

S-472  
New Union Asbury M. E. Church Parsonage  
Freemantown  
Private

c. 1920

The New Union Asbury M. E. Church parsonage is an imposing two-and-a-half story frame dwelling that stands on the east side of the early twentieth century brick church. Estimated to date around 1910-1920, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style house, although abandoned, is relatively well preserved with few architectural features missing. A wraparound Tuscan columned porch shelters the main entrance as well as a side door that is incorporated into a projecting two-story pavilion on the east elevation. The double-pile house is covered by a steeply pitched pyramidal roof which is accented by large gable roof dormers. A two-story, two-bay service wing extends to the rear and included a side porch and pantry on the east wall. The parsonage, along with the church, and around a dozen other structures define the historic black community known as Freemantown.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: NEW UNION ASBURY M. E. CHURCH PARSONAGE

MHT Inventory Number: S-472

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE  
RELIGION
- 2) Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):  
Industrial/Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s): Parsonage

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. S-472  
Magi No.  
DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic NEW UNION ASBURY M. E. CHURCH PARSONAGE

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number North side of Main Street Extended  not for publication

city, town Crisfield  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership  | Status  | Present Use   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district    | <input type="checkbox"/> public                    | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied                   | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private        | <input checked="" 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                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none                                 |

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

name Trustees of New Union Asbury M. E. Church

street & number 3480 Freedomtown Road telephone no.:

city, town Crisfield state and zip code Maryland 21817

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County 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

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-472

|                                    |  |   |   |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>Condition</b>                   |  | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed               |   | date of move _____                                |

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

The New Union Asbury M. E. Church parsonage stands on the north side of Main Street Extended in the community of Freemantown, east of the City of Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story frame house faces south.

Estimated to date around 1920, this two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style dwelling is built around a squarish two-story, two-bay double-pile main block topped by a steeply pitched pyramidal roof covered with asphalt shingles. The main block, as well as a rear two-story service wing, are supported on a raised concrete block foundation. The exterior of the house is clad with a uniform layer of plain weatherboards.

The south (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a Tuscan columned porch sheltering the first floor and wrapping around the east corner of the house. A turned baluster handrail stretches between the columns. The entrance is located in the western of two bays and the front door is partially glazed. A single-pane sash window fills the eastern bay. Two evenly placed single-pane sash windows light the second floor. The base to the roof is finished with a wide eave and boxed cornice. Placed off-center on the roof in line with the entrance is a gabled dormer pierced by a single-pane window that lights the attic. Rising through peak of the pyramidal roof is a single-flue brick stove chimney.

The east side of the parsonage is an asymmetrical elevation as well with a two-and-a-half story, three-sided pavilion projecting from the main block. The front porch abuts the pavilion, and a partially glazed door pierces the south face of the bay. Otherwise, single-pane sash windows pierce the first and second floor walls, and a small single-pane window marks the gabled pediment that tops the pavilion. Simple scroll decorations embellish the roof soffits.

The west side of the main block is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration with a small colored glass window lighting the first floor stair landing. A paired set of single-pane sash windows mark the northern first floor bay, and single-pane sash windows light the second floor. Another gabled dormer extends the pyramidal roof above the north bay.

Extending from the north side of the main block is a two-story, two-bay by one-room service wing served by an interior end brick stove chimney that protrudes through the gable end. Attached to the east side of the kitchen is a single-story porch incorporating an enclosed pantry room. The five-panel kitchen door is sheltered by the porch.

The interior was not seen.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. S-472

| 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater             |
| <input checked="" 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

### 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 New Union Asbury M. E. Church parsonage is an imposing two-and-a-half story frame dwelling that stands on the east side of the early twentieth century brick church. Estimated to date around 1910-1920, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style house, although abandoned, is relatively well preserved with few architectural features missing. A wraparound Tuscan columned porch shelters the main entrance as well as a side door that is incorporated into a projecting two-story pavilion on the east elevation. The double-pile house is covered by a steeply pitched pyramidal roof which is accented by large gable roof dormers. A two-story, two-bay service wing extends to the rear and included a side porch and pantry on the east wall. The parsonage, along with the church, and around a dozen other structures define the historic black community known as Freemantown.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-472

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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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 |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|       |      |        |      |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|       |      |        |      |

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant date 6/27/95

street & number P. O. Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover state Maryland 21871

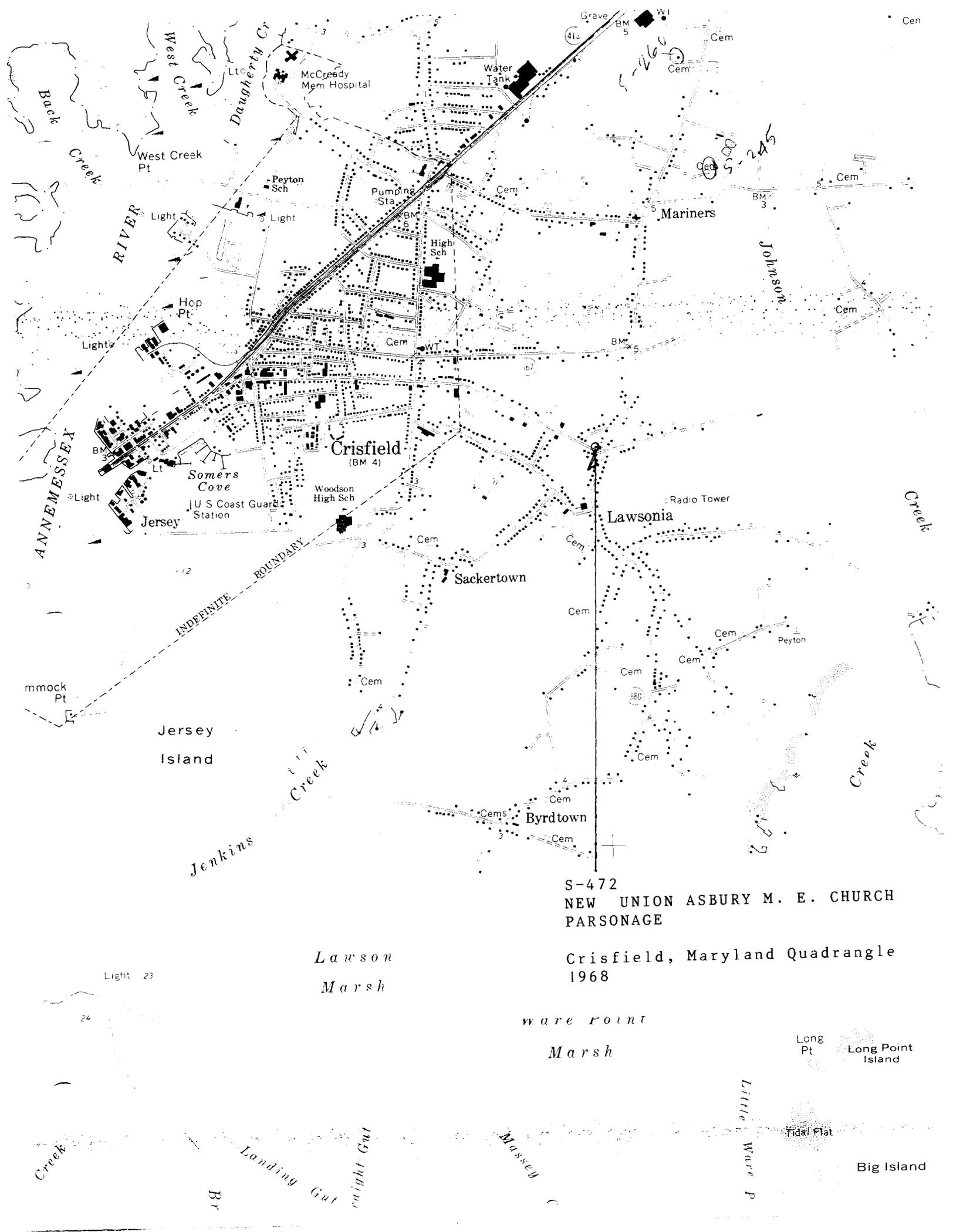
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
 DHOP/DHCO  
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
 514-7600





S-472  
 NEW UNION ASBURY M. E. CHURCH  
 PARSONAGE

Crisfield, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1968

Lawson  
 Marsh

ware Point  
 Marsh

Long Pt  
 Long Point Island

Big Island

Light 23

24

INDEFINITE BOUNDARY

ANNEMESSEX

RIVER

Back Creek

West Creek

Daugherty Cr

West Creek Pt

Light

Peyton Sch

Pumping Sta

Water Tank

McCredy Mem Hospital

Mariners

High Sch

Johnson

Crisfield (BM 4)

Somers Cove

U S Coast Guard Station

Jersey

Woodson High Sch

Lawsonia

Radio Tower

Sackertown

Jersey Island

Jenkins Creek

Creek

Byrdtown

Jenkins

Creek

Landing Gut

raight Gut

Musey

Little Ware P

Tidal Flat



S-472

New Union Abbey, M. F. Church Parsonage  
FREMANTOWN, CRISTINA VICINITY,  
SUMMERS COUNTY, MARYLAND

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

6/95, PAUL TOWARD, PHOTOGRAPHER  
WEG / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

12



S-472

New Union Asbury M. E. Church Parsonage  
WEST ELEVATION

Freemantown, Crispfield Vic., Somerset  
County, Maryland

6/95. Paul Touart, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2/2