

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC RADNOR FRIENDS MEETING

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Sproul and Conestoga Roads

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Ithan

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE

42

COUNTY

Delaware

CODE

045

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Society of Friends

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Radnor

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Chester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

West Chester

STATE  
Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

CITY, TOWN

1819 J. F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia

STATE

Pennsylvania

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Radnor Friends Meeting House was built of stone in two sections, in 1717-18 and 1722. The larger, western section, the older of the two, has a steeper pitched roof and doors in the southern and western walls. The eastern section has doors in the southern and northern walls (front and back) in the manner typical of American meeting houses. The round stone arched windows and doors, the front porch, and shutters are also common to American meeting houses. The inside dimensions of the meeting house are 32'5" x 27'0" (eastern section) and 34'9" x 27'0" (western section).

The square-edged panelled partition, which is in an excellent state of preservation, was recently restored to its original place at the line of the common wall under the direction of Paul M. Cope, Architect. It had previously been moved approximately seven feet into the western section. The facing seats are parallel to the long side of the meeting house.

The small stone building facing the southern facade of the meeting house was used to keep cadavers during the winter for burial in the spring. The cemetery and unmarked headstones, southwest of the meeting house, are intact.

# SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

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## SPECIFIC DATES

1718, 1722

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The meeting was organized in 1684 and held its early meetings in John Jerman's home. The Meeting House was built in two sections, the higher (western) one ca. 1717 and the eastern addition in 1722. This stone structure replaced an earlier log building. In 1735 the Jerman family formally transferred the land on which the Meeting House was built to the Society of Friends. In 1778 the building was used as a hospital and officers' headquarters for the Continental Army. It is probably the oldest building in Radnor Township, the center of Township activity through the eighteenth century and, well into the nineteenth. It was closed in 1882, but reactivated in 1937 and is used for Quaker meeting.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Ashmead, Henry G., History of Delaware County. Philadelphia, 1884.  
 Brinton, Howard H., "Quaker Meeting Houses", Pennsylvania Folk Life,  
 Spring, 1958, pp. 34-37.  
 Lidbetter, Hubert, The Friends Meeting House. York, England, 1961.  
 Smith, George, History of Delaware County. Philadelphia, 1862.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .05 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	4,6,9	8,9,0	4,4	3,0	9,4,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING	
C							D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Elizabeth Donaghy/  
Bud Wolf

ORGANIZATION Historic Delaware County/  
McCormick, Taylor & Associates, Inc.

DATE May, 1976

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 267/  
351 E. Conestoga Road

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Swarthmore/  
Strafford

STATE Pennsylvania

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

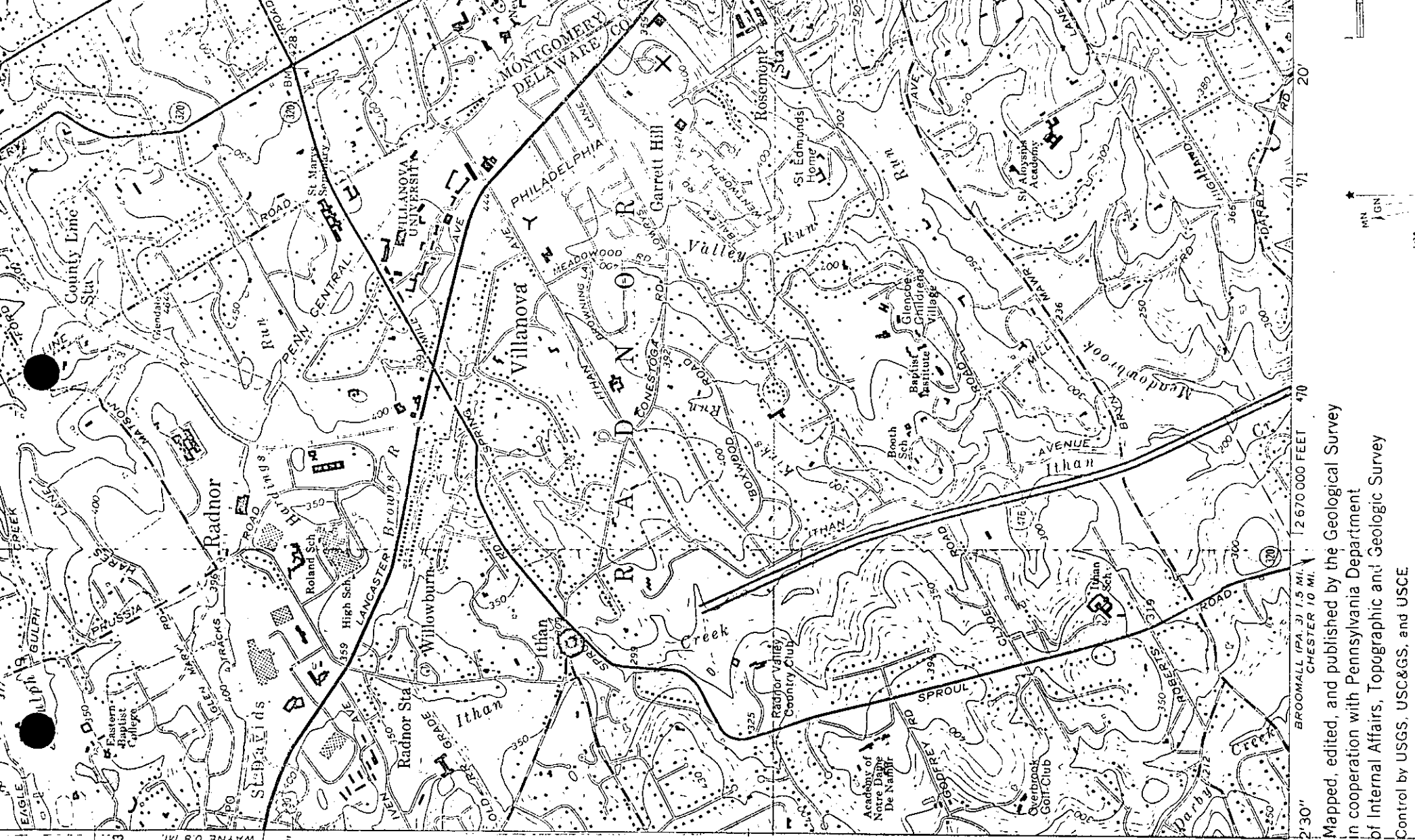
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE 9/9/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	



RADNOR FRIENDS MEETING

Delaware County  
Zone 18

469 890                      4430 940

4428  
4429  
4430  
4431  
4432  
4433

12670 000 FEET  
1.5 MI.  
10 MI.

BROOMALL (PA)  
CHESTER

40° 00'  
75° 22' 30"

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
in cooperation with Pennsylvania Department  
of Internal Affairs, Topographic and Geologic Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

(MEDIAL NW  
5963 IV NW)