

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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date entered \_\_\_\_\_

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

**1. Name**

historic Machaven

and/or common Hines House

**2. Location**

street & number 306 South Grace Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Rocky Mount \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Second

state North Carolina code 037 county Nash code 127

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mrs. Erwin R. Blackburn

street & number 306 South Grace Street

city, town Rocky Mount, \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state North Carolina 27801

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Nash County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Nashville state North Carolina

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title \_\_\_\_\_ has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Machaven is a 2 1/2 story brick structure, built 1907-1908 in the Neo-classical Revival style by architect H. P. S. Keller of Raleigh. It stands on a 1/2 acre plot of land which is surrounded by a brick wall. There is also a second brick structure, formerly a barn, now used as a garage.

The structure's roof is hipped and made of slate. The wood balustrade makes a pattern of crosses and x's; it has stocky corner columns which are square and paneled. There are five interior brick chimneys, one on the north side of the building, two on the south. A fourth, smaller than the other three, is toward the back of the building. The wood cornice is molded and dentillated. A white molding separates the second story from the attic area, and the attic windows have cast iron grills. Most windows have rusticated stone sills and lintels.

Front facade, South Grace Street. The portico has a pediment which has paneled modillions inside the gable at the level of the cornice. Within is a round window with curved lattice, raised triangular molding on either side. The frieze has triglyphs, with tassel-like raised molding, paneled soffits, flush boards. An iron lantern hangs down to the level of the second floor. The portico projects out roughly twice the porch width. The columns are fluted, tapered, and Doric. The capital has an egg-and-dart motif, and there is flowershaped applied molding below. The four columns are divided into two pairs. They rest on brick plinth and rusticated stone tops. At outside rear of the base of each plinth a giant ball shaped stone is attached. The facade has pilasters similar to the columns.

An uncovered front porch runs the length of the facade. The rail has six square brick columns with rusticated stone tops. There are turned balusters, and the railing is molded. Four concrete steps lead up to the front door. The foundations are brick with concrete top. At each end of the porch, half columns repeat the brick columns.

The front door is paneled and has a large fanlight and sidelights. The arch above the doorway is accented by brick work with a rusticated keystone. Drain pipes descend next to each two-story pilaster. The door is flanked by two windows on each side with rusticated stone lintels and sills.

The central window of the second story resembles a Chicago window in its shape, has rusticated stone lintels and sills, and doric pilasters dividing its three elements. Two windows flank it on either side, shorter than the first story window but of the same width, with rusticated stone lintels and sills. The composition of the facade is symmetrical.

Side facade, Nash Street. The symmetry of this facade is broken in several ways. The molded, dentil cornice continues, but there are iron grilled windows over only the second, third and fourth of the six second story windows, which are separated from them by molding which continues the length of the facade. The composition of the facade is dominated by a central, first story Palladian window.

West (back) facade. Symmetry is abandoned at the rear of the house, and the left side projects out several feet farther than the right. The molding dividing the attic from the second story continues. A dormer-like brick structure in the roof appears to make more room for the attic. A two-story wooden back porch (perhaps added later) is enclosed on the second story only. Six thin doric pilasters continue this motif. To the right there is a doorway at cellar level. Two back entrances are concealed by the porch.

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South facade. Curiously asymmetrical: the four windows on each story are set toward the front of the house on a 1-2-1 pattern.

Interior. The house has two full stories, plus an attic. The downstairs is dominated by a central hallway running the length of the building. It contains a straight staircase to the second floor. There are four rooms off the central hallway on the first floor; to the rear of the house, in addition, are utility rooms and the kitchen. The room to the left and both rooms to the right as one enters the front door are the public rooms. The entrance to the second room on the left is hidden by the staircase. Finish is of the Colonial Revival style. Sliding doors divide the two front rooms from the main hall and the two rooms on the right (dining room and parlor) from each other. The room to the right, possibly a library or sitting room, is treated most elaborately. There is a deep cornice molding supported by curved brackets which dominates the rooms. The fireplace, in contrast, is almost delicate. There is a shell in the middle of the mantel molding and fluted columns to each side of the fireplace.

The first room on the right has a much simpler molding and a simpler fireplace, though both are still classical in feeling. The fireplace in this room closely resembles that in the dining room, though the latter seems lightly larger. On both, slim half-columns flank the fireplace. In each of these rooms, as well as the central hallway are elaborate light fixtures, two of which are made of brass, the other two of glass. The second room on the left side has a mantelpiece much like those in the dining room and parlor.

The second story, like the first, is dominated by the central space of the hallway which is enlarged by the window at the east end over the front door. Three bedrooms on each side open out into the hallway.

Grounds. A stone wall in Flemish bond, built in the 1930s, encloses the property. The front entrance (Grace Street) has pineapples (which may be cast in iron) set on brick gate posts. The gate is iron. There are two Nash Street entrances. Both have concrete balls set on brick gate posts. The iron gates are similar to the front gate. The interior drive along the Nash Street side of the house demarks a garden. A band of bricks lines the driveway. A circular driveway at the back of the house is also brick lined. The gate on the Park Street side of the property resembles Nash Street gate. The Park Street gate and the western Nash Street gate lead to a large garage (formerly a barn), gable ended with a slate roof and cupola. The cupola has a metal roof and weathervane which depicts a bird alighting on a globe; the cupola has a metal board with four windows, one on each side. Pilasters frame each window. The garage is open to the north and south, has an attic, and the west side is roomed in (there is an inside window and door and two windows in the west facade). The garage is brick (common bond) and molding and gable on east end make a pediment. Within the pediment is a circular vent. Metal, wood-framed doors run on rollers to close both open sides of the garage.

To the south of the main structure there is a rectangular (42' x 60') formal garden. Seen from the house, it is divided into three sections with walks between. There is a rectangular section on each side which is 9' x 42'. The large central section is subdivided into three sections. At the center is a small circular garden with a bird bath which depicts a boy holding a seashell. A walk surrounds this and leads to each side section. The other two parts of the section encircle the central garden and fill out the rectangle.

# 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates**            1908                            **Builder/Architect**    Harry P. S. Keller

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Machaven is an unusually significant building for Rocky Mount for several reasons: as an example of early twentieth century Colonial or Neo-classical revival architecture; an example of the work of a known North Carolina architect, Harry P. S. Keller; the prominent North Carolina businessman J. W. Hines and his wife Mary Matilda MacEntyre Hines.

Machaven was completed in 1908 a house built "for" Mrs. Hines.<sup>1</sup> Since then the changes made in the physical structure have been insignificant. The architect's blue-prints for the house are still in the possession of Mrs. Blackburn. Machaven is one of the very few surviving examples of the grand mansions built at the turn of the century for the prospering businessmen responsible for Rocky Mount's rapid growth. Many columned mansions once graced the residential streets near the central city, but nearly all are lost. With the recent destruction of the Battle house, Machaven is perhaps the most outstanding example of this type so important to Rocky Mount's history.

**Criteria Assessment:**

- A. Associated with the rapid growth of Rocky Mount as a regional commercial and industrial center in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.
- B. Associated with locally and regionally prominent businessman J. W. Hines, the "'ice king' of the state"; and with architect H. P. S. Keller.
- C. Exemplifies in a documented, architect-designed, and well-preserved example, the Neo-classical and Colonial Revival style of domestic architecture important in early twentieth century North Carolina towns.

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The architectural significance of Machaven is enhanced by the condition of the house's interior. This, too, is relatively untouched; much of the original furniture, wallpaper, portraits of the first owner and his wife, remain. There also exist photographs of three earlier houses of the family, which were apparently given to the architect as models for the design of Machaven.

Harry P. S. Keller, Machaven's architect, was born in 1878, the son of Samuel Prescott Keller of Laurel, Maryland.<sup>2</sup> Though he is reported practicing in Raleigh, N.C., as early as 1904 as William P. Rose's designer and draftsman, he may not have taken up residence in the city. He is known mainly for commercial and educational structures built in Raleigh and Wilmington between 1910 and 1930. Machaven, thus, is an early building and presents a new dimension to his work. The Architectural Inventory of Raleigh, N.C. lists him as the architect of "several buildings on the campus of North Carolina State University, the Globe Building on Wilmington Street and the Raleigh Savings and Loan Building on Fayetteville Street. Late in his career Keller constructed many schools in eastern North Carolina."<sup>3</sup> He died on January 16, 1938.

James Williams Hines was born on July 7, 1858, in Edgecombe County. He grew up in Wilson, North Carolina, and moved to Rocky Mount in 1885.<sup>4</sup> All written records credit him with a major part in the development of the city of Rocky Mount. At his death, the Rocky Mount Evening Telegram editorialized, "Mr. Hines worked valiantly for his city and community. . . .he contributed mightily to the development of the city. . . ."<sup>5</sup> The North Carolina Biography published by Lewis Publishing Company in 1919, speaks glowingly of the need every community has for "a master mind" to "guide and plan and centralize" and goes on to suggest that for Rocky Mount, James Williams Hines was that man.<sup>6</sup>

His obituary describes him as a "retired ice manufacturer, capitalist, philanthropist, and leading citizen."<sup>7</sup> Charles Crossfield Ware treats Hines briefly in his A History of Atlantic Christian College, calling him "the 'ice king' of the state." Ware lists him as owning and operating plants "at Rocky Mount, Salisbury, Spencer, Greenville, Weldon, Albemarle, and Monroe."<sup>8</sup> This seems to have been his main business. In addition, according to North Carolina Biography, he was involved in the building of tobacco warehouses and was instrumental in bringing the Atlantic Coast Line shops to Rocky Mount.<sup>9</sup> He also owned a great deal of land in and around Rocky Mount.

At the time of his death in 1928, he was perhaps better known for his interests in education. He was involved in the start of the Rocky Mount graded school, and was a member of the board of trustees of both Atlantic Christian College and the East Carolina Training School at Greenville (now East Carolina University). His special interest was Christian education, and his large gift of \$100,000 to Atlantic Christian College was viewed with awe.<sup>10</sup> The editorial on his death in the Evening Telegram took time out from extolling his virtue to wonder why he hadn't succeeded in moving that college to Rocky Mount.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>The house is dated as follows. J. W. Hines purchased the tract of land on which Machaven now stands from R. L. Huffines in 1905 for \$3100. No mention is made in the deed of any structures on the property. In addition, the 1907 "Birds Eye View of Rocky Mount" shows no building at the site. There is a picture of a previous J. W. Hines home in Rocky Mount printed in an 1892 pamphlet put out by the Rocky Mount improvement and Manufacturing Co. titled "Rocky Mount, North Carolina." The house pictured is probably the one he was living in when he bought the land on which Machaven now stands. J. W. Hines is listed in the 1908-09 Rocky Mount City Directory (probably prepared in 1908 or earlier) as living on Nash Street near South Pearl Street. Finally, on the back of a colored drawing of "Machaven in 1908" is written, in the hand of J. W. Hine's daughter, the following: "'Machaven' Nash County--Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Built 1907-1908 by James Williams Hines for his wife--Mary Matilda MacEntyre Hines of Burke and Rutherford Counties N. C. (as near a replica as was feasible) of Tille's home "The MacEntyre House" in Rutherfordton, N.C. She was born in a "raised Captain cottage" a la Mississippi Style at her father's (William Thomas MacEntyre's) plantation 'Broad River' seven miles southwest of Rutherfordton in Rutherford County."

<sup>2</sup>Raleigh News and Observer, January 17, 1938, p. 2.

<sup>3</sup>Linda L. Harris, director, An Architectural Inventory of Raleigh, N.C. (Raleigh: City of Raleigh Planning Department and Raleigh Historic Properties Commission in cooperation with N. C. Division of Archives and History, 1978), pp. 215-216.

<sup>4</sup>Charles Crossfields Ware, A History of Atlantic Christian College (St. Louis, Mo.: Bethany Press, 1956), p. 135. Other sources cite Pitt County as Hine's birthplace.

<sup>5</sup>Rocky Mount Evening Telegram, February 16, 1928, p. 3.

<sup>6</sup>Rocky Mount Evening Telegram, February 16, 1928, p. 7.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid.

<sup>8</sup>A History of Atlantic Christian College, p. 136.

<sup>9</sup>History of North Carolina (New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1919) Vol. VI "North Carolina Biographies," p. 272

<sup>10</sup>Evening Telegram, February 16, 1928, p. 7.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

(Keller) Linda L. Harris, director, An Architectural Inventory of Raleigh, N.C. Raleigh: City of Raleigh Planning Department & Raleigh Historic Properties Commission in cooperation with the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1978. Pp.216. The William P. Rose, with whom Keller is said to have worked in 1904, is the younger brother of D. J. Rose, prominent Rocky Mount builder and contractor.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name Rocky Mount

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References Lat. 35 56' 26" Long. 77 48' 11"

A 

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 Zone Easting Northing

B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

organization Division of Archives and History  
Historic Preservation Section

date June, 1980

street & number Survey and Planning Branch  
109 East Jones Street

telephone (919) 733-6545

city or town Raleigh,

state North Carolina 27611

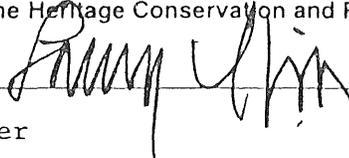
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  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



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date July 10, 1980

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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(Keller)

<sup>2</sup>Raleigh News and Observer, January 17, 1938, p. 2.

(Hines)

<sup>1</sup>History of North Carolina, Vol. VI "North Carolina Biographies." New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1919. Pp. 272-273. There is also a photograph of Hines.

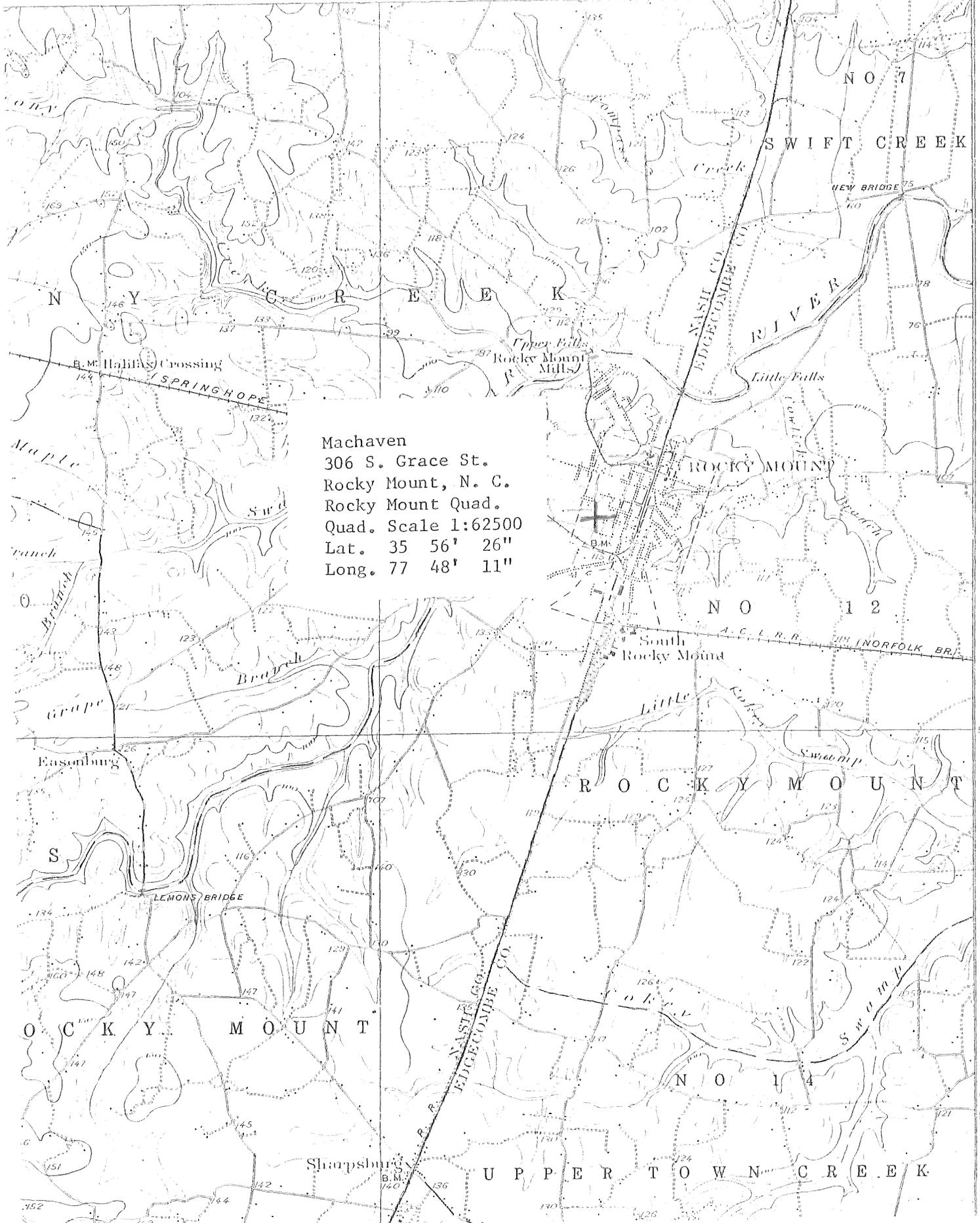
<sup>2</sup>Charles Crossfield Ware. A History of Atlantic Christian College. St. Louis, Mo.: Bethany Press, 1956. Pp. 136, 145 particularly concern Hines; he is also mentioned on pp. 45, 146.

<sup>3</sup>Rocky Mount Evening Telegram, February 16, 1928.  
There is an editorial on Hines on p. 3, an obituary on p. 7.

<sup>4</sup>The Argonaut. Industrial Issue. Thursday Aug. 27, 1891. "J. W. Hines," p. 16.

(Drake 1:24,000)

77° 45' (W)  
36° 00'



Machaven  
306 S. Grace St.  
Rocky Mount, N. C.  
Rocky Mount Quad.  
Quad. Scale 1:62500  
Lat. 35 56' 26"  
Long. 77 48' 11"

(Barbours)

