

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**  
Office of Archives and History  
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**St. Augustine's College Campus (Additional Documentation)**

Raleigh, Wake County, WA0138AD, Listed 8/18/2021

Nomination by Mary Ruffin Hanbury, Hanbury Preservation Consulting

Photographs by Mary Ruffin Hanbury, April 2020



Quadrangle in foreground, Cheshire Building at left, Latham Hall at right, view to WNW



Chapel, view to E

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**State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X additional documentation \_\_\_ move \_\_\_ removal  
\_\_\_ name change (additional documentation) \_\_\_ other  
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.



, Deputy SHPO

7/30/2021

Signature of Certifying Official/Title:

Date of Action

**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  
\_\_\_ additional documentation accepted  
\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**Introduction**

Located in Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, the St. Augustine's College Campus historic district (WA0138) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1980 with an area of significance in Education, a level of significance that was statewide, and a period of significance of 1867-1930. The purpose of this additional documentation is to update the St. Augustine's College Campus historic district nomination to provide more current information about the district's physical condition and history. Additional documentation provided herein is in the following sections from the current NRHP nomination form: Section 5, Classification (with number of contributing and non-contributing resources); Section 6, Function or Use of resources; Section 7, Description (including a complete inventory); Section 8, Statement of Significance; Section 9, Major Bibliographical References (based on new research); Section 11, information regarding authors; and Section 12, new Additional Documentation, including an updated Sketch Map (showing contributing and non-contributing resources) and photographs showing current general views, with an accompanying photo key. The boundary of the district has not changed as a result of this update.

Section 7 of this update includes a complete inventory of previously and newly surveyed resources. In 2019 a reconnaissance-level survey of the St. Augustine's College Campus historic district was conducted, during which surveyors verified the conditions of all previously-documented resources within the district as well as documented resources not previously surveyed and all secondary resources. The original nomination, listed in 1980, included a brief inventory but not any indication of contributing or non-contributing status. The 2019 survey update resulted in the identification of 16 contributing resources and a total of 6 noncontributing resources. The inventory in Section 7 provides information about all 22 resources within the original district boundary.

Based on this survey, Section 8 expands upon the original Statement of Significance. The district's period of significance, originally 1867-1930, is herein refined to begin in 1895, the date of the earliest extant campus building, St. Augustine's Chapel, and to end in 1971 at the fifty year mark for National Register significance. Though the campus was established ca. 1867, the buildings that pre-date the chapel are no longer extant, and any organizing principals of the campus, in terms of the relationships of early buildings to each other and the topography of the site, and general patterns of circulation are gone.

After Dr. James A. Boyer's tenure, President Prezzell Robinson, who served from 1967 to 1995, continued to add buildings to the campus, and the district boundary and period of significance should be re-examined in the future to reflect the expansion during his entire tenure. The physical expansion of the district boundary was beyond the scope of work for the current project. The definition of an expanded period of significance, however, allows for additional buildings within the district boundary to be contributing resources. Today, the roughly 19-acre district consists of dormitory, library, classroom, administrative, and religious buildings that contribute to the district's significance in the area of Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black.

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All new information presented herein is organized by section headings as listed in the current NRHP nomination form, with parenthetical reference to the original nomination headings where applicable.

**Section 5**

**Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**Number of Resources within Property (this section was not part of the original nomination)**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>14</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>16</u>	<u>6</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**Section 6 (this section was not part of the original nomination)**

**Function or Use**

**Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)**

EDUCATION: College, Library, Education-Related

RELIGION: Religious Facility

HEALTH CARE: Hospital

LANDSCAPE: Plaza

**Current Functions**

EDUCATION: College, Library, Education-Related

RELIGION: Religious Facility

LANDSCAPE: Plaza

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**Section 7 (this section was not part of the original nomination)  
Description**

**Architectural Classification (this section was not part of the original nomination)**

MID-19TH CENTURY: Gothic Revival  
 LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque  
 LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival  
 MODERN MOVEMENT

**Materials (this section was not part of the original nomination)**

Principal exterior materials of the property:  
 Foundations: BRICK, STONE, CONCRETE  
 Walls: BRICK, STONE, CONCRETE  
 Roofs: STONE

**Narrative Description**

The St. Augustine's College Campus historic district is located on the north side of Oakwood Avenue in Raleigh and constitutes roughly 20 acres of the approximately 94-acre main campus parcel. The campus is immediately east of the Historic Oakwood Cemetery, with the Oakwood neighborhood beyond, both National Register listed. Immediately south are the College Park and Hungry Neck-Idlewild Historic Districts. The National Register-listed Capital Heights Historic District and Madonna Acres Historic District are northwest and northeast of the campus, respectively. The district includes the primary campus entrance and the buildings that line the main oval drive as well as the main quadrangle within the oval, the chapel and infirmary buildings just to the east, and the ruins of St. Agnes Hospital to the west. The topography of the district is generally flat. There is minimal landscape outside the "yard" area, and the grassy lawn is well maintained.

The district originally had 11 Contributing Resources, and 6 Noncontributing Resources as enumerated in an inventory and not in a formal resource tally, for a total of 17 resources. Additional survey for this document identified 22 resources, five newly surveyed. Of the five newly surveyed resources, four were extant at the time of the original listing but not included in the nomination, namely, two well houses, a set of entry piers, the main quadrangle and a gatehouse. A monument added in 2001 was not extant at the time of the original nomination. The eleven resources indicated as Contributing on the original nomination continue to be contributing resources. The expanded Period of Significance in this document adds Penick Hall of Science, Baker Hall, the Boyer Building, Latham Hall, and the Main Quadrangle as Contributing Resources for a total of sixteen Contributing resources.

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**Narrative Description & Statement of Integrity**

The original nomination for the district outlines the evolution of the campus on this site. A review of Sanborn maps provides some additional insight.

The 1896 Sanborn Map of Raleigh shows the Lyman and Smith Buildings and six frame outbuildings: a tool shop, a carpentry shop, a laundry building, a storage building and un-designated outbuildings. None of these buildings remain. The **Chapel (WA0147)** is noted but not drawn. The 1903 Sanborn Map shows the Lyman and Smith Buildings; the **Chapel (WA0147)** and **Taylor Hall (WA0148)** in their original configurations; two frame faculty houses near what is now Oakwood Avenue; a frame principal's house; and a frame St. Agnes Hospital with its own frame laundry at the southwest of the campus. The tool shop near the Lyman Building is gone, replaced with a frame lumber storage and a masonry oil storage building; the carpentry shop is expanded; a masonry privy is added; the storage facility at the Smith Building remains, but the other two outbuildings are gone, replaced with a masonry laundry, a masonry privy, and three undesignated frame buildings, two of which appear to be residences. An unpaved drive runs north from Oakwood Avenue between the Taylor Building and the Chapel to the Lyman Building, and a paved drive runs north between St. Agnes and the principal's house.

By 1909, the stone **St. Agnes Hospital (WA0146)** has been added at the west end of the campus; the frame original hospital remains, adapted for new uses, as do the hospital laundry and the adjacent principal's residence. Two frame residences remain along what is now Oakwood Avenue. Taylor Hall remains unchanged from the previous map, but the chapel has been expanded and a small frame shed appears on the drive between Taylor Hall and the Chapel. The Lyman Building and its adjacent lumber building and oil building remain. A new frame storage and workshop replaces one that was to the west. The Smith Building remains but has been expanded. The brick laundry has become work rooms. The dwelling and frame outbuildings remain, as does the brick privy. A frame laundry has been added.

By 1914, a long paved drive runs north from what is now Oakwood Avenue between the principal's house and the original frame St. Agnes Hospital. Unpaved drives seen in earlier maps are no longer indicated. Additions to the campus are a primary school, a **trades building (WA0145)**, the Thomas Building (a female dormitory), an additional small frame shed north of the Smith Building, a henhouse, a corn crib and two sheds. The residence at the northwest of the campus is gone. An inset map shows additional buildings: a dwelling and three outbuildings labeled St. Augustine School Farm Buildings. Taylor has received its addition.

The 1950 Sanborn Map reflects many changes over an extended period. The **Art Building/Mosee Building (WA0139)**, by then a science building, has been added, as have the **Hunter Building (WA0144)**, then classrooms; the **Tuttle Building (WA0149)**, then the Bishop Tuttle Memorial Training School; **Benson Library (WA0140)**; the **Cheshire Building (WA0141)**, noted as a dining hall; **Delany Hall (WA0142)**; **Goold Hall (WA0143)**, noted as a nurses' home; and the **Penick Hall**

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**of Science Building (WA8062).** Two frame residences remain along what is now Oakwood Avenue. St. Agnes has an addition, and to its north are a clinic, a boiler building (outside the current district boundary) and two unlabelled outbuildings. A principal's house and outbuilding have been moved or built south of the Cheshire Building. The Thomas Building remains just north of the Cheshire Building, with a frame dwelling between it and the Delany Building. The Lyman Building and one outbuilding to its north still remain at this point, and a third dwelling appears between the chapel and the trades building. An inset map again shows farm buildings that appear to have been east of the current campus. A 1938 aerial photograph of the campus reprinted in the book *Culture Town* show the diagonal entrance drive from Oakwood Avenue that is in use today, and the oval around which the principal campus buildings are arrayed. However, it may not at this point have been paved.<sup>1</sup>

**Inventory**

The following inventory identifies all properties located within the original St. Augustine's College Campus historic district. For each entry, the property name and date with Contributing or Non-Contributing status are noted, and a brief architectural description follows. Following the resource name and date is the North Carolina Survey Site number (for easy cross-reference of individual property files at the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office). The primary and secondary resources' Contributing or Non-Contributing status and classification follow each architectural description. Contributing status is based on the resource's association with the area and period of significance for the district, and its ability to convey its historic appearance and association through various aspects of integrity.

**St. Augustine's Chapel 1895 (WA0147)** is an evolved, cruciform stone building built with stone quarried on site and from Henderson, North Carolina. The cornerstone was laid in 1895 and the chapel originally consisted of a nave and chancel with a tower to the south. The north transept was built in 1904. In 1917 the tower was demolished to build the south transept, and it is thought that improvements to the facade were made simultaneously. The cross-gabled roof has broad, flared eaves and wooden shingles in the gable ends. The principal entrance is through a gabled porch at the west side of the south elevation that supports a belfry tower. The church contains stained glass windows—some patterned and others pictorial. The interior includes a stone baptismal pool to the southwest, unusual in an Episcopal church. Photographic documentation indicates the pews date from 1951. The architect for the building was Lincolnton, North Carolina native, Silas McBee, an architect who was also deeply involved in education and religious publishing.<sup>2</sup> While McBee contributed the original designs, it is unclear who was responsible for later alterations.

**Contributing Building**

<sup>1</sup> Linda Simmons-Henry and Linda Harris Edmisten, *Culture Town: Life in Raleigh's African American Communities* (Raleigh: Raleigh Historic Districts commission, 1993), 135.

<sup>2</sup> "North Carolina," *The Churchman* August 3, 1895, p. 141.

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**Taylor Hall 1898, 1902 (WA0148)** is an L-shaped building constructed in two phases: the original Benson Library, and the later adjacent Taylor Hall. With the construction of the new Benson Library in 1930, the interior walls separating the two buildings were removed and the entire building became known as Taylor Hall. The original section, to the east, was said to have been modeled after H. H. Richardson's Ames Library and it was built by students. It is L-shaped in footprint and laid in random course stone with dressed red stone accents including belt courses and window surrounds. Its south elevation has a large stone arched opening with a later door insert. Centered above this entrance are seven windows sharing a common stone sill. Two sets of paired windows flank a series of five stone arches. The center three arches contain windows and the flanking two are blind with red stone panels. The western wing of the building included an assembly hall. Its stonework is coursed, but also includes red stone window surrounds. Its west gable end has paired arched openings housing double-leaf doors, and centered above them is a series of three arched windows.<sup>3</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**St. Agnes Hospital 1909 (WA0146).** In the 1990s, federal funding was allocated to rehabilitate this building; the roof was removed and interior gutted, after which point the project stalled for lack of funds and the building descended to its current ruinous state. All that remains are stone exterior walls. Founded in 1896, the hospital was originally housed in a frame building, which it rapidly outgrew. In the 1940s the hospital was organized under a separate corporation to allow it to receive funding for indigent patients. As WakeMed Hospital in Raleigh began to serve indigents in the early 1960s, St. Agnes closed, unable to fund its operations, ending the history of an institution that was one of the few hospitals to serve African Americans during the Jim Crow era. While it is unclear who designed the building, it may have been John Wayman "J. W." Holmes, a 1903 graduate of North Carolina A& M (later North Carolina A&T). Holmes was a contractor in High Point and Greensboro, North Carolina before coming to Raleigh. He joined the faculty of St Augustine's in 1904 as a teacher of industrial crafts and carpentry. He is described as having "charge of the erection of a hospital that is being built by the St. Augustine School, at Raleigh"<sup>4</sup> and the 1910 North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University bulletin lists him as an architect. He remained on campus until at least 1940 with titles including superintendent of industries, and superintendent of buildings and grounds.<sup>5</sup>

**Contributing Site**

**Infirmery/Hermitage Hall 1914 (WA0145)** was originally an industrial building used to house the men's trades training including carpentry and masonry, which produced several campus buildings. After the closure of St. Agnes in 1961, the building served as an infirmery. It is rectangular in footprint with a hipped roof. It is laid in American bond with a decorative belt

<sup>3</sup> "Dedicated Tomorrow," *The News and Observer* Mar 18, 1898, Page 2.

<sup>4</sup> "Making Useful Men," *The News and Observer*, Jul 8, 1905, Page 5.

<sup>5</sup> George King, "Revives School Work in Raleigh" *Afro-American* February 15, 1913 pg. 3

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course of soldier course bricks between running bond courses, set just below the second-story windowsill level.

**Contributing Building**

**Art Building/Mosee Building 1919 (WA0139)** was originally built as a model school for teacher training. This two-story brick building is built on a slight grade, allowing for an exposed basement to the east. The eastern portion of the building is slightly narrower than the western, though there is no evidence to suggest it was actually constructed in two phases. The building has a hipped roof and a prominent facade dormer housing a Palladian window, now boarded. The east elevation has a dormer with a single window--also boarded. A soldier course water table wraps the entire building. The western section of the building has brick pilasters that mark large, recessed bays with corbelling near the roof line. The eastern section has a soldier course slightly below the roof line. The eastern section roof has exposed rafter tails. The building was used as a science building and a fine arts building before its current use as the Office of Academic Affairs. It was named for Charles Mosee, a 1951 graduate who continued to medical school and practiced neurosurgery in Washington, DC.

**Contributing Building**

**Hunter Building 1924 (WA0144).** This two-story brick building has a slate hipped roof and slightly projecting, hipped roof end wings at the north and south. Originally classrooms and offices, it is now entirely office space. The principal entrance, centered in the facade, features Corinthian pilasters supporting an entablature and broken scrolled pediment with an urn. The architect for the building was G. Murray Nelson, and the contractor Kenyon-Thompson Company.<sup>6</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Tuttle Building 1925 (WA0149).** This two-story, hipped-roof building, rectangular in footprint and laid in common bond brick, was originally built to house the Bishop Tuttle School for African American women to engage in work in the Episcopal Church. The school closed during WW2 and was eventually absorbed into the college as a women's dormitory. Today it houses ROTC programs. The building has two hipped frame dormers on its east and west elevations and one centered on each of the north and south. A full-width porch spans the south elevation, supporting a one-bay, frame, hipped addition on the second floor. A single-leaf exterior door on the south elevation is sheltered by a hipped roof on curved brackets. While the architect is yet unknown, the builder was Howard E. Satterfield.<sup>7</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Benson Library 1930 (WA0140).** The Benson Library Building was constructed to house the library collections, which had outgrown their previous home in what is now known as the Taylor

<sup>6</sup> "New Building St. Augustine" *The News and Observer* March 12, 1924, Page 24.

<sup>7</sup> "New Women's Building at Negro School Here," *The News and Observer* June 5, 1925, Page 13.

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Building. The primary core of the building is a two-story volume of random ashlar with a slate jerkinhead roof. A shorter, cross-gabled entrance pavilion is centered on the facade. It has an arched opening to a recessed entrance with a projecting oriel window above. A stone hyphen leads to a two-story brick addition of unknown construction date with a flat roof at the rear. Windows are generally paired metal casements. With the construction of a new library in 1972, this building was converted to offices. This is one of four buildings attributed variously to G. Murray Nelson, or Nelson with Thomas W. Cooper, trading as Nelson and Cooper; the contractor was J. N. Bryan and Son.<sup>8</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Cheshire Building 1930 (WA0141).** Originally a dining hall and science building, the Cheshire Building is a two-story, hipped-roof building with a classically inspired, projecting entrance pavilion centered on the facade. The pavilion has four concrete pilasters supporting a pediment above. Three arched openings with keystones, between the pilasters, house double-leaf doors with lunettes above. The building now houses offices. This is one of four buildings attributed variously to G. Murray Nelson, or Nelson with Thomas W. Cooper, trading as Nelson and Cooper; the contractor was J. N. Bryan and Son.<sup>9</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Delany Hall 1930 (WA0142).** Located at the north end of the district at the head of the oval drive, Delany Hall, like the Cheshire Building, is a two-story, hipped-roof building with a classically inspired, projecting entrance pavilion centered on the facade. The pavilion has four concrete pilasters supporting a pediment above. Three arched openings with keystones, between the pilasters, house double-leaf doors with lunettes above. The Delany Building is slightly larger than the Cheshire Building, and is topped with a copper cupola with a dome and finial. It was built as a women's dormitory. This is one of four buildings attributed variously to G. Murray Nelson, or Nelson with Thomas W. Cooper, trading as Nelson and Cooper; the contractor was J. N. Bryan and Son.<sup>10</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Goold Hall 1930 (WA0143).** Originally built as a dormitory for nursing students training at St. Agnes Hospital, Goold Hall is a two-story building with a central section with a slate, jerkinhead roof on an east/west axis. The facade (south elevation) has two projecting wings with parapet roofs. Between them is the primary entrance in the center of three arched openings. The north elevation likewise has two projecting wings, the western of which has been added to considerably. The date of the extension is unknown, though it appears on the 1950 Sanborn Map. With the closing of St. Agnes in 1961, the building was converted to an undergraduate women's

<sup>8</sup> "Contract Awarded for St. Augustine Buildings, " *The News and Observer* June 9, 1929, Page 27.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

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dormitory. This is one of four buildings attributed variously to G. Murray Nelson, or Nelson with Thomas W. Cooper, trading as Nelson and Cooper; the contractor was J. N. Bryan and Son.<sup>11</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Penick Hall of Science Building 1950 (WA8062).** This two-story, side-gabled building is laid in six-course American bond with quined corners. A flat-roofed addition extends to the north. Centered on the original (pre-addition) facade is a pedimented stone temple front with a lunette in the gable and stylized pilasters. A stone surround with the word "SCIENCE" in art deco-style lettering shelters a recessed entrance. The architect was Allen J. Maxwell, Jr.<sup>12</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Main Quadrangle (Oval) 1964 (WA8687).** The main quadrangle, also referred to as the oval, is formed by the circular drive in central campus as well as the buildings that frame it. The grassy area is not walked on except at the convocation at the beginning of the school year and at commencement exercises. Of particular note are the plots in the northern section of the yard devoted to Black Greek Letter Organizations (BGLOs) including the "Divine Nine" that comprise the National Pan-Hellenic Council. Though traditionally a feature on Historically Black College and University (HBCU) campuses, the division of grassy areas to dedicate space for BGLOs has begun to appear on other college campuses as well. Oral tradition holds that the division into plots is a reference to dividing southern land into 40 acres for re-distribution to former enslaved persons. Plots are intended to evolve and change over time, thus the significance lies not in their decoration but in their being set aside.<sup>13</sup> At St. Augustine's they currently include fencing, pavers, benches, plaques, and statuary as well as the painting of trees and sidewalk. Digitized yearbooks show the establishment of fraternity plots on campus as early as 1964.

**Contributing Site**

**Baker Hall 1966 (WA8685)** was built as a women's dormitory in 1966. During the administration of President James Boyer, the student population more than doubled from 1954 to 1967. The building was one of the many physical plant improvements presented to the board of trustees at Boyer's first meeting in 1955. The three-story brick building is rectangular in footprint and has a flat roof. Two projecting stair towers on the façade house exterior stairs with metal railings. The building's circulation is on the exterior with halls to each unit running north/south along the facade on each floor. Metal posts support a roof covering the exterior halls. The first floor and a portion of the second floor on the facade are screened by concrete panels, arranged in threes between each metal post. A central entrance is marked by a metal canopy that extends from the façade. The west elevation has paired, single-pane windows with shared rowlock sills.

<sup>11</sup> "Contract Awarded for St. Augustine Buildings," *The News and Observer* June 9, 1929, Page 27.

<sup>12</sup> "Notice to Bidders-Science Building Saint Augustine's College," *The News and Observer* October 25, 1949, Page 18.

<sup>13</sup> Everett Ward, former President of St. Augustine's and current president of the National Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha. Interview with the author, April 15, 2020.

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The building was designed by CIT Educational Buildings, Inc and constructed by its subsidiary Southern Mill and Manufacturing Company.<sup>14</sup>

**Contributing Building**

**Boyer Building 1970 (WA8064).** This three-story administration building has a flat roof with a projecting concrete cornice. The building is largely clad in brick veneer with monumental, rectangular concrete pilasters. The facade is symmetrical, centered on a wide swath of full-height bands of concrete extending from the top of a projecting flat porch roof. Columns of composite windows are separated by concrete panels.

**Contributing Building**

**Latham Hall 1971 (WA8686).** This six-story building was constructed as a women's dormitory. It is one of seven campus buildings constructed during the administration of Prezell Robinson. Though west of the main quadrangle, the primary entrance is a glazed lobby on the south elevation. The glazing continues to the east and west elevations, terminating at exterior brick stair towers. The building is striped in wide alternating bands of concrete and American bond brick. The brick bands contain paired sliding glass windows. The fenestration is evenly spaced along north and south elevations. On the east and west elevations, windows are centered on the elevation, north of the stair towers. Broad overhanging eaves in a squared profile, and divided into thirds by voids that align with narrow concrete vertical panels, provide some shade and shelter.

**Contributing Building**

**Prezell R. Robinson Library 1972 (WA8063).** This two-story, flat-roofed modernist building is constructed of brick and concrete and stands behind a landscaped terrace with a fountain. Projecting concrete bands wrap the building at the base and cornice as well as at the division between the first and second floor. Projecting vertical concrete pilasters mark the corners and flank masonry openings at windows. Between the horizontal and vertical concrete are brick panels. The primary entrance is at a recessed glazed porch beneath a concrete overhang that projects from the inter-story band and bears the lettering "THE PREZELL R. ROBINSON LIBRARY." Brick stair towers are roughly centered in the north and south elevations. Given a sloping grade, the west elevation has an exposed basement also featuring a projecting overhang above the exterior entrance. This building is non-contributing as it is not yet 50 years of age.

**Non-Contributing Building**

**Entry Piers (pair) ca. 1973.** Curved, random rubble stone walls and entry piers with lanterns flank the main entrance drive near Oakwood Avenue.

**Non-Contributing Structure (1)**

<sup>14</sup> "St. Augustine's College expands," *Afro-American* March 26, 1966 pg. 10

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**Well houses (2). ca. 1975** Two gabled-roofed brick well houses are sited at the northwest and southwest of the district.

**Non-Contributing Structures (2)**

**Gatehouse ca. 1975** This small frame gatehouse with a mansard roof has pebbledash stuccoed panels below windows on all four sides. It serves as a security checkpoint.

**Non-Contributing Building**

**Monument 2001.** A small wedge-stone granite marker with an arched top, sitting on a stone plinth, honoring the Freedman's Commission of the Episcopal Church, located on the lawn south of the Chapel.

**Non-Contributing Object**

Integrity

The Saint Augustine's College Campus historic district has not been moved, thus retains integrity of location. The area surrounding the campus as a whole continues to be largely residential, and the areas of campus adjacent to the district have seen little change since the district was originally listed thus it retains a high integrity of setting. The design, materials, and workmanship are largely unchanged since the original listing. The district thus retains a high degree of feeling and association as a college, now university, campus.

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**Section 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.)

- 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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

ETHNIC HERITAGE:BLACK

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**Period of Significance**

1895-1971

**Significant Dates**

1931

1947

1950

1961

1966

1970

1971

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

McBee, Silas

Holmes, John Wayman

Nelson, G. Murray

Kenyon-Thompson Company

Satterfield, Howard E.

Nelson & Cooper

J. N. Bryan and Son

Maxwell, Allen J., Jr.

CIT Educational Buildings, Inc

Southern Mill and Manufacturing Company

**Summary Statement of Significance**

When originally listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, the Saint Augustine's College Campus historic district's area of significance was Education under Criterion A. This nomination update affirms the district's significance under Criterion A in the area of Education and couples it with Ethnic Heritage: Black, which was implied but not an option at the time of its nomination. The period of significance for the district originally was 1867-1930. It was listed with statewide significance. This update refines the period of significance to begin in 1895, with the date of the oldest extant building, to 1971, the fifty-year cut-off for National Register significance. Though the campus was established ca. 1867, the buildings that pre-date the chapel are no longer extant and any organizing principals of the campus in terms of the relationships of early buildings to each other and the topography of the site, and general patterns of circulation are gone.

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Significant dates after 1930 include 1931, when the first undergraduate degrees were awarded; 1947, with the appointment of the first African American president of the college; 1950, with the construction of the Penick Hall of Science; 1961, with the closure of St. Agnes Hospital; 1966, with the construction of the Baker Building; 1970 with the construction of the Boyer Building; and 1971 with the construction of Latham Hall. The period from 1930 to 1971 captures the end of the presidency of the Reverend Edgar H. Goold (president 1917-1946), spans the presidencies of Dr. Harold L. Trigg, the college's first African American president, (president 1947-1954) and Dr. James A. Boyer (president 1954-1966) and includes the beginning of the Prezell Robinson presidency. In the period from 1930 to 1971, St. Augustine's matured into a four-year, accredited college with an expanded physical plant. Its development mirrors that of the successful Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), including trends such as the continued support of private philanthropy, the association with organizations devoted to education and uplift for African Americans, and addressing the initial impacts of integration. Criterion Consideration A is marked, as the college (now university) was built by the Episcopal Church, the board of trustees must include the Episcopal diocesan bishop ex-officio (as well as other bishops coadjutor and suffragan in North Carolina), and the district includes a chapel where religious services are held. Up until the 1960s all trustees were required to be communicants in good standing of the Episcopal Church. Saint Augustine's College Campus meets Criteria Consideration A, as the district is significant under other historical themes. It eligible under Criterion A in the areas of Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black.

**Statement of Significance**

Though a few people of African descent matriculated in institutions of higher education in the early years of the United States—such as John Chavis, who earned a degree from what is now Washington and Lee in 1800 and later taught in Raleigh—integrated schools were rare. The first three Historically Black College and Universities (defined by the United States Department of Education as colleges established for African Americans prior to 1964) are considered to be Cheney College of Philadelphia (1837), Lincoln University of Pennsylvania (1854), and Wilberforce Institute (1856) in Ohio. All were private with a religious affiliation.

"Early black college life in North Carolina drew its vitality almost exclusively from a network of private schools established by southern freedpeople and northern church and missionary foundations."<sup>15</sup> Private schools such as St. Augustine's, Shaw (formerly the Raleigh Institute 1865), Johnson C. Smith College in Charlotte (formerly Biddle Institute 1867), and others had a measure of independence from politics and government, unlike state-funded institutions such as North Carolina Central University in Durham (1910) and the land-grant and normal schools. St. Augustine's slowly moved from pragmatic domestic and industrial courses based on the Hampton Institute model to more professional and liberal arts offerings.

<sup>15</sup> Sarah Carolina Thuesen, *Greater Than Equal African American Struggles for Schools and Citizenship in North Carolina 1919-1965* Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2013, p.91.

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While the relationship between the institution and the Episcopal Church has evolved, religion has remained an important part of the University. The Episcopal Freeman's Commission provided initial funding and leadership for the school. The Tuttle School and its building were part of the American Church Institute for Negroes. Alumnus Henry Beard Delaney taught at the school from 1885 to 1908 but continued to live on campus with his wife after being appointed Archdeacon for Negro Work in the Diocese of North Carolina. Delany was the fourth African American ordained bishop in the Episcopal Church, the first in North Carolina, and his ordination was at the Saint Augustine's Chapel. For many years, school trustees were required to be Episcopalians, clergy or laity, and to include the diocesan bishop and suffragan bishops. It was not until 1964 that some members of the board were allowed to be non-Episcopalians but three-quarters of the board were required to be. In 1970 the Episcopal requirement for trusteeship was dropped. There continues to be mandatory chapel attendance for the student body.

Edgar H. Goold shepherded the institution through two World Wars and expanded St. Augustine's from a Normal School, an institution geared toward training teachers, to an accredited four-year college. From 1919 to 1923, several African Americans attended high school at St. Augustine's at the City of Raleigh's expense as the city schools had no high schools for Black children. In 1925 the first class graduated from the junior college division. In 1928 the school was re-named St. Augustine's College, and it awarded its first bachelor's degrees in 1931. According to scholar Bobby Lovett, from 1910-1930, "approximately 119 of about 240 Negro [*sic.*] institutions of higher education . . . became four-year colleges."<sup>16</sup>

Under Goold's leadership the Bishop Tuttle School, an arm of the American Church Institute for Negroes<sup>17</sup>, was established at St. Augustine's in 1925.<sup>18</sup> The school offered religious instruction and training in social work for women. It operated until 1941 and did not re-open after World War II.

During Goold's tenure the physical plant expanded dramatically, and seven of the historic district's buildings were built under his administration: Art Building/Mosee Building 1919 (WA0139), Hunter Building 1924 (WA0144), Tuttle Building 1925 (WA0149), Benson Library 1930 (WA0140), Cheshire Building 1930 (WA0141), Delany Hall 1930 (WA0142), and Goold Hall 1930 (WA0143). In addition to local contributions, the Rockefeller Fund, the Episcopal Woman's Auxiliary, the Rosenwald Fund, and the Duke Charitable Endowment all funded capital improvements.

Scholar Bobby Lovett notes that "the early twentieth-century HBCU campuses had few substantial

<sup>16</sup> Bobby L. Lovett, *America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities* Macon: Mercer University Press, 2015, p. xiv

<sup>17</sup> The American Church Institute for Negroes (ACIN) was an organization of the Episcopal Church's Board of Missions, incorporated in 1906 to support education for African Americans in the South. Its predecessor was the church's Commission on Negro Work (earlier called the Commission on Work Among Colored People, and earlier still The Protestant Episcopal Freeman's Commission on Work Among Colored People), which was dissolved in 1904. St. Augustine's was associated with the ACIN beginning in 1907.

<sup>18</sup> Thelma Johnson Roundtree, *Strengthening the Ties That Bind—A History of Saint Augustine's College*. Raleigh: Spirit Press, 2002, p 105.

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buildings, mainly because builders designed most of the original buildings for short-term use."<sup>19</sup> He continues, "The expansion of the physical plant and the support of philanthropic organizations, mostly from the north during the early to mid-twentieth century was part of a national movement that included conditions assessments of academic programs and facilities and to push for accreditation and standards to strengthen existing institutions so that they could award actual college degrees."<sup>20</sup>

In 1941, North Carolina had eleven private HBCUs: Allen Industrial Home and School (Asheville, closed in 1974); Scotia Seminary (Concord, two-year, now Barber-Scotia College); Bennett College (Greensboro); Immanuel Lutheran (Greensboro, two-year, closed in 1961); Palmer Memorial Institute (Sedalia, high school, closed 1970); Biddle Memorial Institute (Charlotte, now Johnson C. Smith College); Livingstone College (formerly Zion Wesley College Salisbury); Kittrell College (Kittrell, closed 1975); St. Augustine College (Raleigh); Shaw University (Raleigh); and Roanoke Collegiate Institute (Elizabeth City).<sup>21</sup> Approximately 118 HBCUs existed nationwide; 85 were four-year institutions, and of those 52 were private.<sup>22</sup>

On the cusp of Goold's departure from the presidency, *The Carolinian* (newspaper) reported a robust enrollment: "The largest enrollment since St. Augustine's became a college is expected, with all four dormitories filled to capacity. Approximately twice as many young men will be enrolled as attended last year, with between sixty and seventy veterans,"<sup>23</sup> likely with funds from the G.I. Bill.

In covering Goold's resignation, *The Carolinian* reported,

During his incumbency, the institution has grown, expanded and raised its standards. At the time he became president, Saint Augustine's was an academy and normal school, with a large high school department. The Rev. Mr. Goold saw the trends in Negro education, and realized higher education as the coming field of usefulness. He promoted the idea of making St. Augustine's a college, facing the fact that private academy and normal schoolwork would dwindle as time went on. In spite of some indifference and opposition, the idea was put over . . . A building program to adapt the plant to the demands of a college was successfully conducted under President Goold's leadership.<sup>24</sup>

In 1947, Dr. Harold L. Trigg became president. He was the first African American to lead the school. Before becoming president, he had taught at Bennett College and Elizabeth City State Teachers College (later Elizabeth City State University), had been principal at the Berry O'Kelly School in Raleigh, and was president of Elizabeth City State University. While his predecessor Goold was able to procure charitable funding for new construction, monies for maintenance were scarce. Trigg began his tenure by

<sup>19</sup> Lovett, p. 81.

<sup>20</sup> Lovett, p. xiii.

<sup>21</sup> Lovett, p 126.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup>"St. Augustine's College Begins 79th Annual Term," *The Carolinian*, September 14, 1945.

<sup>24</sup> "Pres. Goold Announces Resignation" *The Carolinian* April 12, 1947 p2

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assessing the campus with attention to deferred maintenance issues and worked hard to find funding for vital campus projects.

He continued associations with national organizations that provided technical assistance and funding opportunities. The National Council of the Episcopal Church, the General Education Board,<sup>25</sup> and the American Church Institute for Negroes all provided assistance in building the Penick Hall of Science Building 1950 (WA8062). Trigg also had St. Augustine's join the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), which brought additional opportunities and funding.

In the early 1950s the UNCF began to consider the impact of desegregation on HBCUs. The schools "had much to lose: their identity per the original mission, the monopoly on Black students, the public questioning of their reason for being, and most of all, the continuing financial support (sic) public, private sources, and especially philanthropic and benevolent help from white sources."<sup>26</sup> In 1952 UNCF asserted that "HBCUs would continue to have a main responsibility for the education of Negroes for some time because 'America's racial problems would be around for a long time.'"<sup>27</sup>

Charles Hamilton Houston, legal counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), had a more optimistic rationale for the continued success of HBCUs: "The masses do need the Negro colleges, because America can never have too much education, and to my mind these colleges, if they are good enough, will have a place on an entirely integrated basis in the permanent scheme of things."<sup>28</sup>

In the 1950s state schools moved slowly towards integration. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was ordered to desegregate in 1951, though the first three African American undergraduates did not enroll until 1955. By 1963 there were only 18 African American freshmen at UNC.<sup>29</sup>

Harold Trigg's leadership advanced the school toward a time of great change in society and education. During his tenure, St. Augustine's operating budget more than doubled. Trigg was the first African American on the State Board of Education, appointed by Governor W. Kerr Scott in 1949.

In 1954 Trigg's successor was Dr. James A. Boyer. Son of Professor (later Dean) Charles H. Boyer, James Boyer grew up on the campus and attended primary and secondary school and junior college at St. Augustine's before transferring to Morehouse in Atlanta. He taught at St. Augustine's for a period prior to his presidency. Boyer oversaw growth on campus in terms of both enrollment and physical plant despite the impact of school desegregation. Nationally, "[t]he HBCU share of black college students fell

<sup>25</sup> Established in 1902 and chartered by Congress in 1903; by 1940 it had given nearly \$41 million for education for African Americans, Lovett p. 66

<sup>26</sup> Lovett p. 139

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Houston as quoted by Lovett p. 120

<sup>29</sup> "The Carolina Story: A Virtual Museum of University History " <https://museum.unc.edu/exhibits/show/integration> accessed May 12, 2021

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from 95 percent (pre-*Brown*<sup>30</sup>) to 16 percent."<sup>31</sup> Larger, historically and predominantly white institutions could afford higher faculty salaries and better scholarships, and began to chip away at St. Augustine's traditional base of support. Boyer, however, was a strong believer in the important role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). During his tenure, the number of students rose from roughly 500 to 850.<sup>32</sup> Baker Hall 1966 (WA8685) was built during his presidency, as well as a few buildings outside the boundary of the historic district.

In 1961 St. Agnes Hospital closed with the opening of Wake Memorial Hospital (now WakeMed). In order to qualify for federal reimbursements, WakeMed admitted African American patients, but housed the patients on segregated wards. Integration undermined St. Agnes, causing it to cease operations. The building housed various offices including campus security and physical plant until the early 1990s. The St. Agnes building was the recipient of a multi-million dollar grant funded in part by the College Fund and the U. S. Department of the Interior.<sup>33</sup> Work on the project stopped in 2001 after the roof had been removed and the interior gutted, with local media reporting of meetings with National Park Service staff. Later reports suggested unanticipated environmental and structural issues caused budget overruns and the work has to date not been completed.

Boyer presided over the campus during a period of national racial unrest. Though the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee was founded on the campus of neighboring HBCU Shaw University, Saint Augustine's students were also involved in civil rights protests, particularly in 1960 when students from Saint Augustine's and Shaw picketed lunch counters in downtown Raleigh and the nearby Cameron Village Shopping Center as part of a wave of student protests throughout the south. A group of students from both schools formed an 'intelligence committee' that directed activity. A total of 41 students were arrested for picketing in Cameron Village as the development was considered wholly private property.<sup>34</sup> This was the first mass arrest in the state during the sit-in movement. Their cases and two others resulted in convictions for trespassing and fines in late March 1960.<sup>35</sup> Protests continued into the spring.

While other activities did not garner the same press attention as the 1960 sitdowns, Saint Augustine students continued to press for integration and Civil Rights. A 1963 article in *The News and Observer* noted the recent establishment of a chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on campus with 100 members and cited continued activism on the part of students to integrate hotels, parks, swimming pools and theaters.<sup>36</sup>

In 1967 Dr. Boyer retired from the presidency and after a sabbatical, returned to the classroom. Prezell Robinson succeeded him as president and served in that role until 1995. A graduate of St. Augustine's,

<sup>30</sup> *Brown v. Board of Education*

<sup>31</sup> presumably through early 200s Lovett p. xvi

<sup>32</sup> Roundtree, p 17.

<sup>33</sup> Alicia B. Williams, "St. Aug's Once and Future Vision," *The News and Observer* October 21, 1998, Page 4.

<sup>34</sup> Charles Craven, "Police Arrest 41 Students in Raleigh Demonstration" *The News and Observer* February 13, 1960 Page 1

<sup>35</sup> "43 Students Convicted, Fined For Trespassing in 'Sitdowns'" *The News and Observer* March 29, 1960 Page 1.

<sup>36</sup> Roberts, Gene Jr "Thunder on the Campus; Protest on Mainstreet" *The News and Observer* March 3, 1963, Page 35.

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Robinson also held a masters and doctorate from Cornell. Robinson was well-respected and served on the State Board of Education and as president of the United Negro College Fund. Marshall Bass, former President of the University's Board of Trustees, spoke of Robinson's effectiveness and leadership during challenging times in education and in the country, "When he took the helm of the college in 1966 (sic), white colleges were recruiting top black students and faculty. Money from foundations became scarce due in part to the racial tensions of those days; much of it spearheaded by black college students. In the midst of such uncertainties, Dr. Robinson led a \$35 million fund-raising drive and met the goal five years ahead of schedule."<sup>37</sup>

Saint Augustine's University's history and growth as an HBCU is significant as an educational institution that evolved to serve the educational needs of an underserved population. As Bobby Lovett notes in his book, *America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities*,

On the one hand, some of the changes caused by the intensification of the Civil Rights Movement in post-World War II American society strengthened many HBCUs; on the other hand, some factors weakened and even closed down a few of them.... Despite the turmoil of the modern Civil Rights Movement, the black colleges and universities, many of their students, faculty members, former students, and alumni proved to be an asset, not a liability, to American Democracy and the history of American education. Over the last three decades of the twentieth century, these historic, minority colleges and universities have had to face the complexities of an American society that, although reluctant, was fast-becoming racially integrated, yet remained deeply tainted by the persistence of racial discrimination *de facto*.<sup>38</sup>

As institutions of higher learning reluctantly began to integrate, the University has been able to re-define its relevance as a community of scholars that has both demanded integration in the larger world but reserved a space for learning and growth where the centrality of the Black experience provided nurture and support in a country where discrimination continues.

**Archaeological Potential.** No archeological investigations were conducted within the Saint Augustine's College Campus historic district as part of the survey work for this nomination update.

<sup>37</sup> Marshall Bass as quoted in Thelma Johnson Roundtree, *Strengthening the Ties That Bind—A History of Saint Augustine's College*. Raleigh: Spirit Press, 2002.

<sup>38</sup> Bobby L. Lovett, *America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities*. Macon: Mercer University Press, 2015, Page 185.

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**Section 12: Additional Documentation Photographs**

**Name of Property:** Saint Augustine's College Campus (Additional Documentation)

**City or Vicinity:** Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina

**Photographer:** Mary Ruffin Hanbury

**Date Photographed:** April 15, 2020

Quadrangle in foreground, Mosee Building at left, Hunter building at right, view to SE  
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Entrance Piers and Taylor Hall, view to NE  
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Tuttle Building at right, Goold Hall at center, St. Agnes at left, view to WNW  
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Quadrangle in foreground, Cheshire Building at left, Latham Hall at right, view to WNW  
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Benson Building at left, Taylor Hall at right, view to SE  
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Quadrangle in foreground, Delaney Hall, partial Baker Hall at right view to NWN  
6 of 13

Chapel, view to E  
7 of 13

Benson Building at left, partial view of Tuttle Building at right, view to SW  
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Boyer Building, partial view of Infirmary at right, view to NW  
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Quadrangle in foreground, Hunter Building at center, Mosee Building at left, partial Boyer Building at right, view to east

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Robinson Library at left, partial Cheshire Building at right view to NW

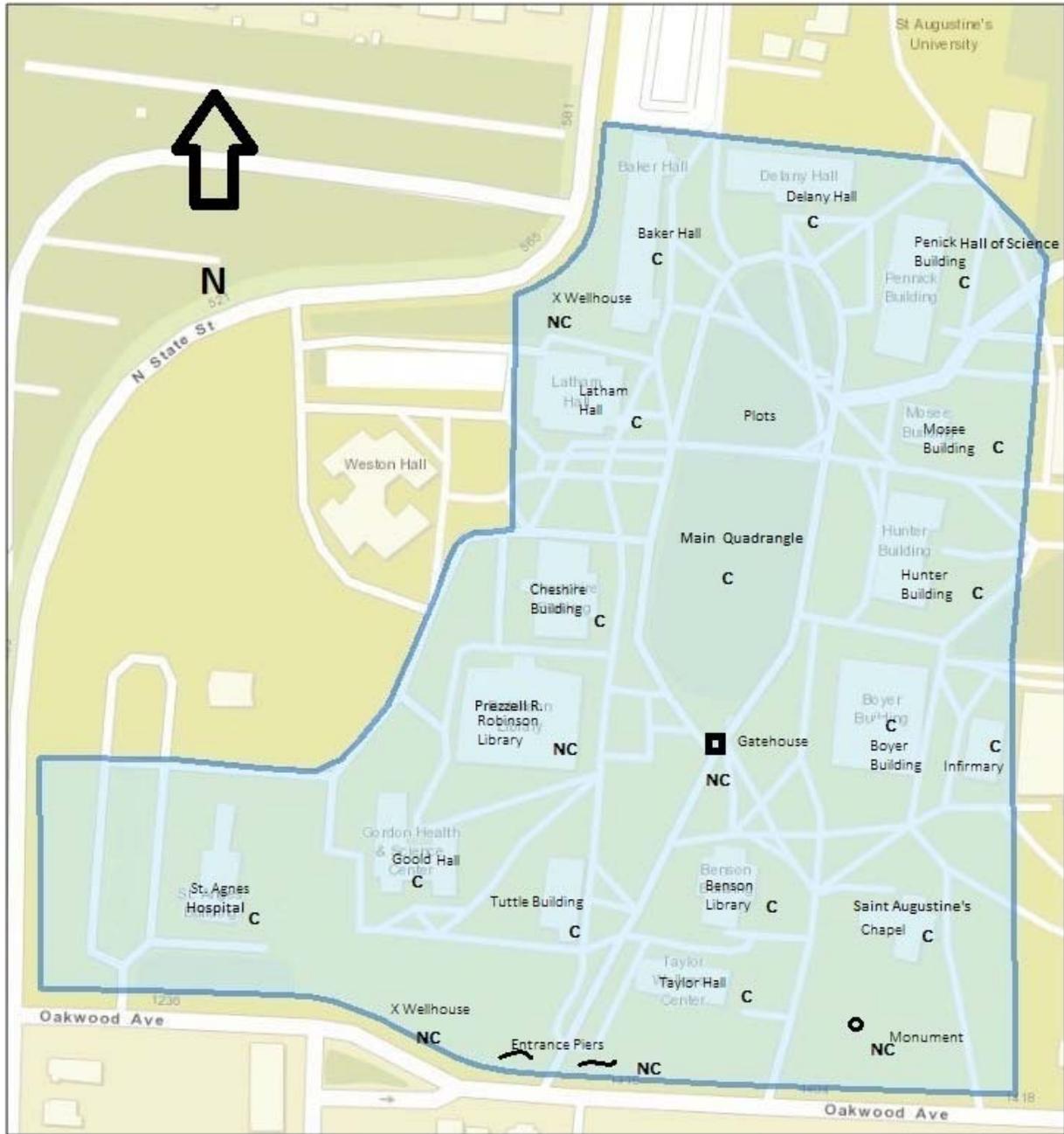
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Taylor Building at right, Benson Building at left, view to ENE

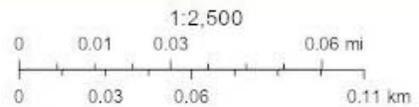
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Main quadrangle, buildings left to right: Latham, Baker, Delany, Penick, partial Mosee, view to N

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Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources  
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 National Register Site Map  
 1315 Oakwood Avenue  
 Raleigh, Wake County, NC

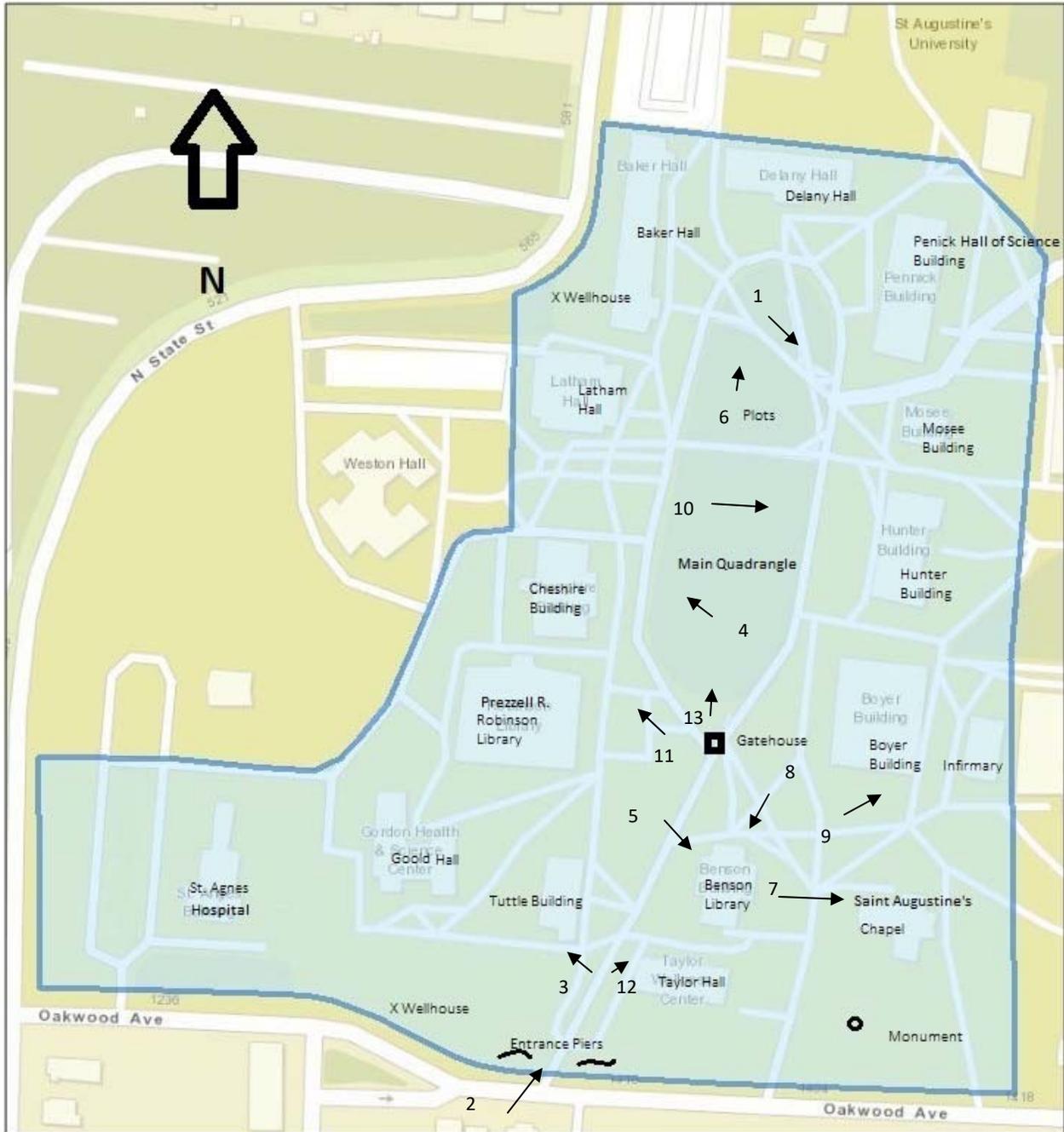


C-Contributing  
 NC-Non-Contributing

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury July 14, 2021

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office



**Photo Key**

 Saint Augustine's College Campus (Additional Documentation)

**1315 Oakwood Avenue**  
**Raleigh, Wake County, NC**

map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury July 14, 2021

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community