

C. G. Harmon
Notary Public

Received for Record December 9th A.D. 1929.

John W. Tarlinton
Recorder.

A True Copy
Attest: John W. Tarlinton, Recorder.

Deed & Release Isaac W. Betts et ux
to Samuel J. Minner

This Indenture, made the Sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

Between Isaac W. Betts and Sarah Elizabeth Betts, his wife, of Frederica, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County and State of Delaware, parties of the first part, and Samuel J. Minner, of Frederica, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County and State of Delaware, parties of the ~~first~~ ^{second} part, ~~and Samuel J. Minner of Frederica, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County and State of Delaware, party of the second part.~~

Witnesseth: That the said Isaac W. Betts and Sarah Elizabeth Betts, for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred and Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$112.50) lawful money of the United States of America, to them in hand paid by the said Samuel J. Minner, before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have and each of them hath granted, bargained and sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do and each of them hath granted, bargained and sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed unto the said Samuel J. Minner, his heirs and assigns.

All that certain lot, tract, piece or parcel of land and premises, situated in the Town of Frederica, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County and State of Delaware, and lying on the South side of Bowler Avenue in said Town, and bounded as follows, to wit: On the West by other lands of the said Samuel J. Minner, on the East by lands of Isaac W. Betts, on the South by lands of Charles P. ... and on the North by said Bowler Avenue.

And all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim, demand and possibility whatsoever of the said parties of the first part at law or in equity of to, in or out of the same, and every part and parcel thereof; To Have and To Hold the lands and premises hereby bargained and sold, or intended to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns, To and for the only proper use, benefit and behoof of them the said parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns forever.

In Witness Whereof the said Pennell Emerson and Emma S. Emerson have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first herein written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered

in the Presence of
Wm. R. Brown
State of Delaware }
Kent County } ss.

Pennell Emerson
Emma S. Emerson

Wm. R. Brown
Notary Public
appointed April 17th 1929
For Two Years
Delaware

Be It Remembered, that on this seventh day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-

nine, personally came before me, the Subscriber, a Notary Public for the said State of Delaware, Pennell Emerson and Emma S. Emerson, his wife, Parties to this Indenture known to me personally to be such and they acknowledged this Indenture to be their Deed.

And the said Emma S. Emerson being at the same time privately examined by me, apart from her husband acknowledged that she executed the said Indenture willingly, without compulsion or threats, or fear of her husband's displeasure. Given under my Hand and Seal of office the day and year aforesaid.

Wm. R. Brown
Notary Public
Received for Record December 9th A.D. 1929
John W. Talbott
Recorder

A True Copy
attest: John W. Talbott, Recorder

Deed
Elizabeth Pratt, widow,
To
The Trustees of the African
Methodist Episcopal Church of
Dover, Delaware.

This Indenture, made this Ninth day of
- - - - - in the year of our Lord one thousand
nine hundred and twenty-nine.

Between, Elizabeth Pratt, widow of
the City of Dover, Kent County and State of
Delaware, party of the first part, and the
Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal
Church of Dover, Delaware; a religious
corporation created by and existing under
the laws of the State of Delaware, party of
the second part.

Witnesseth, That the said party of the
first part, for and in consideration of
the sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.)
current lawful money of the United States
of America, unto her well and truly paying
the said party of the second part, and
before the reading and delivery of these presents,
the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,
have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, en-
- - - - - , released, conveyed and confirmed,
and by these presents doth grant, bargain,
sell, alien, enforce, release, convey and
confirm unto the said party of the second
part its Successors and Assigns

All that certain piece or parcel of land
and premises situate in the City of Dover,
Kent County and State of Delaware, and lying
on the West side of Kirkwood Street in
said Town, between Reel and Division
Streets, having a front on said Kirkwood
Street of twenty feet and extending back into
that width a distance of One Hundred
and Fifty (150) feet and containing Three
Thousand (3,000) square feet of land, be the
same more or less, and being bounded on
the north by other lands of the grantee
herein, on the west by lands of _____, on
the south by lands of Annie F. Daughter
and on the east by said Kirkwood Street
and being the same piece or parcel of land
conveyed in fee unto the said Elizabeth
Pratt by deed of Sallie C. Stevenson,
widow, dated September 1st 1922, and of record
in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, in
and for Kent County at Dover, in Book
Co. Vol. 12, Page 404.

Together with all and singular the rights
- - - - - , improvements, ways, roads, water
courses, rights, liberties, privileges, and

and a part there is what is over there unto the heirs
or in anywise appertaining and the rents
and remainders, rents, issues and profits
thereof and all the estate, right, title, interest,
property claim and demand whatsoever of her
the said party of the first part, in law, equity
or otherwise, whatsoever, in and to the name,
and every part and parcel thereof
To Have and To Hold the said lands and pre-
-mises heretofore mentioned, or intended
as to her with the appurtenances unto the said
party of the second part its successors and
heirs, to and for the use and purpose and
benefit of the said party of the second part its
successors and heirs forever.

And the said party of the first part, her
heirs Executors and Administrators both in their
present, covenant, grant and agree to and with
the said party of the second part its successors
and heirs that the said party of the first
part her heirs and assigns the heirs, tenants
and premises heretofore described and granted, or
mentioned, or intended as to her with the appur-
-tenances, unto the said party of the second
part, its successors and heirs, as against her
the said party of the first part, her heirs and
against all and every other person or persons
whomever lawfully claiming or to claim
the same, or any part thereof, shall and well

and these presents Warrant and forever Defend
On Witness Whereof the said party of
the first part hath hereunto set her hand and
Seal Dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed and delivered } Edingwith Pratts Esq
in the Presence of

C. F. Harmon

Notary Public

State of Delaware

ss.

I, C. F. Harmon

Notary Public

appointed Dec. 4. 1929

For Two Years

Delaware

Recd Remembred that on
this ninth day of December
in the year of our Lord
one thousand nine hundred
and twenty nine personally

came before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public
for the State of Delaware, Edingwith Pratts, in and
for the said State of Delaware known to me personally
to be such, and acknowledged this instrument to
be her deed.

Witness under my hand and seal of office the day
of the year above said.

A.M.E. Church of Dover (Trustees)

buying land on Kirkwood Street
1929

R6 3555.021 Roll #124

S, 13, P. 344

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in the Custody of the Delaware Public
Archives, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware
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be obtained.
Volume _____ Page _____

30
Resolution of Incorporation of Linn Swamp In Church

A meeting of the Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church (consisting of fifteen or more members) held February 1824. It was resolved that to avail ourselves of the provisions and benefits of Chapter thirty nine (39) of the Revised Statutes of the State of Delaware we do hereby and take upon ourselves the duty and title of the Trustees of the Linn Swamp Methodist Episcopal Church situated in Little Creek Hundred and that a certificate of that fact be drawn up and signed and sealed by us with a view to its being recorded according to Section one (1) of said Chapter.

The undersigned do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution for the purpose of Incorporation passed at the time above mentioned.

Witness our hands and seals this day of Feb 1824

- Jo. Walbridgeworth
- Joseph Lauraker
- Le. Wright
- Joseph Bernard
- J. M. Collins
- James Harrington
- Jonathan Woodley

Remains for Record the 2d day of June A.D. 1824

Attest
Attest
Hay Recd

The Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Dover Delaware

Certificate of Incorporation

To the Recorder of the County of Kent in the State of Delaware
A meeting of the congregation of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Dover Delaware (which congregation consists of more than fifteen persons) held at their usual place of assembly in the town of Dover in Kent County and State of Delaware on Monday the fourteenth day of April A.D. 1823 it was resolved as follows to wit

Resolved that to avail ourselves of the provisions and benefits of Chapter 39 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Delaware we do hereby and take upon ourselves the duty and title of the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Dover Delaware and that a cer-

ificate of that fact be drawn up and signed and sealed by John
Sons William Carpenter, John Robinson, John E. Wright and Ch-
arles Draper who were duly elected Trustees at the aforesaid meet-
ing held in pursuance of the notices by law required in or-
der that it may be recorded in accordance with section
of said Chapter.

The Undersigned Elected Trustees as aforesaid
do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolu-
tion for the purpose of incorporation adopted at the time and
place above mentioned.

As Witness our hands and seals
this ninth day of April A.D. 1874

Witness as to John Jones
William Carpenter
John Robinson & Charles Draper

John ^{his} _{mark} Jones

William ^{his} _{mark} Carpenter

John ^{his} _{mark} Robinson

John E. Wright

Charles ^{his} _{mark} Draper

Received for Record June 20th A.D. 1874

A true copy
Attest H. H. Rees

Deed of Rev. T. B. Bradford to
David C. Coffey

This Indenture made the
twenty ninth day of December in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred and seventy three between William
Bradford of the City of Philadelphia and State of Pennsyl-
vania and Robert R. Portu of the City of Wilmington and
State of Delaware Executors of the estate of the late Rev.
Thomas B. Bradford deceased of the one part and David
C. Coffey of the town of Dover Kent County and State
of Delaware aforesaid of the other part.

Whereas the said
Thomas B. Bradford being in his lifetime seized in his de-
mense as of fee of and in, (among other lands) of certain
real estate hereinafter mentioned and described made his
last will and testament in writing bearing date the twenty
fifth day of November A.D. one thousand eight hundred
and seventy wherein and whereby among other things
he directed his Executors within two years from the
time of his death to sell the whole of his real estate

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in the Custody of the Delaware Public
Archives, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware
19901. Permission for reproduction must
be obtained.

Volume _____ Page _____

RG 305E.021

Q5 p430-01

Incorporated

Zebler

a plot of land at Governor's Avenue, and Mary St., to the trustees of Wesley M. E. Church upon which to build a chapel.

The corner-stone was laid on Sun., July 3, 1887. The chapel was dedicated on Oct. 2, 1887, at which time the name "Avenue M. E. Chapel" was selected. Services were held here for a few years. On May 14, 1892, the present church site on Division St. was purchased by the Second M. E. Church.

On Nov. 12, 1892, the chapel was sold to the Second M. E. Church who moved it to the present site on Division St. Armory had been incorporated on Sept. 12, 1892. Dedication services were held on Dec. 25, 1892. Title to the site was acquired on Feb. 1, 1893. The church was improved in 1902. The name "St. Paul's" was adopted on Feb. 20, 1922.

The Dover Mission M. E. Sunday School was organized on Nov. 15, 1868, and a full complement of officers and workers was selected. This was another effort to reach persons who attended no church.

The Pilgrim Holiness Church, at Dover, was organized in 1914. They met in the Hinkle Building, the Wise Building, St. Luke's Christian Church and in the Presbyterian Chapel. It was while meeting in the latter place that they began building the present church at New and Reed Sts. The corner-stone was laid in 1924. They were incorporated on Aug. 27, 1924. The site was acquired on Mar. 18, 1924. More land was purchased on Aug. 7, 1925.

The Gospel Hall. On Apr. 14, 1940, the Rev. Edward Richmond of the Plymouth Brethren started to hold services in the Burton Building. The first meeting was attended by one child and its grandmother. In the meantime Mr. Richmond has built up a good congregation. In the spring of 1944, Mr. Richmond started the erection of a church building on Forest Ave. The work was done by Mr. Richmond, personally, aided by members of his congregation.

The church was completed and the opening services were held on Apr. 22, 1945.

There are at least eight colored churches in Dover as follows: Calvary Baptist Church was built in 1886 and dedicated on July 29, 1887; the Union Baptist Church laid the corner-stone of a new building and upon its completion they vacated the old church on Bank Lane where they had met for many years; Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church which was dedicated on Nov. 15, 1874. Solid Rock Baptist Church, Seventh Day Adventists, Welcome Tabernacle and Mt. Sinai Holy Church all have their own buildings. The Church of the Living God meets on the first floor of a lodge hall.

Whatcoat M. E. Church, colored, was built on the s. w. cor. of the present Methodist Cemetery. It was dedicated, in 1854, by Andrew Manship. The church was incorporated on Mar. 3, 1870. In 1871-72, a new church was built on the same site. The corner-stone was laid on Sun., Oct. 22, 1871, at 7 P. M., by Pres. Elder H. Smith assisted by the Revs. L. Y. Cox, W. J. Parker and Solomon Cooper, the pastor. The church was dedicated on June 23, 1872, by the Revs. J. B. Mann, J. B. Merritt and S. Cooper, the pastor. The old building was moved to North Street, and converted into a parsonage. The church was improved and rededicated in 1935.

Carlisle M. E. Church, colored, is located four miles west of Dover. On Jan. 18, 1849, Casper Carlisle donated 40 perches of land to the trustees as a church site. It was described as being situated in the forest of Dover Hundred

DELAWARE CHURCH ARCHIVES

391. MT. CALVARY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1872--, Concord.

Organized 1872 by a group of colored people, who previously worshipped at Concord Methodist Episcopal Church (entry 230). First church, a frame structure, was built in 1872, about one-half mile west of the present site. It was remodeled in 1894 and destroyed by fire in 1921. Present building dedicated 1921. A one story frame structure with belfry and bell. First settled clergyman, Rev. Chandler Gains, 1872-74.

Minutes, 1936--, 2 vol.; Financial, 1935--, 1 vol.; in possession of Mrs. Anna West. Register, 1936--, 1 vol.; in possession of pastor, Rev. Andrew W. Rothwell. Sunday School, 1935--, 1 vol.; kept in church. Records of deeds: Sussex Co. Recorder's office, Deeds Record; vol. DDV173, p. 174; vol. DGB232, p. 231; vol. DRV278, p. 596.

392. MT. ZION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1872--, Kirkwood St. Dover.

Organized 1872. Present building opened and dedicated same year. Rebuilt 1915. A one story frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Prince G. Laws, tenure unknown.

Financial, 1934--, 1 vol.; Sunday School, 1910-16, 1919-21, 1922, 3 vols., 1925--, 5 vols.; in possession of pastor, Rev. O. H. Spence.

393. ST. GEORGE'S AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1878--, Park Ave., Lewes.

Organized and incorporated July 17, 1878. Date church was built is unknown but it was prior to 1882 as in that year it was destroyed by fire. The second church, a frame structure, was built in 1883 and stood on the Pilot Town road about one mile from Lewes. This was destroyed by fire in 1891. The third church, a frame structure, was built in 1891 on 4th St., near Park Ave. and was used until 1930 when the present building was dedicated. A one story cement block structure, with bell. Cornerstone has dates of three churches. First settled clergyman, Rev. Mr. Allen, tenure unknown. See: Rev Mr. Allen, historical sketch of church; manuscript in possession of Rev. John W. Whalen, Milford. Minutes, 1934--, 1 vol.; Financial, 1903--, 3 vols.; in possession of Mrs. S. Miller. Register, 1934--, 1 vol.; Sunday School, 1934--, 1 vol.; in possession of pastor, Rev. Oscar S. Neil. Records of incorporation and deeds: Sussex Co. Recorder's office, Deeds Record; vol. BQ90, p. 567; vol. BV95, p. 75; vol. CCF131, pp. 378 and 379; vol. DGC, p. 556; vol. DGG237, p. 578; vol. DHL268, p. 406.

394. MACEDONIA AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1879--, North and Lincoln Sts. Seaford.

Organized 1879 and services held in a church situated on the west side of the highway, on the outskirts of town. Dedicated 1879, building moved to present site and rebuilt 1915. A one story frame building. First settled Clergyman, unknown.

Minutes, 1924--, 1 vol.; Financial, 1932--, in possession of M. Nutter. Register, 1932--, 1 vol.; in possession of pastor, Rev. W. V. Trader.

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S189

C. 2

DOVER

The First Two Hundred and Fifty Years

1717-1967



A Brief History of Dover, Delaware

May 6 through May 13, 1967

DELAWARE STATE ARCHIVES



Many Quakers in Kent County maintained stations on the underground railroad. Great Geneva, the old Cooper House in Camden, Woodburn (now the Governor's mansion), Wildcat near Lebanon, Henry Cowgill's great farm near Willow Grove where he was threatened to be "Burned out and hung", and a step northward, the tiny meeting house in Odessa, were all places of concealment where runaway slaves could be fed and sheltered until they could safely be passed on to the next underground station in Delaware, and thence onward to Pennsylvania and freedom.

John Hunn, in the middle part of the eighteen hundreds, became known as the "chief engineer" of the underground railroad in Delaware. At one time the State of Maryland offered \$25,000 (an enormous sum in those days) for his capture, dead or alive. He was so active in rescuing fleeing slaves that he was fined three times, totaling \$23,500, and was eventually sold out at a Sheriff's sale at his home place "Happy Valley" near Magnolia and financially ruined. He moved to South Carolina with his family to continue his work in aiding freed slaves who were destitute, many newly come over from Africa, and who had been abandoned by their former owner-masters who had fled inland to avoid the Union Forces. He later returned to Delaware.

The story is told that when the "Old Abolitionist" lay on his death-bed, he called his son John Hunn, Jr. (who was Governor of Delaware from 1901 to 1904) and made him promise to burn the history of the underground railroad he himself had written. It minutely detailed every fact and circumstance of that secret chapter in Delaware's history. The son promised, but as he was turning away something in his face prompted the old gentleman to say "Son, thee meant to copy that diary before thee destroyed it, is it not so?" The son admitted he had intended to make a copy, but that as yet it remained uncopied. Unfortunately for future historians, his promise was fulfilled. (From *Historic Houses & Buildings of Delaware*.)

Daniel Cowgill, one of the abolitionist Quakers in the early 1800's, lived at Woodburn in Dover, at the time of the notorious Patty Cannon, whose nefarious dealings in the slave trade are so vividly described in the book "The Entailed Hat".

Not all Quakers were ardent pacifists. One of these was Daniel Woodall, whose father John Woodall, Jr. and his grandfather of the same name had abhorred slavery to the point of fighting for abolition in the State Legislature, and working with the illegal underground railroad. When the Civil War came, Daniel joined the army and was made a general at the extraordinarily youthful age of 24. But after the Battle of Fredericksburg, in contemplating the devastation he wrote: "I could almost say with the father of our beloved denomination, George Fox, that war is wrong no matter what the cause."

Daniel Mifflin, Warner Mifflin's younger brother, laid out the present town of Camden, 3 miles south of Dover, in

1783. He called it Piccadilly, but it was known by all as Mifflin's Crossroads until 1788 when it was given its present name. Jabez and Patience Jenkins gave the Quaker meeting there the ground upon which the meeting house was built. (Their son Jonathan Jenkins preceded the first Henry Ridgely as president of the Farmer's Bank in Dover.) The Quakers, with their lively "concern" for education, made a class room in the upper floor of the meeting house where classes were held from the time of its construction in 1805 until 1882. Some of the original desks and chairs are still there, with their mute testimonies to the skill of the boys in those days with a pen knife.

The Little Creek meeting in 1811 provided for "the education of the Descendants of Africans, in a School within the Compass of the Meeting. The Teachers of which School . . . must be one of the said African Race."

In the first part of the twentieth century, membership at Camden Friends Meeting dwindled alarmingly but lately it has begun to grow again. In 1959 the need for more First Day (Sunday) school space became pressing, and upon ground given by George and Annette Butler an annex was built, its architecture in the style of the old meeting house but its interior completely modern. At the present time its members number 63, with 7 flourishing First Day school classes, including an adult discussion group. The worship period at 11 o'clock each First Day morning is carried on in the same quiet way that has marked Quaker worship for three centuries. Camden does, however, like to start its meeting with a good Methodist or Lutheran hymn.

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

Barretts Chapel, near Frederica, Delaware, is widely known as the cradle of Methodism in America. For, indeed, from this humble beginning many branches and organizations of Methodist Churches have evolved. One of these is the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Through the leadership of Richard Allen, the movement expanded. Since its roots were formed near Dover, the people of this community were inspired to band together as a group of Christian believers. They met continuously in this manner until they felt a greater urge to be more strongly unified.

The earliest records which are available concerning the organizing of the first A.M.E. Church in Dover, Delaware date back to April 1873. On April 14, 1873, a Certificate of Incorporation was recorded in the Kent County Court House in the name of the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church--William Carpenter, John Robinson, John Wright and Charles Draper. The A.M.E. Church is therefore among the oldest of Dover's many Protestant Churches.

The congregation worshipped for over 80 years in a small frame church building located on South Kirkwood Street and in 1959 moved to their present quarters, a handsome brick structure of modern design located at the corner of Fulton and Queen Streets.

THE CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

by

FRANK R. ZEBLEY

Author of "Along the Brandywine"



*A history, in brief, of the nearly 900 churches
and former churches in Delaware as
located by the Author.*

1947

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SIX TRICENTENNIAL VIEWS OF KENT COUNTY, DELAWARE

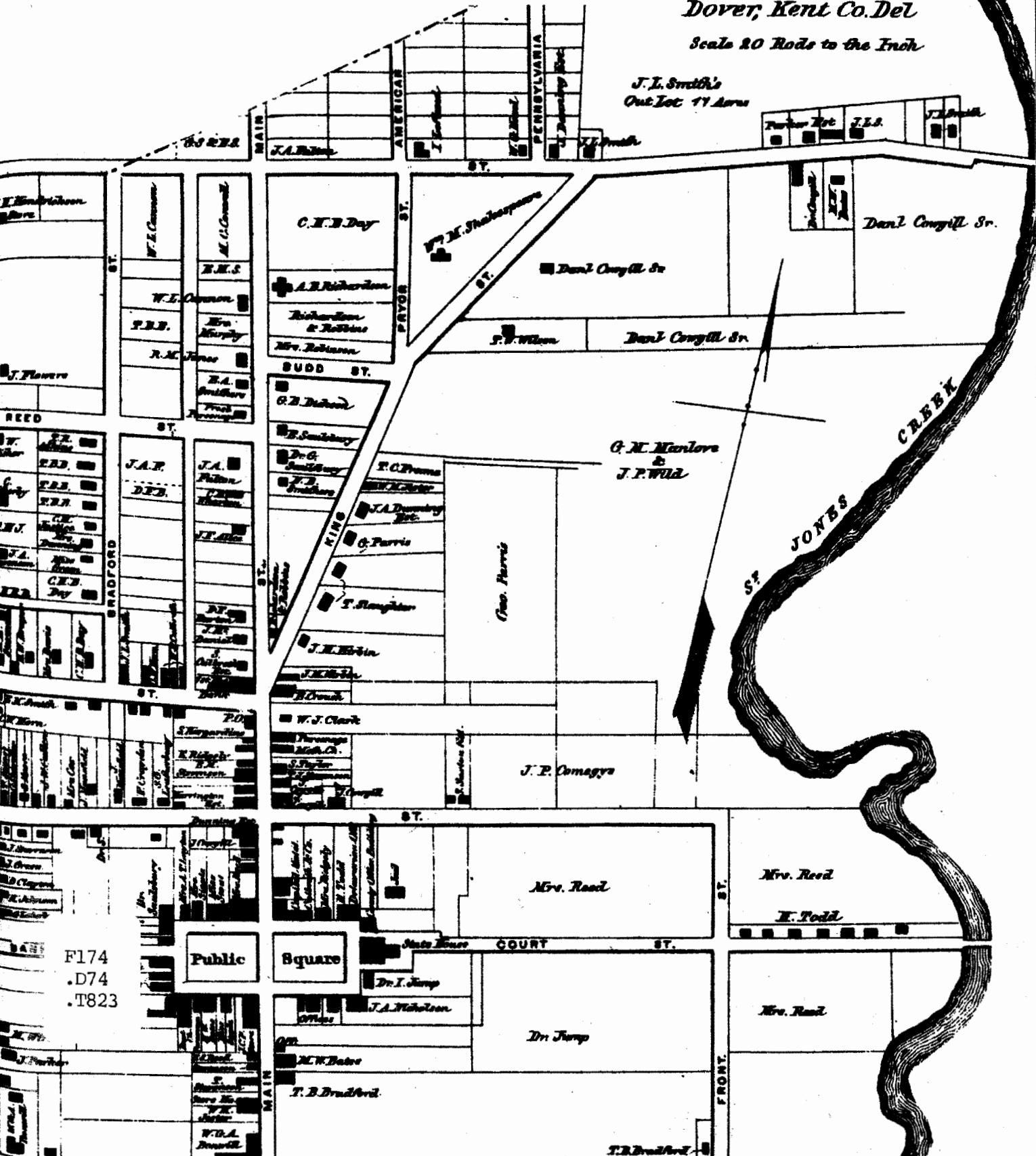
A TRICENTENNIAL VIEW OF DOVER

DOVER

Dover, Kent Co. Del

Scale 20 Rods to the Inch

*J. L. Smith's
Out Lot 11 Acres*



F174
.D74
.T823

Public

Square

COURT ST.

Dr. I. Jump

J.A. Nicholson

M.W. Davis

T.B. Bradford

Dr. Jump

T.B. Bradford

Mrs. Reed

E. Todd

Mrs. Reed

FRONT ST.

Some noted historical events that have effected the working of the church:

1961: The Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Church voted to approve the transfer of the Delaware Conference to the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

1961: Bishop Love gave approval to the Peninsula Conference Board to proceed with plans for a merger of the Delaware Conference Churches within the Conference boundaries.

1963: A proposal was drawn up for the merger.

The Delaware Conference was merged with the Peninsula Conference.

Whatcoat Community Development, Inc. was formed by the Board of Trustees under the pastorage of Rev. Clayton E. Hammond to develop Whatcoat Apartments.

1969: The Day Care Center was started under the pastorate of Rev. W. Hayward Greene.

1971: Construction began on the Whatcoat Apartments on Saulsbury Road under the pastorate of Rev. W. Hayward Greene. The complex has 78 units for low income families.

After more than 100 years of holding services at the Slaughter Street site members and friends marched into a new structure on 341 Saulsbury Road, Dover, Delaware on Sunday, December 12, 1976.

THE SCOTTS OF MT. ZION A.M.E. CHURCH

By Retha Whitley

Daisy Cooper Scott, Affectionately Known as Mother Scott, was born in Wilmington, Delaware on November 25, 1897. She is an only child, raised by her grandparents, Deborah and John Henry Cooper. At the age of four years, she went to live with Maryetta and Edwin Mosley. She attended school in Camden-Wyoming and completed the fifth grade.

Mother Scott has spent all of her life in Delaware, working since the age of nine. She does domestic housework and takes great pride in her work. Some of her handywork can be displayed in the homes of Lawyer George Fisher and Dr. Horace Schull.

Converted at the age of 15, Mother Scott joined Zion A.M.E. church in Camden, Delaware under the leadership of Reverend Williams. She later married Daniel Scott in 1927, moved to Dover and joined Mt. Zion A.M.E. church under the leadership of Reverend Brown. Daisy and Daniel have lived in several places in Dover and presently reside at 22 North Kirkwood Street, where they have lived for 35 years.

Daniel Scott was born May 3, 1901 in Frederica, Delaware. He is from a family of 11 children, consisting of 3 girls and 8 boys. His parents are Moses and Sarah Scott. He attended school in Little Heaven and completed the third grade. Much of his life was spent doing farm work. He was convinced at the age of 17 in 1917 and joined Union A.M.E. church in Frederica, De.

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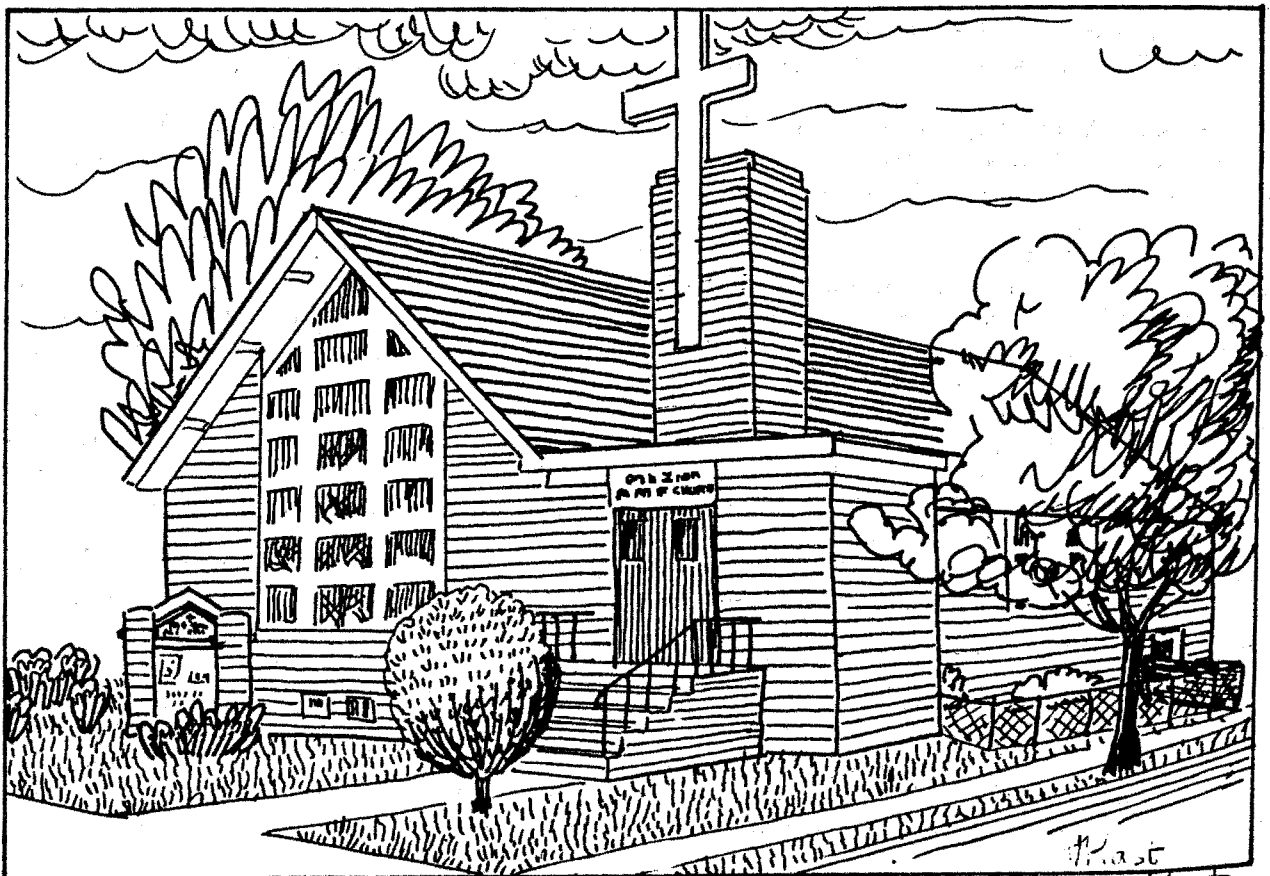
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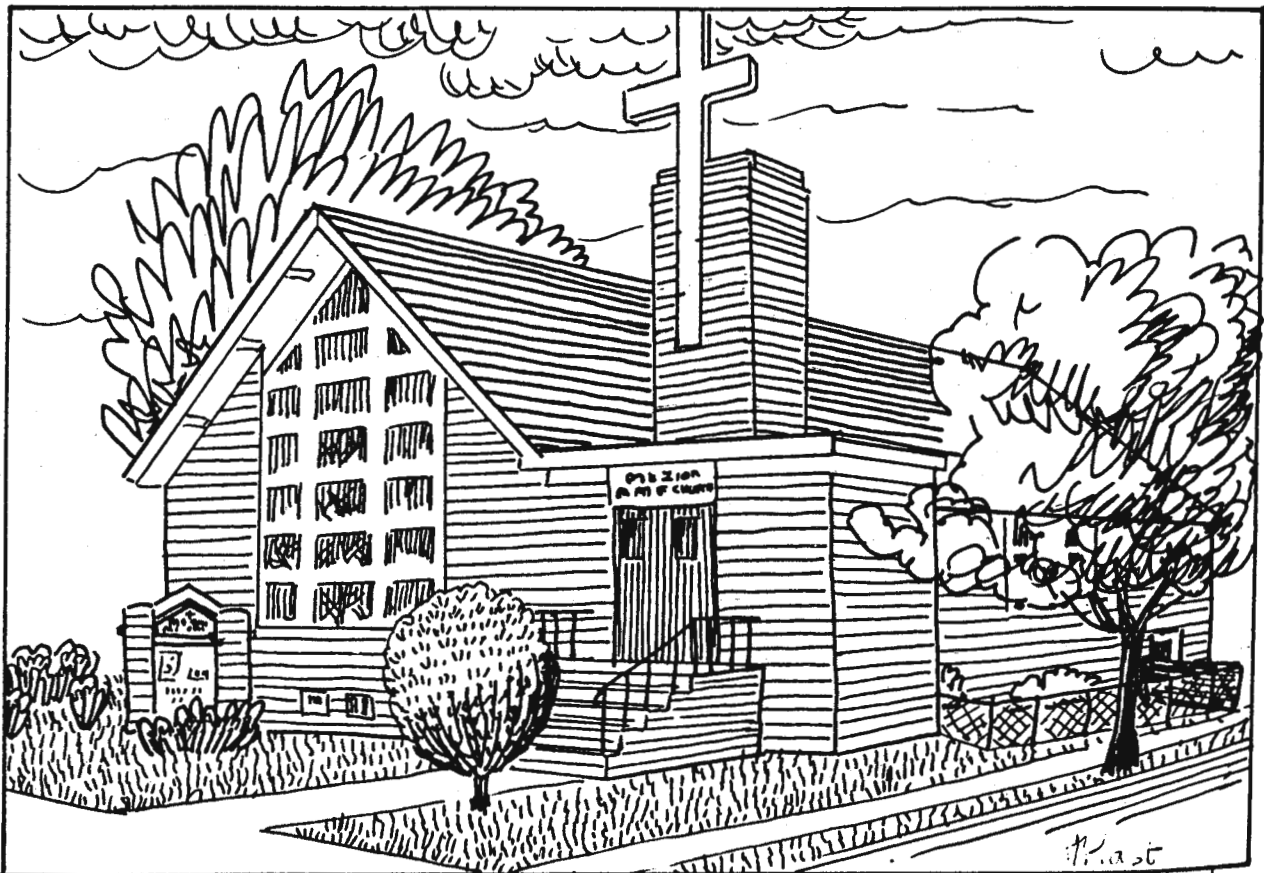
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Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church A/P

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church



Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church A/P

H. East
Sketch

THE CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

by

FRANK R. ZEBLEY

Author of "Along the Brandywine"



*A history, in brief, of the nearly 900 churches
and former churches in Delaware as
located by the Author.*

1947

a plot of land at Governor's Avenue, and Mary St., to the trustees of Wesley M. E. Church upon which to build a chapel.

The corner-stone was laid on Sun., July 3, 1887. The chapel was dedicated on Oct. 2, 1887, at which time the name "Avenue M. E. Chapel" was selected. Services were held here for a few years. On May 14, 1892, the present church site on Division St. was purchased by the Second M. E. Church.

On Nov. 12, 1892, the chapel was sold to the Second M. E. Church who moved it to the present site on Division St. Armory had been incorporated on Sept. 12, 1892. Dedication services were held on Dec. 25, 1892. Title to the site was acquired on Feb. 1, 1893. The church was improved in 1902. The name "St. Paul's" was adopted on Feb. 20, 1922.

The Dover Mission M. E. Sunday School was organized on Nov. 15, 1868, and a full complement of officers and workers was selected. This was another effort to reach persons who attended no church.

The Pilgrim Holiness Church, at Dover, was organized in 1914. They met in the Hinkle Building, the Wise Building, St. Luke's Christian Church and in the Presbyterian Chapel. It was while meeting in the latter place that they began building the present church at New and Reed Sts. The corner-stone was laid in 1924. They were incorporated on Aug. 27, 1924. The site was acquired on Mar. 18, 1924. More land was purchased on Aug. 7, 1925.

The Gospel Hall. On Apr. 14, 1940, the Rev. Edward Richmond of the Plymouth Brethren started to hold services in the Burton Building. The first meeting was attended by one child and its grandmother. In the meantime Mr. Richmond has built up a good congregation. In the spring of 1944, Mr. Richmond started the erection of a church building on Forest Ave. The work was done by Mr. Richmond, personally, aided by members of his congregation.

The church was completed and the opening services were held on Apr. 22, 1945.

There are at least eight colored churches in Dover as follows: Calvary Baptist Church was built in 1886 and dedicated on July 29, 1887; the Union Baptist Church laid the corner-stone of a new building and upon its completion they vacated the old church on Bank Lane where they had met for many years; Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church which was dedicated on Nov. 15, 1874. Solid Rock Baptist Church, Seventh Day Adventists, Welcome Tabernacle and Mt. Sinai Holy Church all have their own buildings. The Church of the Living God meets on the first floor of a lodge hall.

Whatcoat M. E. Church, colored, was built on the s. w. cor. of the present Methodist Cemetery. It was dedicated, in 1854, by Andrew Manship. The church was incorporated on Mar. 3, 1870. In 1871-72, a new church was built on the same site. The corner-stone was laid on Sun., Oct. 22, 1871, at 11 A. M., by Pres. Elder H. Smith assisted by the Revs. L. Y. Cox, W. J. Parker and Solomon Cooper, the pastor. The church was dedicated on June 23, 1872, by the Revs. J. B. Mann, J. B. Merritt and S. Cooper, the pastor. The old building was moved to North Street, and converted into a parsonage. The church was improved and rededicated in 1935.

Carlisle M. E. Church, colored, is located four miles west of Dover. On Aug. 28, 1849, Casper Carlisle donated 40 perches of land to the trustees as a church site. It was described as being situated in the forest of Dover Hundred

SIX TRICENTENNIAL VIEWS OF KENT COUNTY, DELAWARE

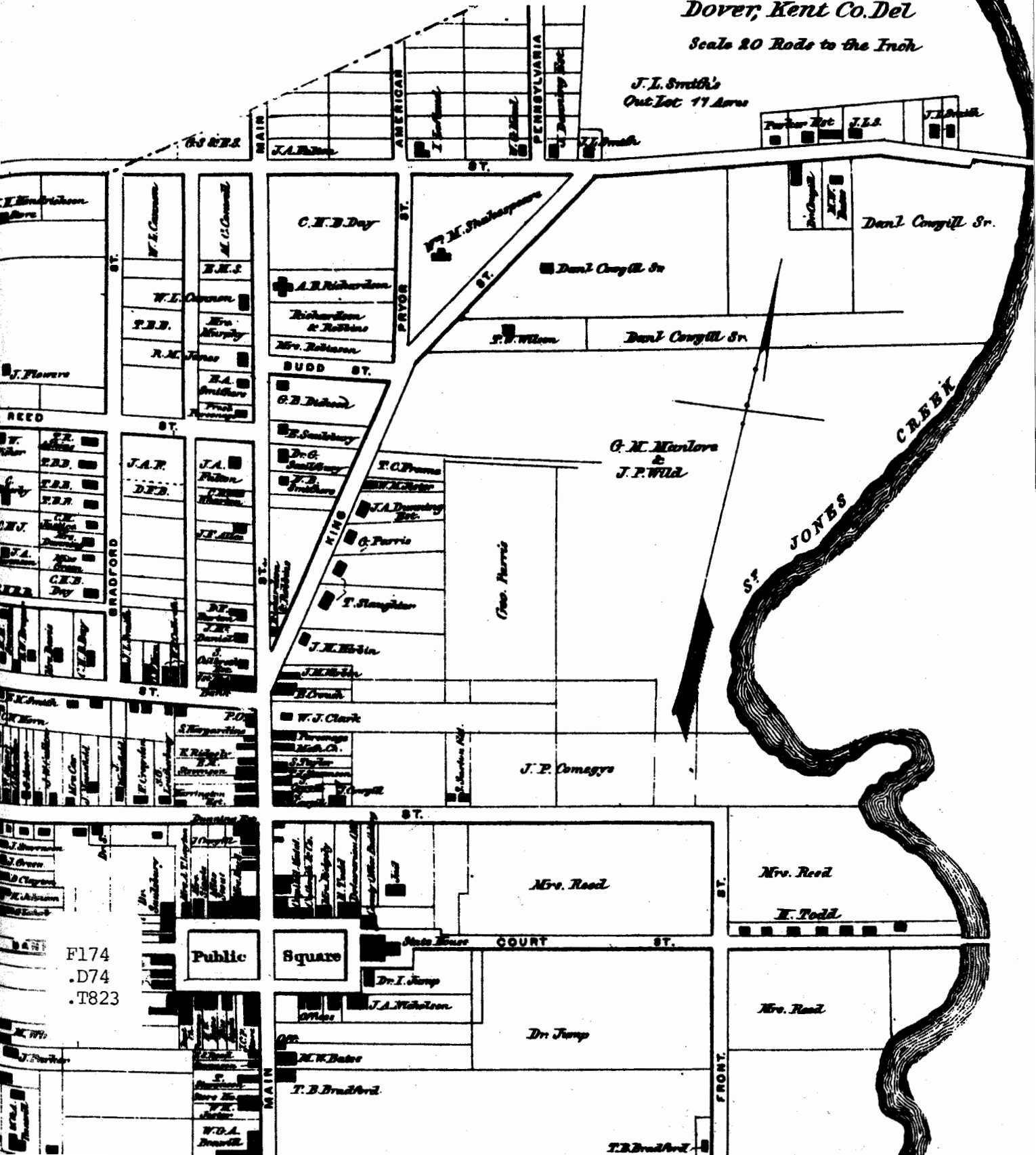
A TRICENTENNIAL VIEW OF DOVER

DOVER

Dover, Kent Co. Del

Scale 20 Rods to the Inch

*J. L. Smith's
Out. Lot 11 Acres*



F174
.D74
.T823

Public

Square

COURT ST.

Dr. I. Jump

J. A. Nicholson

Dr. Jump

M. W. Davis

T. B. Bradford

Dr. Jump

T. B. Bradford

Mrs. Reed

Mrs. Reed

I. Todd

Mrs. Reed

FRONT ST.

Some noted historical events that have effected the working of the church:

- 1961: The Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Church voted to approve the transfer of the Delaware Conference to the Northeastern Jurisdiction.
- 1961: Bishop Love gave approval to the Peninsula Conference Board to proceed with plans for a merger of the Delaware Conference Churches within the Conference boundaries.
- 1963: A proposal was drawn up for the merger.

The Delaware Conference was merged with the Peninsula Conference.

Whatcoat Community Development, Inc. was formed by the Board of Trustees under the pastorage of Rev. Clayton E. Hammond to develop Whatcoat Apartments.

- 1969: The Day Care Center was started under the pastorate of Rev. W. Hayward Greene.
- 1971: Construction began on the Whatcoat Apartments on Saulsbury Road under the pastorate of Rev. W. Hayward Greene. The complex has 78 units for low income families.

After more than 100 years of holding services at the Slaughter Street site members and friends marched into a new structure on 341 Saulsbury Road, Dover, Delaware on Sunday, December 12, 1976.

THE SCOTTS OF MT. ZION A.M.E. CHURCH

By Retha Whitley

Daisy Cooper Scott, Affectionately Known as Mother Scott, was born in Wilmington, Delaware on November 25, 1897. She is an only child, raised by her grandparents, Deborah and John Henry Cooper. At the age of four years, she went to live with Maryetta and Edwin Mosley. She attended school in Camden-Wyoming and completed the fifth grade.

Mother Scott has spent all of her life in Delaware, working since the age of nine. She does domestic housework and takes great pride in her work. Some of her handywork can be displayed in the homes of Lawyer George Fisher and Dr. Horace Schull.

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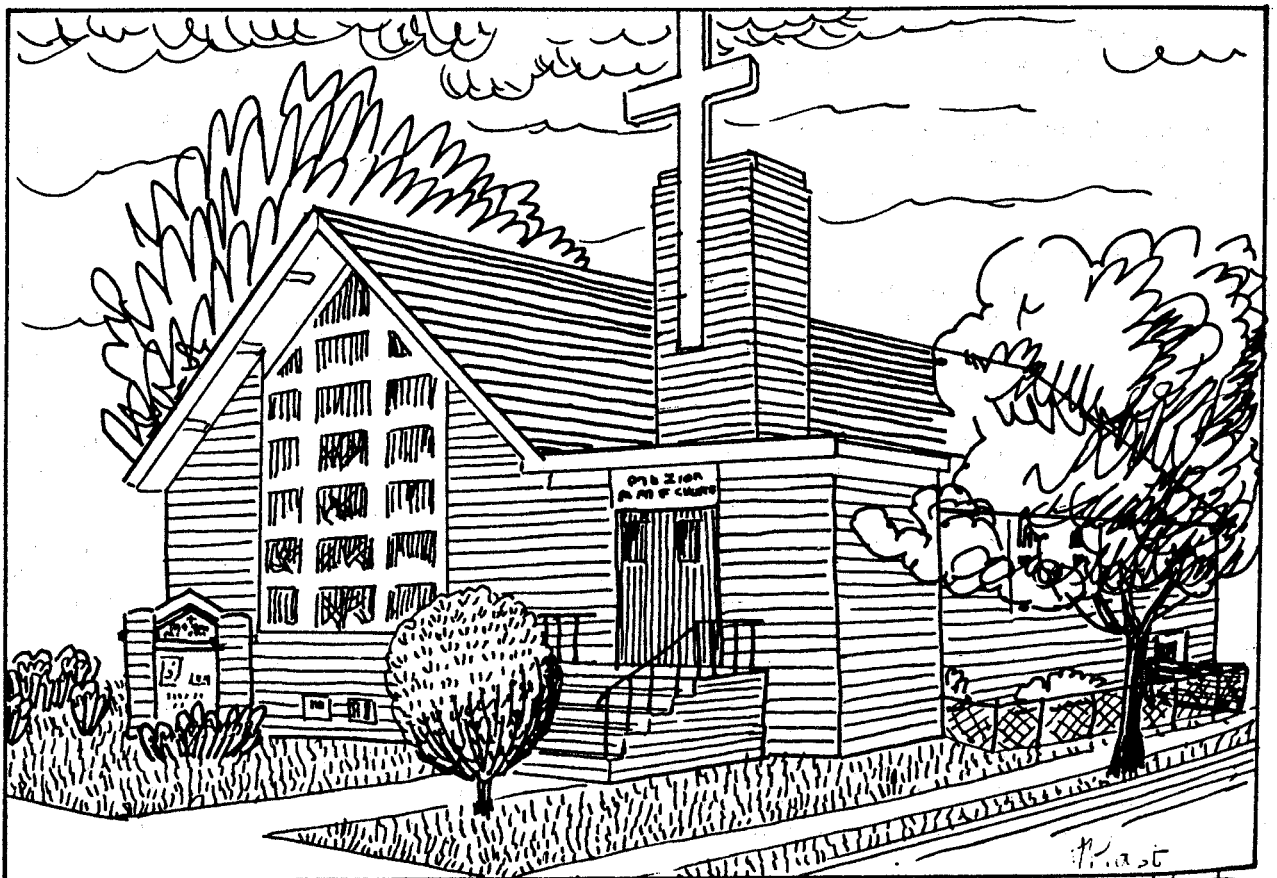
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Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church A/P

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S189

DOVER

C. 2

The First Two Hundred and Fifty Years

1717-1967



A Brief History of Dover, Delaware

May 6 through May 13, 1967

DELAWARE STATE ARCHIVES



Many Quakers in Kent County maintained stations on the underground railroad. Great Geneva, the old Cooper House in Camden, Woodburn (now the Governor's mansion), Wildcat near Lebanon, Henry Cowgill's great farm near Willow Grove where he was threatened to be "Burned out and hung", and a step northward, the tiny meeting house in Odessa, were all places of concealment where runaway slaves could be fed and sheltered until they could safely be passed on to the next underground station in Delaware, and thence onward to Pennsylvania and freedom.

John Hunn, in the middle part of the eighteen hundreds, became known as the "chief engineer" of the underground railroad in Delaware. At one time the State of Maryland offered \$25,000 (an enormous sum in those days) for his capture, dead or alive. He was so active in rescuing fleeing slaves that he was fined three times, totaling \$23,500, and was eventually sold out at a Sheriff's sale at his home place "Happy Valley" near Magnolia and financially ruined. He moved to South Carolina with his family to continue his work in aiding freed slaves who were destitute, many newly come over from Africa, and who had been abandoned by their former owner-masters who had fled inland to avoid the Union Forces. He later returned to Delaware.

The story is told that when the "Old Abolitionist" lay on his death-bed, he called his son John Hunn, Jr. (who was Governor of Delaware from 1901 to 1904) and made him promise to burn the history of the underground railroad he himself had written. It minutely detailed every fact and circumstance of that secret chapter in Delaware's history. The son promised, but as he was turning away something in his face prompted the old gentleman to say "Son, thee meant to copy that diary before thee destroyed it, is it not so?" The son admitted he had intended to make a copy, but that as yet it remained uncopied. Unfortunately for future historians, his promise was fulfilled. (From *Historic Houses & Buildings of Delaware*.)

Daniel Cowgill, one of the abolitionist Quakers in the early 1800's, lived at Woodburn in Dover, at the time of the notorious Patty Cannon, whose nefarious dealings in the slave trade are so vividly described in the book "The Entailed Hat".

Not all Quakers were ardent pacifists. One of these was Daniel Woodall, whose father John Woodall, Jr. and his grandfather of the same name had abhorred slavery to the point of fighting for abolition in the State Legislature, and working with the illegal underground railroad. When the Civil War came, Daniel joined the army and was made a general at the extraordinarily youthful age of 24. But after the Battle of Fredericksburg, in contemplating the devastation he wrote: "I could almost say with the father of our beloved denomination, George Fox, that war is wrong no matter what the cause."

Daniel Mifflin, Warner Mifflin's younger brother, laid out the present town of Camden, 3 miles south of Dover, in

1783. He called it Piccadilly, but it was known by all as Mifflin's Crossroads until 1788 when it was given its present name. Jabez and Patience Jenkins gave the Quaker meeting there the ground upon which the meeting house was built. (Their son Jonathan Jenkins preceded the first Henry Ridgely as president of the Farmer's Bank in Dover.) The Quakers, with their lively "concern" for education, made a class room in the upper floor of the meeting house where classes were held from the time of its construction in 1805 until 1882. Some of the original desks and chairs are still there, with their mute testimonies to the skill of the boys in those days with a pen knife.

The Little Creek meeting in 1811 provided for "the education of the Descendants of Africans, in a School within the Compass of the Meeting. The Teachers of which School . . . must be one of the said African Race."

In the first part of the twentieth century, membership at Camden Friends Meeting dwindled alarmingly but lately it has begun to grow again. In 1959 the need for more First Day (Sunday) school space became pressing, and upon ground given by George and Annette Butler an annex was built, its architecture in the style of the old meeting house but its interior completely modern. At the present time its members number 63, with 7 flourishing First Day school classes, including an adult discussion group. The worship period at 11 o'clock each First Day morning is carried on in the same quiet way that has marked Quaker worship for three centuries. Camden does, however, like to start its meeting with a good Methodist or Lutheran hymn.

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

Barretts Chapel, near Frederica, Delaware, is widely known as the cradle of Methodism in America. For, indeed, from this humble beginning many branches and organizations of Methodist Churches have evolved. One of these is the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Through the leadership of Richard Allen, the movement expanded. Since its roots were formed near Dover, the people of this community were inspired to band together as a group of Christian believers. They met continuously in this manner until they felt a greater urge to be more strongly unified.

The earliest records which are available concerning the organizing of the first A.M.E. Church in Dover, Delaware date back to April 1873. On April 14, 1873, a Certificate of Incorporation was recorded in the Kent County Court House in the name of the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church--William Carpenter, John Robinson, John Wright and Charles Draper. The A.M.E. Church is therefore among the oldest of Dover's many Protestant Churches.

The congregation worshipped for over 80 years in a small frame church building located on South Kirkwood Street and in 1959 moved to their present quarters, a handsome brick structure of modern design located at the corner of Fulton and Queen Streets.

History of Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church **Dover, Delaware**

The history of the African Methodist Church can be traced to 1787, when 27 year old Richard Allen, an African of courage and passionate faith led a group from St. George's Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA and founded Bethel African Methodist Church in 1794.

The first African Methodist Episcopal Church in Dover dates back to April 4, 1873 where a certificate of incorporation was recorded in the Kent County Court House in the name of the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church was established in April 1893 and erected on Kirkwood Street.

The church progressed over the years under Ministers William Davis, Richard Barney, Leonard Patterson, Thomas Moore, Abram Buckley, Thomas Cuff, Charles Ferrier, Parris Duckers, Richard Bivens, Marshall Gaines, Zoa Nichols, Oliver Dorce, Harding Williams, W. N. Brown, , G.D. Matthews, CW Reid

On April 10, the Church purchased property on North Queen Street . April 11, 1943 the Church celebrated burning of the mortgage.

In 1957 George Donald Ming (later Bishop) was presented to church and under his pastorate erected the present church and changed the name to Mount Zion. The Church was dedicated September 27, 1959 by Bishop George Wilbur Barber, Bishop of the 1st Episcopal District of the Church.

In 1960, Reverend Elmo Bean became pastor of mount Zion AME Church

Reverend Rudolph W. Coleman became pastor may 15, 1966 The Church was enlarged and membership grew greatly under his pastorage. . Reverend Coleman was pastor of Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church for 35 years.

On June 13, 1987 Mount Zion hosted the Bicentennial Centerpiece Event, commemorating the Dover-Philadelphia-Baltimore trek and is proud to be trustee of the Richard Allen Memorial dedicated in Dover

Reverend Troy I. Thomas served as pastor from July 2001 until 2004.

Reverend Wayne Arthur Johnson was appointed pastor on November 5, 2004 and continues to lead the "Church in pursuit of Excellence-Undertaking Relevant Ministry".



Betsy Gustafson photos

A Dedication Ceremony was held Feb. 24 for a historical marker at Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in Dover. Unveiling the marker are Moira Conlan of Delaware Public Archives and Rev. Wayne A. Johnson, Sr., pastor of Mt. Zion AME Church.



On hand were the Rev. Wayne A. Johnson, Sr., evangelist Thomina McIntyre and councilman Reuben Salters, special guest. "Generations unborn will understand history was made 2/24/08," Johnson said. The marker is dedicated to the memory of every member that made the walk from 56 S. Kirkwood St. to 101 N. Queen Street and witnessed its growth and development under the leadership and guidance of its past pastors and members, he added.

Deadline extended for 'Clean Water' kids contest

School-aged children in Delaware now have until Wednesday, March 5, to draw an illustration showing the impacts or prevention of stormwater runoff, a leading source of water pollution in Delaware's creeks, rivers and estuaries.

Those who enter will be eligible to win a variety of prizes as part of the Department of Transportation's 2008 "Clean Water Begins and Ends With You" drawing contest. The four first-place students will have their artwork used in a bus-back advertising campaign celebrating the 38th anniversary of Earth Day.

For the past five years, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary has partnered with DelDOT to hold the statewide competition and educate students, kindergarten through 12th grades, about the topic.

Stormwater runoff is the portion of rainfall that collects debris, chemicals and other pollutants as it flows over the ground and into street-side storm drains. Instead of naturally soaking into the ground, it frequently is discharged directly into the waterways used for swimming, fishing and drinking water.

For more including rules and entry forms, visit www.delawareestuary.org or call Dee Ross at 800-445-4935, ext. 106.

ZERO DOWN