

# Lowman Hall, SC State University

## Orangeburg, Orangeburg County

### SC Historic Preservation Review and Compliance



1 Roofing returned to original "terra cotta" profile 2 Original windows restored & rebuilt. Interior glazed "storm windows" introduced to improve thermal efficiency 3 Steel dowels embedded in horizontal masonry joints to stabilize severe settlement and buckling due to previous structural damage 4 Non-original window and masonry patch replaced with historically accurate french doors 5 Historically accurate balustrade rebuilt 6 Side entry portico rebuilt based upon photos of front entry and salvaged members at side entry



Images courtesy Watson Tate Savory Liollo Architecture and Gary Matson Photography



Lowman Hall was constructed in 1917 as a men's dormitory. The building was designed by Miller F. Whitaker, a pioneer African American architect in South Carolina, and was constructed by students under Whitaker's supervision. Whitaker served as professor, campus architect, and later the College's third president (1932-1949). The building remains the oldest, intact building on the campus of South Carolina State University. Lowman Hall is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The University utilized a Historically Black Colleges & Universities Grant from the National Park Service to rehabilitate the long vacant building into use as administrative offices. The project overcame many design challenges, ultimately retaining the double-loaded corridor plan, restoring original plaster, wood floors, wainscoting, windows, and portico's and balconies, while providing updated lighting and handicapped accessibility. The rehabilitation project was reviewed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in partnership with the National Park Service, and under the State Owned or Leased Historic Properties Act.

**Original Use:** Educational/Dormitory  
**Current Use:** Educational/University Offices  
**SHPO Contact:** John Sylvest  
 (803) 896-6129  
 sylvest@scdah.state.sc.us



THE  
 South  
 Carolina  
 Archives  
 & History  
 Center

HISTORY & HERITAGE  
 For All Generations