

THE ALLENDALE SCHOOL

Information from "YESTERDAY'S SCHOOLS" by Lucy Walsh Phinney
Brentsville District School #8, #7 and after 1900 #3
White School
1884 – 1908

The Brentsville District School Board minutes first mentioned the Allendale School in their minutes of October 16, 1884. At that time, they accepted the school into the District system. It was built by W. T. Allen and opened on October 28. The first teacher was W. A. Bryant, followed by J. C. Weedon and Miss Lizzie W. Nelson. The year Miss Lizzie took over the school, 1887; its number was changed to School #7. The old School #7, Baileysburg, was sold out of the system that year, which created a number vacancy which needed filling. Allendale remained #7 until the general District renumbering of 1900 assigned it to be #3.

The schoolhouse was located near the community of Aden on Park Gate Road. It was adjacent to Park Gate, home of the Allen family from whom the school probably got its name. Various School Board references to the buying of supplies for the school over the next few years are proof that it continued to provide education for the children of the surrounding farm community.

On January 14, 1895 the District Board ordered a new stove for the Allendale School to replace the old one which was found to be unsafe. The Board bought one for \$6.75 including freight from Manassas to Bristow. When the stove made it to Bristow, the Clerk of the Brentsville Board hauled it to the Allendale School taking the old stove to his home to await the Board's instructions.

In the summer of 1908, the School Board rescinded an earlier order to build a new Allendale School and instead ordered the consolidation of Allendale and Hazelwood Schools at Aden. Records show that a group of parents from both the Allendale and Hazelwood School petitioned the School Board to keep the Allendale School open but it did not happen.

The board decided to rent the Lodge Building at Aden for the consolidated school's use during the 1908-09 school years. In October of 1910, ten of Allendale's desks were given to the Brentsville Colored School; the rest of the desks, the maps and charts were given to the primary department of the Aden consolidated school. The Allendale Schoolhouse stood empty.

In July of 1911, sixteen citizens presented the School Board with a petition to re-open the Allendale School. The matter was tabled and one year later the school property was sold to W. F. Hale for \$105. By 1917 the old schoolhouse had been moved beside the barn on the nearby Beahm property where it was used as a granary for several years before it was torn down.