

T-~~43~~ 437
St. Michaels Mill
St. Michaels
Private

1890s

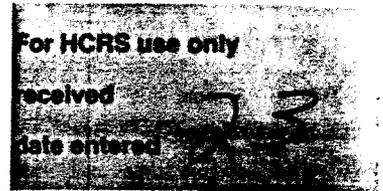
St. Michaels, easily accessible by water and convenient to other towns, was an ideal center for milling, and there are records of windmills located in this area as early as 1664. These were eventually replaced by water-driven gristmills, such as Wye Mill (T-51) near Wye Creek. Mills like Wye Mill stood all along the Eastern Shore, and by the 1860s as many as thirty mills were in operation. These, in turn, were replaced by more modern structures, and today there are a few gristmills that remain untouched by modernization.

St. Michaels Mill stands on Chew Avenue near the waterfront. Built in the 1890s, the structure has a main part of brick construction, laid in common bond with seven courses of stretchers to one course of headers. On the northeast and southwest sides of the structure there is a three-brick corbeled cornice. The mill was in operation until very recently, and the interior and machinery are intact.

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See Instructions In *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Saint Michaels Mill, Quillens Mill

and/or common Saint Michaels Mill (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 100 Chew Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town St. Michaels _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Talbot code 041

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 checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Thomas C. duPont and Blaine duPont Telephone: (301) 745-2929

street & number P. O. Box 982

city, town Easton _____ vicinity of _____ state Maryland 21601

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse Liber: 496
Folio: 773

street & number Washington Street

city, town Easton _____ state Maryland 21601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis _____ state Maryland 21401

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Saint Michaels Mill

Continuation sheet Talbot County, Maryland

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DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The St. Michaels Mill, located on Chew Avenue one-half block northeast of Talbot Street, is a circa 1890 brick mill structure with a large early twentieth century frame storage addition, a 1931 brick leanto addition, and a 1934 frame leanto addition (see floor plan). In appearance the mill resembles other industrial buildings of the late 19th century. However, its size more closely resembles that of the grist mills of earlier times on the Eastern Shore. The twelve inch walls of the building are laid in common bond, with seven courses of stretchers to one course of headers. On the northeast and southwest sides of the structure there is a three-course corbeled cornice. Above the Chew Avenue windows are brick segmental arches; the other windows have wood lintels. The Chew Avenue facade is two bays wide and has a central entrance with diagonal batten double doors. The sill of the doors is located about four feet above grade. On the southwest wall of the old gristmill, between the first and second stories, are four diamond shaped plates of iron for tie rods. The fenestration is a uniform three bays on the basement and first stories, while the second story has only two windows above the central and southeast windows. On the southeast side of the building, jutting out seven feet, six inches beyond the face of the old brick mill is the brick, two-bay leanto powerhouse. The powerhouse extends over a portion of the bin area; the remainder of the tall portion and the bins are covered with tin as are the other two sides. The interior of the old brick mill is one large space on each story, housing a working complement of late nineteenth and early twentieth century milling equipment.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY ON CONTINUATION SHEET #4

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The St. Michaels Mill, located on Chew Avenue one half block northeast of Talbot Street, is a circa 1890 brick mill structure with a large early twentieth century frame storage addition, a 1931 brick leanto addition, and a 1934 frame leanto addition (see floor plan).

In appearance the mill resembles other industrial buildings of the late 19th century. However, its size more closely resembles that of the grist mills of earlier times on the Eastern Shore. The 12-inch walls of the building are laid in common bond, with seven courses of stretchers to one course of headers. On the northeast and southwest sides of the structure there is a three-course corbeled cornice. Above the Chew Avenue windows are brick segmental arches; the other windows have wood lintels.

The Chew Avenue facade is two bays wide and has a central entrance with diagonal batten double doors. The sill of the doors is located about four feet above grade. Both stories of the office leanto have a window facing Chew Avenue. Extending across the northeast facade, from the office to the bins, is a wood platform with cantilevered hood above. That portion of the building not concealed by the 1934 office has two bays, a double door like the Chew facade, and a window. On the second story are two windows with 6/6 sash like those on the remainder of the building. On the southeast end of the brick mill is a one-bay, three-story frame structure attached to three bays of the storage bins, with a lower gable roof. The latter two sections are covered with pressed tin imitation brick. Extending behind (southwest) the middle three-story bay and a portion of one bin is the brick leanto powerhouse. Its southeast wall has a wide double door at ground level for easy access to the machinery.

On the southwest wall of the old gristmill, between the first and second stories, are four diamond shaped plates of iron for tie rods. The fenestration is a uniform three bays on the basement and first stories, while the second story has only two windows above building, jutting out seven feet, six inches beyond the face of the old brick mill is the brick, two-bay leanto powerhouse. Its southwest facade has two windows with segmental arches. A single window faces Chew Avenue. The powerhouse extends over a portion of the bin area; the remainder of the tall portion and the bins are covered with tin as are the other two sides.

The interior of the old brick mill is one large space on each story, housing a working complement of late 19th and early 20th century milling equipment. The walls are of whitewashed brick. Original four-inch pine flooring has been covered with more modern 2 1/4" tongue and groove flooring. On the first story, the ceiling consists of the exposed whitewashed joists for the second floor; these are two sets of 2 X 12" joists, resting on the brick northeast and southwest walls and an 8" X 10" girder running perpendicular to the joists. Three intermediate posts, 8" X 10", support the girder in addition to the gable walls. Running parallel with the girder in the center of both bays of joists is a board fastened to the underside of the joists with insulated electrical wiring in porcelain insulators with three bulbs.

In the west corner of the first story are the millstones and crane, with two elevators adjacent and three bins on the outer walls. On both sides of the nearest center post are chutes for filling bags from the bins on the second story.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

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DESCRIPTION, continued)

In the other half of the building is a series of fifteen elevators with scale and bin on the northeast and four automatic shake feed to the southwest. The latter were made by Barnard and Leas Manufacturing Company, Moline, Illinois, and they are seated on cast-iron bases with the following inscription: "Rebuilt by SPROUT WALDRON & CO., Muncy, Penna." On the end feed shake is an automatic feed governor made by Columbia Feed Governor Co., Minneapolis, Minn., patented 1911.

In the second story are several bins: one large bin located above the two below on the southwest wall, a smaller one above the one on the northwest wall, one in the center above the aforesaid two chutes, one above the scale, and one over the end feed shake. All of the above as well as those mentioned below, are made of beaded tongue and grooved wood. There are two circular galvanized bins or mixers in the east corner as well as in the lantern. In addition to the storage facilities and wood shafts of the seventeen elevators with chutes extending to various bins, are a level sifter, silk screen sifter, and bran separator, all made by the Wolf Co., Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

The girder and posts of the basement are larger members than those above, being 12" X 12". Additional supports are located beneath the millstones. Two long shafts with several drive wheels run parallel to the girder. From these two shafts run the entire apparatus above. On the southeast side of the basement, below the tall adjoining frame section, are two other elevators, powered by an electric motor, for lifting incoming grain to the large bins above. A huge wheel attached to the end of one shaft carries the belt from the Diesel engine which powers the operation.

On the first floor, above the aforementioned area is a small bin and attached scale made by Standard Scale and Supply Co of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Four shutes for the two elevators are located adjacent to the bin. A large belt extends vertically from the basement to the equipment above for the transfer of grain from the bins to the mill. The six bins located southeast of this room are about ten feet square and are made of laminated 6' X 6's. On the southwest side of the incoming room is another stair to the two floors above and a door to the powerhouse.

Located at ground level, the powerhouse contains a huge Fairbanks-Morse 50 h.p. Diesel, which was installed in 1921. The machine has its own compressor and water pump for cooling. From this tall engine room comes the power for operating the machinery in the remainder of the complex.

Between 1890 and 1921, the mill was powered by another type engine, which was probably housed in the area directly northeast of the mill. A line in the masonry on the second story may be a flashing line for a shed roof over the former powerhouse. Between 1890 and 1937, when the present office was constructed, the office appears to have been located in the north corner of the building. Several scars in the ceiling, as well as corbeled chimney suggest this location. At that time, the office was lighted by two windows, one being the door to the present office, the other facing Chew Avenue.

8. Significance

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1890 and later **Builder/Architect** Builder: Arthur K. Easter

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable Criteria: A and C

The Saint Michaels Mill is historically significant for two reasons. First, in the areas of commerce and industry, the mill was an integral part of the culture of the town. In its fifty years of operation, it provided some steady employment for a small town otherwise dependent on the vagaries of the water. The mill was also the center of a commercial cycle in a tri-county area, as well as an operation whose product, "Just Right Flour", reached many markets. Secondly, the mill, built in 1890, is a good example of small late nineteenth century industrial architecture on Maryland's Eastern Shore. In addition, the milling equipment is original to the structure, largely intact and completely operative. The intricate interrelationship of the workings of this old mill and the amazingly good repair in which they are found, combine with the solidity and balance of the structure, to present an operation, whose preservation is of merit. Add these factors to the part that the mill has played in the commercial history of what is now a rapidly changing community, and the importance of insuring the safety of the structure, as well as acknowledging its significance increases.

HISTORY

Much of the history of the St. Michaels Mill is attributed to the industrial cycle of the small town of St. Michaels. Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore, St. Michaels is a convenient location, easily accesible by water and convenient to other towns. The milling industry began on the Eastern Shore in the mid seventeenth century. Records of windmills located along the western side of the Eastern Shore, date as far back as 1664. The early windmills were replaced by water driven gristmills. Mills like the Wye Mill dotted the Eastern Shore and in the mid 1860s as many as thirty mills were in operation. As new types of milling equipment were introduced, many of the nineteenth century gristmills were replaced by modern structures. Today there are few gristmills that remain untouched by modernization.

In April of 1890, Mr. Arthur K. Easter constructed the St. Michaels Mill to meet the growing agricultural needs of the community. Because St. Michaels enjoyed the proximity of other towns, Mr. Easter had the land surveyed by Nathan Harrington in 1883, with later records illustrating the formal subdivisions outlined by Dr. Miller. For Dr. Miller, Joseph Robnison established "Miller's Addition"; 49 lots, each 120 by 60 feet. Parcel number 31 was pruchased by Mr. Easter. Talbot County Land Records indicate Mr. Easter as the owner and builder, but records leading to an architect, if any, are unavailable. The mill passed through several ownerships in the following years. Dr. Issac Barber purchased the mill from Mr. Easter, followed by the partnership of James E. Watkins and Robert S. Dodson. Mr. Dodson was an influential member of the community and his contributions to the town are recognized by the proposed inclusion of the Dodson House in the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum complex. It is during this partnership that the mill reflected growth. The population at the turn of the century in this small town was approximately 150. The mill employed fifteen at this time,

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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(HISTORY, continued)

while other members of the community cultivated the water. A long time employee of the mill, Samuel Quillen, established the brand "Just Right Flour". Herein marked further involvement of the community in the production of wheat, corn and flour. The townspeople and farmers, along with Samuel Quillen, established an efficient form of exchange. For the products the farmers contributed to the mill, the farmers would receive flour or meal, while the mill retained a percentage of the total. The brand of "Just Right Flour" was distributed locally as well as to buyers in Virginia and Pennsylvania. Since the Watkins-Dodson partnership, Mr. Edgar T. Warner had since sold the mill to Mr. Samuel Quillen and his sons. Quillen's acquisition in 1920 was timely, because post war conditions created demands and this in turn created employment. To meet governmental regulations, Quillen established regular working hours. As opposed to the 59 hour week operations increased to 70 hours with fifteen or more people on one shift. Quillen also replaced the steam driven engine with a 1 cylinder, 2 stroke, 50 horsepower Fairbanks Morse diesel engine.

Jennings Quillen, with the help of his father, continued to operate the mill well into the 1960s. Jennings Quillen enlarged parts of the mill to accommodate administrative personnel, and in 1937 the flour bins were enlarged. Modern efficiencies did not lead to the demise of the production of "Just Right Flour", and although Jennings Quillen sold the mill to a large poultry and grain corporation, the mill operated as usual. Up until 1972 the mill operated successfully; in the 1960s the mill acquired facilities for a fallout shelter, which is still in use today. Although modernization affected many aspects, it did leave an authentic and important part of the town untouched. As one of the largest operations in St. Michaels, the mill remains much the same as it did in 1890.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

T-437

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name St. Michaels U.S.G.S.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	3	9	4	0	1	0	4	2	9	3	1	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is rectangular in shape, 60' X 120'; beginning at a pipe on the corner of Talbot Street and Chew Avenue bearing N 69° 30' E, 120 feet. Thence, start again proceed N 20° 15' W for 120 feet to starting point on Chew Avenue, known as lot No. 31.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sara L. Handy

organization St. Michaels Mill date April 1981

street & number P. O. Box 982 telephone 301-745-2929

city or town Easton state Maryland

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature] 6-16-82

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

date

Attest:

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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date entered

Continuation sheet St. Michaels Mill Item number 9 Page 3
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Maryland

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary Sources

Talbot County Land Records, Talbot County Courthouse
(496/773; 493/583; 432/633; 385/372; 107/238)

Secondary Sources

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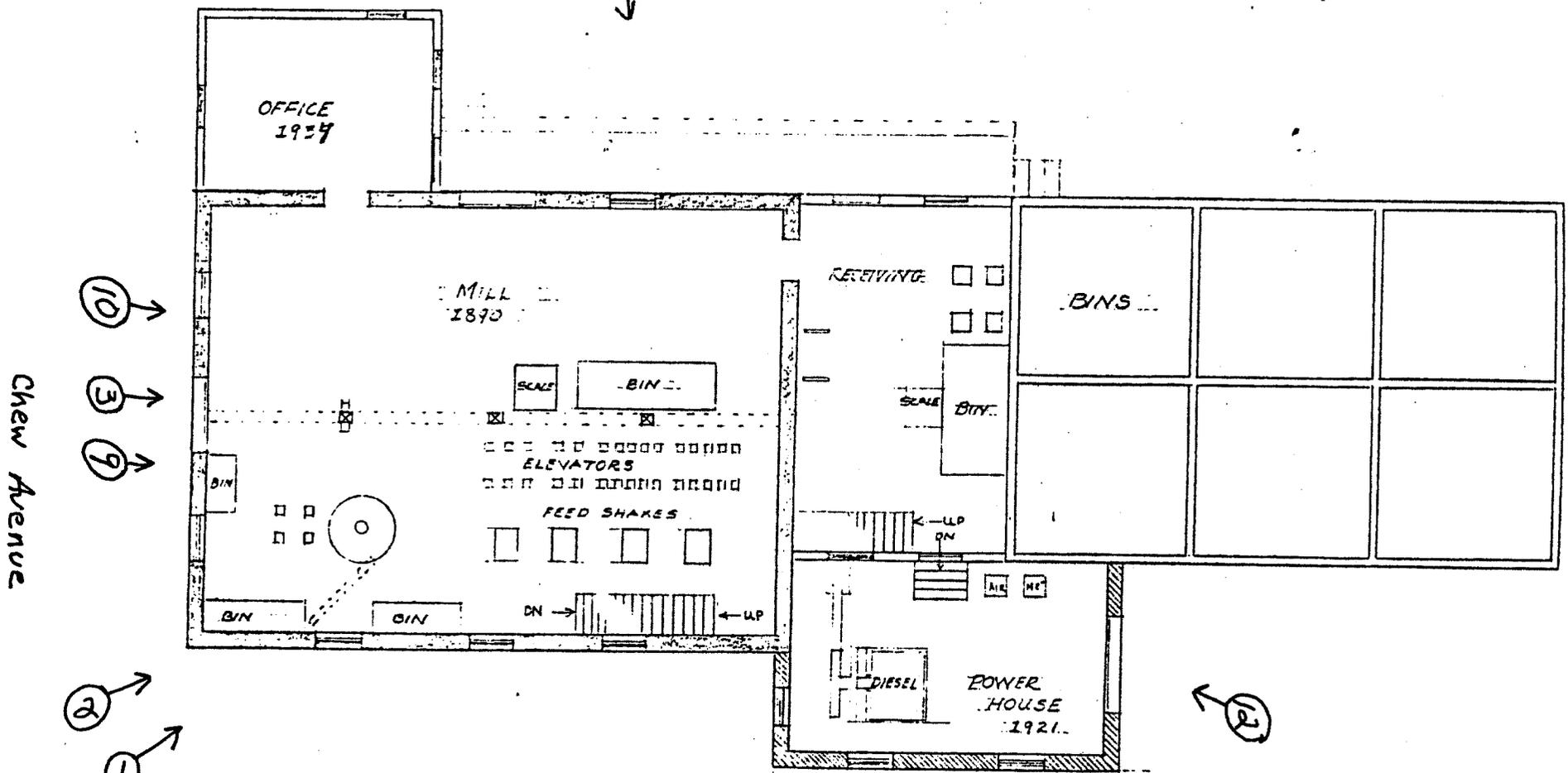
Tilghman, Oswald. History of Talbot County Maryland 1661-1861.
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1915.

Junior Board of Bayshore Bayshore and You.
Foods, Inc. Privately printed, 1970.

"Just Right Flour Ends 52 Years of Production", The Star Democrat.
Easton, Md. 1973.

"Like Finding Heaven in His Own Backyard", The Talbot Banner.
Easton, Md. , 1974.

Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Survey: Talbot County (T-437).



Chew Avenue

Talbot Avenue

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 ST. MICHAELS MILLING CO.
 100 CHEW AVE.
 ST. MICHAEL'S, TALBOT CO.
 MARYLAND

○→ = exterior photo views

NO SCALE
 M. BOURNE FEB '79

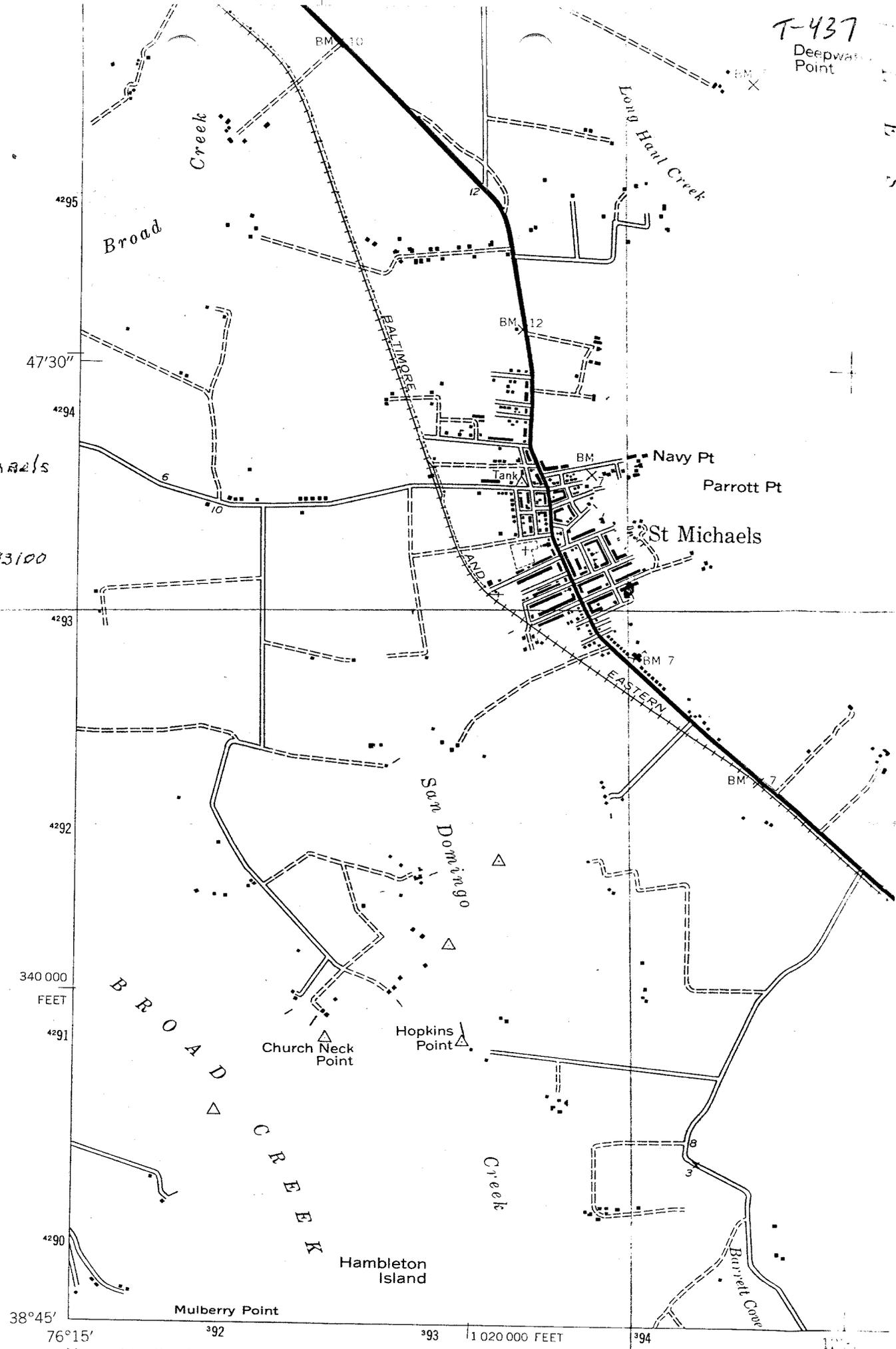
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N

T-437

Deepwater Point

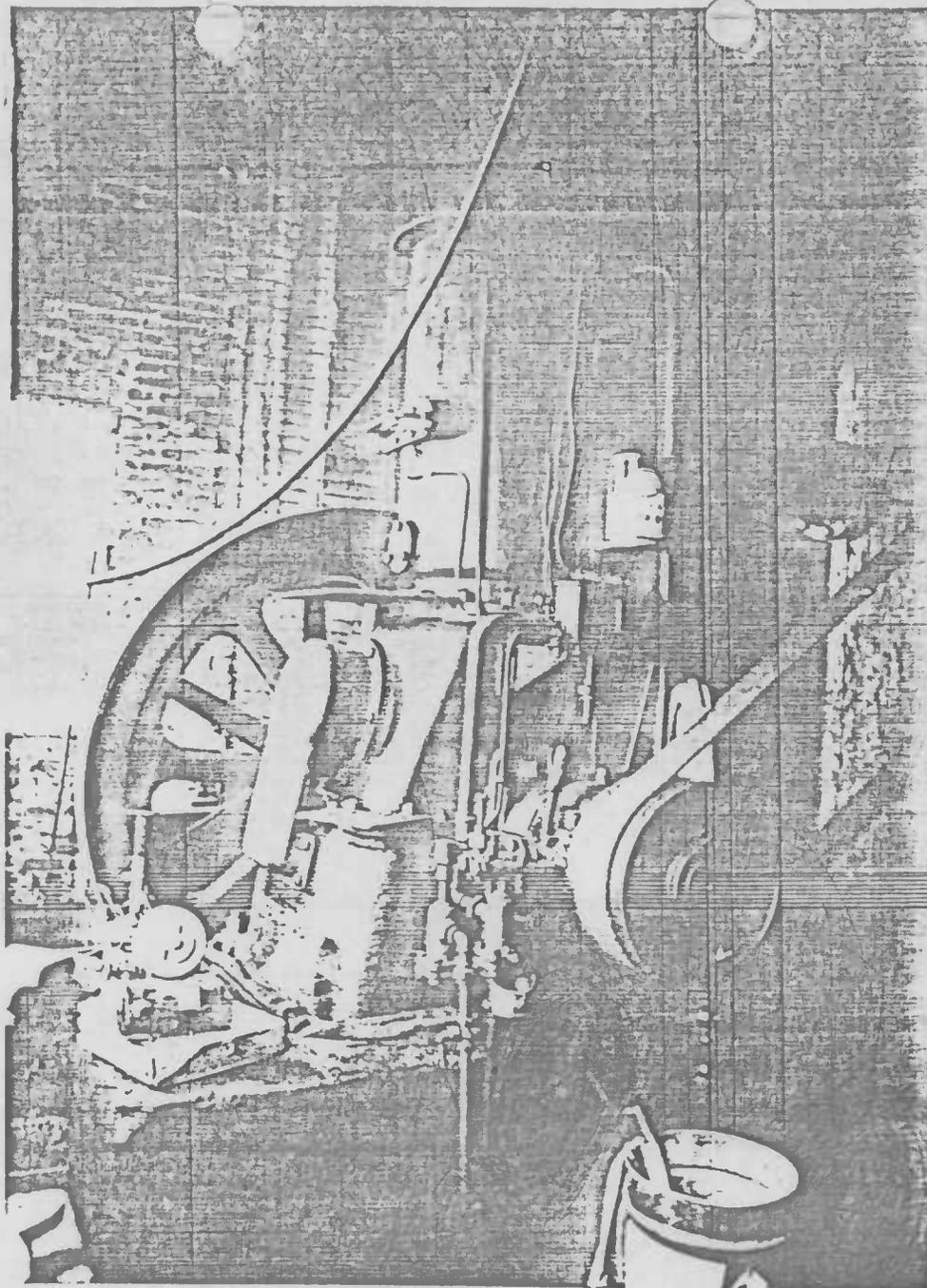
Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot Co.
18/394010/4293100



HUMAN LINE

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey

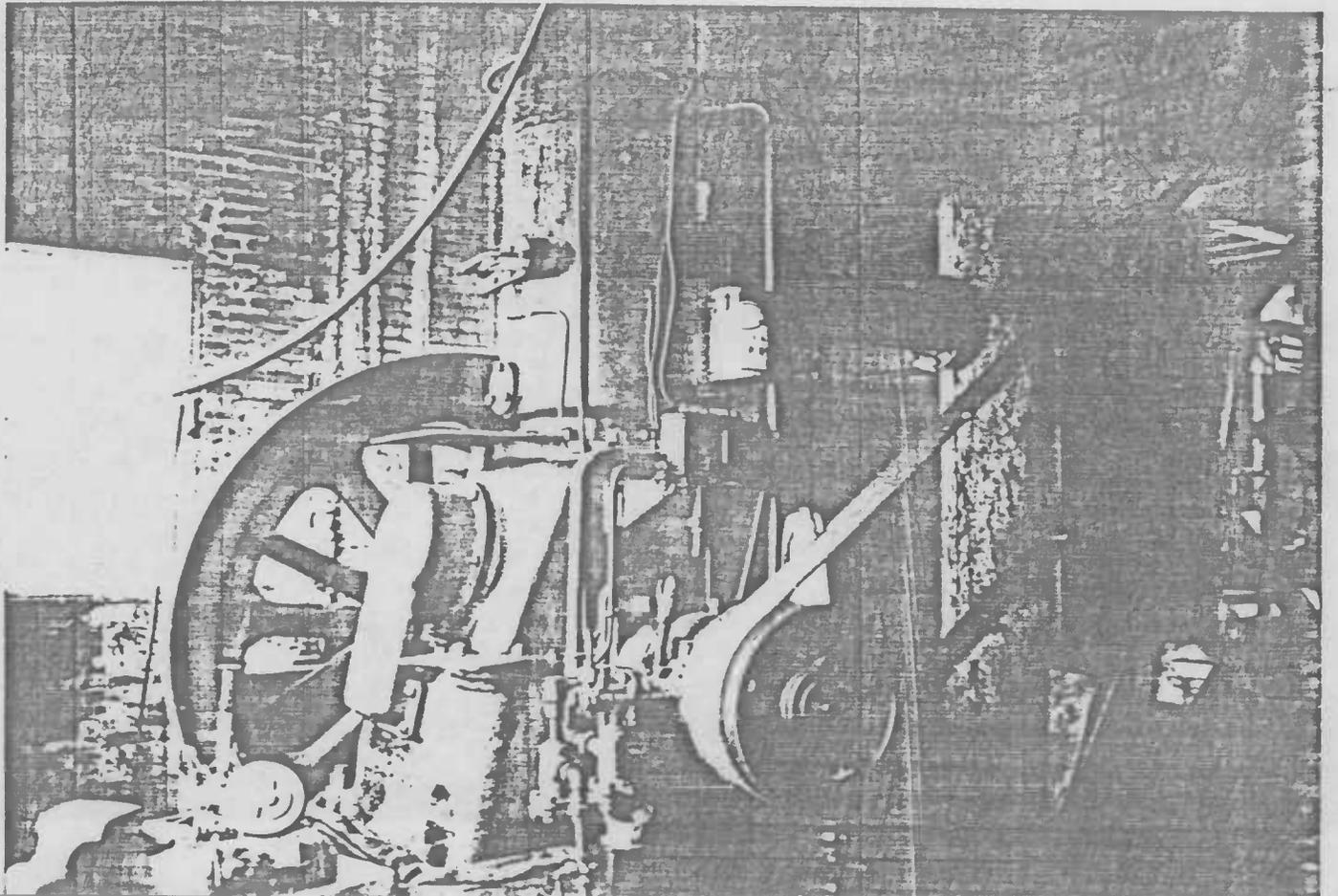
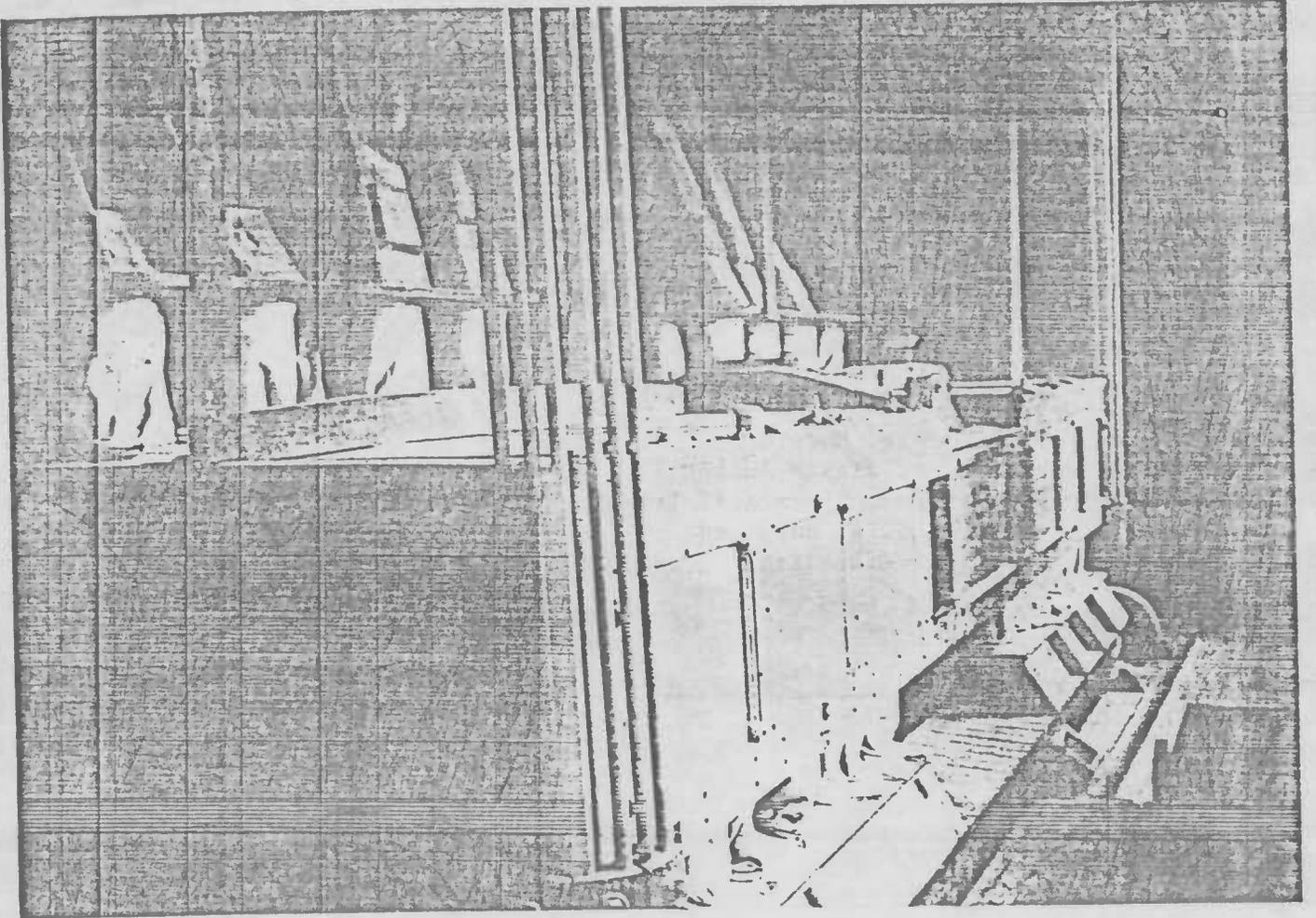
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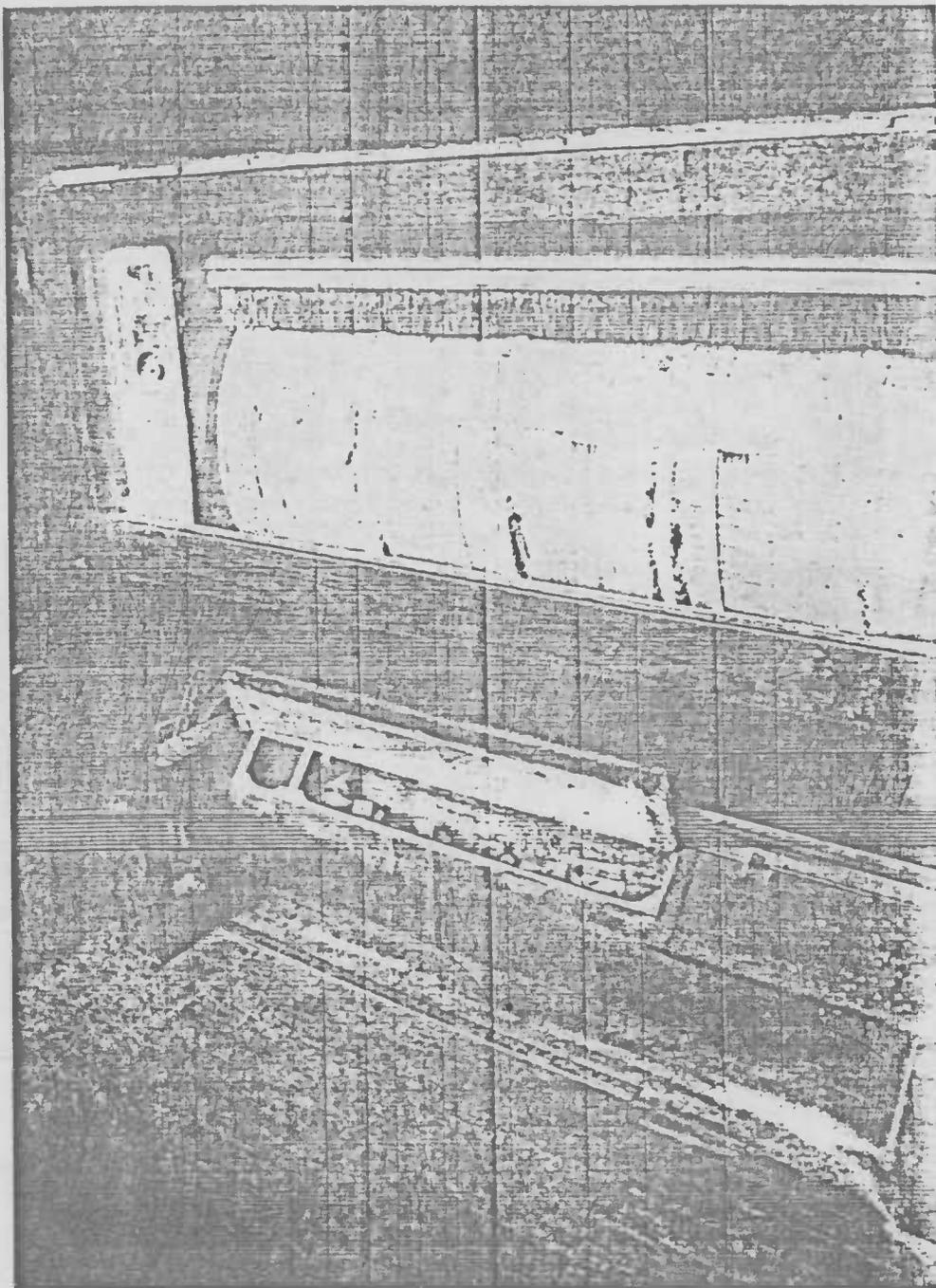


#20 Saint Michaels Mill August 1979
Talbot County, Maryland
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Fairbanks Morse 50 hp diesel (vertical
shot)

20/20

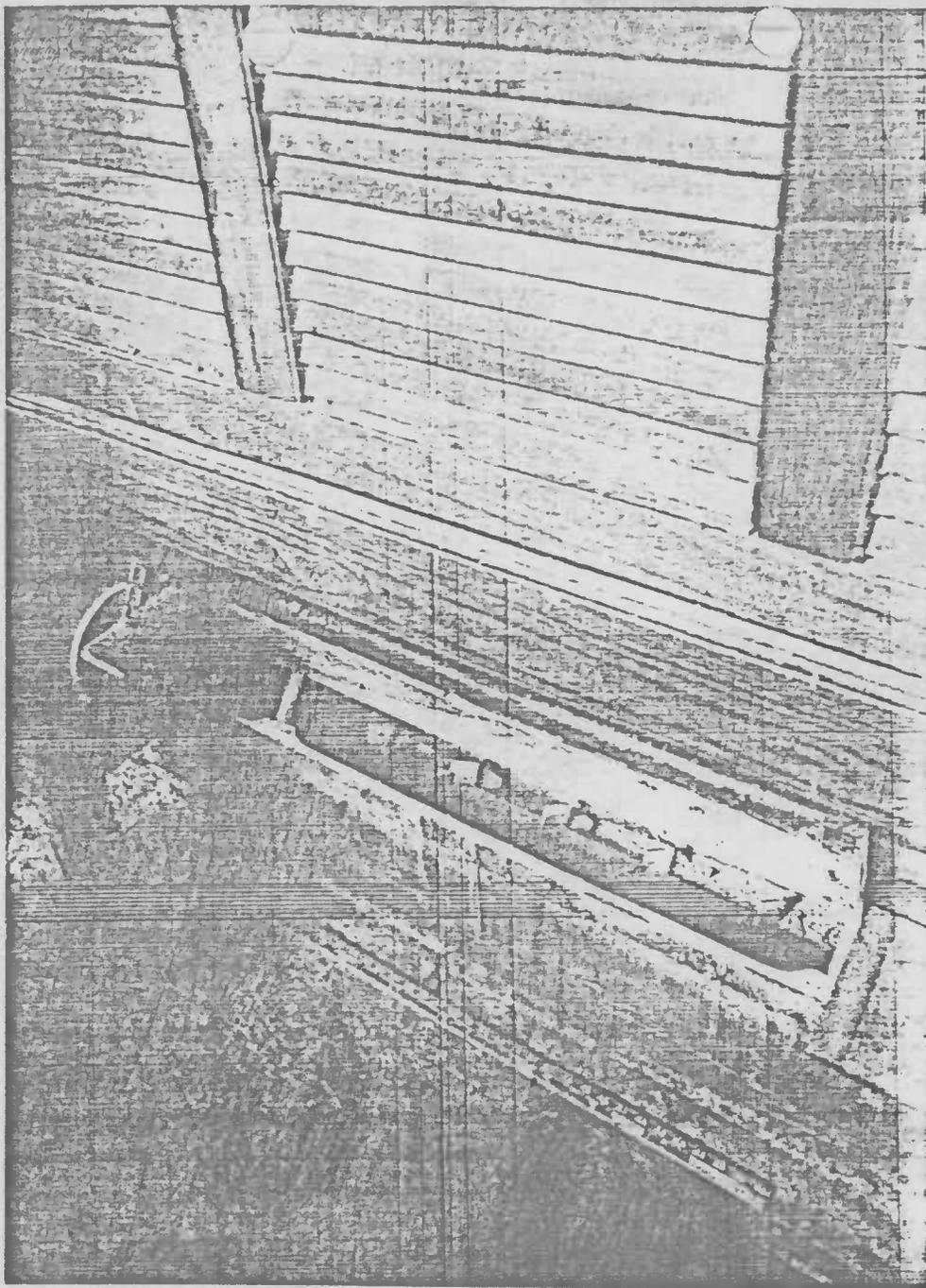
2. 11





#17 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
silk screen sifter: door open illustrating
silk screens brush and in the lower section
wooden paddles 17/20

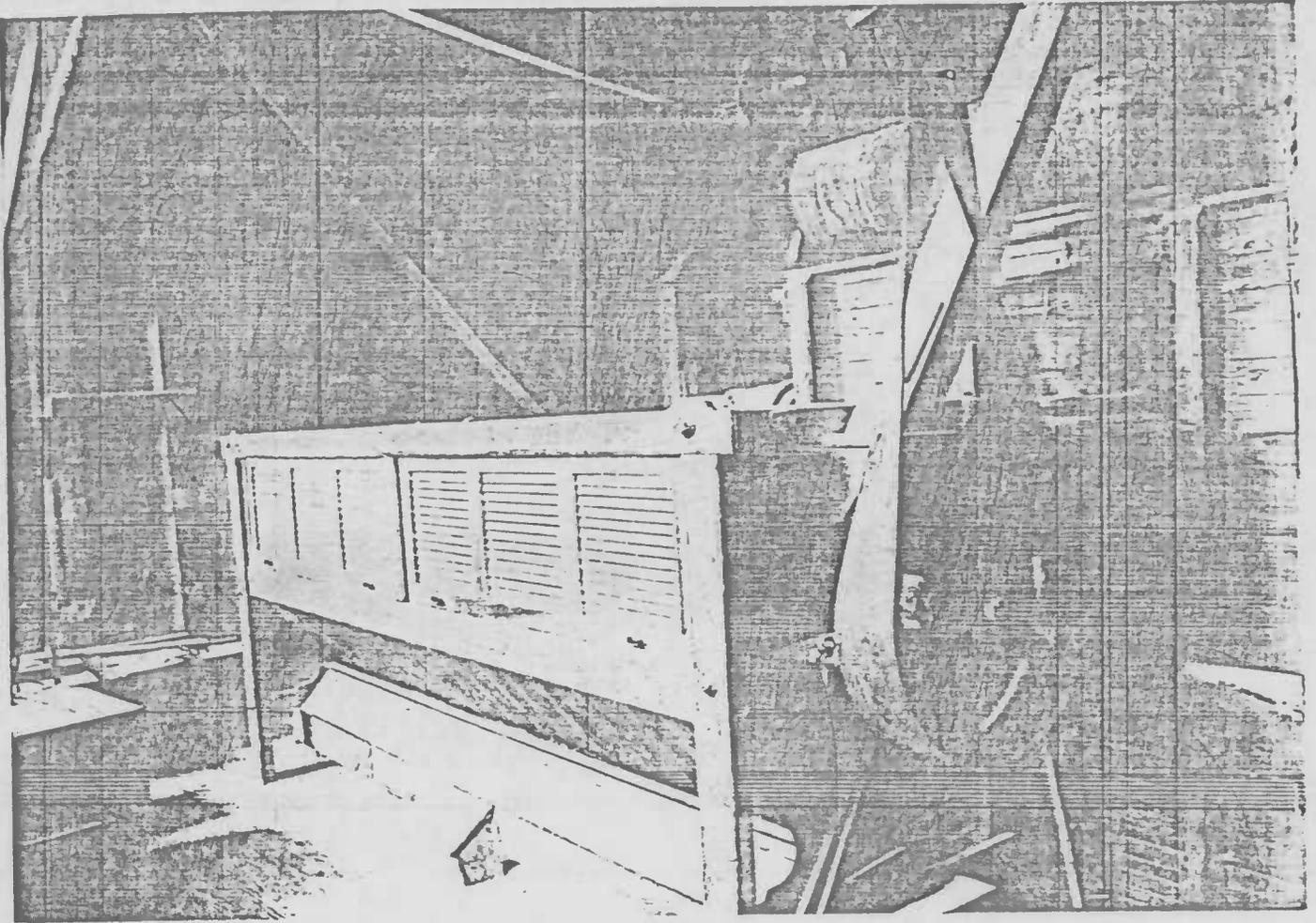
T-437



16 Saint Michaels Mill August 1979
Talbot County, Maryland
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Bottom section of silk screen sifter
illustrating wooden paddles

[Handwritten signature]

T-437

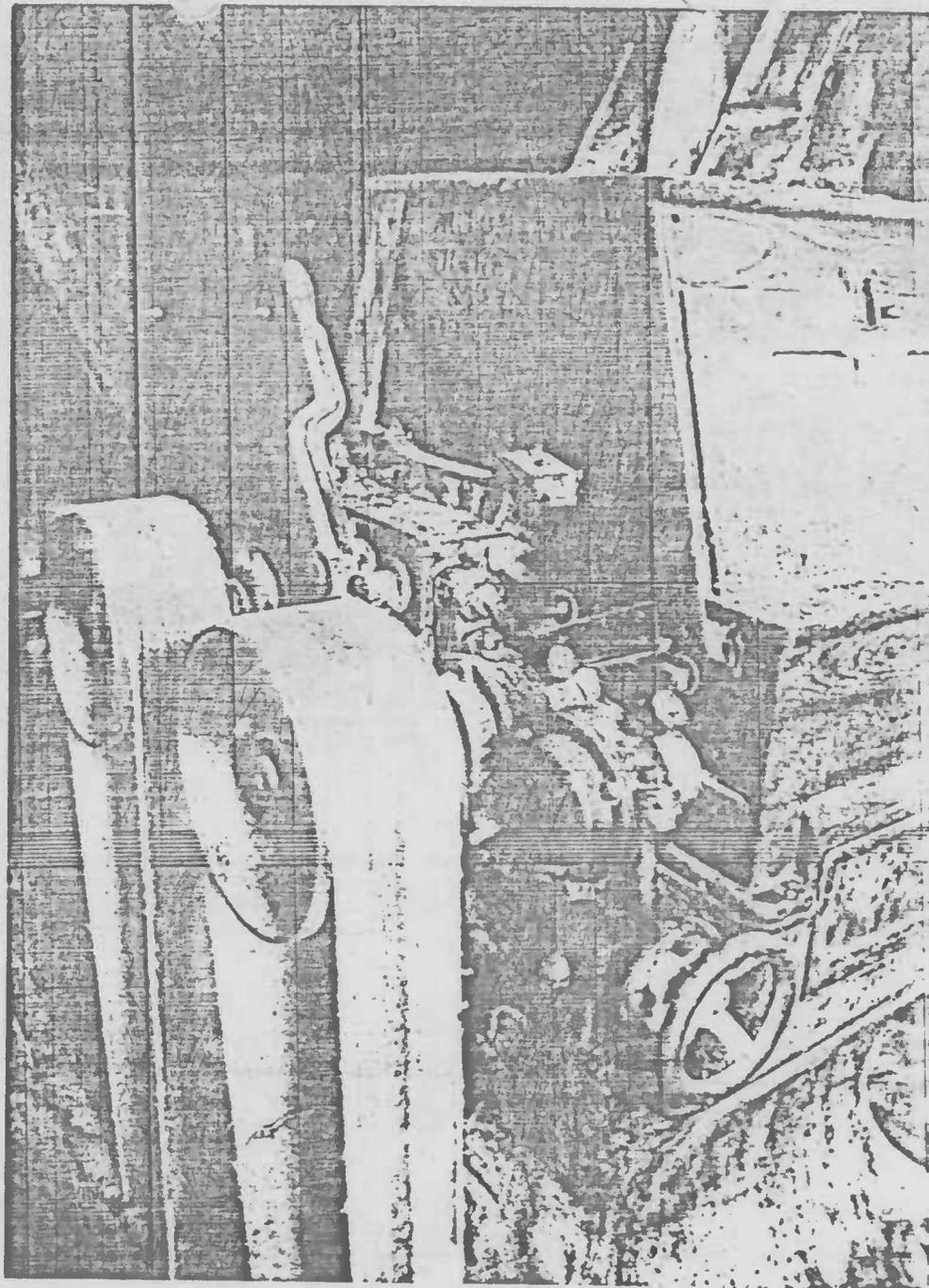


#15 Saint Michaels Mill August 1979
Talbot County, Maryland
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Silk screen sifter & adjoining wheel/belt
assembly, door closed

15/20

Handwritten signature or initials

T-437

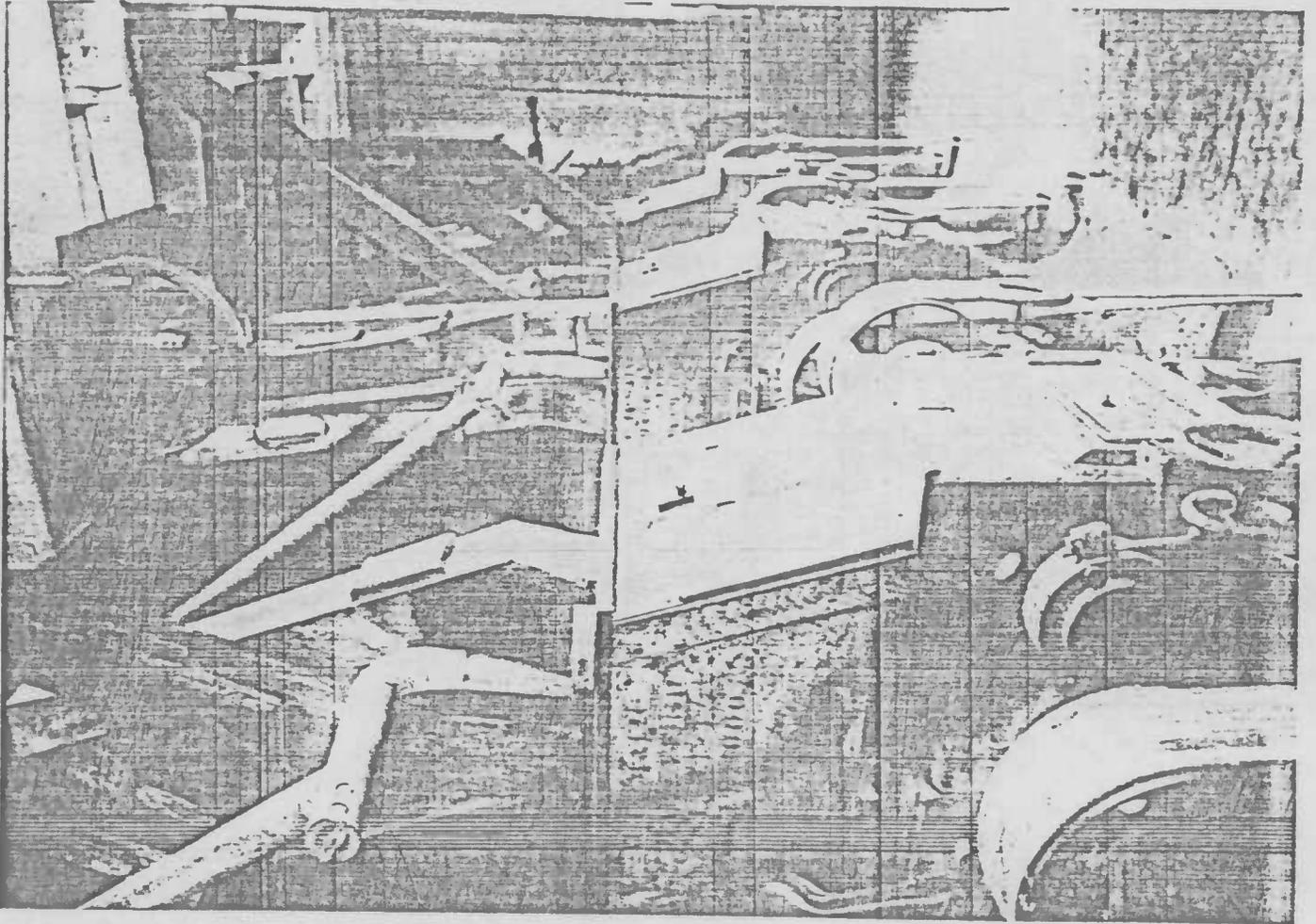


#14 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Close-up of shake feeders & adjoining
belts

14/20

John

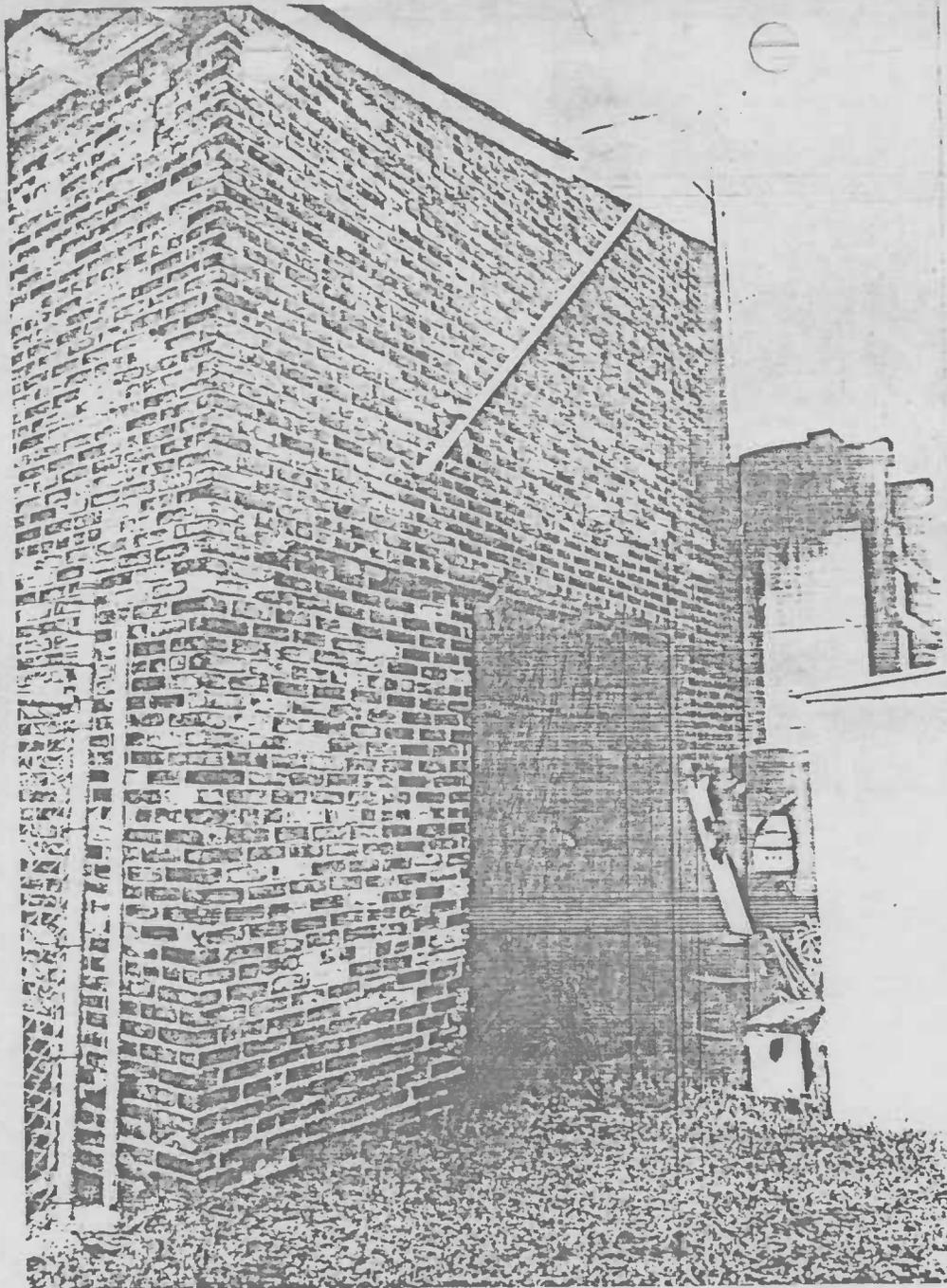
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#13 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Down-line of shake feeders in main section
13/20

ex

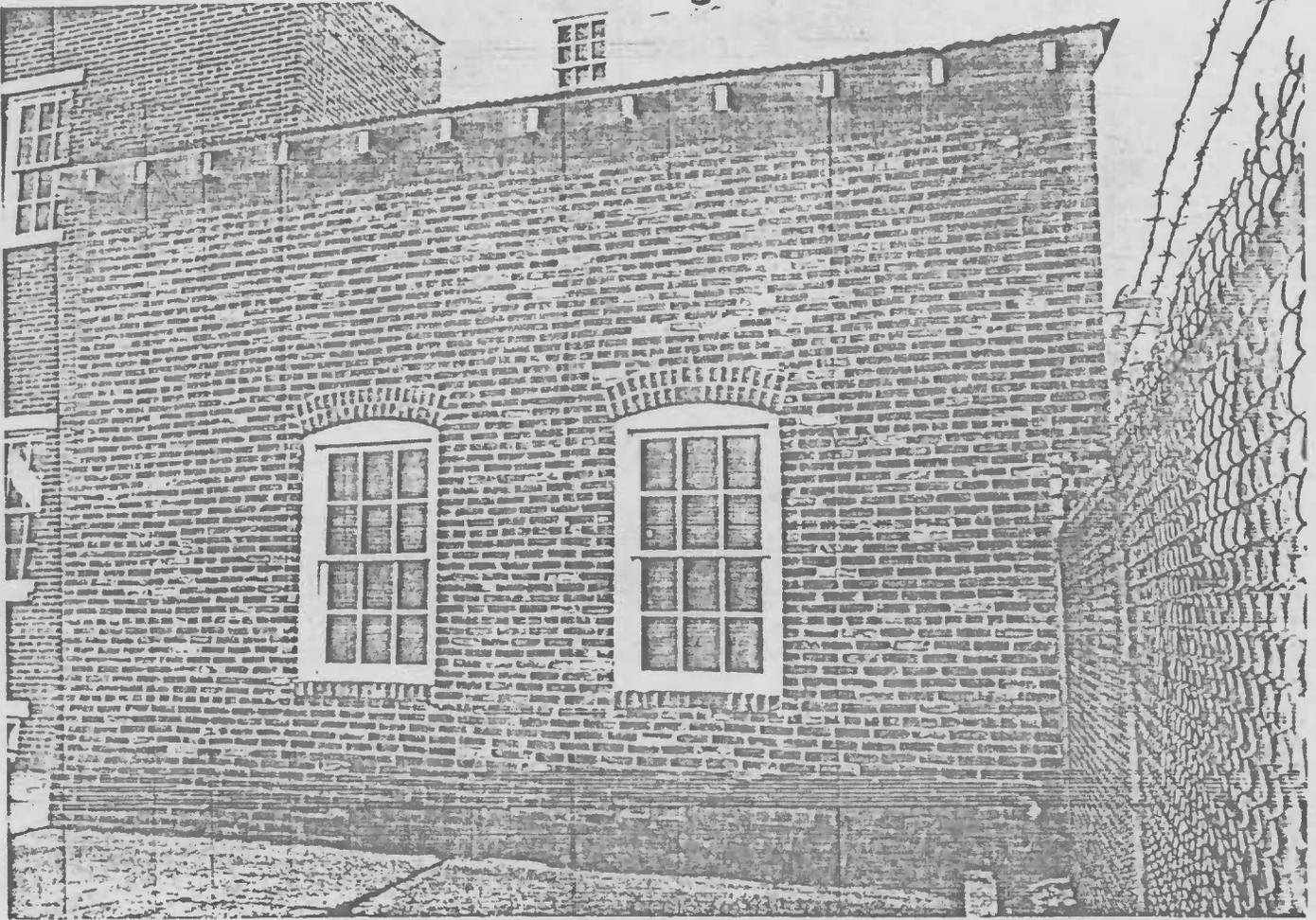
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#12 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Detail of SW/SE elevations

12/20

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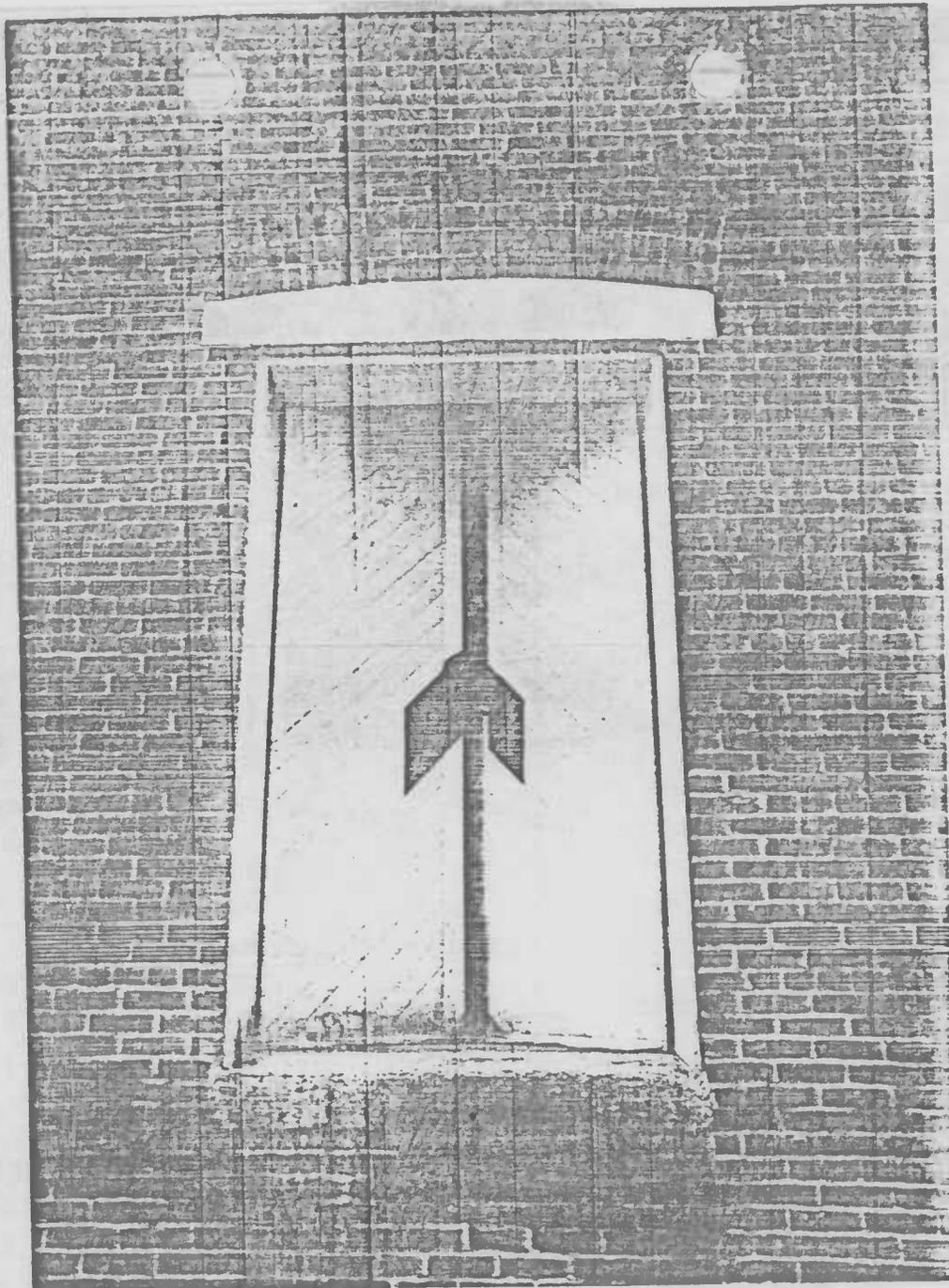


#11 St. Michaels Mill
 Talbot County, Maryland
 August 1979
 Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
 neg: Maryland Historical Trust
 Annapolis, Maryland
 Detail of SW elevation of building

11/20

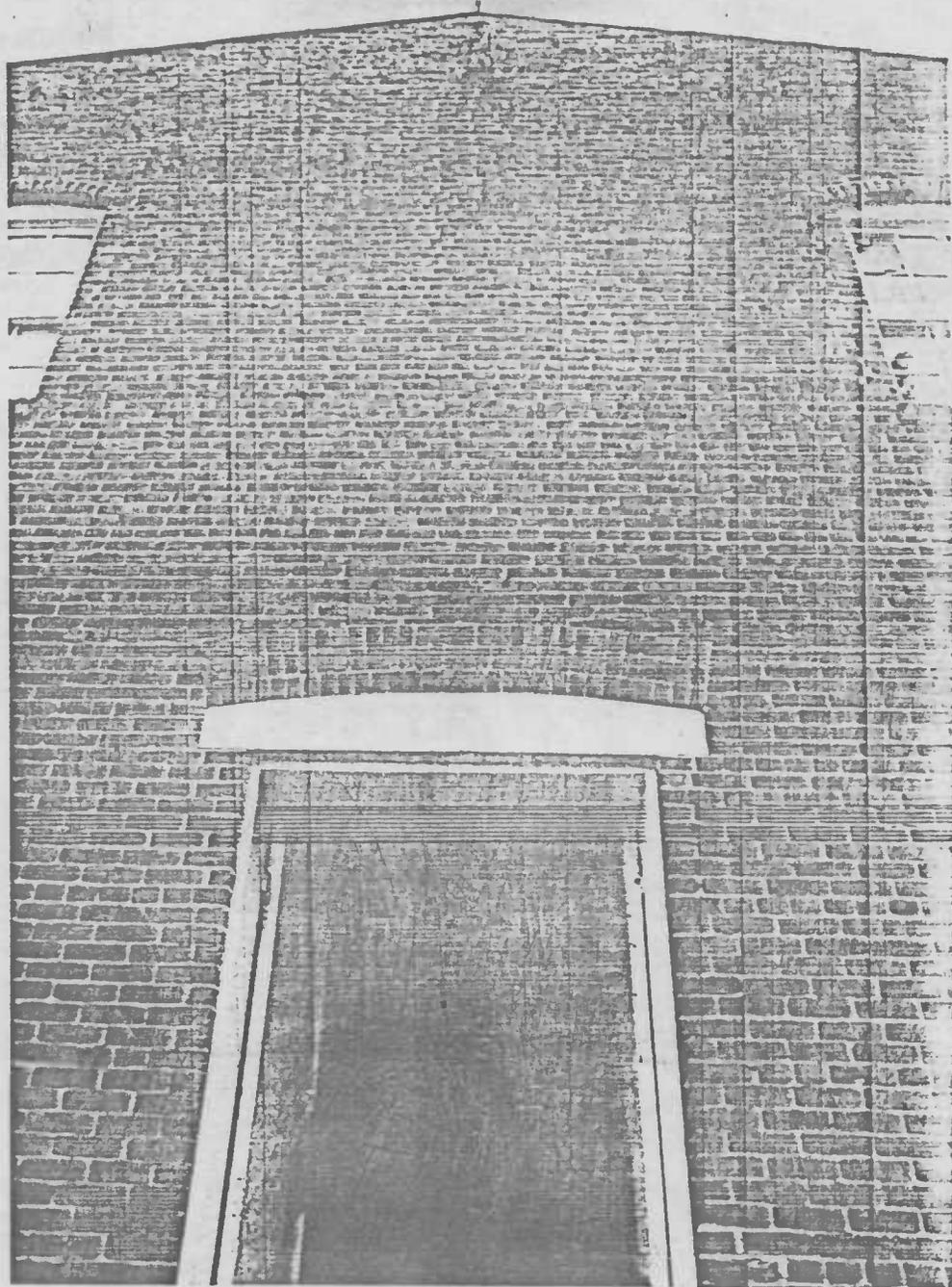
ms

T-437

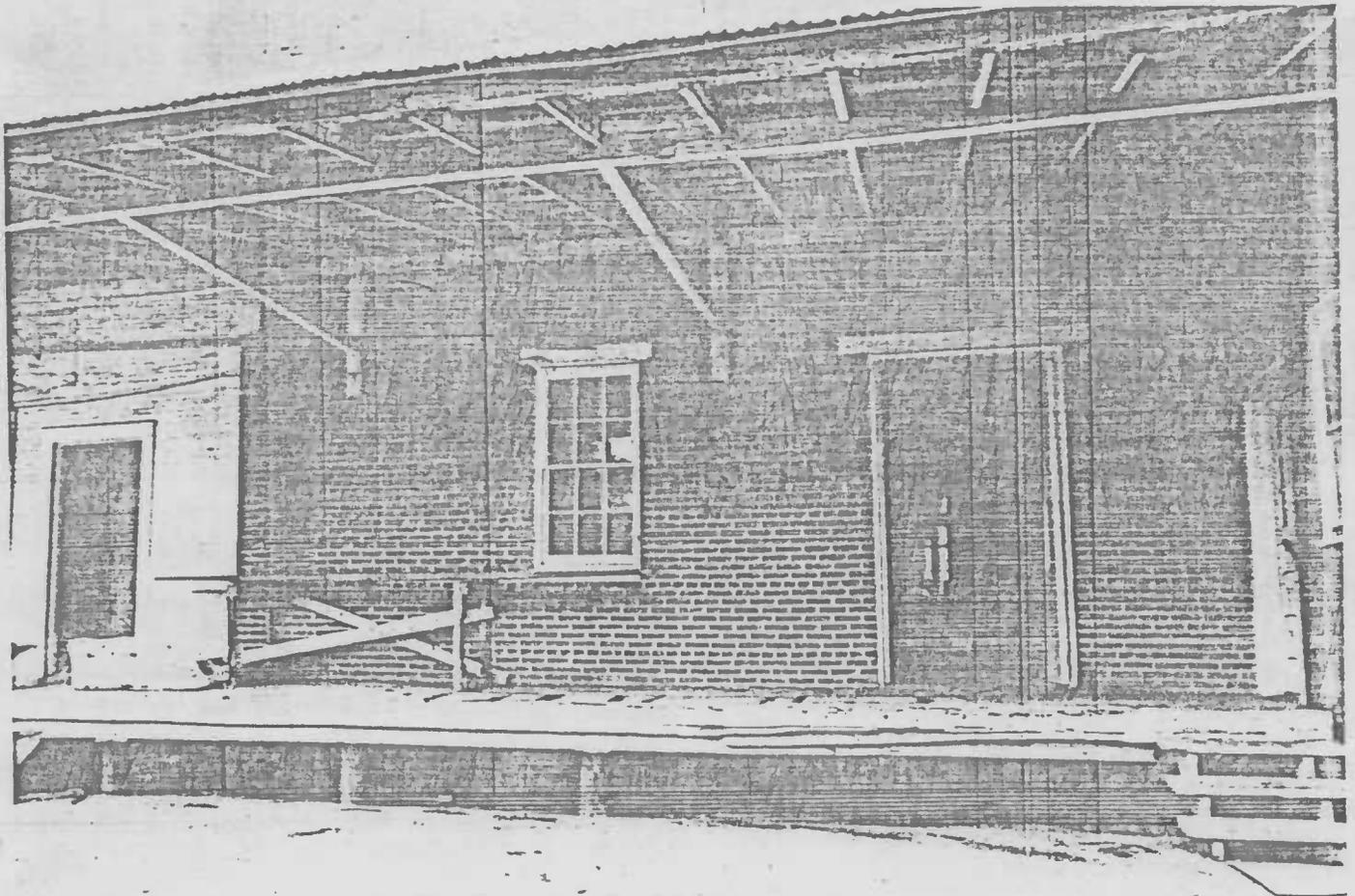


#10 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Door detail of NW elevation of building
10/20

T-437



#9 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
Window detail of NW elevation of building
9/20

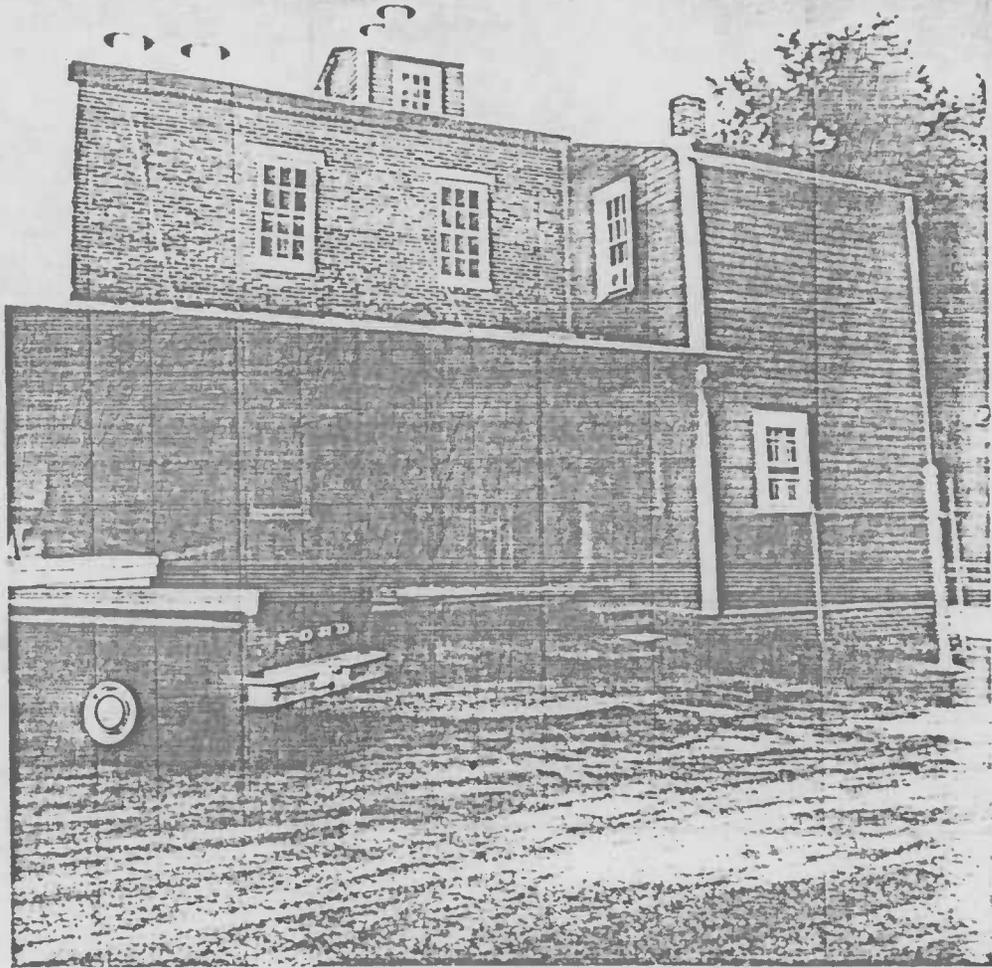


(9) #8 Saint Michaels Mill
 Talbot County, Maryland
 August 1979
 Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPong
 neg: Maryland Historical Trust
 Annapolis, Maryland
 Detail of NE elevation

8/20

BLA

T-437



#7 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
NE/SE elevation of building

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27

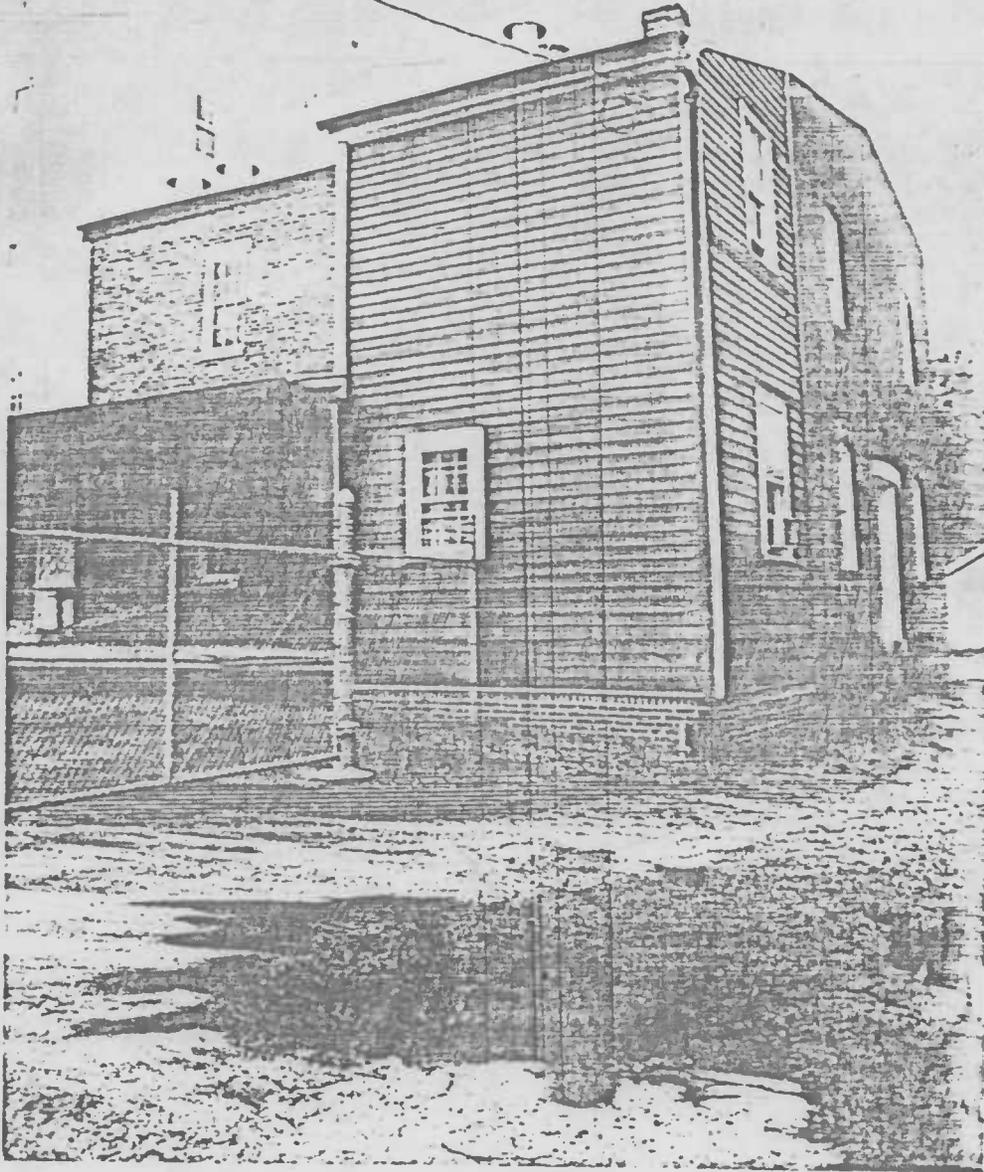
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#6 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
March 1981
Photo: Sara L. Handy
neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, Maryland
NE/SE elevation of building

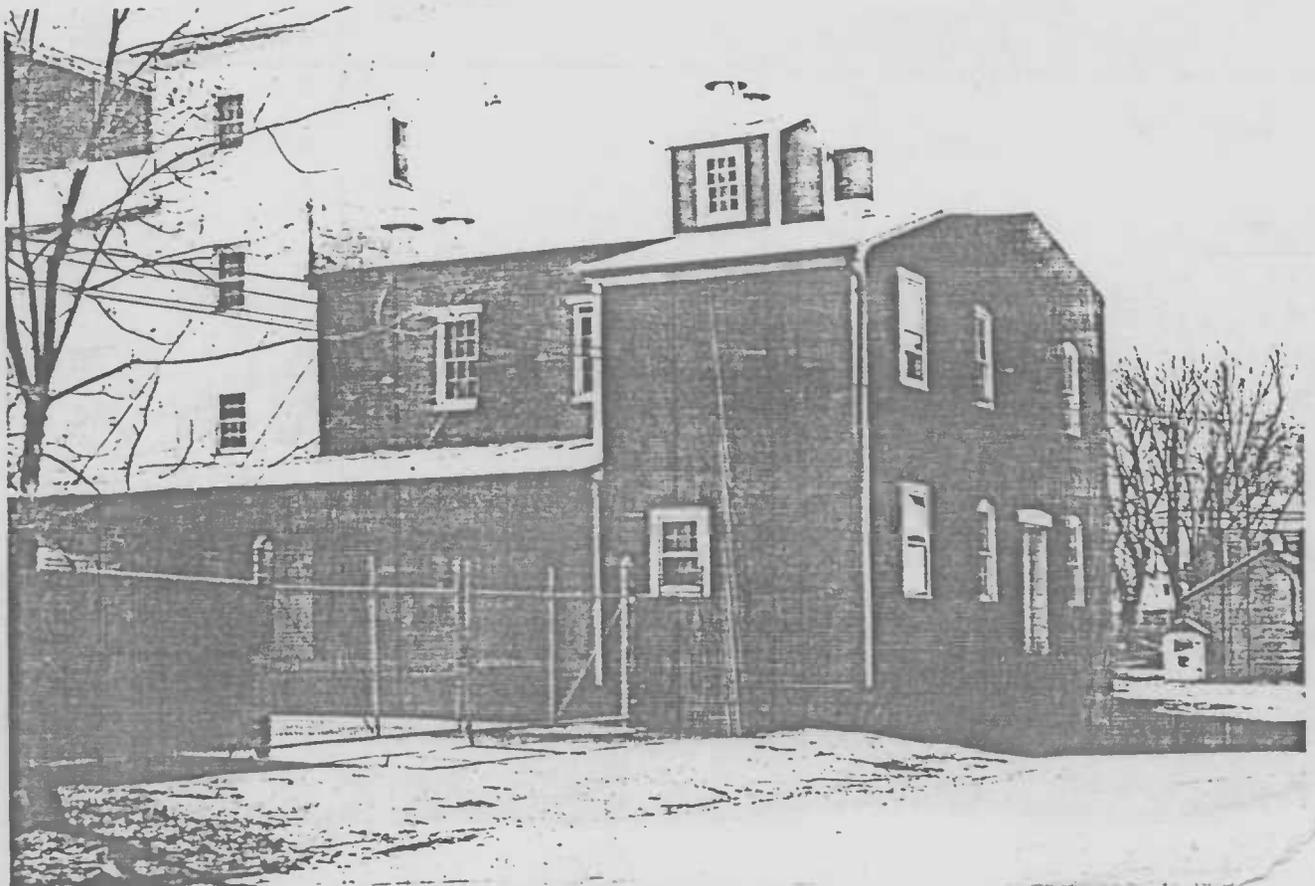
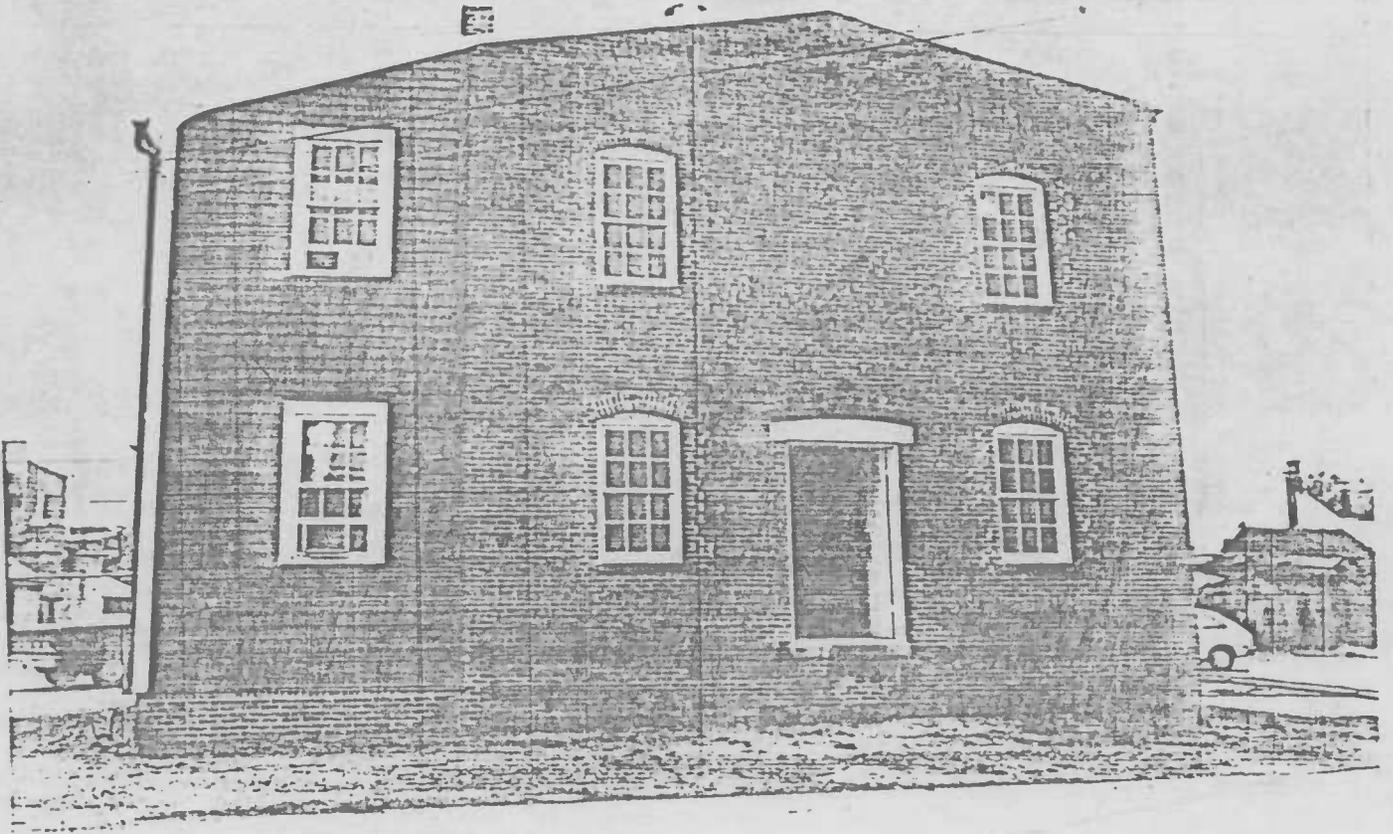
6/20

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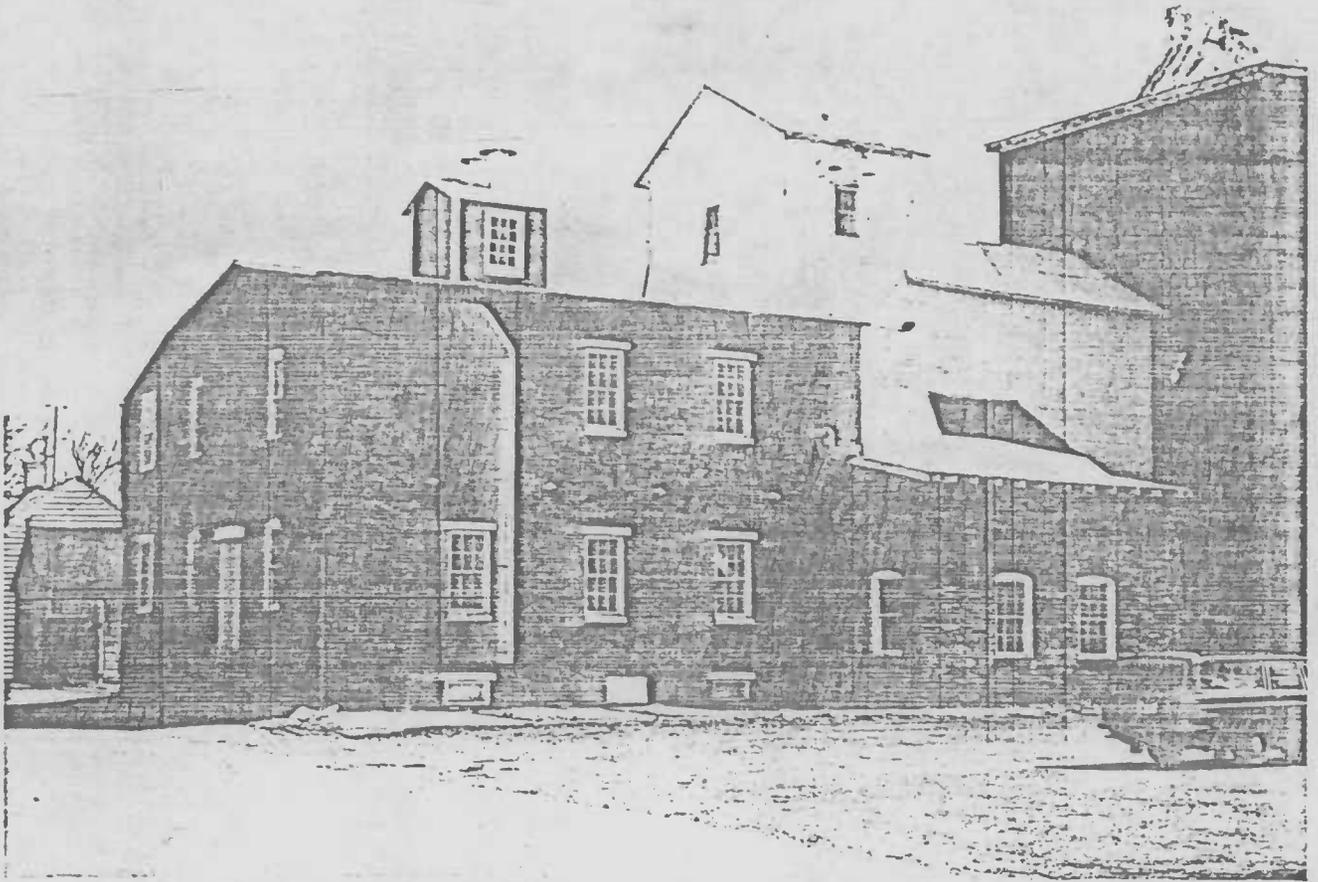


#5 Saint Michaels Mill
Talbot County, Maryland
August 1979
Photo: Mrs. Blaine duPont
neg: Maryland Historical Trust,
Annapolis, Maryland
NW/NE elevations of building

T-437



T-437





12 St. Michaels mill

Clew Avenue facade (full shot)

~~T-478~~

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105%