

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

York Meetinghouse

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

135  
134 West Philadelphia Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

York

VICINITY OF

19th

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE

42

COUNTY

York

CODE

133

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<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

York Monthly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends

STREET &amp; NUMBER

135 West Philadelphia Street

CITY, TOWN

York

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

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

Recorder of Deeds, York County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

28 East Market Street

CITY, TOWN

York

STATE

Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT                       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD                                 RUINS  
 FAIR                                  UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED                      DATE 1975

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The York Meetinghouse was originally constructed in 1766 as a one and one-half story brick building, two bays in width, with a gable roof and side chimney. The structure was symmetrical in appearance with a window on either side of the main entrance. The windows are nine-over-nine, double-hung sash with semi-circular arched, radiating voussoirs above the lintels. The entrance is double-leaf, three panelled door with five-light transom and also has semi-circular arched, radiating voussoirs above.

The rear facade also features a window opening on either side of a centre door. In contrast to the panelled shutters on the front, the rear windows have batten shutters. Both rear windows and door have flat-arched radiating voussoirs above.

The east facade of the original structure has two window openings, one off centre at the first floor level, the other in the gable centre.

The main facade of the original structure features brick laid in Flemish bond. In contrast, both the rear and east facades feature brick laid in common bond with three rows between rows of headers.

In 1783, a brick addition was attached to the west end of the original meetinghouse, almost doubling its size. The addition is two bays in width with another entrance and window. The window is nine-over-nine, double-hung sash, the door a double-leaf, three-panelled door with five-light transom. Neither opening has radiating voussoirs. Two first floor window openings to the west side have batten shutters with flat-arched radiating voussoirs. The two window openings to the rear both lack voussoirs.

The main facade of the 1783 addition features brick laid in Flemish bond while both the west side and rear have brick laid in common bond with five rows between rows of headers.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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 1766, 1783

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Willis

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The York Meetinghouse, originally constructed in 1766, is the oldest religious building in the City of York. The York Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, once one of the largest religious bodies in the city, still holds weekly worship services for its nine members.

As early as 1738, "indulged meetings" held by sanction of monthly meetings, were held to the north of York in nearby Newberry and Warrington townships. When York County was created in 1749 with the county seat located at York, many of the large Quaker population in the area began to conduct business and buy property in town. Permission was soon obtained from Warrington Monthly Meeting to hold an "indulged meeting" in York. By 1764, the York indulged meeting became a meeting for worship but was ordered to remain members of the Newberry preparative meeting, a unit composed of one or more meetings for worship.

By 1766, the members of the congregation had contributed funds toward a meetinghouse. William Willis, a farmer and bricklayer, constructed the building on property deeded to the Society by Nathan Hussey. In 1767, the York preparative meeting was established. In 1773, the western portion of the lot was deeded and in 1783, the western half of the structure was built. By 1786, the York Monthly Meeting was established.

The York Meetinghouse is one of a very few pre-Revolutionary buildings extant in York and one of the oldest extant meetinghouses in the county. By virtue of the administrative structure of the Society of Friends, the York Meetinghouse is intertwined with the religious history of the surrounding area.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gibson, John, ed., History of York County Pennsylvania, Chicago: F. A. DeBattay Publishing Company, 1886.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately one

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	3511720	4424740	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  
Jerry L. Gleason, Reporter; David M. Berman, Curator

ORGANIZATION  
Harrisburg Sunday Patriot-News; Pa Hist & Museum Comm

DATE  
February, March 1975

STREET & NUMBER  
225 South George Street (P.O. Box 481); Box 1026

TELEPHONE  
717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN  
York; Harrisburg

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:

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE William J. Wewer DATE 4/15/75

TITLE Executive Director

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

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

5684 III SE  
(DOVER)

