



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 056-5077

1. General Property Information

Property name: Fletcher School

Property address: 379 Fletcher Road

City or Town: Stanardsville

Zip code: 22973

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Madison County

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building x Site Structure Object

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 2 acres

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban Suburban Town Village Hamlet Rural x

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

The Fletcher Schoolhouse, located in southwestern Madison County, just north of the Green County line, is situated along Route 675, near the small community of Fletcher. The building is positioned on the west side of the gravel road at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains, just east of the boundary of Shenandoah National Park and just south of the Rapidan Wildlife Management Area. The 2-acre parcel includes two extant resources, the school building and a concrete spring constructed for the school's use. Surrounded by rolling pastureland, the building faces south in a small, forested area.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): N/A

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: None

If the builder is known, please list here: National Youth Administration

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1941

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Exterior

The Fletcher School is a one story, two-room school building, constructed in 1941 with a side-gable roof and sheathed in clapboard. The school rests on a stone foundation. The façade features a single door entry and a bank of six 9/9 windows. The entry is sheltered by a small gabled porch supported by simple wood triangular brackets. The east elevation features a bank of four 9/9 windows. The west elevation features no fenestration. The rear or west elevation originally had no fenestration, but after the school was transferred back to private hands for use as a residence, a fixed picture window was added to provide additional light.

Interior

The school is entered via a small narrow room, probably originally a cloak room, which leads into a larger classroom. A wall with a brick flue, divides a larger classroom from a smaller multi-purpose room. The rooms retain their wood floors (some of the flooring has temporarily removed to make repairs), original beadboard and plaster walls and its original doors.

The building is being rehabilitated and the owners plan to replace materials in-kind or reuse original materials. Most of the work being done is to repair areas of the building that have been subject to moisture damage and deferred maintenance.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- Concrete Spring (1941, Contributing) -

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

The 2-acre parcel was donated to Madison County in 1941 by Mr. W.E. Jarrell and the deed stated the property should be used for school purposes. The building was constructed in 1941 by the National Youth Administration (NYA) in partnership with the Madison County School Board. The school would be constructed as an elementary school for white children. With a rising student population in the area, it was likely built to replace a smaller school, located several miles to the south of this building. The project employed approximately 20 men, ranging from ages 17 through 25, and a supervisor. The cost of the project totaled \$1030 and all materials, tools and equipment would be supplied by the Madison County School Board. Along with the school building, a privy was also constructed along with a concrete spring (marked NYA) that provided a water source for the school. The privy is no longer extant.

The NYA was a New Deal Program which started in the 1930s, during the Great Depression and continued in the 1940s. This program focused on providing opportunities to young people, ages 16-25, providing work training to those with financial need. Initially the program was housed under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) but was transferred to the Federal Security Agency in 1939. The NYA was abolished in 1943, likely making the Fletcher School one of the last constructed in Virginia. The NYA was determined to be a valuable program that influenced youth in education, work ethic and opened up opportunities to many young people who would not have had the same opportunities without their experience in the NYA.

The Fletcher school, besides providing an education to the communities in this remote part of the county, was also used for activities like May Day or Health May and Homecoming Day. These events included singing, games and the crowning of the Health Queen. Other community events were also held at the school throughout the year.

The land was transferred out of county hands in 1973, several years after the school closed.

The current owners purchased the property in 2024 and are in the process of rehabilitating the building.

The Fletcher School is being considered under Criterion A, Education as it represents a small two-room schoolhouse constructed in the southwest part of the county to serve students from remote areas in both Greene and Madison Counties. The school is also significant as it was constructed by the National Youth Administration. The period of significance begins in 1941, with the construction of the building and ends in ca. 1965 when the building stopped functioning as a school.

and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: ☒ Public\Local ☐ Public\State ☐ Public\Federal ☐

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: William J. Reeder and Mrs. G. Reeder
organization: Schoolhouse Knoll, LLC
street & number: 10406 Hollyoak Place
city or town: Fairfax state: VA zip code: 22032
e-mail: wjreeder@gmail.com telephone: 703-346-8694

Legal Owner's Signature: _____

Date: _____

•• Signature required for processing all applications. ••

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: Mrs. Reeder
Daytime Telephone: 703-851-2717


Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)


name/title: _____
organization: _____
street & number: _____
city or town: _____ state: _____ zip code: _____
e-mail: _____ telephone: _____
Date: _____

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!

PIF BOUNDARY MAP

Fletcher School
Madison County, VA
DHR ID# 056-5077

 Proposed Boundary

0 100 200 300
 Feet













































































