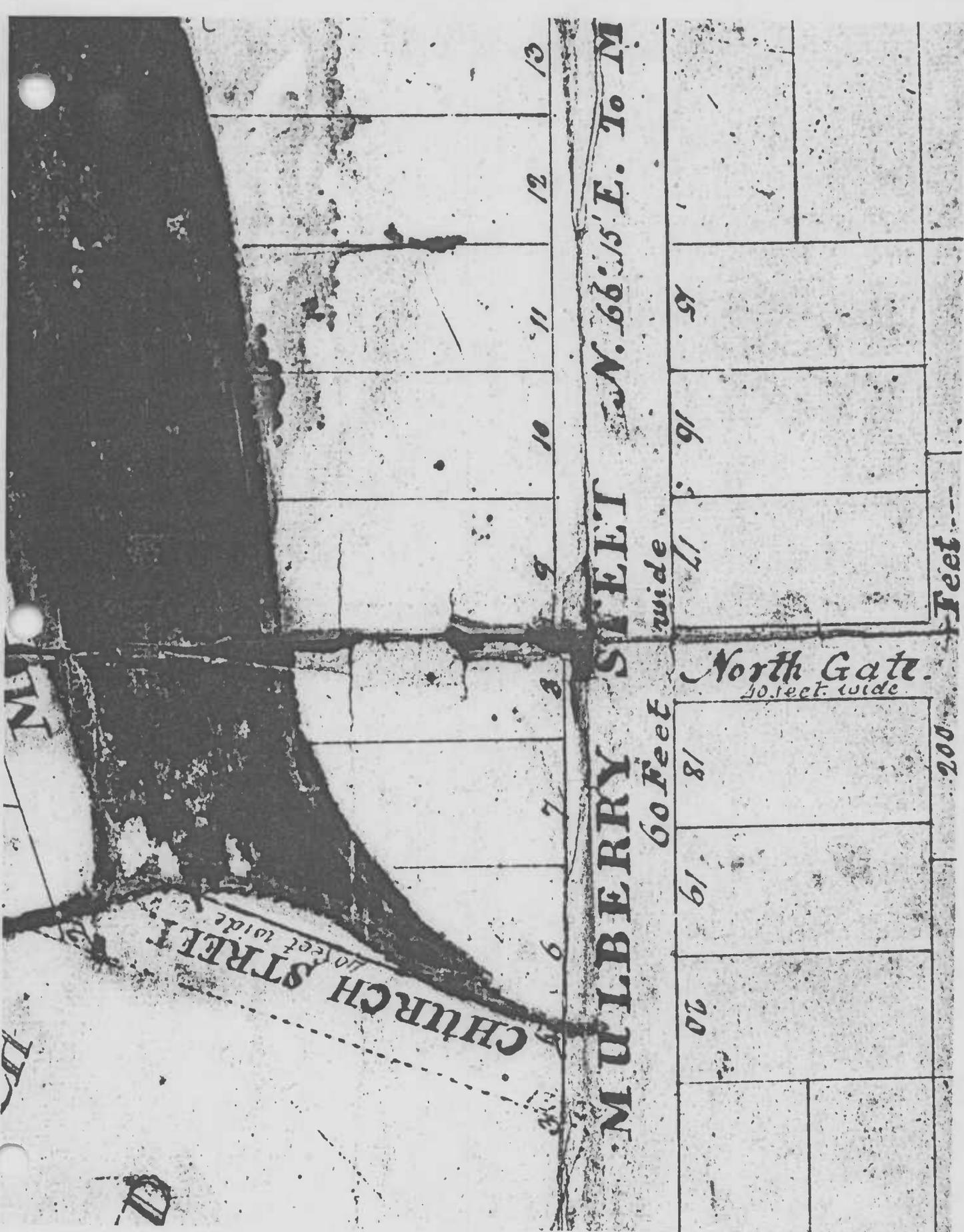
ALLEY

MULBERRY ST.

ALLEY

ALLEY

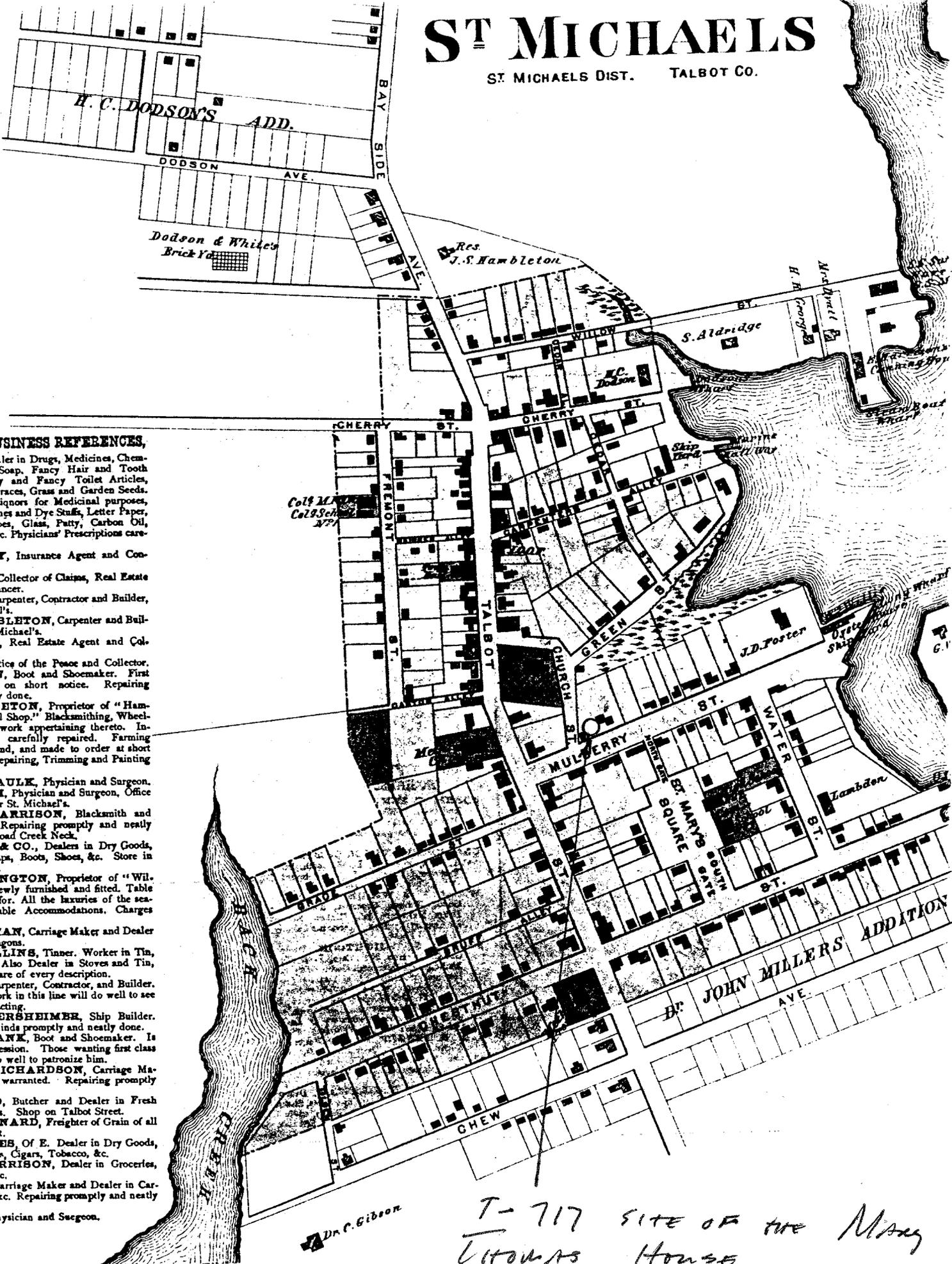
Epis. Ch.





# ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.



## ST. MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- DODSON**, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, Corsets, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds. Fine Wines and Liqueurs for Medicinal purposes, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, Envelopes, 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.
- EDYOTT**, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.
- ED H. HAMBLETON**, Carpenter and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.
- EDWARDSON**, Real Estate Agent and Collector of
- SPARSHAW**, 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. Industrial 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 Wagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.
- W. 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.
- NIEL 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.
- F. BLADES**, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.
- SEPH HERGENSHEIMER**, 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.
- PT. C. R. LEONARD**, Freightier of Grain of all kinds to any point.
- OMAS BLADES**, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Cottons, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.
- EMILY HARRISON**, Dealer in Groceries, Confectionery, &c.
- S. KILMON**, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.
- A. DODSON** Physician and Surgeon.

T-717 SITE OF the Mary Thomas House



T-717  
MARY THOMAS HOUSE  
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle  
1942

Broad

Creek

Haul Creek

Fairview Pt

BALTIMORE

BM 12

BM

Navy Pt

Parrott Pt

St Michaels

BM 7

EASTERN

BM 7

San Domingo

Spencer Creek

Little Neck Cr

B R O A D  
C R

Church Neck Point

Hopkins Point

BM B

33

HUNTIN

Lc  
Pc



T-717

MARY THOMAS HOUSE

South elevation

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

5/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/Md Historical Trust