

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

42
For HCRS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic *Nazareth Hall Tract*

and/or common

2. Location

street & number *Zizendorf Square*

not for publication

city, town *Nazareth*

vicinity of

congressional district

15

state *Pennsylvania*

code *42*

county *Northampton*

code *095*

3. Classification

Category

district

building(s)

structure

site

object

Ownership

public

private

both

Public Acquisition

in process

being considered

Status

occupied

unoccupied

work in progress

Accessible

yes: restricted

yes: unrestricted

no

Present Use

agriculture

commercial

educational

entertainment

government

industrial

military

museum

park

private residence

religious

scientific

transportation

other:

4. Owner of Property

name *Will R. Beitel Foundation*

street & number *Hall Square*

city, town *Nazareth*

vicinity of

state

Pennsylvania

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. *Northampton County Courthouse*

street & number *7th & Walnut Streets*

city, town *Easton*

state

Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title *Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places* has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date *1980*

federal state county local

depository for survey records *Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission*

city, town *Harrisburg*

state *Pennsylvania*

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Originally part of the 5,000 acre, Barony of Nazareth, the Nazareth Hail Tract is a 16.3315 acre tract containing the central structures of the Moravian settlement. On the tract are located the manor house Nazareth Hall, the 1840 Moravian Church, the "First Room" Building (Parsonage) the Principal's House, the single Sister's House and a monument.

Nazareth Hall #4

The Hall (in 1756) measured one hundred feet long by fortysix feet ^{ten} inches deep. A small cellar at the western end of the building, and entered only from the outside, is the extent of excavation under the large house. This may have served as a kitchen. The main floor was taken up by the chapel or Saal, and the rest were apartments.

The Hall faced the square, and its long elevation contained six windows in the center portion, spaced to form two groups of three, with double doors at the outer ends of this composition. Unlike the Single Brethren's House at Bethlehem, these doors were separated from the corners of the building by one more window. Thus there were ten bays across the front, matched with a like number of windows on the second floor. The windows are of four sizes. Those on the first floor are larger than those on the second. At each level, the two center windows are wider than those flanking them. The upper windows are narrower than those below, yet the masonry openings are the same. This was made possible by setting the narrower sashes into extra deep facings added to the casing. The Shutters are hung at the outer edge of the openings above and below, thus masking this variation.

The larger windows in the center of Nazareth Hall serve to give architectural emphasis to the middle of the facade which would have otherwise been weakened by a long line of windows.

Above the solid masonry walls is placed a gambrel roof, with its upper pitch hipped, as in so many Moravian buildings. The flare-out where it met the walls is very pronounced, and is supported by a plaster cove cornice. Ten dormer windows light the first attic, while four pierce the second slope above. Today, the dormers at the rear of the house have peaked roofs, while those in the front are elipital. These last are known to have been the result of extensive alterations in 1841, while those to the rear have often been considered original.

The roof has two chimneys, one at each end of the hipped ridge. Interior evidence in the attic show that a pair of flues rose through the building to be joined in a perfect arch at the attic level. A door was located within each arch, leading into the dormitory space under the roof. These chimneys were changed at some unknown date and today only one flue at each end remains. Between these chimneys is a narrow gallery or walk, added onto the roof-peak in 1796.

A feature of Nazareth Hall is the graceful spire and belfry which rises above the building from the center of the roof. In design it varies from Moravian tradition in that its four openings one on each face, are enclosed by louvered shutters, rather than a gallery for musicians. The walk on top of the roof makes up for the lack of any gallery. The present belfry dates from 1841, replacing an older one put up in 1785. The weather vane and golden ball on top of the spire has within it a document of the 1785 spire, and belfry.

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A coat of plaster was applied to the entire stone facade in 1841. This was perhaps done out of necessity, for where the oldest prints show doors with square lintels, the entrances today have an lights above them. Such embellishment was out of style with the original facade, but was probably added at the time when the 1841 Moravian Church was built, because of the similarity in style. In changing the door frames, the stonework was possibly marred as to make the stucco coat necessary.

The division of Nazareth hall into apartments has altered the interior rather than the exterior. The Hall remains an apartment dwelling to this day. With the changes that have been mentioned, the general lines and proportions of the building remain unchanged. Nazareth Hall remains the finest example of true Moravian architecture, and it is the only great Moravian structure that has been allowed to pass from the hands of the church when the Nazareth Hall boys school failed in 1928.

1840 Moravian Church (#1)

The 1840 Moravian Church is a two and one half story stucco covered stone structure with a gable roof. This structure is in deteriorated condition and was converted to a gymnasium for the benefit of the Nazareth Hall Students. The current windows, door frames wrought iron railings and stucco covering appear to be original. A wooden tower was removed from the structure in 1950.

Parsonage (#2)

This three story brick structure was constructed in the 1870's in order to accommodate the larger number of pupils attending Nazareth Hall. The older boys were moved into it, and from thence it was known as the "First Room" building. It may also have served the Moravian Church in Nazareth in some capacity, hence the popular association of it with a "parsonage". The typical moravian construction of two entrances, with door hoods; a hipped roof with dormers and window placement, seem to show that in least this building, the styles did not change much from the earlier part of the 19th century.

"First Room Building" - The central section of this structure was built in 1850 with a gable roof. The southern two story gabled addition was added in 1855. In 1875 a mansard roof was placed over both sections. The northern addition was built about 1920 as a custodian's house.

Principal's House (#3)

The Principal's house was part of the Nazareth Hall Boy's School and erected in April of 1819 as part of the 19th century.

Exterior: There were 3 additions made to the 1819 structure. To the south wall were added rooms in 1875 and 1877. To the north wall was added the Inspector's office in 1910. Dormers were added to front and back in 1873 and 1875.

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Interior: Basement

1. There was a large fireplace in the central room, and it had a Federal style mantel. It probably served as a summer kitchen.
2. Original basement windows were closed, probably due to change in grade of elevation.
3. Original basement stairs were changed, new stairs were installed ca. 1930
4. Brick foundation in basement was probably foundation for a porch, shown in 1830 illustration and was probably done away with during subsequent alterations.
5. A door opening was blocked off in 1877; it seems to have been an original entrance.

First Floor

1. A north addition was constructed in 1910 as the inspector's office.
2. Several original fireplaces were removed in the mid-19th century. In 1875, a black marble Victorian mantel was added to the fireplace in the front room.
3. In 1877, with the building of an addition, stairs were altered to accommodate an extra door in the front hall. Also, in 1877, an opening was cut in the back parlor to allow for sliding doors. About this time stoves were added in several rooms.
4. A shed or porch was removed about this time. It was located at the rear and shown in an 1830 illustration.

Second Floor

Door openings cut to accommodate 1875 and 1877 additions.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Nazareth Hall was constructed to serve the manor house for the Barony of Nazareth and as a possible alternate site for the world headquarters of the Moravian Church. Originally secured by the evangelist George Whitefield from the Penn family, the Barony of Nazareth consisted of a 5,000 acre tract between the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers. The Barony was unique in that it was the only truly feudal grant made by the Penns, since the Lord of the manor was duly empowered to set up his own court system if he chose.

In order to further his plans, Whitefield brought a group of Moravians on July 16, 1741. Although originally subordinate to the nearby settlement of Bethlehem, Nazareth soon gained an important role in the Moravians' plans for the North American communities.

Of all the North American Moravian communities, Nazareth most closely resembled a traditional European community model; a German manor town. Nazareth was designed to be the central manor town for the entire Barony. It was also to serve as a market town and source of agricultural supplies for other Moravian settlements. The focal point for the entire village was Nazareth Hall.

Among the great colonial mansions, Nazareth Hall was the sole Moravian building of this type. It was designed on a grand scale, yet its detailing reflects the elegant taste of the German Rococo period. This paradox can be explained by the building's dual function as a nobleman's manor house and an administrative center which was of local and international importance. Just as Governor Tyrone of North Carolina constructed a palace which would combine both domestic and administrative functions, Nazareth Hall was built by the Moravians to be the home and headquarters for the leader of their church, Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf.

Although Zinzendorf never inhabited Nazareth Hall, his social stature and leadership functions determined much of the building's design. In essence, the Moravian architects and builders attempted to transplant an 18th century South German county estate in the wilderness of North America. Unfortunately, Zinzendorf's death halted this design and the building was adapted for other less romantic but equally useful functions. It became a major center for the Moravian educational system and as such played an important role for generations of students.

The History of Nazareth Hall as a school began on June 6, 1759 when 111 boys and a staff of 19 tutors and attendants marched from Bethlehem to Nazareth. Although at first supported by the Church's "General Economy", by 1763 the school had become a tuition boarding school whose curriculum stressed not only classical learning, but also music and manual training. The school continued to be a success until the Revolutionary War brought economic turmoil to the Moravian community.

Although Nazareth was remote from the main lines of East-West supply and communication, it did play a role as a supply center and transit point for the continental army. Nazareth Hall was often called on to furnish shelter for various groups of military visitors during tumultuous years. Among the Revolutionary notables who passed through its doors were the Patriot generals Horatio Gates and Phillip Schuyler. The Polish cavalry-leader Casimir Pulaski stationed his troops on the manor grounds for 10 days in 1779, and many of his officers attended services in the Saal. In 1778, the French

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minister Gerard and the Spanish diplomat Morales were escorted through the building by Silas Deane and The Moravian leader John Ettwein.

Because of the inability of the Church to properly maintain the school in the midst of such wartime disruptions, Nazareth hall was converted into dwellings for missionary families, after the few remaining students had been removed to Bethlehem. However, by 1785, improved economic conditions together with an increased recognition of the Moravian's educational achievements led church authorities to reorganize the Nazareth Hall boarding school. During the next fifty years, Nazareth Hall became noted as one of the finest boy's schools in America. Its pupils were drawn from all parts of the country and included both Indians and blacks. Among the most noted graduates were Jacob Cist, prominent Pennsylvania legislator and anthracite industry pioneer, Charles Bird King noted portrait painter of the early 19th century, several members of the Henry family of gunsmiths and ironmasters, several descendents of the Tennessee Governor John Sever, and Stephen Mallory, who later became the Confederate Secretary of the Navy.

The Civil War brought many changes to Nazareth Hall. In 1862, Rev. Levin T. Reichel organized the pupils into a uniformed cadet company and introduced a modified form of military drill as part of the physical training sessions. This system would remain a characteristic of Nazareth Hall Boy's School during most of its remaining history. During the Civil War, Nazareth Hall graduates served in both contending armies. Five alumni attained the rank of Union general, while three attained the rank of Confederate general.

Nazareth Hall continued to serve as a Boy's School until the financial strains brought about by the Great Depression in 1929 forced it to be closed. The Hall and other buildings in the Hall Square (Zinzendorf Square) were purchased by the Will R. Beitel Foundation to be used as a children's home. Today the Hall is known as the Manor Apartments.

- Nazareth Hall (Old Nazareth) Zinzendorf (Hall Square, W. Center
- 1754 Nov 24- First announcement of intention to build
 - 1755 May 3 Cornerstone Laid
 - 1756 Building finished of native limestone
 - 1759 First opened as a boy's school.
 - 1779 Oct 21 Closed as a boy's school
 - 1785 Jan 1 Became a boy's "pay school".
 - 1785 Belfry, bell and weathervane added
 - 1796 Clock installed
 - 1790-1818 "Improved" sometime between these dates.
 - 1817 First proposed expansion.
 - 1839 May Sold to Moravian Provincial Helper's Conference for \$3,000.
 - 1841 Feb Completely renovated and two story building to be used as a kitchen added to the southeastern end of the main building.
 - 1885 With the opening of the building as the Nazareth Military Academy, a wing was added to the east.
 - 1927-1928 The Academy was closed.

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Architects: Friedrich Wilhelm von Marshall and Sigismund von Gersdorf

Builders: Tobias Hirt and Carl Schulze

Nazareth Hall is among the most unique and significant of Americas's remaining colonial buildings. It is important not only for its outstanding architectural features, but also for its association with one of the most colorful leaders of the Great Awakening in America. In more recent times, Nazareth Hall was also noted for the roles that many graduates of its school played in American history

The Old Moravian Church represents the transition of both the Moravian Church and Nazareth from a communal society and closed village to a congregational structure and incorporated borough. Beginning at the turn of the Nineteenth Century it saw a rapid breakdown in the communal nature of the Moravian settlements. As early as 1820, certain non-Moravians were allowed to reside in the community. The continual financial strains of the new era severely affected the profitability of the many church-run commercial and industrial enterprises. In light of these new times, erections of this large building represented a more outward looking spirit and provided a new focus for the community.

Before the church was built, the town's place of worship had been the Saal of Nazareth Hall. Beginning construction in 1839, the new building was intended to cost \$3,855. The cornerstone was laid May 17 1840. This ceremony is important as a sign of increasing liberalization of the community, since a Lutheran pastor, Adolf Fuchs of Bath Pa., preached a sermon during the ceremony. The church was consecrated in 1842 with the participation of both Lutheran and Reformed ministers. Money for erecting the church was partially gained through sale of several communal properties and it meant that the old Moravian choir system had finally come to an end.

In design, there is little to link this Moravian church with other buildings in Nazareth. Its architecture represents a late flowering of the Federal style and was dominated by the building of a large and highly embellished tower at its western end. The design of the tower was drawn largely from earlier works of Christopher Wren and other architects who attempted to fuse gothic Greek and Renaissance elements into a unique architectural form. Design to house not only a large bell, which costs over \$300, but also the refurbished clock from the steeple of Nazareth Hall. With its white smooth stuccoed finish and white tower, the church building was a striking addition to the community.

The church continued to serve the community as a place of worship until 1861 when it was converted to become the gymnasium for Nazareth Hall boys' academy. During these alterations, the bell and clock were removed and installed in the steeple of the present Moravian Church standing 2 blocks away.

The Single Sisters' House represents not only the vital role that this social group played in the development of the church village of Nazareth, but it also important because it represents the effective end of the influence of Germanic architecture on the church village of Nazareth, but is also important because it represents the effective end of the influence of Germanic architecture on the Lehigh Valley.

The Nazareth Single Sisters' House was built in 1784 and is located at the corner of Nazareth Hall or Zizendorf Square. It is a large stone building that rises three full stories to a single pitched roof.

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Six openings run across the east and west front of the building; the entrance door for each being located on the extreme left. The southern end of the building has a full complement of three windows for each level, while the northern end has but one central window at each floor level. All of the wall openings are surmounted by brick eyebrow arches which are no longer visible because metal Victorian pediments have been tacked over them. During the same period, five dormer windows were inserted on each side of the roof. These changes were introduced when the building was converted for school use in 1874-1875 and the effect, produced has rightly earned for the structure its later nickname "The Castle"

The design of the Single Sisters' House displays an almost total disregard for the traditional symmetry of Moravian architecture and further highlights the transitional nature of this building. The windows of the first and second floor are fairly large and of a Georgian style. The fusion of stylistic elements is further confused by the increased width of the third floor windows over the entrances, and the fact that the northern chimney rises well in from the gable, while the southern one projects flush with the gable. The lack of dormer windows in the original design is also unusual in a large Moravian choir building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Hacker, H.H. Nazareth Hall:an Historical Sketch. Bethlehem, 1910.
 Frick, R.P.L. Moravian Architecture. unpublished M.A.thesis, Moravian College.
 Murtagh, Willian J. Bethlehem and Environs:Society of Architectural Historians: August Tour 1967.
 -- Moravian Architecture and Town Planning, Chapel Hill, NC 1967.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 16.3315

Quadrangle name Nazareth, PA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8
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4	7	3	5	4	0
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4	5	1	0	1	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

1	8
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4	7	3	5	4	0
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1	0	0	0	0	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

1	8
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4	7	3	4	4	0
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4	5	1	0	0	0	0
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D

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4	7	3	4	3	0
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4	5	1	0	1	4	0
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E

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lance Metz Angelo Spinosa

organization Moravan Hist Soc/ Northampton G Hist Soc date

street & number Dept. History, Lehigh University telephone 215-861-3370

city or town Bethlehem 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Ed. Weintraub

title State Historic Preservation Officer date

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	date

*peniciled
in area
marks
Nazareth Hill Tract*

