NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(TYPE all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
COMMON:
Queen's Campus, Rutgers University

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
Queens Walk between College Avenue and Hoisick and Somerstude

CITY OR TOWN:
New Brunswick

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

COUNTY:
Middlesex

CODE:
023

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
☒ District ☐ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object

☐ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC ACQUISITION:
☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered

STATUS
☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☒ Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE
☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence
☒ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious
☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of Rutgers College

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
New Brunswick

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

COUNTY:
Middlesex

CODE:
023

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Middlesex County Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Bayard Street

CITY OR TOWN:
New Brunswick

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

COUNTY:
Middlesex

CODE:
023

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:
1935

☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D.C.
7. Condition

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DESCRIPT THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site nominated includes all of the original Queen's Campus which totals about six acres of land and buildings. It is bounded by College Avenue, George Street, Hamilton Street and Somerset Street.

I would like to thank Professor Edward B. Wilkens, Rutgers University Campus Planner, for his descriptions of the buildings which follow. Professor Wilkens holds his doctorate in architecture from the University of Rome.

OLD QUEEN'S This is an honest building, without pretension. The "wings" of the building mark off its original function as home to the college. It is made of local stone which is the same brownstone which can be found in so many New York City residences. The walls are three feet thick and the building is done in Federal style, which is an American adaptation of the English Georgian.

VAN NEST This is a well designed "little box". It is marked by the restraint of the earlier Renaissance styles. There are simple windows and molding and the construction is of brick.

SCHANK OBSERVATORY The shape of the building is octagonal with an attached wing in rear. The design is modeled on that of the Tower of Winds in Athens. It has the same proportions, though on a reduced scale. The building contains astronomical apparatus of the period.

GEOLOGY HALL The design is straightforward and employs both Gothic elements and classical forms. Americans adapted the Gothic forms to their own tastes and this building precedes the extreme eclecticism that was to mark a later period. The mixture of styles is an interesting transition, in terms of what Americans thought best for their own land. Although designed to be built of brick, it was constructed of stone.

KIRKPATRICK CHAPEL It is similar to an English country church. It has lancet windows and a particularly graceful interior of wood. There are light, delicate proportions inside. The design is clear and strong and expressive of its function. The construction here is of stone.

WINANTS HALL This building defies description as it was not done in terms of classical forms. It is rather a smorgasbord, having a little of everything. It was originally designed to blend with Queen's but it is much too garish. There is a mixture of motifs in the front and rear of the building but there is harmony to the ends.
8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)
□ Pre-Columbian
□ 16th Century
□ 17th Century
□ 18th Century
□ 19th Century
□ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATES (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- Aboriginal
  □ Prehistoric
  □ Historic
- Agriculture
- Art
- Architecture
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Fine Arts
- Landscape Architecture
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Religion/Philosophy
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

MILITARY  Washington, in his retreat from New York during the Revolution, passed through New Brunswick in 1776. Guns were placed near what is now Old Queen's by Alexander Hamilton to cover Washington as he crossed the Raritan River. From December of 1776 through June of 1777, Hessian troops were stationed in New Brunswick. At times their number reached 5,000; a battalion of these troops was stationed on the Queen's Campus site. (This was prior to its acquisition by the college.)

EDUCATIONAL  This campus shows the development of a colonial college during the nineteenth century. In the history of the college and the biographies set out below can be seen the importance of the institution. The significance of the buildings in the growth of the college is also outlined.

ARCHITECTURAL  The campus includes representative buildings of American architectural styles from the Federal era through the Victorian. This grouping of buildings includes works of two major American architects: John McComb and Henry Hardenbergh. McComb designed Old Queen's and Hardenbergh was responsible for Geology Hall and Kirkpatrick Chapel.

AN EARLY HISTORY OF RUTGERS COLLEGE

The charter of Rutgers College was signed on November 10, 1776 by the last royal governor of New Jersey, William Franklin, in the name of King George III. In honor of Queen Charlotte, the king's consort, the school was first named Queen's College. The charter was granted in response to a petition presented by the education-minded Dutch settlers of New Jersey and New York.

While no copy of the original document has been preserved, a second charter, granted in 1770, provides for the "education of youth in the learned languages, liberal and useful arts and sciences..." The course so study prescribed was thus a classical or liberal arts course leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree. The first students enrolled in 1771 to work under a single tutor, and the first to be graduated received his degree in 1774. A former New Brunswick tavern, "The Sign of the Red Lion", passed for living quarters, classroom facilities and campus.

Continued
Please see the continuation sheet.

### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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<td>SW</td>
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**Approximate Acreage of Nominated Property:** 6 (six)

**List All States and Counties for Properties Overlapping State or County Boundaries**

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**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

**Name and Title:** Michael C. Barr

**Organization:** Rutgers Alumni Association

**Street and Number:** Rutgers University

**City or Town:** New Brunswick

**State:** New Jersey

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

- National [x] State [ ] Local [ ]

**Name:** Richard J. Sullivan

**Title:** Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

**Date:** January 29, 1973

**National Register Verification**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

**Signature:**

**Date:** 7/2/73

**TTTEST:**

**Signature:**

**Date:** 6/18/73
Study schedules proved to be as rigorous as the discipline. Each student was expected to master—in Latin—"the principal Orations of Cicero, Virgil, and Horace"; he was similarly drilled in Greek through the works of Homer, Longinus and Xenophon. Other studies included logic, rhetoric, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, navigation and surveying, natural and moral philosophy, and English grammar and composition.

In the early nineteenth century the college moved to the location for which a landmark designation is currently being sought. The cornerstone, the keystone in the arch over the main entrance, of the first building was laid in 1809. This edifice has come down to us as "Old Queen's", so named because it was erected while Rutgers was still known as Queen's.

In 1825 the name was changed to Rutgers College in honor of Colonel Henry Rutgers "as a mark of respect for his character and in gratitude for his numerous services" to the institution. Colonel Rutgers, in addition to being a trustee, donated a bell for the cupola of "Old Queen's" and the sum of $5,000. While its early years were fraught with a multitude of difficulties, by mid-nineteenth century the college had moved on to better times, increasing its enrollment and expanding its curriculum and physical facilities.

The United States Congress passed in 1862 the Morrill Land-Grant Act which offered to each state proportionate amounts of federal land to be used to endow a college where instruction would be offered in "agriculture and the mechanic arts." New Jersey accepted the terms of the act in 1864. In the same year the newly organized Scientific School of Rutgers College was designated the land-grant college of New Jersey.

The Civil War period was in some ways a difficult one for Rutgers. Enrollment declined. Most Rutgersmen who went to war fought for the Union, yet some entered the struggle on the other side. After the tragedy of the war, college life at Rutgers returned to a more light-hearted atmosphere. And so it was that in the year 1869 the men of Rutgers met the men of Princeton for a "Grand Ball Match." History records this as the first inter-collegiate football game in the United States. At the end, the score stood Rutgers 6, Princeton 4.

The year which witnessed the beginning of college football also saw the printing of the Targum, the oldest daily college newspaper in the country. The nation's eighteenth chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha of New Jersey, was also founded in that year.

The remainder of the nineteenth century was to see a fairly
stable enrollment on campus. Needed buildings were also added, culminating in the building of the first dormitory at Rutgers, Winants Hall.

**PROMINENT PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH RUTGERS**

Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh (1736-1790). He was ordained in the Dutch Reformed Church in 1758 as one of its first ministers in America. Hardenbergh served a circuit of parishes in and around Raritan, New Jersey. He was one of the three original trustees of Queen's College and was an ardent supporter of the Revolution, serving in the New Jersey Provincial Congress which endorsed the Declaration of Independence. Hardenbergh became the first regular President of Queen's in 1786.

Frederick Frelinghuysen (1753-1804). He was the first tutor at Queen's College during the years 1771-1774. Frelinghuysen was commissioned a major in the Minutemen and rose to the rank of colonel in the Revolution. He was a brigadier general in the 1790 campaign against the Western Indians. Frelinghuysen served as a Federalist Senator from March 4, 1793 to November 12, 1796 and was a major general during the Whiskey Insurrection.

Simeon De Witt (1756-1834). He was a graduate of the class of 1776. His proficiency as a surveyor and map-maker led his uncle, Gen. James Clinton to recommend him to Washington's service in the Revolution. He became chief geographer in 1780 and served in the campaign leading to Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown. His duties included preparing maps of British and American positions and laying out lines of defense. De Witt was appointed surveyor general of New York State in 1784 and continued in that position until his death. He was a member of the commission that fixed the Pennsylvania-New York border and he laid the plans for the development of Manhattan beyond the originally settled southern end. He also was to lay out and supervise the construction of the Erie and Champlain canals.

John McComb (1763-1853). He was born in New York and received his training from his father who was also an architect. In 1790 he received a commission to design the facade of Government House in New York. He was to subsequently design lighthouses at Montauk, Eaton's Neck and Cape Henry. He was the architect of New York City Hall, overseeing its construction from 1802 to 1812. He also designed the Castle Garden in the Battery. He was the architect of "The Grange", Alexander Hamilton's Manhattan country home, as well.

Henry Rutgers (1745-1830). He was a member of a wealthy New York family and was graduated from King's College in 1766 (the same year that Queen's College was founded). Rutgers served
as a captain in the American Revolution. He was frequently elected to the state legislature and also served as a regent of the University of the State of New York (1802-1826), a trustee of Princeton (1804-1817) and as a trustee of Queen's College (1816-1821). Much of his time was devoted to the management of his family's property and he made large donations to free schools, churches and charitable institutions in New York.

Theodore Frelinghuysen (1787-1862). He was a graduate of Princeton, class of 1804; elected as an Adams Democrat to the United States Senate, he served from 1829 to 1835. He was the mayor of Newark, New Jersey in 1837 and 1838. Frelinghuysen served as Chancellor of New York University from 1839 to 1850. He was the unsuccessful Whig candidate for Vice-President on the ticket with Henry Clay in 1844. Frelinghuysen was to be the President of Rutgers from 1850 until 1862.

Henry J. Hardenbergh (1847-1918). He was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, the great-great-grandson of the Rev. Jacob Hardenbergh and studied architecture under Detlef Lienau in New York City. He began to design large city buildings in the eighties. These include the Dakota Apartments, done in 1884. Despite its size, this structure is intimate and homelike. Hardenbergh also designed the original Waldorf Hotel in 1891. This put him in the forefront of hotel designers and his style became known as "Dutch Renaissance." He was also to design the Astoria in 1896 and the Hotel Manhattan. The Fine Arts Building, also of 1896, is another of his designs. In 1907 he designed the Plaza in New York City. Other buildings designed by him included many homes in New York during the eighteen eights and nineties. Other important hotels designed by him were the New Willard and the Raleigh in Washington, the Martinique in New York, and the Copley Plaza in Boston, and the French Renaissance additions to the Windsor in Montreal.

Frederick T. Frelinghuysen (1817-1885). He graduated from Rutgers in 1836 and studied law in the office of his uncle, Theodore Frelinghuysen. He became city attorney for Newark in 1849 and was one of the founders of the Republican party in New Jersey. He was state attorney general from 1861 until 1866. Frelinghuysen was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1871 and was one of its ablest debaters and did important work as chairman of the committee on foreign relations during the negotiations over the "Alabama" claims. President Chester A. Arthur appointed him to succeed James Blaine as secretary of state in 1881. He was in favor of close commercial relations with Latin America and negotiated a change in the treaty with Hawaii to give the United States a naval base at Pearl Harbor. He also opened treaty relations with Korea in 1882.
Joseph P. Bradley (1813-1892). A member of the class of 1836, Bradley became a railroad lawyer. In 1870 he was appointed to the United States Supreme Court. His advent made a bare majority to sustain the validity of the legal tender legislation of the Civil War. In the electoral commission of 1877, it was his decisive vote that made Rutherford B. Hayes president. In 1883, in the Civil Rights Cases, he held invalid the statute wherein Congress had forbidden discrimination on grounds of color in inns, public conveyances and places of amusement: the 14th amendment is directed at state, not private action. Throughout his 22 years on the court, Bradley was the great exponent of the proposition that the commerce clause makes the nation a single free-trade area—a design which parochial legislation may not defeat. He was influential in bringing the court to uphold state regulation of the rates of railroads and grain elevators. His was one of the most astute and powerful minds in the court's entire roster.

George H. Cook (1818-1889). A graduate of Rensselaer, he became a professor at Rutgers in 1853 and he was to remain at this position for the rest of his life. Cook was named state geologist in 1864 and was active in the movement to have Rutgers designated the land-grant college of New Jersey. He influenced the state to establish an agricultural experimental station in 1880. Cook was influential in having the United States Congress establish such stations in the other states in 1887. He was an assistant to William Kitchell, who geologically surveyed New Jersey. His most important publication was Geology of New Jersey (1868).

Garret Augustus Hobart (1844-1899). He graduated from Rutgers in 1863 and was admitted to the bar in 1869 and set up a law practice in Paterson, New Jersey. He was prominent in Republican politics and was chairman of the state committee from 1880 to 1890. In 1896 he accepted the nomination as vice-president and was elected along with William McKinley. Hobart presided over the Senate with ability. He cast the deciding vote against granting the Philippine Islands independence. He died in Paterson on November 21, 1899.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BUILDINGS

OLD QUEEN'S This building, designed by John McComb, was begun in 1809 and completed in 1825 at a cost of $30,000. It was built because there was a need for a permanent residence for the college. There was a chapel in the building and living quarters for tutors, the president and thirty students.

VAN NEST HALL The cornerstone of this building was laid on April 21, 1847 and it was built by Nicholas Wycoff. It was named for Abraham Van Nest, who had been a trustee of the college since
1823. The hall housed the literary societies, Philoclean and Peithessophian. A laboratory and the chemistry department occupied the remainder of the building. Van Nest was originally only two stories high. In 1893 it was remodeled and a third floor and porch were added through the generosity of Mrs. Ann Van Nest Bussing, the daughter of Abraham Van Nest.

SCHANCK OBSERVATORY This was the first building at Rutgers erected exclusively for scientific purposes. Proposed by Professor David Murray, who prepared the original specifications, it was designed by Willard Smith. It cost approximately $5,000 and was dedicated on June 18, 1866 by Joseph P. Bradley.

GEOLOGY HALL Due to a mistake concerning the year of the original charter, the college's centennial was celebrated in 1870. This year saw a fund drive among the alumni and friends of the college. $63,000 of this money was allocated to the construction of this building. Henry Hardenbergh designed it and it is possible that this was his first complete work. The building contained lecture rooms for chemistry, geology and natural science. A museum occupied the upper floor and in the basement was located the armory of the military department. The building houses the geology department and the Rutgers Alumni Magazine asserts that it is the oldest continuously used department building in the United States.

KIRKPATRICK CHAPEL This was built in 1872 and was also designed by Henry Hardenbergh. Mrs. Littleton Kirkpatrick bequeathed the money to the college for the construction of a chapel. Its total cost was $52,000 and it contained the college library as well.

WINANTS HALL This building was donated at a cost of $75,000 by one of the college's trustees, Garret E. Winants. It was built in 1890 and designed by Mr. Van Campen Taylor, a member of the Rutgers class of 1867. It is the first dormitory to have been built at Rutgers and it fulfilled a need that had been expressed since 1825. It could accommodate eighty-five students.

NOTE: Dr. Edward B. Wilkens of Rutgers served as the architectural consultant for this project. The form was prepared by a history honors graduate of Rutgers who is currently attending Columbia Law School, Michael Barr.
6. Representation in existing surveys.

The Queen’s Building and the Daniel S. Schanck Observatory are listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey. The Queen’s Building was drawn during January and February of 1935 and it was photographed in 1936. The Schanck Observatory was photographed in March of 1960. These records are on file with the Library of Congress; Washington, D.C., 20540.

9. Major bibliographical references.


Admission to Rutgers College, 1972.


8. The statement of significance. (continued)

In the years immediately following its founding, Queen’s College continued to carry out the charter’s provisions except for brief periods during the Revolutionary War when the two tutors then in residence frequently departed for civil and military service. These were hectic years for the institution as the British troops made periodic forays into the New Brunswick area forcing faculty and students to find temporary quarters at various points in Somerset County.

Student behavior at Queen’s was officially prescribed in the form of specific rules to which each student was to adhere. Religion played a major role at the institution; each individual was expected to comport himself in a God-fearing manner. Visiting taverns or other unbecoming places off-campus was forbidden, as was the use of profanity or other unwholesome speech. Any of a number of violations was cause for dismissal.
Congressional Representation

Harrison Williams - U.S. Senator
Clifford Case - U.S. Senator
Edward Patten - Congressman (15th District)