



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
SURVEY FORM

File no. 76-270
Negative no(s). 4379

Historic name	Common name Dorothy Fox House
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number vic. 8400 Old Centreville Road, Manassas, VA 22110	
USGS Quad Manassas	Date or period late 19th-early 20th century
Original owner Unknown	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Residence	
Present owner I.J. and Hilda Breeden	Source of name Present tenant
Present owner address 8817 Portner Avenue	Source of date
Manassas, VA 22110	Stories 2 stories
Present use Residence	Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation; frame walls.
Acreage Included in larger parcel.	Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs House and grounds in poor condition.

State potential threats to structure Lack of maintenance, neglect, commercial development.

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.)

Prince William County once abounded with these small, inexpensively-built frame houses, which were probably bought as kits, or mail-order houses, and quickly erected during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. There may be three houses of this type remaining in the Manassas Park-Yorkshire area. A house similar to the Fox House was recently demolished on the Birmingham Tract, just a few miles south on Rt. 28. The Martin House 76-276, located near the McLean Barn foundation 76-274, is similar to this house, though it has a later-constructed, two-story rear addition. Other similar houses are the R.L. Byrd House 155-112 and the demolished J. Braxton House 155-117, both in Manassas, and the caretaker's house at Ben Lomond 76-4.

The Fox House is a two-story frame-built weatherboard-clad house on a red sandstone rubble foundation. Exterior decoration includes bracketed eaves, a moulded cornice, gable returns, and double cornerboards. Shutter pins are evident, though the shutters have been removed. The 6/6 sliding sash windows have plain box trim. The front door, a replacement, has a single-pane overhead. The front porch, or simple stoop, may be a replacement of an earlier, larger, covered porch. There is a one-story screened porch on the west end and an enclosed, one-story porch on the north side.

A note on the house's condition: The exterior is very weathered and appears to have gone unpainted for many years. The trim was previously painted brown. The stone foundation has been repaired with bricks and cinder blocks. The metal-covered gable roof needs painting. The yard, an oddly-shaped lot because of the house's location at the intersection of Old Centreville Road and present S.R. 28, is surrounded by a makeshift fence, and there is old farm machinery and road-building equipment stored in a section of the lot. The road is very heavily traveled; Manassas Park Shopping Center is directly across Old Centreville Road from this house. New commercial development is occurring on Centreville Road (S.R. 28) nearby. This house will probably disappear in a few years. The property is advertised for sale.

Interior inspected? No.

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

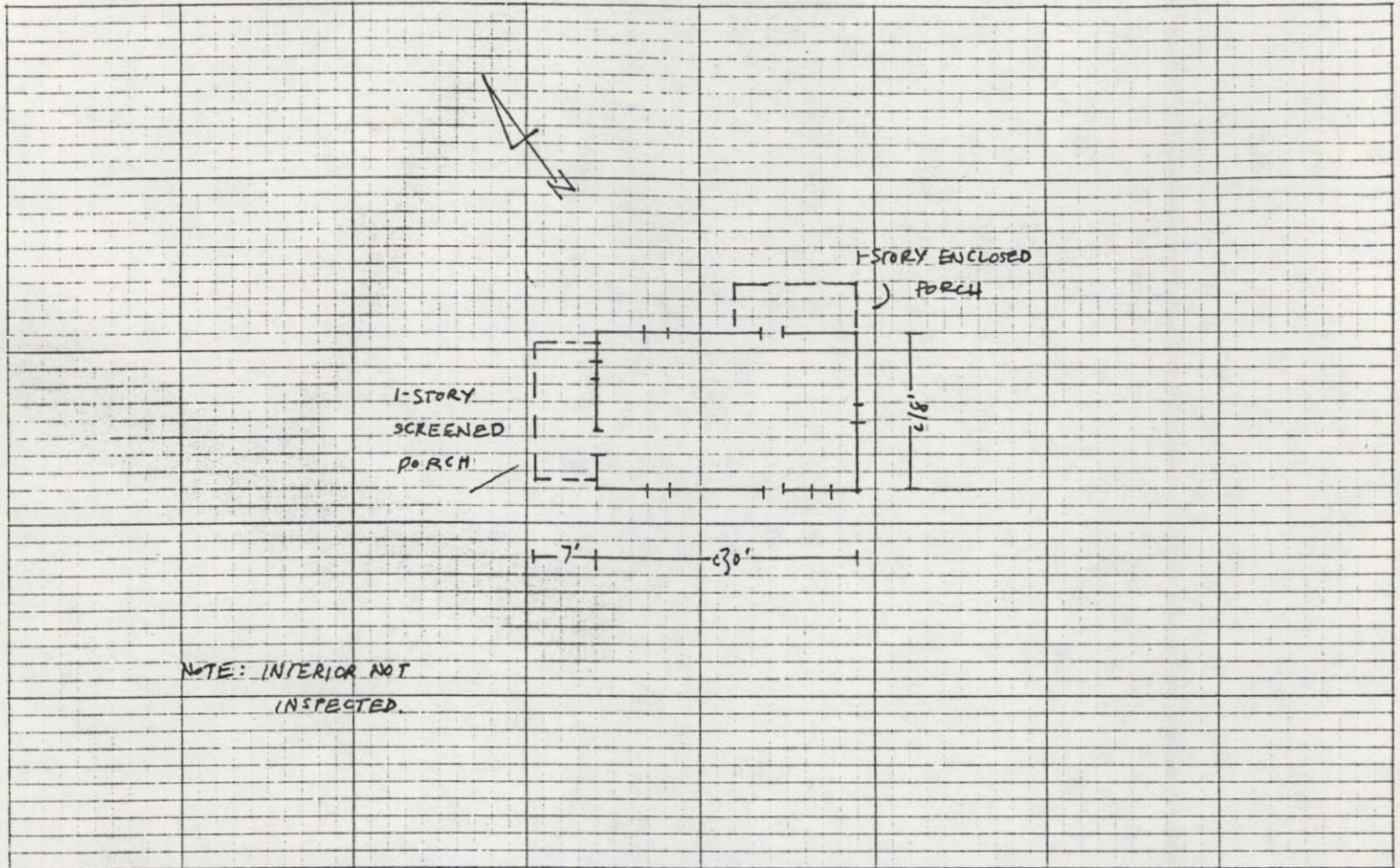
Located on Old Centreville Road, just outside the Manassas Park city limits and overlooking the present Centreville Road, or S.R. 28, this small frame house may have been a tenant house on the Liberia or Yorkshire farms, both of which were owned in the early 1900's by Robert Portner: a wealthy brewer and financier who lived in Alexandria and also at his mansion Annaburg, on the edge of the Town of Manassas.

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

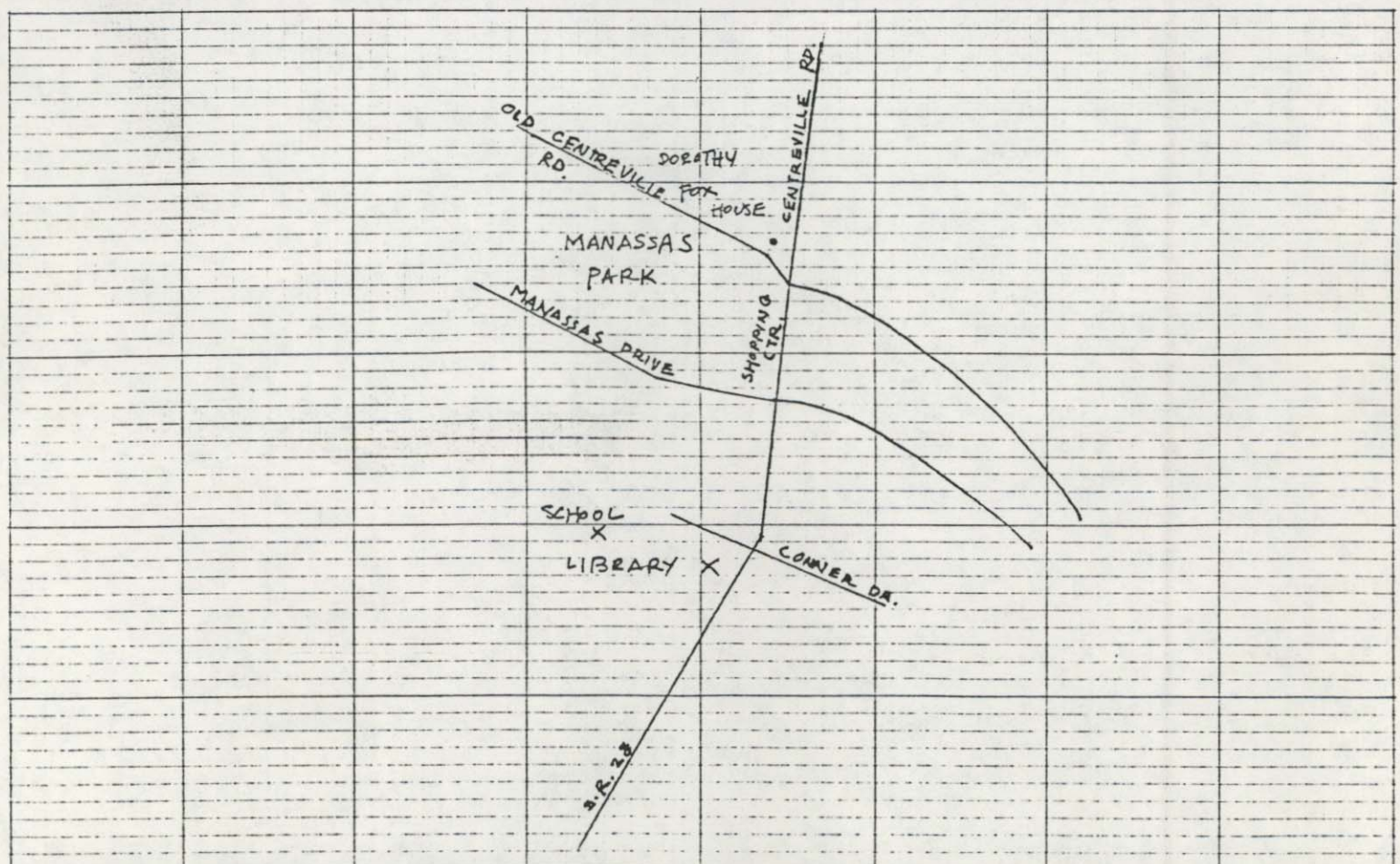
Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. I.J. Breeden, 8817 Portner Ave., Manassas, VA (owner);
Mrs. Dorothy Fox (tenant).

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

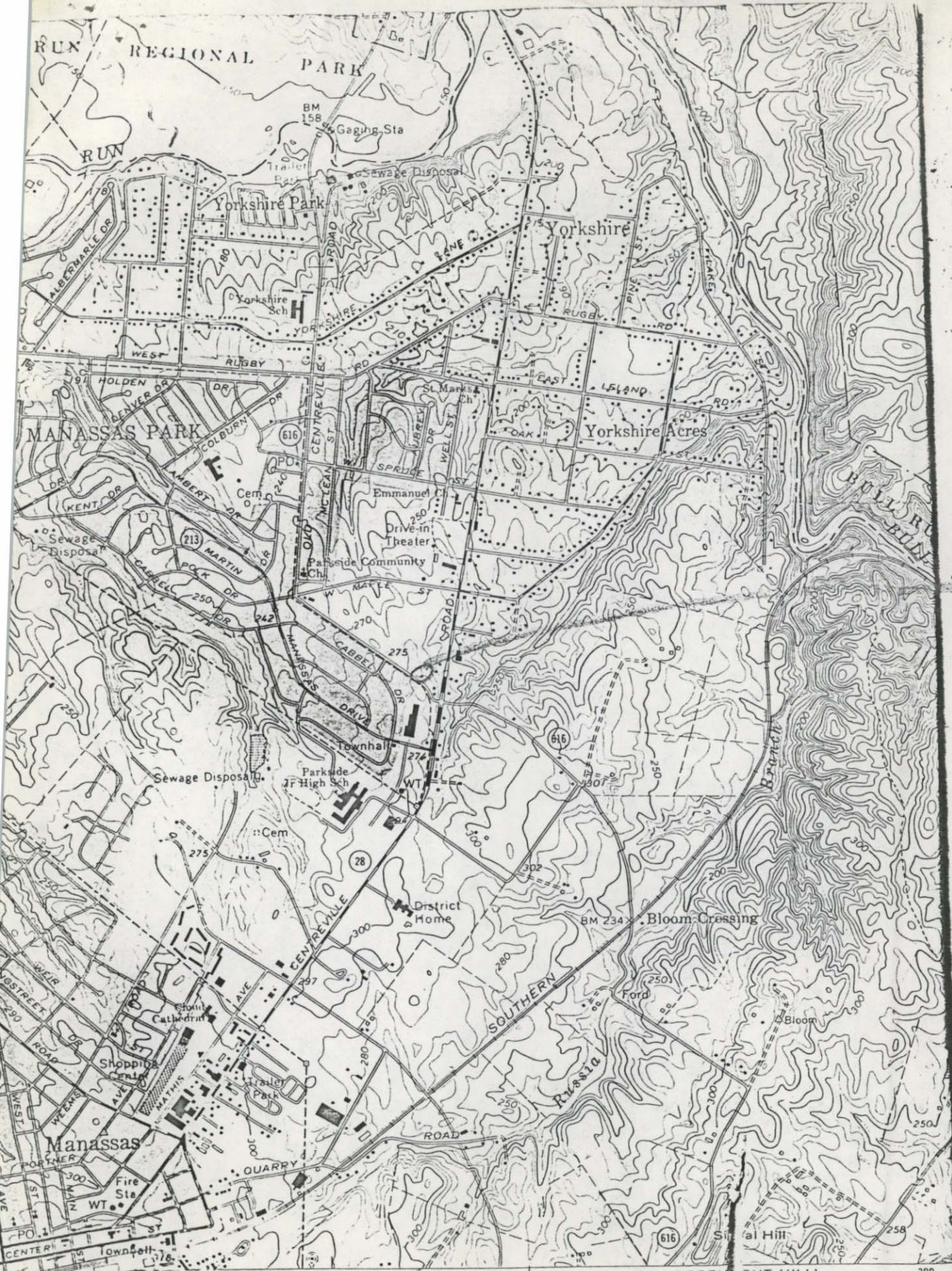


Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural
Historian - Surveyor, NV 225

Date
SEP 1980



DOROTHY FOX
HOUSE .76-113

MANASSAS QUAD.

