T-723 c. 1860
Arianna Sears House
St. Michaels
Private

The Arianna Sears house, known as "Hotel Storey" around 1900, is a distinctive two-story gable front frame dwelling located on the south side of Cherry Street in norther St. Michaels. The side hall/double-pile dwelling appears to have been erected in stages, beginning around 1860 with the two-story gable front main house. Although the house is currently covered with vinyl siding, it survives with several significant features including the standing seam tin roof, period porches, and original sash windows with louvered shutters.

The research on this lot does not provided conclusive information on when this house was initially erected. An 1850 transfer between William Henry Harrison and Sarah A. Thompson refers to "all that messuage or tenement" but it is uncertain whether this clause refers to the current improvements. From the exterior architectural features, it appears the house may have been erected during the ownership of Arianna Sears, who held title to the property from 1857 to 1874. In 1874 Arianna Sears transferred the property to her daughters, Mary True Storey and Anna Catherine Storey. While the sisters held title, the house was used evidently as a hotel. The 1901 Sanborn Insurance map of St. Michaels indicates "Hotel Story" on this site. In 1907 Anna Storey sold the property to Esther Valliant.

Survey No. T-723

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic ARIANNA SEARS HOUSE, "HOTEL STOREY"

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 104 Cherry Street ____ not for publication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 379

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 374

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-723

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 Arianna Sears house stands at 104 Cherry Street in the northern residential district of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story ell-shaped frame house faces north with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Estimated to date to 1860 with additions attached during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this two-story ell-shaped frame dwelling is supported by a low brick foundation, and it is sheathed with a layer of artificial weatherboard siding. The low pitched gable roofs are covered with standing seam tin. Attached to the west side of the main block is two-story wing, and a two-story service wing extends to the back. From an exterior analysis the house appears to have been built in at least two principal stages with the main gable front house comprising the original dwelling.

The north (main) elevation is two-story, gable front, three-bay facade with a side entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The paneled front door is topped by a multi-pane transom, and the adjacent windows are hung with louvered shutters. Sheltering the first floor is a chamfered post porch with simple sawn brackets and a sawn baluster handrail. The hip roof of the porch survives with a seamed tin sheathing. Defining the second floor are three evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows also hung with louvered shutters. The front outside corners of the main block are fitted with broad corner pilasters that rise to the short returns of the slightly extended eave. A small louvered vent is fixed in the upper gable.

The west side is partially covered by the two-story, two-bay frame wing. A single six-over-six sash window marks the first floor under the shed roofed porch, while two six-over-six sash windows light the second floor. Each window retains its louvered shutters.

The east side of the main block is dominated by a new exterior brick chimney which rises between first and second floor six-over-six sash windows.

Attached to the back of the house is a two-story service wing.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-723

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 Arianna Sears house, known as Hotel Storey around 1900, is a distinctive two-story gable front frame dwelling located on the south side of Cherry Street in northern St. Michaels. The side hall/double-pile dwelling appears to have been erected around 1860 with additions attached at later times. An interior inspection would reveal approximately when the later additions were made. Although the house is currently covered with a layer of vinyl siding it survives with several significant features including the standing seam tin roof, period porches, and original sash windows with louvered shutters.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The research on this lot does not provide conclusive information on when this house was initially erected. An 1850 transfer between William Henry Harrison and Sarah A. Thompson refers to "all that messuage or tenement" but it is uncertain whether this clause refers to the current improvements. From the exterior architectural features, it appears the house may have been erected during the ownership of Arianna Sears, who held title to the Cherry Street lot from 1857 to 1874. (See 80/141) In 1874 Arianna Sears transferred the property to her daughters, Mary True Storey and Anna Catherine Storey. While the two sisters held the title, the house was evidently used as a hotel. The 1901 Sanborn Insurance map of St. Michaels indicates "Hotel Story" at this location. In 1907 Anna Storey sold the property to Esther Valliant.(148/398)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-723

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	11/17/89
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	301-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	MD 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

ARIANNA SEARS HOUSE, HOTEL STOREY

T-723

YEAR: 1962 VOL: 379 PAGE: 374 PRICE: $15,750
FROM: Jon Beresford Emack and Edward Franklin Emack*
TO: J. Orem Gardner and Dorothy B. Gardner
NOTES: *Exectors of will of Margaret E. Essig who died May 12, 1961. Will 31/490
This is leashold deed. Bounded on W by M. V. George (formerly Thomas J. Jefferson); on E by John W. G. Porter; on S by Andrew J. Barnett (formerly Pillip Willey); with a front of 54 1/2 feet and 116' deep on W and 106' on E.
Lease conveyed to Essig by Jesse 1953, 302/365.
Subject to a lease of $6 per year to the legal representatives of William H. Harrison by virtue of an original lease from William H. Harrison to Sarah A. Thompson 1850, 62/405.

YEAR: 1953 VOL: 302 PAGE: 365 PRICE:
FROM: Laura D. Jesse
TO: Margaret E. Essig
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed to Jesse by Valliant 1920, 187/218 plus conirmatory deed.
Free and clear of two judgements of St. Michaels Bank against Wm. H. Jesse and Laura D. Jesse 1943, Judgements 4/129.

YEAR: 1920 VOL: 187 PAGE: 218 PRICE: $2000
FROM: Ethel A. Valliant, et vir
TO: Laura D. Jesse
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed to Ethel A. Valliant by Valliant 1918, 181/175.

YEAR: 1918 VOL: 181 PAGE: 175 PRICE:
FROM: Esther Valliant and John Valliant
TO: Ethel A. Valliant
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed to Valliant by Storey 1907, 148/398.

YEAR: 1907 VOL: 148 PAGE: 398 PRICE: $800
FROM: Anna C. Storey
TO: Esther Valliant
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed to Storey by Arianna Sears 1874, 80/142.
1907, 148/399 is a mortgage for $425 to the St. Michaels Bank.

YEAR: 1874 VOL: 80 PAGE: 142 PRICE: *
FROM: Arianna Sears
TO: Mary True Storey and Anna Catharine Storey
NOTES: The consideration was for "natural love and affection" for her daughters.
Bounded on N by Cherry Street; on E by William H. Harrison; on S by Thomas Willey; on the W by Thomas James Jefferson.
Conveyed to Sears by Lowe 1857, 80/141.

The Sanborn Map for 1901 shows this building as the "Hotel Story" (sic).

YEAR: 1857 VOL: 80 PAGE: 141 PRICE:
FROM: William H. Lowe
TO: Arianna Sears
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed to Lowe by Thompson 1851, 64/27.

YEAR: 1851 VOL: 64 PAGE: 27 PRICE:
FROM: Absalom C. C. Thompson and Sarah A. Thompson
TO: William W. Lowe
NOTES: Same description.
Conveyed to Sarah A. Thompson by Harrison 1850, 62/405.

YEAR: 1850 VOL: 62 PAGE: 405 PRICE: lease
FROM: William H. Harrison
TO: Sarah A. Thompson
NOTES: The deed reads "all that messuage or tenement". Apparently there was a building on the site.
This is the first deed for this lot. It uses the same description but the lot is 116' x 58' x 106' x 54' frontage.
For the history of the lot before this deed see the attached summary.

T-721, T-723, T-724 BEFORE 1848

The lots are part of a 50-acre tract called "Stopper" patented Christopher Stauper in 1668. "Stopper" was declared escheated, resurveyed , and renamed "Joseph's Lot" by Joseph Harrison in 1741. In the resurvey, it was reduced to 31 acres because of earlier overlapping patents. "Harrison's Square" of the St. Michaels survey of 1804 consists almost entirely of "Joseph's Lot", owned by the Harrisons.

From patentee Joseph Harrison (1698-1755) the land descended to Thomas Harrison (1734-1801). He made the first sub-division of the tract when he leased a lot at the foot of Cherry Street to Robert Dodson in 1784.

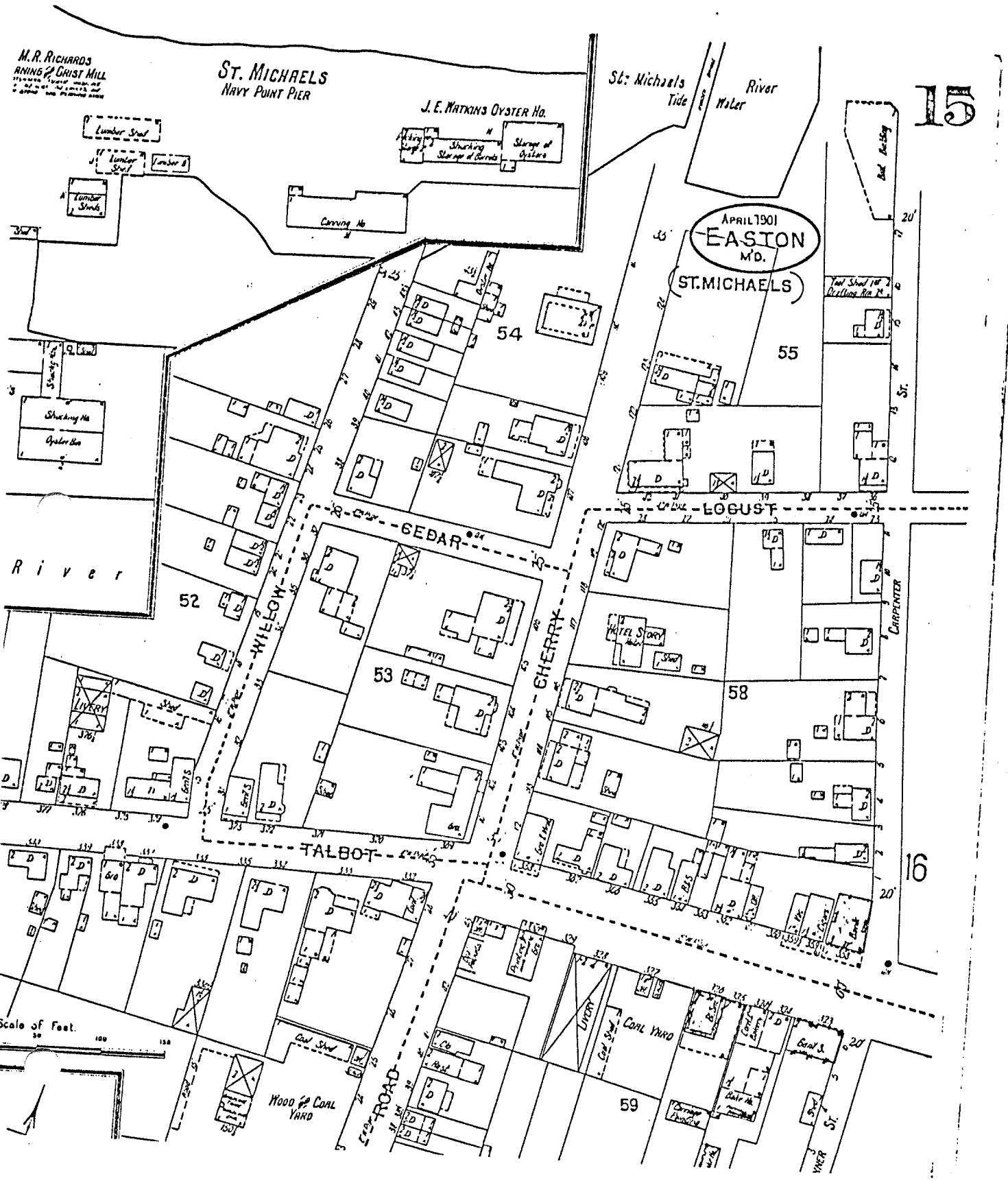
On the death of Thomas Harrison the property went to his son Joseph (1756-1818). In 1802, Joseph's brother Samuel Harrison (1777-1837) bought from Joseph a block roughly 90 feet wide extending from Talbot Street to the water. It included thhe future site of Samuel's steam mill (T-561), an existing brick house (T-265), and the future sites of T-271, T-556, T-558, T-721, T-723, and T-724.

Samuel Harrison built his steam mill at the foot of Cherry Street in 1818. He leased a 60-foot square lot on the corner of Cherry and Talbot to Thomas Auld in 1834, and he still owned the brickhouse on the corner of Locust and Cherry Streets (built 1798-1799 by Thomas or Joseph Harrison). The remainder of the property was probably undeveloped.

Samuel Harrison died in 1837. He devised "Canton Farm" (Crooked Intention) to his nephew Alexander Bradford Harrison. The metes and bounds of "Canton" were stated to be in accordance with a resurvey made by Samuel in 1807. This survey has not been seen but it is assumed that the vacant lots on Cherry Street were included with "Canton Farm". This assumption is based on the fact that the lots were not specifically mentioned in the will, either as a bequest or among the properties which were to be sold by John Leeds Kerr.

Alexander B. Harrison died in 1841 and by his will left "Canton" to his son Samuel A. Harrison. His daughter Emily Harrison (wife of William Henry Harrison) received "houses and lots in St. Michaels not specifically mentioned elsewhere in the will". It is assumed here that the lots on Cherry Street were among those "not specifically mentioned" left to Emily Harrison. This assumption is supported by the statement in Emily's deed for T-721 which mentions that she received the property by her father's will. Although the statement regarding the will is only made once, all of the other undeveloped lots in the block purchased by Samuel Harrison were leased by Emily Harrison or by her husband, William Henry Harrison between 1848 and 1863. The mention of the will is made in the sale of the fee rights to T-721 made by Emily in 1884.

T-723

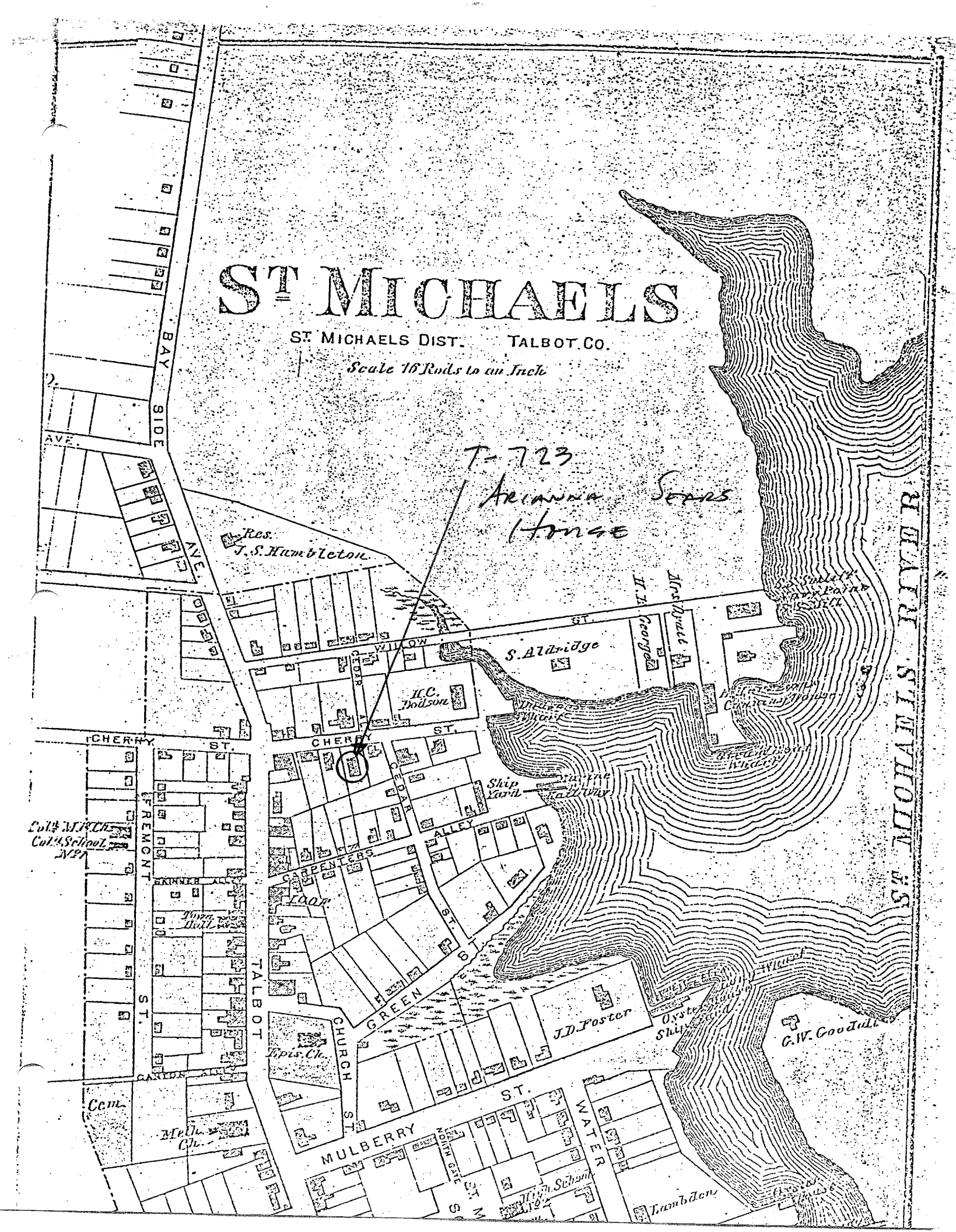

M. R. RICHARDS
ST. MICHAELS
NAVY POINT PIER
J. E. WATKINS OYSTER HO.
St. Michaels River
Tide Water
15
APRIL 1901
EASTON
MD.
(ST. MICHAELS)
54
55
52
53
58
59
16
CEDAR
LOCUST
WILLOW
CHERRY
TALBOT
CARPENTER
ROAD
River
HOTEL STORY
LIVERY
COAL YARD
WOOD & COAL YARD
Scale of Feet.

T-723

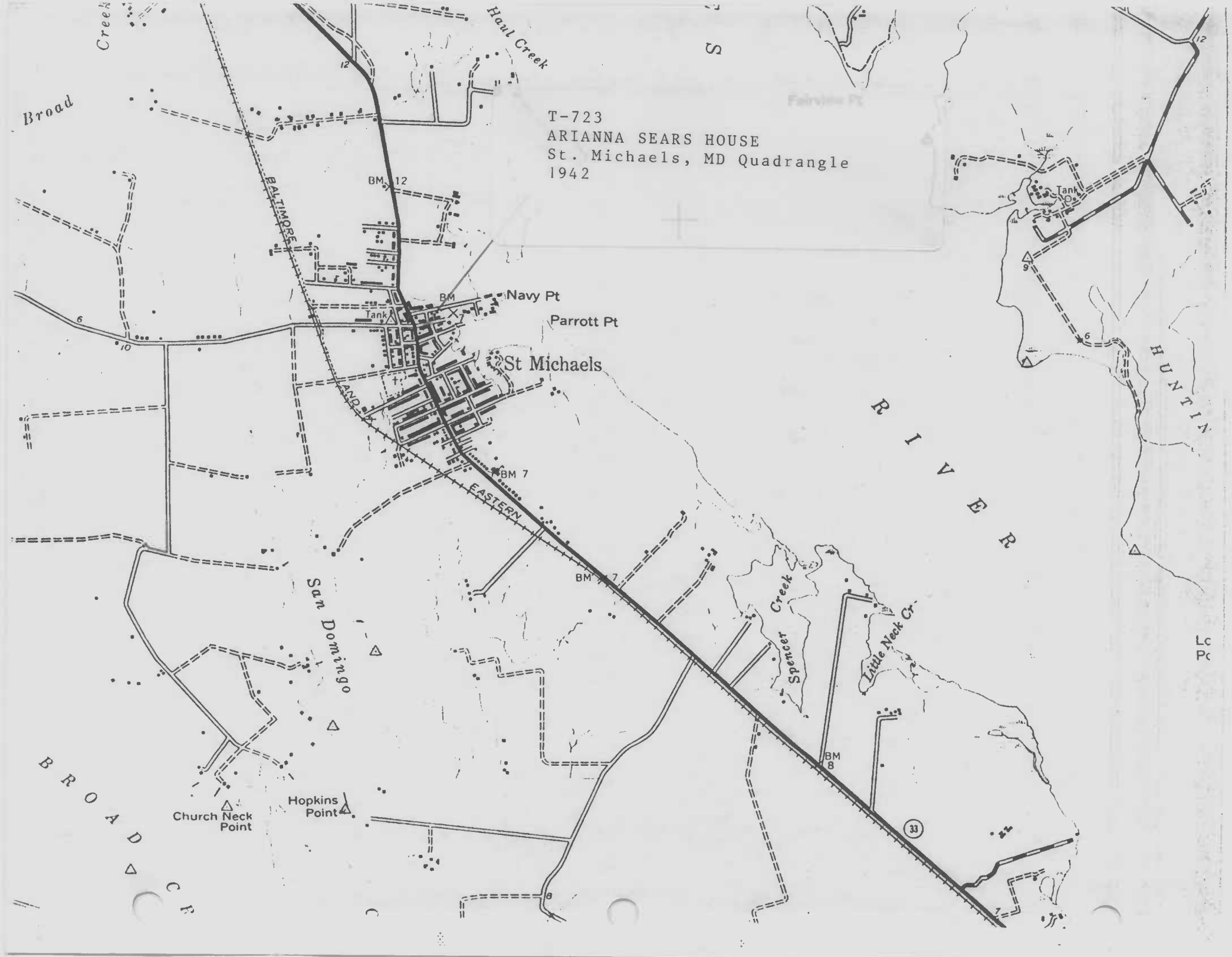
R. EUGENE SUDS 262/34
JAMES E. THOMAS 553/67
BEATRICE B. WATTS 494/73
HAMILTON S. JEWETT 818/484
CARROLL SNEED 548/349
JOSEPH I. WILLIAMS 292/552
CLARA O. POLK 349/188
ROBT. B. THOMAS 349/174
ALVERTA G. PETERS, & RICHARD GARRISON, JR. 476/299
GENEVIEVE LUSCOMBE RRS 34/39
CHARLES F. LUSCOMBE 470/359
THEODORE A MOHLMAN 461/170
GENEVIEVE LUSCOMBE RRS 34/39
MICHAEL J. FOX, ETAL 535/68
JESSE A. WEBB 463/279
ETHEL C. WHITE 353/491
BILLIE CLARKE 533/78
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS 408/356
ALLAN GREENBERG, ETAL 547/673
ALLAN GREENBERG, ETAL 547/673
PAIGE PINKETT 344/389
CHESAPEAKE BAY MARITIME MUSEUM INC. 467/816
PENSCO 514/604
THEODORE A. MOHLMAN 538/749
LOIS S. LEVY & JAMES E. RUTLEDGE 488/686
EDWARD T. NEWNAM 341/10
W. PRESTON KEITHLEY 433/252
MARGARET MILLS 218/309
NORMAN M. SHANNAHAM 159/412
ROBERTA NICHOLS 274/504
JESSE C. WEBB 545/87
JESSE G. WEBB 545/59
MICHAEL O. MURPEN 537/413
AGNES B. THOMAS, ETAL 483/197
ALFRED CHESTER 237/671
MARTIN M. HUBBARD 276/209 542/514
WEST TALBOT IMPROVEMENT ASS'N INC. 412/696 563/664
WEST TALBOT IMPROVEMENT ASS'N. INC. 372/307 412/63
NORMAN D. MARSHALL 461/541
RAYMOND F. WEISMALLER 300/398
NORMAN D MARSHALL 461/543
ELIZABETH SAMBOY 430/393
FLETCHER KRAUSE 521/458
EDWARD S. WYANT 503/26
ETHEL MARSHALL 365/349
COMM. OF ST. MICHAELS 341/300
COMM OF ST. MICHAELS 607/53
VICTOR H. MAC SORLEY 530/53
JANET P GOLDSTEIN 557/102
MARGARET & JOHN WELLS 591/668
GENEVIEVE LUSCOMBE RRS 34/39
KAY DEE MILL, INC. 481/344
RICHARD F. GUAY 512/164
CHARLES H. KEPNER TRUSTEE 523/509
HIGGINS YACHT YARD, INC. 536/846
GENEVIEVE W. LUSCOMBE RRS 34/39
JOHN F. WARD 528/705

FREMONT ST.
TALBOT ST.
RAILROAD AVE.
MILL ST.
CEDAR AL.
CHERRY ST
LOCUST ST.
CARPENTER ST.

7.



ST MICHAELS
ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.
Scale 16 Rods to an Inch
T-723
Arianna Sears House
BAY SIDE AVE.
Res. J. S. Hambleton
WILLOW ST.
S. Aldridge
H. C. Dodson
CHERRY ST.
CEDAR ALLEY
Ship Yard
CARPENTERS ALLEY
FREMONT ST.
TALBOT
GREEN ST.
CHURCH ST.
Epis. Ch.
J. D. Foster
G. W. Goodall
MULBERRY ST.
WATER
NORTH GATE
Lambden
ST. MICHAELS RIVER


T-723
ARIANNA SEARS HOUSE
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942
Broad
Creek
Haul Creek
BALTIMORE
AND
EASTERN
BM 12
BM
Tank
Navy Pt
Parrott Pt
St Michaels
BM 7
BM 7
BM 8
San Domingo
Spencer Creek
Little Neck Cr
RIVER
HUNTIN
Tank
BROAD CR
Church Neck Point
Hopkins Point
33

104

T-723
ARIANNA SEARS HOUSE
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD
North elevation
6/89, Paul Touart, photographer
Negative/MD Historical Trust