

History

There are so few one-room and two-room country schoolhouses left in Prince William County that this one, which is in very good condition and has the potential for being used and maintained, deserves some recognition. Some of the old schoolhouses have been converted to residences; ^① others have been abandoned and are rapidly deteriorating. ^②

One has been converted to a nursery and garden center (Catharpin). Red School in Greenwich, a converted residence, burned ~~last~~ in 1979. Buckhall School, the oldest public school existing in the County, is a community center.

† Most of the country schools were built recently enough for county residents still living to have attended ~~in~~ ^{them,} or taught in them. Preserving this part of the County's recent history would mean a great deal to its older residents, and frequently ~~turns out to be~~ is enlightening to youngsters to see how their grandparents grew up.

① Groveton, North Fork, Waterfall, Hickory Grove.

② Purcell, Fairview.

Brentsville Schoolhouse, located beside the Brentsville Court house on the public square, was turned over to the Prince William County Park Authority in 1978. It is included in the 3-acre court house parcel, along with the jail. Behind the schoolhouse is the Brentsville Historical Recreational area's ballfield. The Park Authority uses the building as a meeting place. The rear addition's classrooms are for classroom (arts and crafts) use.

See Survey Sheet for Brentsville Court house 76-21 and Brentsville jail 76-231 for more & related history.