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on Arney's Mount. The interior, twice repaired following fires in 1800 and 1809, still has columns hand turned from a solid log supporting the gallery, and the benches are held together with hand forged bolts.

The building, being constructed of stone, is unusual in South Jersey as most Meeting Houses are constructed of brick.

The windows are placed in an irregular line to afford the maximum amount of light to the interior which has an upper gallery on three sides which can be opened or closed by hand-hewn panels which rise into the attic area.

The accoustics are considered to be outstanding: a whisper from the facing bench can be heard in the last row of the gallery./

No paint has ever been used in the interior and no electricity, formal heating or plumbing has ever been installed. A chunk stove replaces the original "pot-bellied" stove which was stolen several years ago but it serves to warm the house when winter meetings are held.

The exterior of the approximately 32×40 foot building has not been added to nor any portion removed and all repairs have been made in keeping with the original plan and appearance of the building.

The over-all acreage of the property is six acres; the meeting house proper occupying about two acres, and the balance being the graveyard, marked and otherwise.

The burial ground, still in use, pre-dates the Meeting House by many years. (Meeting records indicate settlement in the area before the first petition to Burlington Quaterly Meeting to build this existing building in 1743.)

The stone wall, built in 1860, encloses only a portion of the graves as many persons were buried literally "outside the wall" having lost favor with Meeting or were buried elsewhere on the grounds in unmarked sites before the wall was constructed.

Horse sheds stood near the south boundary wall which still holds the iron hitching rings. NSTRUCT

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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
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Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is an unusual example of early stone masonry construction in a Friends Meeting House. Built of native sandstone quarried from the mount on which it stands, Arney's Mount meeting house has stood since 1775 at the intersection of the road from Mount Holly to Juliustown and the Pemberton-Jobstown road. Twice the interior has been damaged by fire; first in 1800, when the floor was saved by having snow thrown on it, and second in 1809. The benches are held together with handmade riveted iron bolts. The pillars supporting the gallery are turned from solid wood. The interior woodwork is in its natural aged hue.

In 1743, Friends living near Shreve's Mount, (later called Arney's Mount for an early settler, Arney Lippincott) asked Burlington Monthly Meeting for permission to meet in a schoolhouse at the Mount. Some years later a meeting house was erected. The builder was <u>Samuel Smith</u>, whose name appears on the stone above the front doorway. As years passed the area changed and attendance at Arney's Mount Meeting declined. The Preparative Meeting, established in 1776, was laid down in 1871. The meeting house continued to be used at times for worship and Firstday school. Since 1941; meeting for worship usually has been held twice monthly.

According to the custom of Friends, graves in the earliest period were not marked. Records were kept by row. Later, markers were used and some bear dates earlier than the formal establishment of the Meeting. In 1870, a wall of native sandstone was erected around the graveyard. Names in the graveyard include those of the early settlers in the area such as "Lamb", "Lippencott", "Shreve", "Gaskill", "Newbold", and many others important to the heritage of Mount Holly and Pemberton, New Jersey. It is still in use as a meeting house and the burial ground is still receiving requests for interment.



	BIBLIOGE	APHICAL	L RE	FERENC	ES								
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