

THE SCHOOLHOUSE

The Fiddletown Schoolhouse sits atop the hill on American Flat Road, opposite the cemetery. It is in dire need of repair. A volunteer effort under the auspices of the Fiddletown Preservation Society is underway to restore this simple rectangular one-room clapboard building with a porch at the entrance and a belfry on top, resembling other schoolhouses in the county. It was built in 1862 from lumber donated by Hiram C. Farnham, succeeding the first schoolhouse which was opened in 1855. This schoolhouse witnessed the education, mischief, laughter, tears, and development of hundreds of children from Fiddletown and surrounding areas. Children, not only from Fiddletown, but also from the Shenandoah Valley, attended Fiddletown School in the early days. In 1863, soon after the second schoolhouse was constructed, 124 children attended Fiddletown School, more than the current population of Fiddletown proper!



Figure 23: Built in 1862, the Fiddletown Schoolhouse served the community for many years.