

When you enter the meeting house, you will see the rough simplicity of the Cape May County pioneers. To sit for a while on one of the plain, handhewn benches under the sturdy hand-wrought beams is to feel a blessing handed down by those who sat long ago in this quiet room with contented spirits and minds at peace.

Many of the old families of Cape May County, the Baners, the Corsons, the Gandys, the Leamings, the Spicers, the Townsends and other were connected with the rich tradition of Friends in the area.

Two small graveyards are in the yard, shaded by ancient white oak and evergreen trees. Several members have been memorialized by the recent addition of flowering trees and shrubs. In the nineteen eighties, the Meeting added Friendship Hall to allow for religious education and other activities. This addition was designed to carry through, as much as possible, the design of the original building.



Seaville Monthly Meeting  
of the  
Religious Society of Friends

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Seaville, New Jersey

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Meeting for Worship each First Day (Sunday)  
Year Round 10:00 AM

Front

FRONT

BACK

For those who may not be familiar with Quakerism we present the following explanation:

Our meeting house and all of our external arrangements are intended to express our faith in the importance of simplicity, equality and reverence. All seats are free. We never take a collection in meeting for worship, nor do we have clergy or a specific program of service.

The reality of God as a living Presence in the world and in each of us lies at the very center of Quaker worship. We meet at the appointed time and sit in reverent silence. We think of God, not as some far off, incomprehensible Being, but as our loving and everpresent Parent. Friends seek to listen for the voice of God as God speaks to the condition of each one severally. Frequently someone in the group, if he feels the impulse is prompted by God's will, shares a message with the Meeting. Such a meeting is always a high venture of faith and it is to this venture that we invite you.

Back

The old Friends (Quaker) Meeting House located in Seaville, NJ is one of the most interesting and valuable of all Cape May County's historic structures. Some say the building was moved to Seaville from Beesley's Point. Old Friends' records show that a meeting house was built in Beesley's Point about 1727 and that another meeting house was built in 1762 "in the upper precinct of Cape May." (County) It is likely that the second mention refers to the present old structure.

Friends met in the area as early as 1702, probably in each other's homes. Local Friends that met actively in the nineteen thirties, forties and fifties probably started this way also. In 1957, Seaville Monthly Meeting was chartered under the Salem Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. Some of the twenty-one original members admitted on May 30, 1957 are still members of the meeting in 2001.