

S-121
Phoenix Methodist Episcopal Church
Cash Corner vicinity
public worship

1897

The Phoenix M.E.Church is located in the southern reaches of Somerset County on the west side of Gunby Creek near Cash Corner. Notable for its unaltered condition, the single-story rectangular frame church continues to remain on a brick pier foundation, and it is lighted by pointed arch colored glass windows. Unlike many of its nearby contemporaries, this congregation did not erect a large bell tower. Instead the entrance is marked by a gabled hood supported by stick brackets. The door is topped by pointed arch transom filled with triangular panes of colored glass. The north gable end of the structure is marked by a simple five-side apse also pierced by lancet windows of colored glass. Complementing the pristine exterior is the unaltered Victorian interior which survives with beaded board wainscoting, a turned baluster altar rail, and late nineteenth-century pews and sanctuary furniture.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-121

Magi No. 2001215608

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Phoenix Methodist Episcopal Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number East side of Phoenix Church Road not for publicationcity, town Parsonville vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> dlstrict	<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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Trustees of Phoenix M.E. Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Crisfield state and zip code Md. 21817

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk Of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-121

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 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.

Phoenix M.E. Church stands on the east side of Phoenix Church Road .10 of a mile south of Farm Market Road near Cash Corner, Somerset County, Maryland. The church faces west with the roof oriented on a north/south axis. Accompanying the church is a single-story church hall.

Dated to 1897, the weatherboarded frame structure is supported by a brick pier foundation and is covered by steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. The eaves are extended and the soffits are sloped.

The west (main) facade is a four-bay elevation with a gabled entrance in the southernmost bay. A double door entrance is topped by a pointed arch transom filled with colored glass. The gabled entrance roof is extended and supported by stick brackets. A small lancet window marks each side of the entrance vestibule. The adjacent three bays are filled with pointed arch sash windows with colored glass. The marble datestone is located in the lower south corner and is inscribed, "Phoenix M.E. Church, 1897". Rising from the roof is a narrow brick stove stack.

The north gable end has a single-story three-sided apse lighted by two colored glass pointed arch sash windows.

Colored glass sash windows divide the east elevation into four even bays, and an interior brick stove stack rises from the east side. Two pointed arch colored glass windows mark the south gable end.

The one-room church interior has a high beaded board ceiling and milkglass chandeliers. The raised altar is divided from the sanctuary by a turned baluster railing, and the small apse is lighted by lavender glass windows. Victorian period choir chairs and sanctuary pews complete the significant interior furnishings.

Standing east of the church is a single-story three-bay by three-bay frame church hall with a gable-front entrance and six over one sash windows. The structure is sheathed with narrow weatherboards and covered by a medium sloped asphalt shingle roof.

8. Significance

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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 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 1897

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

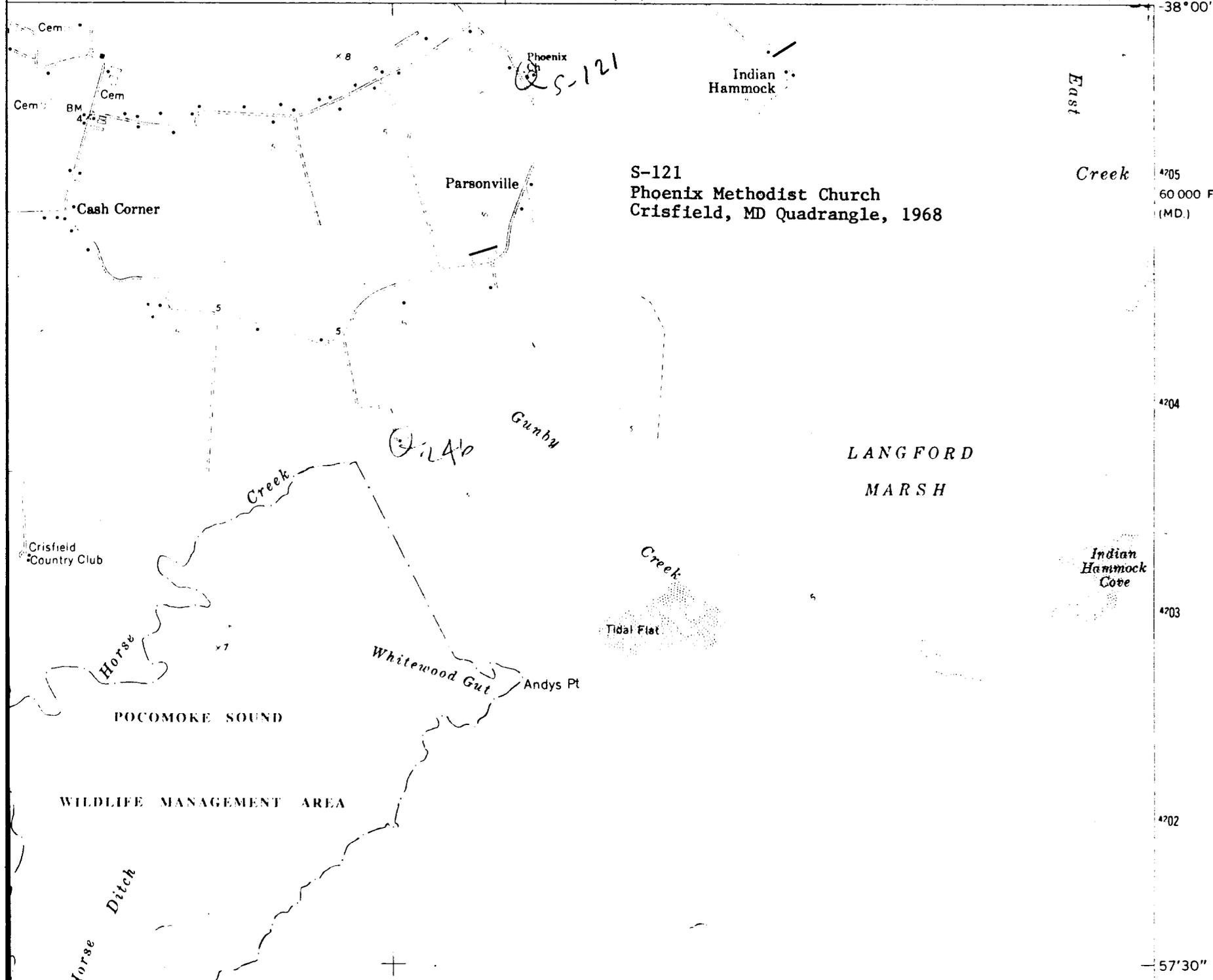
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Phoenix M.E. Church is one of the best preserved rural Victorian churches in southern Somerset County. The simple architectural references to the Gothic Revival style; i.e. the pointed arch windows and doors and the steeply pitched gable roof, are common features for small rural church buildings. Inside, church furniture as well as the interior wall and ceiling surfaces appear unaltered since the late nineteenth century.

MARYLAND-VIRGINIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

58° 00' 11" S
(KINGSTON)

III SE
TION) 429 430 47'30" 431 1 150 000 FEET (MD.) 432 433 434 75° 45' -38° 00'



S-121
Phoenix Methodist Church
Crisfield, MD Quadrangle, 1968

East
Creek

LANGFORD
MARSH

Indian
Hammock
Cove

POCOMOKE SOUND

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

57'30"



Phoenix Church
Near Parsonville, Somerset County
North Elevation
7/85 Photographer - Paul Touart
Neg/Maryland Historical Trust

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Phoenix Church

S-121

Near Parsonville, Somerset County

Church Hall - Northwest

7/85 Photographer - Paul Touart

Neg/Maryland Historical Trust



Phoenix Methodist Epis. Church S-121
Parsonville vicinity, Somerset County
Sanctuary
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Phoenix Methodist Epis. Church S-121
Parsonville vicinity, Somerset County
West Entrance
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Phoenix Church
Near Parsonville, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
7/85 Photographer - Paul Touart
Neg/Maryland Historical Trust

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