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Ш ш Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type off entries	annalista analis	abla aastia	l l	TIRY DATE			l		
	complete applic	anie seciio	ns)	DEC 4 1974					
1. NAME									
Ebenezer townsite and Jerusalem Lutheran Church									
AND/OR HISTORIC:	and Jerusalem	Lutheran	Church						
New Ebenezer									
2 LOCATION									
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Springfield Amic		7	1 BO C	inn					
Georgia		13			COL				
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District Building	☐ Public Pu	blic Acquisit	ion:	X Occupied	Yes:				
Site Structure	2 Private	☐ In Pro		Unoccupied	☐ X Restricted				
Object	☐ Both	☐ Being	Considered	Preservation work	Unrestricte	d			
				in progress	□ No	l			
PRESENT USE (Check One or M	(ore as Appropriate)	·· ···· ·-		<u> </u>	L				
		ark		Т					
1 = ' = =		rivate Reside		Transportation Other (Specify)	Comments				
		eligious		Omer (Specify)		-			
Entertainment St Mu	•	cientific	-			_	I		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY									
OWNER'S NAME:					1 4	T	(n)		
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Congregation=Jerusa	nem rvangerica	L Lutner	an Church	at ju i sakka kab≱ki. T		Georgi	ωį		
ļ						81:			
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		CODE] "	- 1		
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC									
COUPTIOUSE, REGISTRY OF						Ef	8		
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Springfield 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS			, <u>ra</u>	1_13				
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Historic Amer, Buil	ding Survey -	GA-242		RECEIVE	<u>, </u>	7 :	M Z I J		
•	36	Federal	State	County	Local	7	٦٥		
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7.	DESCRIPTION							
					(Check One)			
	CONDITION	🙀 Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed	
	CONDITION		(Check Or	re)		(Che	ck One)	
		🔀 Alter	red	■ Unaltered		Moved	🔀 Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The New Ebenezer townsite was located at what was originally called Red Bluff, the conjunction of the Ebenezer Creek and the Savannah River. The Ebenezer was to the north, the Savannah to the east. To the south was a stream called Little Creek and a large lake called "Neidlinger's Sea." The surrounding country, according to contemporary accounts, was gently rolling and lush with vegetation. However, Ebenezer was surrounded on three sides by low swamps "subject to periodic inumdation, generating a poisonous miasma prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants."

Oglethorpe prescribed the lay-out of the town, which was similar to that of Savannah. A series of broad streets, medium-width alleys and narrow lanes ran north and south intersected by three broad streets running east and west. There were 160 house lots, 60-by-90-feet, each with a 2-acre garden plot nearby.

Just inside the westernmost rows of houses was a broad marketplace and public square running the length of the town. Balancing this section, on the east, was a series of buildings owned in common: the storehouse, the parsonage, the church and school, and the orphans' and widows' house. Twenty house lots on the eastern edge of town were set aside for "General Oglethorpe and prominent and rich people to arrive in the future."

Surrounding the town proper was a six-foot wooden fence. Outside the fence were fields and cow pastures. The stables and cattle stalls were some distance away on higher land. At the southwest corner, just outside the fence, was the cemetery, fenced in separately. An arm of the Savannah River was the site of several milling operations: two flour mills, a sawmill, a grist mill and a huller and stamper.

Nothing remains of Ebenezer except the Jerusalem Lutheran Church and the cemetery, located on either side of Ga. 275.

The Jerusalem Lutheran Church, a one-story brick building with a square wooden belfry, has a gable roof in front, on which sits the belfry, and a hipped roof at the rear. The masonry design is English bond. Door and window openings are defined at the top by a subtle arch with radiating vousoirs of brick. Two rows of windows, eight-over-eight on top and 16-over-16 on bottom, light the interior. The lower windows are shuttered. Above the double doors on three sides of the building are 10-pane transoms. In the front gable is a clock, which Henry C. Forman of the H.A.B.S. speculates is not original. A metal reinforcing agent has been added directly below the upper windows.

The walls are 21 inches thick, and the church is 60 feet wide and 80 feet long. The floor was originally brick but was badly damaged during the Revolutionary War and has been covered, first with wood, then with terrazo, ever since. There is an interior balcony. The ceiling and stairway wall are sealed with wide handhewn boards. The walls are plaster over brick.

Minor alterations have included replacing the columns supporting the balcony replacing the doors, covering the rear-center lower window behind the vestry and adding modern lighting and heating.

(continued)

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	屎 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 1736	1767-69	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch			
Abor iginal	Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	ズ Religion∕Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	X Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	🗓 Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

New Ebenezer townsite, established in 1736, was the first permanent settlement of the second group of colonists, the Salzburgers, to come to Georgia, and the present Jerusalem Lutheran Church, built in 1769, is the oldest surviving church building in the state. New Ebenezer was the site of the first Protestant orphanage and the most successful silk production in the American colonies.

The first settlement in Georgia, Savannah, was begun in 1733. The Trustees of the Colony, recognizing Savannah's vulnerability to the nearby Spanish, were anxious to reinforce it by establishing other settlements. In addition, one of the major purposes for establishing the Colony of Georgia had been to afford refuge to persecuted Protestants. Through an organization called the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Trustees learned of the plight of some 30,000 Protestant natives of Salzburg, in present-day Austria, who had left their homeland in 1731 rather than swear allegiance to the Catholic Church. The Trustees requested a member of the Society, Samuel Urlsperger, senior pastor of St. Anne's Church in Augsburg, Prussia, a major gathering point for the refugees, to organize an expedition of 300 Salzburgers to settle in Georgia. Settlers would assume citizenship, settle in one city and obey the laws of the Trust. Each would receive 50 acres of land, free transportation to America, tools, seeds, a year's support and all the rights of Englishmen.

Forty-two families (78 people) made the trip from Augsburg to Dover in early 1734. Their leader was Baron Von Reck, and the spiritual leaders were Martin Bolzius and Christian Gronau. From England they sailed to Charleston, S.C., where they met James Oglethorpe of the Trustees who accompanied them to Savannah, arriving March 12, 1734. Oglethorpe and Von Reck selected the first site a few miles up the Savannah River on Ebenezer Creek, about 40 miles from Savannah. By April 7, the Salzburgers had moved to the site of the settlement, which they called Ebenezer. The Savannah settlers and the Trustees were generous with food, livestock and seed. In December, 49 additional Salzburgers came over from Germany.

The first site proved unpropitious. Transportation from Savannah was difficult, the soil was infertile, mortality was high and morale was low. Oglethorpe reluctantly agreed in 1736 to a move to a new site six miles away at the mouth of the Ebenezer Creek, although the land still belonged to the Indians. Within a year, all the huts and seven regularly constructed houses had been torn down and carted through the woods to "New Ebenezer." (cont.)

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHIC	CAL RI	FERENC	ES								
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	Hofer, J.M., "The Georgia Salzburgers;" Georgia Historical Quarterly, Vol. XVIII, No. 2, June 1934, pub. by Georgia Historical Society Atlanta												
	Johnson, Amanda. Georgia as Colony and State. 1938 (orig.), 1970, reprint; (Atlanta: Cherokee Publishing Co.). (continued)												
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forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:  National State  Name							Date	13/	4/74 				
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# Form 10/3000 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 129 1974 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Effingham	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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#### Description (continued)

(Number all entries)

A two-story brick Sunday School building was built behind the church in 1956. A two-story museum building housing relics contributed by Salzburger descendants was completed in 1971. Its floor plan is similar to that of the original orphanage. Constructed in a masonry design compatible with that of the church, the museum faces the church at a distance of approximately 150 yards northwest.

Also on the Ebenezer property is a wooden Salzburger dwelling some 200 years old which had been removed in 1879 to a site two-and-a-half miles away. Its original location would put it in the present highway; it is now about 150 yards north of the church. The Salzburger Historical Society plans to restore the house and kitchen (built after the first move) to their original appearance.

#### 8. Significance (continued)

Until surveying was completed in 1738, the Salzburgers received only a house lot and 2-acre garden. Working the few fields was a semi-communal endeavor with profits divided. Complaints were numerous. After the surveying, when each family received its promised 50 acres, the settlement began to prosper. Sawmills and gristmills were profitable; silk, cotton and indigo were sources of income; food crops were much larger; and the settlers began constructing roads and bridges.

The Salzburgers were industrious, loyal and grateful for the refuge afforded them, so it is not surprising that they were among the most enthusiastic adopters of the Trustees' plan to produce silk in the Georgia Colony. The first mulberry trees were planted in 1736 and work began in earnest in 1741. Silk was only half as profitable as other types of production in terms of the labor expended, although the British government partially offset this by offering an incentive bounty. By 1750, the Salzburgers were the only colonists still devoting considerable time and effort to silk-making and were responsible for over half the silk produced in the colony after that time. When hostilities began with England, the bounty was discontinued and silk culture in Georgia was, for all practical purposes, ended.

The large number of widows and orphans left as a result of the malarial climate and hardships of pioneer life caused the need for an orphanage. The orphanage opened in 1738 with twelve children and continued in operation until 1750, receiving donations from Europe, the Trustees, other colonists and even the Indians.

A deeply religious people, the Salzburgers had established themselves as a congregation, which they called the Ebenezer German Evangelical Lutheran Church, upon their arrival in 1734, keeping the same name at their new location. Every evening after work and twice on Sunday the Salzburgers held worship services, meeting in the orphanage until their first church, a frame one, was constructed in 1741. The present Jerusalem Church was constructed in 1767-69 of bricks

(continued)

### Form 194300a (July 1969)

OCT 2 9 1974

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia county	
COUNTY	
Effingham	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
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(Number all oritries)

NATIONAL REGISTER

8.	Significance	(continued)

made on the premises. Such funds as were needed came from Germany. Allegiance was given to the parent church until well after the turn of the century, the Germans assigning replacement pastors and providing economic aid when needed. The congregation has been continuous to the present except during the British occupation during the Revolutionary War.

British troops took possession on January 2, 1779, beginning the town's demise. The property of all settlers not swearing allegiance to the British crown was confiscated and destroyed. Ebenezer became a major thoroughfare for the British, with soldiers quartered there, and a collection point for prisoners awaiting transport to Savannah. The church was used first as a hospital and then as a stable.

The British remained until the evacuation of Savannah in June, 1783. Afterwards, great effort was expended to revitalize the town. A new clergyman was sent over and the parochial school was revived. The population increased slightly at first, as some of those who had fled returned. But the former trade was never rebuilt, the mills were not run, and silk production received only token efforts.

From 1796 to 1799, Ebenezer was the county seat of Effingham, but it was not among the principal towns of Georgia enumerated by George Sibbald in 1801. Year by year the population declined as residents settled in outlying areas. A report in 1855 records two dwellings among the ruins, one vacant.

Ebenezer's most outstanding resident was John Adam Treutlen, first governor of Georgia, who came to Ebenezer as a boy.

The church was again occupied by soldiers in 1864 while General Sherman and his troops awaited favorable weather before crossing the Savannah River into South Carolina following his march to the sea. A 1906 suit filed against the United States by the Jerusalem Church for restitution for damages caused by the soldiers was denied.

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  III, 1736. University of Georgia Press, Athens. 1968, 1969, 1972.
- Jones, George Fenwick, ed., <u>Henry Newman's Salzburger Letterbooks</u>. University of Georgia, Athens. 1966.

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Effingham	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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(Number all entries)

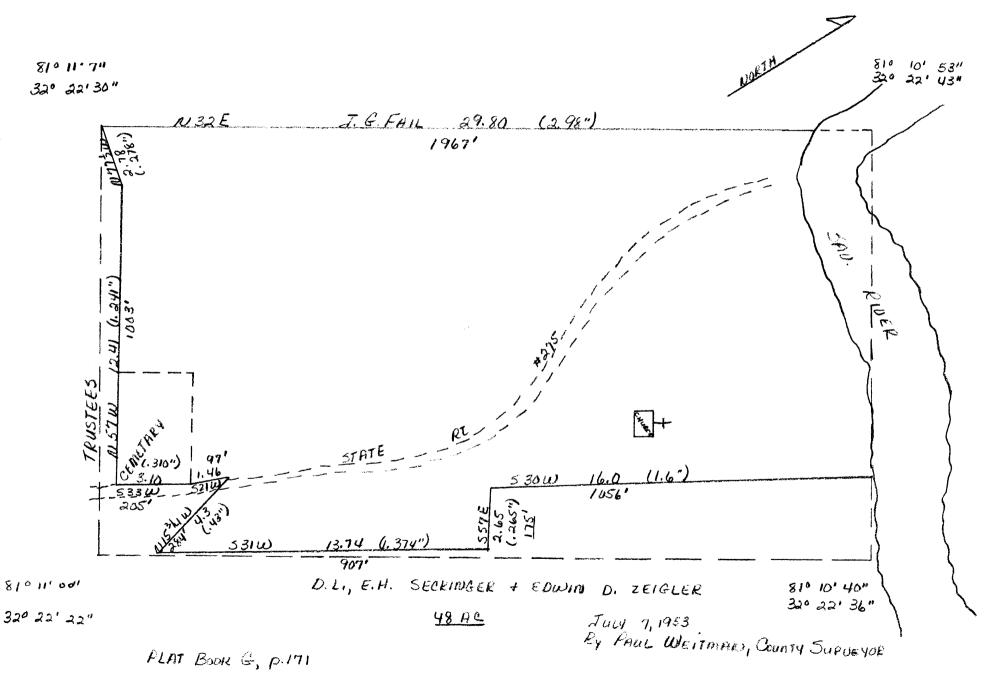
- 9. Major Bibliographical References (continued)
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- White, Rev. George, M.A., <u>Historical Collections of Georgia</u>. Pudney & Russell, Publishers, New York. 1854.

### TERUSALEM LUTHERIND CHURCH



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Form No. 10-301 Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Effingham	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 4 1074	

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)		ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
T. NAME		DEC 4 1974	
common: Ebenezer townsite and Jerus	salem Lutheran (	Church	
AND/OR HISTORIC: New Ebenezer  2. LOCATION	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
STREET AND NUMBER: Bluff on Savannah River 5.5 miles	s east from High	nway 21 on Highway 27	5 East
CITY OR TOWN:  Springfield		<u> </u>	
STATE: Georgia	CODE COUNTY:	ngham	103
3. MAP REFERENCE			1
Source: Unknown: found among church paper	rs; 1747 map of	Ebenezer (1977)	\(\)
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TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS  1. Property broundaries where required.  2. North arrow.  3. Latitude and longitude reference.	Noted as	Map A REGISTER	
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Form No. 10-301 Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HIS	TURIC PLACES	Effingham		
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. NAME				
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

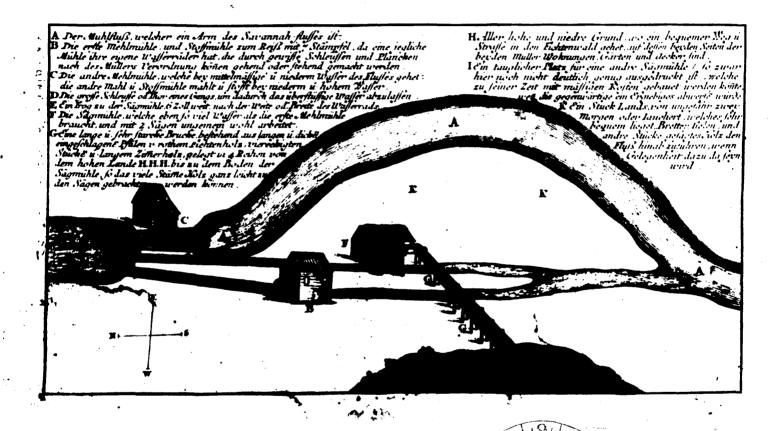
STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Effingham	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 4	1974

(Number all entries)

Translation of the Legend, Map A

- A The still-stream which is an area of the Savannah River
- B The first flour mill and pulp mill for rending with seven crushers; the mills have their own waterwheels and are made to go by certain locks and plankboards according to the miller's order, or they can be made to stand still.
- C The flour mill which operates in average and low water from the stream; the other flour mill and pulp mill grind and pulp in low and high water.
- D The large lock of the canal which drains off the superfluous water
- E A trough to the sawmill six-inches wide according to the width or breadth of the water mill
- F The sawmill which uses just as much water as the first flour mill and with two saws works unusually well.
- G Long and very strong bridge consisting of long and thick embedded states of spruce wood; four-cornered pieces and long coniferous trees laid in four rows from the higher land up into the floor of the sawmill so that many relays of wood can be easily brought to the saws.
- H On all high and low ground there are comfortable paths and streets going into the spruce forest, and on both sides of the two millers' living quarters are garden and fields.
- I A suitable place for another sawmill has not been stated clearly enough; the saw-mill could be built in good time with moderate costs, and would soon yield good production.
- K A piece of land approximately two measures (of land) (local variation from 0.6 to 0.9 acres) which lies very comfortably; planks and other pieces of said wood will be floated down the river if there is an opportunity to do this.





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STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Effingham	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 4	1974

Y - Twenty house lots between three

to arrive in the future

morgens.

streets set aside for General Oglethorpe and prominent and rich people

Z - Scale of 300 feet (1 3/8 inches) by which the city plan is measured.

Plantations were 40 morgen. A morgen is 5 acres. Hardens were two

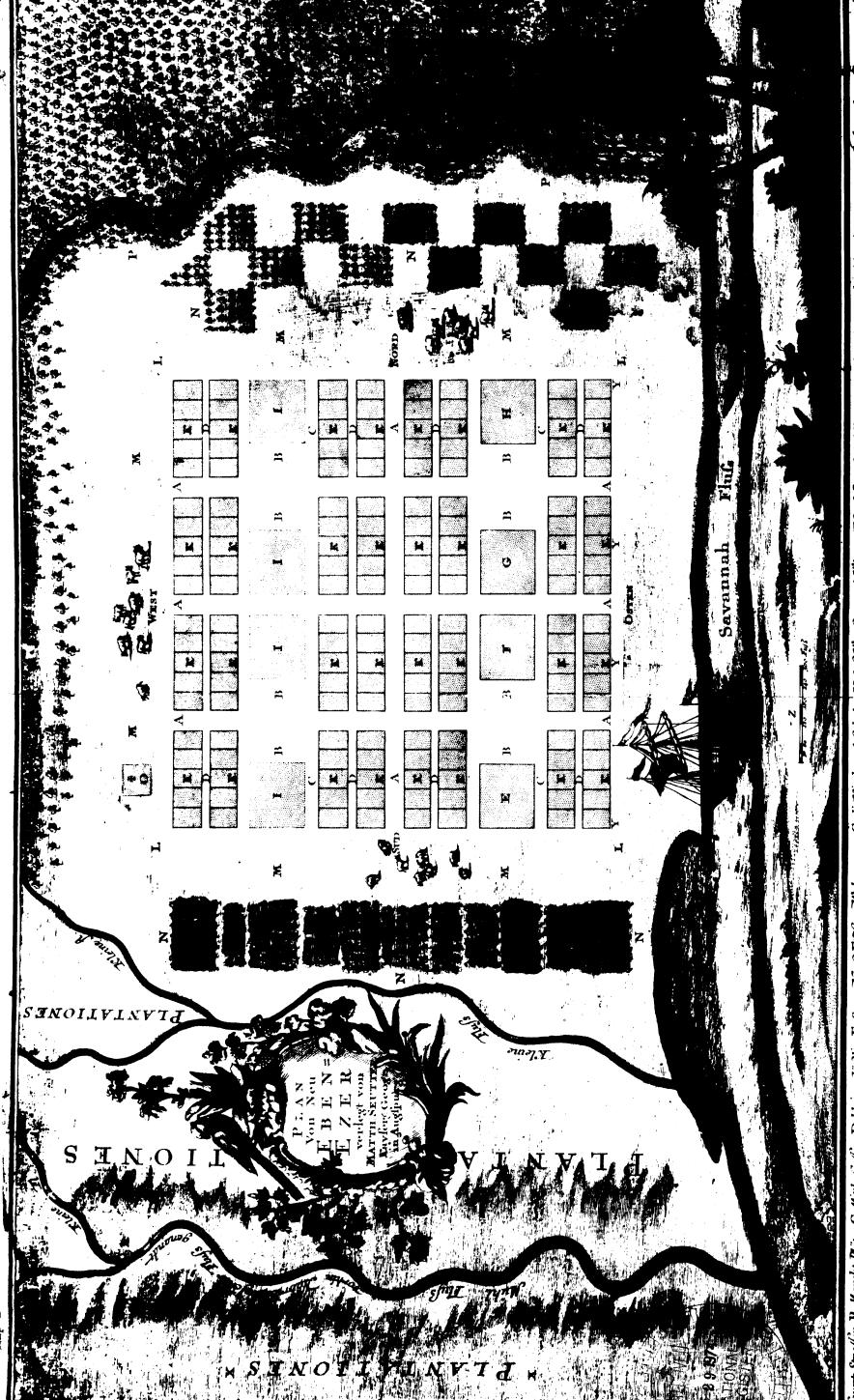
(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Translation of the Legend, Map B

- A Main streets
- B Market place (Square)
- C Middle-width alley
- D Narrow-width lanes
- E Store house
- F Minister's house (Parsonage)
- G Church and School
- H Orphans' and widows' house
- I Other public squares, but not fenced in as yet
- K Sixteen house plots for dwellings; in some of them there was room for gardens
- L A fence (palisade) of shingles about six-feet high, which is good because at a distance, it looks like a palisade
- M A cow pasture
- N Gardens
- 0 The church, fenced in by itself
- P Woods
- Q The land owned by a small group of Indians
- R The mill
- S Habicorn, a village (Abercorn)
- T Old Ebenezer two hours from New Ebenezer
- U The river
- W Purysburg two hours from New Ebenezer
- X Highlands where the Salzburgers have their cattle stalls and stables





ohmangen. G die Krichen it Schulen H. dufs Wayssen auch Wätwen Läufs. I auch Publique Phitz aber dats noch micht eingezumnet. K. Lechs. 2 Zaun Sechs Fuß hoch welcher fehr zut ficht, ützen ferne der Statt ein anjehen macht als wärs für verpräffähret 2 die Mühl. Schübrscorn ein Dorff. H. Chen Czer zweg. Stand von dem Neuen Chen Czer. Veine Sec. W. Bergehung zweg. Standen vo 180 Kr. General Wilethy, für nach komende Nernebane üt Reiche Leuthe aufschalten. Z. Mags Stab von 300 Fuß wernach der Plan d

7.

Map B