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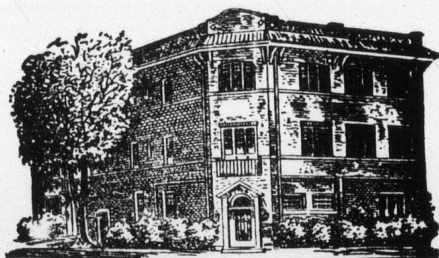
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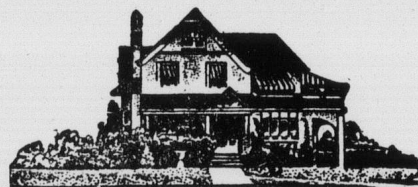
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SHRINE FOR POCAHONTAS — ENGLISH TRY TO SAVE GRAVE

In England men of diverse church-
es are working to save the grave of
an Indian girl who ran naked until
she was 13 but grew up an Ameri-
can heroine, a great lady in England
and a beloved legend in both coun-
tries. All her short life Pocahontas,
daughter of Chief Powhatan, worked
for amity between Indians of Vir-
ginia and colonists of Jamestown.
She fell in love with an Englishman
and married him. She adopted Ja-
cobean dress. In England, she was
feted by the aristocracy. But in 1617
at the age of 22, she died and was
buried in St. George's Church,
Gravesend, near London. In late
years, St. George's has run town;
commerce and parking lots have
crowded in and a proposal was made
to demolish the church. But this
roused so many protests that a cam-
paign, supported also by the Eng-
lish-Speaking Union, has begun to
preserve St. George's as a shrine to
Christian unity and to Pocahontas.

A stone tablet in the chancel tells
how Pocahontas lived and died. Ex-
act burial spot was lost in 1732 fire.

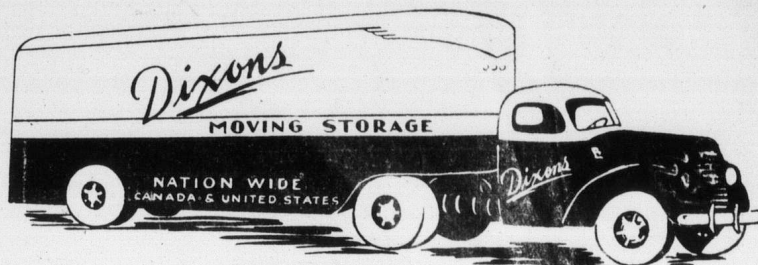
The church rises above the dreary
environs of an encroaching commer-
cial area and unkempt parking lot.

The Captain Smith legend that
Pocahontas saved him from the club
of an Indian executioner inspired an
American artist, Alonzo Chappel.
Some historians say it is a fable and
recall Smith first told it seven years
after her death.

Her wedding to Colonist John Rolfe
who was so smitten by Pocahontas
that he said "that I was even aware-
ied to unwynde myselfe" out of love,
occurred in 1614, year after she be-
came a Christian. An old print
depicts the ceremony in Jamestown
church.

King and Queen, James I and Anne
received Pocahontas as royalty and
once rebuked Commoner Rolfe for
marrying above his station. Though
it is reported she wore English dress
at court, pictures show her in Indian
regalia.

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