

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 CONCORD FRIENDS MEETING

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Old Concord Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Concordville

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees, Concord Friends Meeting

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box #23

CITY, TOWN

Concordville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Delaware County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Front and South Streets

CITY, TOWN

Media

STATE

Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Sites, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Comm.

DATE

1970

FEDERAL STATE  COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

1317 Filbert Street

CITY, TOWN

Philadelphia

STATE

Pennsylvania

**17 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 two and one-half story brick meetinghouse at the intersection of Concord and Thornton Roads was built in 1728. After a fire, it was rebuilt and enlarged in 1788.

The earliest portion of the structure is on the northeast side. The watertable is of stone, on top of which the walls are laid in Flemish bond. According to the "Reminiscences" of Lewis Palmer in the Two Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Concord Monthly Meeting of Friends, large open wood fireplaces

at each end of the building heated the meetinghouse as much as it was heated. There were pent hoods over the exterior doors.

After the fire of 1788, which evidently completely destroyed the interior, the Friends rebuilt the meetinghouse. At that time the building was enlarged considerably. The old walls were used where they were still standing, but the entire southwestern end dates from 1788. The architecture of the "new" wing was almost identical to that of the earlier portion with one exception. The large open fireplaces in the gable ends were removed. The cost of the reconstruction and addition was approximately \$2,175 Pennsylvania currency.

In 1872, the pent hoods over the doorways on the southeast and southwest elevations were removed. In their stead, the meeting put wide porches which around these two sides and also the northeast elevation. The porch was supported by simple square pillars spaced at regular intervals around the edge of the porch.

The interior of the Concord Meeting House is typical of meetinghouses of this southeastern Pennsylvania area at the time in which it was built. The wainscoting extended roughly 4½ feet from the floor. The benches were of wood, of very simple design. Panels could be pulled down to separate the meeting house into several rooms, a custom which could lead to conservation of heat in the winter as well as separation of the sexes. Stairways in the north and west corners led to balconies above.

RECORDED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
 COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ PA. \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES      1788

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Concord Friends was the 6th meeting established in Delaware County according to Henry G. Ashmead. The meeting must have been established prior to 1697, for in that year John Mendenhall leased land for a meeting house to the meeting in return for "one peppercorn yearly forever." Members subscribed money for the construction of a building, but apparently no structure was completed until 1710. In that year, a log structure was built

Since the Quakers settled this area of Pennsylvania, the meeting house was the place of worship of almost all the leaders of the local communities. The names which are familiar to any person familiar with the history of the region appear and reappear in its records. They include Brinton, Chad, Clayton, Darlington, Dicks, Gilpin, Harvey, Marshall, Mendenhall, Newlin, Painter, Palmer, Peirce, and Trimble. From their ranks came the solid citizens which were to govern the region for almost 2 centuries.

According to accounts of the Battle of Brandywine, Sept. 11, 1777, Concord Meeting House provided a sanctuary for wounded American soldiers as they fled from the battle lines to the west.

With the Quaker attitude toward war, it is fitting that the meeting house was used to nurse the wounded back to help. The building's more significant, if less exciting role, was educating the children of the area surrounding it. The Friends were very conscious of the importance of education. As early as 1717, they conducted classes for local children, building a schoolhouse on the meeting house lot in 1779. The meeting-supported school continued until 1836 when local government assumed the responsibility for secular education.

Architecturally, Concord Meeting House is a significant structure. Because it served as a monthly meeting, it was larger than most of the houses in the area. Its interior and exterior have been modified very little. The Flemish Bond brickwork, its proportions, and the simplicity of line are features which warrant the protection of future generations.

The significance of Concord Meeting House lies in the fact that it is a good example of the meeting house architecture of the 18th century. Furthermore, over the past two and one-half centuries, it has served as a central force in the development of the community which has developed in Concord Township. Like the Friends who worshipped there, the meeting house stands as a solid reminder of the simplicity and strength of the Quaker faith. Its aesthetic appeal is matched by its long record of positive service to the community.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Ashmead, Henry G. History of Delaware County Pennsylvania, Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1884.  
 Cope, Gilbert, & Henry G. Ashmead. History of Chester and Delaware Counties Philadelphia: Ashmead, 1880.  
 Futhey, J. Smith & Gilbert Cope. History of Chester County, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1881.  
Inventory of Historic Sites, Philadelphia: Delaware Regional Planning Commission, 1970.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 3 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	45,5	5,1,0	4,4	1,4	9,5,0	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

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Natural & Historic Resource Associates, Philadelphia, for

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Concord Twp. Board of Supervisors, c/o Wm. Morris

May, 1971

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Temple and Spring Valley Road

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Glen Mills

Pennsylvania

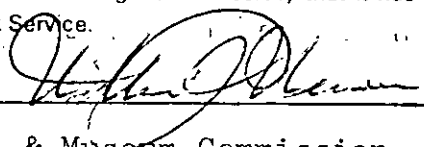
**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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

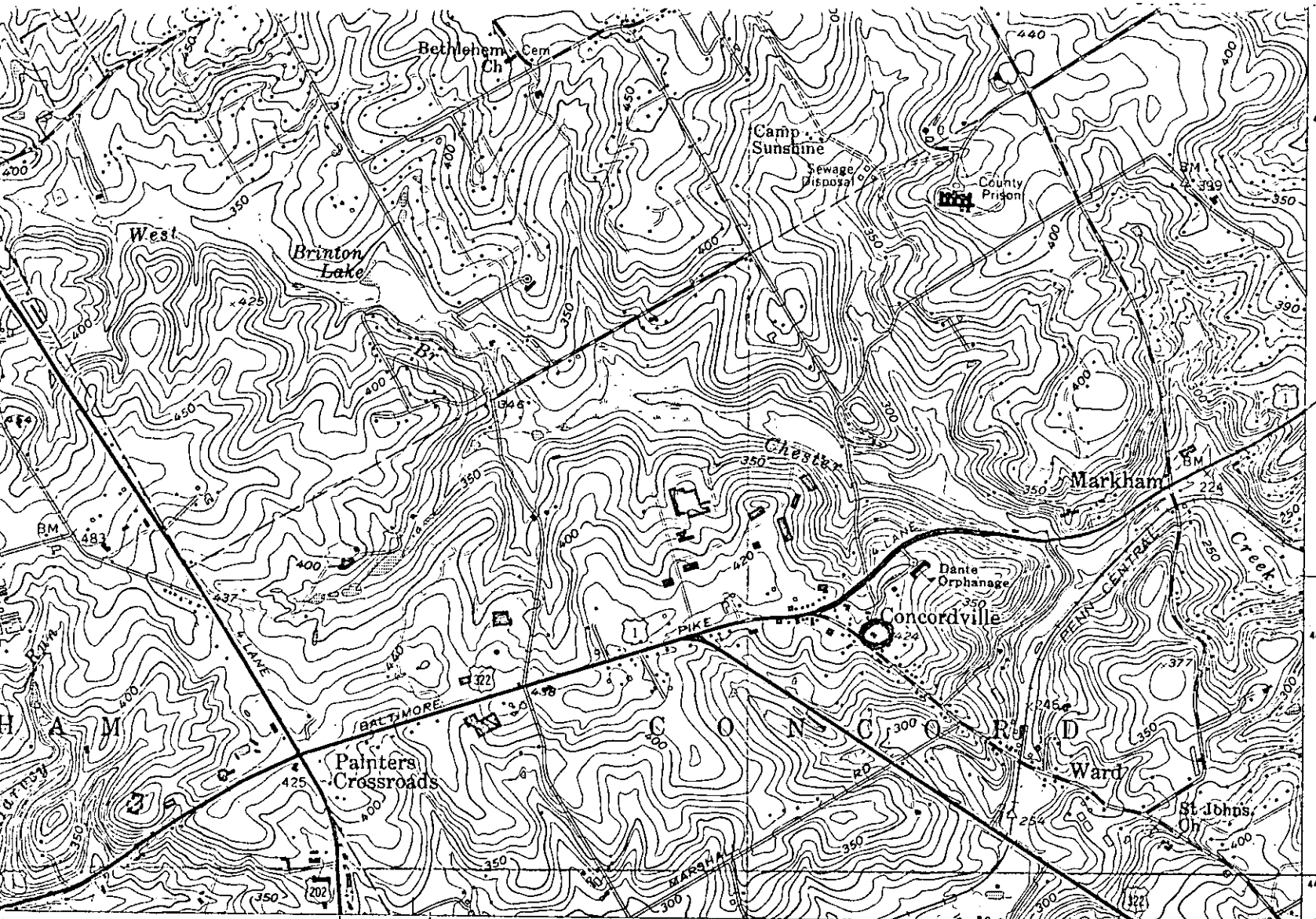


TITLE Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

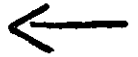
DATE 11/30/76

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

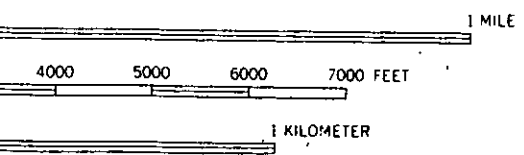
CONCORD FRIENDS MEETING  
 Delaware County  
 ZONE 18 455 510 4414 950



417  
 MEDIA 6.2 MI.  
 PHILADELPHIA (CITY HALL) 18 MI.



WILMINGTON NORTH) 5863 1 SE  
 453 32'30" 454  
 BRANDYWINE SUMMIT 0.1 MI. WILMINGTON, DEL. 8.9 MI.



SCALE 10 FEET  
 DATUM OF 1929



INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975  
 CHELSEA 2.5 MI. CHESTER 8.5 MI. 457000m.E. 75°30' 39°52'30"



- ROAD CLASSIFICATION
- Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
  - Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
  - U. S. Route (Shield symbol) State Route (Circle symbol)

WEST CHESTER, PA.

N 3952.5—W 7530/7.5

1954

PHOTOREVISED 1968 AND 1973

(MARCUS HOOK)  
 5963 1 V SW