United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	e Pogistration Form
National Register of Historic Place This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual prop Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration locumented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural class ategories and subcategories from the.	perties and districts. See instructions in National Register
	JUL - 3 2015
1. Name of Property Historic name: <u>Caernarvon Presbyterian Chu</u> Other names/site number: <u>Name of related multiple property listing</u> :	Nat. Register of Historic Places N/A National Park Service
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple prop	
2. Location   Street & number: _2148 Main St.   City or town: _Churchtown _State: Pennsylvania   Not For Publication:NA	PA_County: Lancaster
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Histor	ic Preservation Act. as amended.
Places and meets the procedural and professional requ In my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does not</u> I recommend that this property be considered signific significance: <u>national</u> <u>statewide</u> <u>X</u> loca	meet the National Register Criteria. ant at the following level(s) of
Applicable National Register Criteria:	
$\underline{A} \qquad \underline{B} \qquad \underline{X}C \qquad \underline{D}$	
andrea Mac Donald	6/17/2015
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission	·
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Gove	ernment
In my opinion, the property meets does n	not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church

Name of Property

Lancaster County, PA County and State

## 4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- V entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ other (explain:)

Bea g.

ignature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church Name of Property Lancaster County, PA County and State

#### 5. Classification

#### **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	X
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

#### **Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	Х
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

#### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously	v listed resources in the count)	
Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_0

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church Name of Property Lancaster County, PA County and State

# 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) <u>Religion/religious facility</u> \_Funerary/cemetery\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions** 

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Recreation And Culture/auditorium

Recreation And Culture/museum

\_\_\_Funerary/cemetery \_\_\_\_

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#### 7. Description

#### **Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Mid. 19<sup>th</sup> Century\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: <u>Stone /Sandstone, Limestone, Ironstone</u> <u>Fieldstone</u>

#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, located on Main Street (State Route 23), Churchtown, Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County, is a one story, stone structure, roughly measuring 34 feet by 42 feet. Built in 1843, the Church was influenced by Presbyterian Church architecture found in the surrounding area of eastern Lancaster and western Chester Counties, and beyond. While the builder is unknown, local carpenter William Buchanan completed many of the building's details. Significant to the building's design is the dual entrances, the interior squarecornered, central apse, containing two Ionic columns and a tall lectern, and the presence of notable closed door, box pews. The Church's boundary also includes one contributing family cemetery which pre-dates the Church, and the placement of which determined the setting and location of the building. The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church possesses all seven aspects of historic integrity by retaining its Location, Design, Setting, Materials, Workmanship, Feeling, and Association of its Architectural significance.

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#### **Narrative Description**

Setting:

Located in eastern Lancaster County, Caernarvon Township lies at the intersection of Berks, Chester, and Lancaster Counties. Within the Township, the village of Churchtown is located amongst a rolling agricultural valley between Welsh Mountain to the south, and higher elevation marked by Turkey Hill to the north. Pennsylvania State Route 23 runs in a northeast-southwest direction through the heart of the valley, along a prominent ridge line, upon which Churchtown is located. The location of the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, along State Route 23 (Main St.) at the eastern end of Churchtown, and along the prominent ridge line, allows for scenic views of the surrounding valley.

The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church property is bordered to the east by a parking area, adjacent to an open lot, which had been previously occupied by a public school until it was demolished in 2005. The northern boundary, measuring 215 ft., runs along Pennsylvania State Route 23, also known as Main St. through Churchtown. The eastern boundary is 215ft. long. The southern boundary, measuring 136 ft., is a residential property where the grass continues from the church property onto the neighbor's property. The western boundary, measuring 206 ft., is lined with shrubs separating the church property from a neighboring residential property. Also located at the site, and within the nominated boundary, is the church's cemetery, located to the east of the church. The cemetery is not enclosed, however a solitary limestone wall approximately 50 feet in length is found flanking the cemetery on the eastern edge. The property is well-maintained; the grass is trimmed around the gravestones. In the front, there is a single tree and a sign, identifying the Historical Society.

#### Exterior:

The principal exterior materials used in the church's construction are limestone, ironstone, sandstone and fieldstone of varying colors and textures set in a generally horizontal patchwork coursing. There are cut stones forming the arches above the front windows and the transom window. Large stones, a few cut in an ashlar style, are used as quoins on the four corners of the main building. The lower quoins on the northwest corner of the front are especially pronounced, more sharply cut than the other quoins, they are sandstone, which has a darker red-brown color.

The north elevation (photo 3) is two bays, and the east and west façades are three bays wide (photos 4 & 5). The rear, or south façade has a center projection, or apse, for the pulpit area (photos 7, 8 & 9).

The north facing front façade features a date stone reading "Caernarvon Church Built 1843" above the window near the peak of the gable (photo 12). Each of the two deeply set arched

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doorways have a pair of narrow, four panel, raised panel doors which are painted a rich redbrown. The wood frame is essentially a barrel vault shape of curved boards and is painted white. A keystone tops the outer molding of the trim. The fanlights above the doors have two arcs of panes in a staggered design. The outer arc has seven panes, and the inner, smaller radius has six. A high fanlight window is between the doors above the eave line. Six panes form an arc above two quarter-circle panes. This splits the window in half visually. There is no wood keystone on this window frame. However, the arch which forms the window opening is made of tapered stones. The central, or keystone position, has a darker red-brown colored stone. This use of color in the stonework is both subtle and visually strong.

The three symmetrical windows in the east and west façades have nine-over-nine lights in a wood sash. These six windows have shutters. The windows and trim are painted white, and shutters are the same red-brown as the front doors. The window walls are rounded to accommodate 18" deep window sills.

The south facing façade includes a central apse projecting southward approximately five feet from the south face of the building. The original pulpit/lectern occupies this area. This feature has two small four-over-four double-hung windows on the east and west faces at the first floor level. There is a wood board and batten door which leads into a partial crawl space. There is a similar door high above it in the wood framed gable end which provides access to the attic. The entire exterior walls were re-pointed in 1975 and the south wall was repointed in October 2003.

The roof is moderately sloped and has machined cedar shingle. There is a deep roof overhang and soffit at the front which is connected with a cornice return and continues on the sides. The rear façade has a similar cornice, with no roof overhang projection. Sometime in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, a wooden steeple had been added on top of the rear apse. In 1941, Frederick B. Driver, who surveyed the church noted that the "wooden steeple with bell [had] been added to the building." Later in 1952, the steeple was removed, and the bell was donated to another church.

The sidewalk, repaired in 2011, improved the appearance and assured safe entry. The storm doors, added in 2012, and a heating/AC system, added in 2005, maintain temperature and humidity. This is important for storage of archival items and for the preservation of the church itself.

There is one outbuilding -a modern shed to store items for lawn care and other supplies. It is located down the hill on the south side, and is not visible from the front.

#### Interior:

Inside the building are thick, plaster walls. In 1976 and 2014, as an effort to repair minor cracks and chips that appeared over time, the walls were re-plaster, where needed. In the center of the ceiling, the original oil chandelier hangs from a molded plaster medallion. This chandelier has four oil bases and globes which has been converted to electric. Two ceiling fans, installed in

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2004, hang on each side of the chandelier and run continuously, to help maintain temperature control. The walls at the windows are rounded, and create window sills that are 18" deep.

There are 10 rows of wooden pews, divided down the middle, north to south, with straight backs and individual doors that close each off from the aisle (photo 9). There are two aisles, one down each side.

On the west side of the building are free standing shelves, added in 2009 and 2012, which hold the historical society's reference material. There is also a work area with a large table and chairs, a copy machine, and a map cabinet.

In the south-west corner of the building, in the choir area, is located our archival boxes. This area is raised 5 inches above the main floor. There are four (4) free standing metal shelves with 4 shelves each, see page 25 and photos 8 and 9

The entire front floor of the church is raised five inches up from the main floor. In the apse, an area 8'10" wide, there is a massive, solid pulpit, 67 inches wide at the base and 45 inches wide on the flat top. Flanking the pulpit, and leading up into the apse are sets of five steps, each with seven inch risers. Upon ascending the steps, one finds himself standing behind the large pulpit, facing the congregation with approximately. At the front corners of the pulpit are two impressive Greek style columns with Ionic scroll molding, meeting with a Greek design cornice on the ceiling. This unique Greek-inspired apse design adds to the historic significance of the church, which in mid 19<sup>th</sup> century imitated the nearby Forks of the Brandywine Presbyterian Church in West Brandywine, Chester County (PA SHPO Eligible in 1992).

Located in the south-east corner of the building east of the pulpit, is an enclosed area with a 32 inch high wooden panel front and door, much like the doors found on the pews.

In 1976, twenty two storage cabinets were installed along the east wall, north to south. Each cabinet has a locked glass topped drawer which is used to display archival items. Between the three windows, located on this east wall, are three shelving areas which are used for books or archival displays.

All pews that were originally positioned along the east and west walls were removed and have been saved and stored in the church's attic.

#### Integrity:

The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church retains its integrity. Changes to the building have been minimal.

Location. The church building remains on its original location.

**Design**. The three important elements of the design of the church are intact: the dual front end gable entrance, the Chapel Plan style, and the pulpit located in the recessed apse-like area. The building is an important extant example of the Presbyterian approach to the organization of worship space in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

One element was added to the church building and later removed. After 1870, a spire (or steeple) was built atop the apse-like feature. It was removed in 1952, and its loss does not impact the church's historic integrity.

**Setting**. The church retains its historic setting; it is located in the north central portion of its lot, with the burial ground to the east and south. It historically stood between a schoolhouse to the east and a residence to the west. The school was demolished in 2005, leaving a vacant lot, a residence to the west remains. The loss of the schoolhouse does not impair the overall setting of the church because the burial ground extends west between the vacant lot and the church.

**Materials**. The original materials of the church building remain: the stone walls, plastered on the interior, and the original woodwork on the interior (pulpit and boxed pews). The boxed pews along the side walls were removed in 1975 to accommodate use of the building by the historical society; the pews are stored in the church's attic space.

**Workmanship**. The various features of the workmanship remain intact. Among the period details and finishes of the building are the front doors, the windows, the pulpit and apse area, the boxed pews, and the plaster medallion on the ceiling, encircling the chandelier.

**Feeling**. The church retains its historic feeling. A modern day visitor can gain a sense of being in a Mid. 19<sup>TH</sup>. Century style worship space.

**Association**. The church retains integrity, and its association as a significant architectural example of a Mid 19<sup>TH</sup> Century house of worship.

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#### 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.



Х

- 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.)

- x
- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church Name of Property

# **Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.) \_Architecture

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**Period of Significance** 1843\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates** 

\_1843 - 1870\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person** (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation** 

Architect/Builder <u>William P. Buchanan (carpenter)</u>

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, constructed in 1843, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as an architecturally unique example of a Chapel Plan house of worship constructed by Presbyterians immediately prior to the widespread Gothic Revival movement. It also meets the requirements for listing under Criteria Consideration A as a religious property. Both the exterior and interior of the building reflect the ongoing and gradual development of the organization of religious space by Presbyterians that was later radically altered after the Civil War when the denomination embraced medieval architectural precedents. Key features include its dual gable entrance, Chapel Plan design, and its elevated pulpit located in an apse-like recess. The church also still retains its original and unique closed box pews.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

#### Historical Background

The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1843 beside a pre-existing burial ground. The building reflected design trends found in other Presbyterian houses of worship in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The local congregation was incorporated in 1846, but, after the American Civil War, the lack of male members caused it to be discontinued in 1870. The church building was rented out for use by other denominations for nearly a century, and it appears likely that one of these renting congregations installed a steeple which was later removed in 1952. In 1975, the church was preserved, and later became the home of the Caernarvon Historical Society; its current use.

The adjacent cemetery was established in 1841. Robert Jenkins, an ironmaster who owned Windsor Forge [NR Listed – 1990] and a large tract of land, set aside the parcel of land in the northeast corner of his property, fronting on Ridge Road. A wrought iron fence was installed to specify the area for this family burial ground. Its use was limited to the family even after the church was built. The Jenkins family began hosting a Bible study in their home nearby in 1818, which was attended by the forge employees, servants/slaves, and neighbors.

Catherine Jenkins, wife of Robert Jenkins, played a prominent role in urging the church's construction in 1843. Her father, John Carmichael, was the minister at the Forks of the Brandywine Church in Chester County, which had been rebuilt in 1839 to incorporate some new design elements, particularly the use of an apse-like recess where an elevated pulpit was flanked by two Ionic columns. A similar feature was incorporated into the design of the Caernarvon church. Records indicate that William Buchanan was the carpenter, and that he completed the detail work on August 1, 1844.

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For Jenkins, open space adjacent to the family cemetery was perfectly suited as the location of the new church building. When built, the Caernarvon Church held services every third Sunday afternoon, with the minister of the Cedar Grove Presbyterian Church officiating; Bible studies were held every week. The Caernarvon Presbytery was incorporated in 1846 as part of the Donegal Presbytery. That same year, Robert and Catherine Jenkins deeded the property to the Church. In the early years, the two most prominent families were the Jenkins and the Nevins. Alfred Nevin, who was a son-in-law of Catherine Jenkins, served as minister at Cedar Grove (and by extension Caernarvon) from 1840 until 1845. Later in his life, he served on the Presbyterian Board of Publications in Philadelphia, was a founding member of the Presbyterian Historical Society, was a director of the Presbyterian Hospital in Philadelphia, and was a trustee of Lafayette College.

Within four decades, the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church was no longer in regular use. The number of male wardens declined during and after the American Civil War, and the Presbytery discontinued rural Caernarvon in 1870.

The church building was then rented out to other denominations from 1870 until 1975. It appears that it was likely during this time a spire was constructed onto the rear of the building atop the apse-like element on the south end. This feature was not an original element of the construction. Frederick B. Driver, who surveyed the church in 1941 noted that the "wooden steeple with bell [had] been added to the building." Among the congregations renting the building in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century were the Amish and Mennonites (who held singings here at Easter and Christmas around 1941) and the Plymouth Brethren (1957 until circa 1965). The spire was removed in 1952 and re-installed at the Cedar Grove Presbyterian Church.

In 1975, the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church was refurbished and small repairs were made where needed. Architectural drawings were completed of each elevation and of the interior. At this time, two floor beams, on the east side, were replaced and the original floor boards reinstalled. The walls were repaired and re-plastered where needed, and the cedar roof shingles replaced in kind. The boxed pews that originally stood along the side walls were removed and placed in storage in the attic to provide space for the historical society's display cases and storage shelves. The original pew doors, which had been removed and had been found in the attic, were re-installed.

Once the Bicentennial celebration was over, the Caernarvon Historical Society assumed the maintenance of the church building. It became the society's headquarters in 1979, and in 2003 the Donegal Presbytery deeded the property to the society. With the installation of a new heating and air conditioning system in 2005, the church building was suitable for year round use by the historical society. The society collects historic artifacts, belongings of former residents of Churchtown, and documentation (written and oral) of the local area; these items are stored in the church building and included in the rotating displays. The society also sponsors a local flea market and town tours.

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#### Architectural Significance

The general outline of the design of Presbyterian houses of worship prior to the Civil War has not been specifically documented.<sup>1</sup> During the colonial era, Presbyterians constructed end-gabled houses of worship that reflect a plan that British architectural historians refer to as the "Cottage Plan." The earliest example in North America is the Norriton Presbyterian Meeting House (Figures 1 & 2) in East Norriton Township, Montgomery County, built in 1698 [NR 1979 as "Old Norriton Presbyterian Church"], which is also the oldest Presbyterian house of worship in North America. It and all Cottage Plan houses of worship feature a symmetrical appearance with the entrance on a side wall, opening into aisles running between boxed pews to the pulpit, located on the opposite side wall. Later examples include the Wilmington Meeting House in Wilmington, DE, c. 1730; Leacock Meeting House in Leacock Twp., Lancaster County, PA, c. 1750; Newtown Presbyterian Church [NR 1987] in Newtown, PA, 1769, altered 1842 (Figures 3 & 4); and "Old Drawyers" Meeting House near Odessa, DE, c. 1770, [NR 1973].

Presbyterians shifted from the Cottage Plan to the Chapel Plan in the 1790s and retained it until the denomination adopted the Gothic Revival style after the Civil War. The Chapel Plan represented a shift in the configuration of worship space by placing the pulpit in a gable end, separated from the boxed pews. Among the earliest Chapel Plan houses of worship built by Presbyterians are those in Springfield, NJ (1793) and Bloomfield, NJ (1797). The Newtown Presbyterian Church (Figures 3 & 4) was originally constructed in the Cottage Plan in 1769. However, in 1842, it was reoriented with dual gable end doors using the Chapel Plan layout. In the early19<sup>th</sup> century, most Presbyterian houses of worship fall into one of two subsets of the Chapel Plan, which are described below. The Caernarvon Presbyterian Church is significant, in that it incorporates elements, in its original design and construction, from each of these two main subsets.

The first subset of the Chapel Plan that was common to Presbyterians in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century was the placement of two doors on the front gable end. In their original design, these two doors opened into a C-shaped aisle that divided the boxed pews into three banks: a larger one in the center and two along the side walls. Among the earliest examples in the Delaware Valley are the Presbyterian churches in Hackettstown, NJ (1819) and Newtown Twp., Bucks County, PA (1769). Another local example is the Octorara Covenanter Church just east of Quarryville, PA (1849). Presbyterians continued to use the dual gable entrance on new houses of worship into the 1850s.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although monographs have been produced that document specific phases of the architecture of some denominations in American history, the only denomination whose religious architecture has been documented from its introduction to the present is the Quakers. Presbyterian religious architecture is among the least studied of all American denominations, and the tendency of its congregations to rebuild its houses of worship complicates a full understanding of the evolution of the denominational architecture, even in southeastern Pennsylvania. Furthermore, religious architecture between the American Revolution and the Civil War for almost all denominations is the least studied era of American religious architecture.

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The second subset of the Chapel Plan was a Greek Revival innovation, the use of recessed areas in the design. The First Presbyterian Church in West Chester, PA, designed by Thomas U. Walter (1832-1834, NR 1972) was built with a recessed porch on the gable front that features two Ionic columns flanking the entrance. An original feature of the interior that no longer survives (mentioned in the HABS documentation) was the pulpit which was located in its own recess on the gable end opposite the entrance. When the building was lengthened later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the recess was removed and replicated in simplified form in the new end wall. The use of a recessed porch on the front and the placement of the pulpit in an apse-like recess on the interior can be found in the Cranbury, NJ Presbyterian Church (1839), and possibly others. The recessed front porch is found on many Presbyterian churches from this time, including Princeton, NJ (1839), Trenton, NJ (1839), and Pluckemin, NJ (1851).

The placement of an elevated pulpit in an apse-like recess appears in several houses of worship. A rear apse addition, with interior raised pulpit, was added to the Newtown Presbyterian Church (Figures 3 & 4) in 1842 when it was also reoriented from its earlier Cottage Plan design to the Chapel Plan. At the Forks of the Brandywine Church (Figures 5 & 6) in western Chester County, a recessed area was photographed in 1875 just prior to the church's demolition and replacement by a Gothic Revival style church (Figures 7 & 8). The recess featured two Ionic columns flanking the pulpit and is remarkably similar to what is found in the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church. These recessed pulpits are found in several other Presbyterian churches in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century; a late example was installed during the reconfiguration of the interior of the Deerfield, NJ Church in 1858. Because these recessed apse-like pulpit areas mostly do not survive, a comparison of the quality of its details at Caernarvon with those found in other church buildings is limited to a comparison based on historic photographs. The most stylish recessed pulpits found are those at Caernarvon and at Forks of the Brandywine Church (which are nearly identical). The Unionville Presbyterian Church had such a recess as well, but it featured simpler Tuscan columns with minimal capitals and no fluting. While several other recessed pulpit areas are known to have existed, no other extant examples have been identified, and no other historic photographs have been located.

Architectural historians believe that the first boxed pews in North America were installed at the Old North Church in Boston (1723). Prior to this time, men and women sat on separate sides of a center aisle on open benches. Presbyterians had used boxed pews in Britain prior to this time and were definitely using them in the late Colonial period, as the pews in Old Drawyers and Walpole, Maine appear to be original to the churches there.

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the introduction of pew rental (rather than pew ownership), the design began to change. Pews became longer and narrower. By 1830, the vertical board that bisected the central bank of boxed pews only extended from the top of the pews down to the seat (rather than going down to the floor); Caernarvon Presbyterian reflects this change. In the mid-1840s, doors on pews became optional, and by 1850 new houses of worship mostly did not have doors to individual pews (local example is Octorara Covenantar). Caernarvon originally had pew doors; a photo from 1976 does not show them on, but they were re-installed later by the Caernarvon Historical Society.

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Historically, a defining feature of Presbyterian designed religious spaces was the incorporation of a wide area between the pulpit and the pews where a long communion table would be placed when needed. Most of the time, this area was vacant and the table was in storage. Presbyterians adopted the practice in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, as Presbyterian meeting houses constructed in England after the Act of Toleration consistently devote space for the moveable communion tables while those constructed prior to the Restoration provide space for taking communion in a chancel-like area. These moveable communion tables were often quite long (10 to 12 feet) and unwieldy to move, and very few survive. The communion table in the Octorara Covenentar Presbyterian Church (1849) just east of Quarryville is likely very similar in design to the one that would have been used at the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church. The practice of congregants rising from their seats to sit around the communion table, which appears to have been specific to Presbyterians, declined in importance once the denomination embraced the Gothic Revival architectural movement after the Civil War.

In summary, the key features of the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church reflect a unique blending of trends in the construction of Presbyterian houses of worship in the two decades prior to the American Civil War: the dual gable end entrance Chapel Plan design, the placement of the pulpit in an apse-like recess, and the design of the boxed pews. No other examples are known to have been originally constructed with these features. Many were merely earlier structures that were then altered; mimicking many of the design traits found in Caernarvon. Furthermore, in later years, most Presbyterian houses of worship constructed prior to the Civil War were demolished and rebuilt to reflect later architectural tastes and styles. Therefore, the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church stands as a significant and rare example of early 19<sup>th</sup> century religious architectural traditions.

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http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ttg13/11thReunion/11threunion20104.ht ml, accessed May 5, 2015; Internet.

#### **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 #\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Primary location of additional data:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- \_\_\_\_ Local government
- \_\_\_\_\_ University
- <u>X</u> Other
- Name of repository: <u>Caernarvon Historical</u>

Society\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

Lancaster County, PA County and State

#### **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property \_\_\_\_\_.6375 Acres\_\_\_\_\_\_

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates Datum if other than WGS84: (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)	_
1. Latitude: 40.133839	Longitude: -75.957890
2. Latitude:	Longitude:
3. Latitude:	Longitude:
4. Latitude:	Longitude:

## Or UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or	NAD 1983	
1. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

To the east the church is bordered by a parking area, adjacent to a grass lot. The northern boundary is State Route 23. The southern boundary is a residential property where grass continues from the church property onto the neighbor's property. The western boundary is lined with shrubs separating the church property from a residential property. The north boundary on Route 23 is 136.61', the east is 215.52'; the south is 135.98'; and the west is 206.25'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary defined above has been the extent of the property throughout its history.

Lancaster County, PA County and State

### **11. Form Prepared By**

name/title:	Elizabeth Mar	tin & Barbara Possessky_		
organization:	Caernarvon	Historical Society		
street & numbe	r: <u>2148 Main S</u>	treet		
city or town:	Narvon	state: <u>PA</u>	zip code: <u>17555</u>	
e-mail	_caernarvonhis	tory@gmail.com		
telephone:	_717-445-5614	L		
date:	<u>May 19, 2014</u>			

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

#### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

#### Photo Log

Name of Property: Caernarvon Presbyterian Church City or Vicinity: Caernarvon Township (Narvon) County: Lancaster State: Pennsylvania Photographer: David R. Maher (PHMC - State Historic Preservation Office)

Date Photographed: April 29, 2015

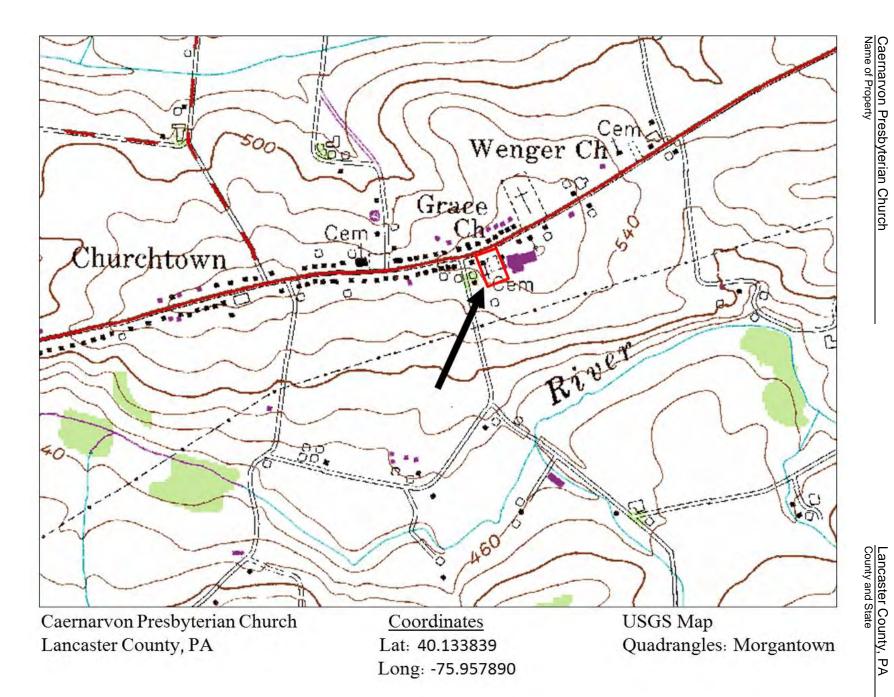
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo#	View	Facing
1	Front corner of church/property	SW
2	Front corner of church/cemetery	South
3	Front corner of church	SW
4	East facade	West
5	East facade/cemetery/stone wall	West
6	South east corner of church/cemetery	West
7	East side of rear apse	West
8	Rear façade and apse	North
9	West side of rear apse	North
10	West facade	East
11	North west corner of church	SE
12	Front (north) façade of church	South
13	Interior space/pews/pulpit	South
14	Raised pulpit	South
15	View from raised pulpit	North
16	Eastern apse window	East
17	Plaster ceiling medallion	Skyward
18	Eastern wall, interior	NE
19	Boxed pew door	East
20	Eastward, front entrance door	NW
21	East wall, forward, interior window sill	East
22	Closed box pews	SW

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Lancaster County, PA County and State



Caernarvon Presbyterian Church

Name of Property

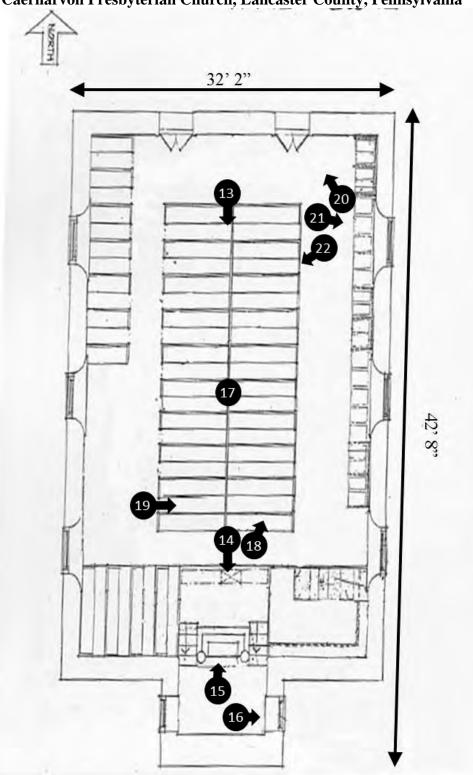
Lancaster County, PA County and State

## Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania



National Register Boundary Map and Exterior Photo Key.

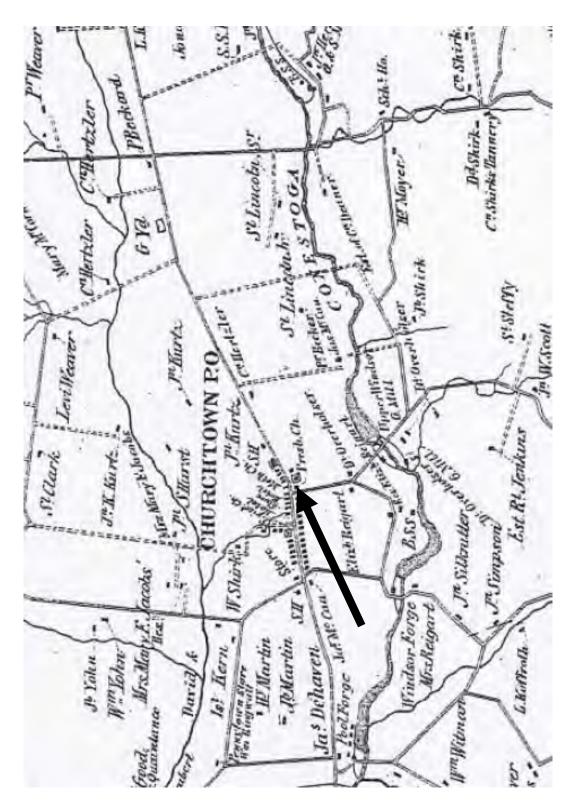
Lancaster County, PA County and State



## Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

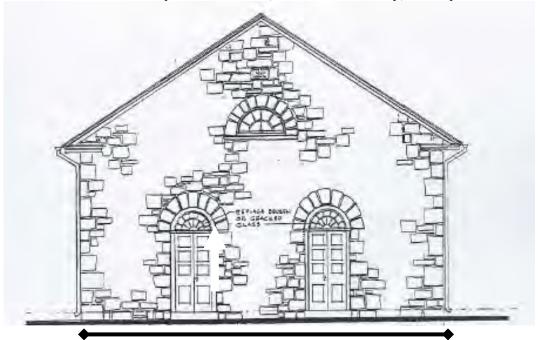
Floor Plan and Interior Photo Key

Lancaster County, PA County and State



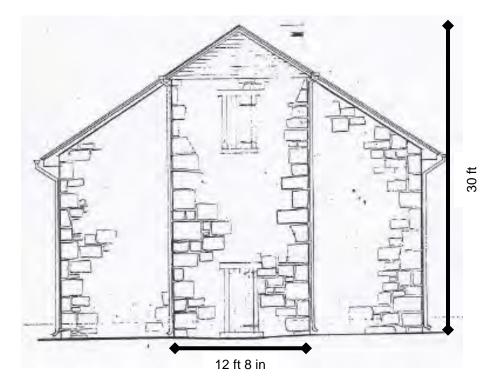
Detail of Plan of Caernarvon Township (1864).

Lancaster County, PA County and State



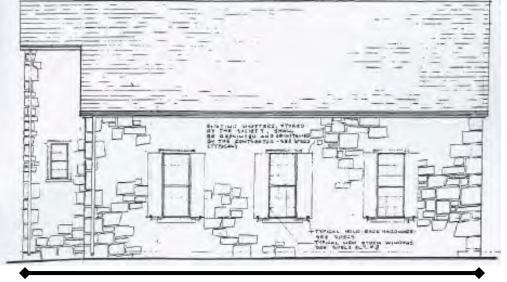
## Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

32 ft 2 in



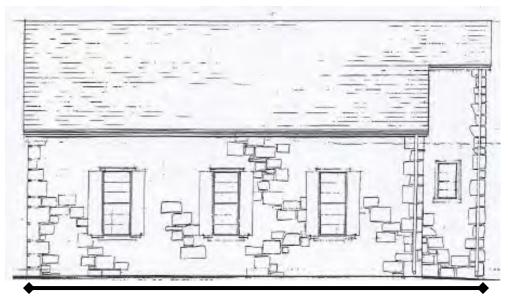
North and South Elevations

Lancaster County, PA County and State



## Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

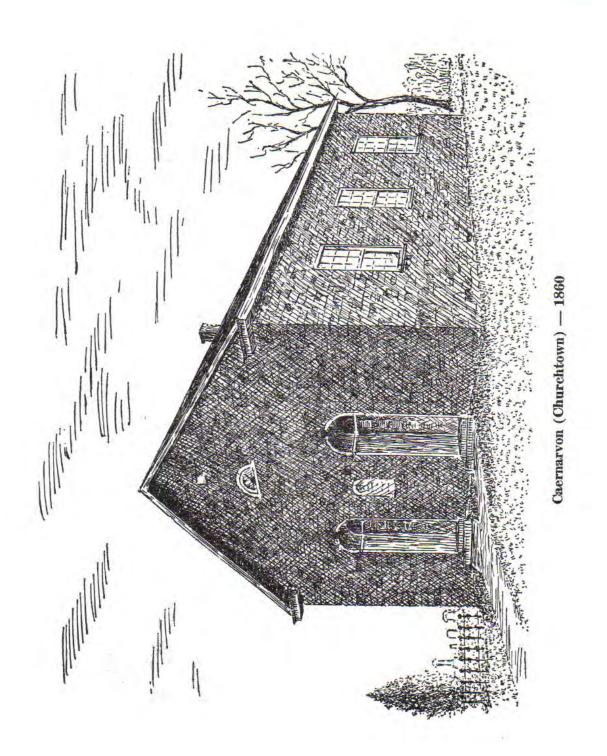
42 ft 8 in



42 ft 8 in

East and West Elevations

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church Name of Property Lancaster County, PA County and State



Historic depiction of the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church as it looked in 1860 A. Wayne Morris, <u>The Octorara Family of Churches</u>

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church

Name of Property

Lancaster County, PA County and State



#### Figure 1:

East Norriton Presbyterian Church, East Norriton Twp., Montgomery County, PA – NR Listed 1979 Built in 1698, the Church is an early colonial example of the Cottage Plan, typified by side entrance door. (National Register nomination form, files of the Bureau for Historic Preservation – PHMC)



#### Figure 2:

East Norriton Presbyterian Church, East Norriton Twp., Montgomery County, PA – NR Listed 1979 Interior view, illustrating closed box pews and raised pulpit on long wall opposite the entrance. (National Register nomination form, files of the Bureau for Historic Preservation – PHMC) Caernarvon Presbyterian Church

Name of Property

Lancaster County, PA County and State

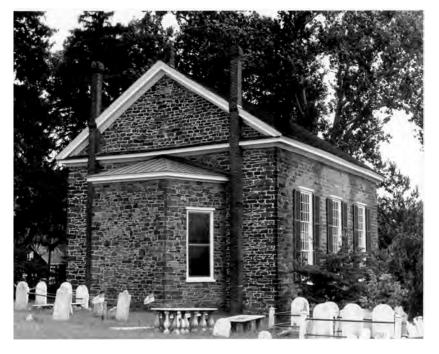


Figure 3:

Newtown Presbyterian Church, Newtown Twp., Bucks County, PA – NR Listed 1987 Built in 1769. Rear view, highlighting apse addition constructed in 1842. (National Register nomination form, files of the Bureau for Historic Preservation - PHMC)



Figure 4:

Newtown Presbyterian Church, Newtown Twp., Bucks County, PA – NR Listed 1987 Built in 1769. Interior view, highlighting pulpit in apse addition constructed in 1842. (National Register nomination form, files of the Bureau for Historic Preservation – PHMC) Caernarvon Presbyterian Church

Name of Property



Figure 5:

Historic (ca. 1875) interior photo of the Forks of the Brandywine Presbyterian Church, W. Brandywine Twp., Chester County. Built in 1761, remodeled in 1839 with recessed pulpit area identical to the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church in 1843. Forks of the Brandywine Church was demolished and replaced by a new Gothic Revival style church in 1875. (Chester County Historical Society)



Figure 6:

Historic (date unknown) exterior photo of the Forks of the Brandywine Presbyterian Church, W. Brandywine Twp., Chester County. Built in 1761, remodeled in 1839. Note what appears to be a single gable end entrance. (Wynne Genealogy Society)

Lancaster County, PA County and State

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church Name of Property Lancaster County, PA County and State



Figure 7:

Forks of the Brandywine Presbyterian Church, West Brandywine Twp., Chester County, PA – built 1875 (PA Historic Resource Survey File, Bureau for Historic Preservation – PHMC)



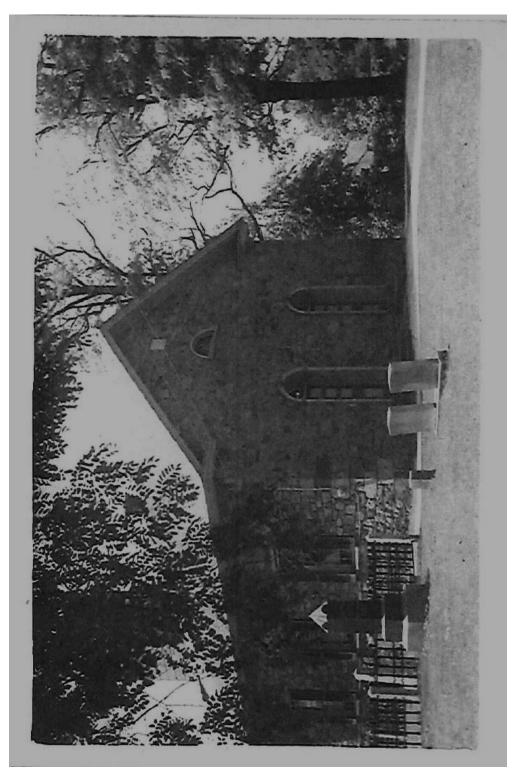
Figure 8:

Forks of the Brandywine Presbyterian Church, West Brandywine Twp., Chester County, PA – built 1875 Rear elevation, highlighting continued use of rear apse

(PA Historic Resource Survey File, Bureau for Historic Preservation – PHMC)

Caernarvon Presbyterian Church Name of Property

Lancaster County, PA County and State



Caernarvon Presbyterian Church (ca.1941) – Frederick B. Driver













































## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Caernarvon Presbyterian Church NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Lancaster

DATE RECEIVED: 7/03/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/24/15 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/10/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/18/15 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000534

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATA PROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESS THAN 50 YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:NNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT

S DATE REJECT RETURN

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

## DAVID H. ZIMMERMAN, MEMBER 99th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

HARRISBURG OFFICE: P.O. BOX 202099 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2099 PHONE: (717) 787-3531 FAX: (717) 705-1986

DISTRICT OFFICE: 127 PETERS ROAD, 1ST FLOOR NEW HOLLAND, PA 17557 PHONE: (717) 556-0031 FAX: (717) 556-0034



## House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

May 27, 2015

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Bureau for Historic Preservation Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for Caernarvon Presbyterian Church's application to be added to the National Register of Historic Places.

As I am sure you will note from the application, this historic Church, located on Main Street in Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County, definitely meets the criteria to become a property registered with the National Register of Historic Places. It is a prime architectural example of a Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century house of worship.

Again, I would like to reiterate my strong support for this historic Church. It is an honor to have such a significant piece of history located in Lancaster County. If I can be of further assistance or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Representative David H. Zimmerman State Representative 99<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

DHZ/blb



COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

HUMAN SERVICES LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CAUCUSES:

AGRICULTURE

AT RISK CHILDREN & FAMILY

CAREER & TECH EDUCATION FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES

PRO-LIFE

SPORTSMEN'S

EMAIL: dzimmerman@pahousegop.com

www.facebook.com/RepZimmerman www.RepZimmerman.com Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County 2147 Main Street, Narvon, PA 17555 717-445-4244 Fax: 717-445-7119 www.caernarvonlancaster.org

May 26, 2015

RECEIV	
MAY 2.8 '15	1
BUREAU FOR HISTORIC PRESENCE ON	

Attn: Mr. David R. Maher Pennsylvania Historical and Museums Commission Bureau for Historic Preservation Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Dear Mr. Maher:

Thank you for the notification letter of April 27, 2015 for the proposed National Register of Historic Places nomination. Caernarvon Township strongly endorses the nomination of the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church at 2148 Main Street in Churchtown.

As you may know the building is presently the headquarters of the Caernarvon Historical Society. They have provided leadership and assets to maintain and renovate this actively used historic structure.

The registration of the Presbyterian Church will make an excellent addition to other registered historic landmarks actively used in Caernarvon Township, e.g. Pool Forge Mansion in the 26 acre community park, Edward Davies House (Churchtown Inn/Bed and Breakfast), and the Bangor Episcopal Church.

Thank you for your review and consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

Gary Van Dyke Supervisor Caernarvon Township



P.O. BOX 476 • HONEY BROOK, PA 19344 • 610-273-3771 • FAX 610-273-9870 7224 DIVISION HIGHWAY • NARVON, PA 17555 • 717-351-6025 www.chestercountyswa.org

April 7, 2014

To whom it may concern:

The Chester County Solid Waste Authority (CCAWA) owns and operates the Lanchester Landfill and portions of the facility are in Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County. CCSWA has been a longtime supporter of Caernarvon Historical Society.

We are supportive of Caernarvon Historical Society's efforts to seek to have their building – the former Old Presbyterian church on Main Street added to the National Register of Historical Places. This is a unique property and building in the area. We have donated money in the past to improve the infrastructure of the church and expect to continue this tradition as needed by the Caernarvon Historical Society.

Please contact me if you have any questions at extension \*227 or <u>BWatts@ChesterCSWA.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Watts Executive Director



Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission **RECEIVED 2280** 

JUL - 3 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

June 25, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief National Register and National Historic Landmark Program National Register of Historic Places U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service 1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, 8th floor Washington D.C. 20005

Re: NR nomination discs

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following nomination forms are being submitted electronically per the "Guidance on How to Submit a Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on Disk Summary (5/06/2013)":

Dutch Corner Historic Agricultural District, Bedford County Caernarvon Presbyterian Church, Lancaster County Pennsylvania Chautauqua Historic District, Lebanon County

The enclosed discs contain the true and correct copy of the nominations for the Dutch Corner Historic Agricultural District, the Pennsylvania Chautauqua Historic District, and the Caernarvon Presbyterian Church to the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed action is listing in the National Register.

The disc for the Dutch Corner Historic Agricultural District includes the nomination in two parts because the file was too large to save as a single pdf. In addition, included on the disc are two comment letters and notarized objections from 7 property owners. Two property owners sent objections for every parcel they own, but they were counted as only two objections per 36CFR60.6(g). The objections do not constitute more than 50 percent of the owners. In addition, the disc for Caernarvon Presbyterian Church includes three letters of support.

Historic Preservation Services Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120–0093 www.phmc.state.pa.us The Commonwealth's Official History Agency