

VLE - 7/2/97  
NRHP - 11/7/97

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

=====

1. Name of Property

historical name Number 18 School (Marshall)

other names/site number DHR File No. 30-135

=====

2. Location

street & number corner John Marshall Highway (SR 55) and SR 622  
not for publication N/A  
city or town Marshall vicinity x  
state Virginia code VA county Fauquier code 061  
zip code 20115

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally      statewide x locally. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



Signature of certifying official

9/12/97  
Date

Number 18 School (Marshall)  
Fauquier County, VA

Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====  
4. National Park Service Certification  
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register	_____	_____
___ See continuation sheet.		
___ determined eligible for the	_____	_____
National Register		
___ See continuation sheet.		
___ determined not eligible for the	_____	_____
National Register		
___ removed from the National Register	_____	_____
___ other (explain): _____		
	_____	_____
	Signature of Keeper	Date of Action

=====  
5. Classification  
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- \_\_\_ private
- \_x\_ public-local
- \_\_\_ public-State
- \_\_\_ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- \_x\_ building(s)
- \_\_\_ district
- \_\_\_ site
- \_\_\_ structure
- \_\_\_ object

Number of Resources within Property

Number 18 School (Marshall)  
Fauquier County, VA

Contributing	Noncontributing
- 1 -	- 1 - buildings
- 0 -	- 0 - sites
- 0 -	- 0 - structures
- 0 -	- 0 - objects
- 1 -	- 1 - Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: school

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: WORK IN PROGRESS Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

=====  
7. Description  
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th century

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE  
roof METAL: tin  
walls WOOD: weatherboard  
other wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a

Number 18 School (Marshall)  
Fauquier County, VA

master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
EDUCATION  
ETHNIC HERITAGE: Black

Period of Significance 1887-1947

Significant Dates 1887  
1907

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References  
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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)



Number 18 School (Marshall)  
Fauquier County, VA

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage  
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====

Property Owner

=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Fauquier County Board of Supervisors

street & number 40 Culpeper Street telephone (540) 347-3600

city or town Warrenton state VA zip code 20168

=====

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Number 18 School (Marshall)  
name of property  
Fauquier County, VA  
county and State

Number 18 school is a one-room late-19th-century wooden schoolhouse on a stone foundation with a metal gable roof and wood cupola. It still has the original one acre setting, which was deeded to the county in 1887; this almost triangular shaped acreage currently is being used as a wetlands demonstration and garden for period vegetation. The stone foundation has been repaired and repointed. The building's wood-frame structural system is in good condition and was recently repaired with some copper flashing. Exterior weatherboard has been repaired and the roof was brushed and repainted. The original cupola was badly weathered and has been rebuilt with new materials to match the original. A solid brick chimney is supported by wood ceiling joists and braces and there is a small attic. Original windows were preserved and reglazed--and were "three on each side, forty inches above the floor", as described in the 1939 graduate thesis by William Garland Coleman, "Negro Education in Fauquier County, VA."

Inside blackboards remain, although possibly not in their original positions, since Coleman reported that "No. 18 was the only school with boards at varying heights from the floor", i.e. some 26" from the floor and others 36"; these were made of fiber. Other original equipment consisted of bookshelves, wash basins and buckets, and a small table used by the teacher as a desk. The interior was painted cream as of 1939. The original stove has disappeared and in its place is a donated 1889 potbellied stove, which is believed to be similar to the original stove. The 1939 report mentioned that the stove was not "jacketed" as well as the fact that there was no source of water then--water being brought from a private well nearly a mile away. In 1964 when the school closed, students still brought water although usually in plastic containers from home. Toilets were outdoor pit-types "with concrete floors, ventilator, seat cover and soil about bases", according to the 1939 report.

As a one-room ungraded school, the building illustrates the initial stages of public education in Virginia: frame construction, covered with weatherboard, resting on a stone foundation, and a metal roof with a centrally located brick stove flue. Retaining its original scale, massing and proportion, the school has had no major alterations. Basic integrity of materials and workmanship are present. A strictly utilitarian design reveals the exterior of ordinary weatherboarding and a plain interior with pine flooring. The interior had a plastered ceiling and the walls were plain wooden boards or sheathing. All were determined to be in good condition at the beginning of restoration. During the restoration, stripping, sanding and refinishing was undertaken in a manner similar to the original finishes. All this work has

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been done in consultation with an architect with historic preservation experience. With the exception of the reconstructed cupola and front steps (duplicated from the original 4 x 4 stoop), only repairs with similar materials have been affected. A small round sign above the door is not original but a piece of the original sign was found inside the attic and used to duplicate the original sign.

In addition to the schoolhouse, there is one noncontributing structure on the property. This is a small moveable toolshed, which will be removed once the restoration is complete.

State Route 55 (formerly the old Alexandria Road, now renamed John Marshall Highway), running between Marshall and The Plains, fronts the property. Immediately to the west is a small trash site with containers and recycling bins for the Marshall region; this was present before the school closed in 1964. To the east is frontage on State Route 622; the other borders and the property across the roads remain farmland, similar to the setting when the school was built and used.

No archeological study has been undertaken on the property although Civil War activities took place in the vicinity and some archeological survey would be appropriate for future investigation.



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Number 18 School (Marshall)  
name of property  
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Number 18 School is the only surviving unimpaired one-room schoolhouse in Fauquier County. It was built in 1887 on land donated by Samuel Fisher Shakelford; the parcel apparently was originally part of a larger estate owned by Confederate Gen. Eppa Hunton, who also served as a U.S. senator. The school was operated for the white children of the area until 1907 when a new school was built in Marshall. By the 1930s, it was one of 31 elementary schools for "colored" children in the county; it was the last of these to be closed in 1964. The county supervisors then decided to retain it alone as representative of the era. In February 1964, it was declared a county landmark as "a memorial to the history and progress of public education." It represents an increasingly rare building in Virginia and remains an important landmark in the social and educational history of rural Fauquier County to Afro-American ethnic heritage as well as rural American social history. Since 1991, efforts have been made to restore the building and it is hoped that these will be completed in time for the 1997 summer celebration by the town of Marshall.

When a Virginia statewide public free school system was established in 1871, Fauquier County had 35 white schools and 16 black schools--none of which remain. In 1887, Number 18 School was one of the first one-room schools constructed in the northern end of Fauquier County, thus illustrating the initial stages of public education in Virginia. It was also typical of the first phase of free school construction in the late nineteenth century--a simple rectangular block with gable roof. At that time it was one of a network of small elementary schools within walking distance of county students. When a consolidated school for white children was built in the town of Marshall in 1908, black children who had attended school in the Salem Baptist Church were transferred to Number 18.

Throughout the school's use, enrollments varied between 10-60 students, although usually averaging 29 with one teacher. Academic standards for the black schools in the county were considered to be relatively high as the 1939 report stated that there was double the number of:

"Collegiate Professional certificates in the group of Negro elementary teachers. Only 15% of the white elementary teachers had collegiate professional certificates, but 30% of the Negro teachers had them."

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Salaries though were unequal, averaging \$503 per year for black teachers and \$768 for white teachers. There was no noticeable difference between pay for black male and female instructors, whereas white males averaged \$934 and white females \$766.

In the black schools, there were no janitors; cleaning was done by teachers or pupils who also hauled water and wood. There was, however, "sufficient space to meet legal requirements of 272 square feet per pupil for the playground" which was level and well sodded.

By the 1930s, there remained 24 white public elementary schools as well as 31 black schools, but consolidation had become the state and county goal with the smaller schools being eliminated. According to a 1994 Virginia Department of Transportation survey of the white elementary schools, 11 were razed, moved or could not be located; the others were renovated or seriously altered in appearance. Only 5 were considered to retain some integrity with one alone remaining in the northern Fauquier area.

Following the Supreme Court decision in May 1954 to outlaw segregation in schools, efforts were made by the state and county to avoid desegregation. In 1965, Fauquier filed a desegregation plan for its schools based on "freedom of choice." As of the 1965-6 school session, only 170 Negro children had transferred to former white schools; by the next year, 410 or about 1/5 of the Negro school population was slated for integration.

In March 1966, the Department of Housing, Education and Welfare ordered the end of such policies and in spite of suits by the Fauquier School Board, the county was able to continue de facto segregation only until August 1968 when it was given one year to fully integrate. This decision was based on a suit by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People against the county.

Meanwhile, the county had been building three consolidated brick schools for the Negro students. On January 31, 1964, Number 18 School, the county's last one-room school used "for the teaching of colored elementary pupils", closed; there were fewer than 20 students then enrolled. At that point these children were transferred to consolidated Northwestern Elementary School, still segregated, near Rectortown.

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Of the original 31 black schools, only seven buildings similar to Number 18 remained as county property in 1964. The county then solicited bids for the other seven buildings and these ultimately were moved, renovated, altered or razed. Thus, according to the county property managers, Number 18, located on its original site, is the only one-room schoolhouse still existing.

The school's status as a county property was disputed through the 1960s and 1970s when there was some question as to whether the county had clear title to the land. Ultimately it was determined by the county attorney that the school and site did indeed belong to Fauquier County and in 1986, permission was given to the Marshall Regional Historical Society to restore the building. Although the Marshall Society became inactive, other community groups took over the restoration including Keep Fauquier Clean, the Fauquier County Master Gardeners, the Marshall Businessmen and Residents Association, and Former Students of Old No. 18 School. Individual volunteers have included a Boy Scout working on his Eagle Badge. Currently the Fauquier Heritage Society in Marshall has taken lead.

Not only is Number 18 the only nineteenth-century one-room school owned by the county, it is also one of the few such schools remaining within the state. Illustrating the concept of free public education, introduced during the Reconstruction Era, it served hundreds of white and black rural children for almost seventy years in the same rural setting that remains today. Basically unmodified, it is slowly being restored by community groups and former students and will be used for educational purposes by the county as well as be the focal point of various natural resource projects.

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Coleman, William Garland "Negro Education in Fauquier County, VA"  
(A Thesis Presented to the Graduate Faculty of the University of  
Virginia in Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Arts, 1939"  
(manuscript)

Fauquier County Board of Supervisors, "A Resolution to Recognize the Project  
to Restore Old No. 18 School House", September 7, 1993

Fauquier County Library, "Newspaper Clipping Collection on Desegregation of  
Fauquier Schools", compiled 1997.

Fauquier County School Board, Quit Claim, March 6, 1981

Fauquier County Schools, "Marshall #18" (report), June 1936

Gott, John K. High in Old Virginia's Piedmont: A History of Marshall  
(formerly Salem), Fauquier County, VA. (Marshall, VA: Marshall National  
Bank and Trust Co., 1987), 99-103.

LaMonica, John S., A.I.A., "Inspection Report and Recommendations -  
Schoolhouse #18 near Marshall VA", October 20, 1991 (includes blueprint  
of 7-22-91)

Ross, Helen Patricia, "An Historic Architectural Resources Survey  
Report, Phase I (Reconnaissance), SR 726 Improvements, Project No.  
0726-030-P91, N501, Fauquier County", November 30, 1994.

Letters:

Eccles, Linda, The Story Group, Inc., Marshall, to Keep Fauquier Clean  
(Paddy Katzen), February 2, 1993

Gott, John K., Supervisor of Libraries, Fairfax County School Board, to  
Carson M. Bradley, Division Superintendent, Fauquier County Schools,  
September 5, 1963

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**Newspapers:**

Fauquier Citizen:

Editorial: "Save No. 18", u.d.

Slud, Martha, "Modern use sought for one-room school", November 13, 1992

Fauquier Democrat:

"After All: County Legal Owner of Number 18 School", February 13, 1970

"Foley Looks for Owner of Number 18 School", July 17, 1975

"For Sale: One School Bell", November 11, 1963

"Last Day for One-Room Schools", February 6, 1964

"Hitt Begins Drive to Stay at School", July 10, 1975

"Now We Own It, Now We Don't: Supervisors Told Again They Have No Title to  
Old Number 18 School", May 21, 1970

"Old Number Eighteen School As It Looks Today", u.d.

"Wax Museum Creator Wants No. 18 School", July 17, 1969

"What to do with this?", May 26, 1970

Allen, David, "Sale of 'Junk' Sparks War at Old School--Dumpster Site",  
May 29, 1975

Dyson, Cathy, "Restoring Marshall school becomes a community project",  
January 7, 1988

Helmke, Mark, "School 'squatter' worries Fauquier", u.d.

Lawrence, Maureen, "Marshall", December 2, 1992

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Ritenour, Susette, "School restoration under way: Group solicits help,  
donations in Marshall", August 24, 1989

Sullivan, Paul, "For a Museum: Marshall Resident 'Declares' His Ownership of  
Old No. 18", June 4, 1970

Sullivan, Paul, "Schools and the changing times", March 27, 1969.

Piedmont Virginian:

"School 18 shop", November 20, 1974

Hill, Tom, "Hitt describes efforts to oust him", July 23, 1975

Star:

Birchfield, James, "Fauquier School: Fate of Old No. 18 Soon to be Decided",  
December 10, 1967

Washington Post:

Burgess, John, "Old Schoolhouse Focus of Battle", July 27, 1975.

Clippings without newspaper identification:

"County Never Owned It: Forlorn Number 18 School Property Cannot be Sold",  
August 18, 1969.

"County Votes to Sell Old Number 18 School", May 16, 1968

"Foley Looks For Owner of Number 18 School", July 17, 1975

"Marshall society plans to restore old school", September 18, 1986

"No. 18 School Is Declared Landmark", February 13, 1964

"The ownership of school house number 18", December 18, 1974.

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"Preserve Old No. 18!", May 28, 1970.

"Until Last Friday", February 6, 1964

"What to Do About No. 18? Last One-room School in Danger of Collapse",  
November 23, 1967.

Slud, Martha, "No. 18's deed still in doubt", u.d.

Sullivan, Paul, "Supervisors Ponder Fate of Old Number 18 School",  
December 21, 1967.

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Number 18 School (Marshall)  
name of property  
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Verbal Boundary Description

All that Lot and Parcel of land lying on the North side of the Alexandria Road (Route 55) near Marshall, beginning at the center of said road and running N. 40 East 2 poles 14 links to 2 in the center of the Rectortown Road, thence with the old road N. 60-1/20 West 23 poles to 3, a stone in the center of said old road, thence South 11-1/20 West 15 poles to the middle of the Alexandria Road, thence with the said road South 88-1/20 E. 21.5 poles, or 12-1/12 links to the beginning containing one acre, as the same is duly platted by survey dated August 16, 1887 and recorded along with the report of the Viewers to the Trustees of Scott School District, confirmed [sic] December 26, 1887 and recorded at Deed Book 78, Page 409 and 410 of the land records of Fauquier County, Virginia.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the nominated property are the historical boundaries of the tract of land associated with the school.



#18 SCHOOL  
MARSHALL, VA  
5-19-97

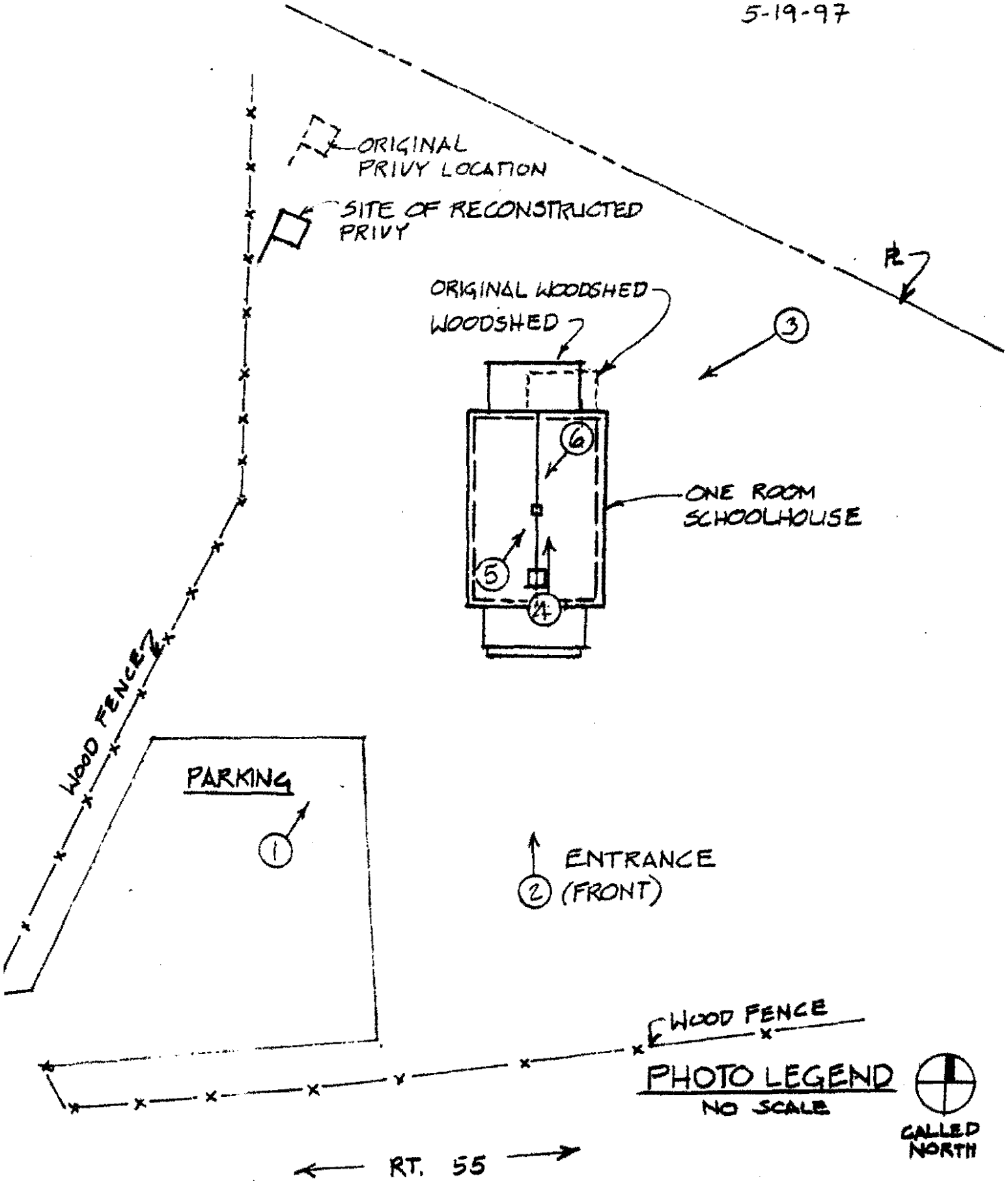


PHOTO LEGEND  
NO SCALE



← RT. 55 →

5461 IN NW  
(UPPERVILLE)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES

77° 52' 30"  
38° 52' 30"

251000m E

RECTORTOWN 3.2 MI.

254 50'

255

54  
(REC)

NUMBER 18 SCHOOL  
FAUQUIER COUNTY,  
VIRGINIA

UTM Reference:  
18/254340/4305900

4306000m N  
FRONT ROYAL (VIA INT. 66) 19 MI.  
2 MI. TO U.S. 17

