

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no

Property Name: John Hanson Junior High School Inventory Number: PG:76B-44  
Address: 6360 Oxon Hill Road (MD 414) Historic district: \_\_\_ yes  no  
City: Oxon Hill Zip Code: 20745 County: Prince Georges  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Anacostia  
Property Owner: Prince George's County Board of Education Tax Account ID Number: 1203553  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 206 Tax Map Number: 96  
Project: MD 414 at I-495 Agency: State Highway Administration  
Agency Prepared By: State Highway Administration  
Preparer's Name: Melissa Hess Date Prepared: 05/13/2005

Documentation is presented in: \_\_\_\_\_

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: \_\_\_ Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: \_\_\_ yes Listed: \_\_\_ yes

Site visit by MHT Staff \_\_\_ yes  no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Built in 1955, the John Hanson Junior High School is a common example of mid-twentieth-century suburban public school construction. The school sits along the south side of Oxon Hill Road near the I-495/MD 201 intersection in an area dominated by late twentieth-century commercial development. Walton and Madden, a Maryland architectural firm established in 1950, designed the building. Originally a junior high, the building is currently occupied by the John Hanson French Immersion/Montessori School.

In the period following World War II, Maryland's public education system experienced massive growth and expansion. The war had brought increased industrial development and influx of new residents to the state. A resultant major building boom and increased birth-rate caused a particularly acute problem for education. School boards across the state struggled to expand fast enough to accommodate the growing number of students (Callcott 1985, 237).

Though the Prince George's County Board of Education constructed the John Hanson Junior High School a year after Brown vs. the Board of Education mandated the desegregation of the nation's schools, it is unlikely that the construction of the school had any direct association with desegregation efforts, as the county did not take any significant strides to desegregate until the 1960s and

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

Jim [Signature]  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

6/23/05  
Date

[Signature]  
Reviewer, National Register Program

6/27/05  
Date

200501570

1970s.

As with other public buildings of the era, the school's designers chose an aesthetic that they believed emphasized modernity and technological advancement. School design of this era had more in common with factories than with one-room rural schools or any other historic prototype. The school's grounds contain playground areas and a few athletic fields, as well as several paved parking lots. The overall design reflects the mass-produced, non-decorative aesthetic associated with Modern architecture. Like numerous 1950s suburban schools across the country, John Hanson Junior High School is characterized by its low, utilitarian form, with bands of windows, and Modernist styling. The plan of the building is a rambling, horizontal, asymmetrical arrangement of one-story to three-story wings. The wings have flat roofs, brick veneer covered walls, long bands of metal casement windows, and metal doors. Windows on the classroom wings featured large glass block areas over the casement windows. While the glass block remains on the south classroom wing, it has been removed and filled in with a composite concrete material on other wings. Because the long bands of windows are a prominent element of the building's design, this alteration significantly diminishes the architectural integrity. The overall workmanship of the building reflects the preference for speedy construction methods that marked this period of suburban development. While the property itself maintains the feeling of a 1950s public school, the late twentieth-century commercial development that dominates the surrounding area diminishes its association with 1950s suburban growth.

Though the John Hanson Junior High School is generally associated with trends in mid-twentieth century suburban public education, the school is not associated with any specific events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history and is not eligible under Criterion A. The school is not eligible under Criterion B for an association with persons significant in our past. The school is not eligible under Criterion C for its design or construction. The building is a non-distinct example of a ubiquitous property type. It does not represent the work of a master or possess high artistic values. The integrity of the school is diminished by alterations, such as replaced materials and numerous additions. Investigations have not been conducted to determine whether the community has the potential to yield information important in history or prehistory, therefore its eligibility under Criterion D can not be assessed at this time.

References

Callcott, George H. Maryland and America 1940 to 1980. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985.

College of Education, University of Maryland. A Program of Reorganization for the Public Secondary Schools of Prince George's County, Maryland. University of Maryland, March 1941.

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended _____
Criteria:    ___ A    ___ B    ___ C    ___ D	Considerations:    ___ A    ___ B    ___ C    ___ D    ___ E    ___ F    ___ G
MHT Comments:	
_____	_____
<b>Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Reviewer, National Register Program</b>	<b>Date</b>

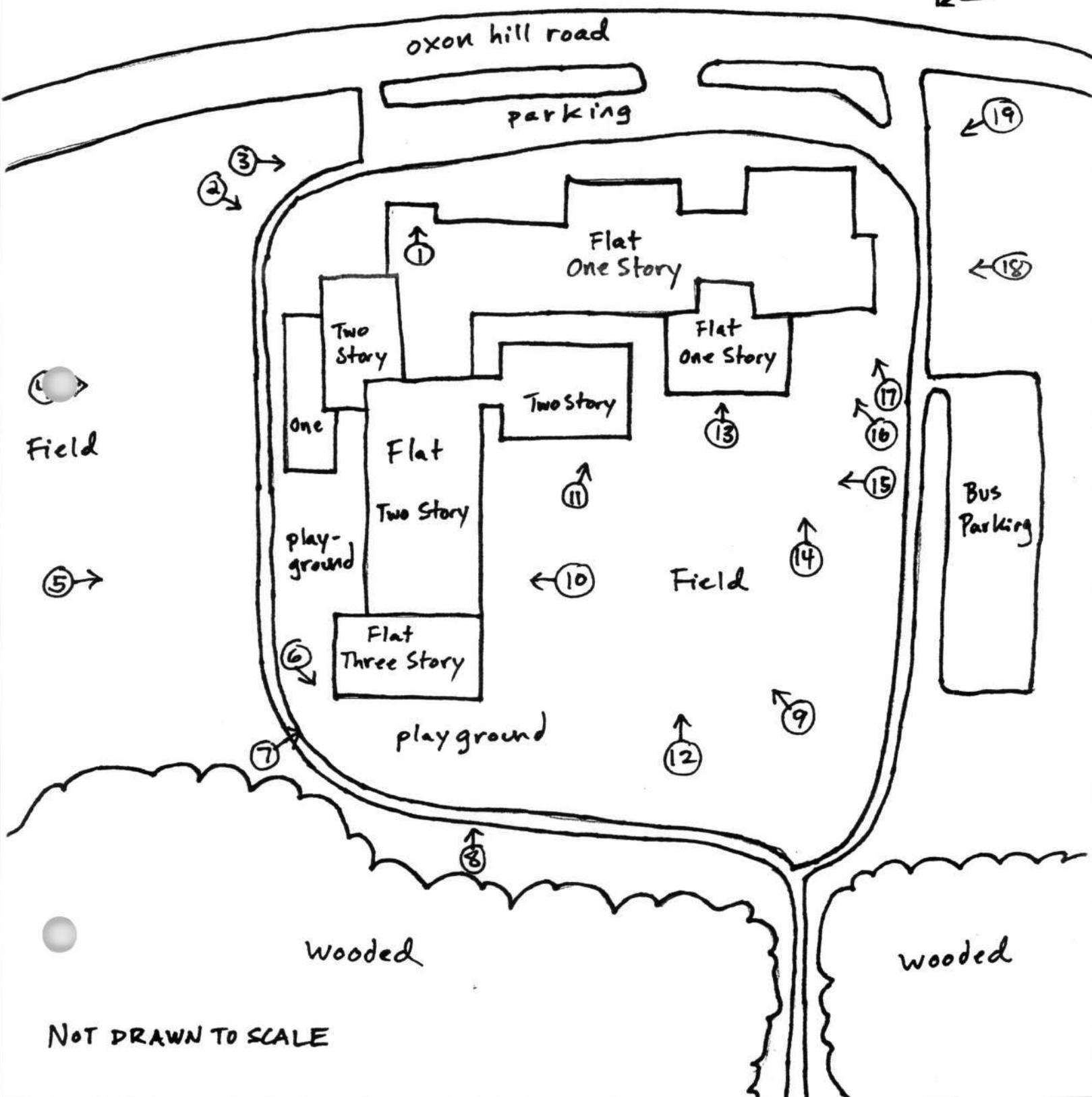
Resource Sketch Map and Photographic Key

PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School

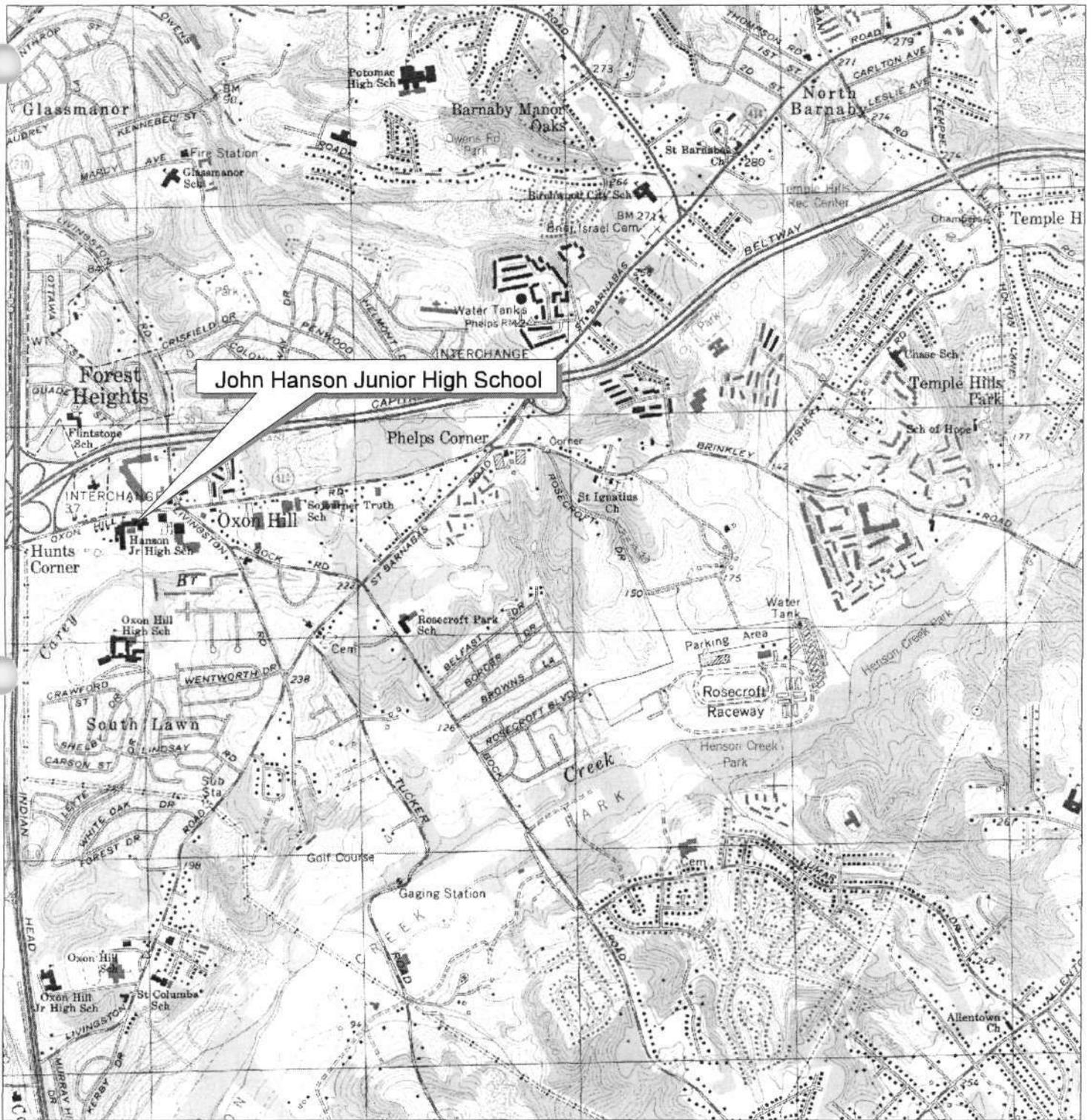
Oxon Hill

Prince George's County

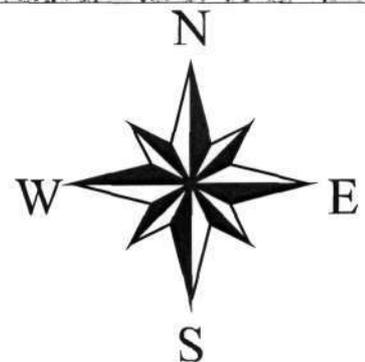


NOT DRAWN TO SCALE





PG:76B-44  
 John Hanson Junior High School  
 6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
 Prince George's County  
 Anacostia Quad  
 Scale 1:24,000



1955  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
MARYLAND  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

JAMES H. HARRISON  
PRESIDENT

RAYMOND E. STEELE  
MEMBER

WILLIAM S. SCHMIDT  
VICE PRESIDENT

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MEMBER

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ASST. TO GOVERNMENT

WILLIAM J. GRIFFITH  
MEMBER

WALTON and MADDEN - ARCHITECTS

PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 8 >013  
846 1717 -1 N N-2 16 <044>0

Dedication Plaque located in front entrance hall

Photo 1 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Koss

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 - (No. 13) 2014  
846 1717 - 1 N N-4-85 (044)0

Front Entrance  
Facing Southeast  
Photo 2 of 20



PG: 76 B-44

John Hansen Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince George's County  
M.D. 2075

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 14 >015  
846 1717 -1 N N-5-49 <044>@

North elevation

Facing East

Photo 3 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hansan Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince Georges County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

West Elevation, North side

Facing East

Photo 4 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 16 >817  
846 1717 -1 N N-2-88 <044>0

West elevation, South side

Facing East

Photo 5 of 20



PG: 76 B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxen Hill Road, Oxen Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Tess

April 2005

MD ST. PO

ART 2541 (No. 17 >018  
846 1717 -1 N N-9-17 (044)0

Playground, South of the school  
Facing Southeast  
Photo 6 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince Georges County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

APR 20 2005 11:11 AM  
846 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000

Sathing  
Facing Northeast  
Photo 7 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill

Prince George's County

M. HESS

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 19 >020  
846 1717 -1 N N-3-16 <044>0

South elevation

Facing North

Photo 8 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill

Prince Georges County  
M. Hes &

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 21 >022  
B46 1717 -1 N N-3-20 <044>0

Sath elevation

Facing Northwest

Photo 9 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hansen Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill

Prince George's County

Mtless

April 2005

MD STIPO

ART-2511 (No. 23 >024  
846 1717 -1 N N-2-11 (044)@

Saith wing, East Elevation

Facing East

Photo 10 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Huss

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 24 >B25  
B46 1717 -1 N N N-22 <044>@

South elevation

Facing North

Photo 11 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill

Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 28 >021  
846 1717 -1 N N-4-08 (044)@

South elevation

Facing North

Photo 12 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 25 >026  
846 1717 -1 N N N-67 <044>0

South elevation, detail

Facing North

8 photos 13 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School

6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill

Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <16-22>B23  
B46 1717 -1 N 11-2-20 <04425

Sath elevation, West side

Facing North

Photo 14 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

AR 1001 1000 >027  
B45-117-111 N-1-46 (044)0

East Elevation  
Facing East  
Photo 15 of 20



PG: 76 B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill

Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

South elevation  
Facing North

Photo 16 of 20

ART-2611 <NO. 8 >025  
845 1212 -1 N N-1-18 (044)©



PG: 76 B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 1 >026  
845 1717 -1 N N-2-08 <044>0

South + east elevations

Facing North

Photo 17 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 3 >828  
845 1717 -1 N 11-1-51 <044>@

East Elevation

Facing ~~West~~

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PG: 76B-44

John Hanson Junior High School  
6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 TEL: 4-3829  
845 1717 - 1 1 1 3 47 44433

North elevation  
Facing Southeast  
Photo 19 of 20



PG: 76B-44

John Hansan Junior High School  
6360 Oxan Hill Road, Oxan Hill  
Prince George's County

M. Hess

April 2005

MD SHPS

ART-2611 <IMG> 838  
845 1777 -1 11-3-76 <84428

North elevation (front facade)

Facing Southeast

Photo 20 of 20