



# VIRGINIA

## HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-261  
Negative no(s). 5169

### SURVEY FORM

Historic name	Fairview School	Common name	
County/Town/City	Prince William County		
Street address or route number	vic. 3710-3905 Old Bridge Road, Occoquan, VA 22191		
USGS Quad	Occoquan	Date or period	1877?
Original owner	Trustees of Occoquan School	Architect/builder/craftsmen	
Original use	School	District	
Present owner	Prince William Co. School	Source of name	
Present owner address	P.O. Box 389 Manassas, VA 22110	Board	Source of date Architectural evidence, public record.
Present use	Not in use	Stories	1 story
Acreage	c $\frac{1}{2}$ acre	Foundation and wall const'n	Stone foundation; frame wall construction
		Roof type	Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs Structure and environs are in poor condition.

State potential threats to structure -Neglect, lack of maintenance, vandalism, arson.  
Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

Fairview School is a tall, one-story, gable-roofed, frame-constructed schoolhouse resting on brick piers. A one-story, shed-roofed glazed porch, or wing, flanks either side of the rectangular core of the c18'x30' original schoolhouse. The building's exterior is covered with asphalt siding, laid over channeled, or German, weatherboards. The metal-covered gable roof has a box cornice. A small foyer or entryway at the building's front, or south end, has a metal-covered gable roof and a paneled door with glass in the upper half. The <sup>6</sup>/<sub>6</sub> sliding sash windows are practically all broken. The windows and doors have plain box trim with mitered corners.

Partitions have been installed in the completely tongue and groove-lined interior for conversion of the former schoolhouse into a residence. The high ceiling is also covered with beaded tongue and groove boards. There is a hatch hole in the ceiling to the attic crawlspace. The floors are medium width (probably pine) tongue and groove. On the rear wall is a stove flue. An apparently original interior door is a four-panel door with a ceramic knob.

Located on a half-acre parcel, the building is open and has been vandalized. Debris is strewn over the building's interior and yard. There is a small frame storage shed or garage beside the building. Fruit trees and the remnants of a garden can be found in the back yard. A large oak is growing in the former school's front yard. Prices of old machinery, including farm equipment and a saw mill are lying about the property. The building is located on a fairly heavily traveled road (Old Bridge Road) which leads from near Occoquan past Lake Ridge Residential Development, past Woodbridge Airport, and intersects Davis Ford Road (S.R. 642) at the State Prison Camp. Across the road from the former schoolhouse is a small family cemetery containing graves of the Hedges family. North of the building is an apparently old, 19th century frame farmhouse.

Interior inspected? Yes.

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

Fairview School and Purcell School are probably the only remaining one-room schoolhouses in Eastern Prince William County. These schools once dotted the countryside; there was a small, frame schoolhouse at practically every town and commercial center until the mid-1920's, when a central school system made most of the small schools obsolete. In 1901, there were at least 20 such early schools in Easter Prince William.

Fairview School could have been built as long ago as 1876, when James Davis and Mary K. Davis sold the half-acre parcel to the School Trustees of the Occoquan School District. The deed stipulated that in the event the land should revert to the Davises, owing to the closing of the school, then the school would be sold and the proceeds divided between those who had contributed to the school's building. A well on adjoining property was the school's source of drinking water in 1877.

In 1927, the building was sold at auction to Arthur Hedges, who was supposed to have moved the building off the property soon thereafter. Hedges never moved the structure. He converted the building to a residence by adding two one-story, shed-roofed additions, one on either side and lived in it for many years. In 1975, the School Board took the matter to court where it was ruled that Hedges did not own the land the building rests on, as he had claimed, and that since the purchaser had never moved the building, ownership should be restored to the School Board. Mr. Hedges is now living in a nursing home and is not expected to return to his longtime residence.

Sources and bibliography

Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

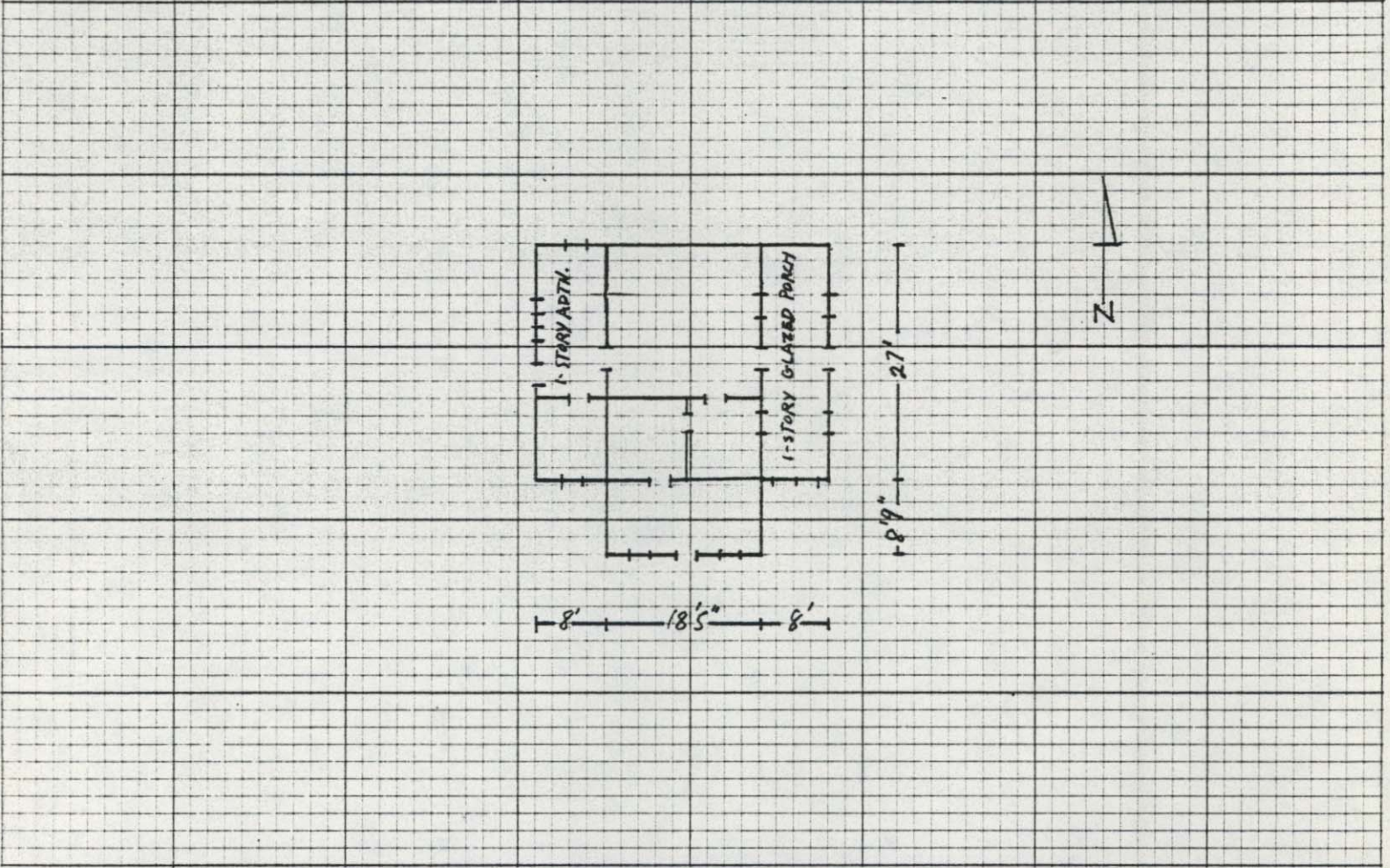
See Fairfax County's book Legatto School; A Centennial Souvenir (1976).

Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

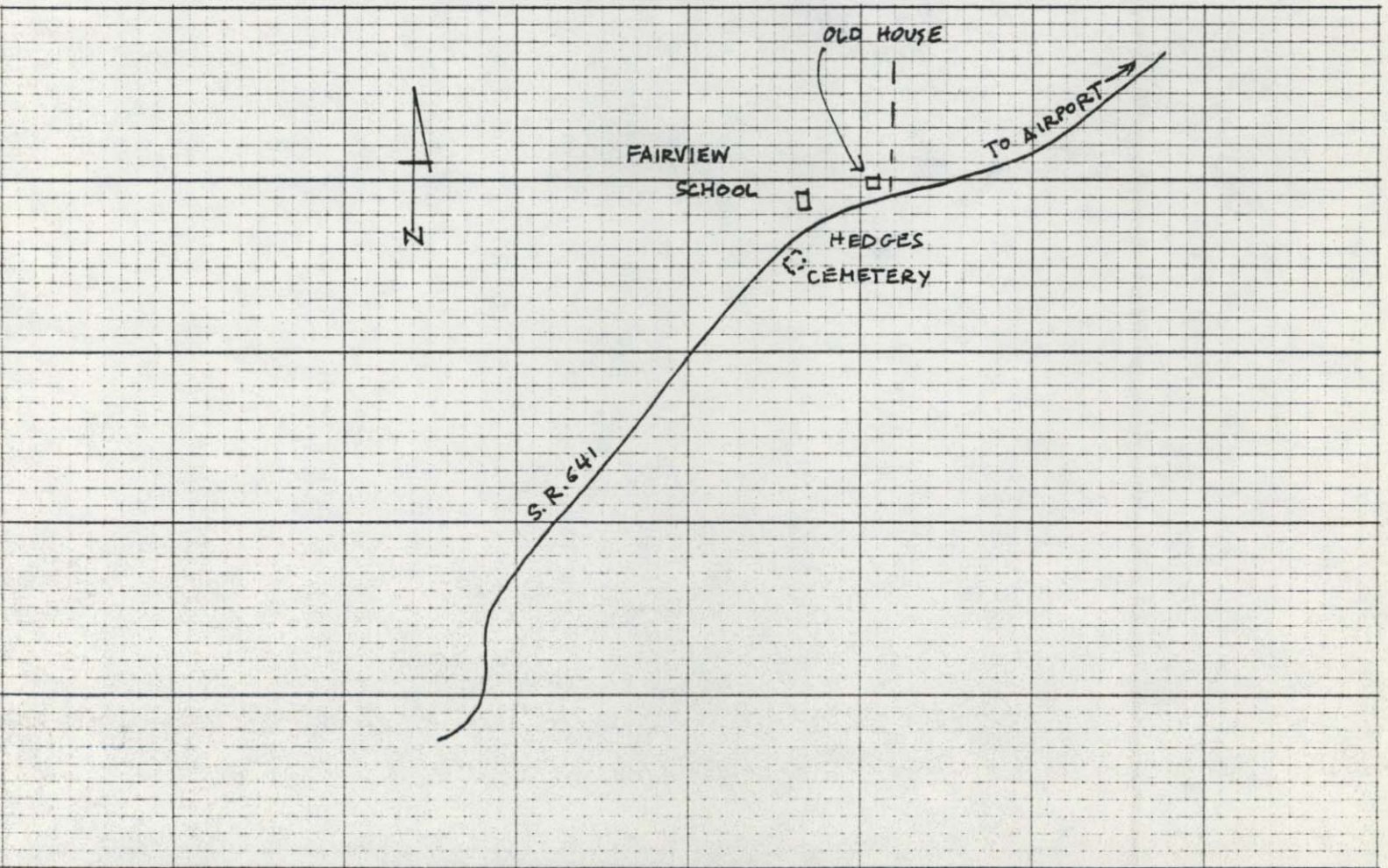
Land records, Prince William County Courthouse; Prince William County School Board file in possession of Department of Real Property. Photograph in WPA files at State Library.  
Names and addresses of persons interviewed

Charlie McLeod, Supt., Real Property Mgmt., Prince William School Board.

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)



Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Ocequan  
Quad.

4782

40'

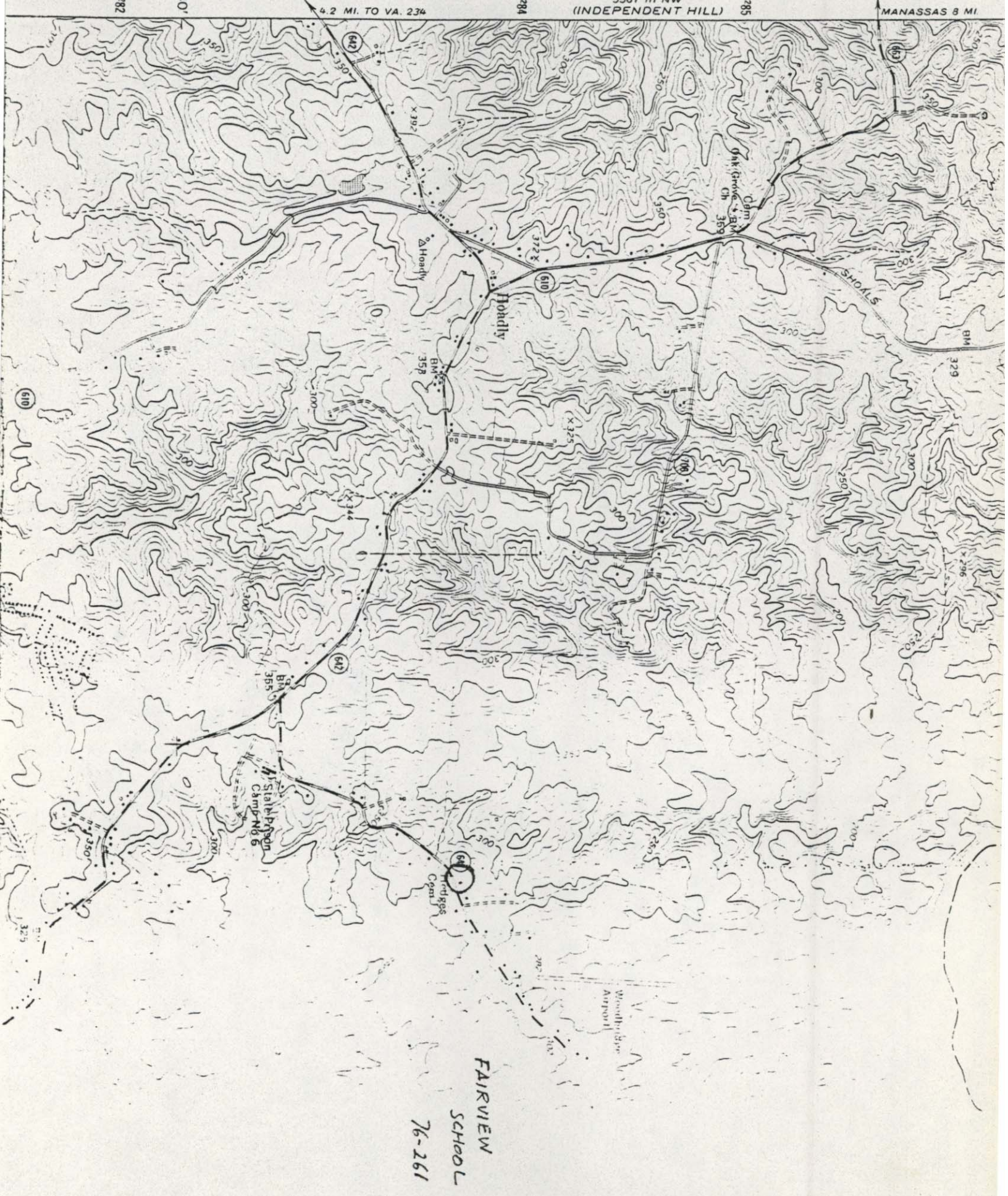
4.2 MI. TO VA. 234

4784

5561 III NW  
(INDEPENDENT HILL)

4785

MANASSAS 8 MI



FAIRVIEW  
SCHOOL  
76-261

