

Source - "Prince William: A Past to Preserve" by the Prince William County Historical Commission

Historic Name: Hixson Hall

Date or Period: ca. 1870

Original Use: Commercial

Vicinity: Manassas

Hixson Hall is one of the oldest buildings in Manassas and was built as a cabinet-making shop and retail store by Manassas wheelwright, cabinet-maker, and casket maker George Washington Hixson. It is a two-story, L-shaped, frame building on a stone foundation. Hixson who served in the Civil War under Confederate Colonel John Mosby, was both enterprising and community-minded and was a member of Manassas' first town council. The second floor of this building was named Hixson's Hall and, as an early Manassas meeting place, hosted several religious congregations. It was also most likely the first location of the Manassas Masonic Lodge. The freight elevator in this building was the first in Manassas. Hixson's daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Arrington, established a grocery store in the building in 1912, and it operated until the late 1940s when the building was converted to apartments. The structure's basic architecture reflects the style of rural, small-town, late-nineteenth-century industrial buildings, although some of its style has been lost through the building's conversion to apartments.