

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

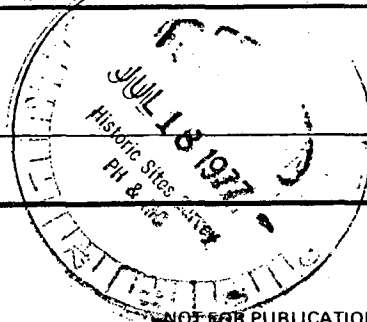
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24

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC LIBERTY HALL
AND/OR COMMON LIBERTY HALL



2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1237 West Broad Street
CITY, TOWN Quakertown VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Pennsylvania - 8th C.D.
STATE Pennsylvania CODE 42 COUNTY Bucks CODE 017

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Borough of Quakertown
STREET & NUMBER Borough Hall
CITY, TOWN Quakertown VICINITY OF STATE Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Recorder of Deeds, Bucks County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER Bucks County Administration Building
CITY, TOWN Doylestown STATE Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE EARLY RICHLAND SURVEY (1977); EARLY FRIENDS FAMILIES OF UPPER BUCKS (1925)
DATE 1977, 1925 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Quakertown Historical Society
CITY, TOWN Quakertown 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

The first permanent building in Richland (now Quakertown), Liberty Hall is a single one room, two story building (one room per floor). The front of the structure is 15 feet wide and 15 feet in depth. The exterior construction is native fieldstone. The front of the building has one cross and bible style door and one nine over six window. The second floor front has two nine over six windows. Each side has one nine over six window per floor. There is only one door at ground level in the back. The roof is a half gambrel, the only one of its type in Bucks County, and probably Pennsylvania. The roof design is original, however, the original shingles have been completely replaced.

The first floor room is heated by a walk-in stone fireplace in the west wall, which was used for heat and cooking. The winding stairway to the second floor is built on the south corner of the fireplace. The upstairs is heated by a much smaller, less elaborate fireplace above the first floor fireplace. Both floors are constructed of random width oak floorboards.

B 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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1772, 1777

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Abel Roberts

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built by Abel Roberts in 1772, Liberty Hall represents simple colonial Quaker construction. It was the first permanent residence in Richland (now Quakertown). As such, it was erected on the main crossroads in the center of original Richland, on the road to Newtown (county seat), Bethlehem and Durham (site of colonial iron mill and storing site of Liberty Bell in Northampton town near Bethlehem), Philadelphia (colonial provincial capital and U. S. capital), and Montgomery County. Because it was the first permanent building in the town, it was a center of social and political activity. It was from this location that the Declaration of Independence was read for the first time in Richland.

In September 1777, it was behind this building that the Liberty Bell was hidden enroute from Philadelphia to safety in Northampton town during the American Revolutionary War. It was because of this event, that the building acquired the name "Liberty Hall," which it has borne since 1777 and is still recognized in the community today by that name.

At the time of its construction, the building was the farmhouse to a farm along the Tohickon Creek and the road to Newtown. However, the farm was sold to William Green on April 3, 1802, and a new farm house (and store) was erected in 1805 ten feet west of Liberty Hall. As a result, Liberty Hall was spared any alterations or additions which would have been made had the building remained the main residence of a growing farming family. As a result, the building has remained unchanged since its original erection.

Since 1805, the building served as a storage house for the farm, and in 1952, the building and a small lot was separated from the William Green Store & House (the 1805 farmhouse & store) and used for commercial purposes. In May 1977, the Borough of Quakertown acquired the building in recognition of its important political and architectural significance to the Quakertown area, Bucks County and the nation.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Roberts, Clarence. EARLY FRIENDS FAMILIES OF UPPER BUCKS. Compiler Publishing Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 1925.
 Roberts, Elwood. OLD RICHLAND FAMILIES. Morgan R. Wills Publishing Co., Norristown, Pennsylvania. 1898.
 Aulp, Roy and Detweiler, Norman. Panarama Magazine.
 American Legion Magazine.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 0	2 7 5 6 3 0	4 3 9 1 8 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies Quakertown lot 1237 West Broad and is 3,325.51 sq. ft. in size.

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

Blake H. Eisenhart, Treasurer

ORGANIZATION

Quakertown Bicentennial Committee

DATE

4 JULY 1977

STREET & NUMBER

21 South Tenth Street

TELEPHONE

215-536-7123

CITY OR TOWN

Quakertown

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

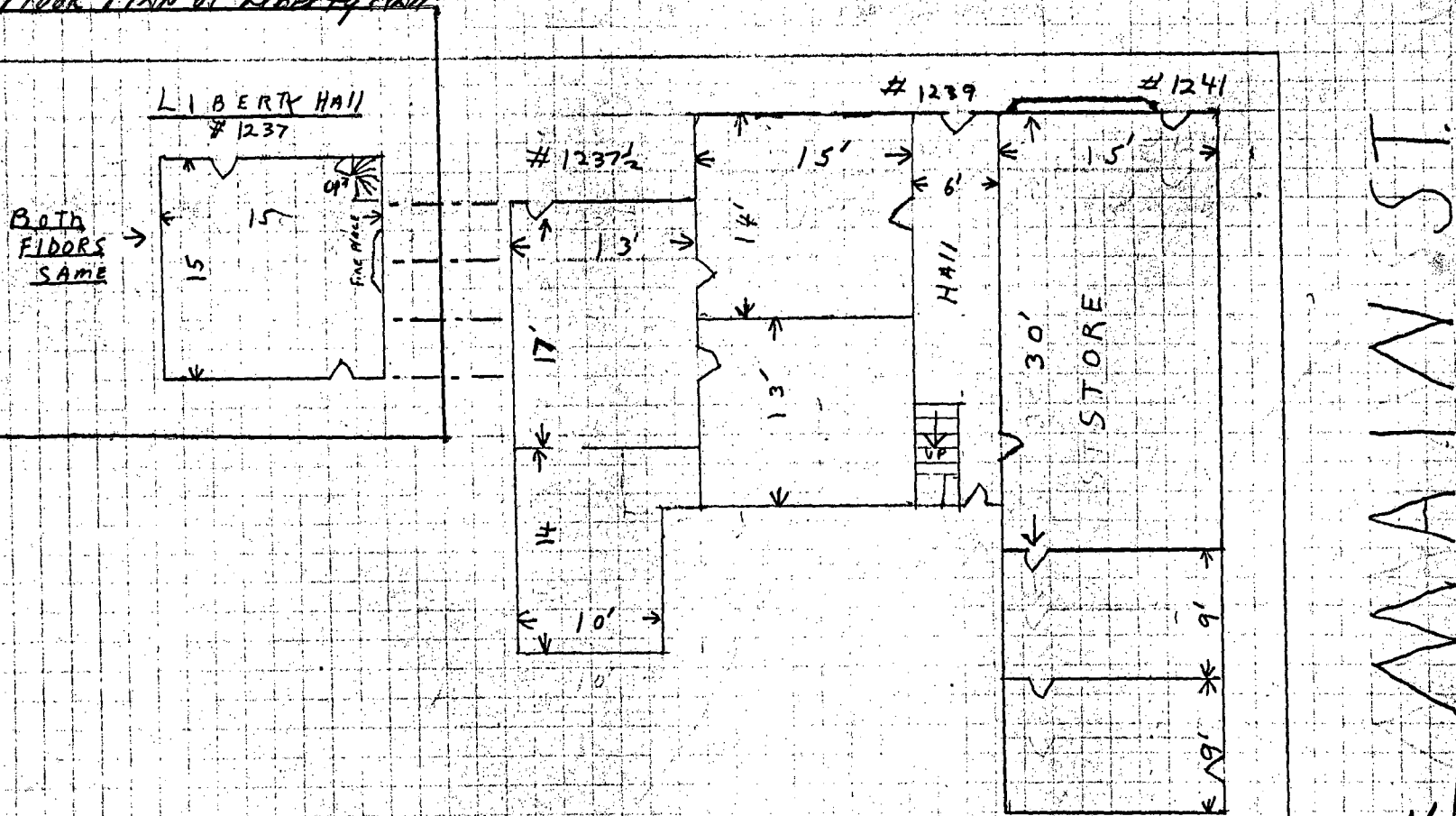
ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

BROAD ST RT 313

FLOOR PLAN of Liberty Hall

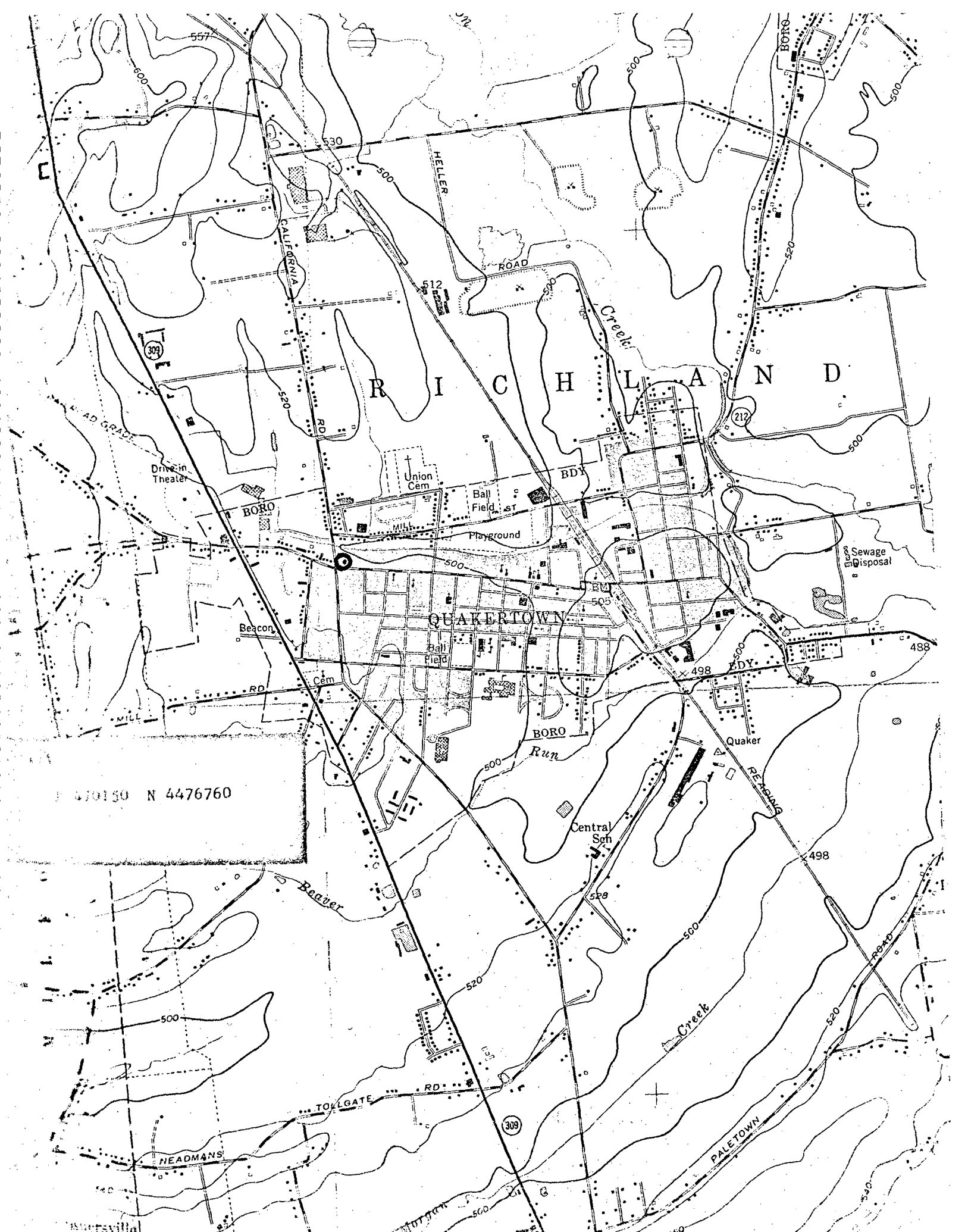


NOT TO EXACT SCALE

FIRST FLOOR

APROX 1366 Sq. FT. NOT INCLUDING LIBERTY HALL

TOTAL 1ST + 2ND FLOOR APROX 2196 Sq. FT.



R I C H L A N D

QUAKERTOWN

470130 N 4476760

HEADMANS

PALETOWN