

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



676

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Retreat Rosenwald School

other names/site number Retreat Colored School

2. Location

street & number 150 Pleasant Hill Circle not for publication

city or town Westminster vicinity

state South Carolina code SC county Oconee code 073 zip code 29693

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

W. Eric Emerson
Signature of certifying official

7/29/11
Date

W. Eric Emerson, State Historic Preservation Officer, South Carolina Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

for Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

9.15.11
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

The Rosenwald School Building Program in
South Carolina, 1917-1932

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Brick

walls: Wood

roof: Metal

other: _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Retreat Rosenwald School is a two-room building located at 150 Pleasant Hill Circle approximately one and one-half miles east of Westminster, South Carolina. The school is situated on 2.55 acres of land owned by Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. The building was completed in 1924 for a total cost of \$2,300, including \$700 from the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The local builder was William Walker Bearden of Oakway, South Carolina. It was one of ten Rosenwald Schools built in Oconee County; the only other one extant is in Seneca. The building is oriented northwest to southeast and lateral to the road. Its surroundings presently include the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Pleasant Hill Cemetery, woods, and farmland. The school was built on an open field; however, the Pleasant Hill Cemetery now (2011) includes some of the original open land to the rear of the building. The school served the African American community in the Westminster area from 1924 until 1950, when the Retreat Rosenwald School was closed because student enrollment had decreased significantly.

Narrative Description

Exterior

The Retreat Rosenwald School is a one-story, wood frame building with a brick pier foundation, white weatherboard siding, and a metal roof. It is T-shaped with entrances on either side of the forward wing. Each has a small-engaged porch which opens into a classroom. The chimney is centrally located. The original panel configuration consisted of two sets of six windows on the southwest side of the building, but these have been removed or covered. Several of these windows are stored under the building; other windows are boarded up to prevent vandalism. The windows located on the northeastern side are located in the kitchen at the two cloakrooms.

The school is situated with a northwest to southeast orientation. This deviates somewhat from the specifications laid out by Samuel L. Smith's *Community School Plans for Rosenwald Schools*, which calls for a north-south orientation. The school's orientation is parallel to the road, however, and the southwest orientation of the large windows would increase the amount of sunlight in the winter and decrease it in the summer.

No longer extant are two privies that were located in the rear of the building approximately 500 feet from the school. A well house, no longer extant, sat approximately seventy-five feet in front of the school.

Interior

The floor plan is typical of a two-teacher community school—floor plan number 20-A—recommended in Bulletin No. 3 by the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Each of the building's interior doorways has transoms to increase the amount of available natural light and air circulation. The moldings throughout the building are plain with no enhancing accents. Much of the original flooring is evident throughout the building. The lower portions of the interior walls are painted brown which gives the appearance of wainscoting approximately four feet above the

floor. Above the simulated wainscoting there is horizontal tongue and groove wood sheathing that is painted white. The ceilings also consist white tongue and groove sheathing similar to the walls.

The building has three main rooms consisting of two classrooms and an industrial room in the forward-projecting wing. The two classrooms were separated by a detachable dividing wall. The removal of the dividing wall created a large space for special events. The northwestern classroom served younger students while the southeastern room served older students. Each classroom had a connected cloakroom for the storage of students' coats, lunches, and other school materials. A kitchen was located on the northern side of the building. There is a wood stove that was used for heating and cooking.

Integrity

The Retreat Rosenwald School, an intact example of Two Teacher School Plan 20-A, meets the Registration Requirements as established in the Multiple Property Submission "The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932," approved by the National Park Service in 2008.

Though the school has undergone exterior alterations, the building retains a satisfactory degree of historic integrity sufficient to convey its historic architectural character. The windows on the southwestern elevation originally consisted of two gangs of six windows. Both gangs of windows have been replaced or covered. The overall form of the building has not been altered so as to no longer convey its historic appearance as an early twentieth century schoolhouse. Likewise, its rural setting and proximity to a church is typical for a Rosenwald School. The interior retains a high degree of integrity. The building contains the original floor, doors, and storage spaces. Several pieces of original furniture such as desks, stoves, cabinets, and drawers remain in the school. These elements help to convey the historic appearance of a Rosenwald school.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period 1924-1950 covers the entire operating history of the school from its construction to its closing due to low enrollment.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The school is located on property owned by the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, the church historically associated with the founding of the school. The school is not significant for its association with a religious institution.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____

Education _____

Ethnic Heritage/Black _____

Period of Significance

1924-1950 _____

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Smith, Samuel L. (Rosenwald School Plan)

Bearden, William Walker (Builder)

Rather, it is important as an example of an educational reform movement, the heritage of local African Americans, and the style of school house construction in the early twentieth century.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

The Retreat Rosenwald School in the vicinity of Westminster, South Carolina, was built in 1924 to serve the local black community. It is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with African American public education and ethnic heritage during the first half of the twentieth century. It is also eligible under Criterion C as an extant example of an architectural design typically associated with the schools funded in part by Julius Rosenwald. The Julius Rosenwald Fund sought to improve schools for African Americans in the rural South. The multiple property submission for the Rosenwald School Building Program, 1917-1932, states that Rosenwald schools are eligible under Criterion A (Education and Ethnic Heritage – African American) and Criterion C (Architecture). In addition to their architectural significance, extant Rosenwald Schools reflect the struggle of black communities to give their children better educational opportunities. Rosenwald schools also reflect the strong bonds of community: the public space became an important social center for rural blacks. The Retreat Rosenwald School, operating from 1924 to 1950, conveys all of these aspects of its history. It is significant at the local level for architecture, its association with the educational reform, and its historical importance in the local black community.¹

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

Education

Rosenwald schools were one of the most significant movements in African American education in the first half of the twentieth century.² Education for African Americans during this time was anything but equal, and the educational opportunities for African Americans were inadequate. A great disparity existed between funding for black and white schools. The number of black and white students was nearly equal in 1922, but the state spent \$1,970,944.20 on white schools and only \$187,033.63 on black schools. Likewise, South Carolina spent \$188,155.02 on furniture and repairs for white schools but only \$22,983.00 for black schools. White students received nearly ninety percent of the state funds.³ That South Carolina had the second lowest literacy rate in the country suggests the severity of education problems in the state.⁴ The state supervisor of elementary rural schools reported in 1910:

Frequently the county superintendent does not know where they [the Negro schools] are located and sometimes the district board cannot tell where the Negro school is taught. It is customary for the board to allot a certain amount of money to the Negroes and allow them to use it as they please. A teacher is employed and no further questions are asked, except concerning enrollment at the end of the session.⁵

¹ Lindsay C. M. Weathers, National Register of Historic Places, Multiple Property Listing, "The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932," South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), South Carolina Department of Archives and History, p. 70, hereafter cited as South Carolina SHPO.

² *Ibid.*

³ State Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Immigration, *Handbook of South Carolina, Resources, Institutions, and Industries of the State...* (Columbia: The State Company, 1907), pp. 1094-95.

⁴ *Handbook of South Carolina*, p. 1086.

⁵ South Carolina Superintendent of Education, *Annual Report, 1910*, 120; Katherine H. Richardson, et al, National Register of Historic Places, Historic Context, "African-American Primary and Secondary Public School Buildings in South Carolina, 1895-1954," South Carolina SHPO.

The county distribution of funds at the local level in South Carolina, as well as any instructional oversight, was highly uneven between blacks and whites.

The Julius Rosenwald Fund had a profoundly positive impact upon education in South Carolina, especially during the 1920s at the height of the program. The addition or replacement of educational facilities brought about a marked change in the amount of funding per student for black children in South Carolina. In 1917, the year the Rosenwald Fund was established, the yearly average instructional cost per black student was \$2.86. Ten years later, that figure had increased to \$11.06. Likewise, the number of available black teachers increased from 3,100 in 1917 to 4,300 in 1927 to meet the needs of the new schools.⁶ As one of nearly 5,000 Rosenwald schools constructed in the South, and one of almost 500 constructed in South Carolina between 1917 and 1932, the Retreat Rosenwald School reflects an important movement in African American education in the segregated South in general and in South Carolina in particular.

Architecture

The architectural style of the Retreat Rosenwald School reflects an important movement in schoolhouse design and construction. The Rosenwald schools in South Carolina are divided into two subtypes: Subtype 1 includes buildings constructed between 1917 and 1920; and Subtype 2 comprises school buildings built between 1920 and 1932.

The Retreat Rosenwald School is an example of Subtype 2. These school buildings reflected the designs and specifications of Samuel L. Smith and were built under the supervision of the Rosenwald Southern office in Nashville, Tennessee.⁷ Rosenwald schools were designed with two primary functions in mind: facilitating education and providing important public space for rural communities. Smith's *Community School Plans* stressed particular designs and guidelines in school building construction. The Retreat Rosenwald School was built according to a typical design found in South Carolina—Samuel Smith's Plan Number 20-A.⁸

There are approximately thirty-five extant Rosenwald schools in South Carolina; six of them have already been listed in the National Register of Historic Places:⁹

Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, Florence vicinity, Florence County	Listed 12 October 2001
Howard Junior High School, Prosperity, Newberry County	Listed 3 February 2006
Hope Rosenwald School, Pomaria vicinity, Newberry County	Listed 3 October 2007
Hannah Rosenwald School, Newberry vicinity, Newberry County	Listed 22 January 2009
Pine Grove Rosenwald School, Columbia, Richland County	Listed 29 January 2009
Hopewell Rosenwald School, Clarks Hill vicinity, McCormick County	Listed 9 June 2010

At least seven extant Rosenwald schools in the state were built according to Plan Number 20 or its east-west variant, Number 20-A. In addition to the Retreat Rosenwald School, the other six schools featuring Plan Number 20 or Plan Number 20-A are:

⁶ Program, "Rosenwald School Day, Friday, March 30, 1928," copy in South Carolina SHPO.

⁷ Weathers, "The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932," p. 68.

⁸ Julius Rosenwald Fund, *Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3* (Julius Rosenwald Fund: Nashville, 1924), p. 6.

⁹ A seventh historic resource associated with the Rosenwald school program in the state, The Great Branch Teacherage near Orangeburg, in Orangeburg County, was listed in the National Register on 24 October 2007; the Great Branch Rosenwald School once associated with it is no longer extant.

Jerusalem School, Ridge Spring vicinity, Aiken County **	Type 20
New Light School, Anderson, Anderson County ***	Type 20
Shiloh School, Anderson, Anderson County **	Type 20
Red Hill School, Kershaw vicinity, Kershaw County ***	Type 20
Hope Rosenwald School, Pomaria vicinity, Newberry County *	Type 20
High Hill Rosenwald School, Sumter vicinity, Sumter County ****	Type 20-A

- * Listed in the National Register 3 October 2007.
- ** Considered by the South Carolina SHPO as eligible for listing in the National Register.
- *** Considered by the South Carolina SHPO as not eligible for listing the National Register.
- **** Not yet evaluated by the South Carolina SHPO for eligibility for listing in the National Register.

The design of Rosenwald schools exemplify the changes that were taking place in schoolhouse construction. Principally, Smith's plans were justified in terms of efficiency and utility. As two-teacher buildings, Types 20 and 20-A were expected to have two acres of land "for the schoolhouse, two sanitary privies, a teachers' home, playgrounds for the boys and girls, a plot for agricultural demonstrations, and proper landscaping."¹⁰ The location of the building was set so that every class room would receive east or west sunlight. While the Retreat Rosenwald school did not sit on an exact north-south axis, its northwest-southeast orientation allowed for more direct sunlight in the winter and less sunlight in the summer. Even the interior wall paint served functional purposes: increase the amount of light, make the interior more "pleasing and restful to the eyes," improve sanitary conditions, and increase the durability of the building.¹¹ Smith's *Community School Plans for Rosenwald Schools* provided color schemes which were a condition of Rosenwald funding.¹² The Retreat Rosenwald School was also a multi-use building. A dividing wall separated lower and upper grades, but the wall could be removed to create a larger space for special school and community events. This link between school and community and the development of modern educational buildings were key aspects in Rosenwald schools. The Retreat Rosenwald School serves as a local example of this important development in the educational opportunities for African Americans in the early twentieth century.

Ethnic Heritage – African-American

In addition to providing better school facilities for African American children, Rosenwald Schools became active community centers for rural blacks engaged in political activism, church activities, local fundraisers, and celebrations. The buildings were expected to serve the community all year: for this reason plan 20-A called for a movable partition so that the building could serve as an auditorium.¹³ These buildings were intended not only to teach children but also to bring rural people together to improve farming techniques and strengthen local communities.

Oral interviews indicate that the Retreat Rosenwald School was a focal point for the local community. Curtis Childers Moon, the daughter of schoolteacher Mrs. Velma Childers, recalls that her mother taught adults at night on the importance of registering to vote and voting in elections. Rural sharecroppers were taught basic math and how to read and write at night because they were working during the day.¹⁴ Verbena Childers Hicks

¹⁰ *Community School Plans*, p. 1.

¹¹ *Community School Plans*, p. 29.

¹² *Community School Plans*, pp. 2, 29.

¹³ *Community School Plans*, p. 1.

¹⁴ Helen Rosemond-Saunders, Interview with Mrs. Curtis Childers Moon, Oconee County, S.C., December 2010. Hereafter cited as Interview with *blank*, with place and date as Oconee County, S.C., December 2010, unless noted otherwise.

and Samuel Grant recall that every 4th of July local families came together for a picnic. They brought various sweets, hot dogs, fried fish, and homemade ice cream. Students and adults played baseball and horse shoes. Mr. Allen Childers, a blacksmith, donated the horse shoes and the balls were made from a walnut wrapped with strings. The bats were made from tree limbs. In the fall, after harvesting, a festival was held in the community. The Retreat Rosenwald School served as a cultural center for community fairs, fish fries, cake baking, sewing classes, quilting displays and vegetable displays for the largest pumpkin in the area.¹⁵ Thus, the school served as the hub for community activities for decades.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**Bachelor's Retreat and Pleasant Hill Baptist Church**

Near the Retreat Rosenwald School was a community known as Bachelor's Retreat, established by John Verner, Jr. in 1812. Samuel Verner, the brother of John, had three sons: Ebenezer, Limuel and David and for a long time all three sons were bachelors. Ebenezer and Limuel eventually married but David remained a bachelor; hence the name Bachelors Retreat. The community had a store, a whisky dispensary, a cotton gin, a grain mill and a post office. Thus, the district name "Retreat" refers to this piece of local history.¹⁶

The origins of Retreat Rosenwald School are closely connected with the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, a one-room building constructed in the 1870s. In the year 1879, ten churches organized the Seneca River Missionary Baptist Association. The ten churches were Snow Hill, Parker, (now known as Shiloh), Mt. Sinai, Cheohee, Flat Rock, Double Springs, Pleasant Hill, Mt. Nebo No.1, Abel and New Light. Several of the above churches had one room school houses for the families in their community.

From the beginning Pleasant Hill Baptist Church held a school on Sundays. The primary focus of the school was reading: reading enabled them to practice religion while exercising and protecting their tenuous freedom after the Civil War. A school was built adjacent to the spot where the church cemetery is now located. The length of the school term was three months, typically following the agriculture cycle, breaking for planting and harvesting.¹⁷ One of the benefits of the Rosenwald Fund was the condition that schools were to have six-month terms.

Building the Retreat Rosenwald School

As early as 1909, the Oconee County Board of Education discussed changing the location of the "Negro School House," which at that time was located on the property of M.S.H. Snead, a white landowner. The Board agreed to relocate the school to black-owned property.¹⁸

The construction of the Retreat Rosewald School in 1924 was an important change in the educational opportunities for students in the Retreat community. It was one of ten new schools in Oconee County constructed by local contractor William Walker Bearden and funded through the State Department of Education

¹⁵ Interview with Mrs. Verbena Childers Hicks and Mr. Samuel Grant.

¹⁶ Claude and Irene Neuffer, *Names in South Carolina*, Volume I – XII, 1954-1965.

¹⁷ *Pleasant Hill Baptist Church 140th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet* (N.P.: Privately Printed, 2009).

¹⁸ Oconee County, South Carolina, School Board Minutes, 1909, Records of the Oconee County Department of Education, Walhalla, S.C.

and the Julius Rosenwald Fund.¹⁹ The Retreat Rosenwald School was typical in construction of a “two teacher” type school that served grades one through seven. The teachers were Mrs. Margie Doyle Childers, Mrs. Lillie Poole Morton, Mrs. Lurlie Gideon Grant, Mrs. Ellen Ladd Oglesby, Mrs. Snow Byrd Harrison Scott, Mrs. Nannie Jackson and Mrs. Velma F. Gideon Childers. All teachers except Mrs. Jackson were graduates of Seneca Institute/Seneca Junior College. The school influenced many in the local community through day and night classes. The school was the hub for community activities, bringing families together through school plays, fairs, fish fries, quilting and sewing classes. Many students continued their education at Seneca Institute/Junior College, Westminster Colored High school or the Oconee Training School in Seneca, South Carolina.²⁰

The Retreat Rosenwald School had a large enrollment. In 1933, the total enrollment was ninety students, though average enrollment between 1933 and 1946 was sixty-seven students. During the school years of 1933-1934 and 1934-1935, average attendance was only 66 and 68 percent, respectively. Overall, however, average attendance was 78 percent. In 1950, the year the school closed, total enrollment had decreased to only thirty-five students.²¹

Remembering the Retreat Rosenwald School

While much is known about the Rosenwald Fund from written records, most information directly pertaining to the Retreat Rosenwald School comes from people associated with the school during its operation. These interviews provide insight into the day-to-day operation of the school.

Dorothy Patterson Holland recalls walking to and from school daily with her sister Sally, along with the Berry children. Once they arrived at school, they always recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Velma Childers was Mrs. Holland’s teacher during the time she attended school.²²

Retreat Rosenwald School suffered from a lack of instructional materials. One of the former students, Edith Childers Harris recalls that their textbooks were passed down from the white schools.²³

Hazel Evett Walker, states that students had to be on their best behavior at school all the time. If not the teacher would correct them at school and their parents would correct them, again, at home. Hazel recalls that she loved school and her teachers, Mrs. Velma Childers and Mrs. Margie Childers. They were good teachers; they were strict but they were fair. They always had some type of devotion before beginning their lessons for the day. Hazel says that the devotions made a difference in the way the rest of the day went. Older students helped prepare the meals, peeled potatoes, washed the dishes and whatever else needed to be done. They took the lunch food to the youngest students. The other students went to the kitchen to pick up their food. The pot belly stove kept them warm in the winter. In the summer, the shutters, windows and doors were opened to keep cool. There was a wooden box to put wood in for the heaters and stove. The older boys brought wood in to use for the heaters before they left to go home for the day. These students also drew water from the well for cooking and drinking.²⁴

¹⁹ Interview with William Walker Bearden’s granddaughter, Mrs. Flora Riley, November 2010.

²⁰ Naomi Childers, Research on the History of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church School, copy in the South Carolina SHPO.

²¹ “Retreat Rosenwald School, Retreat School District #8, Oconee County, Westminster Vicinity,” Records of the South Carolina Department of Education, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

²² Interview with Mrs. Dorothy Holland.

²³ Interview with Mrs. Edith Childers Harris.

²⁴ Interview with Mrs. Hazel Evett Walker.

Lila M. Poole recalls the Jeanes' teacher, Miss Catherine Johnson. Miss Johnson came to the school once a month to check on how the teachers were teaching, the cleanliness of the building, student's personal hygiene, and to speak with the older students on home economics. She also passed out Lifebuoy soap and Ipana toothpaste to the students.²⁵

The Retreat Rosenwald School closed in July 1950 because of the decreased enrollment. The students were sent to Westminster Colored School located on Butler Street in the city of Westminster, South Carolina. In December 1950, the trustees, John S. Lay and Ross Pitts sold Retreat Rosenwald School to Allen Childers, Leonard Poole, Frank Hunter and Tupper Childers, deacons of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.²⁶ Since the closing of the school in 1950, several families have used the building as temporary housing during emergencies after their homes were destroyed by fire. In the sixties, the building was a place of worship while the new church was being erected in 1968.²⁷

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Bullock, Henry Allen. *A History of Negro Education in the South, from 1619 to the Present*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1967.

Childers, E. Naomi and Cosdena Gideon-Gunn. *"A Journey of Faith – 40 Years of Excellence. A History of Seneca Institute Seneca Junior College 1899-1939."* Seneca, S.C., 2005.

Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3. Nashville: The Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924.

Cross, Jerry L. "Julius Rosenwald: His Fund and His Schools, A Brief Historical Sketch of the Rosenwald Fund and Black Education in the South, 1917-1948." Unpublished paper, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, N.C., 1980.

Embree, Edwin R. and Julia Waxman. *Investment in the People: The Story of Julius Rosenwald Fund*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1949.

Forty-Sixth Annual Session Minutes, Seneca River Baptist Association, 1925.

Fifty-Fifth Annual Session Minutes, Seneca River Baptist Association, 1934.

Fifty-Seventh Annual Session Minutes, Seneca River Baptist Association, 1936.

Gleason, Eliza Atkins. *The Southern Negro and the Public Library: A Study of the Government and Administration of the Public Library Service to Negroes in the South*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1941.

²⁵ Interview with Mrs. Lila M. Poole.

²⁶ Deed for Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Westminster vicinity, Oconee County, South Carolina, on file at the Oconee County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Walhalla, S.C.

²⁷ Remarks by Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Retreat Rosenwald Committee members.

Gunn, W. Cassadena and Willie Mae Smith. *Oconee County Training School: 30 Years of Pride 1925-1955*. Privately Printed, 1997.

State Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Immigration. *Handbook of South Carolina, Resources, Institutions, and Industries of the State...* Columbia: The State Company, 1907.

Jeanes Story: A Chapter in the History of American Education, 1908-1968. Jackson, Mississippi: Jackson State University, 1979.

Meggison, W.J. *African-American in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont 1780-1900*. University South Carolina Press: Columbia, SC, 2006.

Newbold, N.C. "Common Schools for Negroes in the South." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* (November 1928), 209-223.

Neuffer, Clarence H. and Irene C. Neuffer. *Names in South Carolina*. (Columbia: Institute for Southern Studies, University of South Carolina). Volume I - XII, 1954-1965.

Richardson, Katherine H. "African-American Primary and Secondary Public School Buildings in South Carolina, ca. 1895-1954." National Register Multiple Property Submission Historic Context, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

South Carolina State Superintendent of Education, *Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Education for South Carolina...* Columbia, 1910.

Weathers, Lindsay C.M. "The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932." National Register Multiple Property Submission Historic Context, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been Requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- _____
Name of repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>310736</u>	<u>3834983</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line on the accompanying enlargement of an Oconee County Tax Map, reproduced at a scale of 1" = 32.3'. The boundary is restricted to the immediate school and its approach from Pleasant Hill Circle. It specifically excludes the cemetery and any church building nearby associated with the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

This boundary is restricted to the historic Retreat Rosenwald School and its approach from Pleasant Hill Circle, being the part of the original two-acre property that retains its historic integrity in association with the school.

Property Owner

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
150 Pleasant Hill Circle
Westminster, S.C. 29693

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Mrs. Helen Rosemond-Saunders, with the assistance of Evan Kutzler, Graduate Student Intern,</u> <u>South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives & History</u>		
organization	<u>Retreat Colored School Committee</u> <u>c/o Pleasant Hill Baptist Church</u>		Date <u>27 July 2011</u>
street & number	<u>150 Pleasant Hill Circle</u>	telephone	<u>864-903-0547</u>
city or town	<u>Westminster</u>	state	<u>SC</u> zip code <u>29693</u>
e-mail	<u>helensrs@bellsouth.net</u>		

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle

City or Vicinity: Westminster vicinity

County: Oconee County

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Helen Rosemond-Saunders

Date Photographed: December 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1. Facade
2. Facade showing entrances
3. Southeast elevation and brick piers
4. Southwest elevation showing window alterations
5. Northwest elevation
6. Classroom
7. Classroom
8. Heater in classroom
9. Heater in classroom
10. Bookcase (left) and drawers (right) in industrial room
11. Sink in industrial room
12. Stove in industrial room
13. Cabinet in industrial room
14. Heater
15. Piano
16. Desk
17. Desk
18. Desks under the school
19. Desks under the school
20. Windows under the school

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Retreat Rose ~~Wald~~ School

MULTIPLE NAME: Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-19
32

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH CAROLINA, Oconee

DATE RECEIVED: 8/05/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/31/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/15/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/20/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000676

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9-15-11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



1. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Façade



2. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Façade showing entrances



3. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Southeast elevation and brick piers



4. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Southwest elevation showing window alterations



5. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Northwest elevation



6. Retreat Rosenwald School
 150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
 Oconee County, South Carolina

Classroom



7. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Classroom



8.

Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Heater in classroom



9. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Heater in classroom



10. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Bookcase (left) and drawers (right) in industrial room



11. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Sink in industrial room



12.

Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Stove in industrial room



13.

Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Cabinet in industrial room



14.

Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Heater



15. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Piano



16. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Desk



17. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Desk



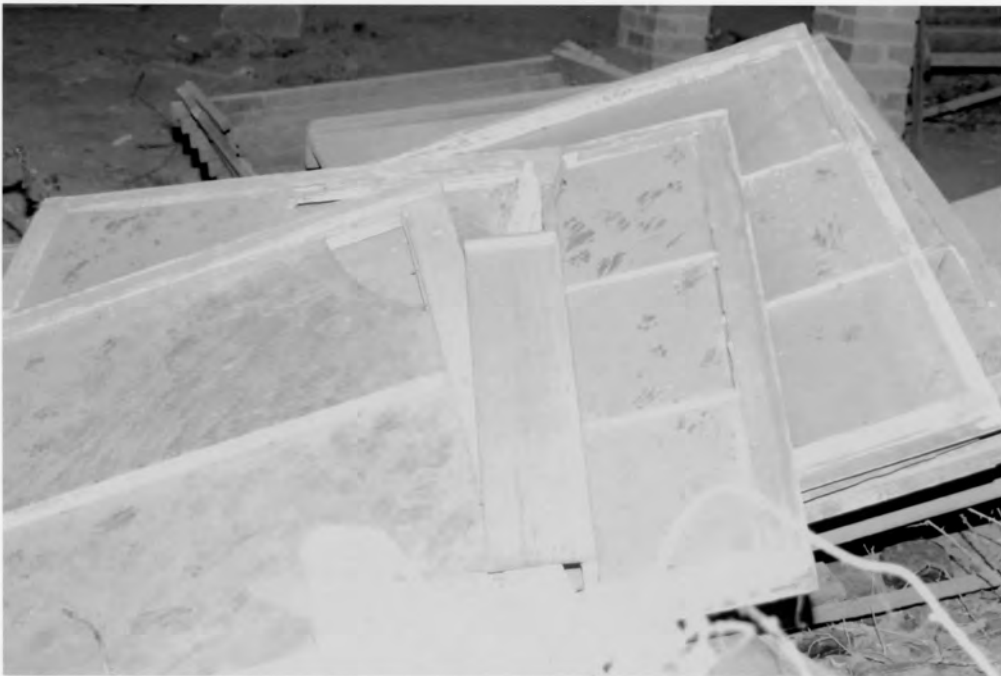
18. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Desks under the school



19. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Desks under the school



20. Retreat Rosenwald School
150 Pleasant Hill Circle, Westminster vicinity
Oconee County, South Carolina

Windows under the school

248 HUNTER DR
0.3 Ac.
264-00-05-040

248 HUNTER DR
0.58 Ac.
264-00-05-010

Hunter Dr GE94

264-00-05-034
6.58 Ac.

150 PLEASANT HILL CIR

150 PLEASANT HILL CIR

Robert R. Rosenwald
School
Westminster Vicinity
Occanee Co., S.C.

264-00-05-020
267.08 Ac.

1703 WEST OAK HWY
04.7 Ac.
265-04-01-018

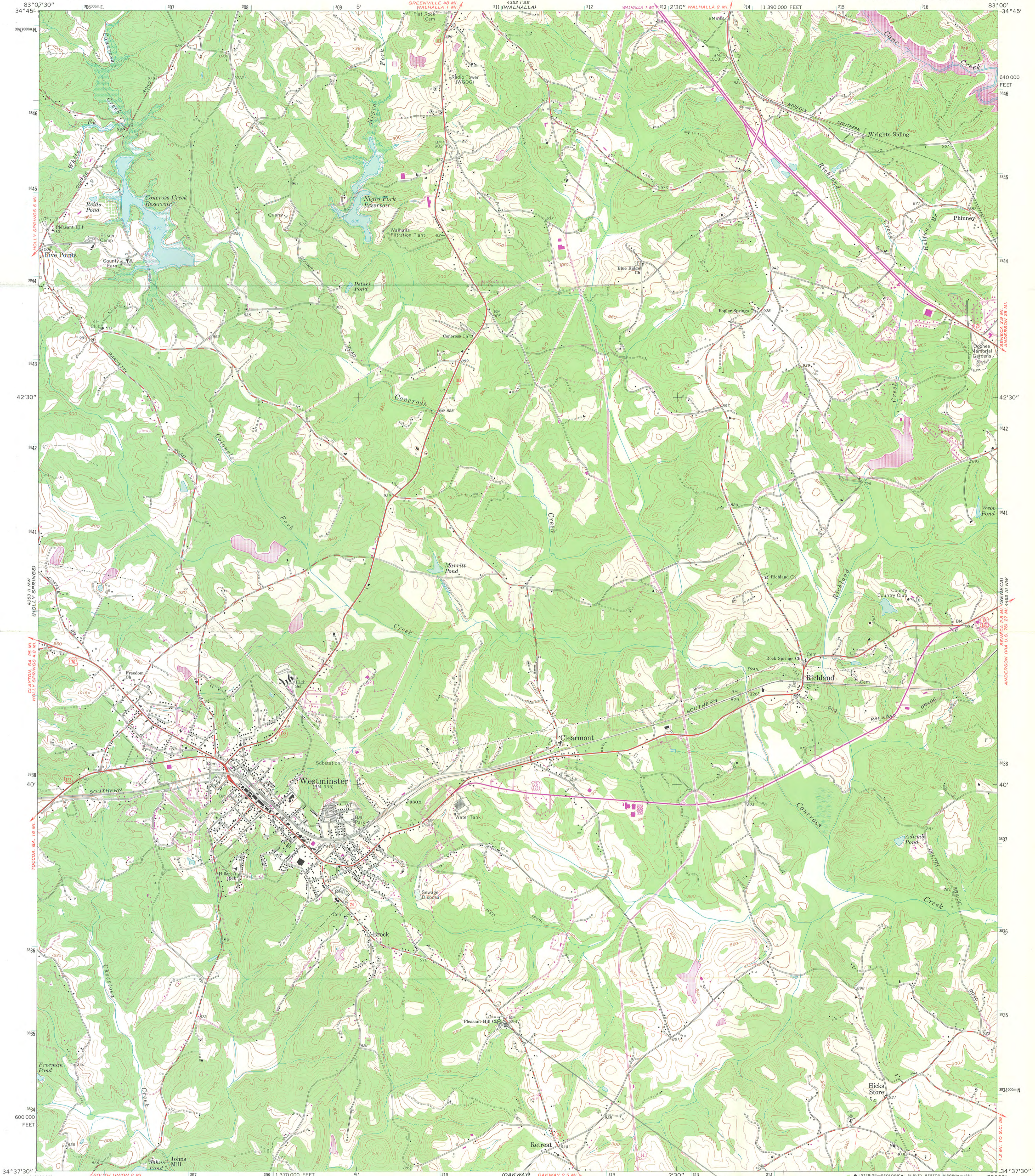
1701

266-00-01-022
60.33 Ac.

1500 CANTON RD SEYM
6521

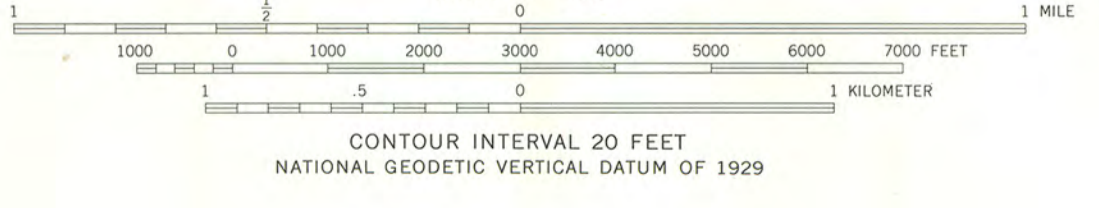
1500 CANTON RD SEYM

27-00-03-012
28.9 Ac.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and South Carolina Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1956. Field checked 1963
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid based on South Carolina coordinate
system, north zone. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator
grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the
projection lines 10 meters south and 11 meters west as shown by
dashed corner ticks
Fine red dashed lines indicate fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject
to controlled inundation

UTM GRID AND 1980 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1977 and other source data
This information not field checked. Map edited 1980



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

RETREAT ROSEWALD SCHOOL
OCONEE CO., S.C.
UTM REFERENCE:
17/310736/3834983



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

WESTMINSTER, S. C.
N3437.5—W8300/7.5
1963
PHOTOREVISED 1980
DMA 4353 II NE—SERIES V846



Thursday, 28 July 2011

Ms. Carol Shull
Interim Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye (I) Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Here is the National Register nomination for the Retreat Rosenwald School in Oconee County, South Carolina, recently approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review.

We are now submitting this nomination for formal listing in the Register.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6182, fax me at (803) 896-6167, or e-mail me at power@scdah.state.sc.us. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Tracy Power".

J. Tracy Power
Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office