

Quaker Meeting House
Catawissa, Pennsylvania,
Columbia Co.

HABS No. Pa. 212

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19-CAT

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Ralph W. Lear, District Officer
311-312 Dime Bank Building
Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

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QUAKER MEETING HOUSE
CATAWISSA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Custodian

Borough of Catawissa.

Date of Erection

Started in 1774, finished in 1776.

Present Condition

Fairly good, well preserved, no departure from original appearance.

Number of Stories

One story, and loft.

Materials of Construction

Stone foundations, wood floors, log walls, shingle roof. The interior walls, ceilings, and partitions are constructed of wide white pine boards, which have been left unfinished.

QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

Catawissa, Columbia County, Pennsylvania.

This old building is located near the corner of Third and South Streets in Catawissa on the south side of South Street. The erection of this log cabin was started in 1774 and finished in 1776. The Borough of Catawissa is now the caretaker of it. It has been remarkably well preserved, and is in good condition. There is no departure from the original state and for this reason, is noted for its historical value.

Entrance is gained from the south side of the cabin which faces a burying ground where many Quakers were buried. The cabin is about 20x25 feet, made of hand hewn timber. The timbers are notched at the corners and were filled between with mud and pebbles. The entrance is divided into two doors which are the original lumber. The door latch or handle is a hand made piece of hardware, fastened with hand made nails. One lock is metal encased in wood.

The interior is divided into two rooms, with a partition made of white pine boarding with beaded joint boards, the partition is made like a half-door, and opens horizontally. This separated the men's from the women's side. The pews are plain, straight, narrow planks, which were the outside slabs of trees. Holes were bored in and rounded pegs stuck in, for legs. On both sides, there is one bench built squarely against the front of the meeting house, and six other pews on the one side. Only two of these have backs, which are merely one board, or slat. At the front is a railing, also on both sides, which surrounds one other bench, built against the back of the building and facing all the other pews.

In the main meeting room, a wood burning stove still remains. This is very old. In the other room is another stove, almost as old, which was then called a furnace, 34 inches long, 15 inches wide, and 28 inches high. This apparently, has not been used in many years and is likely, not to be usable.

There are two crude little tables on which were a great many pamphlets called "Friends Intelligencer and Journal" the oldest I could find among them was issued in the seventh month, 1892. There were also about eight books lying on the other table, all but one of which were "New American

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Cyclopaedia", issued in 1858; the other, Smull's "Legisla-
tive Hand Book and Manuel of State of Pennsylvania" issued
in 1902.

There was no pulpit of any kind in the Quaker Meeting
House. The roof is wood-shingled. The small light windows
are protected by board shutters attached with outside strap
hinges. In recent years, the crevices between the logs have
been filled with cement to keep out the elements.

Author..... *Betty Joal Massie*
Approved..... *Ralph W. Woodruff*
Date..... *May 1936*

ADDENDUM TO:
QUAKER MEETINGHOUSE
Third & South Streets
Catawissa
Columbia County
Pennsylvania

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PHOTOGRAPHS

PAPER COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

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U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240