



VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
 AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty.....	—————	Light-duty.....	—————
Medium-duty.....	—————	Unimproved dirt	-----

- U. S. Route
- State Route
- Interstate Route

WAGONTOWN, PA.

N 4000—W 7545/7.5

1956
 PHOTOREVISED 1969 AND 1974
 AND 5863 III SE SERIES 7071

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(UNIONVILLE)
 5863 I NW

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic CALN MEETING HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 901 Caln Meeting House Rd.

PLA not for publication

city, town Coatesville

vicinity of

5th Congressional District
Rep. Richard Schulze

state Penna. 19320 code 42

county Chester

code 29

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Sadsbury Monthly Meeting

street & number Simontown Road

city, town Gap

PLA vicinity of

state Pa. 17527

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office
Chester County Courthouse

street & number High and Market Sts.

city, town West Chester

state Pa. 19380

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Chester County Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Brandywine Conservancy

city, town Chadds Ford

state Pa.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Caln Meeting House, built in 1726 by the Religious Society of Friends, is an outstanding example of early 18th century architecture in the Quaker tradition. Built of unhewn, tan, Pennsylvania fieldstone, the original Meeting House consisted of one room which was divided into separate areas of worship for men and women by floor-to-ceiling folding, wooden partitions.

In 1801 the building was enlarged with an addition of compatible style, resulting in an architecturally consistent, but somewhat atypical, style for a Friends Meeting. The addition doubled the size of the building while retaining the symmetry of the Meeting House with two hooded entrances to balance the two entrances of the original building. The wood shingle roof with pent eaves features four brick chimneys with arched covers.

The interior of the Meeting House is an expression of classic simplicity in the tradition of Friends Meetings. The eleven foot walls are plaster, with chestnut wainscoting. Folding wooden dividers separate the three rooms, with tiered facing benches for the Elders of the Meeting on the North side, and seven additional rows of benches for Friends who attended Meeting for Worship. The original random width floors are intact, and the shuttered windows retain many of the original panes in the classic nine-over-nine pattern.

The Meeting House property consists of four acres deeded to the Trustees by Richard Pike in 1759. The graveyard directly behind the Meeting House is enclosed by a stone wall. The Old Caln Historical Society is responsible for the continuing maintenance of the building and the grounds, and has broad-based community support in its preservation efforts.

The Historical Society sponsored the repair of the roof in the early 1950's, and the rebuilding of the frame wood shed which was burned at that time. In the last few years, the Society had had the chimneys and the horse mounting block repaired, and the building stone repointed.

A free standing electric heater (shown in the interior photograph) was placed in the Meeting House to provide a temporary source of heat so the building can be used all year as a meeting place for community organizations. The Historical Society is considering installing a heating system that is compatible with the style of the Meeting House. The architectural integrity of the Meeting House has been retained both inside and out by using the original building materials under the direction of a restoration contractor.

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/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1726

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Caln Meeting House is one of the oldest and most historic places of worship in Chester County, as well as in the state of Pennsylvania. The Meeting House was built in 1726 in a grove of trees on "Packets Path" which led from the Brandywine Creek to the Conestoga Trail. In later years this bridle path became the King's Provincial Highway, or Lancaster Pike, and was for a time the main artery from the Eastern seaboard to the West.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, a conflict developed between conservative, evangelical Friends who emphasized the life and teachings of Christ, and more liberal Friends who placed more emphasis on the Inner Light as the basis of Quaker faith. This growing controversy resulted in the Quaker Separatist Movement of 1827, creating a sharp division between the conservative, Orthodox Friends, and the liberal, Hicksite Friends, so named because of their leader Elias Hicks.

Caln Friends Meeting is noteworthy as the only Meeting in this area in which Hicksite and Orthodox Friends continued to meet in the same Meeting House, although in different rooms. The Hicksite group, being in the majority, was deeded the building and property, and used the West room for their Meeting, while the Orthodox group used the East room. In 1949 the Hicksite and Orthodox Meetings joined as a unified group in their Meetings for Worship. Because the two factions had met in the same Meeting House during the years of the Quaker Separation, Caln Meeting was regarded by other Friends as a neutral ground, and it continued to be the scene of active Quarterly Meetings, attended by Friends from afar, as well as many rural non-Friends.

The cemetery behind the Meeting House contains many early graves marked only with plain fieldstone. As time passed, however, the majority of graves were marked with inscribed marble stones. The earliest marked gravestone is 1754. In 1803 Colonel Hampton, a Revolutionary War hero, was buried there. The Caln Historical Society has a list of all marked graves in the cemetery, including many persons who played important roles in Pennsylvania history.

Although the Caln Meeting House is no longer actively used by the Society of Friends, it is under the jurisdiction of the Sadsbury Monthly Meeting and the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. The building is presently used as a meeting place for various community organizations. Documents of Caln Friends Meeting available at the Haverford College Library and the Chester County Historical Society record the history and culture of many early Pennsylvania settlers.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Futhey and Cope, History of Chester County, Pennsylvania, 1881.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 4 acres

Quadrangle name Wagontown, Pa. Chester Co.

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minutes

UTM References USGS Map enclosed

A

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Zone	Easting				Northing									

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Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

see continuation sheet

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

state Penna. code 42 county Chester code 29

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne B. Stolar, Consultant Submitted for the Old Caln Historical Society

organization Technical Support Consultants date January 4, 1984

street & number 1226 Marshallton-Thorndale Rd. telephone (215) 269-3035

city or town Downingtown state Penna. 19335

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 *[Handwritten Signature]*

title _____ date 2/3/84

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Caln Meetinghouse,

Item number 10

Page 2

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at the point where Guthriesville Road and King's Highway intersect and traveling approximately 500 feet north along the west side of Guthriesville Road; then, at a right angle west approximately 250 feet; then, at a right angle south approximately 500 feet south along the west property line of the meeting house property to the intersection with King's Highway; then, at a right angle along the north side of King's Highway approximately 200 feet; then, at a right angle south approximately 100 along the west property line of the meeting house cemetery; then, at a right angle east approximately 300 feet along the south property line of the meeting house cemetery; then, at a right angle north approximately 50 feet along the east property line of the cemetery to the intersection with King's Highway; then, west along the south side of King's Highway to the starting point.

The boundaries for the Caln Meetinghouse National Register nomination were selected because they represent property originally deeded to the meeting and reflect the bounds of the property during the period of significance of the meetinghouse. The east and west boundaries were and are the legal property lines. The northern boundary was drawn to include the burial ground used by the Hicksite Congregation. The south boundary on the south side of King's Highway is comprised completely of the Orthodox Quaker congregation's burial ground.