

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

HB
 536270
 218 N 4523650

1. NAME

COMMON:
Friends Meeting House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 3 of Dover at
Quaker Avenue and Quaker Church Road, off N. J. 10

CITY OR TOWN:
Randolph Township Dover, N.J.

STATE New Jersey	CODE 34	COUNTY: Morris	CODE 027
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Friends Meeting

STREET AND NUMBER:
Quaker Avenue & Quaker Church Road

CITY OR TOWN: Randolph Township

STATE: New Jersey

CODE: 34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Morris County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court Street

CITY OR TOWN: Morristown

STATE: New Jersey

CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey (N.J.-145)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1937 Federal State

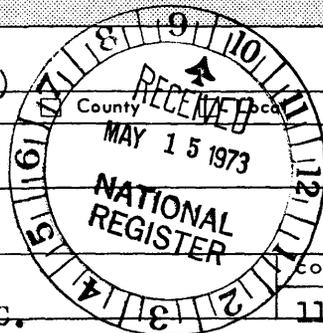
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.

CODE: 11



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7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)						
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
	(Check One)			(Check One)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Interior.

The inside of the Friends Meeting House contains only one room and an upstairs gallery. The building was used for social and religious meetings. There is a partition for dividing the area of meetings. These partitions are two long panels on the floor, with a door between, and swinging battened panels hinged to overhead beams which can be lowered to form a room partition. The frame, and furnishings are original. The interior fittings are of the simplest form. The seats are of plain boards, about ten feet long, with just a four inch slat across the back of these pews.

From the gallery the framework construction is most easily viewed, including the one foot by eighteen inch beams, the joices, and the wooden pegging, among other things. The furnishings of the gallery are less pretentious than those on the first floor since this was where refugees and slaves worshipped. The seats in the gallery are merely benches.

Exterior.

The Friends Meeting House is a nearly square (26x25 feet) one and one-half story clapboard structure, quite plain in appearance, has few windows, and a stone foundation. The roof is a Victorian slate roof and the clapboard have been changed also. The roof and clapboard are most probably of the same later period. The front door, somewhat off center, opens directly into the meeting room without any vestibule of any sorts. Two windows flank the door and there are also two windows above these. All windows have shutters, but the are not authentic. There is a small chimney in the center on the top of the roof. There is a small addition to the Eastern side. Surrounding the building is a fence; iron at the front and stone in the rear.

AND INSTRUCTIONS



8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1758

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Religion.

In 1713 John Reading, a Presbyterian, surveyed the area of Randolph Township (then known as Mendham Township) and he encouraged Quakers to settle in the area he explored. Since the Quakers held Reading in high esteem shortly thereafter they converged into Mendham. By 1740 several families of Friends had settled and an informal church congregation was set up. (However, they actually belonged to the Woodbridge Monthly Meeting Congregation.) At first meetings were held in private homes, but by 1758 funds were solicited and land was donated to build the Friends Meeting House.

The Meeting House was quite plain, even in the mid-18th century, and had only the most necessary furnishings and conveniences as typified the Quaker faith of that time.

For over a hundred years the Friends met here every week for prayers. In the winter a pit filled with charcoal near the front provided the heat. By the mid-nineteenth century a modern stove was installed for the congregation. (Thus the small center chimney.) In 1865 services were discontinued. Then, in 1955, the Quaker Meeting House was reorganized and meetings resumed.

Architecture.

Superficially, the Friends Meeting House is not overwhelmingly impressive since the roof and clapboard siding are both of nineteenth century vintage. And there is some evidence that the building was once moved.

However, these factors are insignificant since the architectural significance is within. The frame, furnishings, and paneling are all original. The flooring is oak kept in place by wooden pegs. The pews on the ground floor are quite plain, being only ten feet long benches with a four inch slat in the back. There is little ornamentation throughout the building. The seats in the loft are merely wooden benches. The framework construction can be easily studied from the gallery since nothing has been altered, insulated, or paneled in this portion of the building.

There is probably no other eighteenth century Quaker Meeting House in New Jersey which has remained as intact internally as this one. (Perhaps none in the nation compare with the inside of

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Morris County. New York: Lewis Pub. Co., 1914.
Matlack, T.C. Historical Sketches of Friends Meetings of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. 2 vols. Moorestown: 1938.
Megie, B.C. HISTORY OF MORRIS COUNTY. "Tales of Old Randolph." New York: Munsell, 1882.
Pomfret, J.E. The Province of West New Jersey. Princeton: 1956.
Rose, P.H. Houses of Worship in Colonial America. Philadelphia: 1963.
Shotwell, A.M. Our Quaker Forefathers. Lansing, Michigan: 1895.
Historic American Buildings Survey. New Jersey-145, 1937.

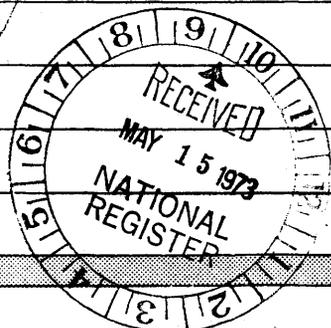
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40° 51' 54"	74° 33' 48"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Terry Karschner, Historian-Curator**
 ORGANIZATION: **Dept. of Environmental Protection, Historic Sites Section** DATE: **December, '72**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **Post Office Box 1420**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Richard J. Sullivan*
Richard J. Sullivan

Title: Commissioner, Environmental Protection

Date: January 29, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST: *J. Bradford*
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/31/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Morris	
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ENTRY NUMBER JUN 4	DATE 1973

(Number all entries)

Friends Meeting House
Randolph Township
Morris County, Code:027
New Jersey, Code:34

(continuation Sheet)

8. Significance

the Randolph Township Meeting House) It is truly an important resource for architectural historians and Quaker religion researchers.

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

Senator Clifford P. Case
Senator Harrison A. Williams
Representative Joseph Maraziti, 13th District

