National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

Winthrop College Historic District

and/or common

historic

2. Location

Along a portion of Oakland Avenue, between Cherry Road street & number and Stewart Avenue on the Winthrop College campus ____ not for publication

city, town Rock Hill

NA_ vicinity of

state South Carolina

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
X district	_X_ public	_X_ occupied	agriculture	museum
building(s)	private	_X_ unoccupied	commercial	park
structure	both	_X_ work in progress	_X_ educational	_X_private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	<u>_NA</u> in process	_X_ yes: restricted	government	scientific
•	_NA being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
	-	no	military	other:

county

York

4. Owner of Property

name State of South Carolina, c/o Winthrop College Board of Trustees

045

code

street & number 701 Oakland Avenue

city, t	own	Rock Hill		NA_ v	vicinity of		state	South	Carolina	29730
<u>5.</u>	Lo	ocatio	n of L	egal Des	criptio	n				
courti	house	, registry of d	eeds, etc.	York County	Courthouse	2		···		
street	& nui	mber Cor	ner of We	est Liberty an	d South Con	gress Street	<u>:</u>			
city, t	own	York					state	South	Carolina	29745
6.	Re	eprese	entati	on in Exi	sting S	Burveys				
title		th Carolin Historic P		ory	has this prop	erty been detern	nined e	ligible?	yes _2	K no
date	M	ay 1980				federal	X sta	te	county	
depos	sitory	for survey rec	ords S	South Carolina	Department	of Archives	and	Histor	У	

city, town Columbia

state South Carolina 29211

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code

091

7. Description

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Winthrop College Historic District is located at the heart of the Winthrop College campus in Rock Hill. Tree-lined and landscaped walkways and pergolas (covered walkways) connect most of the buildings in the district. The district consists of twenty intact properties built between 1894 and 1943 which contribute to the historical and architectural character of the district. These properties include academic classrooms, administrative and dormitory buildings, and an ampitheater. Only one building, Dacus Library (constructed in 1969), does not contribute to the historical character of the district. The Winthrop College Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. An inventory with physical descriptions of the key properties that define the character of the district follows. Descriptions and photographs of all other contributing properties in the district can be found in the South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places files.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Key properties which define the character of the district:

1. Tillman Hall (called Main Building until 1962), completed in 1895, was the first building on the present campus of Winthrop College. It was listed in the National Register in 1977. It is a three-story, masonry building with a T-shaped plan and a combination gable and hipped roof. The building exhibits elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. It has semicircular, masonry arches above many of the windows and above the main entrance. A central square tower with an open belfry, clock deck, and semicircular arches is located on the left elevation. The interior of Tillman Hall features finely detailed woodwork and ornamental plasterwork on all levels. A dominant feature of the dining hall, known as McBryde Cafeteria, in the rear of the main building is the decorative wood trusses.

2. Margaret Nance Hall (originally North Dormitory), constructed in 1895, was designed by the architectural firm of Bruce and Morgan as Winthrop's first dormitory. It is a three-story, masonry and heavy-timber building with an L-shaped plan and gable roof with pedimented cross gable ends and a center gable over the entranceway. Windows are narrow, four-over-four sash, with granite sills and lintels. Interior trim is solid oak. Original three-story, wooden verandas on the facade were removed in 1936. In the same year a small, rectangular, masonry porch with center pediment, masonry posts, and decorative iron railing was built over the front entrance.

13. Johnson Hall was completed in 1920 from a design by Edwards and Sayward of Atlanta as the students' YWCA Activities Building. It is a

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning landscape architectu conservation law economics literature education military engineering music exploration/settlement philosophy industry politics/government invention	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation transportation other (specify) Women's History
Specific dates	c. 1894-1943	Builder/Architect Various; See Section 7	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Winthrop College Historic District is located on the Winthrop College Campus along a portion of Oakland Avenue in Rock Hill. The district includes twenty properties of historical and architectural merit that were constructed between 1894 and 1943 and that reflect the growth and development of the college as an innovator in education in South Carolina. Two of the properties are already listed on the National Register -- the Withers Building (#19) was listed in 1981; Tillman Hall (#1) was listed in 1977. The Winthrop College Historic District is significant as the first state-supported college for women in South Carolina, for its dominant role in the education of teachers for the state's white public schools, and for its innovations in teaching methods from 1895 through the 1930s. The district is architecturally significant as an unusually intact collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century college buildings.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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In the late 1880s Dr. David B. Johnson, superintendent of the Columbia, South Carolina, graded schools, saw the need for a teachers' training college in South Carolina.(1) At the same time, Governor Ben Tillman wanted an industrial school for women to parallel the accomplishments of Clemson College. With the support of Governor Tillman, the assistance of the Columbia School Board, and the financial aid of the Peabody Education Foundation, Dr. Johnson organized the Winthrop Training School in 1886 to educate and train women to be teachers.(2) Winthrop was named in honor of the chairman of the Peabody Foundation, Robert C. Winthrop, who had done so much to help Dr. Johnson. Originally located on the grounds of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Columbia, Winthrop was chartered by the state legislature in 1887, with Dr. Johnson as President and Governor Tillman as chairman of the board of trustees. (3) In the same year the legislature also established a Winthrop Scholarship of \$150 for a selected student from each county in the state.(4) The first class at Winthrop consisted of twenty-one students with a principal and two instructors.(5) In compliance with the wishes of the Peabody Education Foundation Board, the Winthrop Board of Trustees tendered the college to the state in November 1891, making it the first state-supported college for women in South Carolina.(6) Governor Tillman's recommendation for the establishment of a college which taught industrial arts to women was met when such classes were added to the curriculum of Winthrop Training School. The South Carolina Industrial and Winthrop Normal College was to be an educational institution for women to learn and practice teaching, cooking, dressmaking,

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets

10.	Geograp	hical Data	·			<u> </u>
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city or to	00±dimb±d				th Carolina 29211	
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<u></u>	national	_X state	local			
665), I ho accordir	ereby nominate this p	pric Preservation Officer f property for inclusion in the procedures set forth by the fficer signature	ne National Reg	ister and certify		
title	Charles E. Lee State Historic	Preservation Offic	er	/	date 4/17/	87
	NPS use only hereby certify that this	s property is included in th	ne National Reg	ister	date 4/23	187
Keep	per of the National R	egister		na na Mingerson - Sentin an gran - Sentin an		
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two-story, masonry building with partial basement and flat, built-up roof. Originally constructed in an H-shape, a projecting theater was added to the rear in 1928. There are three French doors on the facade under the portico. First story windows throughout the building are similar to these doors. The French windows and doors have double, four-over-four sash windows with transoms and semicircular, masonry keystone arches filled with terra-cotta medallions which commemorate the YWCA. Second story windows are eight-over-eight sash with plain wooden frames. Molded cast stone belt courses align with the first story window sills above the foundation, and brick belt courses form continuous lintels and sills for the second-story windows. The interior entrance lounge has four large Ionic columns and symmetrical curved staircases with turned balustrade.

17. McLaurin Hall (originally South Dormitory), constructed between 1895 and 1901, is a three-story, L-shaped masonry and heavy-timber building. It has high-hipped roofs on both sections of the L, with cross-gables at the ends and in the center of the front section. The cross gables are partially hidden by brick and stone stepped parapets. Windows are narrow, four-over-four sash with granite sills and lintels. The center gable over the main entrance has a semicircular fanlight. In 1936 the original wooden porches and verandas were replaced by a one-story masonry porch across the central pavilion.

The Withers Building (originally Winthrop Training School) 19. consists of three major sections. The main classroom and office building was designed by the Atlanta-based architectural firm of Edwards and Sayward and constructed in 1912-13. It is a three-story, masonry building with an E-shaped plan and central, four-story tower. Entrance is at the base of the tower beneath a four-centered Tudor arch, which is decorated with terra-cotta moldings and trim. The tower is of brick laid in Flemish bond, with four octagonal decorative turrets at the tower's corners. A second section consists of the old Presbyterian High School, which is located directly to the rear of the main classroom and office building. It is a two-story, brick building constructed in 1891 and purchased by Winthrop in 1910. The original gable roof was replaced by the current slate hipped roof in 1912-13. It was extensively remodeled and connected to the main classroom and office building by a covered walkway shortly after the new building was constructed. In 1952 a new gymnasium was constructed behind the old high school. It is a masonry building with a bow truss roof. In 1972 the two main wings were connected by a three-story, masonry office

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annex designed by Paula Treder of Rock Hill. The Withers Building was listed on the National Register in 1981.

Other properties which contribute to the character of the historic district:

3. Crawford Health Center (originally Winthrop College Infirmary), constructed in 1896 with an addition in 1912 and renovations in 1960 and 1979.

4. Bancroft Hall, built in 1909; the name was changed from Johnson Dormitory in 1920.

5. Kinard Hall, built in 1929.

6. Byrnes Auditorium (originally Winthrop Auditorium) and the Conservatory of Music, constructed in 1939.

7. Phelps Dormitory, (originally Senior Hall), constructed in 1943 and enlarged in 1961.

8. Joynes Hall, (originally Joynes Teachers Dormitory), built in 1926.

9. Thurmond Building, (originally Home Economics Building), constructed in 1939.

10. MacFeat Nursery School, (originally Winthrop Nursery School), constructed in 1939.

11. Memorial Chapel (originally Columbia Presbyterian Seminary Chapel), constructed ca. 1823 in Columbia; taken apart, moved to Winthrop College, and reconstructed in 1936.

12. Amphitheater, excavated in 1915.

14. Roddey Apartments, (originally Roddey Dormitory), constructed in 1920.

15. Breazeale Apartments, constructed as Breazeale Dormitory in 1924.

16. Rutledge Building (originally the Carnegie Library), constructed in 1905 and expanded in 1929.

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18. President's Residence (originally the W. H. Stewart House), constructed ca. 1890, acquired by the college in 1893, and extensively remodeled in 1916.

20. Alumni House (originally the Winthrop Practice Home), constructed ca. 1895, purchased by the college in 1912.

Property which does not contribute to the district.

21. Dacus Library, constructed ca. 1969.

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housekeeping, and other industrial arts.(7) In 1893 the college was re-named the Winthrop Normal and Industrial College of South Carolina.(8)

The Winthrop Board of Trustees with Governor Tillman as chairman, immediately began to search for a permanent site for the college to allow room for growth and development.(9) In 1893 the city of Rock Hill was chosen because of its financial incentives, the beauty of Oakland Park (around which the college could be built), and the cooperation of Rock Hill's leading citizens.(10)

The Board then chose the Atlanta-based architectural firm of Bruce and Morgan (which had designed the Clemson College campus) to present plans for the design of Winthrop's first building.(11) In the spring of 1894 construction began on Tillman Hall (#1, then known as Main Building) by the Thompson Decker Construction Company of Birmingham, Alabama. Convicts from the South Carolina State Penitentiary completed construction of the building.(12) When the college opened in Rock Hill in 1895, the campus consisted of Tillman Hall, Margaret Nance Hall (#2, then called North Dormitory), and some service buildings. McLaurin Hall (#17, originally known as South Dormitory) was completed in 1901. The president's residence (#18) was acquired in 1893 from William H. Stewart, a prominent Rock Hill citizen. The infirmary (#3, now known as Crawford Health Center) was constructed in 1896 using some of the most modern concepts in medical building construction. (13)

During the first two decades of the twentieth century, enrollment at Winthrop grew rapidly, from 266 regular college students in 1900 to over 1,000 in 1920.(14) The prominence of industrial education at Winthrop decreased as more emphasis was placed on normal and literary education. (15) The construction and renovation of several buildings on campus are associated with this period of growth and development. Rutledge Building (#16, originally known as the Carnegie Library) was built with funds from the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in 1905. A new dormitory, Bancroft Hall (#4; the name was changed from Johnson Dormitory in 1920), was constructed in 1909.(16) Reflecting Winthrop's increasingly important role in the education of South Carolina's teachers, the college purchased the Presbyterian High School building in 1910 to provide an area for its practice school.(17) When the practice school outgrew this building, a large addition was constructed in front of the old high school to serve as the main classroom and office building of the Winthrop Training School (#19, now known as the Withers Building). The college purchased another house from William H. Stewart on the corner of Oakland and Eden Terrace in 1912 to provide a

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Winthrop Practice Home (#20, now used as the Alumni House), where seniors could practice the details of housekeeping.(18)

In 1920 the name of the college was changed to Winthrop College, the South Carolina College for Women. It was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1923.(19) Enrollment continued to increase during the 1920s and several new dormitories were constructed, including Roddey Apartments (#14, originally Roddey Dormitory), constructed in 1920; Breazeale Apartments (#15, originally Breazeale Dormitory), completed in 1924; and Joynes Hall (#8, originally Joynes Teachers Dormitory), completed in 1926.(20) The construction of Johnson Hall (#13) in 1920 with funds from J.D. Rockefeller and the Y.W.C.A. further emphasized Winthrop's importance as a women's college in South Carolina. The Winthrop College chapter of the Y.W.C.A. had the largest college membership in the South and was active in several progressive causes such as a free kindergarten for mill children, finding jobs for college graduates, and missionary and food programs.(21)

Winthrop experienced growth and development during the 1930s in spite of the Depression. Enrollment declined in the early 1930s, but began to increase again in 1935 and peaked at 1,826 in 1940-41. Aid from various New Deal agencies allowed the college to undertake several building projects. (22) In 1936 the chapel (#11) in which the Winthrop Training School for Teachers first held classes in Columbia, and which was reputedly designed by Robert Mills, was given to the college by the Presbyterian Seminary Board of Directors and was reconstructed on the Rock Hill campus under the direction of the Works Progress Administration. (23) In 1937 a building program of a larger scale was undertaken with funds from the Public Works Administration and the South Carolina state government. As a result Byrnes Auditorium and the Conservatory of Music (#6, originally Winthrop Auditorium and the Conservatory of Music) and the Thurmond Building (#9, originally the Home Economics Building) were completed in 1939. Built at a cost of over \$600,000, these were two of five major college buildings in the state constructed with P.W.A. funds. By the late 1930s Winthrop's auditorium could no longer seat the entire student body and faculty at one time, and the construction of Byrnes Auditorium provided much needed meeting space for the college. The Thurmond Building was designed to facilitate Winthrop's expanding and developing home economics program. By this time earlier courses in cooking, sewing, and housekeeping had been replaced by courses such as foods and nutrition, consumer education, interior decoration, and clothing and textiles. Also completed in 1939 as a part of the Thurmond Building was the MacFeat Nursery School (#10, then known as Winthrop Nursery

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School), a building planned to accomodate the activities of Winthrop's innovative program in the education of nursery school children.(24) Another dormitory, Phelps Dormitory (#7, originally named Senior Hall), completed in 1943, helped accomodate the increased enrollment.(25)

During World War II enrollment declined at Winthrop, and no new buildings were constructed on the campus from 1944 through the 1950s. Enrollment began to grow rapidly again during the 1960s, however, and a new period of building construction began. (26) The college became a co-educational institution in 1974 and is now known as Winthrop College.

Education: From its inception, a primary mission of Winthrop was to train teachers for the white public schools in South Carolina. Through the first half of the twentieth century, Winthrop dominated teacher education in the state. For example, a 1946 survey of higher education in the state, noted that Winthrop trained most of the prospective teachers for South Carolina's white public schools.(27)

The college was also an innovator in teaching methods. For example, Winthrop was a pioneer in providing a model or practice school where student teachers could learn through observation and teaching experience. The plans for Tillman Hall included four large rooms for a model school. The model school program, later moved to the Withers Building, continued to train teachers until 1968.(28)

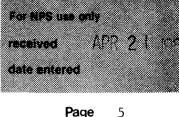
In addition, in 1910 Winthrop was chosen by the Peabody Board to develop a plan for an experimental rural school, the main purpose of which was to prepare rural children for rural life. The experiment was so successful that in 1913 the Department of the Interior requested that a bulletin about the program be printed for use in the United States. This school continued to operate through the 1920s.(29)

Winthrop was also a leader in early childhood education. In the summer of 1899 a kindergarten was organized as a part of the model school by Miss Minnie McFeat. In 1934 Winthrop opened a model nursery school, and in 1935 a program to study the development of nursery school children was initiated on the campus.(30)

<u>Women's History:</u> Winthrop College was the first state-supported college for women in South Carolina. Although the state helped fund three white colleges, none of these institutions were open to women students. The establishment of Winthrop revealed an increasing interest in the education of women in South Carolina, and provided many women with a college education who would not have been able to afford one at the private colleges in the state.(31)

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Architecture: The Winthrop College Historic District contains several buildings which exhibit elements of the architectural styles popular around the turn of the century. The more prominent ones include the Classical Revival style represented by the Alumni House (#20), Byrnes Auditorium and the Music Conservatory (#6), Johnson Hall (#13), the President's Residence (#18), and Rutledge Art Building (#16): Neo-Georgian elements are apparent in Joynes Hall (#8), Kinard Hall (#5), Roddey Apartments (#14), and the Thurmond Building (#9). The Withers Building (#19) reflects elements of the Tudor Revival style and Tillman Hall (#1) of the Richardsonian Romansque style. In addition, the Winthrop College Historic District represents one of the most intact collections of turn-of-century college buildings in South Carolina.

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NOTES

(1)"Winthrop College: From Stable to a Lovely \$10 Million Campus," <u>Herald</u> (Rock Hill, S.C.), 3 May 1952 (Centennial Edition); Colyer Meriwether, <u>History of Higher Education in South Carolina</u> (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1889; reprint edition, Spartanburg, S.C.: Reprint Co., 1972), pp. 119-20.

(2)Winthrop Training School for Teachers (Columbia, S.C., Fourth Annual Report, 1889-90, pp. 10-11 and Board of Trustees Miscellaneous Records for 1886-7, pp. 1-2, Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections, Rock Hill, S.C.; "Winthrop College: Common Sense Approach to Education," <u>Sandlapper: The Magazine of South Carolina</u>, November 1969, p. 31; Douglas S. Brown, <u>A City Without Cobwebs</u> (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1953), p. 223.

(3) Index to Volume XIX of the Statutes at Large of South Carolina (Columbia, S.C.: Charles A. Calvo, Jr., State Printer, 1888), pp. 1,100-01; Meriwether, pp. 119-20; Brown, p. 223.

(4)<u>Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the</u> <u>State of South Carolina in 1891</u> (Columbia, S.C.: James H. Woodrow, State Printer, 1892), p. 1,106.

(5)Meriwether, p. 120.

(6)<u>Daily Record</u> (Columbia, S.C.), 8 January and 11 February 1892 (Editorials); Winthrop Training School for Teachers (Rock Hill, S.C.), Executive Committee Committee Meetings, 26 November 1886 to 20 January 1892, Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections; <u>Acts</u> and Joint Resolutions in 1891, p. 1,102.

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(11)Winthrop Normal and Industrial College of South Carolina, Physical Plant Records for the Administration Building (Tillman Hall), 1893 or 1894, Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections.

(12) Ibid.

(13)Triad Architectural Architectural Associates, "Existing Facilities Study: Winthrop College," Columbia, S.C., 1980, pp. 33, 60-61, 80-81, 105 (Typewritten); Evening Herald (Rock Hill, S.C.), 3 May 1912.

(14)<u>Catalogue of the Winthrop Normal and Industrial College</u>, <u>Rock Hill, South Carolina</u>, 1900-1901, p. 84; <u>Winthrop College: The</u> <u>South Carolina College for Women, Catalogue</u>, 1920-21, p. 151.

(15) Francis Butler Simkins, Pitchfork Ben Tillman: South Carolinian (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1967), p. 181; Catalogue of the Winthrop Normal and Industrial College, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 1897-98, 1909-10; Catalogue of Winthrop College, the South Carolina College for Women, Rock Hill, S.C., 1919-20.

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(19) J.A. Stoddard, Chairman of State Committee of Accredited Schools, to Dr. W.R. Bourne, 10 December 1923, Winthrop College Archives.

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(20) Winthrop College Bulletin: Catalogue, 1930-31, p. 142; Triad Architectural Associates, pp. 23, 42, 65; <u>Annual Catalogue of</u> Winthrop College, the South Carolina College for Women, Rock Hill, <u>S.C.</u>, 1925-26, p. 158.

(21)Winthrop College, Reports of the Board of Trustees to the General Assembly, 1897-98, 1901-02, 1905-06, passim, Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections.

(22)<u>Bulletin of Winthrop College, the South Carolina College</u> for Women, Rock Hill, S.C., 1940-41, p. 202.

(23)Triad Architectural Associates, pp. 96-98, 113.

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(25)"The Winthrop Campus, 1894-1979, n.d., Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections.

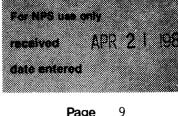
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(28)Rock Hill (S.C.) Times, 14 August 1980; plaque in Withers Building, Winthrop College campus; Evening Herald (Rock Hill, S.C.), 3 May 1912.

(29)Hetty S. Brown, <u>An Experimental Rural School At Winthrop</u> <u>College, Rock Hill, South Carolina, U.S. Bureau of Education Bulletin</u> <u>No. 42 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1913), pp.</u> 5-17; President D.B. Johnson's Administrative Reports to the Board of Trustees, 4 June 1913, Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections.

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(30)Nancy C. Thomas, pp. 1-10; Bessie Garrison, "Winthrop's First Kindergarten," School of Education, Winthrop College, n.d.

(31)Elizabeth Avery Colton, The Various Types of Southern Colleges for Women (Raleigh, N.C.: Edwards and Broughton Printing Co., 1916), p. 11; Laying of the Corner-stone of the Winthrop Normal and Industrial College of South Carolina at Rock Hill, S.C., May 12, 1894 (Lancaster, S.C.: Enterprise Publishing Company, n.d.), p. 5; Catalogue of Winthrop Normal and Industrial College, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 1895-96, p. 16.

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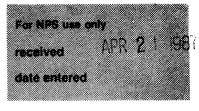
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