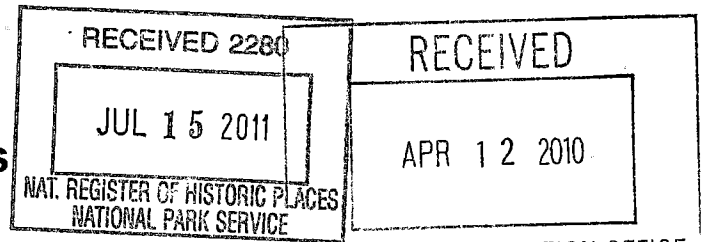


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

589



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Main Street Friends Meeting House
other names/site number Medford Hicksite Meeting House

2. Location

street & number 19 South Street not for publication
city or town Medford Township vicinity
state New Jersey code NJ county Burlington code 005 zip code 08055

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- 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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Main Street Friends Meeting House
Name of Property

Burlington County, NJ
County and State

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion: religious facility

Work in progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Early Republic: Federal

foundation: BRICK

walls: BRICK

roof: WOOD shingle

other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Main Street Friends Meeting House, built in 1843, is a two-story Federal-style brick building with a main block that is 6 bays wide by 2 bays deep, and has a rectangular footprint that measures approximately 66' wide by 37' deep. It has a gable roof that runs parallel to the façade (west elevation); the roof was covered with ca. 1950 asbestos shingles and is currently (March 2010) being re-roofed with wood shingles. There are two modest interior end wall brick chimneys at each gable end. The first story of the façade features two sets of double-doors, each placed between two windows to create a balanced façade that reads W-D-W/W-D-W. The facade doors are sheltered by identical gable-fronted porticos (original) supported by Doric columns. Windows are original 6/6 double-hung wood sash, except for two original 12/12 double-hung wood sash windows on the rear (east) elevation; those on the first floor are flanked by original, paneled wood shutters.

Main Street Friends Meeting House

Name of Property

Burlington County, NJ

County and State

Each of the side elevations has an original 1-story wood frame restroom ell that wraps around to the rear elevation; each ell has a portico that shelters a side door. The interior of the main block consists of two equal-sized meeting rooms, both with a balcony, separated by an original paneled wood partition wall that can be raised manually into the attic ceiling. Except for the removal of several rows of original benches on the first floor, the south (women's) meeting room is nearly original in all respects, while the north (men's) meeting room has been altered with the addition of a 1-story ceiling below the balcony and the removal of most built-in benches on the first floor.

The meeting house stands on an irregularly-shaped, 0.9+-acre flag lot and faces west onto South Main Street in the heart of Medford, an unincorporated village located in Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. South Street, dotted with historic and modern residences, runs along most of the lot's south boundary. The meeting house is within the boundaries of a Local Certified District comprised of a significant collection of historic public, religious, and residential buildings reflecting the village's Quaker founding in the mid-18th century and its subsequent growth as a small commercial center into the 20th century. The village is also within the boundaries of the Pinelands National Reserve. The meeting house is set back approximately 320' from Main Street and stands on a grassy lawn dotted with mature trees. Neighboring buildings along Main Street are a pleasing mix of historic commercial, religious, and residential structures, many built of brick, most of which range in date from the late 1700s to the late 1800s. To the northeast of the meeting house is a Quaker cemetery which stands on a separate lot not included within the nominated boundaries.

Narrative Description (see attached continuation sheets)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, NJ

Narrative Description (continued)

Exterior Description

Main Block

The Main Street Friends Meeting House, built in 1843, is a two-story tall red brick building erected with Flemish bond on the façade (west elevation) and common bond on the side (north and south) and rear (east) elevations. [photos 2 and 3] The gable roof runs parallel with the façade and is pierced at each gable end by a narrow brick chimney that appears to be original; the roof is covered with ca. 1950 asbestos shingles laid over wood shingles. At the time of this writing (March 2010), the asbestos and old wood shingles were being removed and replaced with a new wood shingle roof. The façade and rear elevation have a simple, boxed cornice with no returns and the gable ends have modest, tapered rake boards that are covered with vinyl. The meeting house stands on a brick foundation supported by rubble stone below grade.

The façade is six bays wide and features two sets of double doors, each flanked by original 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows. The double doors appear to be original and have original slate stoops. Each pair of doors has a regular-size door and a half-size door, both of which open. [photo 2] They have sunk-panels with applied moldings; the regular-size door has 6 panels (2/2/2) and the half-size door has 3 panels (1/1/1). All are hung on original butt hinges; the southernmost set has its original Carpenter lock, while the northernmost set has a Victorian-era box lock. Each entry on the façade is sheltered by a simple gable-fronted wood portico (original) supported by simple Doric columns (original). A ca. 1900 poured-concrete apron runs around the façade and side elevations. There is a small access hatch (original) on the façade, under the southernmost window, that provides entry into the crawl space under the building.

The first-story windows on the façade and side elevations have original paneled wood shutters with original cast iron rosette hold-backs and original sliding bolt latches. Windows on the second floor of the façade and side elevations are original 6/6 double-hung wood sash that never had shutters or blinds. The two large original 12/12 windows on the rear elevation are flanked by original paneled wood shutters that retain their original sliding bolt locks and original wrought iron hook-and-eye fasteners to hold the shutters in the open position.

The north and south side elevations are identical. The first story has an original window to the west and a double door to the east; these doors match those on the façade. There are two original 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows on the second story and one each in the gable ends.

Restroom Ells

On each side elevation, toward the rear, is an original one-story wood frame restroom ell covered with wood clapboard and standing on a brick foundation. [photos 3 and 4] Each has a portico, supported by an original Doric column that shelters the side elevation door openings on the main block. They have L-shaped footprints with a shed roof along the side elevation that merges with a gable roof along the rear elevation.

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Main Street Friends Meeting House

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The portico of the south restroom ell has been enclosed and its southwest corner wall is cut back on an angle to accommodate the Doric column that supports the roof structure. [photo 2] There is a single, 6-panel (2/2/2) wood door on the west elevation that appears to date to the late 20th century. The south (side) elevation has two doors: the easternmost one consists of a large pane of glass (missing) over two panels; it appears to date to ca. 1950. The westernmost one, which leads into the entry of the enclosed portico, consists of 6 raised panels (2/2/2) and appears to date to the last half of the 20th century. There is a small, covered-over window between these two doors. A break in the clapboards shows that the front half of the restroom ell was originally open (like that on the north elevation), but was enclosed probably in the 1920s as the narrower clapboard siding suggests. There is a single original 6/6 double-hung wood window on the rear elevation. The roof is covered with modern asphalt shingles.

The restroom ell on the north side elevation retains its original appearance and its original open portico. [photo 4] The restroom is accessed by an original 4-panel (2/2) wood door with applied moldings on the west wall. There is a boarded-over window on the north side elevation and the rear elevation has a boarded-over window opening to the south and a board door of indeterminate age to the north. The roof of the side elevation merges with the gable roof of the rear portion; this roof is covered with modern asphalt shingles on the rear slope (being replaced with wood shingles in March 2010) and ca. 1950 asbestos shingles on the north side slope.

Interior Description

Main Block

In plan, the meeting house has two equal-sized meeting rooms that measure 33' wide by 37' deep. [photos 5 through 10] Each has original plaster walls, original wood wainscot, original balcony, and original floors. Each room also has an original open string flight of stairs to the balcony level located against the front and side walls in the northwest and southwest corners. [photos 5 and 9] The stairs have their original 1" square balusters, turned newel post, and handrail. The slanted ceiling under the balcony overhead is supported by two original square wood posts with beaded edges; these posts continue to the ceiling.

The two rooms are separated by a sunk-paneled wood partition wall (original) composed of four sections that are manually winched open and rise into the attic, thus opening both rooms to view during services and special occasions. [photos 6, 8, 10] There are two original doors within the partition wall on the first story: a regular-size 4-panel wood door (2/2 with applied moldings) in the main north-south aisle, and a small, almost half-size door to the front of the building comprised of two vertical boards.

Window trim throughout is original and consists of 3.5" wide molding with a beaded edge, painted white. The same profile molding, 2.5" wide, is used on top of the wood wainscot. Door trim, also original, consists of 4" wide ogee molding with a bead and groove; it is also painted white. There are no baseboards. All of the perimeter walls on the first floor of both meeting rooms are covered with

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Main Street Friends Meeting House
Burlington County, NJ

original wainscot made of random-width vertical boards painted white. The wainscot is 5' 3" high on the north and south walls, 6' 8" high on the west walls, 3' 5" on the partition walls, and 4' 6" tall on the east walls. The same wood wainscot is used on the side and west walls of both balconies.

The south (women's) meeting room retains almost all of its original finishes and features, including plaster walls and ceiling, wood wainscot behind the benches, wood floors, balcony, and most of its wooden benches. [photos 5, 6, 7] Original benches are placed stadium style on tiered wood platforms and face the center of the room. They are arranged in rows of three, separated by an aisle, against the front (west) wall, and in rows of two, separated by a short flight of steps, against the rear (east) wall. The unpainted benches have wood seats, wood slat backs, and modestly-carved bench ends. The original clerk's folding writing board is extant in the middle row in the northeast corner of the room.

The balcony over the women's section contains its original wood benches, also arranged stadium-style. [photos 11 and 12] There are five rows of benches against the front (west) wall and four rows against the side (south) wall. Original wood wainscot is located along the walls behind the benches. There is a small original vertical board door in the partition wall between the two sections, toward the front of the main block. An original simple wood railing encloses the front of the balcony. Tucked in the southwest corner is an original flight of enclosed winder stairs that lead to the attic. Hard pine floorboards average 18" wide and appear to be original. A ca. 1950 brass and white opaque glass light fixture on a chain hangs from a late Victorian-era plaster ceiling medallion in the middle of the room.

The first floor of the north (men's) section is a large room devoid of all of the original benches on the west wall. [photos 9 and 10] Along the back (east) wall, only the back row of original facing benches along the wall are extant; those in the two rows in front them have been removed and replaced with a tiered plywood floor separated by the original aisle of steps. [photo 8] On either side of the steps are 6' tall wood bookcases/coat racks that appear to date to the mid-20th century. The original wood wainscot is extant on all walls, although some of the boards were removed during a recent (2010) inspection of structural conditions. A portion of the southwest corner of the north meeting room is paneled with ca. 1960 knotty pine (unpainted) paneled wainscot placed over the original wainscot. [photo 10]

A ca. 1950 ceiling of acoustical tiles was added at the balcony level, reducing the ceiling height to one-story. [photo 10] The ceiling has two brass and white opaque glass light fixtures identical to that in the women's section. The floor is covered with wall-to-wall carpeting laid over the original floor. That part of the open string staircase in the northwest corner along the north side wall has been enclosed and is accessed by a modern door. [photo 9]

The balcony level of the men's section is identical to that of the women's section and features original wood benches (some broken), original wood wainscot, and original plaster walls and ceiling. [photos 13 and 14] The benches and woodwork are painted white, and there is a circular plaster medallion for a light fixture (not used) in the center of the ceiling. Original floorboards are of hard pine and are random in width. The top of the ca. 1950 tiled ceiling, with the joists that support it, is exposed between the balcony and the rear wall.

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Main Street Friends Meeting House
Burlington County, NJ

The attic is unfinished and shows a system of angled trusses that support the roof and balcony framing and are mortised into the load-bearing summer beam under them. In the center, toward the rear of the attic is a winch and pulley system used to raise and lower the paneled dividing walls of the meeting rooms. [photo 15] It appears to be original and is said to be operable. All framing members exposed in the attic (joists, summer beam, rafters, plates) bear the marks of an up-and-down water mill saw. The rafters are tied to the front and rear plates with a simple bird's mouth, probably face-nailed or pegged to the plate. The rafters have a pegged mortise and tenon joint at the apex. There is an original wood board and batten trap door to the roof, accessed by an original wood ladder, near the center of the attic. Wood shingles are nailed to what appear to be the original roof lath spaced for 24" long shingles. Floor joists, spaced 1' 4.5" apart, are pegged to a slightly off-set (to the west) summer beam that runs parallel with the façade and provides support for the balcony framing below.

Restroom Ells

Because of unsanitary and unsafe conditions, only one portion of the restroom ell was open for inspection. Observable in the south restroom ell is a modern toilet and sink on a dirt floor with a wood partition wall. [photo 16]

Original Appearance and Subsequent Alterations

Except for enclosing the south restroom ell portico, the exterior appearance of the meeting house has changed little. The windows, shutters and shutter hardware, doors, porticos, and roof line retain their original appearance.

Meeting minutes inform that in December 1863, the treasurer reported there was "outstanding against the meeting an account of the committee to alter the chimneys of the meeting house..."¹ There were no further details given and it is not clear exactly how the chimneys were altered, or why, as no evidence of alteration is seen on the interior. However, the north and south exterior side walls both show an area of lighter color bricks, about two bricks wide, which runs up the middle of the side walls and ends at the attic level. These re-worked areas suggest that the original bricks may have failed for unspecified reasons and had to be replaced at this time. This same area appears dark-colored in the early 20th-century photographs of the meeting house, suggesting the problem was chronic.

The building was heated by coal-burning stoves, probably from the beginning, because one Caleb Shreve was appointed to "procure coal for the use of this meeting" in 1844.² Meeting minutes show routine maintenance was a constant concern; fences around the graveyard and the meeting house required replacement every 5 to 10 years and repairs to the horse sheds (no longer extant) and the stoves were undertaken every 3 to 5 years.

¹ Medford Monthly Meeting Minutes, 12-31-1863.

² Ibid., 8-29-1844.

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Main Street Friends Meeting House
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In 1849, William Stokes and William Ballinger were appointed to “have the case of painting the meeting house” and to do what they thought was necessary at the time. The painting must not have been urgent, because seven years later William Stokes presented a bill for painting and whitewashing the meeting house at a cost of \$39.98.³ Meeting minutes are not detailed enough to know if Stokes’ work included painting the benches, partition wall, and the wainscot of the mens’ meeting room side, as well as the wainscot on the women’s meeting room side or not. Mention of painting and improving the meeting house is made again in 1886, but since bills paid for the work included “kalomining” and “Kalsomine & lime” it is likely only the walls and ceilings were repainted with this popular wash.⁴

Black and white photographs of New Jersey’s Quaker meeting houses, taken by T. Chalkey Matlack in the 1920 and 1930s, show that the majority had no interior painted finish at that time, but since some were painted, it is possible that part of this meeting house’s interior finishes had been painted by that time and the work was simply never mentioned in the minutes.

Two new privies were built in 1874 at a cost of \$25 and in 1884 the roof was redone with 3,550 cedar shingles bought in Philadelphia.⁵ The chimneys were “repaired” for a cost of \$5 in 1886, but the modest cost suggests just minor repairs. Carpeting was also purchased that year and repairs were also made to the plaster walls.⁶

The interior was painted in 1964 and new curtains were hung that year, as well, according to meeting minutes. The brick exterior walls were repaired and re-pointed in 1966, but there was no mention of adding the ceiling beyond the balcony to the men’s section in any of the written minutes.⁷ Materials used in this ceiling’s construction suggest it was built sometime during the 1950s or 1960s, and the upper run of the stair was enclosed at the same time. It is also not known when the benches were removed from the first floor of the north (men’s) meeting room, but likely after the building was discontinued as a meeting house in 1984.

Integrity

The exterior has a high degree of integrity, retaining its original massing, brick exterior, gable front porticos, restroom ells, double-hung wood sash windows, doors, shutters and shutter hardware, and chimneys.

The south (women’s) meeting room retains a high degree of integrity, having its original floor plan, balcony, plaster walls and ceiling, most unpainted benches on both the first floor and the balcony, original staircases to the balcony and attic, and original paneled partition wall. The only noticeable to

³ Ibid., 5-29-1856.

⁴ Ibid., 7-1-1886.

⁵ Ibid., 7-30-1874; 11-27-1884.

⁶ Ibid., 7-1-1886.

⁷ Ibid., 9-12-1964, 11-20-1966.

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Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, NJ

change to this room is the ca. 1950 light fixture hanging from the 2-story ceiling and the removal of some of the benches on the first floor.

The north (men's) meeting room has almost been stripped of almost all of its original benches on the first floor. The only ones remaining are the last row against the back wall; some of these were temporarily removed during a recent (2010) architectural/structural investigation. This room also has a ceiling added under the balcony, likely installed in the mid-20th century to save on heating costs as membership declined and only one meeting room was needed. However, the stairs to the balcony and all balcony seating remain intact on this side of the meeting house.

The south restroom ell has been moderately altered with the enclosure of the portico, but its original column is extant and exposed.

Setting

The meeting house stands on a mostly-flat, 0.9+-acre flag lot in the heart of the unincorporated village of Medford in Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. [photo 1] Set back about 320' from the street, the building stands on a grassy lawn and faces west onto South Main Street. It is accessed via a straight paved driveway off of South Main Street that is about 180' long and which then curves toward the south to connect with South Street. A stone driveway continues beyond the straight paved driveway, heading toward the southwest corner of the meeting house. A straight concrete sidewalk runs along the north side of the paved driveway; it begins at the sidewalk on South Main Street and ends at the concrete apron surrounding the building.

Between the sidewalk and the paved driveway is a grassy verge with two red maple (*Acer rubrum* L.) trees. The south lot line along South Street, between the meeting house and the paved drive, is bordered with mature Balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) and pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) trees. The north lot line, excluding the driveway portion, is dotted with several pin oak and dogwood trees (*Cornecaea*), and has an L-shaped row of arborvitae (*Thuja*). Almost abutting the building's north wall is an overgrown thicket of English yews (*Taxus baccata*), deciduous vines, and several wild cherry trees (*Prunus serotina*). Behind the meeting house is a grassy lawn. A chain link fence defines the east half of the north lot line and the entire east lot line.

Bordering part of the south lot line is South Street, a dead-end street comprised of historic and modern houses with a small manufacturing facility at its eastern terminus about 230' from the meeting house. The house immediately behind the meeting house, now on a separate lot, was originally a Quaker school affiliated with the meeting house and may be the school that was already standing on the lot when the meeting house was erected in 1843. [fig. 25] The school was discontinued in the early 1900s and has been altered from its original appearance for use as a private residence.

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Continuation Sheet

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Main Street Friends Meeting House

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Main Street forms the core of Medford village and is lined with mostly brick historic residences (2 and 2 1/2-stories tall) interspersed with 1- and 2-story commercial buildings, all of which range in date from the early 1800s to the early 1900s.

To the northeast of the meeting house and not included within the boundary is the Quaker cemetery which stands on a separate lot.

Main Street Friends Meeting House
Name of Property

Burlington County, NJ
County and State

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

C: Architecture

Period of Significance

1843-1960

Significant Dates

1843

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

unknown

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the year when Quaker services were first held in the newly-finished building and ends with the 50-year cut-off date.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

Main Street Friends Meeting House
Name of Property

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Quaker settlement in New Jersey began in the 1670s: Fenwick's Colony was established in Salem along the Delaware River in 1675 and another group settled in Burlington, about fifty miles to the northeast also on the east bank of the Delaware, two years later. Quaker meetings were first held in single-family dwellings then later in simple, 1-story, purpose-built buildings more domestic than religious in appearance. As both membership and the importance of separate business meetings for men and women grew, a somewhat standardized 2-room, 2-story meeting house plan emerged by 1760 along both sides of the Delaware River. Typically built of brick or stone, the meeting house featured separate rooms for men and women Friends, each with their own entrance, divided by a partition wall that was raised during services and closed during business meetings when each met separately. Upper level balconies provided youth seating. In keeping with the Quaker tenet of simplicity, their meeting houses were substantial in material, yet plain and unpretentious in finish. The 2-room plan within a simple envelope characterized the majority of New Jersey's Quaker meeting houses erected after 1760 and was copied repeatedly after 1827 when the separation of Orthodox and Hicksite branches that year nearly doubled the number of meeting houses. Within this context, the Main Street Friends (Hicksite) Meeting House, built in 1843, is locally significant under criterion C/architecture as a well-preserved, late example of the fully-formed Friends meeting house, a significant religious building type in New Jersey.

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (see 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 # _____
 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
 Other
Name of repository: Swarthmore College

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.9+ acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Main Street Friends Meeting House
Name of Property

Burlington County, NJ
County and State

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 575200 4416405
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (see continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (see continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Berkey, architectural historian
organization _____ date April 12, 2010
street & number 707 N. Delsea Drive telephone 609-861-2208
city or town Cape May Court House state NJ zip code 08210
e-mail Joan123B@aol.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Main Street Friends Meeting House
City or Vicinity: Medford Township
County: Burlington **State:** New Jersey
Photographer: Joan Berkey
Date Photographed: March 2010
Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 16: streetscape: view northeast on Main Street showing setting with the Meeting House on the right
- 2 of 16: exterior: façade (west elevation) and south (side) elevation, view northeast
- 3 of 16: exterior: rear (east) elevation and south side elevation, looking northwest

Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, NJ

Name of Property

County and State

- 4 of 16: exterior: north side elevation and the northernmost part of the façade, view southeast
- 5 of 16: interior: south (women's) meeting room, view southwest toward front door
- 6 of 16: interior: south (women's) meeting room, view east toward rear (east) wall
- 7 of 16: interior: south (women's) meeting room, view southeast toward side door
- 8 of 16: interior: north (men's) meeting room, view southeast showing the interior partition wall
- 9 of 16: interior: north (men's) meeting room, view northwest showing the staircase
- 10 of 16: interior: north (men's) meeting room, view southwest showing modern ceiling
- 11 of 16: interior: south (women's) meeting room balcony, view almost east
- 12 of 16: interior: south (women's) meeting room balcony, view north
- 13 of 16: interior: north (men's) balcony, view southwest toward partition wall
- 14 of 16: interior: north (men's) balcony, view northeast
- 15 of 16: interior: south restroom ell toilet fixtures, view southeast
- 16 of 16: interior: attic, view almost east showing the mechanism for raising the partition wall

Property Owner:

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

name Township of Medford attn: Beth Portocalis, Director of Recreation
street & number 17 North Main Street telephone 609-654-2512
city or town Medford state NJ zip code 08055

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 18 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.

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Main Street Friends Meeting House
Burlington County, New Jersey

Significance Statement (continued)

The Architecture of Quaker Meeting Houses in New Jersey

In the Delaware Valley, Quaker settlement began in Salem, New Jersey in 1675, seven years before the more well-known settling of Penn's Quaker colony near Philadelphia in 1682. John Fenwick, a London Quaker, established what was originally called Fenwick's Colony on the Delaware River in the extreme southwesterly portion of what is today the state of New Jersey. Less than two years later, a second New Jersey Quaker settlement was founded much farther up the river at Burlington. Although Quakers had travelled the New World since 1655 (less than a decade after their founding in the late 1640s) and although some settled in Rhode Island in the 1650s and in Shrewsbury, New Jersey in the 1660s, those who settled along the Delaware River in the 1670s established permanent settlements in the first Quaker colony in the New World.¹

Quakers were a Christian sect (also known as the Society of Friends), greatly persecuted in England, who believed the inner, holy spirit lived within each person, and who strove to maintain "plainness of speech, behavior, and apparel."² The early settlements appealed to the first settlers not only because they were comprised almost exclusively of Quakers, but also by the financial opportunities the New World offered. Over the years, they gained a reputation for fair dealings, hard work, a high standard of morals, and plainness in dress and appearance.

Where religious buildings—mosques, cathedrals, ancient temples—are typically civilizations' grandest buildings, Quaker meeting houses were simply a building in which Friends could worship. They despised the religious establishment and avoided "superfluous architectural adornment" in the design of their meeting houses.³ George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends, saw no need for distinct buildings, claiming that God dwells not "in temples made with hands...but in the hearts of men."⁴

English precedent for Quaker meeting houses was limited: before the 1689 Act of Toleration, they were not legally free to construct their own meeting houses and typically met in private homes or second hand structures reconfigured for Quaker use. In purpose-built English Quaker meeting houses, symmetry played no part in the interior arrangement which comprised an entrance hall, a large meeting room, and a small meeting room. Men and women entered a single exterior door and worshipped in the large meeting room, sitting together facing several rows of long benches mounted on risers on which the meeting's leaders, its elders, clerk, ministers, and visiting dignitaries sat. Some had upper gallery seating usually reserved for the youth. After the worship concluded and the mens' business meeting was about to begin, the women left the room to reconvene in the smaller room to conduct

¹ Damon Tvaryanas, *The New Jersey Quaker Meeting House: A Typology and Inventory*, Master's Thesis, University of Pennsylvania, 1993, p. 1-14.

² Upper Evesham (Hicksite) Men's Meeting Minutes, 3-3-1841.

³ Tvaryanas, p. 15-17.

⁴ Emma Jones Lapsansky and Anne Verplanck, eds, *Quaker Aesthetics: Reflections of a Quaker Ethic in America* (Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2002), p. 158.

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their own business meeting. Often the two rooms were separated by a partition that could be raised or otherwise opened to create additional space for large gatherings on special occasions.⁵

While these early English meeting houses set the precedent for those first erected in the New World, they are significantly different from nearly all surviving Delaware Valley examples where meeting house design was the result of an evolution.

The earliest meeting houses, like that extant in Seaville, Cape May County (built ca. 1727⁶), New Jersey, were small structures, one-story tall, with a single room on the interior. In fact, Seaville Meeting House measures only 24' wide by 20' deep. [see *Historic Images* section, fig. 14 and 15] Most references describe them as being of comparatively primitive construction, either crude frame or log structures. Historic images show a central double doorway located symmetrically between two windows, a fenestration pattern extant in the Seaville Friends Meeting House.⁷

From roughly 1702 to 1770, two-story meeting houses with a gallery or balcony on the second floor were built; on the interior, a partition wall delineated the larger men's meeting room from the smaller women's meeting room. Many were modeled after the second Bank Meeting House built in Philadelphia, first of wood in 1685, then rebuilt in brick in 1702. [*Historic Images*, fig. 16] Rather than a board partition wall, it had a simple curtain that divided the men's and women's meetings. This meeting house represented the first phase of the general integration of classical High Renaissance symmetry, in the manner of Palladio and Inigo Jones, into the Anglo-colonial builder's art.⁸ It measured 50' wide by 38' deep, about twice the size of the Seaville Meeting House, and had separate entrances for men and women, although the men entered the single front door and the women through a side door.⁹ Its 2-room floor plan reflects the most basic way to enclose the interior program which had through practice evolved as that most suited to the Quaker system of worship.¹⁰

The partition wall in most meeting houses of all construction dates was only closed during the business meetings and the opening/closing works in one of two ways. In some meetings, especially the earlier ones, the wooden structure is composed of a group of shutters and doors mounted within a frame work. In the second method, the partition consists of two or more large panels which rest on top of one another, effectively creating a center wall. The upper half, by means of a winch, was raised through a slit in the ceiling into the attic space. The lower half, in houses with basements, slips through the floor into the cellar; in meeting houses with no basement (like the Main Street Friends Meeting House),

⁵ Ibid., p. 18-21.

⁶ Where Tvaryanas claims that the Seaville Meeting House was built in 1763, research by this author has determined a construction date of ca. 1727 based on its first-period (ca. 1690-ca. 1730) characteristics that include chamfered framing members, hand-hewn rafters tied directly into the joists, and plank frame construction. The 1763 date found in Quaker minutes refers to the date an addition for the men's meeting was built at the Seaville site adjacent to the ca. 1727 structure. The ca. 1727 building had been moved to the Seaville site that same year. The 1763 section was moved off the site around 1871 and its present whereabouts is unknown.

⁷ Ibid., p. 32-33.

⁸ Ibid., p. 50-52.

⁹ John F. Watson, *Annals of Philadelphia* (Philadelphia: Carey & Hart, 1830), p. 335.

¹⁰ Tvaryanas, p. 57.

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the lower half was also winched into the attic. [see photo #16] This second method is thought to be a 19th century innovation.¹¹ The first mention of a board partition wall is found in the Salem Monthly Meeting minutes of 1685.¹²

As Quaker populations increased, so did the need for larger and more meeting houses. As the 18th century progressed, this was often accomplished by building a same-size addition to the original single-room meeting house, creating what has been labeled a “doubled” meeting house type, usually one-story tall. This, intentionally or not, led to an exterior expression of the meetings’ gender-based division, creating two exterior doors, one for men and one for women, and had a significant impact on the design of meeting houses henceforth.¹³

Beginning in the 1760s, the New Jersey Quaker meeting house, despite utilitarian additions and alterations over the years, became a rectangular mass with a unified interior space driven by program. Known as double-plan meeting houses, the majority of extant structures from this period have two levels of fenestration representing the meeting space on the ground floor and the loft or balcony above. The symmetrical façade is not located in the gable end and features twin doorways, each sheltered by a small pedimented roof and each leading into a meeting room. Typically, rural Pennsylvania meeting houses are built of stone, while New Jersey and Philadelphia examples are of brick.

The interior is divided equally in half, from floor to ceiling, by a partition. To the left of the partition sat the male Friends, to the right the women Friends. The facing or minister’s bench is built along the rear wall opposite the two main entrances, while seating for the main body was provided on individual benches arranged in rows and separated by a single aisle leading to the door. Another aisle runs lengthwise down the building in between the minister’s bench and the main seating. Usually at the end of this aisle is another doorway, placed in the gable end. Buildings which once housed a meeting of monthly size or larger usually also contain a gallery or balcony which runs along the front and side walls. Contemporary accounts refer to the gallery as seating for youths.¹⁴

In England, women’s meetings were not established until 1784, whereas the establishment of women’s meetings at Salem and Burlington was only a little later than that of settlement. Thus, the variation in accommodation of the women’s meetings is a definitive factor behind the differences in internal proportioning and arrangement between meeting houses in Britain and the New World.

By the 1760s, the “design of a [Quaker] meeting house...was not so much plain as it was different from the ecclesiastical architecture of Anglicanism.”¹⁵ Lacking steeples, temple forms, crosses, and ornate windows, Friends meeting houses bypassed the grandeur of their Anglican counterparts but nevertheless retained an understated elegance in keeping with their doctrines. They also exhibited a high quality of craftsmanship, with careful attention to detail. For example, the partitions are made

¹¹ Ibid., p. 20-22.

¹² Ibid., p. 52.

¹³ Ibid., p. 82-83.

¹⁴ Ibid., p. 23-24.

¹⁵ Lapsansky, *Quaker Aesthetics*, p. 150.

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from raised panel sections, beautifully executed in wood, and wainscoting is often comprised of beaded (rather than plain) tongue-and-groove boards. The wood benches are simple in design, but the profile of the bench ends has a certain elegance that often varies from meeting house to meeting house.

The earliest, 2-story double-plan meeting house known to have been built in New Jersey is the Mount Laurel or Evesham Meeting House erected in 1760 with an addition in 1798. [*Historic Images*, fig. 19] The fenestration of the façade shows that it was conceived as a single structure with two main doorways, but it lacks the exterior symmetry that would characterize later double-plan meeting houses. The Chesterfield Meeting House (also known as Crosswicks) was built in 1773 and represents the first of the true double-plan structures in New Jersey. Minutes show that Chesterfield Quakers visited the Buckingham (PA) Meeting House, erected in 1768 and the earliest known Delaware Valley meeting house to have been constructed from the start as a true double-plan meeting house.¹⁶ [*Historic Images*, fig. 17 and 18] Later meeting houses modeled after Mount Laurel, but with symmetrical facades, include Salem (1772), Mickleton (1789) and Burlington (1784).

After the Revolutionary War, Quaker meeting houses took on an ever-increasing conformity with only minor differences in rear door and window placement by the early 1800s. New Jersey meeting houses typical of the period include Moorestown (1802), Newton (Camden, 1801), Mansfield (1812), Mullica Hill (Woolwich Meeting, 1808), and Medford (Orthodox, 1814). As a group these meeting houses were among the largest built to that date and reflect the general trend toward structures that were longer, wider, and even taller as attics and interior spaces were expanded upwards.¹⁷ Benches also took on a uniform appearance, with simple slat backs and modestly carved bench ends. [*Historic Images*, fig. 13]

The split in 1827 between Quakers who followed Edward Hicks (called Hicksites) and those who did not (called Orthodox) had a profound impact on Quaker meeting houses, not in terms of style but in terms of greatly increasing the numbers of meeting houses. There were approximately two Hicksites for every Orthodox Friend in New Jersey, and the animosity between the two groups became extreme. The Hicksites set up their own parallel system of meetings, including their own Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. In most cases, the two could not peacefully coexist under the same meeting house roof, leading to the construction of new meeting houses to accommodate those evicted from the old ones. Thus, in the years after 1827, the number of meeting houses nearly doubled.¹⁸

Despite their disparate religious beliefs, both Hicksite and Orthodox Friends built new meeting houses that retained the older architectural forms. Because the group that retained the old meeting house also held all of the funds, nearly all of the meeting houses constructed in the first years following the split were comparatively modest structures due to budget constraints. Some—like Chesterfield (1854), Mansfield (1828) and Newton (Camden, 1828)—reverted back to earlier, 1-story precedents with a single front door. In the later years following the split, with more time to raise funds, many of the new

¹⁶ Tvaryanas, p. 73-74.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 106-109.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 110-118.

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houses were identical to the 2-story, double-plan meeting houses which had come to be typical after the Revolutionary War.¹⁹

New Jersey's Quaker meeting houses in the 19th century were more conservative in appearance than those found in most other parts of the country, but they still reflected some currently-popular architectural trends, albeit in a much more modest way. Often, long porches across the façade replaced the previously-universal pedimented door hoods or porticoes during the second half of the 19th century. The Haddonfield Orthodox Meeting House, built in 1851, featured semi-lunette windows in the gable ends.²⁰

The only architectural innovation found in New Jersey meeting house design in the last three quarters of the 19th century was the addition of twin outhouses, usually attached to the two rear corners of the building. Access to these was usually achieved from the exterior of the building, or through vestibules or porticos provided at the two side doors. Some were contemporary with erection while others were attached to older buildings not originally supplied with them.

During the last half of the 19th century, the meeting house became a cultural and social asset to most Quakers and no early meeting house in New Jersey was deliberately replaced. The latest, double-plan meeting house to be erected in New Jersey was built in 1898 in Moorestown for the Orthodox Friends. Except for bridged chimneys in the gable ends, a massive cornice, and a cast iron snow fence on the roof, it was identical in form and plan to those erected nearly 130 years earlier.

In the 20th century, dwindling meeting size and rising fuel costs mandated that the gallery or balcony be completely floored over to prevent heat from rising up and into that large, unoccupied space. Often, too, the central partition was removed, particularly when discontinuance of the women's meetings beginning in the late 1800s rendered them obsolete.²¹

Only four new meeting houses in New Jersey were built in the 20th century—Atlantic City, Atlantic City area (Absecon), Merchantville, and Westfield—probably because there was a great excess of available meeting space. Of these, only the Westfield Meeting House followed the plan and balanced façade of double-plan meeting houses, but in a one-story structure instead of the more typical two-stories..

As Quaker membership dropped beginning in the 20th century, a great many meeting houses fell into disuse, even after the reconciliation of the divergent groups of Friends in 1955. Some meeting houses have been lost, while others have been converted to such other purposes as legal offices, community centers, preschools, grocery stores, and residences.²²

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 118-123.

²⁰ Ibid., p. 124-137.

²¹ Ibid., p. 137-139.

²² Ibid., p. 139-141.

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The Main Street Friends Meeting House

The Society of Friends in Medford organized in 1759 and held their first Friends meeting in 1761 in a frame schoolhouse there. It was one of four monthly meetings, known as Upper Evesham until its name was changed to Medford in 1850, under the auspices of the Haddonfield Quarterly. In 1814, the Medford Quakers erected a 2-story brick meeting house modeled after the double-plan that became popular after the 1760s.²³ [*Historic Images*, figs. 10-12, 20] The building, which still stands on Union Street and continues to be used as a Quaker meeting house, is 6 bays wide with separate men's and women's entrances on the façade protected by gable-front porticos. It is 74' wide by 42' deep and was built by subscription at a cost of \$4,550.²⁴

The separation of the Friends in 1827 affected the Upper Evesham Meeting as it did so many others: the majority in Medford was Orthodox, so they maintained control of the 1814 meeting house. For many years, the two continued to hold their meetings in the same meeting house, but the minutes show this grew untenable as the Orthodox Quakers became increasingly loud and disruptive during the Hicksite meetings.²⁵ Control of their schools brought other problems. Hicksite minutes for 1828 show that:

Two of the trustees appointed last year to have the care of Hampton School produced a written report, which, being read, appeared in a degree satisfactory, the other two schools have been generally under the care of our opposing Friends so that there can be no particular account given thereof. The treasurer of the school funds and the settlement of his accounts is wholly confined with the power at this time of our opposing Friends, the treasurer being one of their number.²⁶

In October 1840, members of the Hicksite Friends building committee (men and women) reported that they were united in recommending that a new meeting house be built providing sufficient monies could be raised. The committee recommended:

A House about thirty seven or eight by sixty four or six we think will be sufficient to accommodate the quarterly meeting and if a house is built we propose that it be built on the lot where the school house stands on South Street in Medford unless some lot more suitable is procured previously to commencing the building. The plan of the house to be nearly similar to the present meeting house, the estimated cost of such a house with the necessary fixtures round it and in the yard is about thirty five hundred dollars.²⁷

Seven months later (April 1841), the committee reported that "such progress has been made in obtaining subscriptions as left no doubt in their minds that the sum proposed in the subscription paper

²³ Ellis L. Derry, *Old and Historic Churches of New Jersey* (Union City, NJ: Wm. H. Wise & Co., 1979), p.261-262.

²⁴ Morgan Bunting, *A List of the Records of the Meetings Constituting the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends*, (1906), p. 84

²⁵ Upper Evesham/Medford Hicksite Preparative Meeting Minutes, 1828-1862 (Vol. 1), 10-2-1840.

²⁶ As quoted in T. Chalkey Matlack, *Brief Historical Sketches Concerning Friends' Meetings of the Past and Present with Special Reference to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting* (Moorestown, NJ, privately printed, 1938), p. 429.

²⁷ Upper Evesham/Medford Hicksite Preparative Meeting Minutes, 1828-1862 (Vol. 1), 10-2-1840

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would be obtained.” A building materials committee was appointed and consisted of Benjamin Davis, William Stokes, Charles Wilkins, and William Braddock. They were charged with procuring the “necessary building materials as opportunity offers upon the best terms” and to begin construction when they thought it the “most suitable time.”²⁸

Benjamin Davis played a large part in the building’s construction, donating the land on which it stands (which adjoined the schoolhouse lot) as well as a large part of the funds for its erection.²⁹ Davis was an incorporator, director, and officer of the Burlington County National Bank in 1837 and was briefly a state assemblyman.³⁰ He died in the meeting house (March 20, 1843) just as it was being completed: local lore states that “he had started for Philadelphia for some hardware with which to finish the house, and while looking around the meeting-house to see what was wanted he dropped dead upon the floor.”³¹

A minute from the Men’s Meeting shows that the first meeting was held in the new meeting house on April 9, 1843.³² The new meeting house was nearly identical to that built in 1814 and retained by the Orthodox Friends, its only nod to current architectural fashion being the use two, very tall windows on the rear wall instead of several smaller ones.

For the next 100 years, the Hicksite and Orthodox groups met in their separate buildings. In 1849, the Hicksite meeting name was changed to Medford Preparative Meeting, while the Orthodox meeting retained the name of Upper Evesham Preparative Meeting.³³ Within the Hicksite group, separate men’s and women’s business meetings were discontinued and the two held joint sessions beginning November 6, 1896.³⁴

In 1928, a concern was expressed by Emily Forsythe in the Upper Evesham (Orthodox) Preparative Meeting that “the principles of peace” should be extended to the Friends on Main Street, but the bitterness generated by 100 years of separation could not be overcome at that time. In 1941, however, committees were appointed by the two groups to confer on First-day (Sunday) school and on meeting matters as they came up. This was the start of cooperation between the two groups and in 1945, a joint first-day school was begun and the two meetings worshipped together once a month. In December 1955, the Quarterly Meeting held in Moorestown granted permission for these two Meetings to form one Monthly Meeting under the name Medford United Monthly Meeting.³⁵

²⁸ Ibid., 4-30-1841.

²⁹ E.M. Woodward, *History of Burlington and Mercer Counties, New Jersey* (Philadelphia, PA: Everts & Peck, 1883), Vol. 3, p. 366; Upper Evesham (Hicksite) Preparative Meeting Minutes, 4-27-1843.

³⁰ Joseph C. Potts, *The New Jersey Register* (Trenton, NJ: William D’Hart, 1837), p. 160; Woodward, Vol. 3, p. 369

³¹ Woodward, Vol. 3, p. 366; *New Jersey Mirror*, 3-23-1843, page 2, column 5 [obituary].

³² Upper Evesham Men’s Monthly Minutes, 3-10-1843.

³³ Ibid., 11-29-1849.

³⁴ Derry, p. 265-266; Swarthmore and Haverford College Quaker Records website, <http://trilogy.brynawr.edu/speccoll/mm/medfomm.xml>, accessed 1-22-2010.

³⁵ Derry, p. 265-266.

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The properties continued to be owned separately with the Union Street Meeting House and grounds under the care of the Upper Evesham Preparative Meeting, and the Main Street property cared for by the Medford Preparative Meeting. By the late 1970s, worship services were still being conducted in both buildings, from June through September in the Main Street Meeting Mouse and during the rest of the year in the Union Street Meeting House. In 1982, the meeting changed its name to Medford Monthly Meeting.³⁶ The meeting is still active, holding services in the Union Street Meeting House, but by 1984, the Main Street Meeting House was no longer in use, and was being considered for other uses as early as 1990.³⁷

Determined to find another use for the 1843 meeting house, the Quakers announced plans to convert the vacant building into low and moderate income housing in November 1990.³⁸ For unknown reasons, the plan never materialized and in 1999 a local resident decided to convert the building into offices.³⁹ After two years of negotiating, unsuccessfully, with the Pinelands Commission where to locate adequate parking, those plans were abandoned also.⁴⁰ The meeting house was then purchased in 2002 by a local resident who donated it to St. Vincent DePaul, a non-profit organization which sought to convert it into a food bank and offices for social services. Again, those plans fell through over parking issues. In 2009, the Township of Medford purchased the building with the intent of converting it into an arts and community center.⁴¹ The building received two grants in 2008 from the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund: one funds the preparation of a Preservation Plan, while the other funds a new cedar shake roof.

³⁶ Derry, p. 265-267.

³⁷ "Quaker Split in Medford Resulted in Two Meetings," *Central Record*, 11-29-1990, p. 2

³⁸ "Medford Meeting Sets Housing Plan," *Central Record*, 11-29-1990, p.1.

³⁹ "Friends Meeting House may be Converted into Offices," *Central Record*, 7-15-1999, p. 2.

⁴⁰ "Medford Meeting House Plans Still Not Finalized," *Central Record*, 7-19-2001.

⁴¹ "Medford Meeting House Donated to St. Vincent DePaul," *Central Record*, 7-18-2002; Burlington County Deeds, Book 6633, p. 560.

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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property comprises block 1901, lot 7.01 as shown on a survey of the property prepared by Dennis S. DiBlasio, 2-24, 2009 (see attached site plan). The meeting house was subdivided recently from a vacant field to the north and the subdivision is not yet reflected in the current tax map.

Verbal Boundary Justification:

The boundary of the nominated property reflects the lot on which the building stands, subdivided recently from a vacant field to the north. The building is publicly owned by the Township of Medford. The Quaker cemetery associated with this meeting house stands on what has historically been a separate lot to the northeast of the meeting house. The school, formerly associated with the meeting house, is located on a separate lot to the east of the meeting house and is now a private residence, altered from its original appearance.

NOTES

LOCATION: SOUTH MAIN STREET & SOUTH STREET, MEDFORD, NJ
 FIELD SURVEY
 INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS BASED ON A FIELD SURVEY BY PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC. ON 2/24/09.
 THIS PLAN DEPICTS CONDITIONS AS THEY EXIST ON THE DATE OF THE FIELD SURVEY.
 REFERENCE:
 THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF MEDFORD TOWNSHIP, BURLINGTON COUNTY, NJ DATED JAN. 1988.
 DEED OF RECORD DEED BOOK 5893 PGS 235-237

PROJECT BENCHMARK:

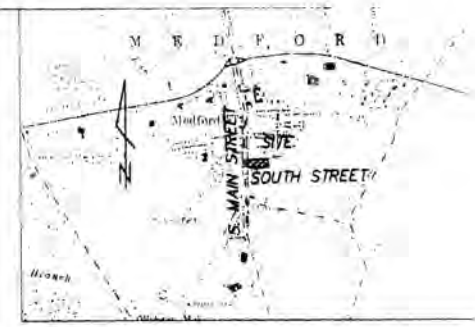
NAS DPUS-85 SOLUTION REPORTS
 RINEX FILE 002_0420.09a, 001_0420.09b & 002_0420.09c
 DATED 2/25/09
 VERTICAL DATUM AS SHOWN IS NAVD 88
 HORIZONTAL DATUM AS SHOWN IS NAD 83

UTILITY STATEMENT

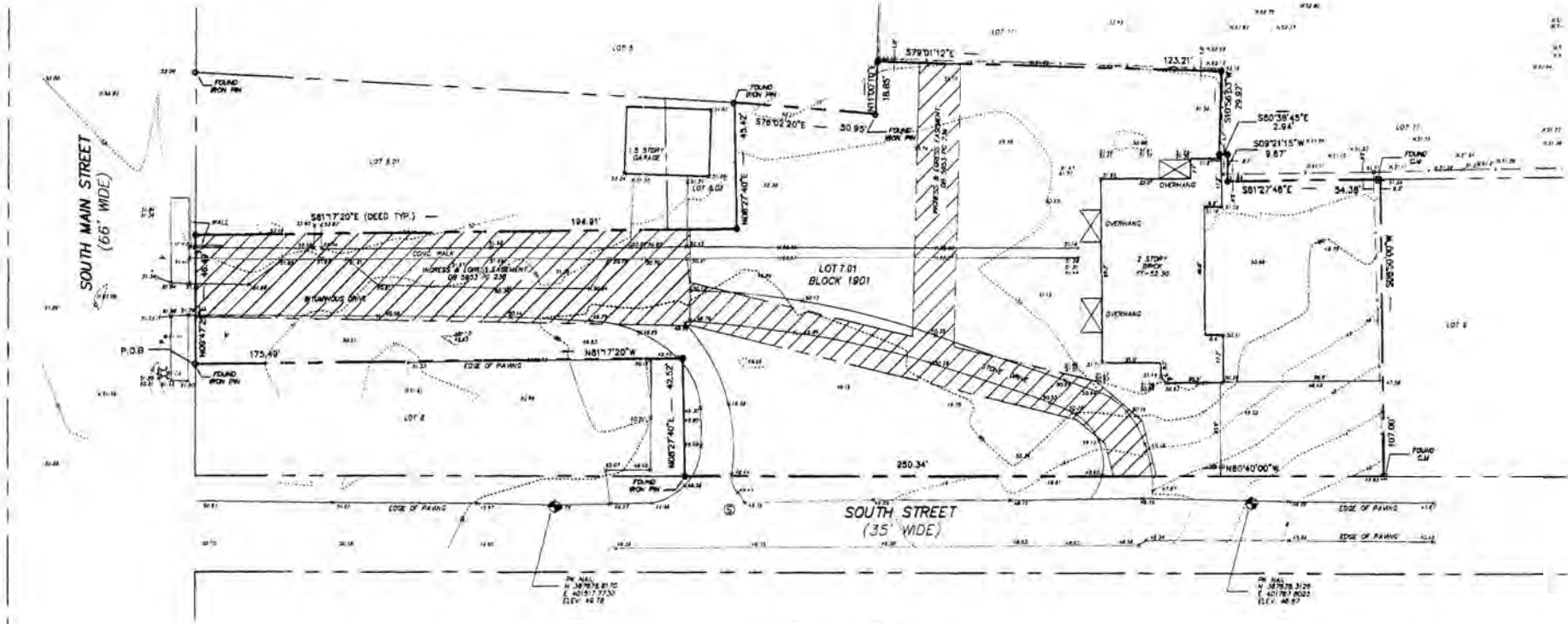
IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL DESIGNERS & CONTRACTORS UTILIZING THIS PLAN & THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREON TO CALL THE NJ ONE-CALL SYSTEM AT 1-800-375-1000 FOR FIELD LOCATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN HAVE BEEN LOCATED FROM FIELD SURVEY, RECORD PLANS, AND EXISTING DRAWINGS. THE SURVEYOR MAKES NO GUARANTEES THAT THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN COMPRISE ALL SUCH UTILITIES IN THE AREA. OTHER IN SERVICE ARE SHOWN IN THE EXACT LOCATION INDICATED ALTHOUGH HE DOES CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE LOCATED AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE FROM THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE. THE SURVEYOR HAS NOT PHYSICALLY EXPOSED UNDERGROUND UTILITIES FOR LOCATION.

LEGEND

- PIPE
- PIPE
- FOUND CONCRETE MONUMENT
- FOUND IRON PIN
- SET REBAR & CAP
- PIPE HYDRANT
- UTILITY POLE
- PROPERTY LINE
- OVERHEAD WIRE
- MAJOR CONTOUR
- MINOR CONTOUR
- GROUND ELEV.
- BENCHMARK

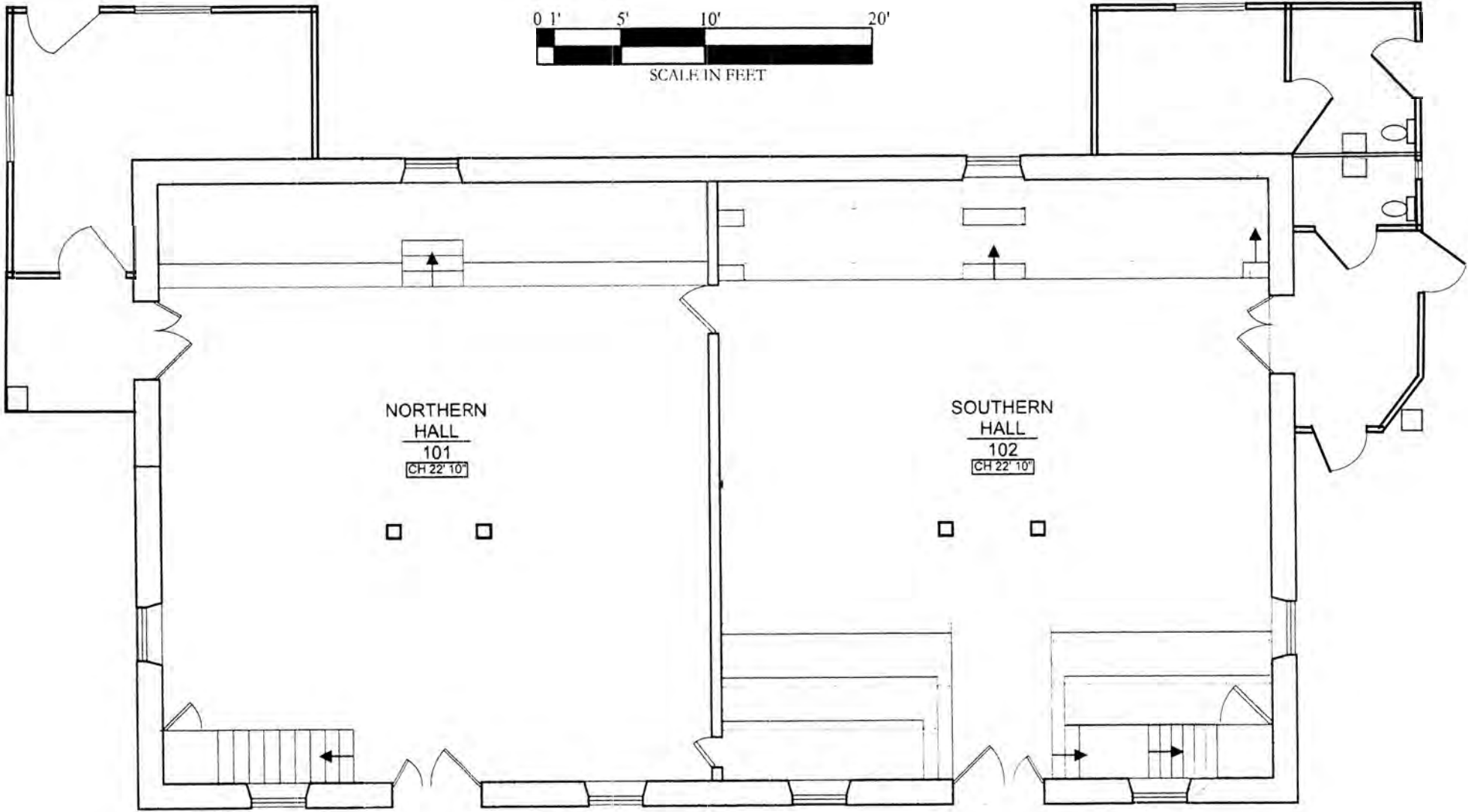
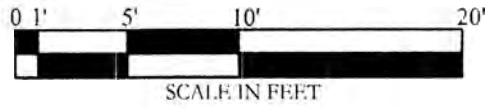


LOCATION MAP
 MT. HOLLY - QUAD
 1" = 2000'
 N39°-53'-49" W 74°-49'-16"



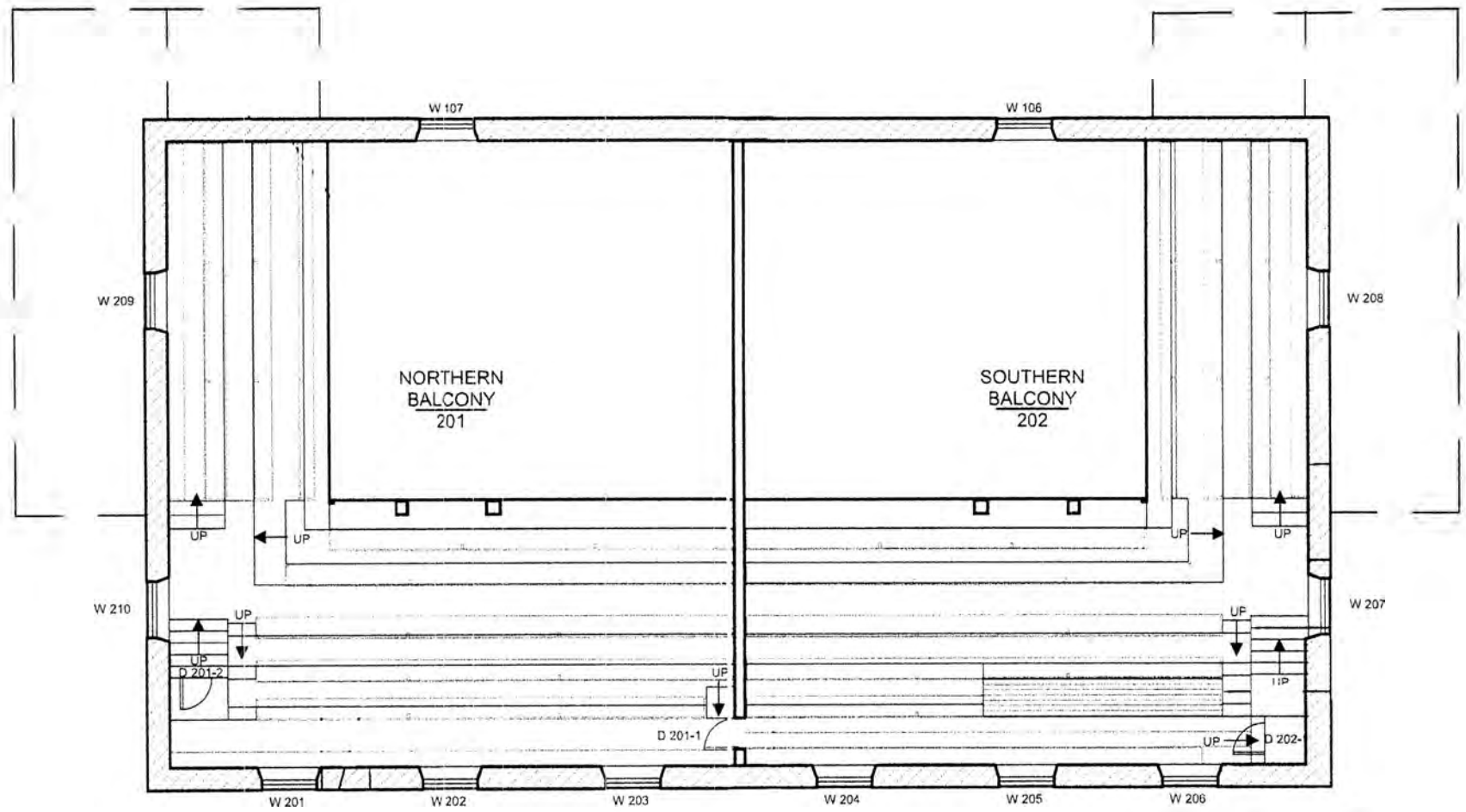
SITE PLAN
Main Street Friends Meeting House
 19 South Street
 Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey



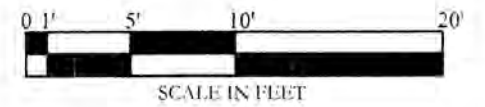


FIRST FLOOR PLAN
Main Street Friends Meeting House
19 South Street
Medford Township, Burlington County, NJ

Christina Burris/Historic Building Architects
Joan Berkey, architectural historian
March 2010



FLOOR PLAN--BALCONY LEVEL
Main Street Friends Meeting House
 19 South Street
 Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey



NOTES

LOCATION: SOUTH MAIN STREET & SOUTH STREET, MEDFORD, NJ
 FIELD SURVEY INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS BASED ON A FIELD SURVEY BY PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC. ON 2/24/09.
 THIS PLAN DEPICTS CONDITIONS AS THEY EXIST ON THE DATE OF THE FIELD SURVEY.
 REFERENCE: THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF MEDFORD TOWNSHIP, BURLINGTON COUNTY, NJ DATED JAN. 1999.
 DEED OF RECORD DEED BOOK 3953 PGS 235-237

PROJECT BENCHMARK:

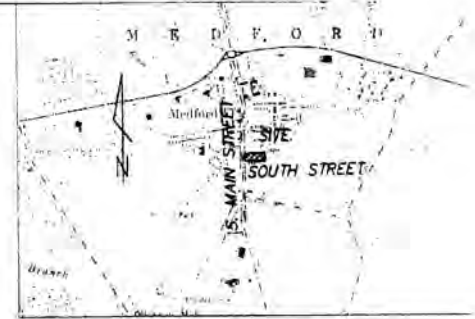
NAD 83-PS SOLUTION REPORTS
 RINEX FILE 902_0430.DGN, 907_0430.DGN & 902_0430.DGN
 DATED 2/23/08
 VERTICAL DATUM AS SHOWN IS NAD 83
 HORIZONTAL DATUM AS SHOWN IS NAD 83

UTILITY STATEMENT

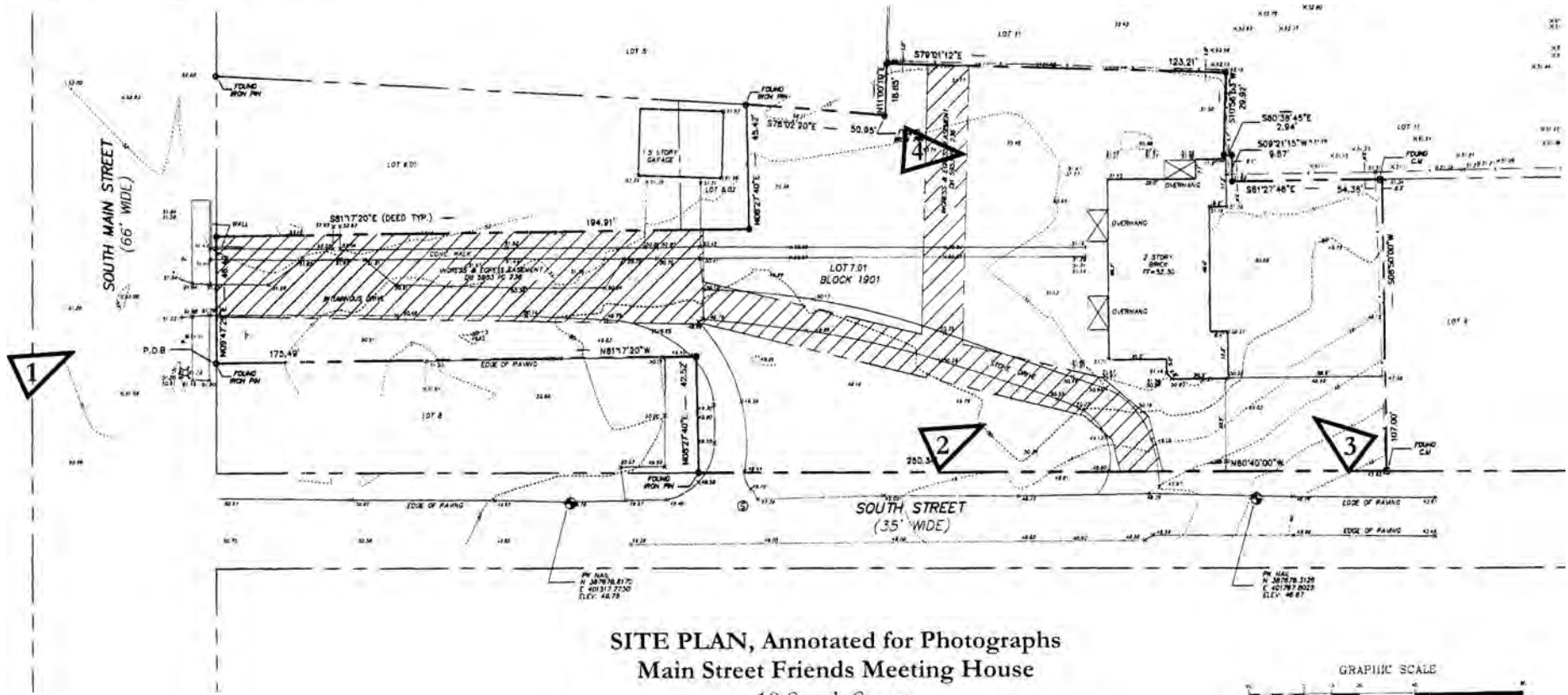
IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL DESIGNERS & CONTRACTORS UTILIZING THIS PLAN & THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREON TO CALL THE NJ ONE-CALL SYSTEM AT 1-800-272-1000 FOR FIELD LOCATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN HAVE BEEN LOCATED FROM FIELD SURVEY, RECORD PLANS, AND EXISTING DRAWINGS. THE SURVEYOR MAKES NO GUARANTEES THAT THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN COMPRISE ALL SUCH UTILITIES IN THE AREA OTHER IN SOME ARE SHOWN IN THE EXACT LOCATION INDICATED ALTHOUGH HE DOES CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE LOCATED AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE FROM THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE. THE SURVEYOR HAS NOT PHYSICALLY EXPOSED UNDERGROUND UTILITIES FOR LOCATION.

LEGEND

- TREE
- TREE
- FOUND EDGE MOVEMENT
- FOUND IRON PIN
- SEE REBAR & CAP
- TIRE HYDRANT
- UTILITY POLE
- PROPERTY LINE
- OVERHEAD WIRE
- MAJOR CONTOUR
- MAJOR CONTOUR
- ORIG. ELEV.
- BENCHMARK

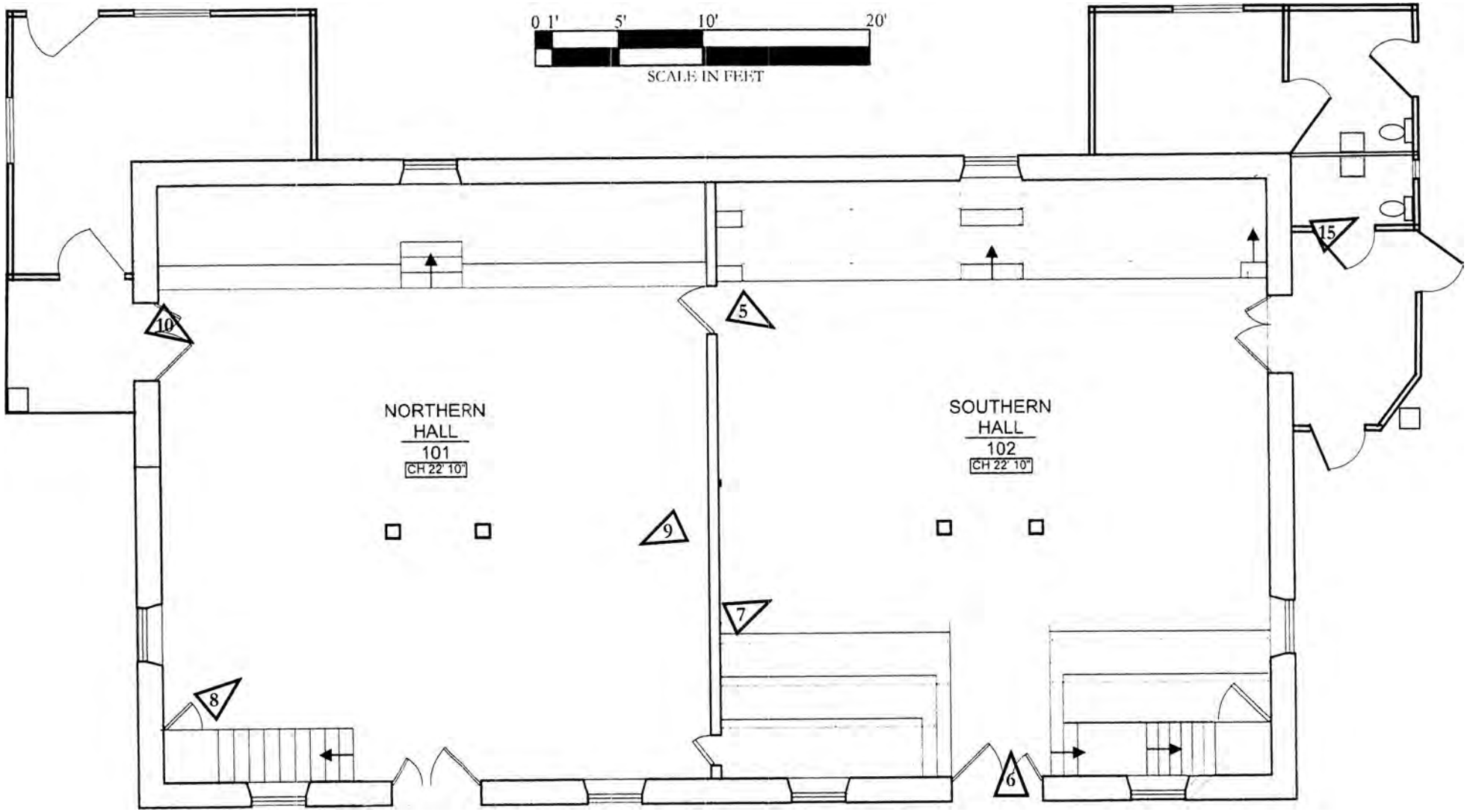
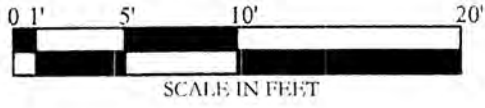


LOCATION MAP
 MT. HOLLY - QUAD
 1" = 2000'
 N 39°-53'-49" W 74°-49'-16"



SITE PLAN, Annotated for Photographs
Main Street Friends Meeting House
 19 South Street
 Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey



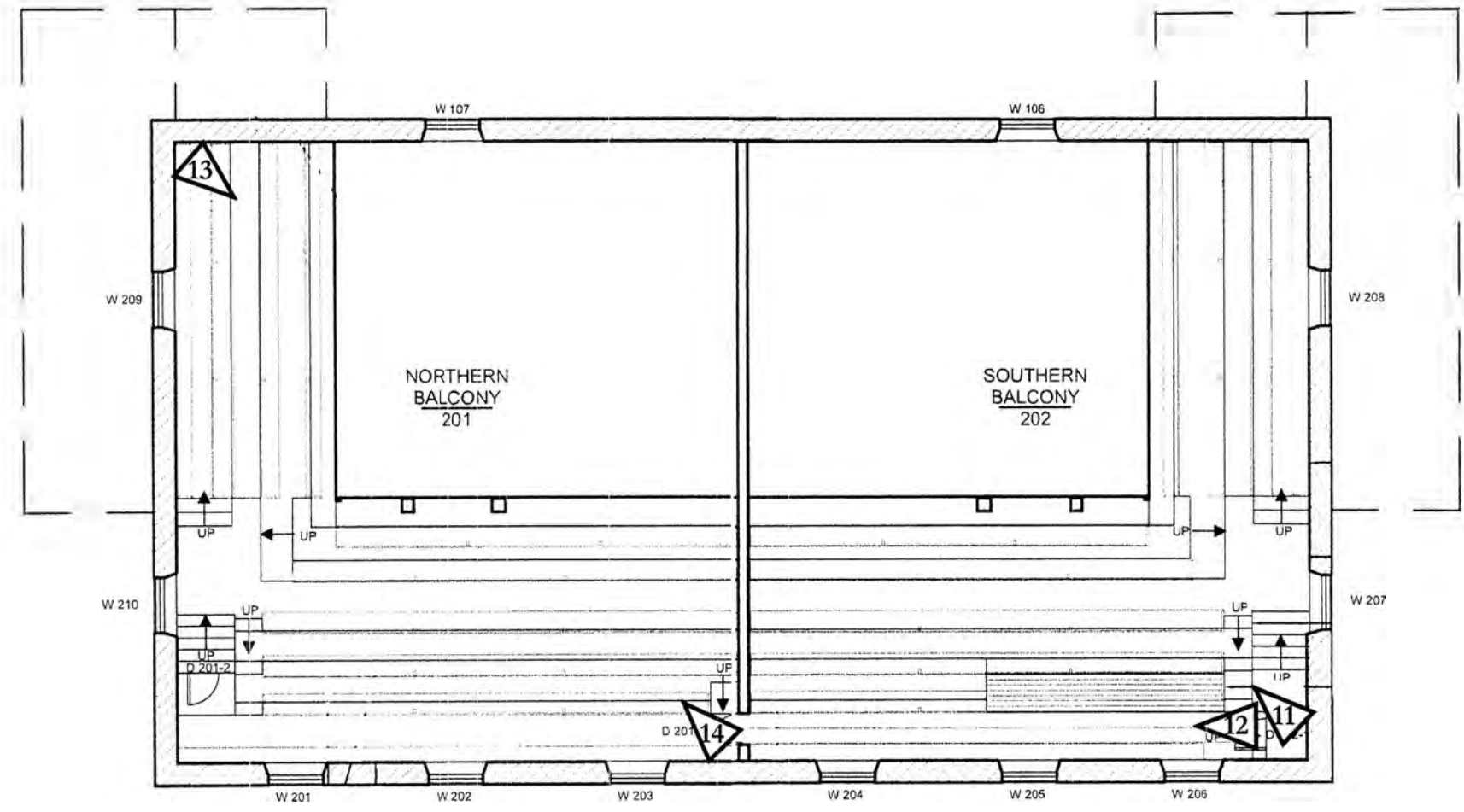


FIRST FLOOR PLAN, Annotated for Photographs
Main Street Friends Meeting House

19 South Street
Medford Township, Burlington County, NJ

Christina Harris/Historic Building Architects
Jomy Berkey, architectural historian
March 2011





FLOOR PLAN--BALCONY LEVEL, Annotated for Photographs
Main Street Friends Meeting House
 19 South Street
 Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey



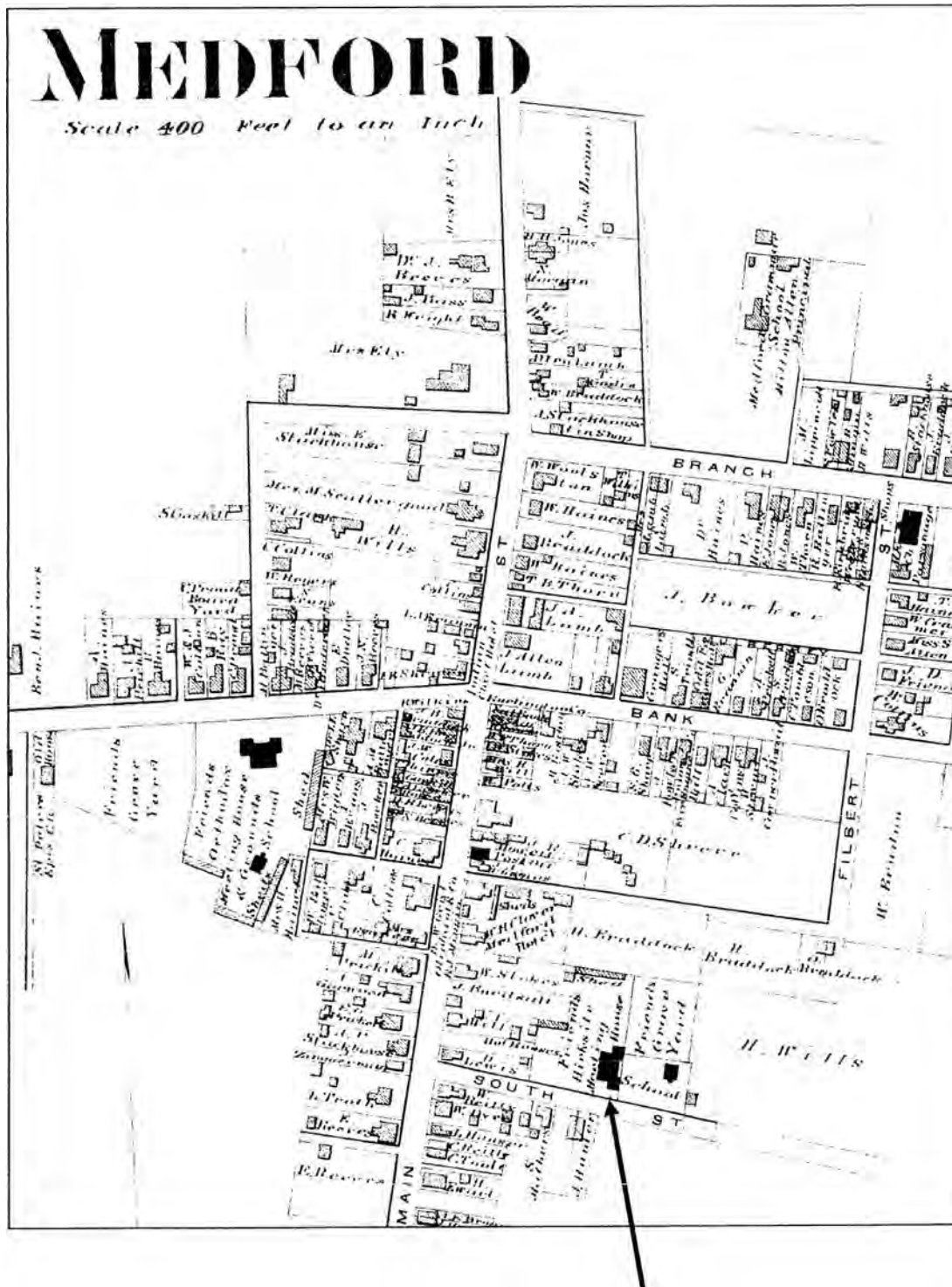


Figure 1: 1876 Scott Map of Burlington County, NJ, inset map of Medford Village (partial)

This 1876 map of Medford Village shows the Main Street Meeting House at the south end of the village. Note that the restroom ells, somewhat exaggerated in size, appear as part of the building's footprint.



GOLD BY H. P. THORN

PHOTO BY C. J. KINGDON

Figure 2: (above) ca. 1905 view looking northeast: this view is one of the earliest found to date and shows the building as it appeared about 1905. Note that the south restroom ell has not been fully enclosed as it is today. [Swarthmore College archives]



Hicksite Friends' Meeting House, Medford, N. J.

Figure 3: (above) ca. 1905 post card view: This view is almost the same as that above, except the school house behind the southernmost side door appears to have airbrushed out of the photograph. H.P. Thorn, seller of the postcard, is cited in the census and various directories as a druggist on South Main Street; his name is shown on the 1876 map (fig. 1), on South Main Street. C.J. Kingdon may be Carrie J. Kingdon, a single woman (b. ca. 1874) who lived in Mt. Holly, Burlington County; her father was editor of the *Mt. Holly News*. The post card's style on the back dates it from 1901 to 1907. [Swarthmore College archives]



Figure 4: ca. 1920-1925 view of the meeting house

This photograph, looking northeast, clearly shows the meeting house after two large trees in the front were cut down (their stumps are yet visible) and replaced with new trees. Note that the south side restroom ell has not yet been enclosed. Visible in the distance is the former school house behind the south side restroom and the fenced-in cemetery to the left of the meeting house. [Haverford College archives]

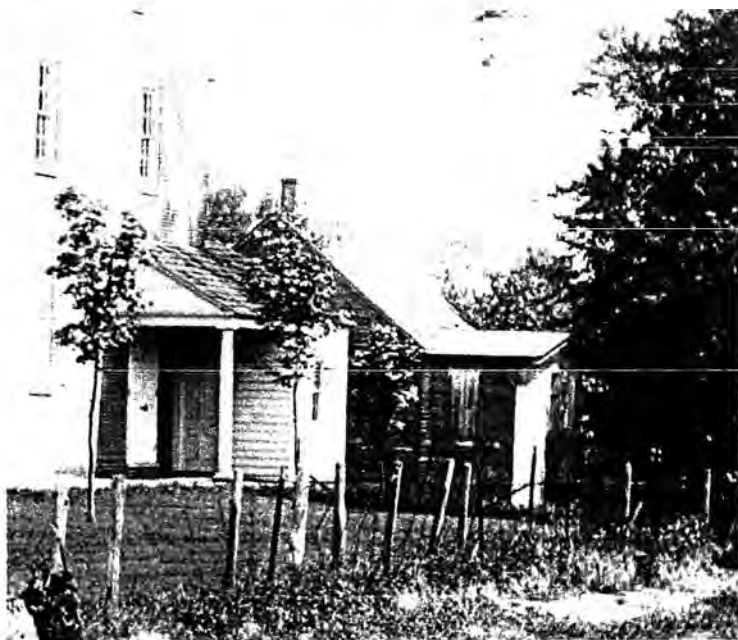


Figure 5: close-up of the south side restroom ell and the school behind it, seen in fig. 4



Figure 6: ca. 1930 view of the meeting house

This view, looking directly east, shows the facade. [T. Chalkey Leeds Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania]

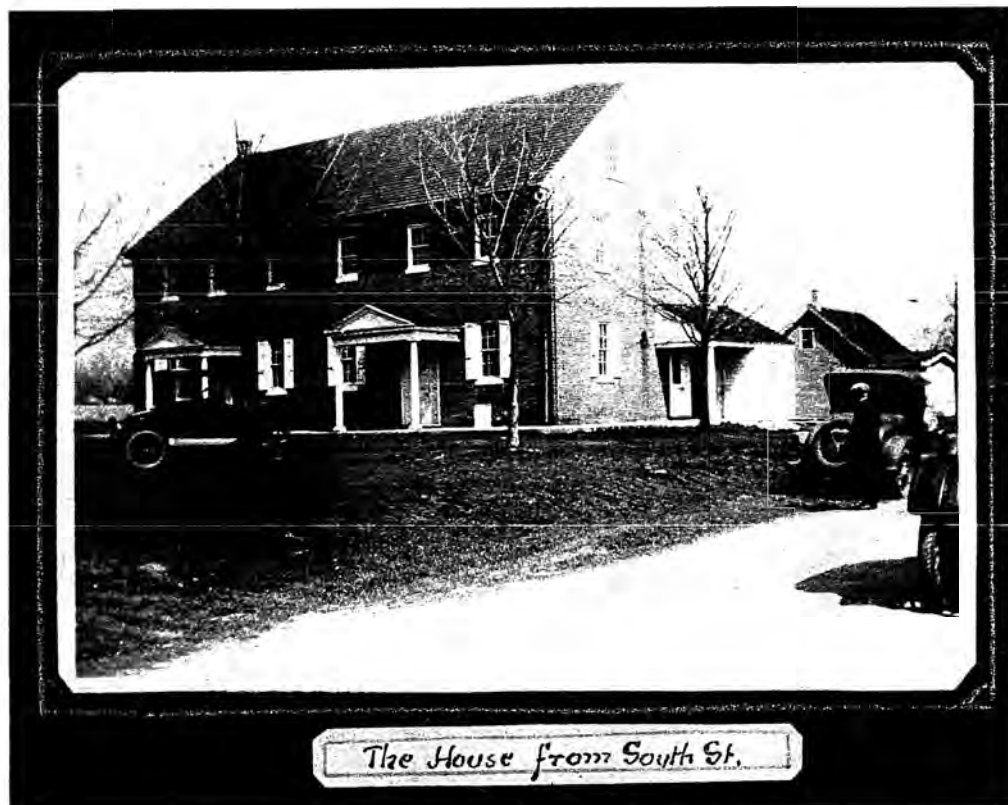


Figure 7: ca. 1930 view, looking northeast. The small gable roof building behind the meeting house is the school, which has been greatly altered from its original appearance.

[T. Chalkey Leeds Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania]



**Figure 8: ca. 1930
view, looking
northwest**

This view shows the rear of the two restroom ells. Note the discoloration of the bricks along the south side where the chimney stack runs. [T. Chalkey Leeds Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania]



**Figure 9: ca. 1930
view looking
southeast**

[T. Chalkey Leeds Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania]

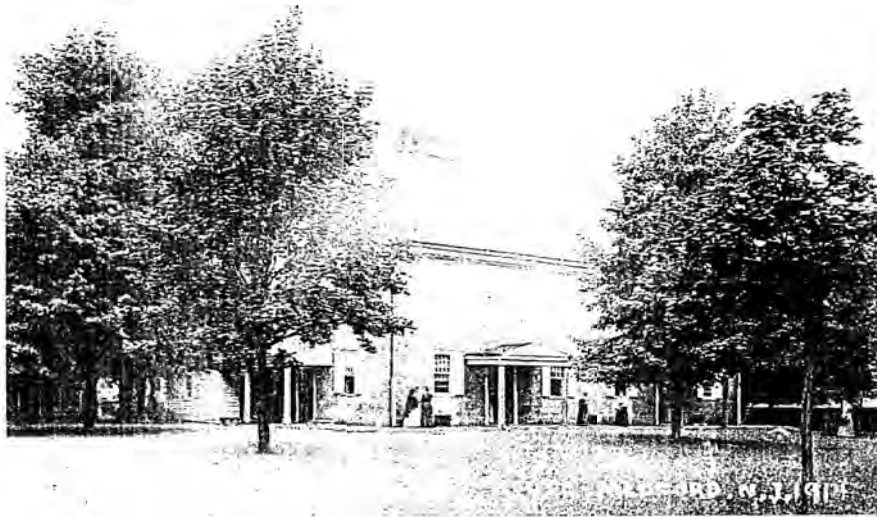


Figure 10: Medford (Orthodox) Meeting House, built in 1814.

This photograph was taken on its 100th birthday celebration in 1914. [Swarthmore College Archives]



Figure 11: rear view of the Medford Orthodox Meeting House as it appeared in 1952. [Swarthmore College Archives]

Quaker Orthodox Meeting House, Medford, N. J.

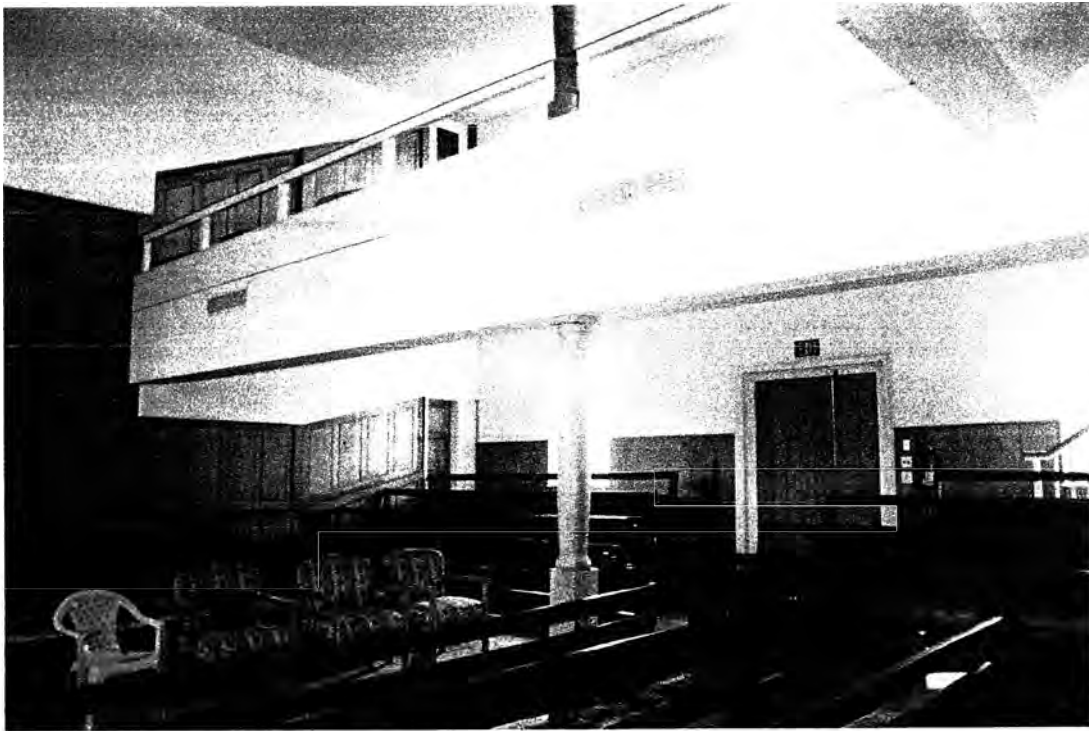


Figure 12: Interior view of the Medford (Orthodox) Meeting House built in 1814.

This view shows the great similarities between this meeting house and its Hicksite neighbor a few blocks away. The benches, gallery, layout, and dividing walls are almost identical. [Joan Berkey, March 2010]

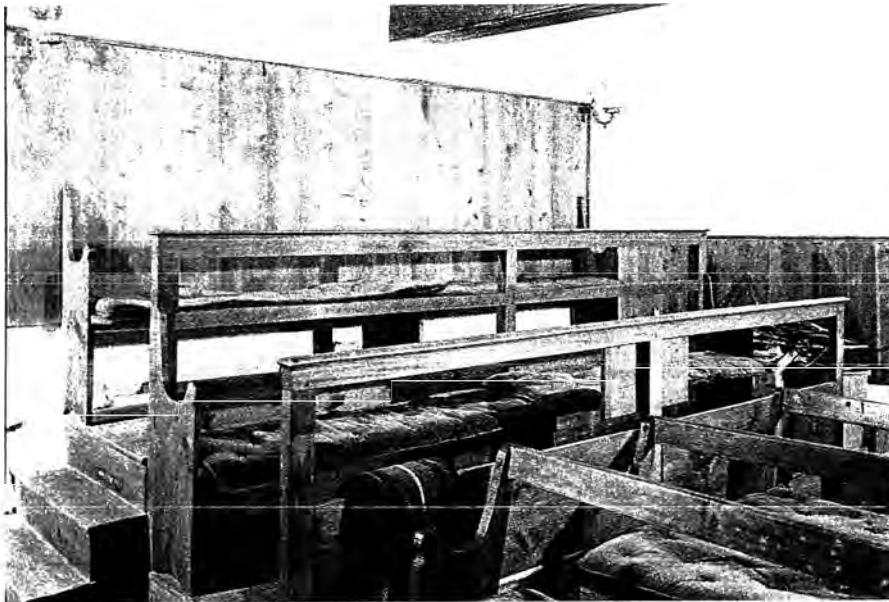


Figure 13: Interior, Arney's Mount Meeting House, Columbus, Burlington County, NJ.

The interior of the ca. 1775-1776 meeting house was rebuilt after a fire in 1811. Note the similarity in construction between these benches and those in the both Medford (Hicksite and Orthodox) meeting houses. [Historic American Buildings Survey, NJ-1243]



Figure 14: Seaville Friends Meeting House, built ca. 1727

This one-room meeting house was moved to its present location in Upper Township, Cape May County, in 1767.



Figure 15: interior of the Seaville Friends Meeting House. All details appear to be original, including the benches.

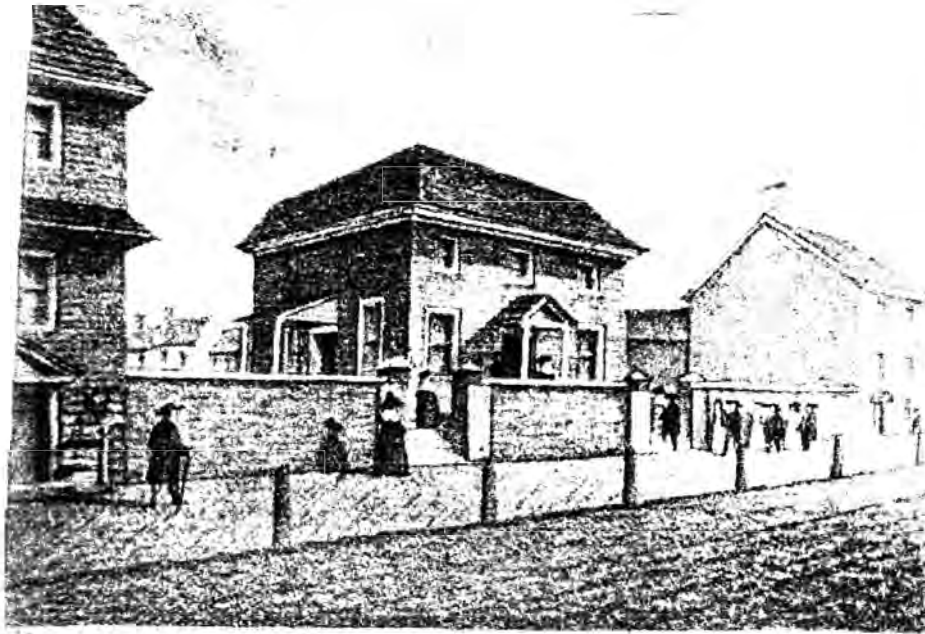


Figure 16: Bank Street Meeting House, 1702, built in Philadelphia.

[Watson's *Annals of Philadelphia*]

Front of Bank Meeting



Figure 17: Buckingham (Bucks County, PA) Quaker Meeting House, built in 1768. This is the earliest known Delaware Valley meeting house to have been constructed from the start as a true double-plan meeting house. [Historic American Buildings Survey, #PA-6224]

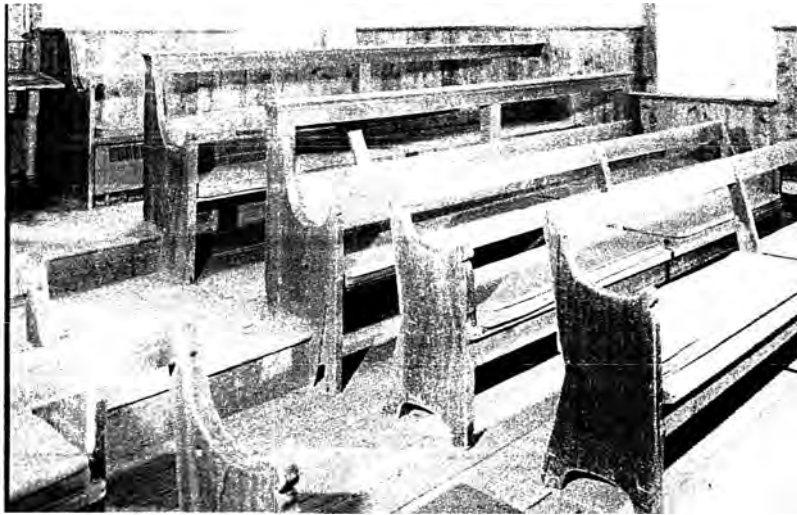
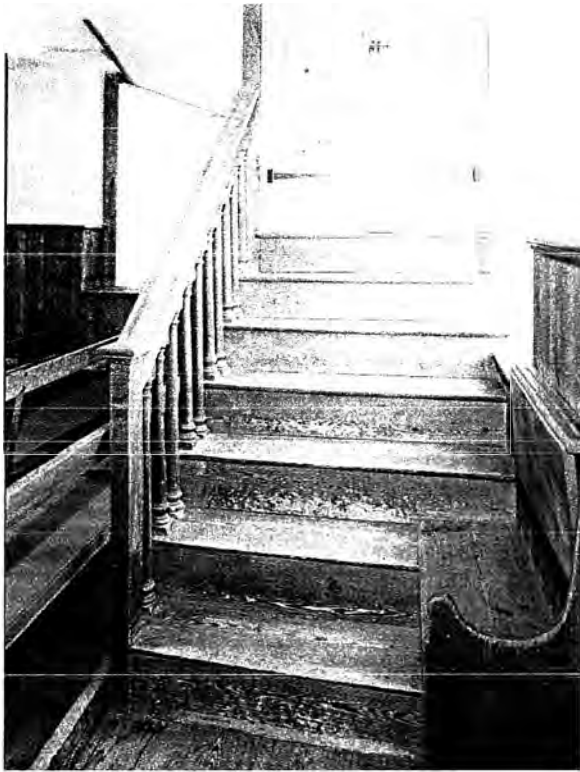
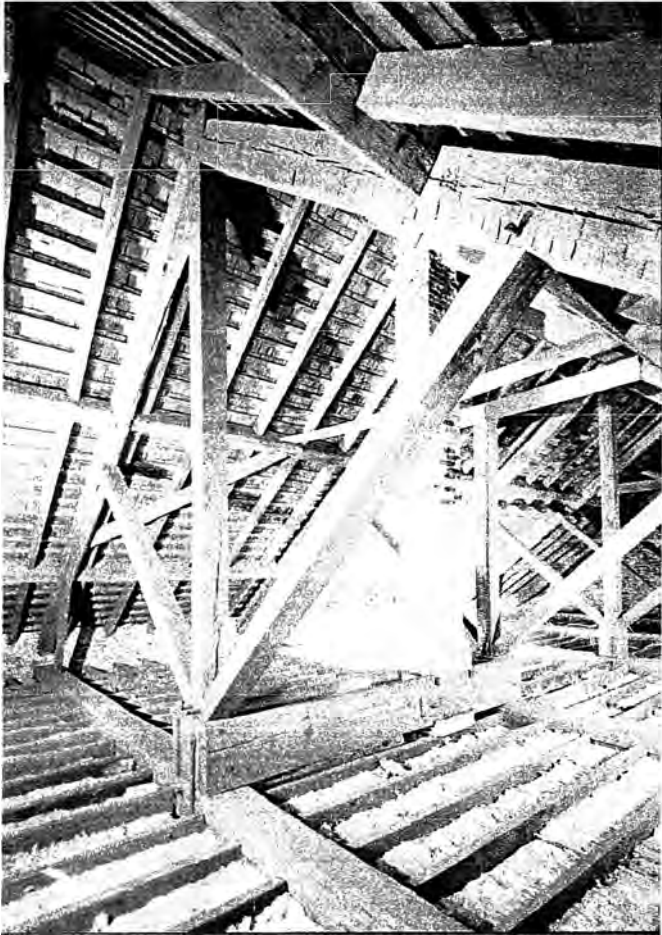


Figure 18: Buckingham Meeting House, interior details

Top left: benches
Center: Roof framing with trusses supporting the balcony
Bottom: stairs to the balcony

[Historic American Buildings Survey, #PA-6224]



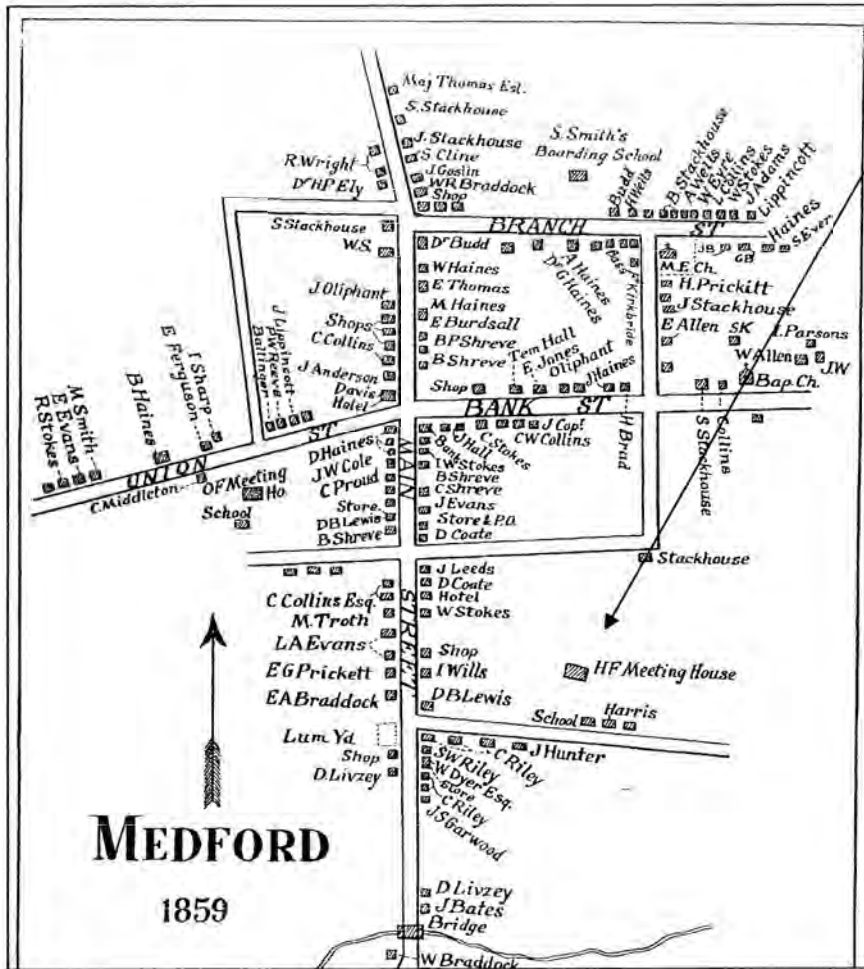


Figure 24: 1859 inset map of Medford

The school is shown to the south of the meeting house on this map, whereas it is behind the meeting house on the 1872 map (figure 1). It was probably moved to the location behind the meeting house, since the minutes state it was re-built in 1882. [Map of the Vicinity of Philadelphia, 1860, C.K. Stone and A. Pomeroy]



Figure 25: Quaker school house, modernized for use as a residence. This building stands behind (to the east) of the Meeting House, and may be the school shown to the south of the meeting house in the 1859 map (above, fig. 24).



Figure 19: Mount Laurel/Evesham Meeting House

The original section, built in 1760 and represented as that portion to the right of the arrow above, has two front doors asymmetrically placed on the façade.



Figure 20: Union Street or Upper Evesham (Orthodox) Friends Meeting House, Medford, NJ, built in 1814.

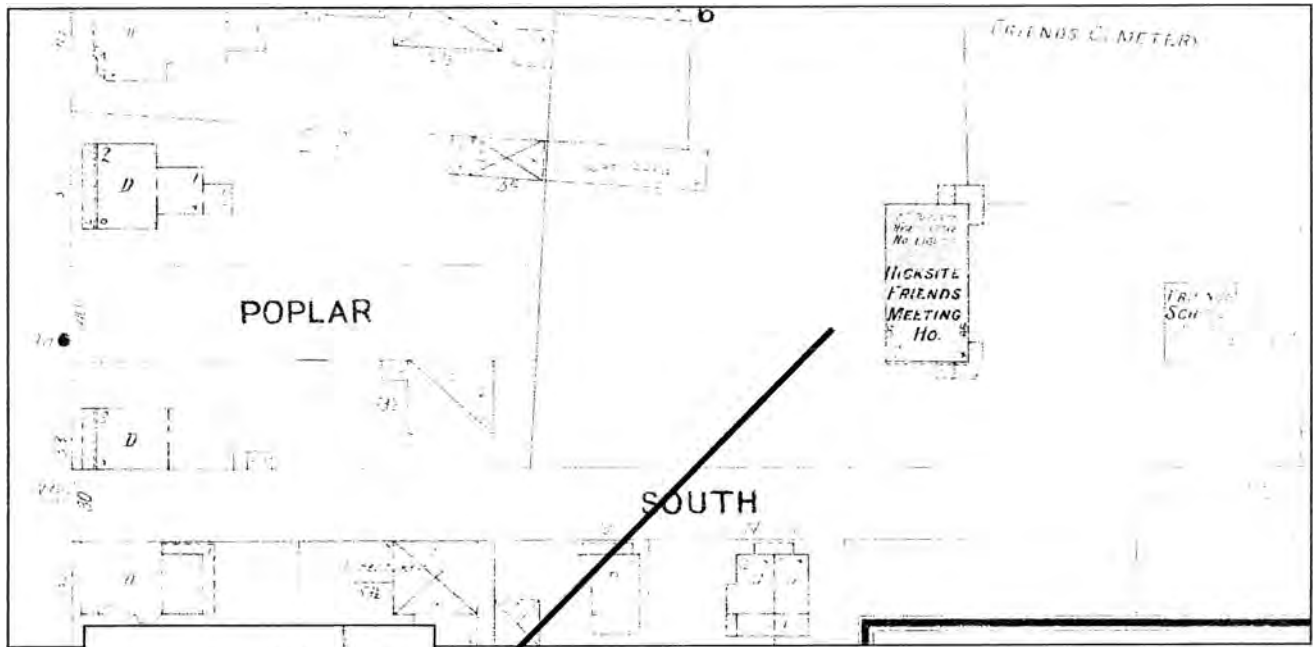
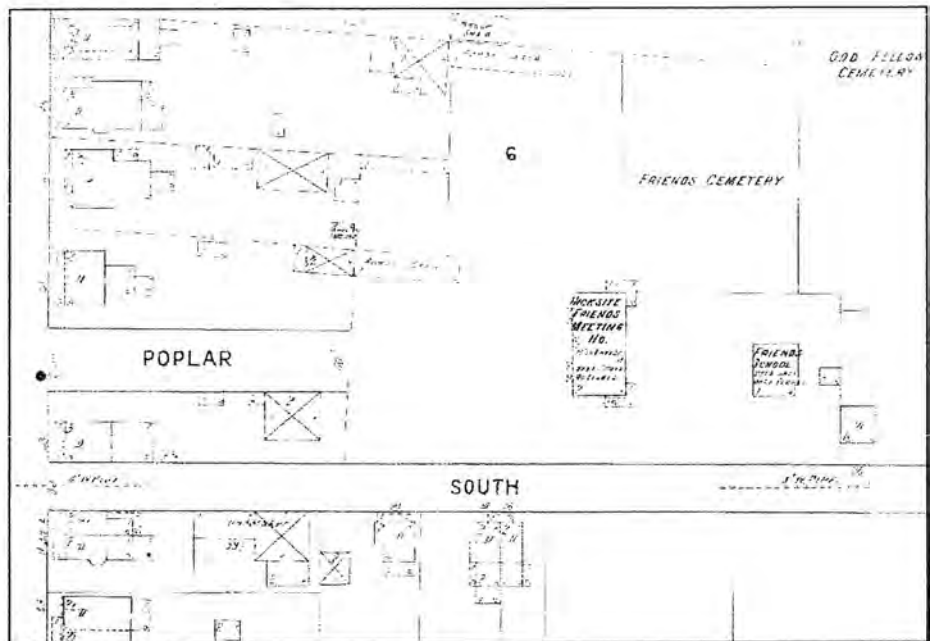


Figure 21 (above and left): 1908 Sanborn map showing the Meeting House

Figure 22: 1915 Sanborn map showing little had changed since the 1908 map was drawn.



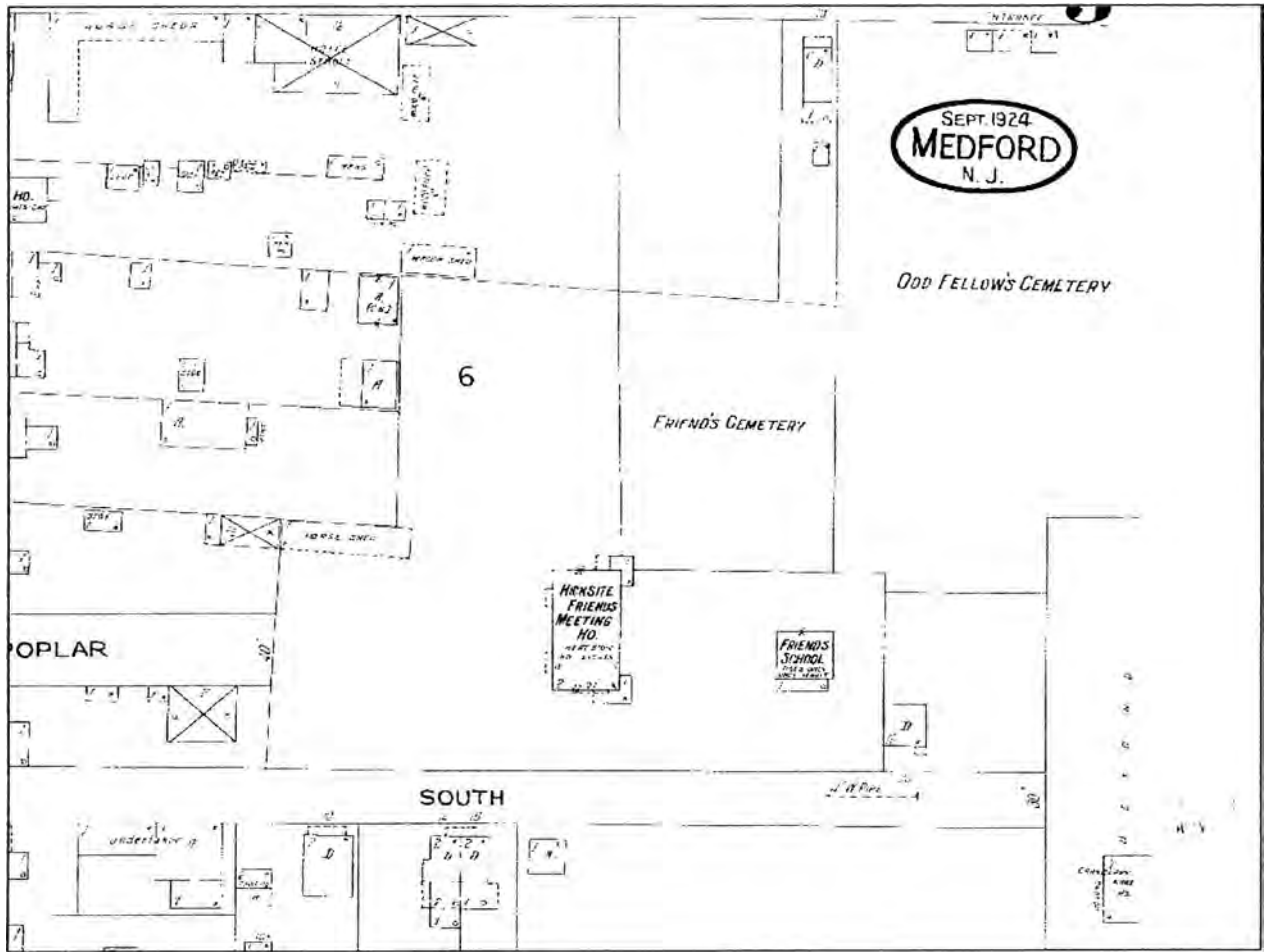
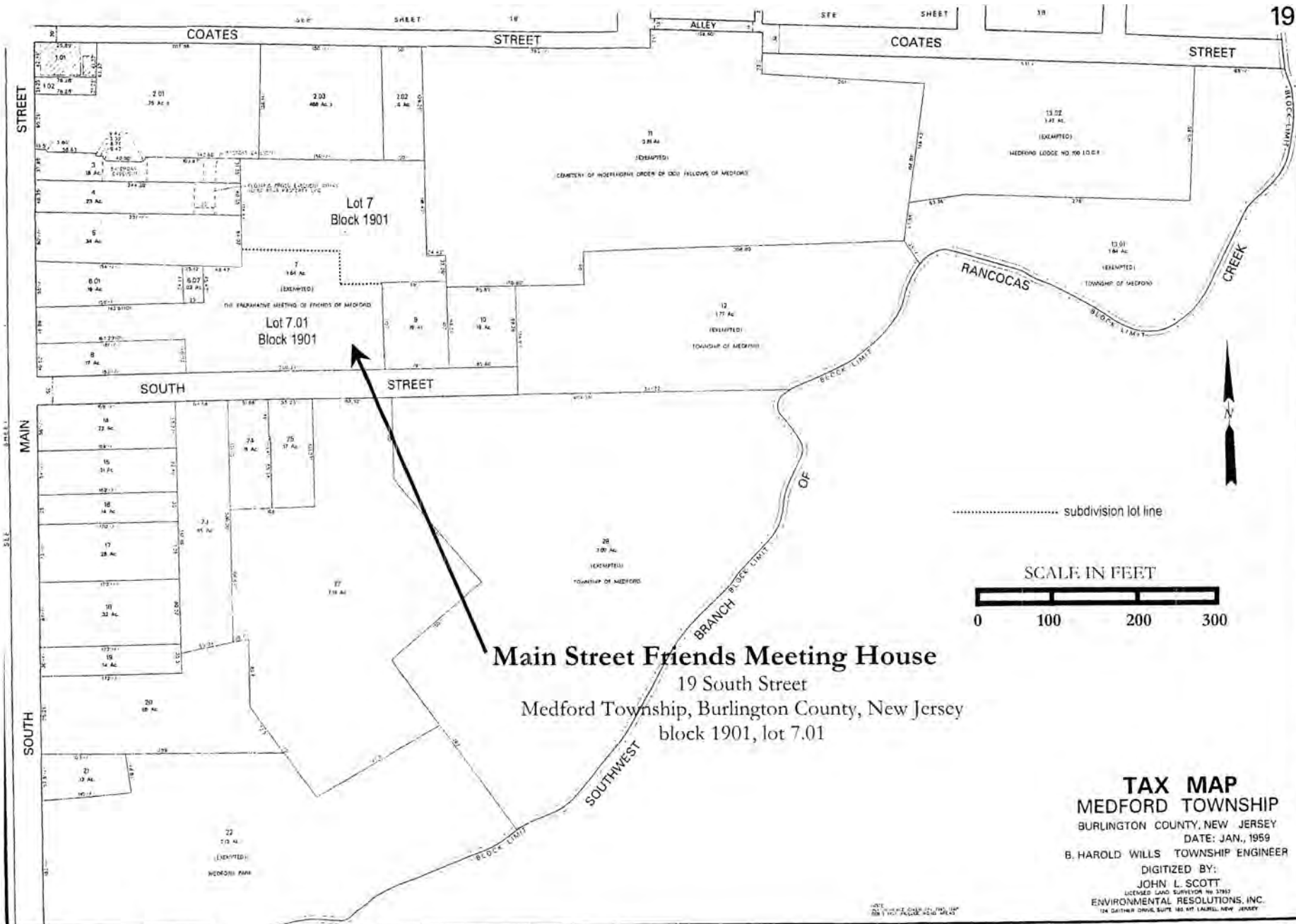
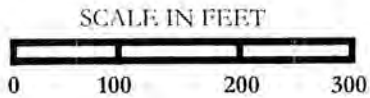


Figure 23: 1924 Sanborn Map



Main Street Friends Meeting House
 19 South Street
 Medford Township, Burlington County, New Jersey
 block 1901, lot 7.01



TAX MAP
MEDFORD TOWNSHIP
 BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
 DATE: JAN., 1959
 B. HAROLD WILLS TOWNSHIP ENGINEER
 DIGITIZED BY:
 JOHN L. SCOTT
 LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 3787
 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTIONS, INC.
 124 GAITHER DRIVE, SUITE 105, PIT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Main Street Friends Meeting House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Burlington

DATE RECEIVED: 7/15/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/08/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/23/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/30/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000589

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8-24-11 DATE

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.



Main Street Friends Meeting House Burlington Co., NJ

#1



Main Street Friends Meeting House Burlington County, NJ #2



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington Co., NJ

#3



main Street Friends meeting house Burlington Co., NJ #4



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, N.J

#5



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, N.J #6



Main Street Friends Meeting House Burlington County, NJ

#7



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, N.J #8



main street friends meeting house

Burlington County, NJ

#9



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington Co., NJ

#10



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington Co., NJ

#11



Main Street Friends Meeting House Burlington Co., NJ

#12



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington County, NJ

#13



Main Street Friends Meeting House

Burlington Co., NJ

#14

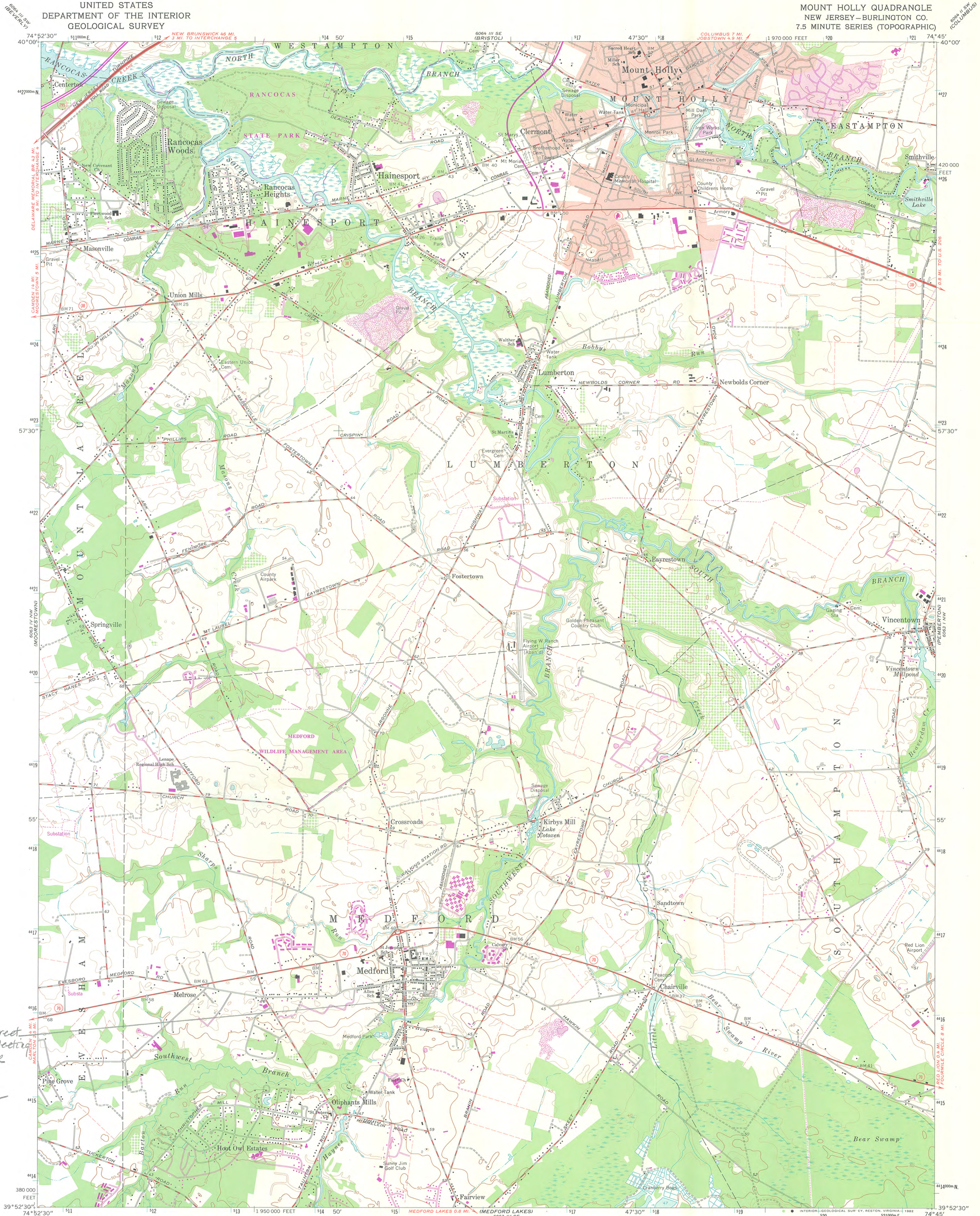


Main Street Friends Meeting House Burlington Co., NJ #15



Main Street Friends Meeting House Burlington Co., N.J

#16

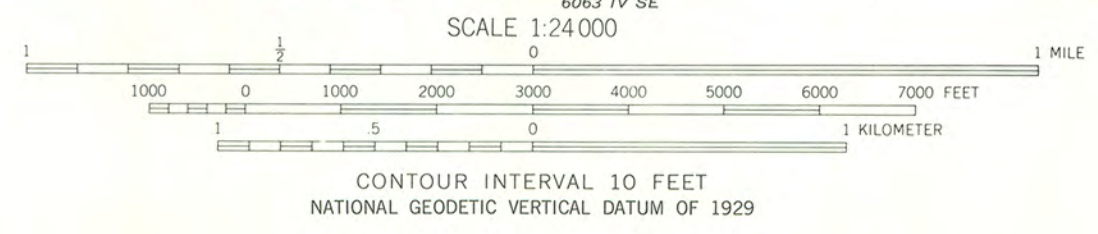


Main Street
Friends Meeting
House
Z=18
E=515200
N=4116405

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and New Jersey Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1951. Topography by planimetric surveys 1952-1953
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1967

Polyconic projection, 10,000-foot grid ticks based on New Jersey
coordinate system, 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid
ticks, zone 18, shown in blue, 1927 North American Datum. To
place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the
projection lines 6 meters south and 32 meters west as shown by
dashed corner ticks

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial
photographs taken 1975 and other sources. This information
not field checked. Map edited 1981
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J.
N3952.5—W7445/7.5
1967
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 6063 IV NE—SERIES V822



State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-03A

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

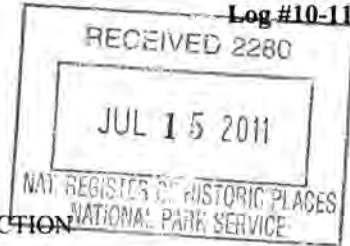
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 292-3541 FAX (609) 984-0836

HPO E2011-212
Log #10-1189-3



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

6/2
~~May 27~~, 2011

Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

I am pleased to submit the nomination for the Main Street Friends Meeting House, Burlington County, New Jersey, for National Register consideration.

This nomination has received majority approval from the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites. All procedures were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Daniel D. Saunders, Acting Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call him at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

Amy Cradic
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer