

D-824
Ebenezer M. E. Church
Crapo
1900

Distinguishing the village of Crapo, originally known as "Woodlandtown," in southwestern Dorchester County, is Ebenezer M. E. Church, a prominent Gothic Revival frame structure built on same scale and overall design as the slightly older Zion M. E. Church in Toddville. Likely built by the same carpenters, the Ebenezer Church dates to 1900 after a previous edifice, built in 1890, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire. The asymmetrical design with the corner entrance and bell tower is flanked by the same tiered design of contrasting roof forms that was published by architect Benjamin D. Price in his *Catalogue of Designs for Churches and Parsonages*, published by the Office of Church Extension in Philadelphia.

According to Hallman's summary history of the congregation in his 1948 book, *Garden of Methodism*, the organization of the church was established during the late eighteenth century, and it was known as Clark's Chapel, and another source claims it was called Todd's Chapel. During the post Civil War period, the congregation was called "Little Ebenezer" when a deed for the land was recorded in 1876. The boundary description locates the acre parcel on the west side of the road leading to Asquith's Island. The trustees receiving the land at the time included Denward Foster, Enoch Slacum, Isaac Enalls, Thomas Slacum, Moses Cornish, Job Slacum, John Thomas, Gabriel Johns, and Nelson McNamara.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-824

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Ebenezer M. E. Church
 other Little Ebenezer Clark's Chapel

2. Location

street and number 2502 Crapo-Wingate Road not for publication
 city, town Crapo vicinity
 county Dorchester

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

name Ebenezer M. E. Church c/o Peninsula Methodist Conference
 street and number 139 North State Street telephone _____
 city, town Dover state Delaware zip code 19901

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber _____ folio _____
 city, town Cambridge tax map 102 tax parcel 45 tax ID number 5-076544

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	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<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-824

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.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church, originally known as Clark's Chapel, is a single-story, asymmetrical fronted frame church built in 1900, and it stands on the south side of the Lakesville-Crapo Road in the Lakes Election District of Dorchester County, Maryland. Supported on a continuous brick foundation, the exterior is clad with aluminum siding, and the complex series of gable, shed and pyramidal roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. Set in the northwest corner of the foundation is a marble datestone inscribed "Ebenezer M. E. Church, Erected 1890, Rebuilt 1900." The church faces northeast with the principal gable oriented on a northeast/southwest axis. The church is joined on the site by a cemetery containing several dozen markers.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church stands on the south side of the Lakesville-Crapo Road in the community of Crapo in the Lakes Election District of Dorchester County, Maryland. The single-story asymmetrical fronted frame church is supported by a continuous brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with aluminum siding. The main gable roof and associated other shed and pyramidal roofs, are covered with asphalt shingles. The front of the church yard is defined by a series of low brick columns with chains hanging between the columns.

The northeast (main) elevation is an asymmetrical front with a three level corner entrance and bell tower defining the northeast corner of the gable roofed main block, and a distinct tiered set of shed roofed sections executed in two levels distinguishes the front of the gable roofed structure. A marble datestone is set in the northwest corner of the brick foundation and it is inscribed, "Ebenezer M. E. Church, Erected 1890, Rebuilt 1900." The entrance tower is pierced on the first story by a pointed arch set of half-leaf double doors. The original doors, protected by storm doors, have ogee profile panel moldings. The front entrance is sheltered by a shed roofed porch, the roof of which is an extension of the adjacent shed roofed front section. The shed roofed front section has a cross gable, and under the cross gable is centered a paired set of pointed arch colored glass windows. Fixed above the first floor shed is a second shed roofed extension of the main body of the church, and its front wall is pierced by a round window with a lobed cross muntin design filled with colored glass. A small section of gable front eave extends above the second shed roof. The second level of the tower is defined by a paired set of pointed arch windows, and the upper level is marked by vents reduced in size. A pyramidal spire with a flared eave at its base caps the tower. The southwest side of the tower is pierced on the first story by a small pointed arch, colored glass window, and the second level is defined by a paired set of pointed arch windows.

The southeast side of the main body of the church is marked by four evenly spaced pointed arch windows filled with colored glass. Rising between the southern two bays is a single flue brick stove chimney that pierces the extended eave. The top of the tall chimney stack is tied to the roof by angle iron braces.

The southwest (rear) wall of the church features a slightly protruding gable roofed apse that only extends

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about a foot out from the gable end elevation. To the right (east) of the apse is a rear entrance with a raised-panel door topped by a colored glass transom.

The northwest elevation is defined by four evenly spaced pointed arch windows filled with colored glass panes. A second stove chimney is located on the northwest side of the church, and it retains a decorative corbelled cap.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-824

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 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 checked="" 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 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 1900

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 SUMMARY

Distinguishing the village of Crapo, originally known as “Woodlandtown” in southwestern Dorchester County, is Ebenezer M. E. Church, a large Gothic Revival frame structure built on the same scale and overall design as the Zion M. E. Church in Toddville. Likely built by the same carpenters, the Ebenezer Church dates to 1900 after a previous structure on the site, built in 1890, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire.¹ The asymmetrical design with the corner entrance and bell tower is flanked by the same tiered design of contrasting roof shapes that was published by architect Benjamin D. Price in his *Catalogue of Designs for Churches and Parsonages*, published by the Methodist Episcopal Office of Church Extension in Philadelphia.²

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

According to Hallman’s summary history of the congregation it was established during the late eighteenth century, and it was known as Todd’s or Clark’s Chapel. During the post Civil War period, the congregation was called “Little Ebenezer” when a deed for the land was recorded in 1876.³ The boundary description locates the acre parcel on the west side of the road leading to Asquith’s Island. The trustees receiving the land at the time included Denward Foster, Enoch Slacum, Isaac Enalls, Thomas Slacum, Moses Cornish, Job Slacum, John Thomas, Gabriel Johns and Nelson McNamara.

¹ E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism*, Peninsula Annual Conference, 1948, p. 305.

² Benjamin D. Price, *Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages*, Board of Church Extension, M. E. Church, Philadelphia, 1889.

³ Dorchester County Land Record, FJH 11/375, 10 November 1876, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

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Name Ebenezer M. E. Church
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Ebenezer M. E. Church
Crapo, Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 102, Parcel 45

FJH 11/375

Martin Foxwell and Mary V. Foxwell

to

11.10.1876

Denward Foster, Enoch Slacum, Isaac Ennalls, Thomas Slacum, Moses Cornish, Job Slacum, John Thomas, Gabriel Johnson, and Nelson McNamara as Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church called Little Ebenezer.... a place of worship and to be need for no other purpose forever, all that Lot or parcel of land situated in Lakes District in the said county aforesaid and on the West side of the county Road that leads to Asquiths Island contained within the following metes and bounds....containing one acre of land together with all the buildings, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging...

\$20.00

9. Major Bibliographical References

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E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism*, 1948.

Land Records of Dorchester County, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 6 acres

Acreage of historical setting 1 acre

Quadrangle name Wingate, MD

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	Private Consultant	date	7.26.2013
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

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Name Ebenezer M. E. Church
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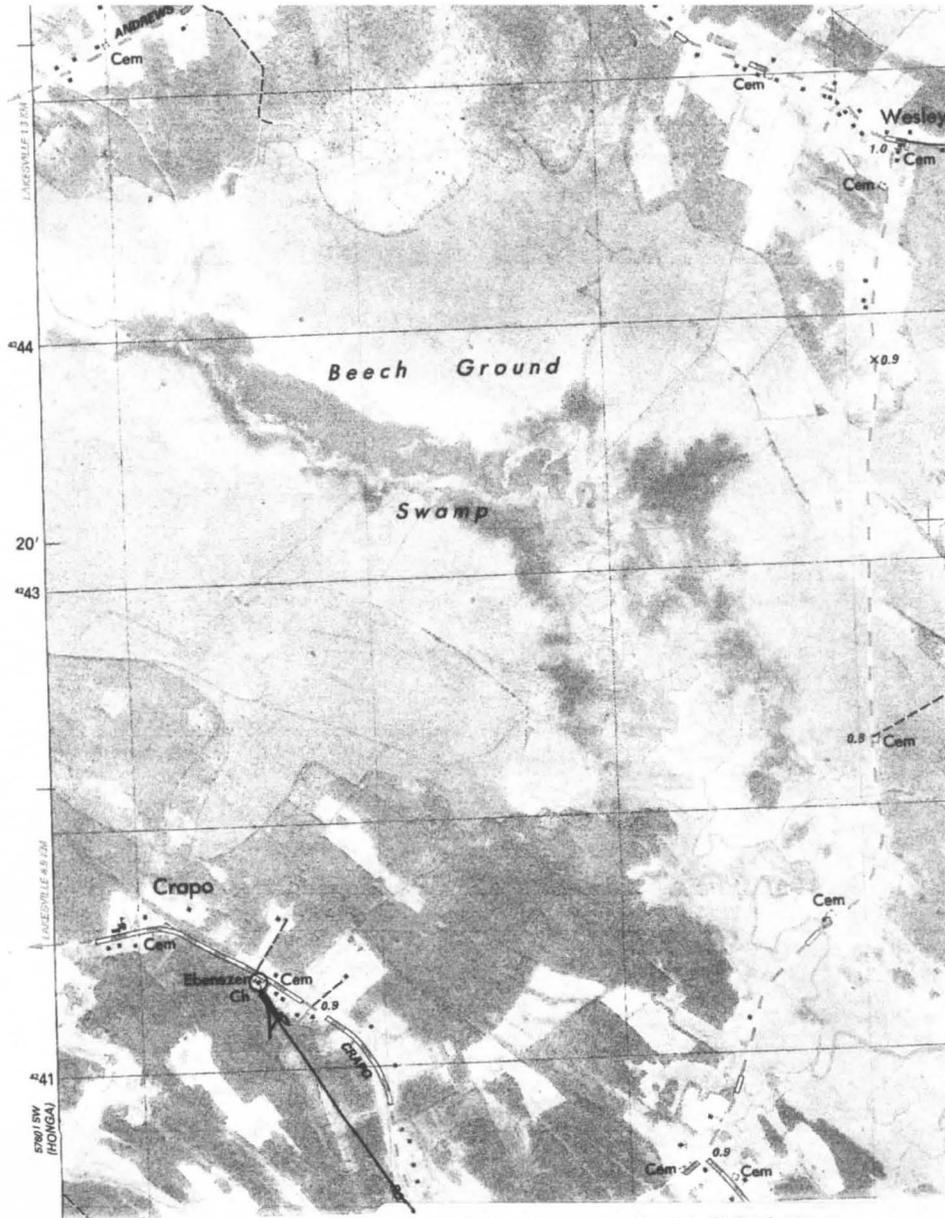


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D-824, Ebenezer M. E. Church
Wingate, Md Quadrangle, 1982

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~~D-30~~, Ebenezer M. E. Church, northeast elevation, Crapo, Paul Baker
Touart, 7.2013

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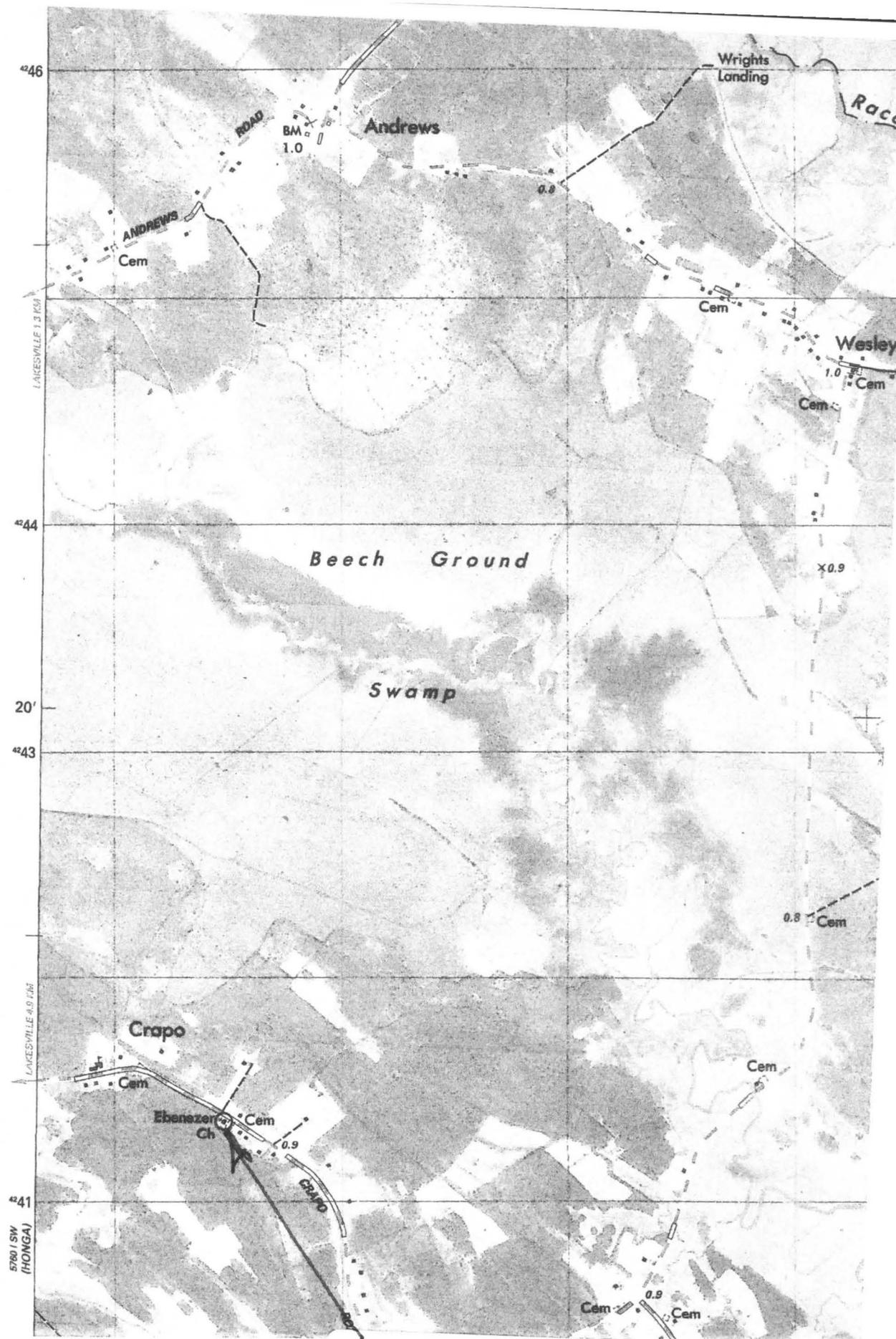
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D-824, Ebenezer M. E. Church, southeast elevation, Crapo, Paul Baker Touart, 7.2013



— D-824, Ebenezer M. E. Church
 Wingate, Md Quadrangle, 1982 —



D-824

EBENEZER M. F. CITANCIA

CRAD, DOMESTIC W, MD

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

7. 2013, PAUL B. TOWNER

NW/MD HIST. TRUSS ^{PITOTÉ.}

#1 OF 2



D-824

EBENEZER M. E. CHURCH
CRAPO, DORCHESTER Co. MS.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

7. 28. 13, PAUL B. TOWNSEND, PHOTOGR.
N.H. JARD. HISTORICAL TRUSS

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