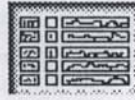




Virginia Historical Inventory: CATALOG CARD

MULTIMEDIA	► Report Home Page
RECORD NO.	VHIR/22/0569
REPORTER	Morton, Susan R.
TITLE	Old court house, Brentville [i.e., Brentsville], Virginia : survey report, 1937 May 10 / research made by Susan R. Morton.
OTHER TITLE	Old courthouse, Brentsville, Virginia
	4 leaves.
NOTE	Map location number: PW94
NOTE	Additional report with same map location number: VHIR/22/0570
NOTE	Class: Public building
NOTE	Building date: ca. 1829
NOTE	Building plan: Square
NOTE	Number of stories: 1
NOTE	Building material: Brick
NOTE	Location: 7 miles southwest of Manassas on Rt. 619.
NOTE	The building was damaged during the Civil War, but is still in good condition. It was used as a schoolhouse after the court moved to Manassas.
NOTE	Includes description of the building and interior.
NOTE	Includes form: Architectural description of buildings called for in 5-A. of Bulletin 3400.
OTHER FORMAT	Also available on microfilm.
ISSUING BODY	This write-up is a part of the Virginia W.P.A. Historical Inventory Project sponsored by the Virginia Conservation Commission under the direction of its Division of History.
REPRODUCTION	Computer file. Richmond, Va. : Library of Virginia, 1998. 4 image files.
SUBJECT	Public buildings -- Virginia -- Prince William County.
SUBJECT	Brick houses -- Virginia -- Prince William County.
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SUBJECT	Architecture -- 19th century -- Virginia -- Prince William County.
SUBJECT	Surveys. aat.
SUBJECT	Architectural records. aat.
ADDED ENTRY	Ewell, Maud, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Tyler, George, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Davis, Jenny, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Virginia Historical Inventory Project.

ADDED ENTRY	Virginia Conservation Commission. Division of History.
ADDED ENTRY	United States. Works Progress Administration.
LINK FIELD	http://lvaimage.lib.va.us/VHI/html/22/0569.html -- ReportHome Page



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Old court house, Brentville [i.e., Brentsville], Virginia



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(Prince William County - Public buildings)

Map Focus Area

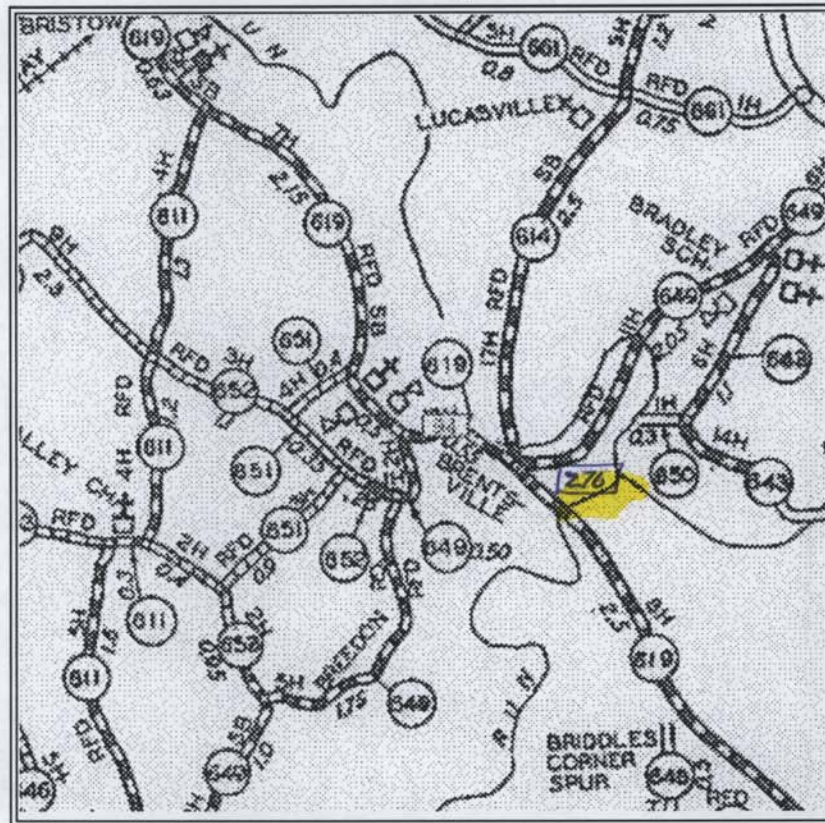


Clicking Map Will: Recenter

94. Old court house, Brentville [i.e., Brentsville], Virginia
 <remove red squares>

Click Here To
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Map Navigator	Zoom Level
<input type="button" value="↑"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1
<input type="button" value="↓"/>	<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="button" value="←"/>	<input type="radio"/> 3
<input type="button" value="→"/>	<input type="radio"/> 4
Map Size	
<input type="radio"/> 256x256	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 400x400
<input type="radio"/> 640x480	<input type="radio"/> 800x600



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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL INVENTORY

94

COUNTY: Prince William

CLASS: Public Building

--- OLD COURT HOUSE, BRENTVILLE, VIRGINIA. ---

This write-up is a part of the Virginia W. P. A. Historical Inventory Project sponsored by the Virginia Conservation Commission under the direction of its Division of History. Credit to both the Commission and W. P. A. is requested for publication, in whole or in part. Unless otherwise stated, this information has not been checked for accuracy by the sponsor.

Research made by
Susan R. Morton,
Haymarket, Virginia.

May 10, 1937.

1. SUBJECT:

Old Court House, Brentville, Virginia

2. LOCATION:

7 miles southwest of Manassas, Virginia, on Route #619,
(Main Street) Brentville, Virginia.

3. DATE:

About 1829.

4. OWNERS:

Prince William County.

5. DESCRIPTION:

The setting of the building adds much to its distinction. It sets back about fifty feet from the road, with the remains of a flag walk from the street to the door with its huge stone doorstep, over which so many feet have trod. There are still many fine trees in the yard, one especially beautiful cedar that must have looked upon the scene long before this building was erected. On the right is the jail with a stone walk that leads from the side entrance of the Court House, and if not a bridge of sighs, it must have been a sorrowful walk for those who went forth prisoners. Back of the Court House is the spot where the gibbet once stood and to the left, on the site now occupied by a one-room school, was the office. This has been gone for many years but the town pump remains, the only one I believe in Prince William County.

The interior of the Court House, while in need of repairs still retains much of its dignity and beauty of the past, the woodwork is fine, and the gallery and stairway leading to it is interesting. The Judge's bench is at the extreme end of the room directly opposite the front entrance.

6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

To give a resume of Brentville Court history, would carry one through the period when many of Prince William's prominent men were shaping their careers and the walls must have resounded with the impassioned speeches of the group of brilliant young lawyers that gathered there. It suffered much from the ravages of war, which has left the court minus many of the valuable records that were destroyed or stolen at that time. After the court was removed to Manassas, the building was used as a school.

7. ART:

8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Informants: Miss Maud Ewell, Haymarket, Virginia.
Mr. George Tyler, Haymarket, Virginia.
Mrs. Jenny Davies, Nokesville, Virginia.

PW-94

3686

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION OF BUILDING CALLED FOR IN
5-A. of BULLETIN 3400

Name of Building OLD COURT HOUSE, BRENTVILLE, VIRGINIA

EXTERIOR

- 1. Building Plan Square Cellar (X)
- 2. No. of stories: (1) Attic classed as 1/2 story.
- 3. Material: Brick (X) Frame () Stone () Log ()
- 4. If brick, state what bond: Flemish (X) English () Common () Other ()
- 5. Kind of roof: Hip () Gabled (X) Gambrel () Lean-to () Deck ()
- 6. If church, describe or draw sketch of roof on reverse side.
- 7. Roof Material: Slate (-) Shingle () Metal (X) Tile ()
(new roof)
- 8. Chimneys: Number (2) Brick (X) Stone () Location End and west side
- 9. Weatherboarding: None Beaded () Plain ()
- 10. Cornices: Plain or Elaborate Plain Material Brick
- 11. Windows: Number 23 Size and number of panes 2, 16 panes, others 12,
- 12. Shutters: Describe: None. 12 X
- 13. Dormers: Number, and Shape of roof None.
- 14. Porch: None
- 15. Type of Entrance: Large, double doors, fan shaped transom and
sidel
- 16. Columns: Doric () Ionic () Corinthian () Square ()

INTERIOR

- 17. No. of Rooms: (1) Large (X) Small () Approximate ceiling height About
- 18. Stairway: Open String () Closed String () Describe: Enclosed stairway
each side, going to the gallery that extends the width of the
- 19. Cellar: Describe Ordinary storage cellar.
- 20. Doors: Style and type of wood Three double doors, appear to be of
four-panel.
- 21. Walls: Panelled, papered or painted Painted white.
- 22. Interior Cornices Plain
- 23. Hardware: Looks and hinges Have been replaced.