

T-274

1839

Granite Lodge

St. Michaels

private

Granite Lodge, built in 1839 as a Methodist Church, is the most dominant building on St. Mary's Square. The Greek Revival design building is a solid, but relatively plain example of the classically inspired style. The front entrance stoop with its Tuscan columns and decorative pediment along with gable front orientation of the building are the clearest exterior references to the style. Centered in the upper gable is the date plaque inscribed, "Centenary of Methodism, Methodist E. Church, 4th July 1839."

The central location of St. Mary's Square in St. Michaels and the donated land for the Methodists first church were apparent inspirations of James Braddock, the representative of Gildart and Gawith, a Liverpool merchant firm. Rare in Maryland, fifty-eight numbered lots were disposed around a center green, and the first "Society of People called Methodists" was given half of two lots 37 and 38, "in order that they may and shall build thereon a good and convenient house for the public worship of Almighty God."

The Methodists continued to own the property until 1910 when the church and lot were sold to the Commissioners of St. Michaels (157/489). In 1932 the Trustees of Granite Lodge #177 were purchased the old church for their lodge.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-274

Magi No. 2102745410

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Granite Lodge

## 2. Location

street & number 403 St. Mary's Square  not for publication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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Meeting Hse.

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Granite Lodge #177

c/o Harrison Leonard

street & number P.O. Box 477 telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot Co. Clerk of Court liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1967  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

## 7. Description

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<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.

### Granite Lodge description

Granite Lodge stands on the east side of St. Mary's Square in St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story brick building faces west with the gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Dated to 1839, Granite Lodge was built initially as the St. Michaels Methodist Church with stretcher and common bond brick walls. The medium sloped roof has extended eaves, and it is covered with a layer of seamed tin.

The west (main) elevation is a symmetrical stretcher bond facade of pressed brick with thin mortar joints. The window and door openings are spanned by finely laid jack arches. A center entrance with a classical stoop is flanked by multi-pane casement-type windows. The six-panel door is topped by an eight-pane transom, while the door panels are of a raised pyramidal design. Two Tuscan columns support a classical entablature and pediment decorated with rows of dentils. The second floor is marked by three evenly spaced twelve over twelve sash windows. Located in the upper gable is a marble plaque inscribed, "Centenary of Methodism, Methodist E. Church, 4th July 1839."

The south side elevation is a four-bay, five-course common bond facade marked by twelve over twelve sash on the first floor and twelve over eight sash on the second floor. Each window is topped by a jack arch. The first floor windows retain board shutters while the second floor windows do not. A narrow brick stove stack rises through the roof.

The east (rear) elevation is divided into two bays with twelve over twelve sash windows on the first floor and twelve over eight sash on the second. A louvered vent pierces the upper gable.

The north side elevation is identical to the south with one exception. The northwest window is blind to allow for the stair which rises in the northwest corner.

The first floor is divided by an off-center partition that separates a front vestibule from the main meeting room. Small rooms are located to each side of the vestibule and serve as bathrooms and a kitchen. Reused pyramidal panel doors open into the bathrooms and are topped by four-pane transoms. The large meeting room is nearly square. Spanning the center of the room to support the second floor is the summer beam, which is covered by a paneled casing. Paneled and tapered posts at each end support the summer beam. The window reveals are splayed.

The second floor is divided by a partition which separates a front hall and sitting room from the main meeting room. Shallow four-panel doors are framed by plain surrounds.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-274

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" 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** 1859 **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.

Granite Lodge, built in 1859 as a Methodist Church, is the most dominant building in St. Mary's Square. The Greek Revival style building is a solid, but relatively plain example of the classical design. The front entrance stoop with its Tuscan columns and decorative pediment along with the gable front orientation of the building are the clearest references to the style.



MASONIC LODGE

Year: 1932 Vol: 228 Page: 192

From: G Elbert Marshall, assignee Price: \$1225

To: Trustees, Granite Lodge #177, A F & A M

Notes: Public sale 23 June 1931 on default of mortgage from Ernest H Burns to Eastern Shore Trust Co. (1920, 186/472). Begins where St. Mary's Square intersects the S side of a street recently opened by the Commissioners of St.

Michaels (which street runs from St. Mary's Square to Water Street); run S with the E side of the Square 41 ft. to the corner of a brick building on this lot; then E with S side of the building 47 ft.; then N with E side of the building 41 ft. to the S side of the new street; then W with the N side of the building and S side of the street 47 ft. to the beginning.

The trustees were: Philip H Hope, James L Fitzpatrick, Harry Landon, Emmerson P Langrel and George T Harrison.

Year: 1920 Vol: 186 Page: 472

From: Ernest H Burns & Grace B Burns Price: \$10,000

To: Eastern Shore Trust Company

Notes: There were four tracts involved in this mortgage. Subject parcel is the first of the four.

Conveyed to Burns by the Commissioners of St. Michaels, 1917, 176/315.

Year: 1917 Vol: 176 Page: 315

From: Commissioners of St. Michaels Price: \$150

To: Ernest H Burns

Notes: See 1932 description.

Conveyed to the Commissioners of St. Michaels by the Trustees of Sardis Chapel, 1910, 157/489.

Year: 1910 Vol: 157 Page: 489

From: Trustees of Sardis Chapel Price: \$500

To: Commissioners of St. Michaels

Notes: This lot is bounded on the SW by St. Mary's Square, on the NE by Water Street, on the NW by the Primary School lot and the Burns lot and on the SE by the High School property and the Blades lot. Embraces all the property belonging to the Trustees of the Sardis Chapel and the Trustees of the Methodist Protestant Church of St. Michaels used as cemeteries or burying grounds, the lot belonging to the Talbot County School Board and the private burying ground of the Keithley family now belonging to William J Keithley.

Selected paragraphs from: "ST. MICHAELS METHODISM. Containing the Records of Talbot Circuit from 1805 to 1837. Also Historical data, and Extracts of Methodist History in Talbot County, Maryland. Compiled for Sardis Chapel, M. E. Church St Michaels, Md. by THOMAS H SEWELL." St. Michaels, Maryland 1894. From a microfilm at Talbot County Free Library, Easton, Md. The original is in the possession of St. Lukes M. E. Church, St. Michaels, Maryland.

Page 257: "Chapter 10,- 1782-1784. Building of the first Meeting House. Visit by Bishops Asbury and Coke. Description of the house.

The period had now arrived when the society determined to abandon the preaching at private houses and barns and build for themselves a house of worship. The depression of business immediately at the close of the revolutionary war was severe. Taken all in all the effort to build the house must be heroic. The people however were enthused. The fear of the Lord was upon them, they had heard Asbury, Garrettson, Cromwell. "There were giants in those days". The site was on their lot on St. Mary's Square where the church building dedicated in 1839 now stands.

Page 736: "March 1839. The committee proceeded in the erection of the new church in the summer and fall of 1839. It was completed and dedicated & delivered up to the trustees with a debt of about \$300 hanging over it. Thomas Auld, Act. Sec.

The church building is now standing on the site of the first one, on the west side of St. Mary's Square. The corner stone was laid on July 4, 1839.

Page 739: "...building than the first one was. It is forty by fifty feet and had galleries in the west end and north and south sides. There were two aisles a row of pews on each side under the galleries and a row in the center of long pews with a partition in the middle. The men sat on one side and the women on the other and did not sit promiscuously as at present. I think this custom prevailed until the third church was built in 1871. There were two stoves one on each side a high pulpit with an arch surmounting it against the rear wall. The seating capacity was about 400 and the membership in 1839 about 275..."

Page 802: "1869, James A Brindle, F B Hunter. At first when the building committee was appointed it was intended to enlarge the church on St. Mary's Square, then to remove that church and build on the same site, but finally it was decided to move and build on Talbot Street. This met with some opposition..."

Year: 1781 Vol: 21 Page: 229

From: James Braddock, Gent. Price: gift

To: Trustees, Society of People Called Methodists

Notes: "James Braddock, gent. having a pious zeal and a peculiar love for the Society of People called Methodists as also for divers other good causes and considerations him thereunto moving Doth by these presents willingly, freely and voluntarily give and grant unto (trustees named) The half of two lots of land distinguished on the plot St. Michaels by lots number 37 and 38.....In order that they may and shall build thereon a good and convenient house.... for the public worship of Almighty God and for the said use and purpose and to no other use, intent, or meaning whatsoever.

These lots were on "Janes Progress" and from here follow the chain of title through Wetheral, Hewes, and the Hattons.



DR. DODSON'S  
↓

T-274

ST MARY'S  
SQUARE

METHODIST  
CEMETERY

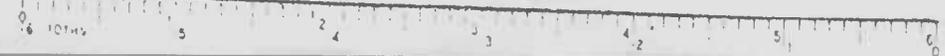
BACK CREEK

MAP  
OF  
**ST. MICHAELS**

TALBOT CO. MARYLAND

SCALE  
1" = 100'

JAN. 1, 1885. THOMAS H. BRADY

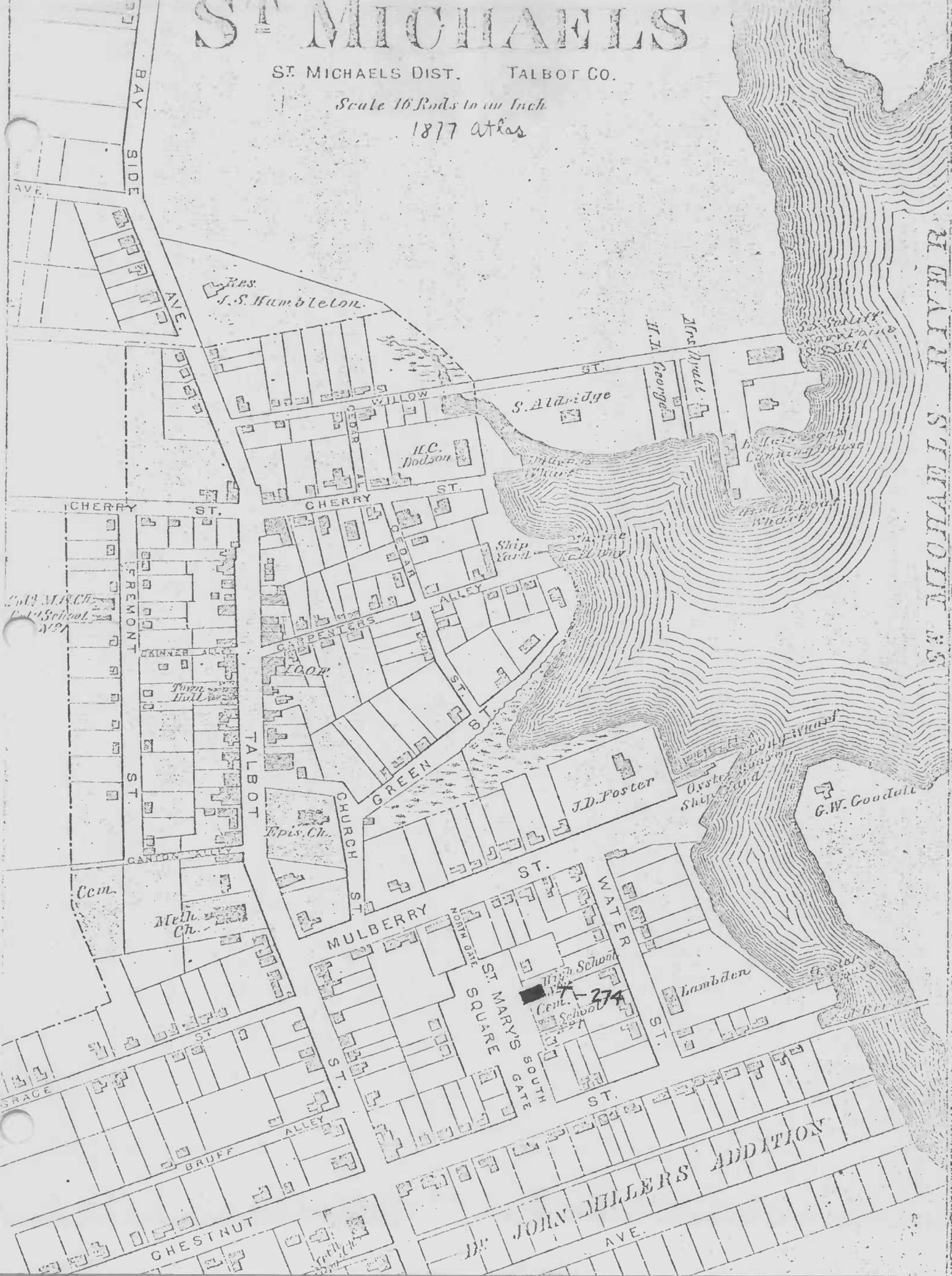


# ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

Scale 16 Rods to an Inch

1877 Atlas



Res. J.S. Humbelton

H.C. Dodson

S. Albridge

Mrs. H. George

Wm. Smith

Wm. Smith

Wm. Smith

Public School

Town Hall

Epis. Ch.

Cem.

Met. Ch.

J.D. Foster

Oyster Wharf

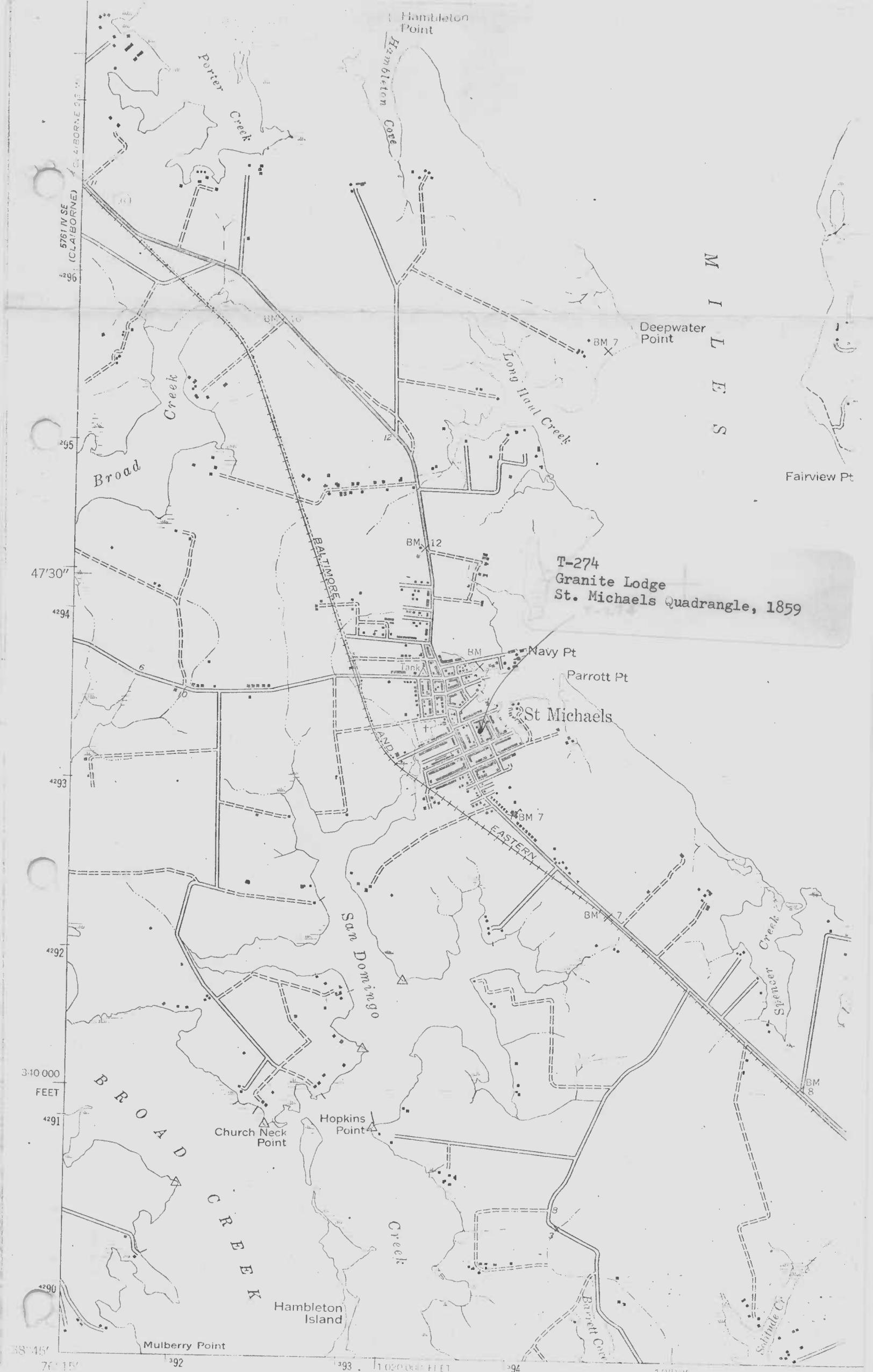
G.W. Goodale

High School

Cem. 274

Lambden

JOHN MILLERS ADDITION



Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Published for civil use by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USC&GS



GRANITE LODGE

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St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

South ~~East~~ Elevation

5/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG / MD. Historical Trust



GRANITE LODGE

T-274

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

West Elevation

5/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



GRANITE LODGE

T-274

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

West Elevation

5/85, Paul Touart, PHotographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



GRANITE LODGE

T-274

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

West Elevation

5/85, Paul Touart, PHotogrpaher

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



GRANITE LODGE

T-274

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

West Elevation Entrance

5/85, Paul Touart, Photogrpaher

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



GRANITE LODGE

T-274

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

West Elevation

5/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/Md. Historical Trust



10 x 1.72

50% 274

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