

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Montgomery	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.2.42.0004	DATE 2/18/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Plymouth Meeting Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

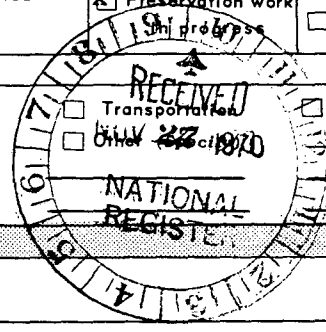
STREET AND NUMBER:
Plymouth Meeting and Whitemarsh Townships

CITY OR TOWN:
Plymouth Meeting

STATE Pennsylvania	CODE 42	COUNTY: Montgomery	CODE 091
------------------------------	-------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other 2/23/1970 <input type="checkbox"/> Comments



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Various Residents and Landowners

STREET AND NUMBER:
Plymouth Meeting and Whitemarsh Townships

CITY OR TOWN:
Plymouth Meeting

STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42
-------------------------------	--------------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Airy and Swede Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Norristown

STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42
-------------------------------	--------------------

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: **June 1, 1970** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
William Penn Museum

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN:
Harrisburg

STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42
-------------------------------	--------------------

STATE: **Pennsylvania**

COUNTY: **Montgomery**

ENTRY NUMBER: **71.2.42.0004**

DATE: **2/18/71**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Pennsylvania	
COUNTY	
Montgomery	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71242.0004	3/18/71

(Number all entries)

DESCRIPTION (Section 7, cont.)

Within the boundaries of the Plymouth Meeting - Whitemarsh Township Historic District are located several properties which the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is nominating to the National Register under separate entry blanks. A brief listing and description of these follows:

The Plymouth Friends Meeting House, The present Meeting House was built ca. 1708 of native limestone, in the Colonial style. In 1780, the eastern wing was added to be used as a school, and to replace the original log cabin school on the premises.

The Hovenden House, The present Hovenden's House built ca. 1794 consists of an eighteenth-century rear section, which is the original part erected by the painter.

↕
Abolition Hall and Barn, The barn stand directly behind the Hovenden House and was built between 1794 and 1800. It was a typical Pennsylvania stone barn. Behind the barn stands Abolition Hall. From 1881 to 1895 Abolition Hall was used as a studio.

Livezey House, The first portion of this 2½ storey house was built ca. 1740. Early kitchen fire place complete with bake oven. Position of oven and ash pit identical in construction to that at Hope Lodge.

County Store and Post Office, ca. 1827, is a three-storey, fifteen room building of limestone and local marble. The architecture was typical country store and dwelling.

Hinterleiter House, 18th century residence with supporting out buildings.



SIGNIFICANCE

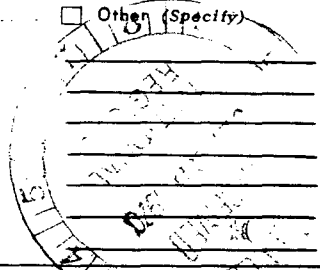
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at the crossing of Historic Germantown Pike and the Old Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting has been an important Quaker settlement and cross road town since the beginning of the 18th century. The town was established on a parcel of land 600 acres in size set aside by William Penn for that purpose in 1683.¹ The road from Plymouth Meeting to Philadelphia was laid out in 1687, and was the first official road in what is now Montgomery County.²

The 1698 map shows settlement at Plymouth Meeting, the first English settlement in what is now Montgomery County. Plymouth was soon to be a haven for Welsh Quakers.

Plymouth was also a stop on the early Postal Service established by 1757 and the famous Germantown printer, Christopher Sowers, advertised that he stopped at Plymouth on his way up the Germantown Pike from Germantown through Plymouth, Pottstown, Reading then down Reading to Lancaster Road to Ephrata.⁴

John Watson, in his Annals of Philadelphia written in 1857, gives a description of the delaying action of the British Troops under General Grey that occurred while the General's scouts were returning with information as to the route of Lafayette's American army's retreat.⁵ Further reflection is made on this important events in a letter written in 1957 by the late Dr. Edward F. Corson.⁶

Architecturally, this area has houses of English and Welsh Quaker influence, many in good state of originality. There are good representative examples of 18th and 19th century housing within this area. Threats from modern housing projects offer an ever increasing threat to the integrity of this area, however. A portion of the more interesting properties within this area are attached here.⁷

The Pennsylvania artist, Thomas Hovenden had his studio in a building that had housed the Quaker supported meetings on Abolition of Slavery at which meetings many prominent Abolitionists spoke. This building still stands and is known as Abolition Hall, but would be threatened if current highway plans are carried forth.

Although surrounded by growing suburbia, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission recognizes the Historical Significance of the settlement of Plymouth Meeting for the part it played in our Nation's History. We have lent our support to the growing movement within the inhabitants of the town to research and preserve it's history and architectural integrity. Entry upon the National Register as an Historic District will be a positive step in this direction.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bean's, History of Montgomery County
 Barnard, Ella K., The Maulsby Genealogy
 Corson, Hiram, The Corson Family
 Livezey, Helen C., Life and Works of Thomas Hovenden
 Roberts, Ellwood, Plymouth Meeting
 Cranor, Abbie C., Research for 200th Anniversary of Plymouth Meeting Friends

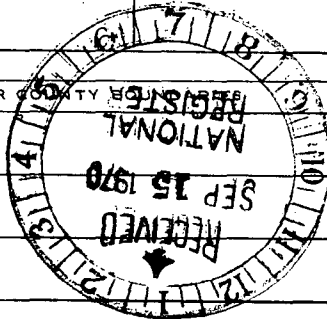
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 40° 06' 24"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 75° 17' 03"		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	40° 06' 27"	75° 15' 54"				
SE	40° 05' 54"	75° 16' 6"				
SW	40° 05' 39"	75° 17' 01"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Over 200 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Mr. Edward F. LaFond, Jr., Keeper

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks DATE: July, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name [Signature]

Title Executive Director

Date September 8, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 18 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **JAN 19 1971**



HISTORICAL DISTRICT



290 000
FEET

Act 167 District
Plymouth Meeting HD
Montgomery Co.

12/11/02
9520
117120
117120

(GERMANTOWN)
5964 II SW