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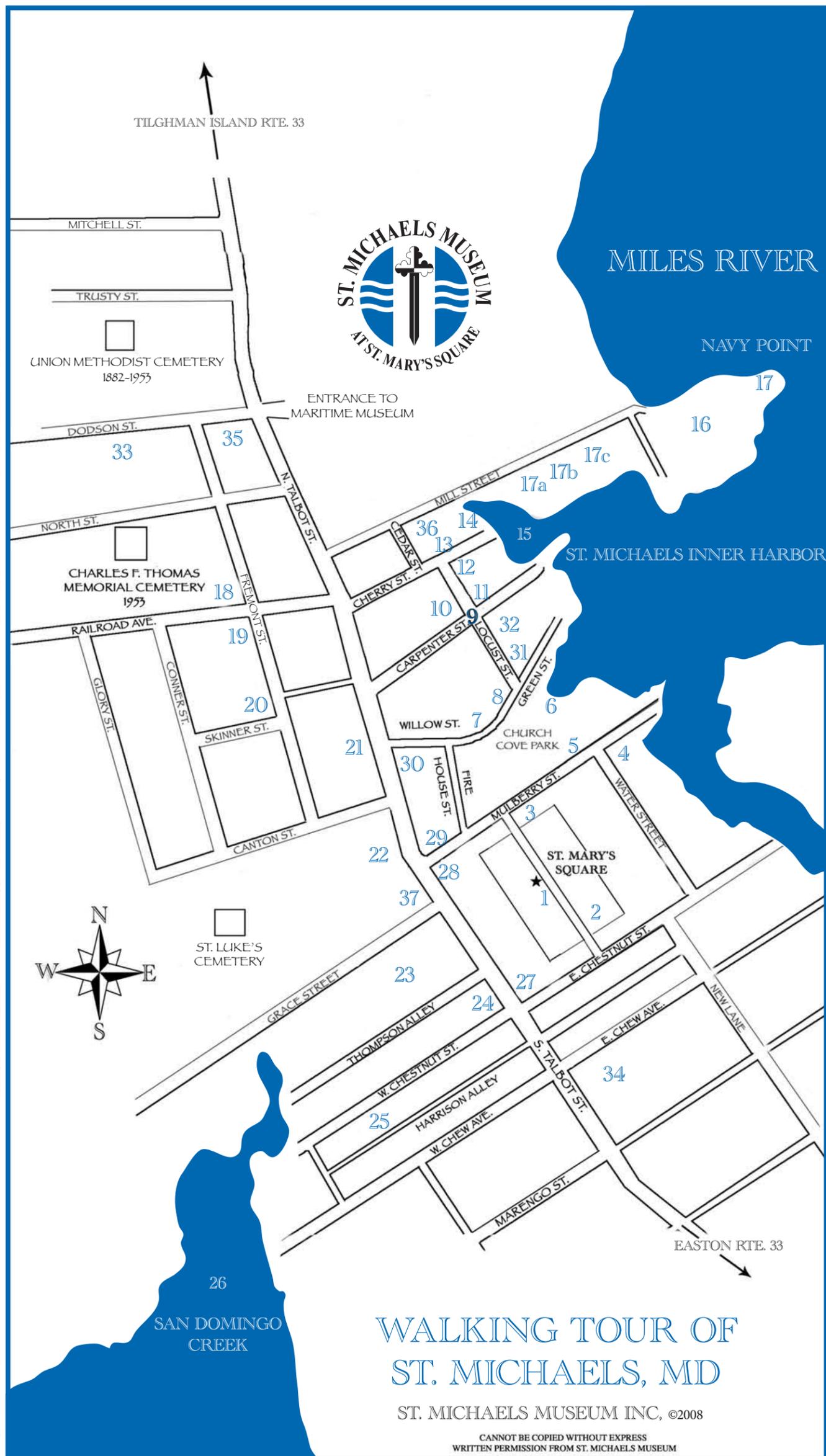
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27. Berkeley Hall



25. Crepe Myrtle Cottage



24. Col. Kemp House



23. Wrightson House



22. St. Luke's Methodist Church



21. Town Hall Mall

1 St. Mary's Square: W1812, FD The Square was a central feature of the original plan of St. Michaels developed by British factor (agent) James Braddock. In 1778, he purchased 127 acres at an auction of the real estate of Captain Philip Wetheral (Site 5). Braddock laid out approximately 20 acres of this land into a square, streets, and 58 lots (mostly 60 x 120 feet), calling his town "St. Michaels" after the parish and river of that name. A "public market house" was built in the center of the Square around 1805. The guns and cannons used in the Battle of St. Michaels during the War of 1812 were stored in it. The large Revolutionary War cannon on the Square was brought here from Sewell's Point, VA. The smaller cannon (nearer the bell) is said to have been used to defend St. Michaels against the British on the night of August 10, 1813. At the head of the Square stands Granite Lodge, built in 1839. The building stands on the site of the first Methodist Church in St. Michaels on land donated to the Methodists by James Braddock in 1781. Between then and now, the building has served variously as a church, schoolhouse and as a storehouse for muskrat skins. Frederick Douglass likely attended church here with his owner, Thomas Auld, when he lived in St Michaels on Cherry St. and nearby farms as a young slave in 1833-35. The Square has been the scene of many gatherings of people including General Perry Benson and his troops leading up to the Battle of St. Michaels. The "Mechanics' Bell" now located on the Square was rung daily at 7, noon, and 5, and measured the working day for the carpenters in the nearby shipyards.

2 St. Michaels Museum at St. Mary's Square: The museum is located on the former site of the St Michaels High School. It is a three building complex comprising: the Jeremiah Sewell House, a 19th century white waterman's family home, the Chaney House (ca 1850), owned by free black brothers and third, the Teetotum Building (ca 1870s) formerly a commercial structure. All three buildings were moved here from other St Michaels locations. The buildings house a large collection of historic artifacts that reflect the history of life, commerce, and culture of St. Michaels.

3 The Cannonball House: W1812, SB Mulberry St. During the Battle of St. Michaels, a cannonball penetrated the roof of this house, rolled across the attic floor and bounced down the staircase, frightening the occupant, a Mrs. Merchant, who was carrying her infant daughter downstairs. The brick house was built in 1805 by William Merchant, a shipwright. William Merchant died intestate, and the house was sold by John Dorgin, trustee, in 1831, for the sum of \$1,000.

4 The Cottage: SB 401 Water St. The house built about 1840, was the home of the Robert D. Lambdins family from 1840 to 1905. Lambdin and his sons were shipwrights who built large Bay craft such as schooners, pungies, and bugeyes as well as the popular working and racing canoes. His shipyard was located behind the house at the foot of Mulberry Street.

5 The Amelia Welby / Captain Wetheral House: 209 Mulberry St. Ca. 1772-1783. This house, built with brick gable ends and brick nogged framed walls, is now covered with mahogany siding. The house was probably the home of Captain Philip Wetheral, who was operating a blacksmith shop and shipyard here at the time of his death in 1774. It was Wetheral's property, bought by James Braddock in 1778, that became the nucleus of the future town of St. Michaels (Site 1). Amelia Welby, called by some the first Poet Laureate of Maryland, and who was warmly praised by her contemporary Edgar Allen Poe, lived here briefly prior to the civil war.

6 St. Michaels Harbor / Church Cove Park: W1812, SB St. Michaels Harbor is central to the town's history. The park, known locally as Muskrat Park, was created in the 1920's by filling in part of St. Michaels Harbor (which used to extend to Christ Episcopal Church). The two cannons are replicas of the two given the town of St. Michaels in 1813 by Jacob Gibson as a peace offering after his mischievous prank (Site 26). The cannons were given by the National Park Service to replace the originals, which are believed to be at Fort McHenry, Baltimore. The originals were confiscated by Federal troops from the Arsenal in Easton at the beginning of the Civil War. The replicas are fired on special occasions by the present-day "St. Michaels Blues," a volunteer group named after the Town Militia during the War of 1812.

7 The Tarr House: 109 Green St. This Ca. 1800-1810, one-and a-half story, Flemish-bond brick house is supported by a raised common brick foundation. The frame addition dates from the second quarter of the 19th century. A frame addition was built around 1870 by Benjamin Blades for Captain Josiah Thomas, then the owner, from flood debris picked up in the Chesapeake Bay.

8 The Bruff-Mansfield House: 111 Green St. Wheelwright and joiner/builder John Bruff purchased the land for this house in 1778 from James Braddock.

9 Hell's Crossing: SB Locust and Carpenter Sts. This intersection earned its nickname long ago from the fights which often broke out among the watermen returning to their boats after a night "on the town"!

10 Small Frame House: SB This house, built between 1800 and 1810, is one of many almost identical dwellings which once lined this and adjacent streets, inhabited by sailors and workers in the shipyards. A house and lot of this type sold for about \$200 in the early 1800's

11 Haddaway House: SB 103 Locust St. This house stands on a lot which once extended to the water. Thomas L. Haddaway operated a shipyard behind this house in the late 1700's, and it has been used for that purpose ever since! The original portion of the house was one of the typical story-and-a-half cottages of the boatyard workers.

12 The Dr. Dodson House/Bruff House: FD 200 Cherry St. The oldest section of this house was built as a tavern by Joseph or Samuel Harrison in 1799 or 1800. The house was doubled in size by Judge William H. Bruff in 1872. In 1877, Frederick Douglass returned to this house to make peace with his ailing former master, Thomas Auld. It was bought by Dr. Robert A. Dodson in 1878; he used it as a residence and office. The first post office in St. Michaels, established in 1802, is said to have occupied the small rear wing of the building.

13 The Snuggery: 203 Cherry St. This house was formerly located nearer the water, on the site of the large mansard roofed house next door, popularly known as the Shannahan House (Site 14). It was moved to its present location in 1870 by Henry Clay Dodson and was given a complete Victorian renovation. The house is one of the very few remaining log houses in St. Michaels. Its date of construction is uncertain, but the lot from which it was moved was leased to Robert Dodson in 1784, and tax records show that a Robert Dodson had a log house on the lot in 1798.

14 The Shannahan House: 205 Cherry St. This house was designed (assisted by the noted Baltimore architect, Edmund G. Lind) and built by Henry Clay Dodson in 1873. It was bought by Norman M. Shannahan in 1911 and remained in the Shannahan family until 1987. The size of the house and its second Empire mansard roof are unique in St. Michaels.

15 The Footbridge: Built on the site of many earlier bridges, today's bridge joins Navy Point to Cherry Street. It has been variously known as "Sweetheart Bridge" and "Lovers' Bridge." It is the only remaining bridge of three that at one time connected the town with outlying areas around the harbor.

16 Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum: SB Navy Point. Dedicated to the preservation of the Bay's maritime history, the waterside museum on Navy Point

consists of 26 exhibit buildings on approximately 17 acres of land. The Hooper's Strait Lighthouse, which dominates the area, was moved into the museum grounds in 1966.

17 Navy Point: W1812, SB This area was originally part of U.S. Navy Purser (War of 1812) Samuel Hambleton's "Perry Cabin Farm." "Navy Point" and "Perry Cabin" were names given by Hambleton, who fought in the Battle of Lake Erie and had a high regard for his commander Commodore Matthew Perry, and for the U.S. Navy. "The Point" was divided into lots in 1849. Soon after that, the three houses located on today's Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum grounds were built: The western most house, the Higgin's House (Site 17a) named for the last occupants, was built around 1856. Next to it is the Dodson House (Site 17b), a three-story brick structure built as a story-and-a-half house around 1851 by Thomas Dyott. In 1886, it was raised to three stories by Richard Dodson, who intended to use it as a hotel. The Eagle House (Site 17c) built in 1893 by the Dodson Family, is on the site of a steam saw and grist mill. A wharf in front was the landing for the steamboat *Olive*, a Dodson enterprise. By the 1890's Navy Point had two oyster packing houses and a canning factory, which were major employers for St. Michaels. By the 1930's, seafood packers, such as the black owned Coulbourne and Jewett Company, were shipping a million pounds of crab-meat a year and 12,000 gallons of oysters per week. In the 1960's Navy Point became home to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum.

18 Union United Methodist Church: 201 Railroad Ave. Built in 1895, this Gothic Revival structure is the oldest African American church in St. Michaels. Local black builder Horace Turner (Site 33) participated in building this structure. It is one of the outstanding buildings in the northeast section of St. Michaels. The land on which the church stands was bought by the church from the heirs of Samuel Hambleton (of Perry Cabin) for \$150 in 1894. Two cemeteries are associated with the church: Union Methodist Cemetery 1882-1953 between Dodson St and Trusty St. on the west side of N. Talbot St. and Charles F. Thomas Memorial Cemetery 1953 between Railroad Ave. and North St. west of Fremont Street

19 Freedom's Friend Lodge: 102 Fremont St. The Lodge was chartered in 1867 and the land acquired in the same year for \$350. As evidenced by a date stone on the right-front corner, this two-story, rectangular, frame lodge building was enlarged in 1883 for the Freeman's Friend Lodge Number 1024 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. There are very few 19th-century black lodge buildings remaining in Maryland, and this structure may be the oldest black lodge in the State.

20 The St. Michaels Branch Library: 106 Fremont St. The library was established in June 1981 and moved to this new building in 2005.

21 Town Hall Mall: 202 S. Talbot St. In 1870, the "Masonic Company of Talbot County" was incorporated "to erect a building to contain a Masonic Lodge Room and a Town Hall to be used as a place of Public Meeting..." In 1872, the Lodge sold the property to a local businessman. Under a series of owners the meeting room was variously used as a bowling alley, movie house, and storage loft, while the first floor has housed a hardware store, barber shop, printing office, and variety store.

22 St. Luke's United Methodist Church: W1812, FD 302 S. Talbot St. Formerly Sarcis Chapel, was constructed in 1871. It replaced the church building on St. Mary's Square (Site 1). The ornamentation and trim on the steeple reflect the Victorian period during which it was built. Worship services are held on the second floor. A large cemetery is behind the church, where several war veterans, lighthouse keepers and the Auld family, owners of Frederick Douglass are buried.

A Walking Tour of Historic St. Michaels



Presented by
St. Michaels Museum
at St. Mary's Square



For information about the museum events and hours of operation call 410-745-9561

www.stmichaelsmuseum.com

The history of St. Michaels is a classic American story. It is the story of life on the Chesapeake Bay since colonial times including boat building from the late 1700's, and harvesting and packaging the great wealth of the Chesapeake, particularly the blue crab and the oyster. St. Michaels' history is about war, as a site of conflict in the War of 1812, about men who proudly served their country since the Revolution, and about slavery, including the life of a young Frederick Douglass. It is the story of prosperity and poverty, depression and resurgence. Come and walk the historic streets of St. Michaels and experience this fascinating American story.

23 Wrightson House: 105 Thompson St. Ca. 1791 The house stands on land sold to John Wrightson by John Thompson for 12 pounds current money in 1791. Early St Michaels carpenter John Bruff worked on this house. Other examples of his work can be found in the Bruff-Mansfield House (Site 8 - his home) and in the Col. Joseph Kemp House (Site 24).

24 Col. Joseph Kemp House: W1812 S. Talbot St. This Georgian-style house was built in 1805 by Col. Joseph Kemp, a Revolutionary soldier and hero of the War of 1812. Kemp actively participated in the Battle of St. Michaels, commanding a cavalry patrol along San Domingo Creek (Site 26). Gen. Robert E. Lee spent two nights in the house as a guest of the then owners Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Sparks. The Sparks' previous house on Mulberry Street was burned down because of his southern sympathies during the Civil War era.

25 The Crepe Myrtle House: 112 W. Chestnut St. This house, built by the Bruff family, is located on part of a tract called "Chance," originally patented to Arthur Emory in 1673 and resurveyed for Edward Elliott in 1725. It was built between 1815 and 1840 in the tradition of the Wrightson House (Site 23) and The Cottage (Site 4). With traditional story-and-a-half, steeply pitched roof, and dormer windows, it is a larger version of local artisan's houses of the first half of the 19th century.

26 San Domingo Creek: W1812 West end of W. Chew St. Believed to be named for the Caribbean Island of San Domingo, this body of water is locally known as "Back Creek." This creek was the site of many boatyards and Jacob Gibson's prank on the Town of St. Michaels during the War of 1812. One can read about this escapade in a booklet entitled "The Town That Fooled the British" (available at the St. Michaels Museum) written by the late Gilbert Byron of St. Michaels. Visitors can see replicas of Gibson's cannon near the harbor in Church Cove Park (Site 6).

27 Spencer/Berkeley's Hall: 417 S. Talbot St. Ca. 1840. This house was built by Matthew and Elizabeth Spencer around 1840. It was operated briefly as the St. Michaels Academy. The name Berkeley's Hall was given to the house by Dr. John Miller, who resided here after 1847. It remained in the family until sold by his two maiden daughters in 1936. Dr. Miller, a physician, developed E. Chew Avenue and Marengo Streets before the area was included in the Town of St. Michaels.

28 The Old Inn: SB, W1812 401 S. Talbot St. This brick building constructed by Wrightson Jones and his wife Elizabeth in 1816 on land purchased from Samuel Tennant for \$250. It is set on part of a tract called "The Polygon." Wrightson Jones was a shipbuilder during the War of 1812, his yard was at Beverly on San Domingo Creek. Known as the Williams House in 1877, the St. Michaels Comet advertised the inn as having "entertainment for man or beast."

29 Mount Pleasant: 305 S. Talbot St. Ca. 1806. This white brick former residence was built around 1806 by Irishman and merchant James Dooris, a fervent critic of the British during the War of 1812. He purchased the land in 1806, from a prominent planter, William Sears, who had previously purchased it from Christ Episcopal Church in 1802.

30 Christ Episcopal Church: W1812 S. Talbot St. Built of Port Deposit stone, the present church was erected in 1878. It has a fine timber ceiling, handsome stained-glass windows, and is in perfect symmetry. A side porch has been added. Three preceding Episcopal churches stood on this site. The first is believed to have been built in 1677 by Edward Elliot. Located between a cove of the Miles River and San Domingo Creek to the southwest, the church provided easy access for worshipers who came by boat. The cove was gradually filled in, and the new land is now called Church Cove Park (Site 6). The second church was built around 1710, and the third about 1810. The third church served to house troops during the Battle of St. Michaels in the War of 1812. During the 1878 construction of the present edifice 65 years after the battle, several muskets were discovered under the flooring, believed to have been left there by troops bivouacked in the church. During the 1878 reconstruction, the church was extended over part of the graveyard. The rest of the old graveyard remains around the church.

31 Thomas Harrison House: 201 Green St. The oldest two-story frame structure still standing in St. Michaels. The early history of this lot is linked to Thomas Harrison, house carpenter, who constructed the dwelling sometime before 1798. One of only a few structures in St. Michaels listed in the Federal Tax of 1798 listed as an unfinished house listed and valued at \$300.

32 Wickersham: 203 Locust St., 1750. This house was built in 1750 and moved in 2004 to the present site from its original location near Easton Airport prior to a planned demolition. Originally known as Hardwood's Hill, part of a large plantation owned by Robert Hardwood, a wealthy Quaker farmer. This large scale one and a half story brick house is noted for its glazed brickwork and 1750 dated bricks.

33 Horace Turner House: 26 Dodson Ave., Ca. 1904. This vernacular Queen Anne style frame residence was built around 1904 by St. Michaels' black builder Horace Turner. He was also involved in the building of the Union United Methodist Church (Site 18). The exterior remains virtually unaltered.

34 St. Michaels Flour Mill: 100 E. Chew Ave. 1890. The mill is the town's only remaining industrial site, built by Arthur K Easter. It operated until 1972. It sold 'Just Right Flour'.

35 The Parsonage Inn / Dr Seth's House: 210 N. Talbot St. Ca. 1870. This house was built in 1870 and was remodeled in 1894 with elaborate brick work. The brick tower was added at this time. The brick came from the Dodson and White Brick Yard in St. Michaels. One of several brick buildings built on the north end of town in the 1870-1890 period, it is the only example of a brick Queen Anne style building in St. Michaels.

36 Mill Street Worker's House: 202 Mill St., Ca. 1880. This house, built around 1880, is the only survivor of three 2-story frame row houses on Mill St. The Mill St. residences were for shipyard, cannery and oyster/crab packing house laborers.

37 Thomas Bruff House: SB 312 Talbot St. Ca. 1800. This house is a three part frame dwelling in the eastern shore style. It is one of the few remaining telescope houses in St. Michaels. Owner Thomas Bruff was a ship's carpenter.

FD: Frederick Douglass site

SB: Ship Building related site

W1812: War of 1812 site

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Look for the numbered St. Michaels Museum Seal on listed sites.

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