

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.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Gibson Commercial Block

and/or common

2. Location

street & number S. side of West Main St. ___ not for publication

city, town Crisfield ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	___ park
___ structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name

street & number 341-345 West Main St.

telephone no.:

city, town Crisfield

state and zip code Maryland 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-308

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.

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

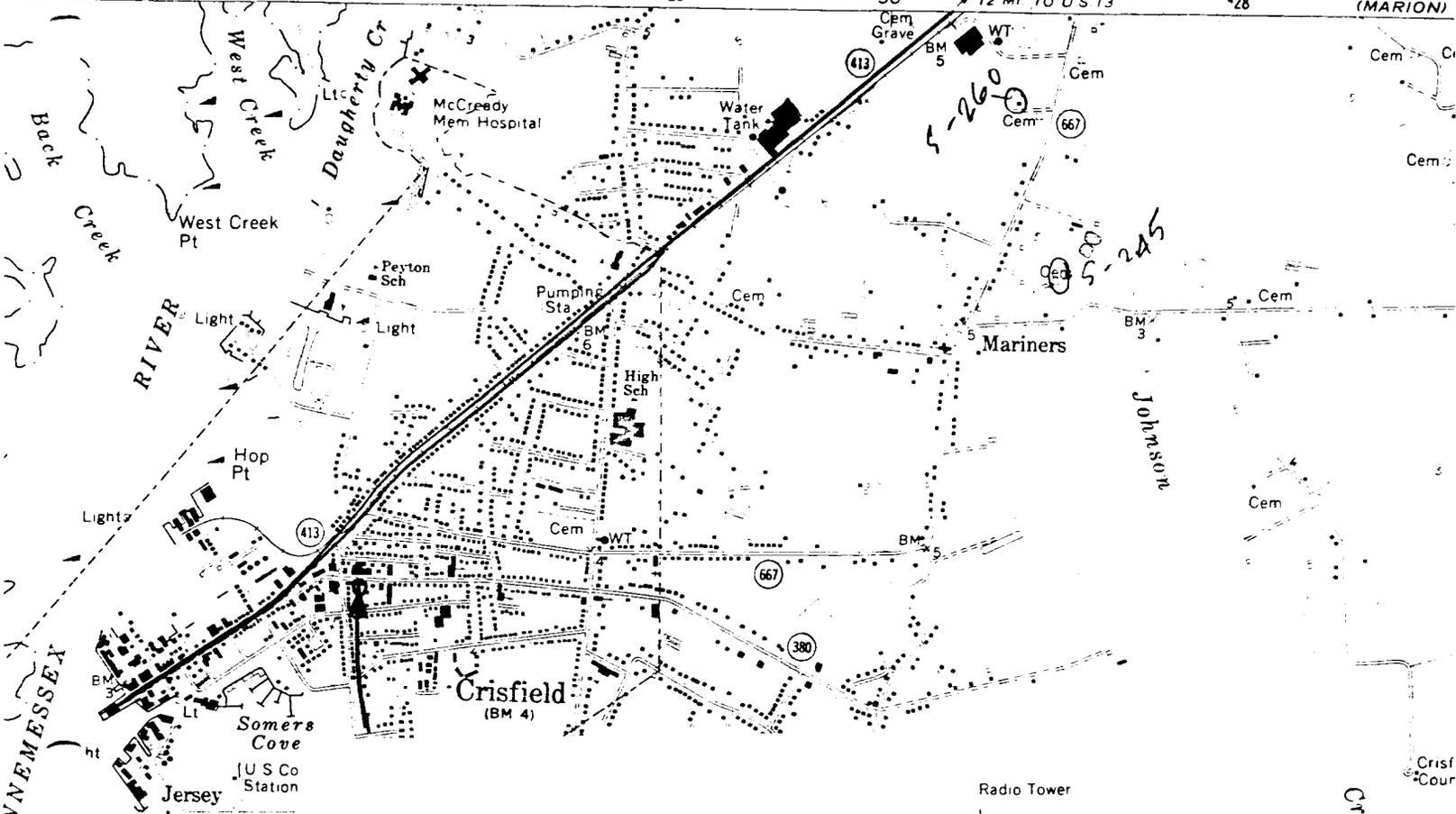
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SIGNIFICANCE

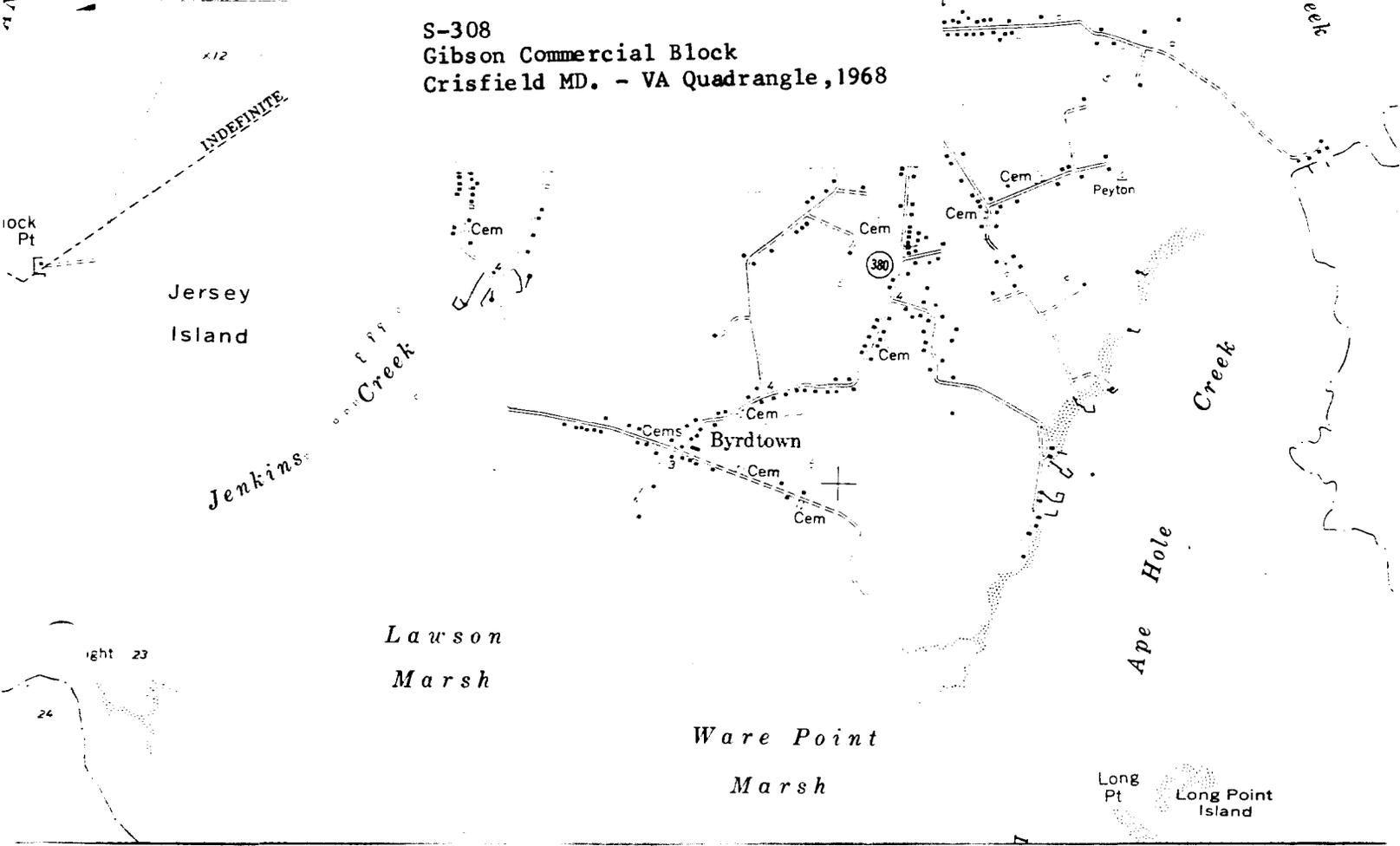
The Gibson Commercial Block is identical to the Crisfield Arcade with its yellowish brick facade highlighted by liver-colored brick used around windows and for the cornice. The Gibson Block was erected at the same time as the arcade, during the few years after the 1928 fire.

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 SE (MARION)



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



GIBSON

DOLLAR
GENERAL STORES

SELF SERVICE

Whirlpool

RCA

GUNTER BROS. APPLIANCES

Hi-Fi

Specialty



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

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GIBSON

DOLLAR
GENERAL STORES

SELF SERVICE

Whirlpool

RCA

GUNTER BROS. APPLIANCES

Hardware

Sporting Goods



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