

S-308  
Gibson Commercial Block  
Crisfield  
public

c. 1930

The Gibson Commercial Block was erected at the same time as the nearby Crisfield Arcade, during the few years after the 1928 uptown fire. The two-story yellow brick structure is highlighted with the same liver-colored brick used in the decorative cornice and window surrounds. The center bay is slightly taller than the adjacent bays. The Gibson name is embossed in red brick as well.



# 7. Description

Survey No. S-308

<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.

## Gibson Commercial Block Description

The Gibson commercial block stands on the south side of West Main Street in the center of "uptown" Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story nine-bay brick block faces north.

The c. 1930 two-story yellow-colored brick building is divided into three sections by simple brick pilasters with each bay being three bays wide. A single storefront occupies each of the three sections. The westernmost storefront, now used by Gunter Bros. Appliances, appears to retain its early twentieth-century glass storefront with a recessed entrance, flanking display windows, and a band of small paned, dark glass window lights above the entrance. The other two storefronts have been altered. The second floor has remained unaltered with each section marked by a center, double multi-pane window flanked by single multi-pane sash windows. Each window is framed by a liver-colored brick surround and mounted on a stone sill. Stretching across at the lintel level is a horizontal red-brick band. The upper portion of the stepped parapet roof is decorated with a corbelled cornice of red brick, while the center bay rises slightly higher than each adjacent bay. Located within the center bay is the name, "GIBSON" embossed in red brick. The tops of each pilaster rise slightly above the neighboring wall surface as small turrets.

The sides of the Gibson block are covered by adjacent stores, and the first floor interiors have been modified through the years. The second floor was not seen.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. S-308

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/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** **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.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Gibson Commercial Block is identical to the Crisfield Arcade with its yellowish brick facade highlighted by liver-colored brick used around windows and for the cornice. The Gibson Block was erected at the same time as the arcade, during the few years after the 1928 fire.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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 Zone Easting Northing

B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 7-31-85

street & number 424 N. Somerset Ave telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

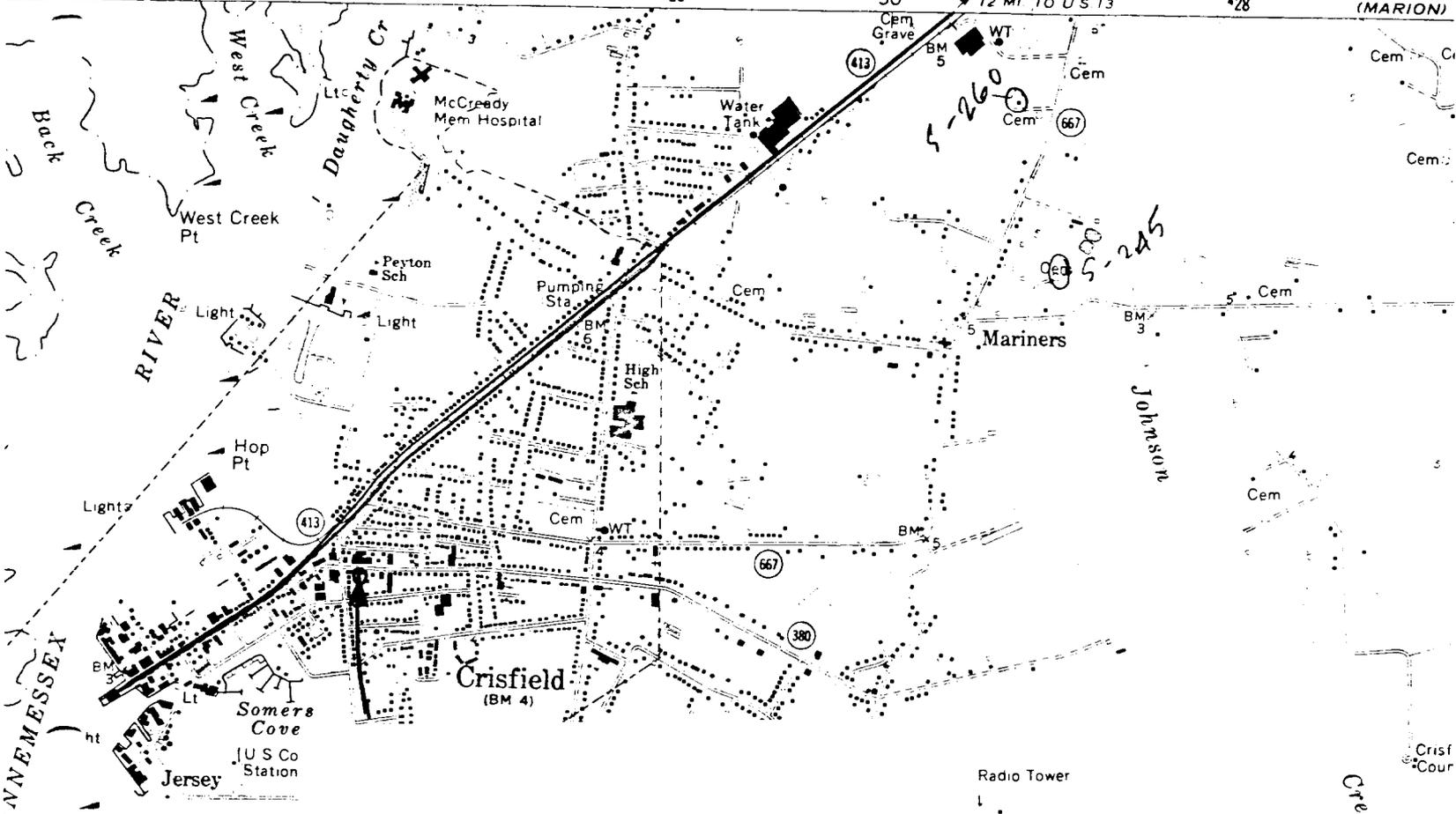
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

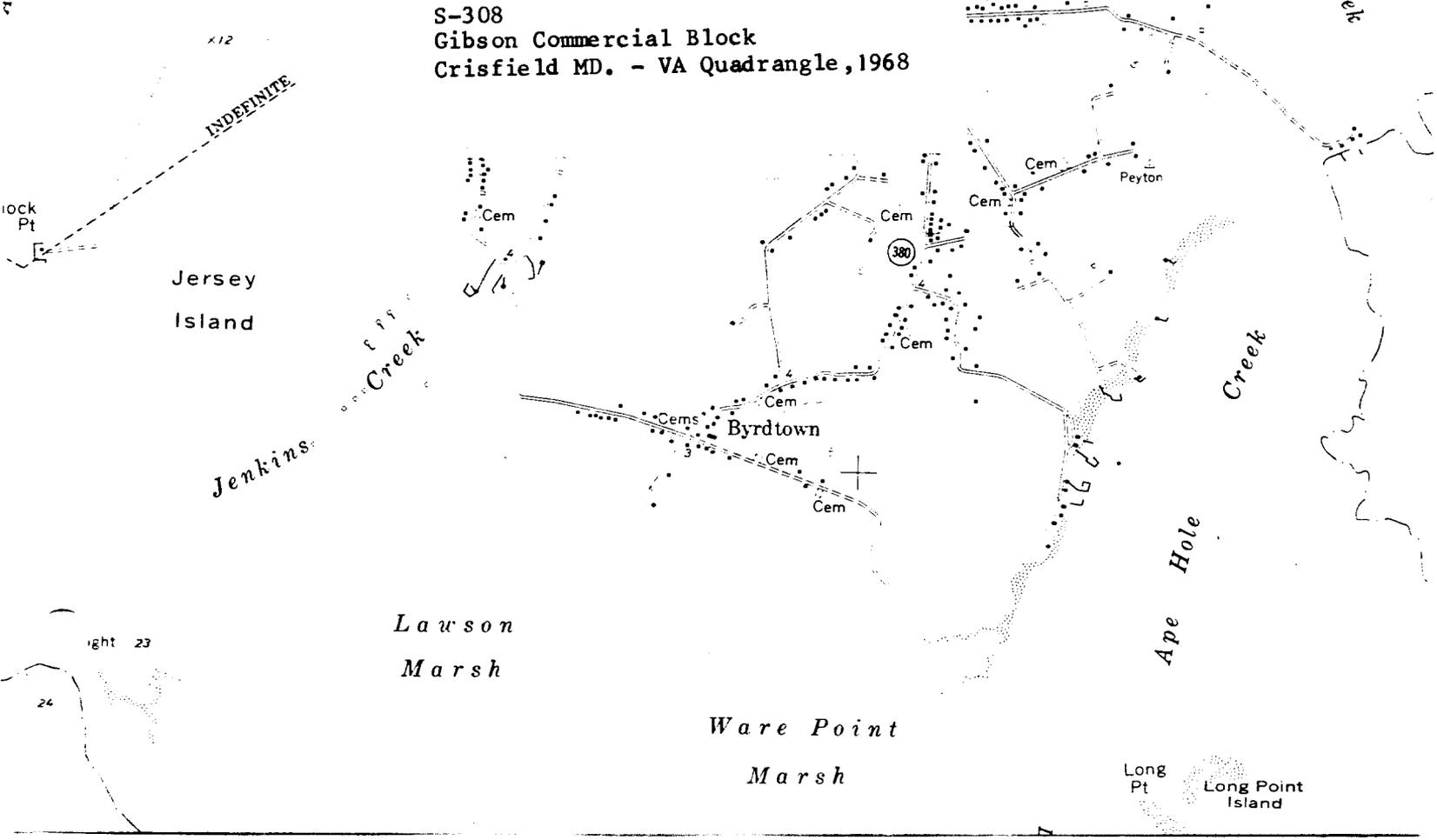
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 269-2438

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

424000m E 2 760 000 FEET (VA.) 425 426 50' 12 MI. TO U.S. 13 428 5860 III SE (MARION)



S-308  
Gibson Commercial Block  
Crisfield MD. - VA Quadrangle, 1968



GIBSON

**DOLLAR**  
GENERAL STORES

SELF SERVICE

Whirlpool

RCA

GUTTER BROS. APPLIANCES

Hardware

Sporting Goods



Gibson Commercial Block  
Crisfield, Somerset County  
North Elevation  
7/85, Photographer, Paul Touart  
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

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