



arch. ①

This simple, ~~well~~ sturdily-constructed, two-story gable-roofed structure was built as a jail in about 1820-22. A three-bay, ^{double-pile,} central passage, I-plan building, it once had a 1½-2-story frame addition on the rear, the jail sits on the parcel designated in the 1820 plan of Brentsville as the public square. To the northwest about 50 yards away is the Courthouse, ~~was~~ built at the same time.

The complex, which is operated by the Prince William County Park Authority as a historical recreational area, and serves as Park Authority headquarters contains

about 3 acres, its northern boundary being Broad Run which flows behind the complex. Between Broad Run and the two main buildings is a ~~large~~ parking lot and a ball field. ~~The whole complex is enclosed, on the south east side~~

A board fence encloses the park-like complex on the south or Bristow Road side. The fence continues along the southeast edge of the jail grounds and stops at the jail. Between the front of the jail and the ~~fence~~ road are barely visible landscape features, including a submerged stone wall and a ^(stone?) path leading to the courthouse.

Front.

5-course.

Arch ②

A few trees ^{shade} the ~~front~~ of the ~~court~~ jail.

This building is laid up in 5-course American bond. It has both round and flat brick arches over the windows. Along the base of the building, just above the stone foundation, are the broken remains of a moulded brick water table. There is a moulded brick cornice beneath the gable roof. The windows are, for the most part, $\frac{3}{2}$ sliding sash, though two ^{small,} rear, 2d floor windows are new $\frac{1}{2}$ sliding sash with vertical steel bars. The doors and most of the door frames are ~~replaced~~ replacements. The one exception is a doorway on the northwest, or courthouse side, that may retain its early, pegged-together, single-headed door frame.

The exterior walls are 2 feet thick, while the interior ^{bearing} walls are between $9\frac{1}{2}$ and 11-inches thick.

There are two chimneys projecting from the roof, one large interior chimney on the northwest side for fireplaces and a smaller stone chimney on the opposite side.

The interior has replacement trim around windows and doors, carpeted floors, and replacement doors. Remodeled for offices in 1967-68, there is little, ~~or~~ if any, older wood work left. The room arrangement ~~rooms~~ on the first floor consists of a pair of

equally-sized rooms on either side of the stair hall. The ~~stair~~ 35"-wide, ~~is~~ a single-flight, open-string stair ~~has~~ a turned newel, moulded rail, and turned balusters. There is a late-19th, early 20th century mantel in the front room on the northwest side.

The ~~exterior~~ walls were repointed and repaired, probably in 1967-68 when the building was renovated for offices.

The repairs and repointing would not meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards for rehabilitating old buildings.

An inappropriate rear door surround was installed at that time; while the front doorway, fortunately, was left intact.

A new doorway appears to have been created from a former window on the rear.)

→ Altogether, the building is probably in fairly good condition, and the recent changes and additions could, if warranted, be corrected to return the exterior to a more authentic ~~looking~~ appearance.