

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Bucks
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Makefield Meeting (Makefield Monthly Meeting)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Meeting House at Dolington

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mt. Eyre Road and Dolington Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Newtown (Upper Makefield Township)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Eighth

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Bucks CODE: 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Makefield Meeting of Friends (Mrs. John Hollister)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Makefield Meeting (Clerk, Makefield Meeting)

CITY OR TOWN:
Newtown (R.D. #1, Newtown, Pa.)

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Bucks County, Recorder of Deeds (first deed - Book 10, p. 187)

STREET AND NUMBER:
County Administration Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Doylestown

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Makefield Meeting is a two-story, gable-roofed structure of stucco-over stone construction. The meetinghouse has been continuously occupied since 1752. The original meetinghouse (at the eastern end of the present building) was a one-story stone structure measuring 25' X 30'. In 1764, a second story was added and the building was enlarged to its present dimensions.

The six-bay structure was thoroughly overhauled, plastered, and re-roofed in 1851. Porticoes on the south and west were added in that year. Fenestration, with the exception of the first floor windows on the east gable end, is six-over-six sash. These windows, from the earlier period, are nine-over-nine. The placement of windows and doors on the front elevation is symmetrical. First floor windows on the front have panelled shutters.

The interior of Makefield Meeting reflects the austerity of colonial life in this part of Pennsylvania. The east and west wings differ in the presence of pillars to support the balcony in the former and their absence in the latter. The building throughout is quite functional in character.

In 1787, a schoolmaster's house was erected on the property of the meeting. This two-and-one-half story gable-roofed structure is of stucco-over-stone construction, three bays in width. The house is presently used as a dwelling by the meeting's caretaker.

Also on the grounds stand sheds constructed ca. 1800 for the benefit of the numerous worshippers who arrived on horseback. Originally, the sheds stood to the west of the meetinghouse but were moved to their present location in 1858. In that year the sheds were re-roofed. In 1971, a restoration of the sheds was undertaken.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1752

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Makefield Meeting has been an important part of the religious and cultural life of Makefield Township, Bucks County, for over 220 years. The property on which the meetinghouse and adjacent buildings stand was granted in 1684 and donated by Thomas Harvey to Falls Meeting in 1752 for the purpose of establishing a meetinghouse on the site.

Makefield Meeting was a center of activity for the township's early colonial settlement. Six homes dating from before the Revolution stand on land included in the original Thomas Harvey grant. Many who attended Makefield Meeting were prominent in local political and economic affairs. Makefield Meeting is believed to be the oldest church in the area, remaining as its only church for over one hundred years. Descendants of many of the early inhabitants of Makefield Township maintained ownership of farmland in the area into the twentieth century.

The meetinghouse itself is a good example of local vernacular architecture, is quite functional in design, and remains well-preserved in substantially unchanged condition since the addition of the west wing in 1764. Its value as a reminder of early colonial culture in rural, southeastern Pennsylvania should not be underestimated.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, William, History of Bucks County, I, 1905.
 Gantz, Mary S.T. Annals of a Bucks County Family.
 Kenderdine, Thaddeus S. Centennial of Newtown Friends Meeting, 1915.
 Battle, J.H. History of Bucks County, 1887.
 Petition to the Court of Quarter Sessions in 1756 Book 2.
 Petition to the Court of Quarter Sessions in 1821 Book 4.
 Bucks County Historical Tourist Commission. A History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	40 ° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 15' 58"	74 ° 53' 14"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.24 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Harvey Freedenberg, Student Aide.

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission DATE: June, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Building

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name William J. Wewer
 WILLIAM J. WEWER

Title Executive Director, Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

Date 10/24/73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

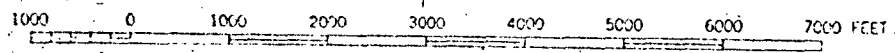
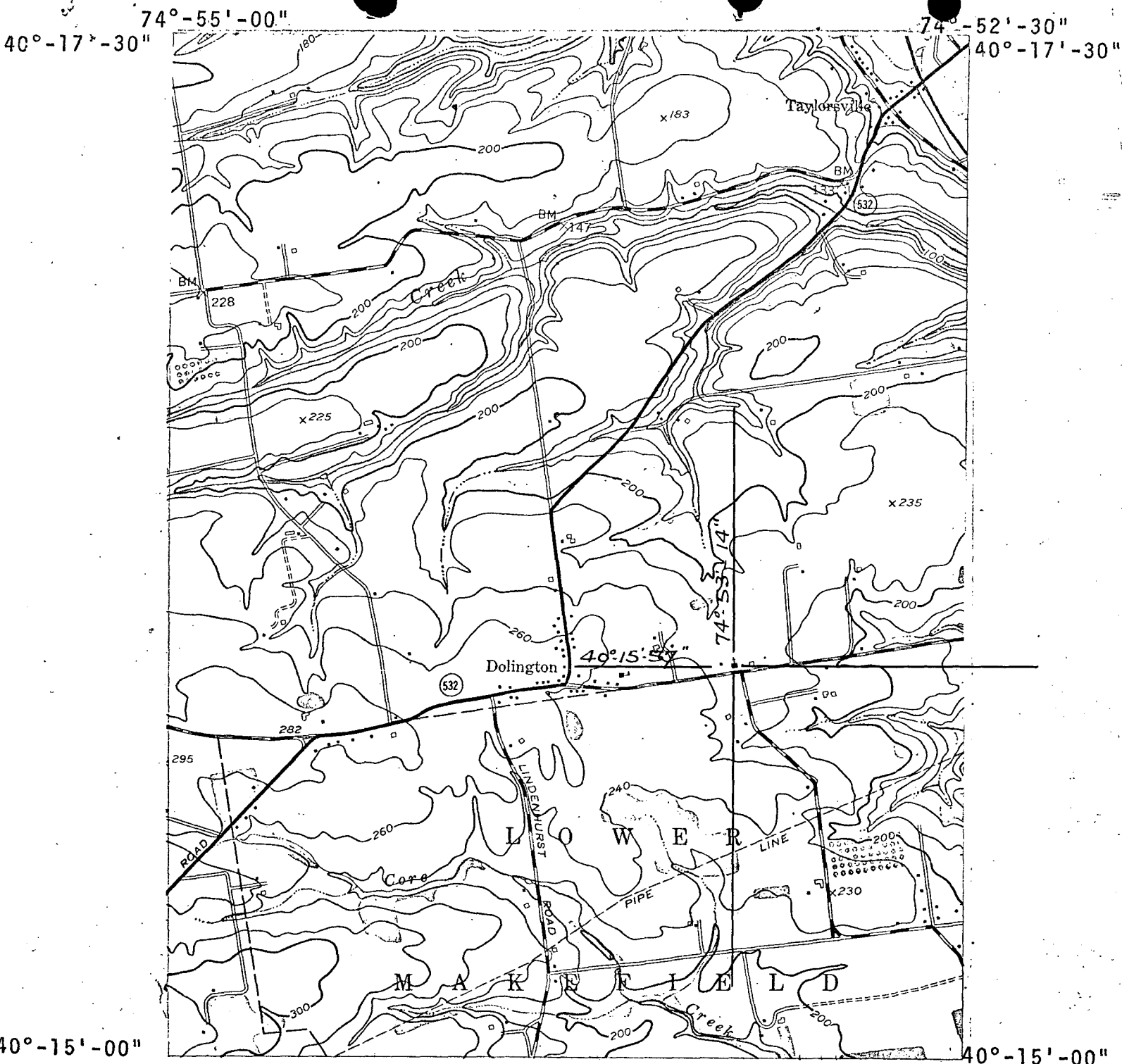
Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SCALE 1:24000
MAKEFIELD MEETING
 Upper Makefield Township
 Bucks County, Pa.
LAMBERTVILLE, PA.—N. J.

N4015--W7452.5/7.5

1953

PHOTOREVISED 1968

AMS 6064 IV SW—SERIES V831

