

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

other names/site number Hancock's Bridge Friends Meetinghouse, Lower Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

2. Location

street & number Buttonwood Avenue, 150 feet west of Main Street not for publication

city or town Hancock's Bridge, Lower Alloways Creek Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Salem code 033 zip code 08038

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Marc A. Matsil, Assistant Commissioner Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Gordon R. Beall

12/18/03

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Brick

roof Wood Shingle
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1756 - 1784

Significant Dates

1756

1784

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # Friends Meeting House Survey, 1998
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Name of Property

Salem County, New Jersey
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 0.52 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	8
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4	6	0	5	2	0
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4	3	7	2	4	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sheila Koehler, Associate

organization Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants date 24 February 2003

street & number 425 White Horse Pike telephone (856) 547-0465

city or town Haddon Heights state NJ zip code 08035-1706

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Salem Quarterly Meeting

street & number P.O. Box 55 telephone (856) 769-0066

city or town Woodstown state NJ zip code 08098-0055

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

The Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse, constructed in 1756 with a major addition in 1784, is an asymmetrical, six-bay, two-story, brick Quaker meetinghouse. The exterior is characterized by the use of Flemish bond on the south and east elevations, double-leaf entrance doors under gabled porch roofs on the south and gable-end elevations, and twelve-over-twelve, eight-over-eight, and six-over-six sash windows with paneled shutters.(photographs 2, 4, and 5) The interior is divided into two rooms, each two stories in height with a gallery, by a wood and plaster partition wall with movable wood panels.(photograph 28) At the north end of each room, platforms support the facing benches. The sloping gallery, which runs along the west, south, and east exterior walls, has four levels. A one-story brick privy addition with a shed roof abuts the north elevation. The meetinghouse is located on a roughly rectangular, nearly flat, half-acre of land bounded by vacant land to the east and north and by late-nineteenth and late-twentieth century residences to the west and south.(photograph 1) The building faces south toward Buttonwood Avenue near the southern boundary of the property. Eight mature Buttonwood trees (*Platanus Occidentalis*) are arranged across the front of the building and around the west and north sides of the building. Two "memorial walks" composed of old gravestones and carved memorial stones line up from the street to the two entrances on the south elevation. A six-bay, open vehicle shed is located to the northeast of the meetinghouse. The shed has rough vertical board siding and a corrugated metal roof.(photographs 22, 23, and 24) Its framing is composed of both heavy timber mortise-and-tenon framing and modern dimensional lumber. The property is in good condition, with the exception of the meetinghouse's wood shingle roof, which has reached the end of its functional life.

Current Appearance

The south elevation, which is the facade, is six bays wide and two stories high with Flemish brick bond above a base of common bond.(photograph 2) The common bond extends approximately two feet up the wall, but does not project beyond the face of the Flemish bond. The brick in the eastern half of the wall contains occasional glazed headers, as well as some stretchers glazed at one end. The building was constructed in two sections. The eastern section, constructed in 1756, is 30' wide. The western section, constructed in 1784, is 24' wide. Both sections are three bays wide but the difference in width creates asymmetry. At the first floor level in the eastern section, a double-leaf entrance door is covered by a gabled porch roof and flanked by twelve-over-twelve double-hung sash windows with basket handle brick arches.(photographs 7 and 8) The door and window frames are trimmed with a large cyma reversa molding. The four-panel doors have slightly raised panels with applied quirked cyma reversa molding.(photograph 7) A brown porcelain knob is located on the east door. Two slate steps provide access to the entrance from grade. The window shutters in this section are two-panel, slightly raised, with an applied quirked cyma reversa molding.(photograph 8) The shutters have flat panels on the reverse side and are installed with cast iron screw hinges. The shutters also have ring pulls and two-part latch systems to hold them closed, with a base set in the sill and the latch attached to the shutter. The porch consists of two chamfered posts bearing on brick bases that support a gable roof clad in wood shingles and finished on the front with a closed pediment and on the

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underside with beaded boards. The molding around the cornice of the porch roof is a cyma recta and cavetto profile on the front and a cyma recta and fillet profile on the sides. The molding in the closed pediment is also a cyma recta and fillet profile.

The three-bay first floor configuration of the 1784 western section is similar. A set of double-leaf entrance doors is covered by a gabled porch roof and flanked by two twelve-over-twelve, single-hung windows.(photograph 9) The doors each have five, slightly-raised panels with applied cyma reversa and cavetto trim. The door frame is pegged and has quirked cyma reversa trim.(photograph 10) The members of the western door frame are wider than those of the eastern door. Two pieces of slate also serve as steps up to this door. The window frames have a smaller, flatter quirked cyma reversa molding profile than the molding profile on the eastern door.(photograph 11) The shutters on the 1784 south elevation windows have three raised panels with integral ovolo moldings and a second ovolo molding around the raised panel edge. The shutters are backed with vertical boards and are installed with strap hinges and driven pintles. Each window has one rattail wrought iron shutterdog and one cast iron foliate pattern shutterdog. Each also has ring pulls and a wrought iron strap to hold them closed. The entrance porch over the western door is nearly identical to that over the eastern door, with the exception that it is slightly smaller and that all of the trim has the cyma recta and cavetto profile.(photograph 9)

At the second floor level, there are six six-over-six, single-hung sash windows, lined up with the six openings at the first floor level.(photograph 12) Each has a flat frame with no trim. Each has two-panel shutters that match the two-panel shutters on the eastern 1756 windows at the first floor level in molding profile, panel type, flat panel reverse sides, cast-iron hinges, and ring pulls. The two outer bay windows also have slide bolts, and one has a keeper. The building cornice, separated from the second floor window lintels by only two rows of brick, is a wood box cornice with cyma recta and cavetto molding and a bed molding with a cavetto, fillet, cyma recta, and fillet profile (from the top down).

The west elevation is laid in common bond and is asymmetrical in composition.(photograph 3) Centered at the first floor level is a double-leaf entrance door covered by a gable-roofed porch. The pegged frame has no applied trim but does have a half-round bead at the inner corner. The doors, which are original, each have three raised panels with an integral ovolo molding around the edge. A thumb latch with the thumb piece broken off is attached to the south leaf. Two slate steps lead up to the door. The porch is similar to the south elevation porches, with some exceptions. The posts are narrower in dimension and are not chamfered. The beaded boards in the ceiling are wider, and the edges of the soffit boards are not rounded like those on the south porches. The trim matches that on the western porch of the south elevation.

To the north of the door is an eight-over-eight, single-hung sash window with no trim on the frame.(photograph 12) The shutters are two-panel with the same profile and vertical board backing as the 1784 south elevation first floor shutters. These shutters are also installed with strap hinges on driven pintles. The shutters are also held closed with a wrought iron strap. The shutterdogs have been modified with makeshift pieces of metal in place of the rattail pieces (which must have broken off). There are two six-over-six, single-hung sash windows at the second floor level. One is located above the first floor window, while the other is located to the south of the doorway.

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Neither has trim on its frame. Both have the same shutters as the second-floor, south elevation windows, but these shutters have been installed with a different style of screw hinge. The southern window is smaller than the northern window by one course of brick.

Above the windows, slightly off-center in the gable end, there is a date stone inscribed 1784.(photograph 14) The raking cornices are applied wood boards with a fillet at the lower edge. The raking cornice breaks at the peak where a small, interior end brick chimney projects through the roof ridge.

The six-bay, asymmetrical north elevation is laid in common bond brick with headers generally every sixth course.(photographs 4 and 5) The 1756 section bricks are visibly larger than the 1784 section bricks. Occasional glazed headers are found in the eastern 1756 section, as well as over-fired brick used in the running bond courses. There are two windows in the eastern 1756 section and two windows flanking a door in the western 1784 section. The brick privy addition, also laid in common bond, is set between the inner windows of the two sections and nearly centered on the elevation. Of the two windows in the 1756 section, the eastern window has eight-over-eight, double-hung sash, the western window has twelve-over-twelve, double-hung sash, and both have the same large cyma reversa trim found on the south elevation 1756 windows.(photographs 17 and 18) The eastern window is smaller than the original window at this location, thus there is a basket handle arch seven courses above the window, at approximately the same height as a basket handle arch located over the western 1756 north elevation window. The eastern window has two panel shutters matching those on the second floor south elevation. Since the privy is located just west of the western 1756 window, it cannot have a shutter on either side. Instead, the two shutters are attached by a hinge and the pair is installed on the east side of the window. The panel style and configuration match those on the 1756 first-floor, south elevation windows.

In the 1784 western section, the two windows are eight-over-eight, single-hung sash with pegged frames.(photograph 4) The western window has two-panel shutters matching those on the first floor west elevation, but the shutters have been removed from the east 1784 window, presumably due to its proximity to the west privy wall. A remaining shutterdog in the masonry shows that there were once shutters on this window as well. Between the windows in the 1784 north elevation is a double-leaf door set approximately 2 ½ feet above grade.(photograph 15) Each leaf is three panels and matches the west elevation entrance door in its panel configuration and style. The door has a pegged frame, a wood sill, and a rowlock flat arch above the door. The privy, located between the eastern and western sections, is a small, rectangular brick structure with a shed roof finished with wood shingles. (photograph 16) It has a box cornice with no molding, a cleanout on the west elevation, a four-pane fixed sash window on the south elevation, and a beaded-board door on the east elevation. The building cornice on this elevation is a box cornice with a simple angled piece of cornice trim in lieu of the cyma recta and cavetto molding on the south elevation cornice. This cornice lacks a bed molding.

The east elevation configuration is a mirror image of the west elevation, with a centered first floor entrance door and porch, a first floor window to the north and two windows, slightly offset to the north, above.(photograph 6) The brick, however, is laid in Flemish bond up to the cornice, while it is common bond in the gable end above. The entrance doors are double-leaf four-panel doors matching those in the eastern door on the south

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elevation.(photograph 19) The frame also matches that on the eastern door of the south elevation, but this opening has a rowlock flat arch above the opening. The porch also matches that around the eastern door on the south elevation with the exception that the posts bear on concrete and the molding is all cyma recta and fillet in profile.(photograph 19) The first floor window is six-over-six, double-hung sash with a large cyma reversa molding on the frame and two-panel shutters like those on the second floor windows on the south elevation.(photograph 21) Ring pulls and latches have been applied to the shutters. The second floor windows are also six-over-six, but are single-hung. Neither has trim on the frames. The shutters for each window match those on the second floor south elevation. The northern window also has a slide bolt and keeper. The raking cornice is like that on the west elevation. This raking cornice also breaks at the peak where a small interior end chimney breaks through the roof ridge.

The interior of the meetinghouse is divided into two rooms by a partition with movable panels set just east of the location of the original west wall of the 1756 section. The eastern 1756 section is approximately 28' in width (east to west) and 26' in depth (north-south), while the western 1784 section is approximately 26' in width and 26' in depth.(photographs 25, 28, 39, and 41) The rooms are generally similar, however, in their arrangement and detailing. At the north end of both rooms, there are platforms accommodating the rows of facing benches, two tiers in the east room and one tier in the west room. The flooring is a composed of older, wide, random-width, tongue-and-groove floor boards on the main floor in the west room, the platform in the east room, and the gallery and narrow, tongue-and-groove, early twentieth-century floor boards on the main floor in the east room and the platform in the west room.

The walls (except for the partition wall) and ceiling are plaster with three generations of wainscoting applied in different locations. Most of the wainscoting is composed of wide, beaded vertical pine boards, installed along the north wall (except around the north door), the northern ends of the east and west walls, and the south wall between the two doors.(photographs 25, 26, and 38) Two sections of this wainscoting, between the east window of the 1784 section and the partition wall and in the northwest corner, are shorter than the remainder of the pine wainscoting. The area around the north elevation door is finished with taller boards that clearly have been reused from another location.(photograph 40) These boards served as backing for bookshelves. Narrower beaded board is installed along the east wall around the center entrance door, the north wall of the southeast winder closet, and the south wall in the east room between the door and the east window.(photograph 27) The corresponding spaces in the west room to the areas of narrow beaded-board wainscoting in the east room have no wainscoting at all.(photograph 38) Other wall elements include a peg rail set in the plaster of the south wall between the west door and the west window, and a wood cabinet constructed on the plastered north wall of the southwest staircase.

The exterior doors and the windows in the east room have flat trim that has been varnished, while the west room and the second floor windows all have an ovolo molding at the interior edge of the jambs and along the lintels and have not been varnished.(photographs 33 and 38) The panels on the interior side of the east doors and the east doors on the south elevation are flat, while those on the west doors of the south elevation are paneled to match the exterior side.(photographs 34 and 44) The interior sides of the west elevation and north elevation doors are finished with vertical boards.(photographs 45 and 46) Embossed hardware, steple-tip hinges, and box locks are

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used on the east and south elevation doors, while the west and north elevation doors have wrought-iron strap hinges and wood bars instead of locks.

A continuous, sloped gallery runs along the west, south, and east exterior walls.(photographs 28 and 38) The underside is a smooth, sloped plane finished with plaster while the floor of the gallery has four tiers. It has two matching turned posts at its interior corners, a half-wall finished with wide horizontal boards, and a railing raised on square posts approximately 1' high.(photograph 35) The top of the half wall has a cavetto and bullnose molding. The railing is molded as well.

In the southwest and southeast corners of the building, winder staircases with a closed-stringer, straight-run stretch at the bottom along the south wall lead up to the gallery.(photographs 32, 39, and 43) The west staircase has a simple square newel and molded railing connected with pegged mortise-and-tenon joinery along its straight run, while the east staircase has a draped railing and a turned newel post and balusters. Beneath the upper half of each winder staircase is a small closet formed from vertical boards and a four-panel door. Both doors have raised panels with an ovolo molding around the panels and both are installed with H-L hinges. The east staircase door has an embossed turn latch, while the west staircase door has a wood butterfly latch. At the gallery level, the winder staircases are surrounded by the two exterior walls and by two half-walls. The north half-walls at each staircase are plaster with a beveled wood edge, while the east and west half-walls are wide, beaded boards with endposts and cap molding along the top edge.(photograph 49)

The interior is divided by a two-story partition wall of wood frame, wood panels, and plaster.(photograph47) At the south end, from the edge of the gallery to the south wall, the first floor section of the partition wall consists of a framed opening divided by a post.(photograph 30) A small section of plastered wall is visible above the lintel of the opening. To the south of the post, an 18" wide section of paneling is set against the south wall and a two-foot-wide door is hinged with H-L hinges off the north edge of the paneling. Both the door and wall section have three panels, two vertical panels and one horizontal panel above. The panel profile matches those on the doors of the winder staircase closet, as do the rest of the panels on the partition wall.(photograph 31) All paneling faces the east room. The reverse side of the paneling, which faces the west room, consists only of the recessed back sides of the raised panels.(photograph 49) In addition, all east side paneling has been varnished, while the west side has not. The hardware on the door consists of a slide bolt on the west side. To the north of the post is a system whereby three equally-sized sections of paneling with two vertical panels per section slide vertically in tracks via a weighted sash system. One section remains fixed at floor level, one raises to the middle height of the opening, and one raises to the top of the opening, creating a full wall section. When "open" however, all three sections are at floor level, leaving the upper two thirds open between the rooms. At the gallery level, the partition wall from the gallery edge to the south wall is plastered.(photograph 42) A doorway with plain board trim is located against the south wall.

Between the gallery and the north wall, the first floor section of the partition wall is divided into five sections of unequal size.(photograph 29) All but the center section have the same movable three-part sliding system of panels as that beneath the gallery. Of those sections, the one second from the north wall has only a single panel on each of its three sliding sections instead of two. At the center section, there is a two-leaf door that opens and folds back on

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itself (a similar solution to the shutters on the 1756 north elevation window next to the privy) apparently because space is limited by the surrounding benches and platform. Each leaf has four panels and is attached to the frame with H-L hinges, while H hinges connect the two leaves. The door has two wood knobs of different sizes (the lower one is part of a box lock) and a hook latch to hold the two leaves in line. While this door is hinged to swing into the west room, a second half door of vertical boards across the same opening is hinged to swing into the east room. This door has a butterfly latch and a metal pull on it.

At the second floor level, the partition wall is divided into four equal bays.(photographs 29 and 49) Within each bay, there is a fixed, two-panel section just below the ceiling. Beneath the fixed sections, there are sections with four vertical panels that are hinged at the top and can be swung upward to allow attached ropes to be wrapped around hooks on the ceiling, holding them open. The wood frame system for the partition wall is plain except for bead stops and applied cap moldings with a cavetto and fillet molding at the ceiling.

The rooms are heated by two cast iron stoves, one marked "Wolf, More, & Co., Wrightsville, PA" and the other marked "E SMITH PHILADA CUMBERLAND FURNACE."(photographs 37 and 39) Stove pipes lead from the stoves, which are located near the center of each room, to the gable end walls where the chimneys are located. A cleanout is located in the west wall beneath the pipe.

The rooms are furnished with benches made for the meetinghouse. All of the benches were constructed with pegged half-lap joints. The facing benches in both rooms have tall, straight backs made of two wide planks run horizontally and capped with a molded rail.(photograph 36) The seats are a single plank wide. The end caps and intermediate support boards have decorative ogee arches carved out of their bottom edges, while the armrests terminate in poppy head profiles. All of the remaining benches in the east room and three of the seven remaining benches in the west room have two endpieces and an intermediate support board, all with the ogee arch at the bottom, and an angled seatback support above the bench.(photograph 37) One board is set into the tops of the seatback supports, while a second is nailed to the back side of the supports on all but one bench, which lacks the second board. The other four benches in the west room combine the profile of the other regular benches with the endcap of the facing benches.(photograph 41) Bench seats are built against the north wall in the east room and were once built against the south wall in both rooms and the north wall in the west room. The benches in the gallery were built into place. The leg boards have the same ogee arch at the bottom. The seatback frames are built onto the step directly behind the bench (each bench is set at the back edge of its tier) and consist only of vertical supports and one horizontal board across the top.

The building was constructed over an inaccessible crawlspace that is presumed to be not more than 18" deep. The attic, accessible via a small hatch in the ceiling above the southeastern staircase, has paired rafters with pegged mortise-and-tenon joinery.

The shed, located to the northeast of the meetinghouse, is constructed from a combination of heavy-timber, mortise-and-tenon framing and modern dimensional lumber nailed into place, all bearing on a poured concrete foundation.(photograph 24) The west, north, and east sides are finished with rough vertical boards, while the

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asymmetrical gable roof is finished with corrugated metal.(photographs 22 and 23) Beneath the corrugated metal, some of the lath from the previous wood shingle roof remains in place.

Original Appearance and Subsequent Alterations

The first section (currently the eastern 30' section as viewed from the exterior facing the facade) of the Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse was constructed in 1756. While its appearance cannot be fully reconstructed from remaining physical evidence, the elements that do remain, together with examination of other examples from the period, suggest the overall form. The first section was constructed as a near-square, single-story structure. The wall height was 13 courses of brick lower than its current height counting down from the underside of the box cornice (rising to about 5 inches below the current second floor window sash meeting rails). The original roof configuration is not known. Most single-cell meetinghouses of the mid-eighteenth century, however, had gable roofs, while most examples with hipped roofs date from an earlier period. The roofing material was most likely wood shingles.

The east and south elevations both were constructed with Flemish bond brick, while the north elevation was constructed in common bond, suggesting that the south and east elevations were considered major elevations, while the north was not. The appearance of the original west elevation is not known, but it was presumably brick. On the south elevation, the existing first-floor, arched window and door openings appear to be original. The windows would have had twelve-over-twelve sash and two- or three-panel shutters. The appearance of the original doors is not known, but based on the width of the opening and other meetinghouse examples, they would have been double-leaf and may have had raised panels, with vertical boards on the reverse side. On the north elevation, the two window openings (one of which is now altered) marked by the basket handle arches are also original. The north elevation openings would also have had twelve-over-twelve sash and two- or three-panel shutters. On the east elevation, the door opening appears to be original (the appearance of the original doors is not known), but the first floor window opening does not match those on the north and south elevations and is most likely not original.

If the roof had a gable configuration, which seems probable, the east and west elevations were most likely the gable ends, based on their longer length and the fact that the facade (the south elevation in this case) was usually an eaves elevation on single-cell meetinghouses. On the interior, the original configuration is not known. It is probable, based on the identification of the south elevation as the facade, that the facing benches were located along the north wall, as they still are. There may also have been an interior partition, running east-west, that divided the room into two, unequal sections, one larger for worship and the men's business meeting and one smaller for the women's business meeting. No physical evidence remains, however, to verify the existence and location of such a partition. No remaining fabric on the interior of the 1756 section is identifiable as dating to its construction, with the possible exception of plaster and flooring boards on the facing bench platforms.

The construction of the major addition that took place in 1784 gave the building its current form. In the fall of 1784, acting on the agreement of the Meeting, the west wall of the building was torn down, the current western 24' section was constructed, the walls of the 1756 section were raised to match the height of the new 1784 walls, a single, continuous gable roof covered with wood shingles was constructed, and the interior was reconfigured with a

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north-south partition located slightly west of the new center point of the building and a gallery along the west, south, and east exterior walls. The facing benches in both sections were located along the north wall.

The south elevation of the new section was laid in Flemish bond, while the west and north elevations were laid in common bond. The south elevation of the 1784 section was composed of three symmetrical bays, with twelve-over-twelve sash in the two first floor windows, double-leaf, raised-panel doors in the center bay, and six-over-six windows above in all three bays. The doors had three panels in each leaf and each panel had an integral ovolo molding around its edge. Unlike the first floor windows of the 1756 section, the 1784 windows did not have basket handle arches. The shutters on all the windows installed in 1784, some of which remain in place on the first floor windows, consisted of three-panel shutters with a profile like that on the door.

On the west elevation, a center doorway with doors like those on the south elevation was installed and an eight-over-eight sash window with shutters also like those on the south elevation was installed to the north of the door. At the second floor level, two six-over-six windows with shutters were installed as well. A date stone, inscribed 1784, was inserted in the gable end. In the north elevation, two eight-over-eight sash windows and a center door, all matching those on the west elevation, were installed. No windows were located at the second floor level.

In the 1756 section, certain alterations were made to accommodate the new addition. At the second floor level on the south elevation, six-over-six sash windows with shutters were installed. On the east elevation, two six-over-six, second-floor windows were installed to mirror those on the west elevation. The first floor window may have been installed at this time as well. On the north elevation, the eastern of the two windows was replaced with a smaller eight-over-eight sash window due to the construction of the gallery on the interior.

On the interior, the partition in the 1756 section, if there was one, was removed and the new partition and the gallery with its winder stairs and closets in the southeast and southwest corners was constructed. The west room was given only a single tier for its facing benches, unlike the two tiers on the east side. The walls were most likely just plastered in 1784, with no wainscoting. The trim on the jambs of the windows and doors installed in 1784 consisted of a single ovolo molding at the outer edge, no trim returned along the plaster. The trim around the first floor windows of the 1756 section is not known.

The building has retained this basic configuration since its 1784 period of construction. The porch over the east elevation entrance was constructed in 1870. All of the shutters except the first floor shutters on the 1784 section date to c.1850. The east set of shutters on the 1784 section of the north elevation were removed, presumably when the privy was constructed. The date of the privy construction is not documented, but it appears to date to the second half of the nineteenth-century. The porch over the east entrance on the south elevation was constructed in 1890. The east elevation doors and frame and the east doors and frame on the south elevation were replaced in 1890 with new frames and double-leaf doors. Each leaf has four slightly-raised panels and applied molding. The first-floor window sash and frames in the 1756 section were replaced in 1890 as well. In 1905, the remaining sash throughout the building was replaced, the second floor window frames were repaired, the west doors on the south

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elevation were replaced with double-leaf doors, and the porch was installed at that entrance. Each leaf has five slightly-raised panels with applied molding. The west and north elevation doors are original to the 1784 construction. The cornice on the north elevation has been repaired and the crown molding replaced in its entirety. This repair may have occurred in 1905 as well. Masonry repairs were made to the west section in 1905 and to the east wall in 1916. The cement walk and step at the east entrance were installed in 1920. A frame addition was constructed against the west wall at some point during the nineteenth century. The addition still stood in 1920, but had been demolished by 1941. The porch over the west elevation entrance, therefore, dates to c.1930.

On the interior, little has changed, with the exception of the replacement of the joists and flooring in the 1756 section in 1890 (along with the flooring on the facing bench platform in the west section), the removal of one paneled section in the second story of the partition wall, and the installation of three periods of wainscoting. The earliest wainscoting, located primarily along the north wall and the center section of the south wall, appears to date to the early or mid-nineteenth century, while the second period wainscoting, located in the southeast corner, dates to the late nineteenth-century, most likely to the 1890 alterations. The final period wainscoting, located around the door in the north elevation, is a late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century alteration that was probably made to serve as the backing for book shelves. The stoves were each replaced at least once over the course of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the last replacement occurring in 1916.

The construction and repair of the sheds are frequently referred to in the Meeting's minutes throughout its history. The remaining shed in its current configuration dates to the early twentieth century. While the current shed has pegged mortise-and-tenon heavy timber framing, suggesting a pre-1850 original construction date, the shed shown in the oldest available photograph does not appear to be the same shed. The shed in that photograph was longer and had a lower shed roof. The vertical timbers in the current shed are single timbers that are taller in height than the shed roof shown in the oldest photograph and are designed to support an asymmetrical gable roof. In addition, the current shed has a poured concrete foundation. It therefore may have been located elsewhere on the property and then been moved into the location of the previous shed after it was demolished.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse, constructed in 1756, was the third meetinghouse constructed for the Alloways Creek Meeting. The original form of this meetinghouse, a one-story, single-cell building, was a common form for small Friends Meetings in the Delaware Valley from the late seventeenth through the mid-eighteenth centuries. The construction of the major addition in 1784, along with alterations to the original building, converted the meetinghouse into the two-story, two-cell form that was quickly coming to dominate Quaker meetinghouse design in the second half of the eighteenth century. While new meetinghouses constructed during the period were built with equal-sized rooms, reflecting contemporary thought on space arrangement for worship and business meetings, the Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse retained a slight discrepancy in the size between the two rooms, maintaining the distinction between the main worship room/men's business meeting room and the women's business meeting room found in the earlier generation of meetinghouses. In the older meetinghouses, the women's business meeting room was smaller than the main worship room/men's business meeting room was conducted since the women's room was never intended to house all of the members of the Meeting at one time. Although Friends meetinghouses are deliberately devoid of the ecclesiastical accoutrement found in other houses of worship, they share some common features with each other. Typical Quaker meetinghouse elements exhibited by the Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse include its plain, rectangular brick form with a side gable roof, the three-bay/six-bay facade configuration, the clear-glass sash windows (such as one might find in a house) in lieu of stained glass, the covered entrances, the unadorned interior, the movable partition that allowed joint worship services and separate business meetings, the facing bench platforms, and the U-shaped gallery. The meetinghouse is significant in the area of Architecture under National Register Criterion C as a representative example of the architectural evolution of the eighteenth-century Quaker meetinghouse in the Delaware Valley.

Historical Background

The Religious Society of Friends, also known as the Quakers, was founded by George Fox in the mid-seventeenth century in England. The new society, as one of several dissenting religious groups, suffered persecution for challenging the authority of the Anglican Church. Some members of the Society left England and traveled to the English colonies in America, where they found a more tolerant environment, particularly in Pennsylvania, formed by Quaker William Penn in 1681, and the territories of West and East Jersey, purchased by Penn and other Quakers from the original proprietors in 1674 and 1682 respectively.¹ Friends Meetings are organized in a hierarchy of Yearly, Quarterly, Monthly, and Preparative Meetings, listed in descending order. In southern New Jersey, which fell in the territory of West Jersey, Friends groups began to form Meetings soon after the settlement of the Delaware Valley, which commenced with the Salem "Tenth" in 1675. Alloways Creek Meeting, the third oldest in West Jersey, was formed in 1679, when a group of Friends began to meet for worship in members' homes, as an indulged meeting for worship. As an indulged meeting, it would not have conducted business meetings.² In 1684, however, the Alloways Creek Meeting was formalized by the General Meeting held in Salem, at which it was ordered:

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that ye meeting be kept once in two weeks in that part of Alloway's Creek as Elsinboro friends shall think most convenient and ordered ye Jos Thompson, Andrew Thompson, Jos White, Tho Woodrofe, Isaac Smart, George Deacon, Edward Bradway doe view ye ground where ye meeting shall be upon sixth day next and purchase the ground....³

Two half-acre lots were then deeded to members of the Meeting for the construction of the meetinghouse and use as a burial ground. The first meetinghouse constructed for the Alloways Creek Meeting was built in 1685 on one of the lots on the north bank of the Monmouth River (another name for Alloways Creek), while the burial ground was located on the other. The first meetinghouse was in use until 1718 when a new meetinghouse was erected on the south bank of the river in response to the fact that most of the members lived on the south side of river and crossing it for Meeting was difficult since there was no bridge nearby. The members living on the north side were then transferred to the Salem Monthly Meeting and the first Alloways Creek meetinghouse was abandoned. In 1753, William Hancock, a member of the Meeting, donated a half-acre lot of ground near the village of Hancock's Bridge, which was more conveniently situated for attendance by the members. The third and final meetinghouse was constructed on this lot and was completed by 1756.⁴ In 1780, a second lot was purchased on the south side of the Creek and a new burial ground was established.

Alloways Creek Meeting was under Salem Monthly Meeting from its initial formation through to 1783, when the Greenwich Meeting was established as a Monthly Meeting and Alloways Creek Meeting was established as a Preparative Meeting under it instead. The monthly Meeting began to meet alternately at Greenwich Meetinghouse and Alloways Creek Meetinghouse.⁵ The need to house large numbers of members for the Monthly Meetings may have influenced the decision to construct an addition in 1784. The decision to expand the meetinghouse is recorded in the Alloways Creek Preparative Meeting Minutes for 8th Month 26th 1784. "This meeting agrees, that in regard to a mode of addition of our meetinghouse that the managers pull down the west end and an addition sufficient to square each room and raise the new part as high as the old and as much higher as may be thought necessary and the old part likenwist."⁶

As a result of this agreement, the 1784 addition was constructed on the west side. The new 24' wide by 26' deep section had a three-bay, two-story façade, while the original 1756 section was raised to a full two stories and given three second floor windows on the façade, giving the exterior the two-cell, two-story form that had become popular in the 1760s for meetinghouses. As recorded in the Meeting minutes, the Alloways Creek Preparative Meeting was a careful steward of the building throughout the rest of the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries. Members were assigned each year to oversee its cleaning and maintenance and repair issues were addressed at least once every two years.⁷ Between 1812 and 1820, according to the brochure prepared by the Meeting, ten Buttonwood trees were planted around the meetinghouse. Most of the members of Alloways Creek Preparative Meeting chose to go with the Hicksite branch during the schism in 1827, thus the meetinghouse continued to be used by the Hicksites, while those who chose the Orthodox branch began to attend Greenwich Orthodox Meeting.

Between 1841 and 1938, the Meeting went into a decline, that is attributed, in their informational brochure, to marrying out by male members (Friends could be read out of Meeting for conduct that was considered to be

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inconsistent with the tenets of the Society, including marrying non-Quakers), Western migration, soil depletion, and the Civil War. Between 1841 and 1891, no new members by conviction were admitted to the Meeting.⁸ By 1883, the Meeting was down to 35 members.⁹ Several new members by conviction did join the Meeting around the turn of the century, as recorded in the minutes, but their numbers were not sufficient to stop the overall reduction in numbers. In 1923, the Meeting first discussed laying down (or discontinuing) the Meeting. They agreed to recommend laying down the Meeting to their Monthly Meeting, but later changed their minds. They considered the question twice more before the last minutes were recorded in 1938, but each time chose to continue the Meeting.¹⁰ The Meeting at last dwindled to a single active member, Louisa Powell, who worshipped every First Day (Sunday) until her death in 1939.

In 1940, the Salem Monthly Meeting suggested that the Alloways Creek Meetinghouse be repaired and dedicated as a memory gallery to George Fox, the founder of the Religious Society of Friends. The suggestion was taken up by the Greenwich Monthly Meeting, which had charge of the meetinghouse, and the exterior and east room, which had not been in use by the Meeting for almost fifty years, were repaired and opened on October 5, 1940. The Greenwich Monthly Meeting recorded the event in its minutes:

Alloways Creek Preparative Meeting having for a number of years been reduced in members, preservation of the Meeting House at Hancock's Bridge has been a concern to members of Salem Monthly Meeting. In 6th month, last, the still small voice of duty pointed out the wisdom of restoring and preserving said meeting house as a memory gallery to George Fox, the Founder of the Religious Society of Friends, who passed through "this wilderness country" in 1672, since called West Jersey. On Seventhday, 10th month 5th, 1940 the Alloways Creek Meeting, beneath ten venerable buttonwood trees, east end built in 1756, with interior woodwork of original "Alloways Creek" pine, like no wood that will ever grow here again, was opened to the public when nearly 300 years of the history of the Religious Society of Friends was observed.¹¹

By 1945, the meetinghouse was leased by the Salem Quarter to the Salem County Historical Society, which had stewardship of the building for approximately ten years. Although Meetings were not held regularly after Louisa Powell's death, special meetings continued through to 1951, when the Meeting was laid down. Once the Salem County Historical Society's lease ended in 1955, Meeting resumed on the second and fourth Sundays of the month from May through September under the Salem Monthly Meeting and lasted into the 1960s. Today, Meeting is held at the meetinghouse at least once per year.¹²

Significance and Context

The evolution of the Quaker meetinghouse in the Delaware Valley from the 1670s through the end of the eighteenth century was influenced by three major factors. First, the early English Friends did not establish a specific, separate building tradition for their meetinghouses. Until 1689, when England passed the Acts of Toleration that allowed the Friends and other dissenting groups to gather and worship openly for the first time, any buildings they constructed were vulnerable to seizure by the government, making the construction of a building for

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worship purposes a risky proposition. The Friends instead generally met in members' houses or other buildings adapted for the purpose of meeting.¹³ Second, one of the Quaker tenets, adopted from the Puritans, was the identification of the people as the "Church," not the building in which they met. They held the building itself to be of no importance, felt that "steeple houses" were inappropriate, and scorned the use of decoration in the buildings in which they met for worship. Thus, the first small buildings in which the English Friends met tended to be a single room, perhaps with separate entrances for men and women and sometimes with a partition to create separate men's and women's business meeting spaces. These small buildings were constructed with the same materials, techniques, and plain finishes that were used for local houses.¹⁴ Third, the plan of the meetinghouse, in the absence of other influences, reflected the changing programmatic needs of this new religious sect as it evolved.

The Friends in the American colonies were not bound by the strictures regarding worship that affected their English brethren and were free to construct meetinghouses. In addition, each Yearly Meeting was the ultimate head of the Meetings under its care, thus none were answerable to any other Yearly Meeting in the Colonies or in England. In developing their meetinghouses, therefore, the colonial Friends were guided by their beliefs about the type of building suitable for worship, the few examples of English meetinghouses that had been constructed early on, and on-going exploration of ways to accommodate their programmatic needs. George Fox, the founder of the Religious Society of Friends, made no specific comments regarding the construction of meetinghouses, with the exception of one response to an inquiry requesting guidance in which he basically recommended that the building be well-built of local materials by local Friends.¹⁵

During the c.1675 to 1800 period, the major issue that affected the plan of the meetinghouse was the importance of the women's business meeting. Although the women's business meeting as a separate meeting was advocated by Fox, some early Meetings did not have separate women's business meetings. Others did, but did not consider them important enough to warrant the construction of a major secondary space to accommodate them, given the cost constraints that many Meetings were under. Thus in most of the earlier meetinghouses, the single room was divided by a wood partition or just a curtain to create the separate meeting spaces or, if the building was two stories with a gallery, the women may have met there. Some were not partitioned at all.¹⁶ In the 1750s, however, when the Religious Society of Friends underwent a period of reform, revitalization, and consolidation, the women's business meeting gained more power in its role as arbiter of all family-related issues, including marriage. The meetinghouse design began to reflect that importance by creating new, larger spaces for the women's business meeting either through an addition to the existing structure or through the construction of a new meetinghouse where the two rooms were equal in size. In addition, whereas the men and women had initially met in the same room for worship, as the women's business meetings became more important and warranted more, even equal, space, and the meetinghouse plan took on the form of two equal side-by-side rooms, the men and women began to remain in their separate spaces even during the meeting for worship, albeit with the partitions between the two rooms open. This change in meeting for worship in turn influenced the construction of other meetinghouses, as it became the standard to create equal space for worship for both sexes.¹⁷

Meetinghouses in the Delaware Valley constructed during the eighteenth century, then, are generally similar in that their construction is based on local house construction rather than traditional church construction, that they lack

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unnecessary ornamentation, that indigenous materials were used in their construction, and that their plans made some accommodation for the space needs dictated by their meeting practices.

The meetinghouses in the Delaware Valley were designed in a unique environment in which each meeting generally had the freedom to come up with its own design, but in which each meeting also tended to visit other nearby meetings to see the designs of buildings already constructed.¹⁸ Some of the earliest meetinghouses, based on some English examples and constructed from the 1670s through the mid-eighteenth century, were single-cell forms, either one or two stories in height, with a symmetrical façade and often with additional doors on the side or rear elevations. The single room would accommodate the meeting for worship. The men's business meeting would be conducted in this space as well. The women's business meetings were held in a partitioned section of the main room or in a gallery or sometimes in a small addition constructed for that purpose. If the space were partitioned, the facing benches would be located in the larger section. Few of these meetinghouses survive, as many were of log or frame construction.¹⁹

The third Alloways Creek Meetinghouse fell into this early tradition. Constructed in 1756, it was a single-cell, one-story structure, constructed of local brick, with a symmetrical façade and entrances on at least two elevations. The four original windows were the typical twelve-over-twelve sash windows that might be found in any house of the period. No evidence remains of any exterior ornament. The interior would have had wide plank flooring and bare, whitewashed walls, a row of facing benches that served as a focal point of the meetinghouse, and may have had an off-center partition.

Alloways Creek Meetinghouse was one of the smaller examples of meetinghouses being constructed by 1750. Many of the others were still single-cell, but were two stories high with a symmetrical façade and a gallery on the interior. Other examples of one-story, single-cell meetinghouses include the original section of the Rancocas Meetinghouse (1772) in Burlington, New Jersey, the Chichester Meetinghouse (1769) in Boothwyn, Pennsylvania, both late examples, Marshallton Meetinghouse (1765) in Marshallton, Pennsylvania, and Radnor Meetinghouse (1718) in Radnor, Pennsylvania, prior to the addition of its room for women's business meetings. Examples of the two-story, single-cell meetinghouse from the same period as Alloways Creek Meetinghouse include nearby Greenwich Meetinghouse (1771) in Cumberland County, New Jersey, Arney's Mount Meetinghouse (1775) in Burlington County, New Jersey, Haddonfield Meetinghouse (1760) in Camden County, New Jersey, and Bordentown Meetinghouse (1740) in Burlington County, New Jersey.

Meeting practice had already begun to shift, however, toward more prominent women's business meetings and toward the separation of men and women during meeting for worship. As a result, meetinghouse design was moving toward a new standard. In lieu of the single-cell, one- or two-story structure, some of the newer meetinghouses were designed with adjacent rooms joined by a partition with movable sections. In 1768 in Pennsylvania, the Buckingham Meeting constructed a meetinghouse that would become the dominant form by the end of the century. It had two equal-sized rooms with a movable partition and was two stories high with a symmetrical, six-bay eaves façade. The two-story, single-cell form had simply been doubled to accommodate the men and the women equally

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for worship and for business meetings. Other meetinghouses soon followed suit, including Salem Meetinghouse (1772), which was constructed in the same form.²⁰

In 1784, when Alloways Creek became a Preparative Meeting under Greenwich Monthly Meeting, it was decided that the monthly meeting would alternately be held at Greenwich Meetinghouse and Alloways Creek Meetinghouse. The need to accommodate larger numbers suddenly became pressing. By now, the newer thoughts and practices within the Society on how to accommodate separate spaces for worship and business meeting had firmly taken hold. The addition to Alloways Creek Meetinghouse, therefore, nearly transformed it into the image of the new standard - two stories with a six-bay façade and a second floor gallery on the interior. The addition, however, was not as wide as the original section (24' versus 30'), thus the six-bay façade was asymmetrical since the spacing between the bays in the addition was different than the spacing in the original building. In addition, although the Meeting's minutes suggested that the two rooms would be equal in size, the partition wall was actually placed slightly off-center, making the women's business meeting room in the new section slightly smaller than the men's (26' versus 28'). The reason for the asymmetry is unclear, but it may have reflected space needs that were specific to the Alloways Creek Meeting or that this Meeting had not fully committed to the concept of equal, separate spaces for worship and business meetings.

The conversion of Alloways Creek Meetinghouse from a one-story, single-cell form to a two-story, double-cell form is unusual, if not unique. Many other meetinghouses were converted, including Rancocas Meetinghouse from one-story, single-cell to one-story, double-cell, Mount Holly Meetinghouse from a one-story, double-cell to a two-story double-cell, and Greenwich Meetinghouse from two-story, single-cell to two-story, double-cell, but no other New Jersey examples of conversion in both height and width are immediately identifiable. It is worth noting that both Alloways Creek and Greenwich, after their expansions, closely resembled nearby Salem Meeting, to which they were related, having been formed from the Salem Monthly Meeting.

Regarding the style and finishes of meetinghouses, Catherine Lavoie, in her article "Quaker Beliefs and Practices and the Eighteenth-Century Development of the Friends Meeting Houses in the Delaware Valley," noted that the architectural design of meetinghouses is shaped by the Quaker tenet of simplicity, which is illustrated by the lack of ecclesiastical symbols, traditional church forms, or any high-style architectural ornamentation, as well as through the use of local domestic architecture as a model. She states:

Friends meeting houses are distinguished not by stylish embellishments but by the high quality and careful restraint exhibited in their craftsmanship....Interior elements such as the wainscoting, partitions, facing benches, flooring, and other furnishings and fittings that characterize the Friends meeting house are unpretentiously executed and without a finish. But, despite the "plain styling," careful attention is paid to detail. The partitions are made from raised panel sections, and the wainscoting of beaded tongue-and-groove boards. The stairway balusters and support posts, while often somewhat primitive in profile, are made of turned wood. Simple, movable wood benches provide seating in the meeting house, yet the profile of the bench ends differs from meeting house to meeting house. The natural treatment of the woodwork serves as a unifying force within the interior

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of the meeting house that is enhanced by neutral whitewashed plaster walls. There are no cornice moldings or ornamental plasterwork, and the bare white walls are effective in reflecting natural light throughout the structure.²¹

Meetinghouses are tied together as much by their interior arrangement and finishes as by their form. The interior of the Alloways Creek Meetinghouse incorporates all of the elements found in every meetinghouse – the bare, whitewashed walls, the unfinished wood, the raised panel partitions, the facing benches with their individual end profiles, the wainscoting, and the gallery. It shares the overall effect created by every meetinghouse through the use of unfinished wood and unadorned white walls to create an open, serene space. The Alloways Creek Meetinghouse also has one feature found most commonly in southern New Jersey meetinghouses, a door placed higher on the wall of the rear elevation, often called a “carriage door.” The purpose of these doors, which are placed at the height of the facing bench platforms, is to allow members to step directly into and out of carriages without exposure to the inclement weather. The overall impression of the interior of Alloways Creek is closely related to the interior appearance of Greenwich Meetinghouse with a nearly identical layout, partition design, and wainscoting.

From the construction of the addition in 1784 through to the present, Alloways Creek Meetinghouse has undergone few changes. The most visible change has been the addition, in the second half of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth centuries, of the four door hoods. The addition of these door hoods during that period was probably considered old-fashioned, as the construction of long porches had become common at that time. The construction of these individual hoods, therefore, served the practical purpose of providing covers at the entrances, but also served to reinforce the similarities of appearance between Alloways Creek Meetinghouse and the area's other eighteenth century meetinghouses.

The Alloways Creek Meetinghouse is representative of the way that meetinghouses were designed and sometimes adapted in response to the changing needs and practices of the congregation. Its materials and form reflect the Quaker belief that the meetinghouse was simply that, a place for meeting that should not be of a grand size or filled with iconography. Its size is consistent with the scale of housing at the time, and its finishes are those that could be found in any house of the day. As noted by Catherine Lavoie, Historic American Buildings Survey Historian, the Alloways Creek Meetinghouse is “the finest extant example of an early, regionally specific Friends meeting house form and is one of a handful of meeting houses within the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to remain almost completely unaltered from the time of its construction in the eighteenth century.”²²

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ENDNOTES

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16. *Silent Witness* 4-5.
17. *Silent Witness* 5.
18. Lavoie 157.
19. *Silent Witness* 4-5.
20. Lavoie 158.
21. Lavoie 167.
22. Catherine C. Lavoie, "Alloways Creek Friends Meeting House (also referred to as Hancocks Bridge)" ([Washington, D.C.]: n.p., [2002]) 1.

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Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

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Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

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Section number 10 **Page** 25

NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is Block 18, Lot 10, in the village of Hancock's Bridge, Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, New Jersey.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the entire parcel currently associated with the Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse. This parcel corresponds with the boundaries of the original half acre parcel surveyed in 1756.

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NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information applies to all photographs:

1. Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
2. Salem County, New Jersey
3. Sheila K. Koehler
5. Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants
425 White Horse Pike
Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

4. August 22, 2002
6. View of the meetinghouse property facing northwest from the intersection of Main Street and Buttonwood Avenue showing the buttonwood trees and the east elevations of the meetinghouse and the shed.
7. Photograph 1 of 49

4. November 15, 2002
6. View of the south (front) elevation of the meetinghouse facing north showing the original 1756 three-bay section at right and the 1784 three-bay section at left. The height of the walls in the 1756 section was raised from a point just below the meeting rails of the second floor windows when the 1784 section was constructed, allowing the installation of the gallery and the second floor windows in the 1756 section. Note the use of Flemish bond masonry on both sections of the elevation.
7. Photograph 2 of 49

4. November 15, 2002
6. View of the west elevation of the meetinghouse facing east showing the 1784 gable end elevation. Note the asymmetry of the elevation due to the location of the gallery winder stair in the southwest corner of the building.
7. Photograph 3 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. View of the west and north elevations facing southeast. Note the higher placement of the windows on the first floor of the north elevation due to the interior placement of the facing benches. Note also the rear door, reported by some to have allowed access directly onto a horse or into a carriage. Finally, note the added brick, shed-roofed privy in the center of the north elevation, as well as one of the eight remaining buttonwood trees directly behind the building.
7. Photograph 4 of 49

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Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse

4. August 22, 2002
6. View of the east and north elevations of the meetinghouse facing southwest, showing the east elevation similar to the west elevation. Note the two window on the north elevation of the 1756 section. The window at right retains its original height, while the window at left was modified in 1784 to accommodate the installation of the gallery.
7. Photograph 5 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. View of the east elevation showing the asymmetry also seen on the west elevation, due to the location of the gallery winder stair in the southeast corner. Note the late nineteenth-century entrance doors. Note also that the brick on this elevation is laid in common bond, indicating that it was never intended as a primary elevation.
7. Photograph 6 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the late nineteenth century entrance doors installed in the original 1756 opening on the south elevation.
7. Photograph 7 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of an original first floor south elevation window opening in the 1756 section. Note the segmental arch, which is indicative of the early construction date of this section.
7. Photograph 8 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the porch constructed over the 1784 south elevation entrance in the early twentieth century. Although the four porches were not all constructed at the same time, the construction details are similar on each, with the exception of some molding profiles.
7. Photograph 9 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the early twentieth-century replacement doors installed in the original 1784 opening on the south elevation. The door frame appears to have been repaired or replaced as well.
7. Photograph 10 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of an original first floor opening on the south elevation of the 1784 section. Note the lack of a masonry arch over the opening. The shutters appear to be original to the period of construction. The sash are replacements.
7. Photograph 11 of 49

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Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse**

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of a typical second floor window on the south elevation, showing the typical window frame, six-over-six sash, and mid-nineteenth-century two-panel shutters with applied molding.

7. Photograph 12 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the first floor window on the west elevation showing eight-over-eight sash and two-panel, raised-panel shutters.

7. Photograph 13 of 49

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the date stone inscribed "1784" in the west gable end.

7. Photograph 14 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the original six-panel, raised-panel double-leaf door on the north elevation of the 1784 section. Note the flat arch above and the worn wood sill.

7. Photograph 15 of 49

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the added masonry privy on the north elevation with a board-and-batten door and fixed, four-light window.

7. Photograph 16 of 49

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the original 1756 window opening on the north elevation showing a two-piece, hinged, nineteenth-century replacement shutter that allowed the window to be secured after the construction of the privy prevented the installation of a regular shutter on the west side of the window.

7. Photograph 17 of 49

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the altered window in an original window opening in the 1756 section on the north elevation. The opening was infilled above to accommodate the gallery. Note the use of eight-over-eight sash due to the width of the window and the shutters which match those used on the second floor.

7. Photograph 18 of 49

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Section number PHOTOS **Page** 29

**NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse**

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the entrance porch on the east elevation, which was constructed c.1870. Note the use of Flemish bond on this elevation, suggesting that both the south and east elevations of the 1756 section were considered primary elevations.

7. Photograph 19 of 49

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the late nineteenth-century, steeple-tipped, embossed hinges used to install the new doors during that period.

7. Photograph 20 of 49

4. November 15, 2002

6. Detail of the six-over-six sash on the first floor of the east elevation showing the typical 1784 detailing on the frame and the typical mid-nineteenth century shutters.

7. Photograph 21 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the rear shed facing northeast, showing the west and south elevations. Note the asymmetrical gable roof and open south elevation. While some of the framing dates to the mid-nineteenth century, the exterior cladding on the structure has been replaced and the roof massing has been altered.

7. Photograph 22 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the east and north elevations of the shed facing southwest. The foundation is poured concrete, the walls are rough vertical boards, and the roof is corrugated metal.

7. Photograph 23 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the interior of the shed facing west showing some original mortise-and-tenon joinery and some replacement elements, such as the roof framing and the sill.

7. Photograph 24 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the interior of the east (1756) room facing northeast showing the facing benches against the north wall, the gallery, the winder stair and closet in the corner, and two different types of wainscoting. The gallery, stair, and closet date to 1784.

7. Photograph 25 of 49

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**NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse**

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the east room facing northwest showing the benches, facing benches, and a portion of the partition wall with its sliding panels.

7. Photograph 26 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the east room facing southwest showing the underside of the gallery along the east wall, the side of the winder stair and closet, at right, with late nineteenth-century wainscoting applied to the wall. Note the awkward configuration of the stove and its connection to the chimney.

7. Photograph 27 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the east room facing west showing the full partition wall with plaster at the second floor on the gallery, hinged panels at the gallery level between the gallery and the north wall (hinged at the top to open like an awning window for air movement), and the sliding panels and double-hinged doors at the first floor level for access and communication.

7. Photograph 28 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the partition showing the fixed panels above the hinged panels and the knotty pine used for the construction of the panels that was native to the Alloways Creek area. Note that the partition wood has never been painted. At the first floor level, note the movable panels that slide vertically in the northern two sections and the double-hinged door in the third section.

7. Photograph 29 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail facing west of the sliding vertical panels beneath the gallery in the right section (two of the three panel sections are in place) and, at left, a full height, fixed section with three panels and a three-panel door attached to it with hinges.

7. Photograph 30 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of an original 1784 panel in the partition wall showing the knotty pine, the raised panel, and the ovolo molding around the panel.

7. Photograph 31 of 49

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**NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse**

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the original 1784 winder stair and closet with four-panel door in the southeast corner of the 1756 section. Note that the railing and balusters are c.1800 replacements.
7. Photograph 32 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the original 1756 opening in the north wall of the east room. The trim around the opening and the sash are not original.
7. Photograph 33 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the late nineteenth-century embossed hardware on the east doors in the east room.
7. Photograph 34 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the original 1784 post supporting the gallery in the east room.
7. Photograph 35 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the typical end-panel on the facing benches in both rooms.
7. Photograph 36 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. Detail of the late nineteenth-century stove in the east room, facing southeast.
7. Photograph 37 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. View of the west (1784) room facing southwest showing the original window openings, entrance, winder stair and closet, and gallery. All except the sash and the doors themselves date to 1784. The wainscoting also appears to be a later installation.
7. Photograph 38 of 49

4. August 22, 2002
6. View of the west room facing northwest showing the winder stair and closet, original entrance with original doors and two original window openings.
7. Photograph 39 of 49

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**NJ Salem Co.
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse**

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the west room facing north showing another original entrance with its original double-leaf doors and original window openings to either side. Note that the wainscoting around the door was added, possibly to provide backing for shelves that contained the Meeting's library.

7. Photograph 40 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the west room facing east showing the partition wall with the reverse, flat side of the panels facing into this room.

7. Photograph 41 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the west room facing southeast showing the southern half of the partition wall and the edge of the gallery. Note that the gallery details are consistent between the two rooms, since the entire gallery was constructed at one time.

7. Photograph 42 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the winder stair and closet in the southwest corner of the west room, facing west, showing the original knotty pine. Note also that the railing and newel configuration on this stair appears to be original to its 1784 construction.

7. Photograph 43 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the reverse side of the early twentieth-century doors in the south elevation opening in the west room. Note that the panels on the interior side are raised, while the reverse sides of the late nineteenth-century doors are flat.

7. Photograph 44 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the interior side of the original 1784 doors in the north wall of the west room, showing the vertical boards to which the stiles and rails of the exterior paneling are nailed. The nailing pattern of the stiles and rails is visible on the door.

7. Photograph 45 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail of the similar 1784 doors in the west wall of the west room, also showing the nailing pattern of the stiles and rails for the exterior paneled side.

7. Photograph 46 of 49

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Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse**

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the east room facing west from the gallery showing the full partition wall.

7. Photograph 47 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. Detail facing west of the top section of the winder stair in the southwest corner. Note that the half wall at right is interrupted by the window opening.

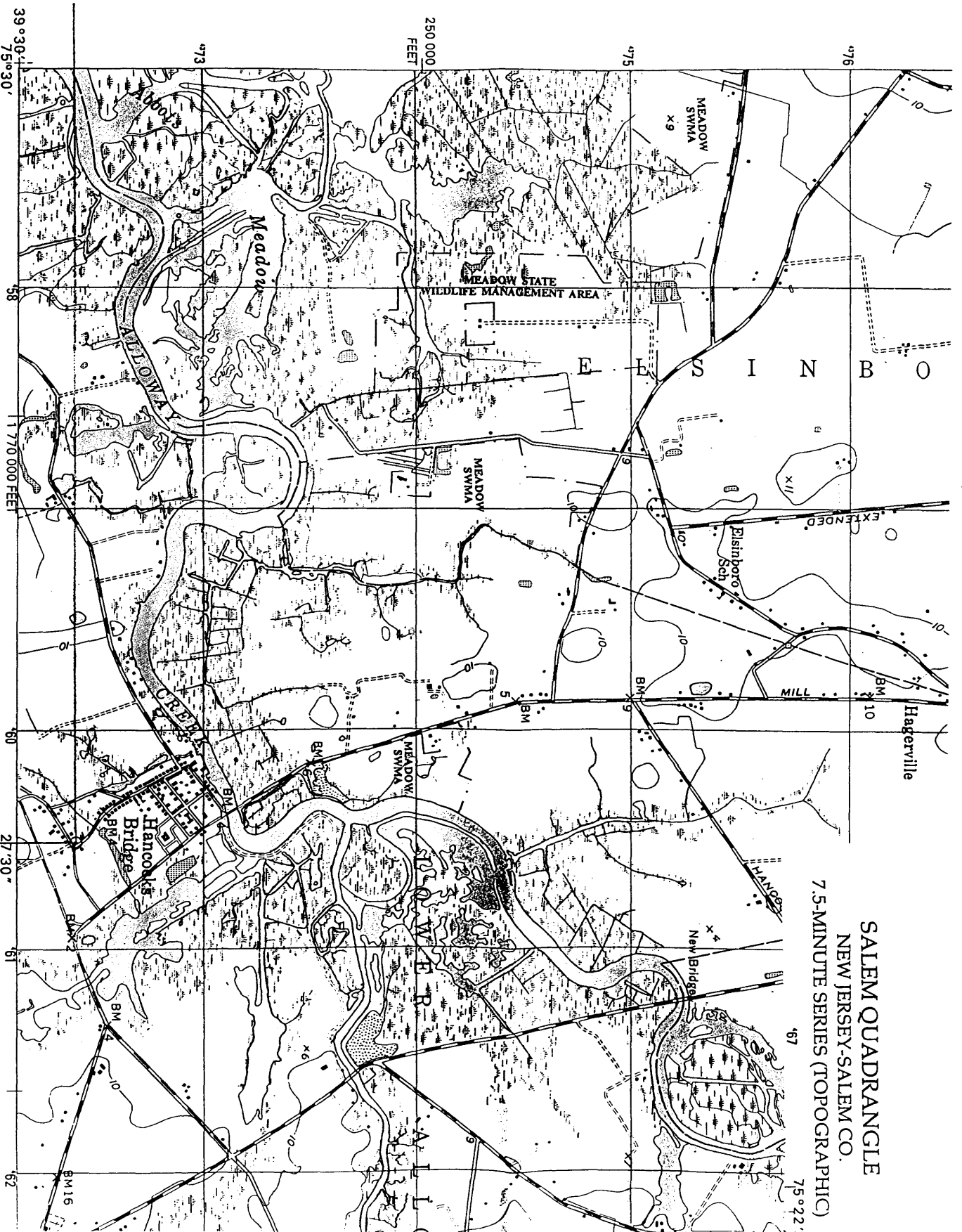
7. Photograph 48 of 49

4. August 22, 2002

6. View of the west room facing east showing the partition paneling.

7. Photograph 49 of 49

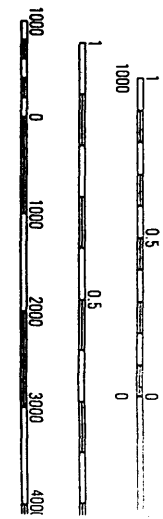
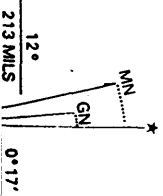
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
 Hancock's Bridge, Lower Alloways Creek Twp.
 Salem County, New Jersey
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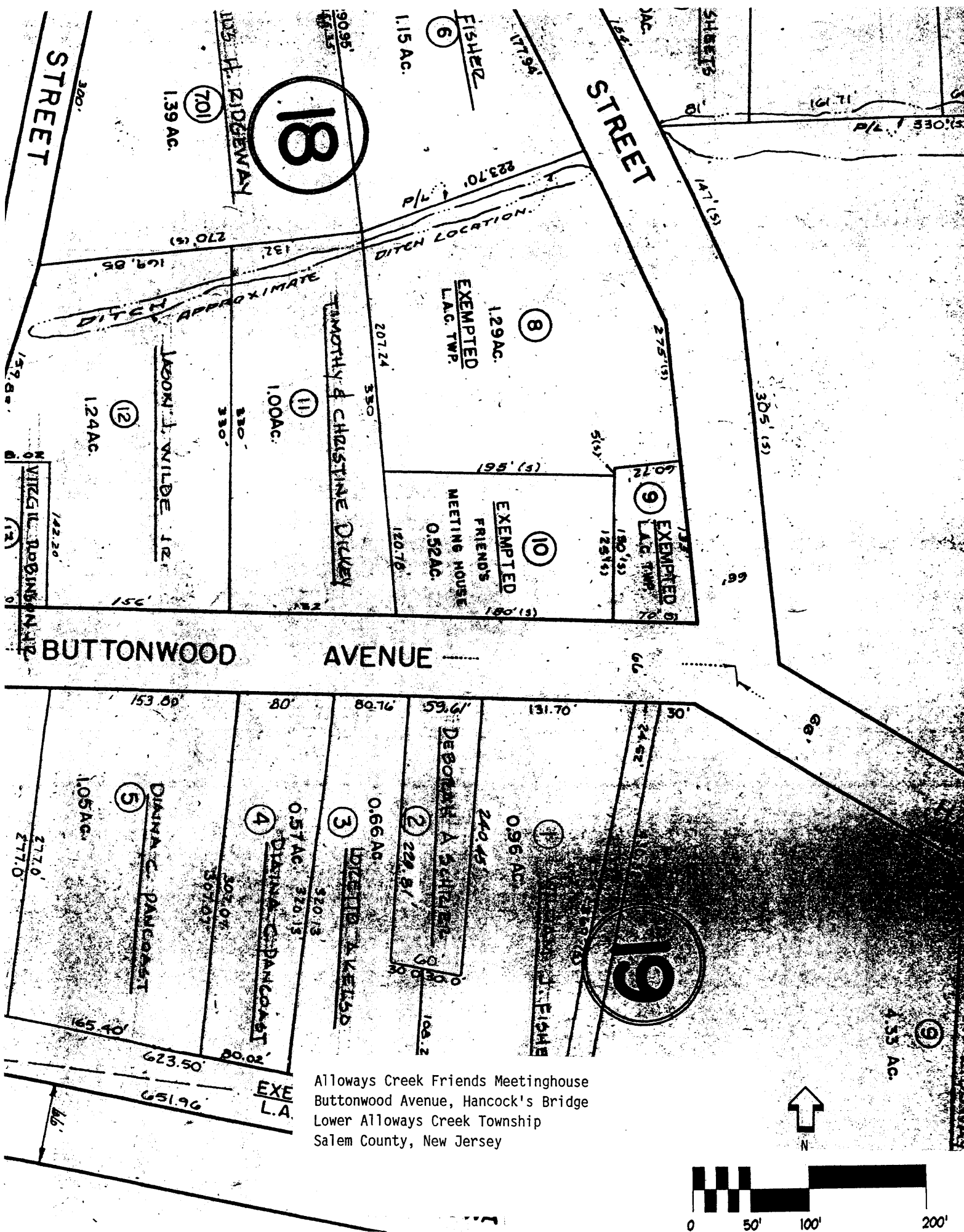


SALEM QUADRANGLE
 NEW JERSEY-SALEM CO.
 7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
 75°22' 67

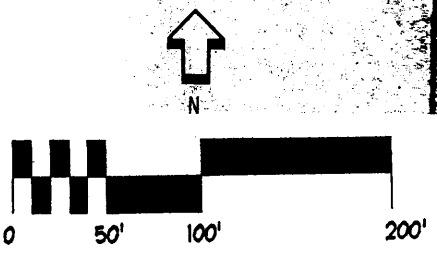
Produced by the United States Geological Survey

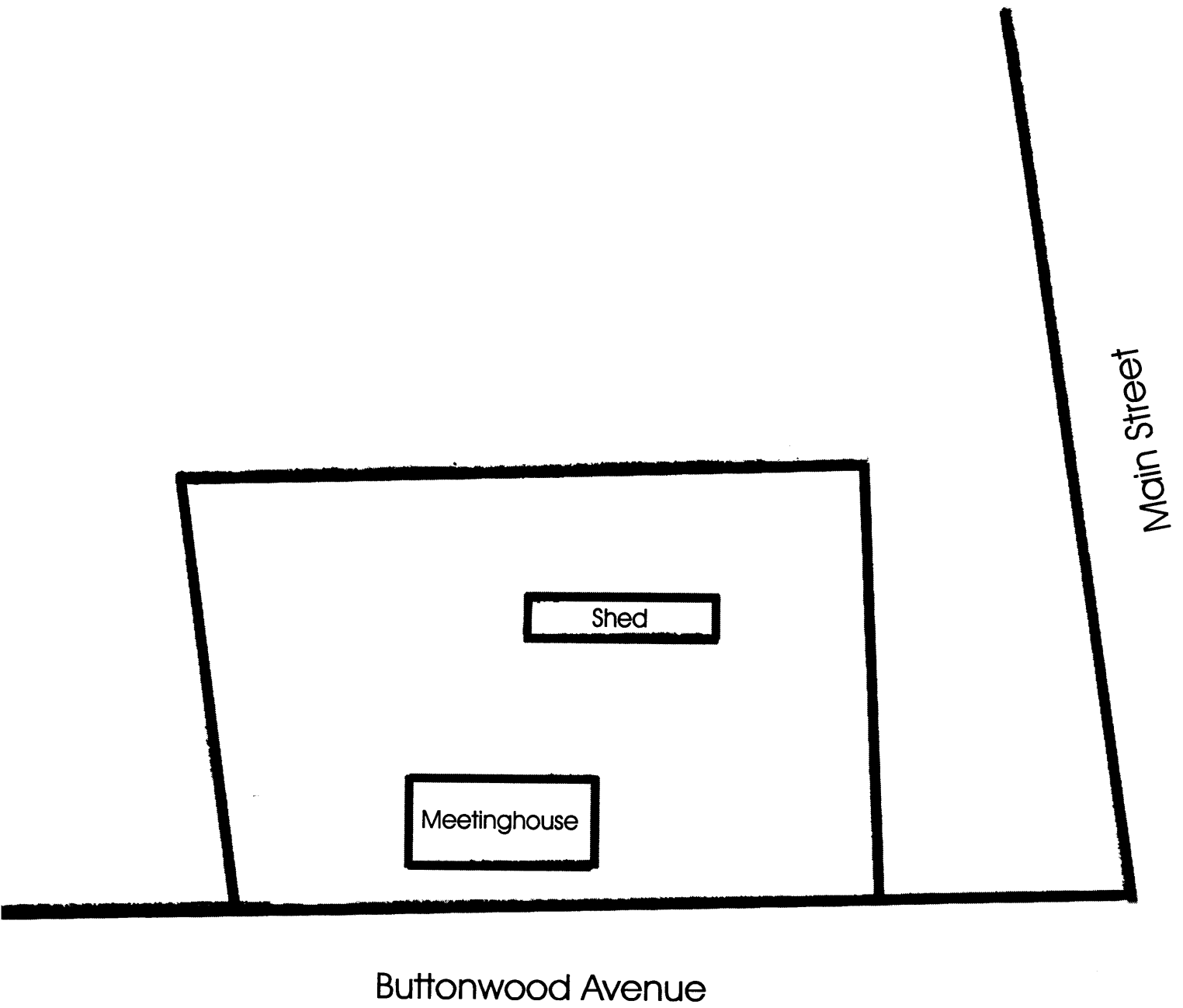
Topography compiled 1947. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1983 and other sources. Photoinspiced using imagery dated 1995; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1948. Boundaries, other than corporate, revised 1999
 North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and





Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
 Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
 Lower Alloways Creek Township
 Salem County, New Jersey





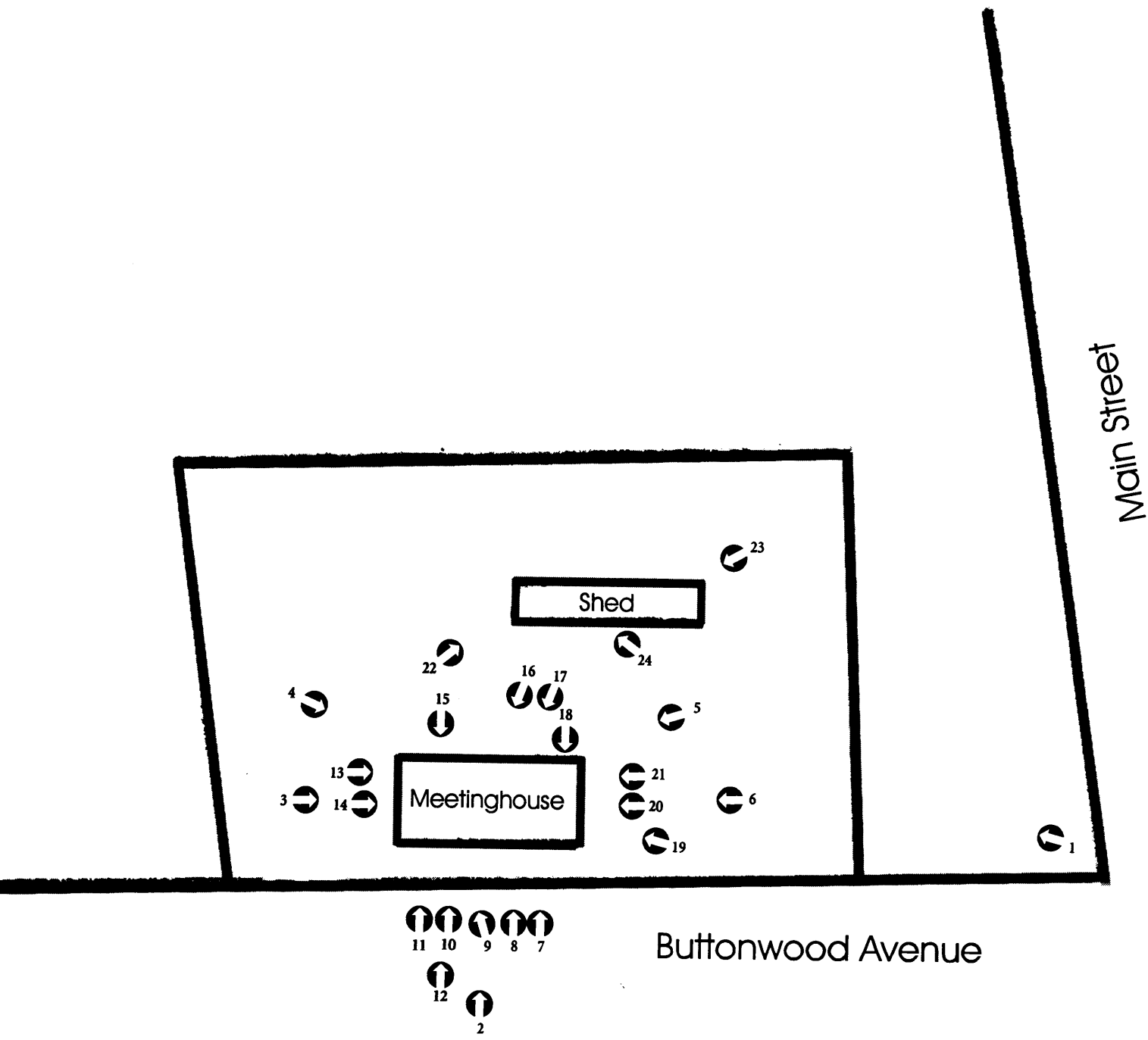
Site Plan

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Project North

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Salem County, New Jersey



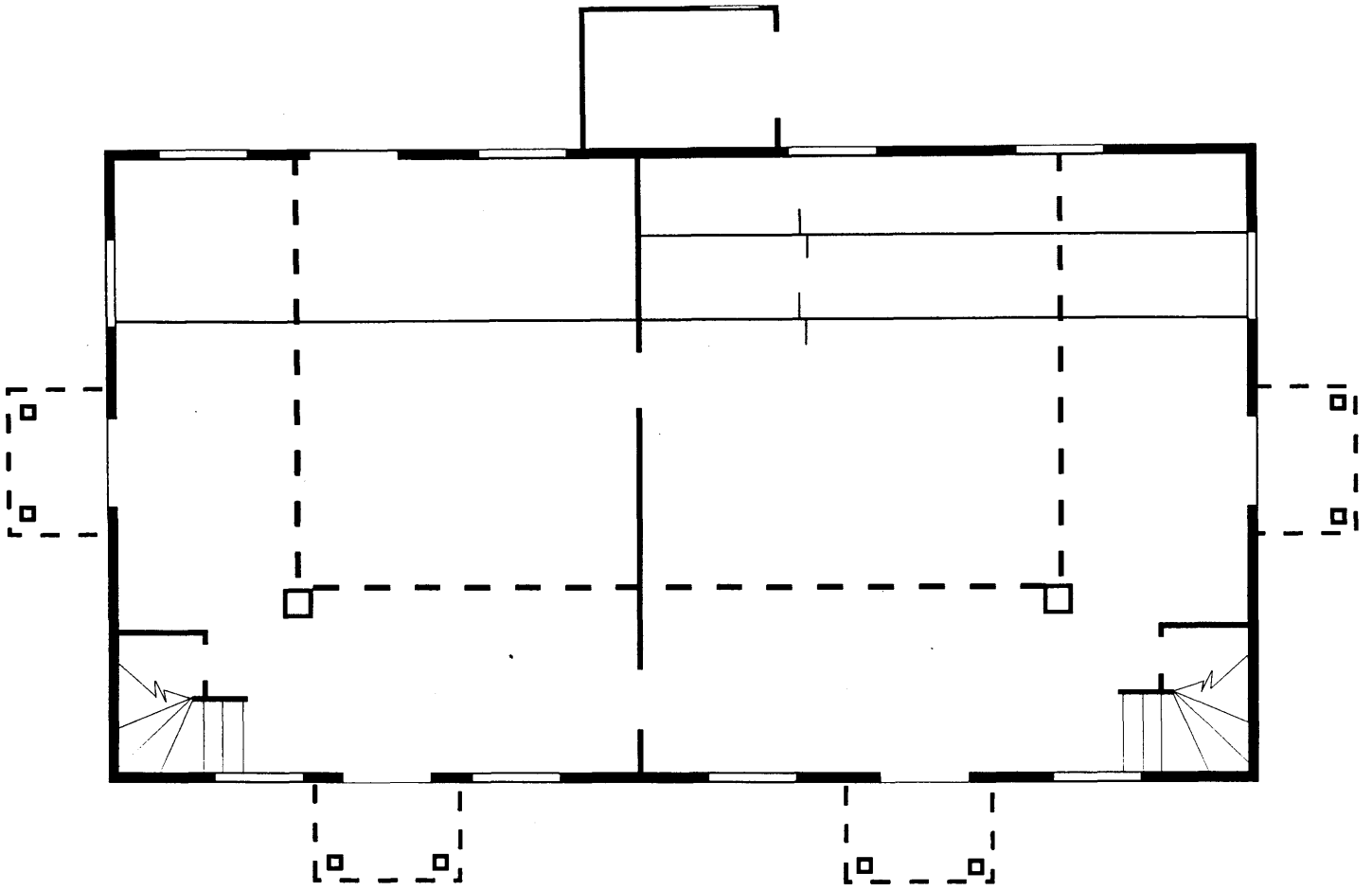
Site Plan Annotated

not to scale

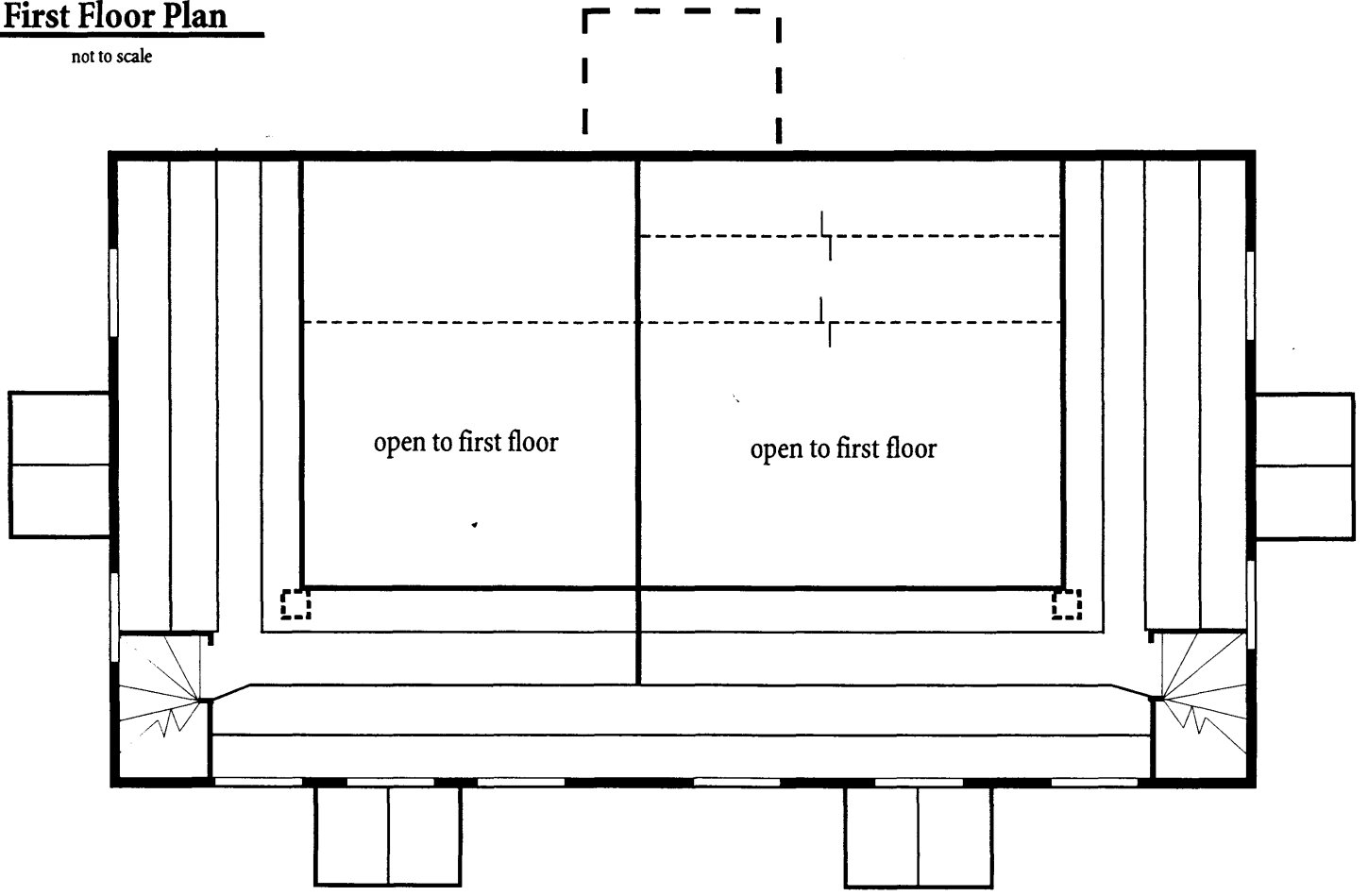


Project North

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
 Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
 Salem County, New Jersey



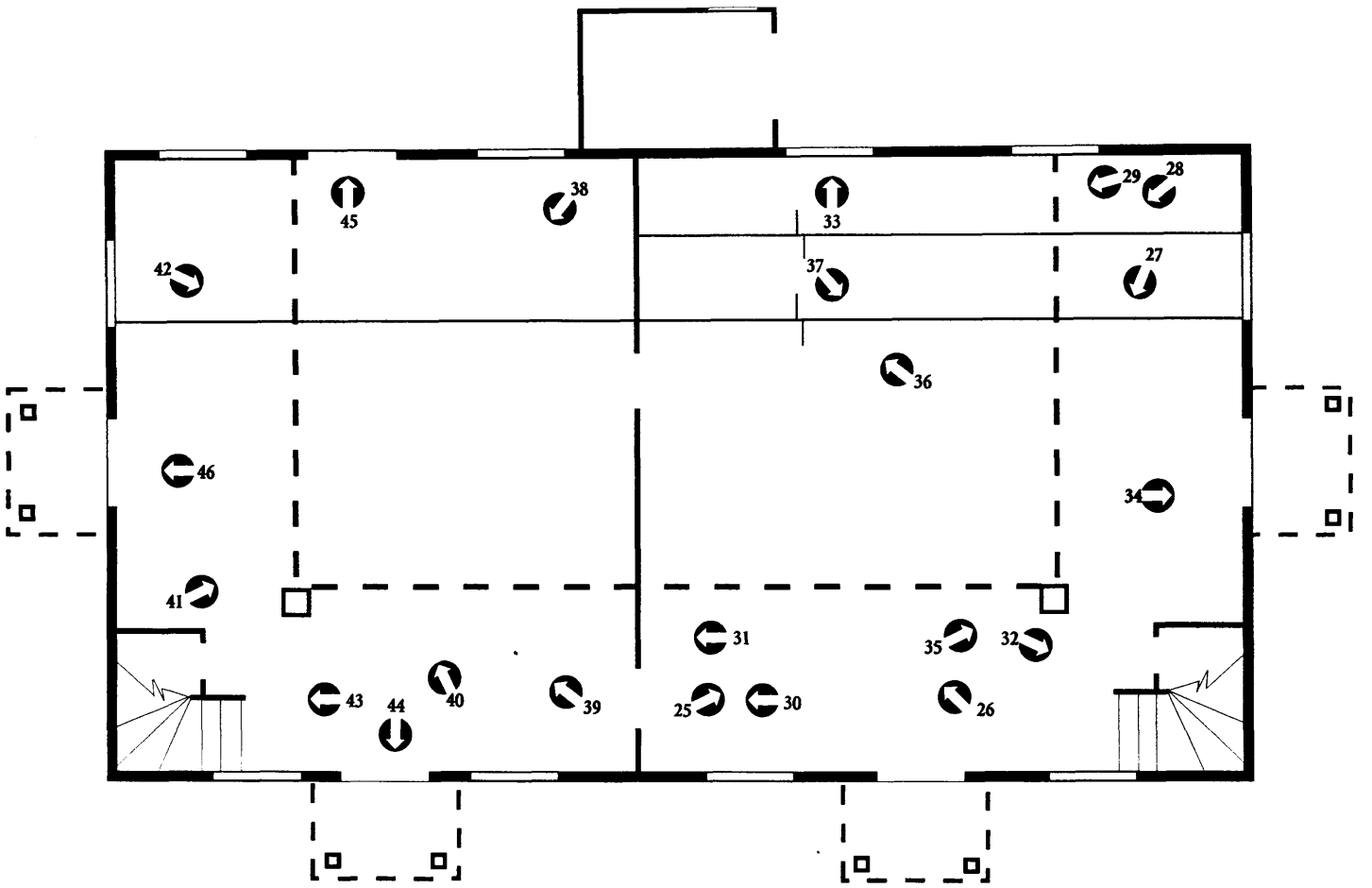
First Floor Plan
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Gallery Plan
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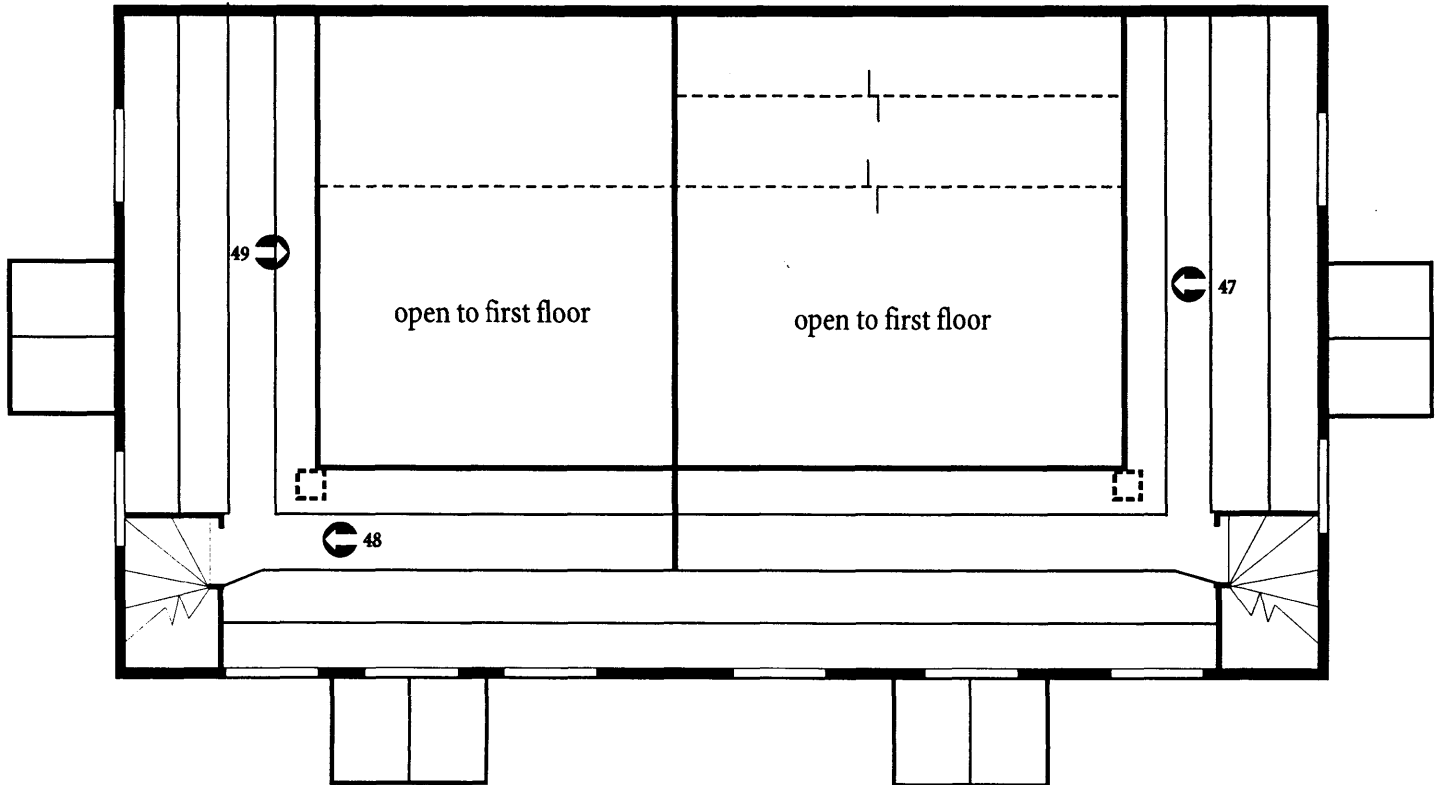
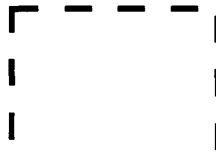


Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Salem County, New Jersey



First Floor Plan Annotated

not to scale



Gallery Plan Annotated

not to scale



Project North

Allows Creek Friends Meetinghouse
 Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
 Salem County, New Jersey



Salem Friends Meetinghouse
(Hicksite) 1772

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
National Register Nomination
Supplemental Photograph #2



c.1900 photograph. On file at Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.
Note original doors and no porch at 1784 south elevation door.

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Lower Alloways Creek Township
Salem County, New Jersey



LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK VIEWS NO. 3 PHOTOGRAPH BY WM. J. S. BRADWAY
TREES SURROUNDING FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, HANCOCK'S BRIDGE, N. J.
These Buttonwood Trees were Planted About 1820 by James Stewart, David
Bradway and John Powell

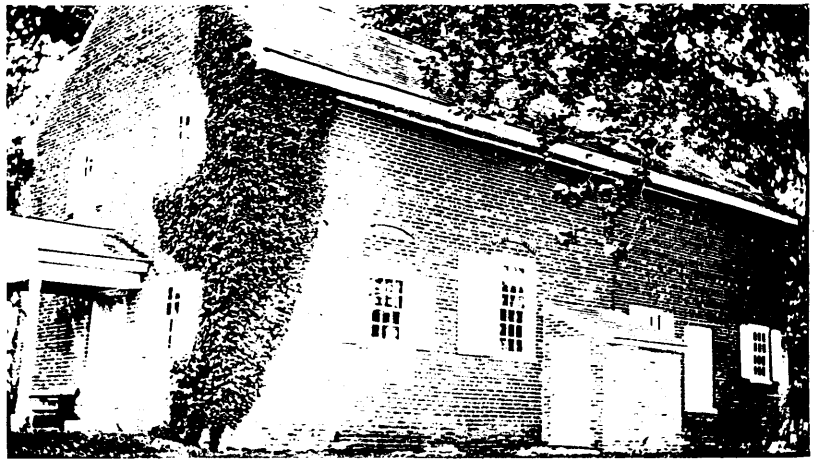
c.1915 photograph on file at the Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.
Note the construction of the porch and replacement of the original doors at the 1784 south elevation door.
Note the flat roof on the shed.

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Lower Alloways Creek Township
Salem County, New Jersey



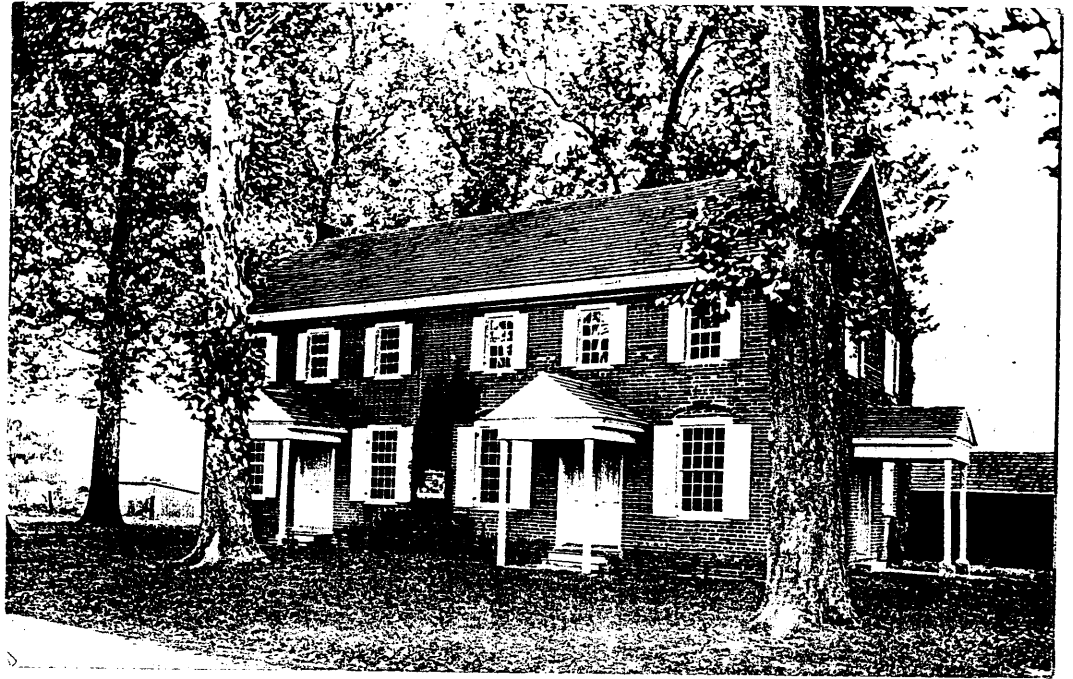
c.1930 photograph. On file at the Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.
Note the change in the roofline of the shed to a gable.

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Lower Alloways Creek Township
Salem County, New Jersey



July 30, 1941 photographs of the north and gable end elevations. On file at the Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Lower Alloways Creek Township
Salem County, New Jersey



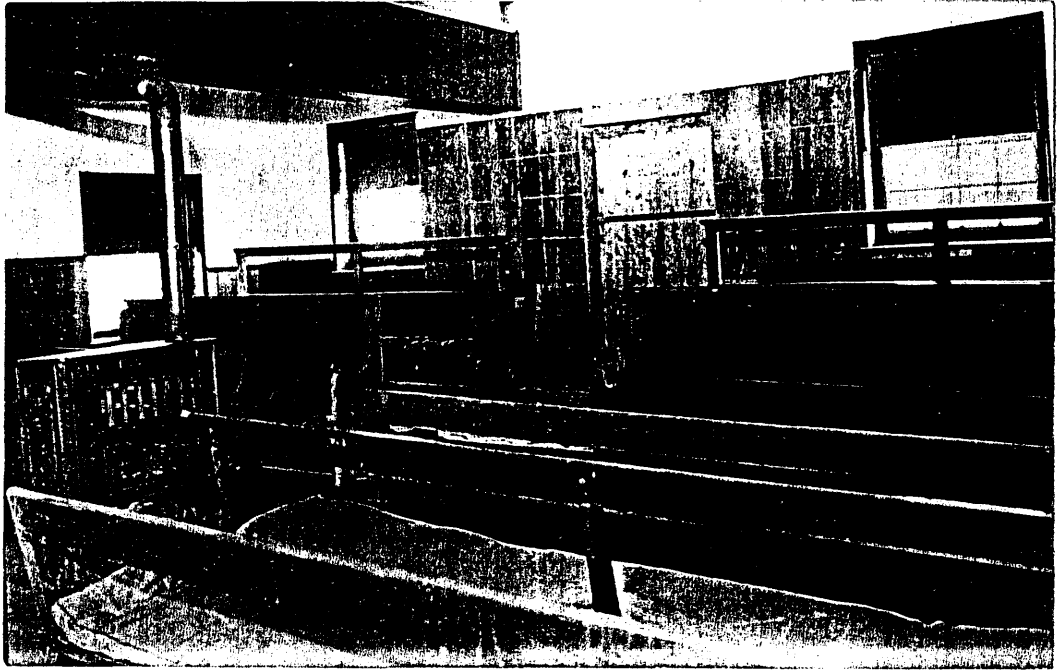
Top photograph: July 1941

Bottom photograph: date unknown, received at Friends Historical Library in 1950.

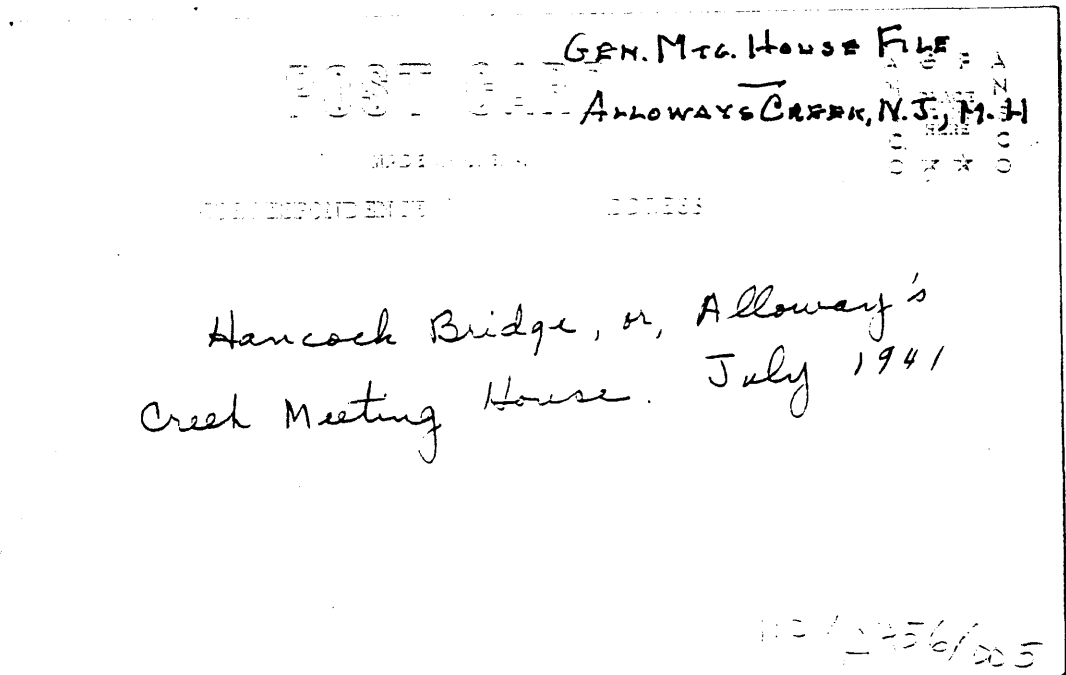
Both photographs on file at the Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.



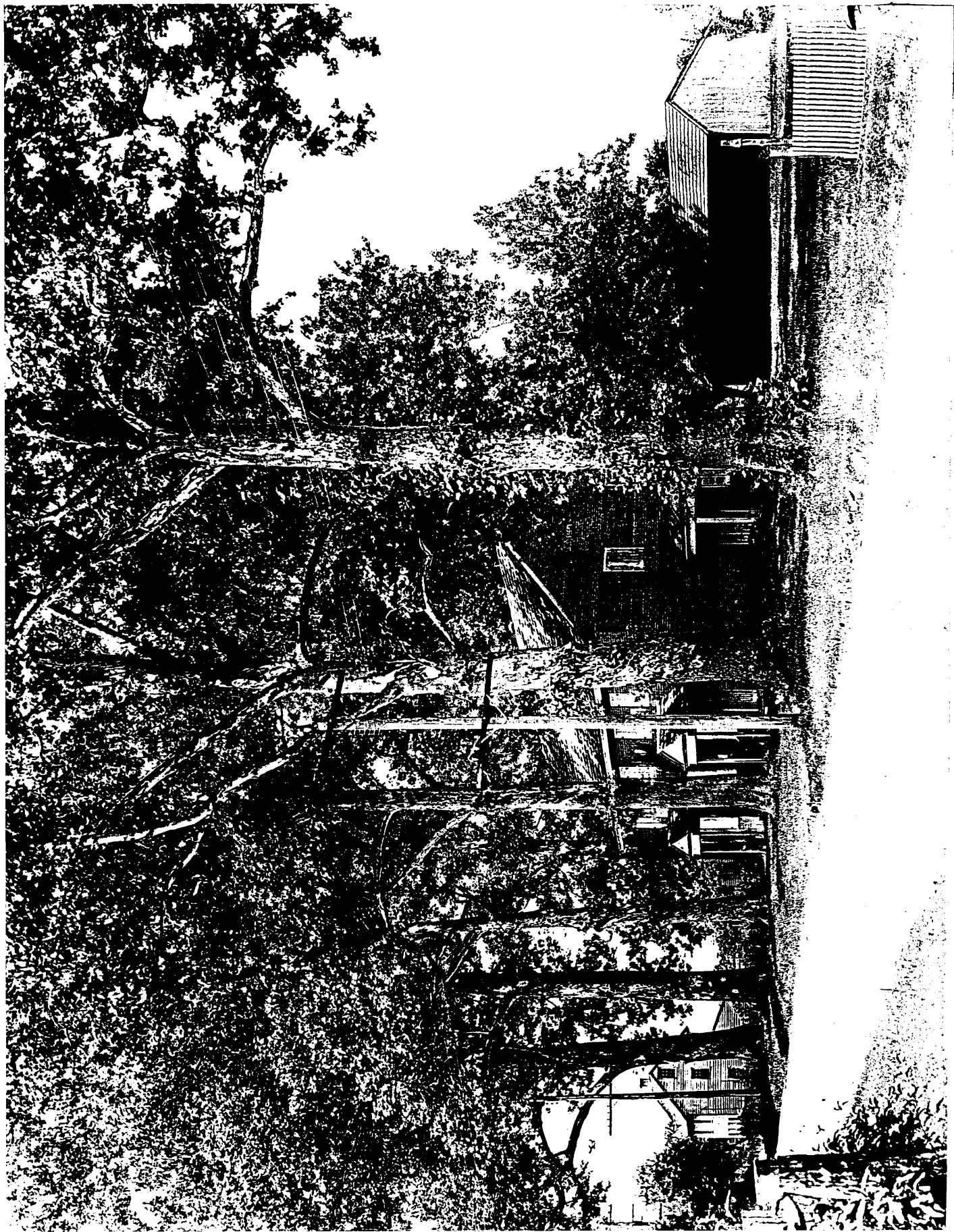
Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Lower Alloways Creek Township
Salem County, New Jersey



Top: July 1941 view of the interior of the western (1784) room facing northwest.
 Bottom: reverse side of postcard.
 On file at the Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.

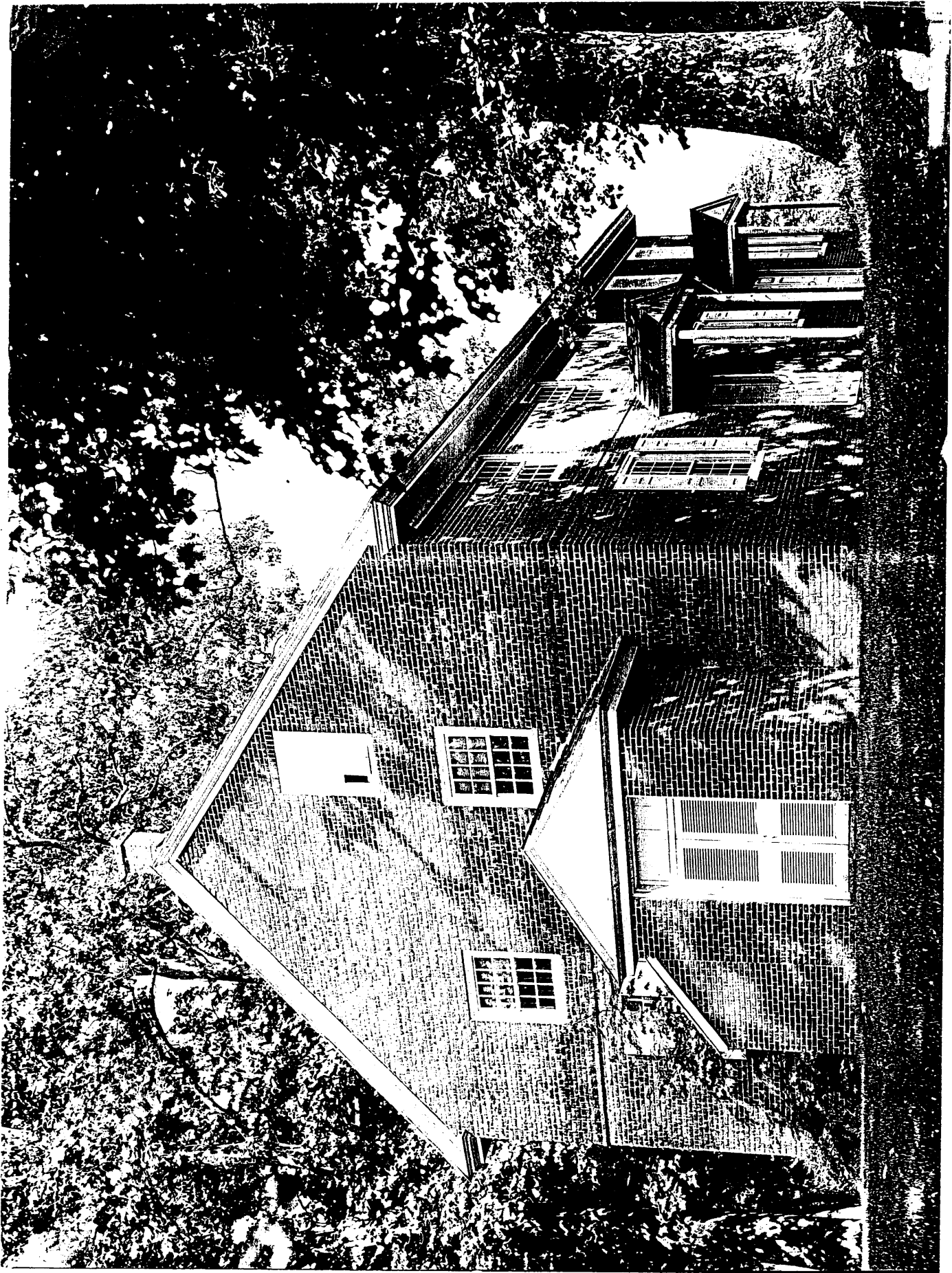


Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
 Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
 Lower Alloways Creek Township
 Salem County, New Jersey



Date Unknown. Note the utility pole, which is not visible in the other early photographs. The ivy and the plaque on the south elevation suggest a post 1941 date. On file at the Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College.

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
Buttonwood Avenue, Hancock's Bridge
Lower Alloways Creek Township
Salem County, New Jersey



Greenwich Friends Meetinghouse
(Orthodox) 1771

Alloways Creek Friends Meetinghouse
National Register Nomination
Supplemental Photograph #1