



69-005-08 Market Master's House (NR)

4006 48th Street

Bladensburg

Built c. 1765 by Christopher Lowndes of Bostwick on the lot overlooking the adjoining market space, this dwelling is believed to have housed the market manager in the busy port town of Bladensburg. This unique structure remained in Lowndes family possession for 118 years, and is one of four pre-Revolutionary buildings surviving in Bladensburg, which was once one of the busiest ports in Maryland, exporting more tobacco than any other port on the western shore. Traditionally, the house is also known as the "Ship Ballast House" and, although its type of stone is not found in the county, no evidence has been found to support that the material arrived by ship. The gable-roof Market Master's House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990, and is protected by an easement held by the Maryland Historical Trust.