

D-844  
J. E. Walter Store  
Fishing Creek  
c. 1905

The J. E. Walter store is one of the few early twentieth century commercial buildings surviving in Fishing Creek. While now in an advanced state of decay, the single-story braced frame store building survives with original vertical board siding and iron bars on the window openings. The interior is sheathed with beaded tongue-and-groove boards on the walls and ceiling. A narrow back room contains the stair that leads to an unfinished loft where J. E. Walter conducted part of his sail making and/or shirt factory business during the early twentieth century.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-844

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic J. E. Walter Store

other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street and number Hooper's Island Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Fishing Creek \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name William Clark Backstrom

street and number 2517 Talbot Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21634

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 810 folio 305

city, town Cambridge tax map 93 tax parcel 124 tax ID number 06-090338

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

Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory

\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-844

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### Condition

excellent     deteriorated  
 good         ruins  
 fair          altered

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

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The J. E. Walter Store is a single-story, gable-front frame commercial building that stands on the east side of Hoopers Island Road on Upper Hooper's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. The store stands on property also improved with a two-story early twentieth century house, which has an address of 2609 Hoopers Island Road. The store, in deteriorated condition, stands along the road whereas the house is set well back down an entrance lane. The building, built around 1905-10, rests on a minimal brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with vertical board siding. The medium pitched gable roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. The store faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. The rectangular store building is divided into two unequal rooms. The former store interior is fully sheathed with narrow tongue-and-groove boards. The rear section, a narrower space is sheathed with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded boards. A rudimentary stringer and open riser staircase provides access to an unfinished loft.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The J. E. Walter Store is a single-story, gable-front, braced frame structure sheathed with vertical board siding and resting on a minimal brick foundation. Built around 1905-10, the single-story store building is located at 2609 Hoopers Island Road in the community of Fishing Creek on Upper Hoopers Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. The store, now in an advanced state of decay, faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

The gable-front (west) elevation is the principal façade with a center entrance and six-over-six sash windows. A diagonal board door is framed by a plain surround. Fixed in the adjacent window openings are metal security bars. There is a small window opening in the gable end, and the edge of the roof is finished with extended eaves. An interior end brick stove chimney pierces the east gable end.

On the north side there are two six-over-six sash window openings, each fitted with metal security bars.

The south side has a large section of wall cut out for the installation of a freezer unit. There is a side door opening that provides access to the rear room.

The interior of the store section is sheathed with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded boards on the walls and ceiling and remnant counters and shelving are located on the perimeter of the room.

The back room is finished with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded board walls and ceiling, and an open riser stair provides access to an unfinished loft.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-844

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 checked="" 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
<b>Construction dates</b>	

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

The J. E. Walter store is one of the few early twentieth century commercial buildings surviving in Fishing Creek. While in an advanced state of decay, the single-story braced frame store survives with original vertical board siding and iron bars on the store windows. The interior survives with beaded tongue-and-groove walls and ceiling.

## HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The J. E. Walter store was a prominent fixture in the Upper Hooper's Island community of Fishing Creek during the early to mid twentieth century. Estimated to date around 1905, the single-story braced frame structure housed the J. E. Walter store as well as part of this sail-making and/or shirt factory.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. D-844

Name J. E. Walter Store  
**Continuation Sheet**

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J. E. Walter Store  
Fishing Creek, Hooper's Island

CHAIN OF TITLE

MLB 810/305

Diane M. Willey, Pamela S. Cusick & Cindy M. Boluk

to

5.18.2007

William Clark Backstrom, Tracy Ann Lambros

452/765

Robert Henry Miller

to daughters

6.28.2001

Diane M. Willey, Pamela S. Cusick, Cindy M. Boluk

1/3 interest each

No Deed Listed

Charles E. Edmundson, Trustee

to

Robert H. Miller and Ruth T. Miller

No. 891 Chancery, Report of Sale 11.30.1959

Charles Sippola died intestate about 9.30.1956

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Name J. E. Walter Store  
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JFD 24/243

Jess S. Auth and Emma Auth

to

7.18.1929

George Alvin Riggin and Cynthia M. Riggin

Lot No. 1 All that lot of land fronting on the county road that extends past the property that was for many years the homeplace of Joseph E. Walter, and improved by a store building being the store building in which the said Joseph E. Walter formerly kept a store and lot fronting 40 feet on the county road and extending back therefrom of equal width a distance of 55 feet

Lot No. 2 House and Outbuildings

JFD 21/642

Joseph E. Walter and Nellie G. Walter

to

3.7.1928

Jess S. Auth and Emma Auth

Agreement  
JFD 12/44

Joseph E. Walter

and

7.14.1922

Nellie G. Walter

Whereas, differences have arisen between the said Joseph E. Walter and his wife, the said Nellie G. Walter, in consequence of which they have separated and intended for the future to live apart, and Whereas with a view to this change in their relations, they desire to enter unto such an arrangement as to their personal and property rights, and as to their rights over their

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name J. E. Walter Store  
**Continuation Sheet**

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children, as in hereinafter expressed. And for the consideration aforesaid, the said Nellie G. Walter, does hereby grant and convey unto the said Joseph E. Walter, his heirs and assigns forever, in fee simple, all her right, title interest and estate of every kind, as law and in equity, in and to all the personal property, real estate, lands and tenements, of every kind, and wheresoever situated, (except the personal property, real estate, lands and tenements hereinbefore described and by this deed conveyed from the said Joseph E. Walter unto the said Nellie G. Walter) which are not owned or held in any manner by the said Joseph E. Walter, including the iron safe now in the store house, in this deed heretofore described, and including the boiler, engine, and all appliances to the same belonging and all sewing machines and utensils now in the factory, or about the yard or premises of what has heretofore been conducted by the said Joseph E. Walter as a sewing or shirt factory, with the right to the said Joseph E. Walter to keep said property on said premises, without rent, until such reasonable time as he may desire to move the same.

CL 25/304

Angeline Tyler and Matthew T. Tyler

to

1.28.1901

Joseph E. Walter

Love and affection

1 ½ acres "Travers Home"

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. D-844

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County, Maryland.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1.5 acres  
Acreage of historical setting 1 1/2 acres  
Quadrangle name Bloodsworth Island, MD      Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	9.4.2013
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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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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# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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D-844, J. E. Walter Store, northwest elevation, Fishing Creek, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

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**Continuation Sheet**

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D-30, J. E. Walter Store, west elevation, Fishing Creek, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

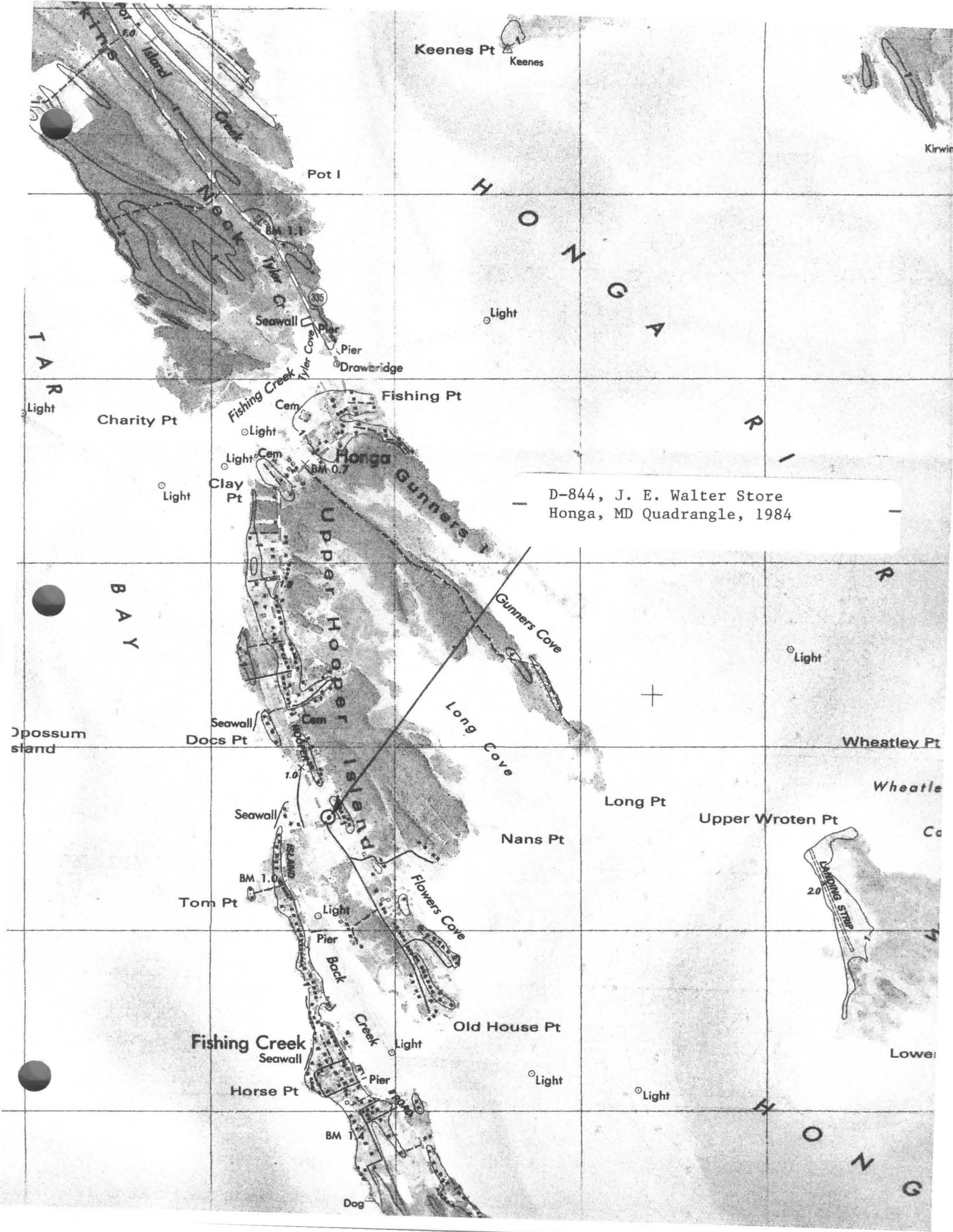
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D-844, J. E. Walter Store, interior, Fishing Creek, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013



D-844, J. E. Walter Store  
Honga, MD Quadrangle, 1984



D-844

J. E. WALTER STONE

ASSISTANT CATER, DIRECTOR G, NO

NORTHWEST - ELEVATION

9.2013, PAUL B. TOWSON, PHOTO.

NEG. / MR. HISTORICAL TRUST

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D-844

J. E. WALTER Stone

ASHTON CREEK, DISTRICT OF C. MD.  
WEST ELEVATION

9/20/13, PAUL B. TOWANT, PHOTO.

NEC/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

# 2 OF 3



D-844

J. E. WALTER STONE

ASHTON CREEK, DORCHESTER C. MD.

STONE INTERIOR

9.2013, PAUL B. TOURNET, PITTSV.

WETLAND 175 ST. TRACY

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