

D-771
Old Hurlock Post Office
Hurlock
1967
Public

Characteristic of the modernist architectural styles of the mid twentieth century, the former Hurlock Post Office, now the Hurlock Free Library, stands out distinctly on South Main Street with its low pitched gable roof, wide extended eaves, and beautiful, multi-colored coursed sandstone walls. A sheltered recess window and entrance wall of glass and aluminum grills dominates the Main Street elevation, which is accented at each end by the coursed sandstone ranging from yellowish buff to reddish brown. The asymmetrical design under a low pitched roof, and its mixed use of natural and modern materials are akin to the building aesthetics exposed by Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School of architecture, although the Hurlock Post Office represents a diluted version of this design approach in as much as it was created from a pragmatic governmental use in a small, rural town setting. Built in 1967 and used as a post office for over a quarter century, the building was successfully adapted into the town library, which was dedicated in 1999. The library had been housed for several decades in the single-story, gable-front frame structure that stands immediately to the north.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-771

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Hurlock Post Office
 other Hurlock Library

2. Location

street and number 222 South Main and School Street not for publication
 city, town Hurlock vicinity _____
 county Dorchester

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

name Mayor and Council of Hurlock
 street and number P. O. Box 327 telephone 410-943-4181
 city, town Hurlock state MD zip code 21643

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber _____ folio _____
 city, town Cambridge tax map _____ tax parcel _____ tax ID number _____

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

**Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory**

7. Description

Inventory No. D-771

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The old Hurlock Post Office, now housing the Hurlock Free Library, stands at 222 South Main Street on the northwest corner of the intersection of South Main and School Street. Built around 1967, the single-story coursed sandstone structure faces northeast with the gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis. The old Post Office is located adjacent to the former Hurlock Library situated immediately north. (See D-764)

The old Hurlock Post Office is a single-story frame, stone, and glass walled structure resting on a slab foundation and covered with a broad low pitched gable roof with extended eaves and sheathing of asphalt shingles.

The northeast (main) elevation is an asymmetrical façade of stone, glass and wood incorporated under a broad eave. The northern corner of the northeast wall, as well as the south corner is executed in multi-colored sandstone that ranges from a yellowish buff to a reddish brown laid in coursing of long rectangular blocks. A vertical window section squeezed in between the front wall and the plane of the recessed window wall lights a corner office. The recessed window is comprised of a horizontal grid of large glass panes set in an aluminum frames. Fixed in the southern corner of the window wall is a door glass entrance. Adjacent to the side location door is another section of coursed sandstone that forms essentially a curtain type wall that extends forward of the glass wall in order to provide a sheltered entrance.

The north and south sides of the building are defined by sections of coursed sandstone like the front with a central, rectangular shaped relief in wood shingles. There are three small window openings located high on the southwest corner.

The interior has been thoroughly reworked in its conversion from a post office to a library, the conversion of which was dedicated in 1999. There is a small office located in the northeast corner.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-771

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1967 Adaptation to library, dedication 1999

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Characteristic of the modernist architectural styles of the mid twentieth century, the former Hurlock Post Office, now the Hurlock Free Library, stands out distinct on South Main Street with its low pitched gable roof and walls of multi-colored course sandstone. A sheltered and recessed window and entrance wall of glass and aluminum grills dominates the Main Street elevation which is accented on each end with sections of yellowish buff and reddish brown sandstone corners. The asymmetrical design of the building and its mixed use of materials is akin to the naturalistic materials embodied in Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School of architecture, although the old Hurlock Post Office represents a diluted version of this aesthetic in as much as it was designed for a pragmatic governmental use in a small rural town. Built in 1967 and used as a post office for over a quarter century, the building was successfully adapted into the town library, which had been housed for several decades in the single-story, gable-front structure that stands immediately to the north.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-771

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.
Personal Interview with Mayor Donald Bradley, 8.11.2008

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1/2 acre
Acreage of historical setting 1/2 acre
Quadrangle name Federalsburg, MD Quadrangle Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

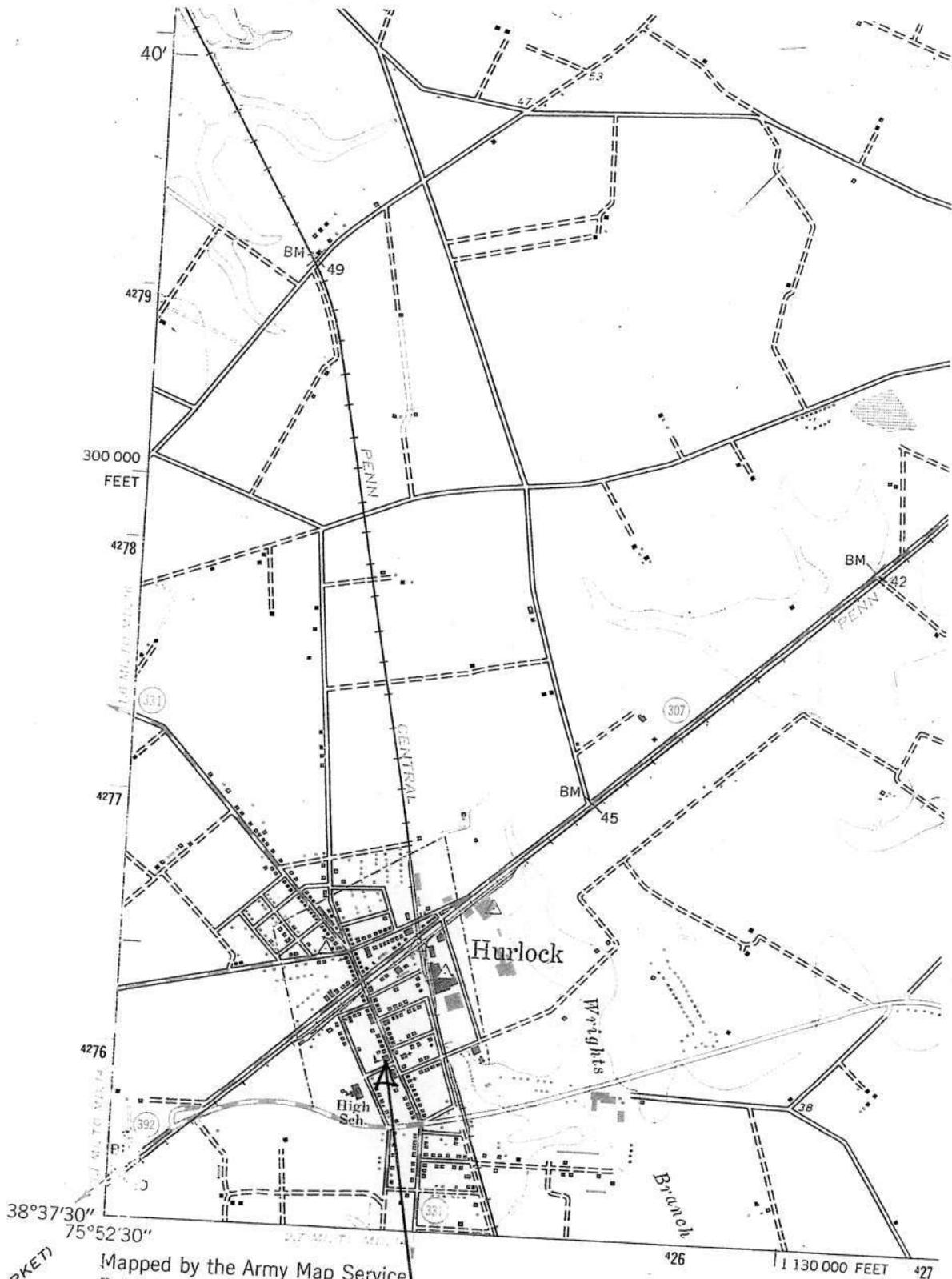
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	8.11.2008
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



(EAST NEW MARKET)
5861 III SW

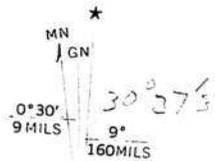
Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey

Control by USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
and by planetable surveys 1944. Aerial photographs taken 1942

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1974. Th



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DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHI

D-771, Old Hurlock Post Office
Federalsburg, MD Quadrangle, 1974



D-771

Old HURLOCK Post Office
HURLOCK, DORCHESTER CO., MD.
SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

7/08, PAUL THOMAS, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

L/W



Hurlock Free Library
FOUNDED 1898

D-771

OLD HURKLOCK POST OFFICE

HURKLOCK, ROCHESTER CO., MD.

EAST ELEVATION

7/09, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEB/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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