

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, BROAD CAMPDEN
Friends Meeting house, Meeting House Lane



From: Non-Conformist Chapels and Meeting-Houses Gloucestershire RCHME
SP 15853795

When purchased by the Quakers in 1664 this site was occupied by an orchard and a building of two bays. The latter, which was used as a meeting house, was enlarged to the S or possibly rebuilt in 1677 in which year the Quarterly Meeting minutes of 29 March refer to assistance given to Friends at Campden 'in building their Meeting House'. Regular meetings ceased in 1874 and the building, which had been occasionally used by other denominations, was sold in 1931; it was repurchased in 1960 and has been restored to its original use.

The meeting house has stone walls and the roof is covered with local stone slates. The W front facing Meeting House Lane has two windows of four lights with straight-chamfered mullions and moulded labels; to the S the round-arched doorway of late-18th century character has plain impost, keystone and blind tympanum. The N and S ends are gabled and have stone copings and finials; in the S gable is a mullioned window of three lights with a moulded label, renewed or inserted in 1960. The E wall, of rough rubble, has two windows matching those in the opposite wall and to the S a plain doorway with timber lintel and 19th century dormer window above.

The interior is of irregular shape (approx. 39.75 ft by 16 ft) and comprises a large single room and a wide passage to the S with gallery over having a panelled front with shutters above and below. The roof is supported by three king-post trusses of the late 18th century; inside the N gable is the outline of an earlier coved plaster ceiling.

Records in Gloucestershire Archives inc. R66.34GS Restoring an old Meeting House
RR66.60GS Record Book and D1873

History described in 'Broad Campden Quakers' a booklet produced 1970s

1851 Census HO 129

Erected: Before 1800 [Built 1663, enlarged 1677]
Building: Separate and entire, exclusively used
Floor area: 40 ft x 16 ft = 640 sq ft Seats for 300
Gallery: 15.5 ft x 12 ft – 186 [sq.ft] Seats for 80
Total 826 [sq ft] Total seats 360
Attndce 30 Mar: Morning 4 Total 4
Aft no mtg Eve No mtg
Remarks: There is a small stable attached which has not been measured and is never used.
Dated: 30th day of third month 1851
Signed: George S Gillett [machinist clerk]
Brailes, near Shipston-on-Stour

