

5, JUNE TERM, 1914

NINTH STREET CO.

VS.

WILMINGTON MONTHLY  
MEETING

In the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware

No 5 June Term, 1911

Smith Street Company  
a corporation of the  
State of Delaware  
D. B. A.

No. 5 June Term, 1911  
Appeal from  
What of Error to the ~~Chancery~~

VS.

Williamson Muthy  
Muthy of Atlanta  
Ga. D. B. A.

done of the Chancery  
in the Court of Chancery  
County in and for Kent County.

AND NOW TO WIT this

26<sup>th</sup>

day of

October

A. D. 1911 this cause coming on to be heard and counsel for Plaintiff in Error and Defendant in Error being present, and having been heard, it is therefore considered by the Court that there is no error in the record and proceedings in this cause.

And it is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that the judgment below be and the same is in all things hereby affirmed and that the Plaintiff in Error pay the costs in this cause within 30 days or that an attachment issue.

Said costs are now taxed at the sum of ~~Twenty~~ dollars and 59 cents.

(17.59)

James C. ...  
Henry C. ...  
Herbert L. ...

State of Delaware, )  
KENT COUNTY, ) ss.

I,

Clerk of the Supreme

Court of the State of Delaware, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the decree of the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware in the above stated case as the same remains of record in said Court at Dover this

day of

A. D. 19

This Indenture made the Twentieth day of the third month in the fourth year of the  
Reign of our Sovereign George the third over Great Britain & King &c. in the year of our Lord one thousand seven  
hundred & Seventy four, Between Benjamin Swett of the Town County of Newcastle on Delaware  
Surviving Trustee of the herein after described Lot or piece of Land & a Member of the monthly Meeting of  
the people called Quakers in the borough of Wilmington in the County of the one part & John Swaden  
Thomas Molston Job Harvey James Marshall Joseph Gatal & John Frigg all of the same county and  
Members of the meeting of the other part <sup>the</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> William Benjamin Swett John Swaden Joseph Swaden  
Eliakim Garrison & Joseph Rotheram by virtue of an Indenture of Bargain & Sale duly executed under  
the hands & Seals of John Richardson & Nicholas Nevers for the consideration therein mentioned became  
lawfully seized in fee of & in the following described Lot or piece of ground situate in the Town of Newcastle  
a<sup>pt</sup> containing in breadth one hundred & twenty feet & in length three hundred feet bounded to the South  
East by beaver street to the Southwest with land formerly Rock of Dehaer to the Northwest with the Old  
Street to the North East with Land formerly of John Richardson to the uses intents & purposes therein  
mentioned that is to say this Lot or piece of Land & premises with the appurtenances to be remain to  
the use of the People called Quakers belonging to the monthly meeting at Wilmington a<sup>pt</sup> for them to  
bury their dead in, to build upon improve or make use of for any purpose as they in their monthly meet-  
ing or meetings for the time being should see fit & convenient & upon this further trust & Confidence that  
if any of the Trustees or their Successors should fall away & be out of unity with this people & by them  
not thought fit to stand seized of the Land & premises as a<sup>pt</sup> that then in such case more of this Trustees  
& their Successors who should so fall away & be out of unity as a<sup>pt</sup> should & ought by good assurances in law  
to convey this Lot of Land & premises with the appurtenances unto such member of this meeting as  
this people in their monthly meeting for the time being should order & appoint upon the trust &  
for the purposes a<sup>pt</sup> Also when & as often as this Trustees should by mortality or otherwise be reduced  
to the number of two that then & in such case the surviving trustees or trustee by & with the consent of the  
people in their monthly meeting for the time being should & ought by good assurances in Law to  
convey this Lot or piece of Land & premises with the appurtenances unto two or more members of this  
meeting & their heirs upon the trust & for the purposes a<sup>pt</sup> & so from time to time forever hereafter as often as  
it shall so happen whereby this Grant may have a perpetual duration & Continuance & might not come  
to Vest in the heirs of any one trustee anything therein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding  
standing as by this Indenture bearing date the 18<sup>th</sup> day of the 2<sup>d</sup> month in the year of our Lord 1752 & word

187 in the Office at New Castle in Lib 4 page 675 the said account being had may you fully let large  
appear that as the s<sup>d</sup> John Swiden Joseph Swiden & Clarim generation of Joseph Rationaire all died  
the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet party hereto is become the survivor of the monthly meeting of Wilmington have thought  
proper to order & direct that the s<sup>d</sup> Lot or piece of Land & premises should be conveyed over to the above named  
John Swiden Thomas Mollaston Job Harvey James Marshall Joseph Tatnal & John Torry's their heirs & assigns  
in trust for purposes a<sup>d</sup> now this Invention Witnesseth that the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet for his  
consideration of the sum of five shillings & a penny of this good to him in hand paid or to be  
to be paid by the s<sup>d</sup> John Swiden Thomas Mollaston Job Harvey James Marshall Joseph Tatnal & John Torry  
well for full filing the trust as a<sup>d</sup> to the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet hath granted bargained & sold a land in fee  
confirmed by these presents doth grant bargain & sell a land in fee confirmed unto the s<sup>d</sup> John Swiden Thomas  
Mollaston Job Harvey James Marshall Joseph Tatnal & John Torry their heirs & assigns all the above said  
lot of ground together with all & singular the houses, fences, ways, paths, passages, rights, liberties, privileges,  
servitudes & appurtenances with all & several the units belonging or in any wise appertaining & all the estate  
right title interest, property, claim & demand of the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet & his heirs in & to the same of or to  
to every part thereof to have & to hold all & singular the s<sup>d</sup> Lot or piece of Land & premises with every the appur-  
tenances unto the s<sup>d</sup> John Swiden Thomas Mollaston Job Harvey James Marshall Joseph Tatnal & John  
Torry their heirs & assigns in trust to & for the use & uses as a<sup>d</sup> & for no other use intent or purpose what so ever  
under the yearly rents & services then of to the Chief Lord or Lords of the fee to of right accustomed provided always  
that the grant & conveyance hereby made is upon the faith & trust & confidence that if any of the s<sup>d</sup> trustees shall  
fall away & be out of the unity with the s<sup>d</sup> people called Quakers & by them not thought fit to stand seized of the  
premises as a<sup>d</sup> it is agreed by & between the s<sup>d</sup> parties by these presents & hereby so declared that then in such  
Case such trustee or trustees who shall so fall away & be out of the unity as a<sup>d</sup> shall by some good & so  
Assurance in Law convey over their estate in the s<sup>d</sup> Lot of Land & premises with the appurtenances unto such  
members of the s<sup>d</sup> meeting as the s<sup>d</sup> monthly meeting for the time being shall see fit upon the trust & for the  
purpose a<sup>d</sup> also when two or more of the s<sup>d</sup> trustees by mortality or otherwise shall be reduced to the number  
of two it is covenanted granted & agreed by the s<sup>d</sup> parties by these presents & hereby so declared that then in such  
Case when it shall so happen that the surviving trustee or trustee by & with the consent of the s<sup>d</sup> people  
in their monthly meeting shall convey & seal the Land & premises above mentioned with the appurtenances  
unto as many more of the members of the s<sup>d</sup> meeting as they shall think fit to appoint & their heirs & assigns  
upon the trust a<sup>d</sup> whereby the s<sup>d</sup> trust may have a perpetual duration & continuance & so that the estate  
may not at any time hereafter come to vest in the heirs of any surviving trustee anything herein contained  
to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet for himself his heirs & assigns & assigns  
doth covenant promise & grant to & with the s<sup>d</sup> John Swiden Thomas Mollaston Job Harvey James  
Marshall Joseph Tatnal & John Torry & the survivors & survivor of them by their presents that the the s<sup>d</sup>  
Benjamin Sweet his heirs & assigns & assigns all & singular the s<sup>d</sup> Lot or piece of Land & hereditaments and  
premises hereby bargained & sold or mentioned or intended so to be every part & parcel thereof with the  
appurtenances against him the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet & his heirs & against all & every other person or  
persons whomsoever claiming or that shall or may at any time hereafter lawfully claim the same or any  
part thereof by from or under him the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin Sweet & his heirs & assigns & assigns & John Swiden Thomas Mollaston  
Job Harvey James Marshall Joseph Tatnal & John Torry their heirs & assigns for the use & purposes  
a<sup>d</sup> shall and will warrant & forever defend by these presents In Witness where of the s<sup>d</sup> Benjamin  
Sweet hath hereunto put his hand and seal & dated the day & year first above written

Signed sealed & delivered by order of the monthly  
meeting in Presence of us  
Philip Janvier Secy & Stapler  
Benj<sup>a</sup> Switt



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Newcastle County for Acknowledged in open Court of Common Pleas held at Newcastle for the  
L.S.
boundary of Newcastle in May Term 1774. In Testimony whereof I have  
hereunto affixed the Seal of the Court of said County

Recorded 25. Aug. 1774.

Frederic Maurice Proty

This Indenture made this Tenth Day of February in the  
Tenth Year of the Reign of George the Second of Great Britain &c King  
Anne Domini One thousand Seven hundred and thirty five seven  
Between Thomas Willing of Willington in the hundred of Christiana  
na in the County of Newcastle upon Delaware Cooper and Catherine his  
Wife on the one part and William Shipley of Willington aforesaid Gent  
Thomas Willington aforesaid Yeoman Joseph May of Willington  
aforesaid Yeoman and Joshua May of Willington aforesaid Joyner  
on the other part WHEREAS One John Anderson by virtue of a Patent  
from his late Majesty James the Second King of Great Britain &c but  
then Duke of York and bearing Date in or before the Year One thousand  
Six hundred and Seventy four became lawfully seized as in his De-  
-measne of ffee of and in a certain plantation or tract of Land situate  
lying and being in Christiana sundry of and he hold to him his  
Heirs and Assigns for ever. AND WHEREAS the said John Ande-  
-son by his Deed of Conveyance bearing Date the 10<sup>th</sup> of October Anno  
Domini 1674 for the Considerations therein mentioned did grant and  
Confirm the said Land unto Samuel Peterson and Sars Connelison After  
which the said Samuel Peterson and Sars Connelison made a legal  
Division thereof and the said Samuel Peterson by virtue thereof became  
lawfully seized of in and to his Dividend of the said Lands After  
which the said Samuel Peterson being so lawfully seized made his  
last Will and Testament in Writing bearing Date the 20<sup>th</sup> of 9<sup>th</sup> Anno  
Domini 1689 in which he did devise his said Lands unto him of  
his Sons who should live the longest with their Mother by virtue of  
which his Son Peter Peterson being the longest liver with his Mother  
became lawfully possessed thereof After which Nathias Peterson eldest  
Son of the said Samuel Peterson in pursuance and for the better  
fullfilling his said Fathers Will by his Instrument of Writing.

bearing Date the fourth of December 1702 did confirm the Said Peter  
Petersen in full and peaceable possession and Seign of the Said Lands  
with their Appurtenances SO WELL to him his Heirs and Assigns for  
ever After which the Said Peter Petersen being so lawfully Seized  
made his last Will and Testament in Writing bearing date the 25<sup>th</sup> of  
January Anno Domini 1704 and Registered in the Registry Office in  
Newcastle in which he did devise his Said Lands after his Wife's  
Death unto his Son Peter Petersen SO WELL to him his Heirs forever  
After which the Said Peter Petersen (Son of the aforementioned  
Peter Petersen) and Magdalene his Wife by their Indentures dated the  
8<sup>th</sup> of May 1707 for the Considerations therein mentioned Sold and  
Conveyed 105 Acres thereof to Andrew Justison to hold to him his  
Heirs and Assigns for ever as by the Said Indentures acknowledged  
and recorded at Newcastle in Book II Page 199 & 200 may further  
appear After which Hans Petersen Son and Heir of the Said Peter  
Petersen and Catharine his Wife by their Instrument in Writing dated  
the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 1704 for the Considerations therein mentioned did  
Release all and Singular the Said 105 Acres of Land with its Appur-  
tenances by meeds and bounds unto the Said Andrew Justison to hold  
to him his Heirs and Assigns for ever AND WELLS the Said  
Andrew Justison and Korta his Wife by their Indentures of Lease and  
Release bearing Date the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> of September 1706 for the Considerations  
therein mentioned did grant and Convey unto the Said Thomas Willing  
his Heirs and Assigns for ever about 19 Acres of the Said 105 Acres  
of Land and that by meeds and boundaries as by the Said Indentures  
may further appear NOW this Indenture Witnesseth  
that the Said Thomas Willing and Catharine his Wife for and in  
Consideration of the Sum of Twenty two pounds ten Shillings current  
Money of Newcastle aforesaid to them in hand well and truly paid  
at or before the executing and Delivery of these presents by the Said  
William Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way the Receipt  
whereof they do hereby acknowledge and themselves therewith fully  
satisfied contented and paid and thereof do hereby freely and Gladly  
Release acquit exonerate and for ever discharge the Said William  
Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way their Heirs & Assigns  
for ever by these presents HAVE Granted Bargained Sold aliened  
Released Infeoffed and Confirmed and by these presents DO fully and  
absolutely Grant Bargain Sell alien Release Infeoff and Convey unto  
the Said William Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way  
their Heirs and Assigns for ever a certain full or parcel of the above  
reputed forty nine Acres of Land Situate in Willingtoun aforesaid  
BEGINNING at a Corner Stake or Stone in the South side of Queen  
Street thence by the Said Street North fifty eight Degrees West twenty two  
perches and four tenths to a Stone by the Said Street thence South thirty  
two Degrees West fourteen perches and three tenths to a Stake standing  
in the North side of High Street thence by the Said Street South fifty  
Eight Degrees East twenty two perches and four tenths to a Stone in  
William Shipley's Lane thence North thirty two Degrees East fourteen  
perches and three tenths to the place of Beginning containing two Acres be  
it more or less Together with all and Singular the Rights Liberties  
Privileges Ways Easements profits hereditaments & Appurtenances what-  
soever to the Said two Acres of Land or any part thereof belonging or of  
right in any wise appertaining with the Reversions & Remainders Rents  
Issues and profits thereof with all the Estate Right Title Interest property  
Claim and Demand of the Said Thomas Willing and Catharine his Wife  
of in and to the Same with true copies of all Writings evidences & Court



Deeds touching or concerning the Same to be drawn at the Costs Charges  
 of the Said William Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way  
 their Heirs and Assigns to have and to hold all & singular  
 the Said Bargained premises with their Appurtenances unto the Said  
 William Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way their Heirs  
 and Assigns to the only proper Use and behoof of the Said William  
 Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way their Heirs and  
 Assigns for ever and that free and clear or otherwise by the Said Tho:  
 Willing his Heirs Executors and Admors at all times for ever hereafter well  
 and sufficiently saved and kept harmless of and from all manner of  
 other and former Gifts Grants Bargains Sales Leases Jointures Dowries  
 Wills Entails Mortgages Judgments Executions Debts and Incumbrances  
 whatsoever heretofore by the Said Thomas Willing have been had made  
 or done the Duties hereafter arising or becoming due by the Chief  
 Lord or Lords of the Fee only excepted and excepted) And it is  
 Covenanted between the Said Parties that the Said Thomas Willing and  
 Catharine his Wife their Heirs Executors and Admors all and singular the  
 Said Bargained Premises with their Appurtenances unto the Said W<sup>m</sup>  
 Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way & Joshua Way their Heirs and Assigns  
 against them the Said Thomas Willing and Catharine his Wife their  
 Heirs and Assigns and against all and all manner of persons lawfully  
 claiming or to claim by from or under him them or any of them shall  
 and well warrant and for ever defend by these presents And shall and  
 will at any time or times for ever hereafter at the reasonable request cost  
 and charges in the Law of them the Said William Shipley Thomas West  
 Joseph Way and Joshua Way their Heirs and Assigns make do suffer  
 execute and acknowledge all and every such further and reasonable  
 Act and Acts things Deeds and Assurances in the Law whatsoever  
 for the further and better Sure and maintaining all and singular the Said  
 Two Acres of Land with all and singular other the hereby bargained  
 premises with their Appurtenances unto the Said William Shipley  
 Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way their Heirs and Assigns as by  
 the Said William Shipley Thomas West Joseph Way and Joshua Way their  
 Heirs and Assigns or by their or any of their Council learned in the Law  
 shall be reasonably advised or devised or required In Witness whereof  
 the Said parties to these presents have interchangeably Set their Hands  
 and Seals the Day and Date first above written

In the presence of  
 William Nicholson  
 Samuel Haudric  
 Gouldsmith Edward Holwell

Tho: Willing  
 Catharine Willing  
 Seal Seal

Newcastle s<sup>c</sup> The within named Catharine Willing acknowledged before  
 me the Subscriber one of his Majesties Justices of the peace for the County above  
 said that she did sign and execute the within Deed or instrument  
 of Writing of her own free and voluntary Will and Consent Given under  
 my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> Day of february 1736

John Curtis

Know all Men by these presents that I Thomas Willing in the 16<sup>th</sup> in  
 written Deed named do hereby constitute and appoint Henry Newson  
 of the County of Newcastle on Delaware Gent my true and lawfull Attorney  
 for me and in my name to acknowledge the within written instrument  
 of Writing as my Act and Deed in the Court of Common pleas now holden  
 for the Said County of Newcastle or any other Court of Common pleas here-  
 after to be hold for the Said County as Witness my hand & Seal this




16<sup>th</sup> Day of February Anno Domini 1736/7

Scaled & Delivered

Tho: Willing 

In the presence of us  
Gouernour Elizabeth Gouernour.

 Acknowledged in the Court of Common Pleas hold for the  
County of New Castle in Feby Term 1736 Witness my hand and Seal of  
the County aforesaid

Da: French Justice

April 15<sup>th</sup> 1737 Examined  
& Recorded by me.

William Shaw Secord. of Deeds





In witness whereof, we, the said Ferriss, Griffith, Simpson, under January, 1700.  
 cefors & assigns To have, & to hold, all & singular the said heretofore granted premises unto the said David Ferriss, Zechariah Ferriss, Griffith menshall, Oliver Canby, John Bondall &  
 the appurtenances unto the said David Ferriss, Zechariah Ferriss, Griffith menshall, Oliver Canby, John Bondall &  
 William West & their heirs & assigns to the use & uses, intents and purposes for ever as herein after mentioned (that is to say)  
 the said Land & premises with the appurtenances to be and remain from time to time & at all times for ever hereafter  
 unto the people called Quakers belonging to the said Wilmington weekly meeting & such of them as shall from time to time  
 thereto belong & to the use & uses of their heirs & assigns for ever or as many of them as shall continue in the principles  
 of the said people & to the said meeting come to worship, to bury their Dead in to build upon & to improve & make use  
 of for any use & uses as they in their Monthly Meeting or Meetings for the time being shall see fitting & convenient and  
 if at any time or Times hereafter it be thought so convenient by the said Monthly Meeting for the time being or Majority  
 of them that any of the said Lands should be leased out upon Ground rent for any number of years or for life or lives  
 or granted & sold upon purchase to any persons for ever that then in such cases the said Monthly Meeting or the Majority  
 of them shall order the Trustees for the time being who are hereby empowered on the receipt of such order in Writing  
 under the Hand of the Clerk of the said Monthly Meeting to sign, Seal & execute lawfull Leases or conveyances of such of these  
 Lands to be granted & leased provided always that the Grant & conveyance hereby made is upon this further Trust that  
 if any of the said Trustees or their heirs or Successors shall shall away & be out of unity with the said people called Quakers &  
 by them not thought fitt to stand seized of the said premises this is agreed upon by & between the said parties to these presents &  
 it is hereby so declared that in such case these of the said Trustees their heirs & Successors who shall shall away & be out of  
 unity as aforesaid shall & will by good assurance in law convey the said Land & premises or such part thereof as he or they  
 shall stand so seized of with the appurtenances unto such members of the said Wilmington Weekly meeting & their heirs and  
 assigns as the said people in their said Monthly Meeting of Wilmington, or other Monthly Meeting to which the said Monthly Meeting may  
 belong for the time being shall see fitting & convenient upon the Trust & for the uses in these presents mentioned & as aforesaid  
 and as often as any of the said Trustees shall by mortality or otherwise be reduced to the number of two or three or four or five  
 agreed upon by & between the said parties to these presents & it is hereby declared that then & in such case the surviving Trustees  
 by and with the consent order & approbation of the said people in their said Monthly Meeting shall ought & will by good  
 Assurance in law convey the aforesaid premises or such thereof as they shall then stand seized of unto the appurtenances  
 unto other two or more Trustees members of the said Weekly Meeting their heirs & assigns upon the said use & as aforesaid  
 & so for time to time for ever hereafter as often as the said Trustees shall be reduced to the said number of two or more unto the  
 people in their Monthly Meeting shall be requisite whereby the said Trustees may have a perpetual duration & continuance  
 of the said Land & premises may not come to & be vested in any surviving Trustee or Trustees nor in the Heirs of any surviving  
 Trustee or Trustees at any time hereafter any thing herein contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding  
 & further it is hereby covenanted between the said parties and the said David Ferriss, Zechariah Ferriss & Oliver  
 Canby & Griffith menshall & John Bondall & William West each one respectively for himself & his respective heirs  
 do covenant & agree that in case it should or may so happen at any time or times hereafter that the said David Ferriss  
 or Zechariah Ferriss or Griffith menshall or Oliver Canby or John Bondall or William West or any of them or any  
 of their should so fall away & be out of unity with the people called Quakers & by them not thought fitt to stand  
 so seized as aforesaid of the said premises or by mortality, removing to other parts or other ways made or rendered  
 incapable or unfitting to stand so seized in trust as above said that then & immediately thereupon if the request costs  
 & charges for the writings of the said people called Quakers belonging to the said Wilmington Weekly meeting the said  
 David Ferriss & Zechariah Ferriss & Griffith menshall & Oliver Canby & John Bondall & William West & such of their  
 as so fall away or other ways rendered incapable of standing so seized as aforesaid & their respective heirs &  
 Executors & administrators shall & will by good assurance in law convey & perform as aforesaid all and singular  
 the said Land & premises or such thereof as they shall then stand & be so seized with the appurtenances & such persons as  
 the said people at the said Monthly Meeting or Majority of them shall appoint to receive the same and that to such  
 use & as in these presents are at large contained, mentioned & comprised and further it is agreed between  
 the said parties that the said piece or parcel of Ground & other the premises hereby granted or mentioned to be granted  
 with the appurtenances shall be, remain & continue to be to the said people called Quakers belonging to the said Wi-  
 ilmington Weekly meeting and Monthly Meeting or other Monthly Meeting to which they may hereafter belong  
 to such use and uses as heretofore expressed & as the said Monthly Meeting from time to time shall order & appoint & that  
 truly and clearly by the said Joseph Way, William Shipley & Joshua Way & their & either of their heirs saved & saved  
 & kept harmless of & from all & all manner of other and former Rights, Claims, Troubles & Injuries whatsoever  
 & forever had made or done by the said Joseph Way, William Shipley & Joshua Way the Quakers or by any  
 due to the chief Lord or Lords of the Fee thereof only excepted & here prized & lastly that the said Joseph Way, William  
 Shipley & Joshua Way & either of their heirs all & singular the said hereby granted premises unto the said people called  
 Quakers & their heirs & assigns to the uses aforesaid against the said Joseph Way & Sarah his wife & William Shipley &  
 Elizabeth his wife & Joshua Way & Elizabeth his wife & their heirs & against all manner of persons lawfully claiming  
 or to claim by from or under them or any of them shall & will warrant & for ever defend by these presents do  
 shall & will at all times hereafter at the reasonable request costs & charges of the said David Ferriss, Zechariah Ferriss  
 Griffith menshall, Oliver Canby, John Bondall & William West their heirs & Successors in the said Trust make do &  
 knowledge & execute all and every such other and reasonable & lawfull act & do things devices & Assurances in the  
 Law whatsoever for the further & better Assuring & Sure making all & singular the said heretofore granted premises with  
 the appurtenances to the said David Ferriss, Zechariah Ferriss, Griffith menshall, Oliver Canby, John Bondall & West  
 & their Successors in the said Trust for use & uses as aforesaid as by the said Trustees or their Successors in their several Severall  
 in the Law shall by reasonably advised devised or required In Witness whereof the said parties to these presents have set  
 their hands & Seals the day & date first herein written  
 Sealed & Delivered in the presence of  
 Abraham Dawes, Henry Froth, Jo, ph Holwell  
 Oliver Canby  
 John Bondall  
 William West  
 David Ferriss  
 Zechariah Ferriss  
 Griffith menshall  
 Sarah Way  
 Joshua Way  
 Elizabeth Way  
 Elizabeth Way

Know all men by these presents that we the heirs of the within mentioned Thomas West for a valuable consideration have sold  
 paid the Receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge our selves fully satisfied and paid do for our selves and our heirs for ever  
 claim to the within mentioned & divided lot of David & Jerry part thereof as to our Right in the said land as might have been  
 the said Thomas West & his heirs and Seals this Twenty first day of the 9<sup>th</sup> Anno  
 & Fifty Sealed & Delivered in the presence of  
 William West  
 Hannah West  
 Joseph West



Acknowledged in the Court of Common Pleas held for the County of Newcastle in November Term 1750 Witness my Hand and Seal of the County &c.  
Recorded January 31. 1750 *Rich<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. William* Record<sup>r</sup>. Deeds

*Rich<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. William* D. proton ibm

This Indenture made this Sixt day of October in the Twenty fourth year of His Majestys Reign Annoq<sup>3</sup>. Dom one thousand Seven Hundred & Fifty Between John Broom of Lancaster County in the province of Virginia Carpenter the eldest Son of Thomas Broom late of the County of Newcastle on Delaware Innholder dece<sup>d</sup> of the one part: and James Broom of the County of Newcas<sup>s</sup> the as<sup>t</sup>. Blacksmith one other of the sons of the Said Thomas Broom dece<sup>d</sup> of the other part. Witnesseth that the Said John Broom for and in consideration of the Sum of one hundred Pounds current money of America to him in hand well & truly paid by the said James Broom at or before the Sealing and Delivery hereof the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge & thereof & of every part & parcel thereof doth acquit & congregate & forever discharge the Said James Broom his Heirs & Assigns & every of them by these presents and also for the natural Love and affection which he beareth to the Said James Broom his Brother He the Said John Broom hath granted Bargained, sold & released and by these presents doth Grant, Bargain Sell & release unto the Said James Broom & to his Heirs & Assigns all that Share, part or portion of the real & personal Estate late of the as<sup>t</sup>. Thomas Broom dece<sup>d</sup> which by Will, Legacy, Bequest or any other way whatsoever belongeth or appertaineth unto the Said John Broom & his Heirs by virtue thereof & of the Laws & Constitutions of the Government of the Counties of Newcastle, Kent & Sussex on Delaware and also all his part, Share or portion of Elizabeth Broom (one of the Daughters of Thomas Broom as<sup>t</sup>. dece<sup>d</sup>) also dece<sup>d</sup>, her Real & personal Estate of what kind soever by virtue of the Laws & Constitutions as<sup>t</sup>. Together with all & singular the Rights, Members & appurtenances to either of them belonging or in anywise appertaining And the Reversions & Remainders, Rents, Issues & profits of them and all the Estate Right, Title, Interest, properly Claim & Demand whatsoever of him the Said John Broom of in to or out of the real & personal Estate late of the Said Thomas Broom dece<sup>d</sup> & of in to or out of the real & personal Estate late of the as<sup>t</sup>. Elizabeth Broom also dece<sup>d</sup> or any part or parcel of them or either of them To have and to hold the Said Shares, parts or portions hereby granted & released & every part thereof with the appurtenances unto the Said James Broom his Heirs & Assigns to the only proper use & behoof of the Said James Broom his Heirs & Assigns forever and that free and clear from all former Gifts, Grants, Bargains, Sales, Releases and Incumbrances whatsoever by the Said John Broom hath been had made or done by Proprietaries Quit-rents only excepted and the Said John Broom doth hereby Impower John Finney & Richard M<sup>r</sup>. William of the County of Newcastle Gentlemen or either of them his lawful attorney to acknowledge these & such as his act & Deed in any Court of Common Pleas to be held for the County of Newcastle In Witness whereof the Said John Broom hath hereunto set his Hand & Seal the day

Sealed & Delivered in the presence of  
William Pullen, William Gibson, David M<sup>r</sup>. Nelley  
Andrew Scrimsher, Sarah <sup>his wife</sup> Scrimsher

John Broom - Seal

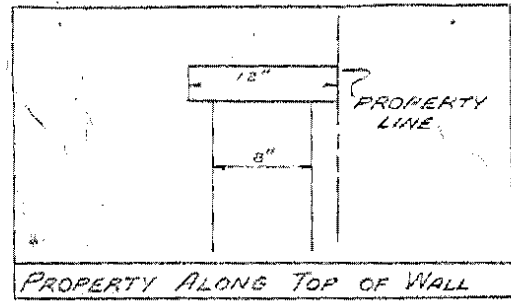
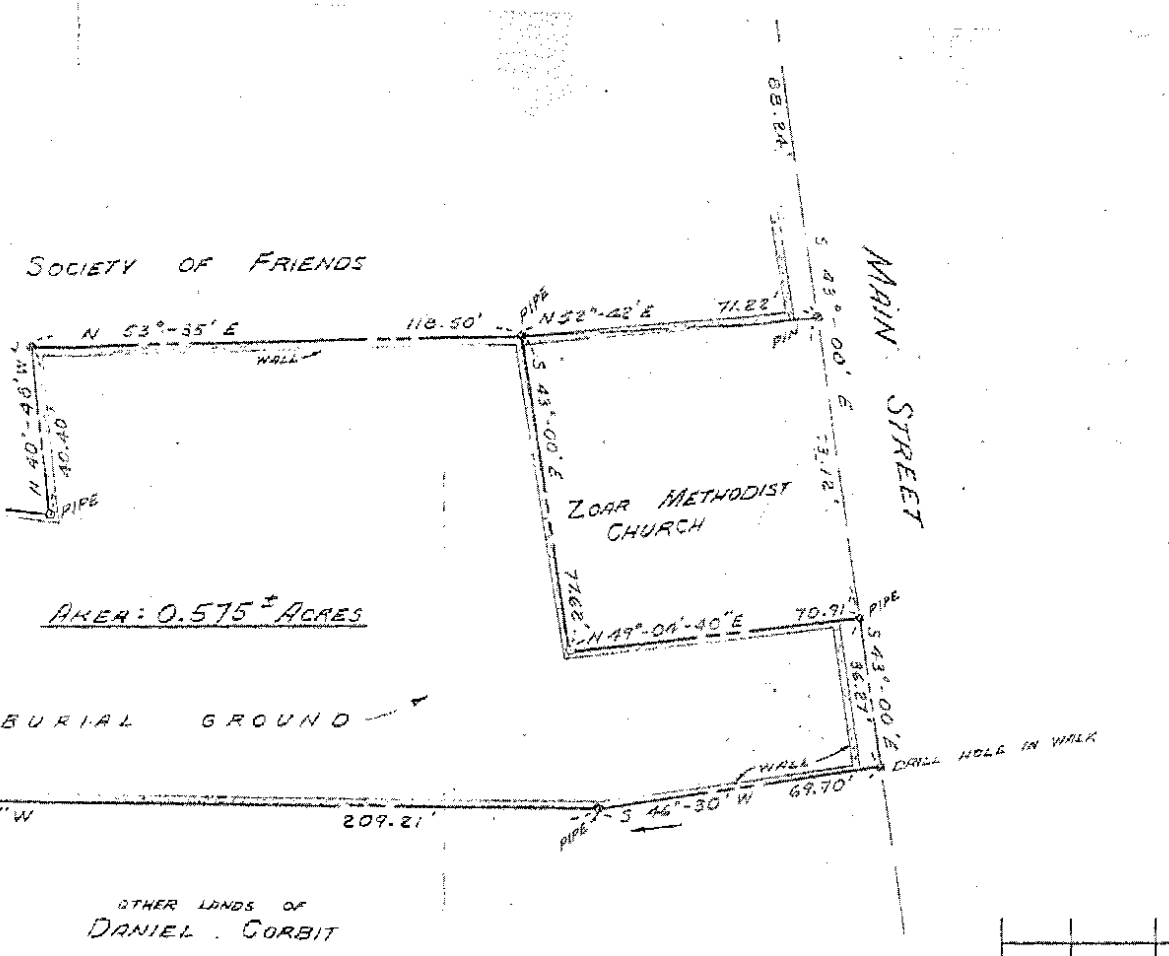
Virginia, Lancaster County & This is to certify that David M<sup>r</sup>. Nelley came before me one of Majestys Just<sup>s</sup> of the Peace for the Said County, and made oath that he saw John Broom Signe & Deliver the within Lease & bargain to his Brother James Broom as his act & Deed and also he saw William Pullen Will<sup>m</sup>. Gibson, Andrew Scrimsher and Sarah his wife Test the Same as Witnesses Given under my hand this 8<sup>th</sup> day of Oc<sup>r</sup>. 1750

William Dymet

The Execution of the Within written Deed was proved by David M<sup>r</sup>. Nelley one of the Evidences thereunto & the Same was acknowledged in the Court of Common Pleas held for the County of Newcastle in November Term 1750 Witness my Hand & Seal of the County &c.  
Recorded January 31. 1750 *Rich<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. William* Record<sup>r</sup>. Deeds

*Rich<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. William* D. proton ibm





REVIS.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	APPROVED
PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED TO WILMINGTON MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS FORMERLY CORBIT GRAVEYARD ASSOCIATION CITY OF ODESSA NEW CASTLE COUNTY DELAWARE			
SCALE 1" = 30'		DATE DECEMBER 6, 1963	
DESIGNED	DRAWN	APPROVED: <i>Frank T. Lynch</i> PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER - REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR	
WILMINGTON		<b>VAN DEMARK &amp; LYNCH, INC.</b> CIVIL ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS	
REFERENCE		DELAWARE DRAWING NUMBER <b>8562 - 8326 - M</b>	
			REVIS.



A

List of Births

1707 - 1851

Copied From the Records

of

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Fourth and West Streets



A

List of Marriages

1733 - 1932

Copied From the Records

of

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Fourth and West Streets



A

List of Deaths

1736 - 1872

Copied From the Records

of

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Fourth and West Streets



A

List of Births

1707 - 1851

Copied From the Records

of

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Fourth and West Streets



A

List of Marriages

1733 - 1932

Copied From the Records

of

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Fourth and West Streets



A

List of Deaths

1736-- 1872

Copied From the Records

of

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Fourth and West Streets



INVENTORY OF THE CHURCH  
ARCHIVES OF DELAWARE

*by the*

HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

PRELIMINARY DRAFT NOW BEING  
CHECKED FOR FINAL ACCURACY

MARCH 1940

*Binder #1*

WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE PROJECTS

OLD POST OFFICE BLDG.

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Society of Friends reports no records known to exist aside from references to meeting in minutes of Duck Creek Monthly Meeting (entry 147). Record of deed: Sussex Co. Recorder's office, Deeds Record; vol. B2, p. 203.

155. HOCKESSIN MEETING, 1730-- , Hockessin.

Organized 1730 as a week day meeting under Newark Preparative Meeting (entry 148), services being held in the home of William Cox. Set up as a preparative meeting in 1737 and the following year the present meeting house was built. It was enlarged in 1745. Monthly meetings were held alternatively with Centre in 1786, the meeting then being called Kennett Monthly Meeting (see forthcoming Inventory of the Church Archives of Pennsylvania). But in 1808 the two were set up as the Centre Monthly Meeting (entry 149) of which Hockessin is still a part. The Centre meetings were gradually discontinued, all monthly meetings for many years past being in Hockessin, but still under the old name. Meeting house is a plain stone structure covered with white plaster. Addition of frame construction. Slate roof. Building stands at the top of a hill. Cemetery surrounded with a stone wall lies across the road from the meeting house.

Old records and current minutes and register are incorporated with those of Centre (entry 149). Financial, 1888-- , 1 vol.; graveyard records (financial), 1854-1938, 1 vol.; in possession of John C. Mitchell, Hockessin.

156. WILMINGTON MONTHLY MEETING, 1738-- , 4<sup>th</sup> and West Sts., Wilmington.

Organized 1738 as a meeting for worship. After meeting for a short period in the home of William Shipley, a one story brick building on the east side of West St. a little above W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. was completed. This served until 1748 when a larger two story brick building was erected on the corner of W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Both the old and new meeting houses were used as a school from 1748. (See entry 157). Established as a monthly meeting in 1750 under the Concord Quarterly Meeting. Later quarterly meetings were held at Wilmington once each year. Present building, erected in 1817, stands in the graveyard occupying the entire block from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Sts. and from West to Washington Sts. Plain two story brick building. Georgian style. During the summer month meetings are held with the Orthodox Friends in their meeting house at 10<sup>th</sup> and Harrison Sts. (entry 161). Present clerk of the meeting, Clifford K. Sloan, Woodside Hills, R. F. D. 3. See: Louis M. Robinson, Society of Friends House (Wilmington, privately printed, 1914); Friends in Wilmington (Wilmington, Charles L. Story Co., 1938, 165 pp.); article in Wilmington Evening Journal, Dec. 8, 1920; photographs of three buildings occupied, in possession of Mrs. Margery Stapler Ayers, 1706 Woodlawn Ave.

Minutes, 1750-1901, 14 vols. (1750-1891, men's and women's separate, 1891-1901, joint, 1780-1824, transcriptions); 1803-27 (transcript made in 1909) 3 vols.; Minutes of the Committee of Advices in Sufferings, etc. appointed by Wilmington Monthly Meeting, 1756-88, 2 vols.; Minutes of the Society for the Relief of the Poor, 1813-14, 1 vol.; extracts from Minutes of Wilmington Monthly Meeting in the case of Benjamin Webb, 1831, 1 bdl. of 5 sets of papers 41 pp.; Miscellaneous Papers, 1743-1839, 4 bdls. Containing approx. 280 papers; 1750-1832, 16 envelopes containing approx. 130 papers; 1825-29, 1 bdl. Of 23 papers; in Friends' Historical Library. Above records were loaned when the meeting house safe was not considered sufficient protection but may be returned shortly as the condition has been remedied. Minutes (women's original), 1803-27, 1750-1827,; in possession of Society of Friends (Orthodox), 302 Arch

St., Philadelphia. Minutes (original papers backed vols.) 1780-1824, 1 pkg.; 1901--, 4 vols.; Register (births and burials), 1740--, 2 vols.; (marriage certificates), 1750--, 1 vol.; (certificates of removal), 1751--, 2 vols.; (members) 1807-82, 3 vols.; (burial permits), 1824-1929, 3 vols.; Recorded Burials, 1740--, 1 card file; Gravestone Inscriptions. Loose papers; Grave locations in Burial Grounds, 1 vols.; and 1 plans; Financial, 1750--, 3 vols.; Legacies, donations, and early School Funds Record, 1794, 1 vol.; Collection and Treasurer's Book, 1811, 1 vol.; Treasurer's Book of Investments, 1872, 1 vol.; Treasurer's Voucher's Reports, etc., 1901-11, 1pkg.; Papers relating to building of the Meeting House, 1816-16, 1 pkg.; Records of Alterations to Meeting House, 1920, 1 pkg.; Receipted Bills of Philanthropic Committee, 1895-98, 1 pkg.; Members and Attendance at First Day School, 1868--, 3 vols.; Minutes of Teachers and Officers of First Day School, 1895-1914, 1 vol.; Minutes of Female Benevolent Society, 1800-1912 (some items missing, 1829-60), 6 vols.; Treasurer's Accounts of Female Benevolent Society, 1 pkg.; Reports of articles distributed by the Female Benevolent Society, 1 pkg.; Papers pertaining to Friends' School, 1 thin Box; plans of Primary Addition to Friends' School, 1912, 1 roll; Treasurer's Book of School Funds, 1808--, 1 vol.; Records of Friends' Social Lyceum, 1 pkg.; Young Friends Association Minutes, 1894-1901, 1 vol.; Friends' Service Committee records, 1925, 1 pkg.; Friends Best Interests Committee Minutes, 1912-24, 1 vol.; and loose papers in folder; Deeds and similar legal papers, 1 thin box; in meeting house sage in custody of custodian of records, Mrs. Margery Stapler Ayers, 1706 Woodlawn Ave. See also records of Wilmington Meeting (Orthodox, entry 161) which contain some items pertaining to this meeting prior to 1827. Records of incorporation and deeds: new Castle Co. Recorder's office. Deeds Record; vol. L1, p. 76; vol. Q1, p. 431; vol. B2, p. 186; vol. F2, pp 268, 326, and 329; vol. M2, p. 275; vol. X2, p. 172; vol. E4, pp. 153, and 160; vol. K5, p. 3 09; vol. V12, p.533; vol. G18. p. 59; vol. T20, p. 544; vol. X20, p. 117; vol. Z20, p. 137; vol. B23, p. 272; vol. C23, p. 534; vol. R23, pp. 385, 532, and 535; vol. K25, p. 518; vol. C25, pp. 109, 121, and 129.

157. FRIENDS SCHOOL. 1748--, Alapocas Drive, Wilmington.

Organized 1748 by some of the first members of the Society of Friends in Wilmington. The first building used was the meeting house at 4<sup>th</sup> and West Sts., which vicinity at the time was known as Quakers Hill. In 1846 a new building for females was erected. The buildings were enlarged in 1883 and other additions were made until the school buildings occupied the entire length of the block, east side of West St., 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Sts.. In 1937 the school was moved to the present new building, a large three story structure of Brandywine field stone, Delaware Colonial style of architecture, located on Alapocas Drive, just north of Wilmington. It is a co-educational day school, grades, kindergarden to senior high. The two Wilmington Meetings of Friends (entries 156 and 161) manage the school jointly. Present principal is Wilmot R. Jones.

Minutes, 1884--, 4 vols.; Enrollment Record, 1888--, 4 vols.; academic Record, 1891--, 4 vols.; in school safe. Other records of the school included with those of the Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends, (entry 156).

158. MILFORD PREPARATIVE MEETING, 1760-1832 (defunct), Milford

Organized 1760 at which time the members asked permission of the Western Quarterly Meeting to build a meeting house. Site of this meeting house or



# THE CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

by

FRANK R. ZEBLEY

Author of "Along the Brandywine"



*A history, in brief, of the nearly 900 churches  
and former churches in Delaware as  
located by the Author.*

1947

this work being completed on Feb. 23, 1774. In August, 1777, two companies of British soldiers were quartered in the church.

When the Rev. Lawrence Girelius sailed away from Delaware in 1791, the regime of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Delaware came to an end. The congregation selected the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, to take charge. The regime of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Wilmington was begun with his first service on Sept. 25, 1792.

## FRIENDS

**Wilmington Friend's Meeting, Hicksite.** On Nov. 7, 1737, Friends living in Wilmington, asked New Wark Preparative Meeting for permission to hold meetings. On Dec. 4, 1737 the request was granted by the Monthly Meeting. Wilmington Meeting was constituted on Dec. 13, 1737. The first meetings were held in the one-story brick temporary home of Wm. Shipley, below 4th St., and 50 ft. west of Shipley St. The sanction of the Chester Quarterly Meeting was granted on Dec. 13, 1737. When the large home of Wm. Shipley, on the s. w. cor. of 4th and Shipley Sts., was completed, the meetings were held there. An elder and two overseers were selected in 1738. Wm. Shipley donated a lot at the n. e. cor. of 4th and West Sts., where a small Meeting-House was built. The date, 1738, was laid out in the front wall with glazed bricks. A sundial was placed on the south wall and it remained in place for at least sixty years. On June 8, 1739 Wilmington requested the privilege of a Preparative Meeting, which was granted.

In 1748, a much larger Meeting-House was built on the site of the present one. It was two stories in height and contained a gallery. The first Meeting-House was then used exclusively for school purposes. On Mar. 14, 1750, Wilmington joined with New Castle to form a Monthly Meeting.

Because the Friends refused to take any part in the Revolutionary War, they were subjected to many indignities, including fines and imprisonment. When they refused to pay the fines, their possessions would be restrained and sold. On Aug. 27, 1777, the Meeting-House was forcibly taken over by the Revolutionary soldiers as a barracks. While thus occupied, the Friends held their meetings under a tree outside of the Meeting-House. In September, 1777, the British having occupied Wilmington, they used the Meeting-House as a hospital for wounded soldiers.

The present Meeting-House was started in 1816 and it was completed and opened on Sept. 25, 1817. Elias Hicks visited the Meeting on Nov. 16, 1817, Oct. 23, 1819, Dec. 3, 1826 and Dec. 14, 1828. The Friends of Wilmington continued as one organization until the split in the Society in 1827. At this time the followers of Elias Hicks, known as "Hicksites", secured possession of the building at 4th and West Sts., and have continued to worship there. The Orthodox branch then built a frame Meeting-House at the n. e. cor. of 9th and Tatnall Sts.

In 1920, a new heating system was installed and a social-room was equipped. This room was opened with a house-warming held on Dec. 7, 1920. The Meeting-House property comprises the entire block, 4th to 5th, West to Washington Sts. There is a large burying-ground. Former Governor Caleb P. Bennett and John Dickinson, former President of Delaware are among the prominent Wilmingtonians buried here. In 1933, the Historical Markers Commission of Delaware placed a bronze plaque at 4th and Washington Sts., honoring John Dickinson. It recites some of his many activities including his



authorship of the famous "Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania" and the fact that he was a founder of Dickinson College.

Beginning about 1916 the Hicksite and the Orthodox Meetings frequently met together for business, for worship and to celebrate historical events which emphasized their common origin. The two Monthly Meetings first met together to discuss mutual concerns on Sept. 16, 1932. In May, 1938, they joined in celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the building of the first Friend's Meeting-House in Wilmington. In November, 1938, the two Meetings joined for worship. The Meetings were held at 4th and West Sts., from October to June and at 10th and Harrison Sts., from June to October. The two Monthly Meetings have been joined since January, 1942.

The two groups of Friends in Wilmington decided to merge, on May 18, 1945, under the name "The Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends." Their first services as a united group were held at Fourth and West Sts., on May 20, 1945.

The Friend's School at Alapocas was developed by the Friends from the little school at 4th and West Sts., founded in 1748.

**Wilmington Orthodox Friend's Meeting.** In 1827, at the time of the separation in the Religious Society of Friends, the Hicksites kept possession of the Meeting-House at 4th and West Sts. The Orthodox members built a frame Meeting-House, in 1828, at the n. e. cor. of 9th and Tatnall Sts. This building was two stories in height, faced 9th Street and there was a wide front porch. The site was enclosed with a high brick wall. In 1832-33, Samuel Canby donated additional land and built a one-room frame schoolhouse. The school had been established in June, 1831 at 11th and Market Sts. A second room, of brick, was added in 1874. The property at 9th and Tatnall Sts. was sold on Oct. 30, 1913 and on Nov. 24, 1914 the site at the s. e. cor. of 10th and Harrison Sts. was purchased. The stone Meeting-House was built in 1915 and it was opened for services in the autumn of that year. The Orthodox and Hicksite Friends in Wilmington later joined for all services. Meetings were held at 10th and Harrison Sts., from June to October and at 4th and West Sts., from October to June.

After deciding to merge, on May 18, 1945, the two groups of Friends held their first united meeting on May 20, 1945, at Fourth and West Sts.

The following notation appears in the Journal of George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends: "Justice Bennett of Derby was the first that called us Quakers because I bid them tremble at the word of the Lord. This was in the year 1650."

## PRESBYTERIAN

**The First Presbyterian Church, The First-Central Presbyterian Church.** The Presbyterians in Wilmington, on Dec. 30, 1737, purchased from Timothy Stidham an acre of land at the s. e. cor. 10th and Market Sts. In 1740, a small brick meeting-house was built and a graveyard was laid out. This church had a high pulpit with a large sounding-board and the seats had high straight backs. The church was used as a hospital for wounded American prisoners after the battle of Brandywine. It was incorporated on Dec. 23, 1789 and Dr. John McKinly, the first President of Delaware, was elected one of the trustees. In 1799, Dr. McKinly donated 100 pounds to provide a low stone wall around the property. In 1772, a group of members had withdrawn from First Church and built the Second or Christiana Church at Fifth and Walnut Sts. In 1838, they sold their church to the German Baptists and returned to First Church.

PH 363529

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED AUG 2 1976  
DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

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

Friends Meeting House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

4th & West Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Delaware

CODE

10

COUNTY

New Castle

CODE

002

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends

STREET & NUMBER

4th & West Streets

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Delaware

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Castle Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Public Building, Rodney Square

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

STATE

Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Delaware Historic Sites & Buildings, N-874

DATE

June-August, 1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Hall of Records

CITY, TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware 19901

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

Friends Meeting House, majestically situated on Quaker Hill, was built between 1815 and 1817 and has changed little since it was built. What change has occurred has not altered the integrity of the building.

It has a six-bay, two-story, brick facade laid in Flemish bond. There are double doors in the second and fifth bays. These doors and the side doors each have porticos with hipped roofs supported by a pair of tapered Ionic columns.

There are two interior end chimneys, probably originally used for stoves which heated the large meeting room. The stoves are no longer in the building. A corner fireplace was added when the meeting room was partitioned off. It is the only fireplace in the building.

The north and south three-bay gable ends are pedimented. The brickwork is seven-course common bond. A double door with pillared portico and a small gallery door are in both ends. There is also a small added window in the north end.

The windows on the first floor have twelve-over-twelve light sashes while the second-floor and attic windows are eight-over-twelve. The first- and second-floor windows have four-panelled shutters. All of the cellar windows have marble lintels.

A one-story, nineteenth-century wing is to the west of the building. Its flat roof has a center gable. A corbelled cornice is still visible under the roofline. In 1951 an annex was added to this wing; however, the back wall of the nineteenth-century wing is still visible in the annex and forms its east wall.

Originally, the meeting house was completely open on the inside; however, in this century an office or social hall with a corner fireplace and vestibule on the first floor and glassed-in classrooms on the second floor were partitioned off.

The main room is wainscotted, and all of the interior woodwork is stained a dark mahogany. The original pews or benches remain and are arranged in much the same manner as they have always been. The main room has four-step risers on the sides. Also remaining is the large sounding board on the west wall.

A gallery is on the north, east, and south walls. The gallery stairs are in the north-east and southeast corners of the main floor. Outside access to the gallery is also attained through small doors on the north and south ends. The gallery once had four-step risers; but when it was partitioned off for classrooms, the risers were removed. The second-floor windows, however, are quite high because of the original configuration of the gallery.

The attic stairway is in the northwest corner of the gallery. The original beams are visible in the attic, although they were reinforced in this century for the addition of the heavy tile roof. Also visible in the attic is the massive mechanism for the top portion of the moveable partition once used to segregate the sexes at meetings. The moveable wooden partition had counter-balanced sections. The top section is still in place; however, the bottom section, which rose from the basement, was removed.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 2 1976
DATE ENTERED	NOV 7 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The meeting house sits on the southeast corner of the lot bounded by Fourth, Fifth, Washington, and West streets. The lot is surrounded by an iron fence on three sides and a brick wall on the east side. The original carriage gates are still on the north and south fences. Within the fence is the burial ground. Massive trees add to the overall beauty of the meeting house and its surrounding lot.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input 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

Friends Meeting House, where most of the prominent Quaker families who first settled in Wilmington worshipped, is one of the most important religious buildings in Wilmington. It remains an important center for Wilmington Quakers. The Friends Meeting House is also outstanding because of its architecture. It is an excellent example of the type of meeting house constructed by Delaware Quakers in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Although Wilmington was originally founded by the Swedes, it was Pennsylvania Quaker families such as the Shipleys who settled it. Originally it was called Willingtown, and by 1739 it had a population of over 600. Such Quaker families as the Canbys and the Tatnalls had gristmills along the Brandywine River and remained important millers for over a century. Indeed the economic base for the town was provided by the same Quaker merchants who settled around Quaker Hill where they built their first meeting house in 1738, two years after Wilmington was incorporated.

The earliest meeting house was located on Fourth Street across from the present one. In 1748 a larger meeting house was needed, and a building which stood on the same lot as the present one was built. Its capacity was 500 worshippers; however, the meeting grew so large that by 1815 a new meeting house was needed.

Between October 26, 1815, and September 25, 1817, the third and present meeting house was planned and built. The majority of the members of the meeting donated funds for the building; and upon completion, no money was owed. The original patrons of the building were some of the most important Wilmington Quakers, including merchants, Samuel Canby, Thomas Lea, Edward Tatnall, and James Canby; banker, Joseph Bailey; and members of the Mendenhall, Price, Seal, Hilles, Alrichs, and Ferris families.

This meeting house, completed in 1817, has changed little to the present day. Its large size reflects its considerable membership. Its detail is simple but well executed. Outstanding among its features are the porticoed doorways, Flemish bond brickwork, interior panelling, and massive wooden moveable partition. It represents the Quaker influence in Wilmington architecture so prevalent through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

In 1817 when the present meeting house was completed, Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends was called Wilmington Preparative Meeting and included the Stanton Preparative Meeting. Today the meeting includes the Appoquinimink Preparative Meeting at Odessa.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ferris, Benjamin, "A Sketch of the Proceedings," Delaware History, XIII, 1968-1969, 67-80.

\_\_\_\_\_, Friends in Wilmington, 1738-1938.

Hoffecker, Carol E., Wilmington, Delaware: Portrait of an Industrial City, 1830-1890, University Press of Virginia, 1974.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 Acre

UTM REFERENCES

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block bounded by West, Fourth, Washington, and West streets in Wilmington, Delaware.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susanne N. Fox, Research Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

May 10, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

(302) 678-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware

# 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



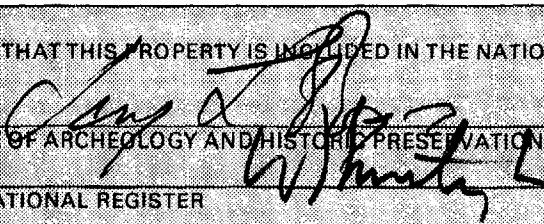
TITLE Director, Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE 7/30/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Acting



DATE

11/9/96

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

11/2/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Scharf, J. Thomas, History of Delaware, 1609-1888, 2 vols., Philadelphia, 1888.

Zebley, Frank A., The Churches of Delaware, Wilmington, 1947.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Between the time it was constructed and the Civil War, the meeting was involved in the Hicksite Schism, a division between orthodox Quakers and followers of Elias Hicks. A frequent speaker at the meeting, Hicks caused a split in the once-united group. In 1828 the orthodox members left to form their own meeting and to build their own meeting house at Ninth and Tatnall streets. From 1828 until 1942 the two meetings were separate, but today they are part of the Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends and meet in the building being nominated.

Members of the meeting were active in the Underground Railroad. In 1787, Delaware passed a law prohibiting the importation and exportation of slaves. The following year, Delaware Quakers formed the Delaware Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery. This organization was active throughout the first half of the nineteenth century.

Thomas Garrett, one of the most famous abolitionists, lived in Wilmington and worshipped at Friends Meeting House. Garrett was responsible for saving nearly 2900 Blacks by means of the Underground Railroad. He is buried in the burial ground adjacent to the building.

The Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends has always been active in the education of both boys and girls. As early as 1748, the original 1738 meeting house was converted to a school. As enlarged, it remained until the 1930's when the Friends School moved to the suburbs. William and Emma Bancroft, members of the meeting, contributed greatly to education by their donations to Antioch, Swarthmore, George School, and the parks of Wilmington.

The burial ground contains the remains of several of the most prominent citizens of Wilmington and of Delaware, including John Dickinson, "The Penman of the Revolution," and author of the Letters From A Pennsylvania Farmer; Thomas Garrett, the famous abolitionist; and Caleb P. Bennett, the former Governor of Delaware from 1833 to 1836.



FRANKLIN  
WELLS  
1775-1840



NAME: Friends Meeting House  
LOCATION: Wilmington, Delaware *New Castle Co.*  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Sue Fox  
DATE: April 1976  
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware  
DESCRIPTION: Facade of Friends Meeting House taken  
from east  
PHOTO NUMBER: 1

AUG 2 1976

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

NOV 7 1976



NAME: Friends Meeting House  
LOCATION: Wilmington, Delaware *New Castle Co.*  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Sue Fox  
DATE: April 1976  
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware  
DESCRIPTION: North end of Friends Meeting House taken  
from north  
PHOTO NUMBER: 2

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER <sup>AUG</sup> 2 1976

NOV 7 1976





NAME: Friends Meeting House  
LOCATION: Wilmington, Delaware *New Castle Co.*  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Ned Heite  
DATE: July 1976  
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Hall of Records, Dover  
DESCRIPTION: Interior taken from northwest  
PHOTO NUMBER: 3

AUG 2 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

5 13 1976



NAME: Friends Meeting House  
LOCATION: Wilmington, Delaware *New Castle Co.*  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Ned Heite  
DATE: July 1976  
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Hall of Records, Dover  
DESCRIPTION: Rear of meeting house showing  
annex  
PHOTO NUMBER: 4

AUG 2 1976

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

NOV 7 1976





NAME: Friends Meeting House  
LOCATION: Wilmington, Delaware *New Castle Co.*  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Ned Heite  
DATE: July 1976  
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Hall of Records, Dover  
DESCRIPTION: South end of Friends Meeting House  
PHOTO NUMBER: 5

AUG 2 1976  
**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

NOV 7 1976