FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received FEB JAN 5 1982
date entered MAR 5 1982

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

1. Name

historic Thornwell/Presbyterian College Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

Presbyterian College Campus

street & number On a section of the Presbyterian College campus, ~~on~~ a section of the Thornwell Home and School for Children and along a section of South Broad Street ___ not for publication

city, town Clinton ___ vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state South Carolina code 045 county Laurens code 059

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership -- See Continuation Sheet

street & number

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Laurens County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Laurens state South Carolina 29360

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date 1980 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
X fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Thornwell/Presbyterian College Historic District in Clinton, South Carolina, comprises the historic cores of Presbyterian College and the Thornwell Home and School for Children, together with the adjacent residential streets. There are a total of fifty-two buildings and structures within the district. Although the oldest building in the district dates from ca. 1850, the majority of the buildings were constructed in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, with the emergence of the college and the orphanage. Presbyterian College is unified around the central mall, according to the campus plan drawn in 1912 by the New York City landscape engineer Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. This plan has governed the development of the college; the newer, non-historic buildings on campus are thus rendered more compatible with the old. The Thornwell campus is unified by consistency of materials and by scale; stone construction is used throughout the informal campus. The college and the children's home are historically connected through Dr. William Jacobs, who was responsible for the founding of both institutions.

Historic Buildings on the Presbyterian College campus include:

1. President's House, 512 Broad Street. This two story brick Georgian Revival residence was built ca. 1920. A two story hexastyle Tuscan portico dominates the facade. The building has a hip roof with three interior brick chimneys. The first floor windows have flat brick arches with projecting keystones and terminal voussoirs.

8. Smyth Hall. This is a three story rectangular brick building, in the Georgian Revival style, with a central Ionic portico and flanking end pavilions. The building was constructed in 1924. The portico, door surrounds, and belt course are of stone.

9. Laurens Hall. This two story Georgian Revival brick building was constructed in 1908. A central projecting pavilion is defined by four Ionic pilasters supporting a broken pediment. The building extends three bays to either side of the pavilion, with flat arches above the windows.

10. Bell Tower. This is a frame, lattice-work tower, housing the symbolic college bell.

11. Neville Hall. Designed by Columbia architect Charles Coker Wilson, Neville Hall is a three story Georgian Revival building set at the head of the Presbyterian College mall. A projecting central pavilion has an Ionic portico <u>in antis</u>, with flanking paired Tuscan pilasters. The brick building is crowned with a central hemispherical dome. Neville Hall was completed in 1907.

12. Leroy Springs Gymnasium. This three story building was constructed in 1924. A projecting central pavilion has a stone entranceway, with a tripartite window rising through the second and third stories. This window has a segmental brick arch.

13. Alumni Hall (Doyle Infirmary). This three story building was built ca. 1890 and was used as a dormitory in the early years of Presbyterian College. The building was brick veneered in 1942, and a one story portico was added at the entrance.

16. Spencer Dormitory. A three story, brick, Georgian Revival building, Spencer Dormitory was built in 1912. The building has a central projecting tetrastyle Ionic portico. Brick quoins enrich the corners of the main building and of the entrance pavilion.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	X education	___ military	X social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1850-1935 **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thornwell/Presbyterian College Historic District in Clinton, South Carolina, encompasses portions of the campuses of Thornwell Home and School for Children and Presbyterian College and that portion of South Broad Street which lies between. The district's development from farmlands and forests to dense residential and institutional use was the direct result of the efforts of Dr. William Plumer Jacobs who began purchasing land in the area for an orphanage in 1873. The district's significance is derived from Thornwell Home and School for Children and Presbyterian College in the areas of social humanitarianism and education and from its association with Dr. Jacobs, minister, teacher, and humanitarian.

Jacobs first came to Clinton at the age of twenty-two as minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Clinton. Under his guidance Clinton became the center of South Carolina Presbyterianism and as such was the natural choice for the orphanage which had long been Jacobs's dream.

On 1 October 1875 the House of Peace opened with eight orphans. The fledgling institution was christened Thornwell Orphanage in tribute to Dr. James Henley Thornwell, the most influential figure in Jacobs's earlier career at Columbia Theological Seminary. Thornwell Orphanage rejected the congregate theory of caring for orphans and instituted the cottage system whereby children lived in small houses in small groups with a matron. Jacobs also refused to farm out his children and set them tasks in the institution's concerns.

Five years after the founding of Thornwell Orphanage Jacobs founded Clinton College, later to be Presbyterian College, with the support of local Presbyterians. The college grew out of the Clinton High School Association organized in 1872 under Jacobs's leadership partly in answer to the desire for the opportunity of a college education for the inmates of Thornwell. From the beginning, in accordance with one of Jacobs's most ardent wishes, young women could enter any of the classes offered on an equal footing with the men and earn the A.M., Mistress of Arts degree. In 1890 the name was officially changed to Presbyterian College and control was extended to the South Carolina Synod.

Both institutions flourished under Dr. Jacobs's careful eye. After his death in 1917 the college and the orphanage continued to prosper in the spirit in which they had been founded. Following a master plan adopted in 1912 Presbyterian has enlarged its physical plant to accommodate approximately one thousand students. Thornwell too has grown, housing over three hundred children on about 450 acres, which include forty buildings, an accredited high school, and a working dairy and farm.

The residential area on South Broad Street which lies between the two institutions contains the homes of several families whose support has been invaluable to Thornwell and Presbyterian.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 52

Quadrangle name Clinton, S.C.; Joanna, S.C. **Quadrangle scale** 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	419118	3814420
B	17	419988	3813730
C	17	418670	3813650
D	17	418780	3814440
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Thornwell/Presbyterian College Historic District nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying Laurens County tax map, number 616, which is drawn at a scale of 300 feet to the inch. The property nominated includes the largest concentration of significant properties with the smallest number of noncontributing in this area of Clinton.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	John Wells and Suzanne Pickens		Karolyn Freeman and Ruth K. LaForge Upper Savannah Council of Governments
organization	South Carolina Department of Archives and History	date	December 2, 1980
street & number	1430 Senate Street Post Office Box 11,669	telephone	(803) 758-5816
city or town	Columbia	state	South Carolina 29211

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Charles E. Lee (ZK) 12/3/81

title Charles E. Lee State Historic Preservation Officer date

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper of the National Register date 3/5/82

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

Dr. Kenneth B. Orr, President
Presbyterian College
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

Rev. John Pridgen, President
Thornwell Home and School for Children
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

M.S. Bailey and Sons, Bankers
Trustee for Lana C. Dick
P.O. Box 270
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

Sara Garrett Leake
506 South Broad Street
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

Georgia B.Y. Thomason and Georgia Y. Cannon
405 South Broad Street
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

Virginia G. Vance
311 South Broad Street
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

Marion C. and Agatha J. Hiers
103 S. Woodrow Street
Clinton, South Carolina 29325

17. Jacobs Hall. This two story brick building was built in 1915 in the Georgian Revival style. A colossal Ionic portico with paired columns centers the facade. The first floor windows have segmental brick arches with projecting keystones. A full Ionic entablature with a brick frieze is carried around the building.

18. Faculty House, 108 Calhoun Street. A one and one-half story brick residence with a gable roof, central brick chimney, and an enclosed porch projecting from the east end. A projecting pediment shelters the entrance.

19. Faculty House, 106 Calhoun Street. A one and one-half story frame residence, with a one story porch, two brick chimney stacks, and a hipped dormer piercing the hip roof.

20. Faculty House, 104 Calhoun Street. A one and one-half story bungalow, of frame construction, with a partially recessed shed dormer. The faculty residences were built between 1920 and 1935.

21. Faculty House, 102 Calhoun Street. A two story brick residence with a hip roof and a projecting pavilion to the left, which contains the entrance.

22. House of Presbyterian College, South Broad Street, This is a frame, weatherboarded, rectangular building, two and one-half stories, with a hip roof and a one story wraparound porch. A hip roofed dormer and a brick chimney pierce the roof. The building was constructed ca. 1900.

Noncontributing buildings on the Presbyterian College campus include:

5. W. H. Belk Auditorium. This two story, brick rectangular building was completed in 1960. The building features a one story Tuscan colonnade across the facade.

6. Bailey Hall. This three story brick dormitory was built ca. 1960. A two story Tuscan portico centers the facade.

7. Douglas House. This two story brick building serves as the student center of Presbyterian College. It was built ca. 1960. A two story pedimented portico centers the facade.

14. Georgia Hall. This four story brick building was constructed ca. 1965. It features a colossal Tuscan portico and pediment.

15. Utility Plant. This is a one story rectangular brick building with a metal roof. The building was built ca. 1920.

23. Smith Administration Building. A two story brick building, with one story wings to left and right, and a central two story portico, the Smith Administration Building was constructed ca. 1965.

Historic buildings on the campus of the Thornwell Home and School for Children include:

30. President's House. This two story asymmetrical stone residence was built ca. 1925 for the President of Thornwell Orphanage. The building has a one story porch on the north side of the facade, with segmental stone arches and stone buttresses. A carport has been added to the north elevation.

32. Nellie Scott Library. Built ca. 1890, the library is a two story stone building with entrance beneath a central Richardsonian arch. First floor windows have stone lintels, while the second story windows are arched. The building has an Italianate cornice with wooden brackets and a hip roof sheathed in metal.

33. Home of Peace. This building, originally built ca. 1875, is of stone construction, with a hip roof. A third story had been added to the original two story building by 1900; this third story was removed during a ca. 1975 restoration, and the present porch added at this time. Two brick chimneys and three dormers pierce the roof.

34. Memorial Hall (Turner Kitchen and Dining Hall). This is a large two story stone building with a three story bell tower on its northeast corner. A stone belt course delineates the two stories. A portico and a glass entrance wall were added ca. 1955.

36. Technical School. This two and one-half story stone building was built in 1892. The facade is dominated by a projecting three story pavilion with a Richardsonian Romanesque entrance arch.

38. Eldridge Fowler Cottage. Built in 1905, the Fowler Cottage is a two story brick building with a hip roof, single story flanking wings,and a one story porch across the facade. The two doors on the facade have semicircular brick arches, while the flanking windows have segmental arches. Brick buttresses accentuate the facade.

39. Children's Gift Academy. This small one story cottage was built in 1895. Construction is concrete block, with a multi-gabled roof. A bracketed cornice runs around the building.

40. Silliman Cottage. This two and one-half story stone building was completed in 1907. The building is rectangular, with a hip roof pierced by two brick chimneys and four hipped dormers. A one story porch on the east elevation is supported by paired wooden columns.

42. Anita Cottage. Built in 1899, this is a two story stone building with a central third story of frame construction. The building has three separate hip roofs over the three sections. A one story porch with paired columns spans the breadth of the facade.

43. Virginia Home. This building, built in 1898, has a three story central block with flanking two story pavilions. A one story porch shelters the entrance. The first floor is of stone construction, while the upper floors are frame, sheathed in weatherboard. A large corbelled brick chimney pierces the hip roof of the central block.

45. Quattlebaum Rose Garden. A triangular informal rose garden, with a stone memorial pier, dedicated to Mrs. McQueen Quattlebaum.

48. Georgia Beaty Cottage. A two and one-half story stone dormitory with a one and one-half story ell and two stone interior chimneys, built ca. 1910. A stone arched porch is at the junction of the main block and the ell. The cottage was renovated in 1937.

52. Mayes Baby Cottage. A one and one-half story stone building, constructed in 1924, with a combination hip and gable roof and two stone chimneys. A gabled ell with an oriel window, and a shed roofed porch supported by stone arches and wooden brackets, accentuate the facade. Four dormers pierce the slate roof.

Noncontributing buildings on the Thornwell Home and School for Children campus include:

31. Sara Jo Hartness Cottage. A two story stone dormitory with a colossal Doric portico, built in 1954.

35. Business Office. A one story stone office building with a complex plan, built originally in 1925, and considerably enlarged several times thereafter.

37. Youth Center. A one and one-half story imitation-stone building, built ca. 1960.

41. Tom and Jo Infirmary. A rambling one story stone building with a Doric portico, built in 1973.

44. Berkele Cottage. A one and one-half story stone building with a recessed entrance porch, built in 1962.

46. Hartness-Thornwell Memorial Church. A large cruciform-plan stone church with an Ionic portico and lofty spire, built in 1966.

47. Ferguson Cottage. A one story stone dormitory with an asymmetrical plan, built in 1961.

49. Bryan-Miller-McNeil-McLees Cottage. A one story building of stone construction, built in 1969.

50. Safay Cottage. A one story stone building with weatherboarded gable ends, built in 1954.

51. Stewart Cottage. A one and one-half story stone cottage with a central pediment, built in 1950.

Contributing properties adjacent to the Thornwell-Presbyterian campuses include:

2. R. N. S. Young House, 510 South Broad Street. This rectangular, frame, two story weatherboarded upcountry farmhouse was built ca. 1850. The central doorway has sidelights and a multi-paned transom; all facade windows have sidelights as well. A one story shed roofed porch spans the facade. The house has two brick end chimneys and a brick foundation.

4. 506 South Broad Street. A two and one-half story asymmetrical frame residence, this building was built ca. 1900. The building is weatherboarded, with a multiple gable and hip roof, and a one story wraparound porch. The house has two polygonal bays, one on the east elevation and one on the west. A bracketed cornice circumscribes the house.

24. 101 Calhoun Street. A one story frame residence, with a central hall plan, and a central cross gable. A hip roofed porch spans the facade, with bracketed posts and a wooden balustrade. The house was built ca. 1890.

25. 405 South Broad Street. This two story frame Neoclassical residence was built ca. 1907. The house has a colossal Corinthian portico with paired columns and a one story porch on the north, west, and south elevations, running behind the Corinthian portico. A dentil cornice is carried around the house.

26. 403 South Broad Street. A one story frame residence, with a central hall plan, and a central cross gable. A hip roofed porch with bracketed posts and a wooden balustrade with turned balusters spans the facade. The house has one interior brick chimney. It was built ca. 1890.

27. 401 South Broad Street. A two story weatherboarded residence, built ca. 1910, this house has an L-shaped plan and a one story wraparound porch. Turned posts with brackets support the porch roof. The house has a bracketed cornice, and an interior brick chimney.

28. 317 South Broad Street. A one story frame residence, with a central hall plan and a central cross gable. A one story porch is supported by turned posts. The house was built ca. 1910. It has been sheathed in asbestos siding.

29. 311 South Broad Street. A two and one-half story frame Queen Anne residence, sheathed in weatherboard, with an off center octagonal tower and two corbelled brick chimneys. A central gable dormer has a Palladian window. The house was constructed ca. 1890.

Noncontributing buildings adjacent to the Thornwell-Presbyterian campuses include:

3. 508 South Broad Street. A two story brick residence with a colossal Doric portico, built ca. 1940.

Architecture: The integrity of the Thornwell/Presbyterian College Historic District is enhanced by the architectural cohesiveness of the two campuses and the related residential areas. The Presbyterian College campus has adhered to the formal campus plan, established in 1912 according to the plans of Charles W. Leavitt, Jr., landscape engineer of New York City. The formality of the plan is in accord with the lofty academic ideals of the college; this plan has governed the scale, siting, and design of the more modern buildings on the campus. Neville Hall, the central academic building, was designed by Columbia architect Charles Coker Wilson; it is an excellent example of Georgian Revival architecture. The campus of the Thornwell Home and School for Children, on the other hand, is highly informal, with smaller, less intimidating buildings set into a naturalistic landscape. The uniformity of stone construction helps to tie the campus together; Thornwell Home and School for Children has one of the largest collections of stone buildings in the state. The residential areas relate well to the campuses, dating from the same periods. Among these buildings, 311 South Broad Street, an excellent specimen of the Queen Anne style, is outstanding. The district has no commercial intrusions, and minimal modern construction; the new buildings on the campuses are appropriately subjugated to the historic buildings.

Hammet, Ben Hay. "From Glimmering Start to Synod's Own College." The Presbyterian College Report. January 1980, pp. 6, 7, 10.

_____. "His Dreams Built Great Institutions." The Presbyterian College Report. January 1980, pp. 4, 5; reprinted from The State (Columbia, S.C.), 27 August 1950.

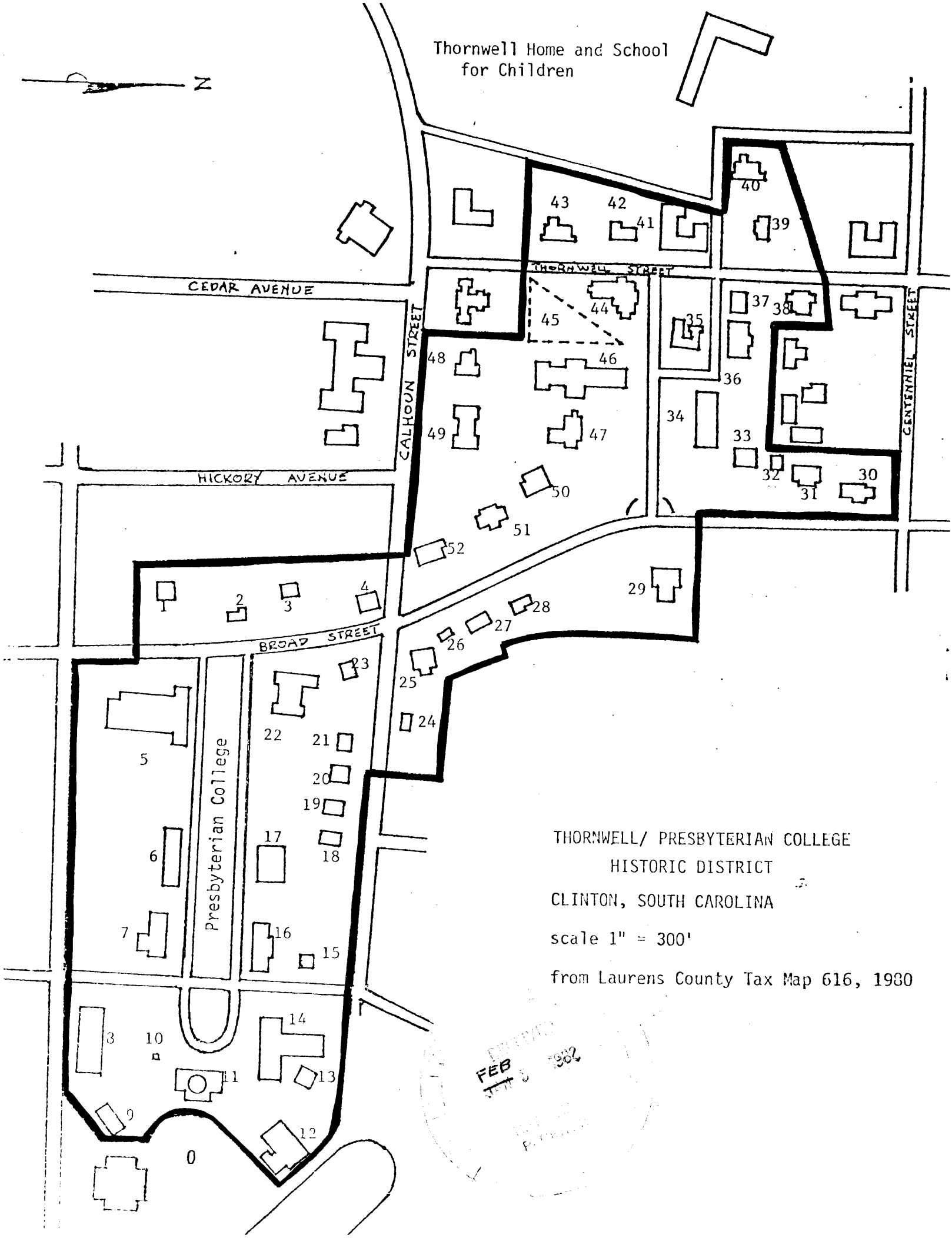
_____. "South Recognizes PC Quality." The Presbyterian College Report. July 1980, p. 28.

Insurance Map of Clinton, South Carolina. New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Company, Limited, June 1889, May 1894, January 1901, September 1906, June 1912.

Jacobs, Thornwell, ed. Diary of William Plumer Jacobs. Oglethorpe University, Ga.: Oglethorpe University Press, 1937, p. 163.

Lynn, Rev. L. Ross. The Story of Thornwell Orphanage. Richmond, Va.: Presbyterian Committee of Publication, 1924, pp. 105-110.

Parks, Nancy. "Thornwell ... Tribute to Founder, William Plumer Jacobs." The Laurens Advertiser, 10 June 1970.



THORNWELL/ PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE
HISTORIC DISTRICT
CLINTON, SOUTH CAROLINA
scale 1" = 300'
from Laurens County Tax Map 616, 1980

FEB 1982