

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**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 WEST NOTTINGHAM MEETING HOUSE
AND/OR COMMON LITTLE BRICK MEETING HOUSE

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER About 1 mile south of Harrisville at
the intersection of Cox and Cowen Roads.

CITY, TOWN	___ VICINITY OF	___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
West Nottingham			First
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Maryland		Cecil	

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
___DISTRICT	___PUBLIC	___OCCUPIED	___AGRICULTURE	___MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE.	___UNOCCUPIED	___COMMERCIAL	___PARK
___STRUCTURE	___BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	___EDUCATIONAL	___PRIVATE RESIDENCE
___SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	___ENTERTAINMENT	___RELIGIOUS
___OBJECT	___IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	___GOVERNMENT	___SCIENTIFIC
	___BEING CONSIDERED	___YES: UNRESTRICTED	___INDUSTRIAL	___TRANSPORTATION
		___NO	___MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Cecil Historical Trust, Inc. under restoration

STREET & NUMBER R.D. 2

CITY, TOWN Rising Sun VICINITY OF Maryland zip code 21911

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Cecil County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Elkton STATE Maryland zip code 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

West Nottingham Meeting House is a brick, one-story building, built in 1811. It is situated on the east side of the old road which runs south from Harrisville to West Nottingham Academy. The existing structure was built after an earlier log meeting house was taken down and moved to Rising Sun to serve as a shop for a local craftsman. The brick meeting house is rectangularly shaped and measures 45'4" by 30'. The building has a gable roof shingled with slate. There is a box cornice with crown and bed moulding. At each end of the meeting house are two inside end chimneys. The foundation is constructed of fieldstone and the brickwork was laid in American bond. The windows on the first story have paneled shutters and the doors have triangular pediments over them. The windows have 9/6 sash. All the exterior trim is plain and painted white. Only one door has a latch, the others are secured by wooden bars across them on the inside of the building. The shutters; doors; frames; windows; including sash and much of the glass; as well as the crown moulding are original.

The north and south walls are 45'4" long and represent the front and rear of the meeting house. The north wall of the meeting house has two double door entrances with six-paneled doors. These doors are ten feet from the ends of the building. One door has a wooden sill, the other a concrete one of more recent vintage. Between the doors and at each end of the building there is a single window with paneled shutters. There are also two windows between the two entrances. The south wall or facade has a door and window alignment identical to that of the north wall. The south entrance closest to the public road has a small porch that is eight feet wide. The porch floor, originally all stone, now has a concrete cap. This entrance was the men's entrance. The other door has a granite step and both doors have granite sills. Some of the brick and stone work has been repointed. Two small ventilation holes are in the foundation.

The east and west walls are thirty feet long. These are the gable ends of the meeting house. On the west walls are four windows. The two on the first story have paneled shutters while the two on the attic story have board and batten covers. In between the first story and attic on both walls is an iron S-shaped tie brace. There are two small ventilation holes in the foundation of the west wall. The east wall has no windows in the attic and only one on the first floor. This is located just to the left of a door that is two feet off center. The window has paneled shutters. Along two-thirds of this wall runs a shed porch which extends from the small wooden shed on the northeastern corner of the meeting house. This porch is of pegged mortise and tenon construction. A small bench is located on each side of the door.

On the northeast corner of the meeting house is a wooden shed comprising a women's privy and cloakroom. This has German siding on all sides except the south side which is board and batten. The roof is one-half shingle and one-half tarpaper. The wooden cloakroom is 18' long and 12' wide. There are doors at the north and south ends. There is one window

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West Nottingham Meeting House
Cecil County,
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

DESCRIPTION

on the west wall and two on the east.

A graveyard extends to the east of the meeting house and is surrounded by a cast iron fence. It contains a few 18th Century Quaker grave markers and a Roman Row.

To the north of the meeting house stood a horse shed whose outline still can be seen. This also housed the men's privy.

The interior of the meeting house is divided into two sections by sliding panels. Both sides of the meeting house are nearly identical. The floor is pine and in very good condition. Each side of the meeting house has a central aisle which runs from the door on one side to the door on the other. On each side of each aisle are six moveable benches with backs. Along the entire north wall is a stepped platform on which are two rows of fixed benches known as the "Elders' benches" or "facing benches." Two folding dropleaf desks are attached to the elders' benches, one on each side of the meeting house. Two supporting posts exist, one to each side of the divider, which help support the ceiling. These posts are tapered with lambs-tongue chamfers and are gouge-carved at the tops. In each of the aisles slightly to one side is a cast iron stove made about 1870. All the benches are painted a light brown. There is a trap door to the attic on the west side of the meeting house. At the present time the paneling that makes up the divider is painted, but it was not originally.

About ten years ago the interior of the meeting house was renovated by the Friends and such items as a new acoustic tile ceiling and some masonite wainscoting were added. Under the direction of the Cecil Historical Trust, Inc. the building is being restored to its original appearance.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 1811

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The first meeting house erected on this site was a log building in 1727. This was used until the present brick edifice was built in 1811. West Nottingham Friends Meeting together with East Nottingham Meeting at Brick Meeting House, Calvert, formed a single congregation, known since 1730 as Nottingham Monthly Meeting. The monthly business meetings were held alternately at this meeting house and at Brick Meeting House. In 1778 Nottingham Monthly Meeting was held here continuously due to the occupation of Brick Meeting House by a detachment of General Smallwood's troops. The original log building was used as a shop and then a stable. Some pieces of the wood of this structure are in the possession of Brick Meeting House.

In the cemetery there are several 18th Century Quaker grave markers, a rare survival. It contains also a Roman Row which served as a graveyard for Roman Catholics who found it the most convenient place for burial. Several cousins of Abraham Lincoln's are buried in the cemetery.

West Nottingham Meeting House is representative of the meeting houses built by the Society of Friends in the late 18th and first half of the 19th centuries in this part of the country. It exhibits the usual two entrances, one for women and one for men, and sliding panels to divide the interior space in half, as well as the raised "Elders' benches."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Johnston, George. History of Cecil County. Baltimore: County Directories, 1956.
Miller, Alice. Cecil County, Maryland. Elkton: C & L Printing, 1949.
Brown, Kirk. Report of Committee on History in Bicentennial of Brick Meeting House. Lancaster, 1902.
Cecil Historical Trust, Inc.
Edward Plumstead, local historian and preservation leader.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.7

UTM REFERENCES

A							
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C							

B							
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
D							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

George W. Lutz, III, Field Historian

ORGANIZATION

Cecil Historical Trust, Inc.

DATE

December 24, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

R.D.2

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Rising Sun

STATE

Maryland

zip code

21911

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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

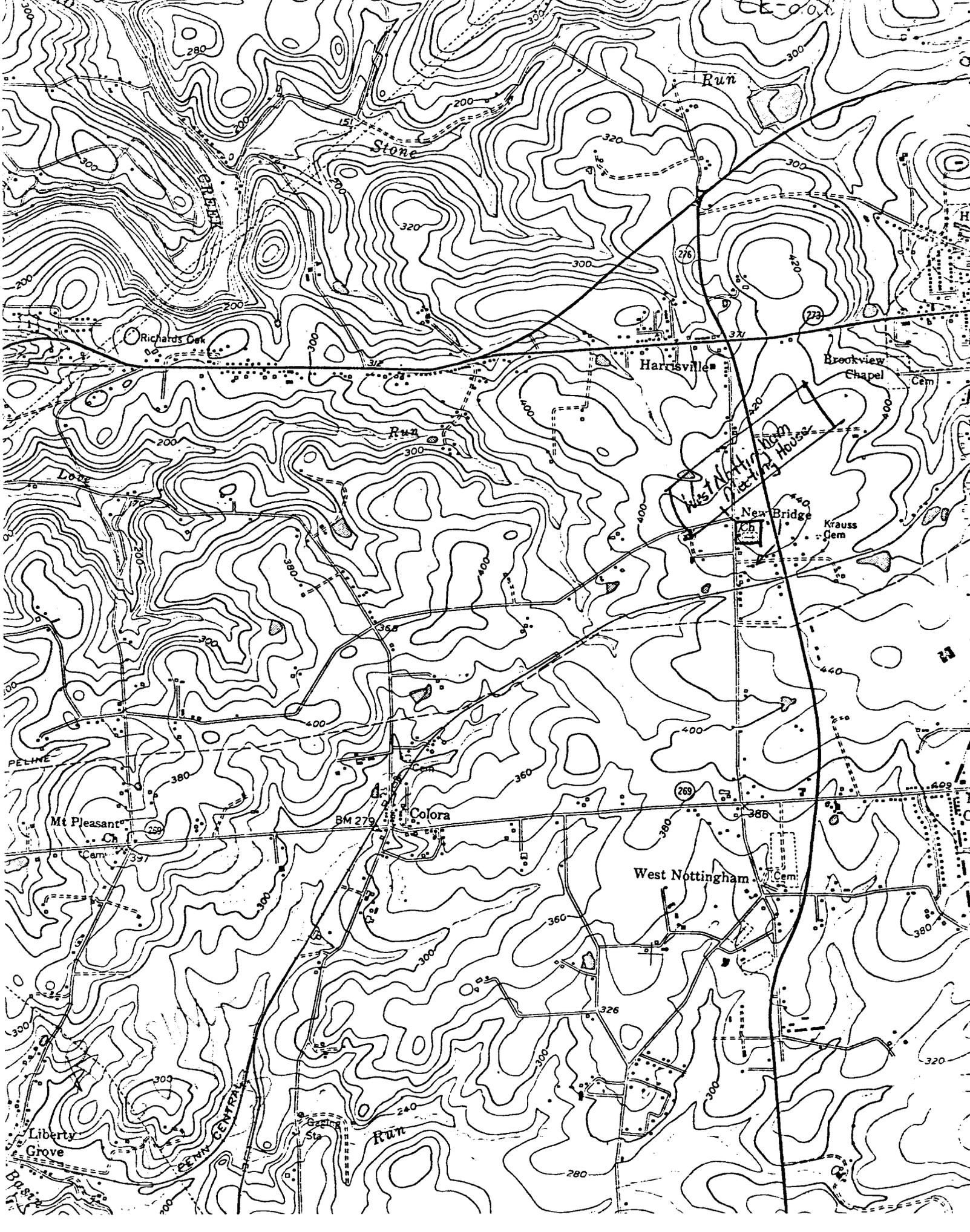
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CE-078



On old Rt. 268, about mid-way between Harrisville and West Nottingham stands a one story brick Meeting House, constructed in 1811. The brick is laid in common bond on all sides and has no architectural supports above the windows, as most early buildings possess. It does have small vertical slits in the foundation which vent the area beneath the floor. The "A" roof is covered with slate and is broken only at the gables by tiny chimneys of terra cotta tiles. Two double doors are located on each facade in the second bay from the gable. Only one of the doors has a small roof over a wooden porch. The windows are closed by paneled shutters. On the east gable is a shed over the door to the ~~burial~~ burying ground attached to a small frame room. There are two small windows in each gable. The wood box cornice has a very large crown molding.

Name West Nottingham Quaker Meeting MHT# CE-228

Location Cecil COUNTY West Nottingham town

Old Rt 268 - Harrisville Road
address or road#

First owner of record Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Friends Church DATE 1811

Present owner _____ DATE 1968

Address _____

Parcel or Deed # _____

Original use Religious

Present use Religious

Md. Map Coordinates _____

Long. & Lat. reading _____

Style Colonial

Date(s) of construction 1811

Architect _____

Builder _____

DESCRIPTION:

1 NUMBER of stories Brick type wall construction

Foundation-basement Stone with air slits

Wall construction- brick laid in common bond
no arches above windows

Water table, string course, other decorative work essential to walls

Chimneys tiny files above roof

Name West Nottingham Quaker MeetingMHT# CE-228Entrance type & placement 2nd bays for each gabledouble raised panel doors - one with original latchone = 1st gable granite sillsWindows covered with shutters2 in attic - square wood sillsShutters paneled shuttersRoof type Acovering ~~wood~~ slateCornice, eaves wood box with large top moldingsmaller on gables - beadedDormers, cupolas NOPorches Stoop - over west doorWings, hyphens shed on NE corner frame

Interior:

Stairway _____

Doors _____

Trim _____

Other notable work _____

Name West Nottingham Quaker MeetingMHT# CF-223Physical condition goodEnvironment Church yard - with few trees

References:

MHT Color slide # _____

MHT B & W # _____

Owner contacted no

OTHER: _____

Recorder Michael BourneDate Aug 30, 1968

Summary: On Rd R+ 268, about mid-way between Hanisville and West Nottingham stands a ^{1 story} brick Meeting House, constructed in 1811. The brick is laid in common bond on all sides and has no architectural surmounts above the windows, as most early buildings possess. It does have small vertical slits in the foundation which vent the area beneath the floor. The "A" roof is covered with slate and is broken only at the gables by tiny chimneys of terra cotta tile. Two double doors are located on each facade in the 2nd bay from the gable. Only one of the doors has a small roof over a wooden porch. The windows are closed by paneled shutters. On the east gable is a shed over the door to the burying ground attached to a small frame room. There are 2 small windows in ~~the~~ ^{each} gable. The wood box cornice has a very large ornate molding.

Enclosures: e.g. Map, Historical significance, sketch of floor plan, and angle of photos, etc.



CE-228 West Nottingham Meetinghouse



AUG

75

West Nottingham M.H.

CE-228



West Nottingham Meeting House
CE-228



CE 229

WEST Nottingham Meeting House

(P -