

1987

S-297
Ward and Briddell Insurance Office
Crisfield
public

c. 1900

The Ward and Briddell Insurance Company office is one of a collection of turn of the century masonry buildings that line Maryland Avenue between Main Street and the wharf. In contrast to the others, this building has been altered to a larger degree with an exterior layer of stucco and a remodeled interior. Remaining within the building is the old insurance office safe.

7. Description

Survey No. S-297

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.

Ward and Briddell Insurance Company Office Description

The Ward and Briddell Insurance Company office stands on the northwest side of Maryland Avenue (MD 413) in downtown Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The single-story office faces southeast.

The c. 1900 single-story stuccoed brick store building is covered by a gable roof that is hidden behind a parapet.

The southeast (main) elevation is three bays across with a center door and flanking single-pane sash windows. Iron bars cover the window openings. Smaller second floor window openings have been clouded. A slightly projecting stuccoed band stretches across the building above the second floor windows, and the upper wall surface is plain.

The side walls are exactly alike with a stepped parapet descending towards the rear and undistinguished stuccoed surfaces. A brick stack rises from the northeast side.

The northwest side of the building is divided into three bays as well with a grilled iron door and flanking barred windows. The top of the wall is marked by a corbelled arch instead of a flat parapet.

The two-room interior has been remodeled but the iron vault, centered within the building, remains intact.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-297

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 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 Ward and Briddell Insurance Company office is one of a collection of turn of the century masonry buildings that line Maryland Avenue between Main Street and the wharf. In contrast to the others, this building has been altered to a larger degree with an exterior layer of stucco and a remodeled interior. Despite its alterations it still retains architectural significance as one of a collection of masonry commercial buildings erected in place of the initial frame structures, that dated from Brisfield's earliest period of development (1866-1900).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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H

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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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 8/7/85

street & number 424 North Somerset Avenue telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne state Maryland 21853

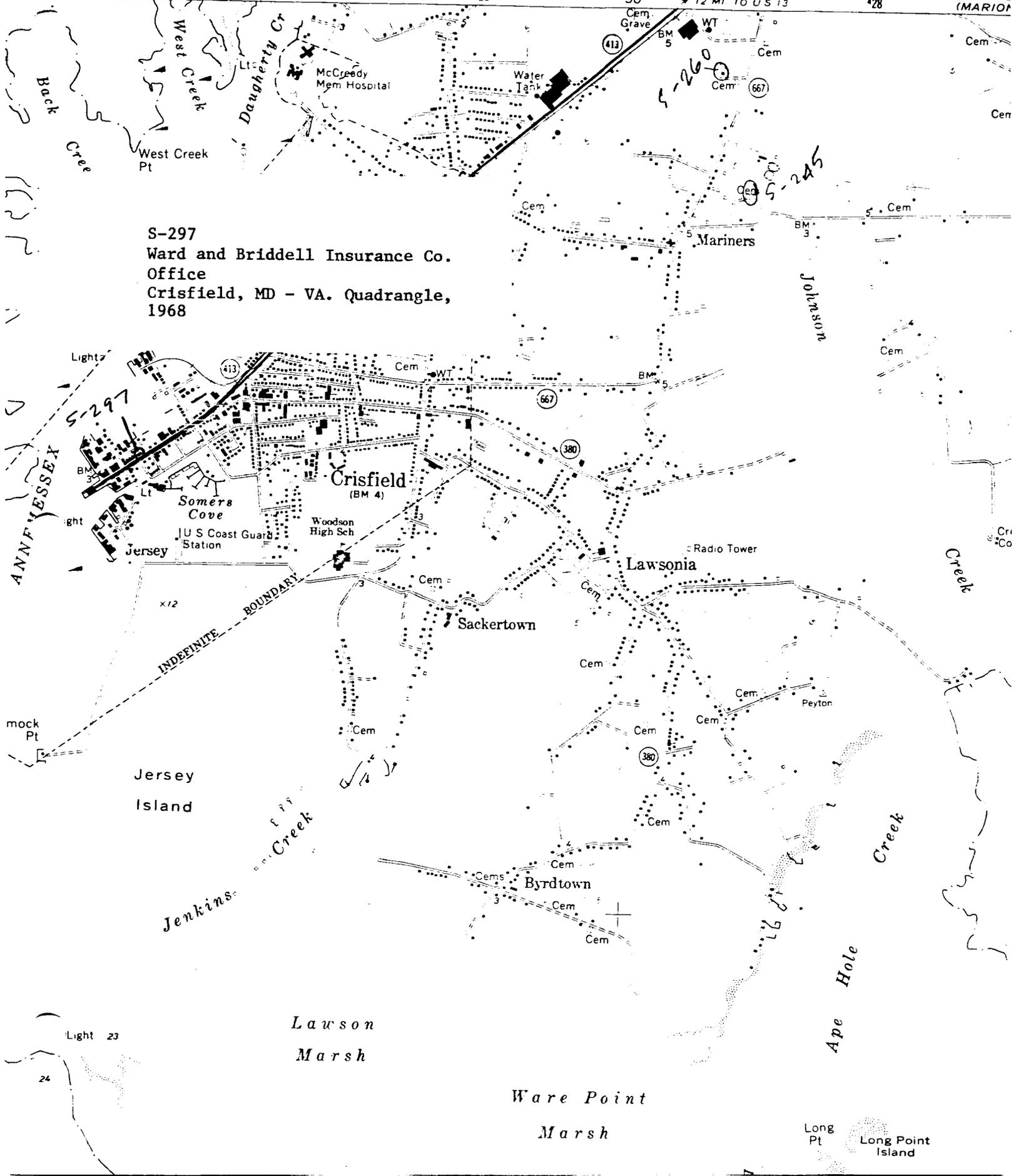
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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 US 13 428 5860 III S (MARION)



S-297
Ward and Briddell Insurance Co.
Office
Crisfield, MD - VA. Quadrangle,
1968

ANNUNCIATION

INDEFINITE BOUNDARY

Jersey Island

Lawson Marsh

Ware Point Marsh

Long Pt Long Point Island



Ward & Briddell Office S-297
Crisfield, Somerset County
Southeast Elevation
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Ward & Briddell Office
Crisfield, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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