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WINNSBORO'S TOWN HALL HOSPITABLE.

Greenwood Index-Journal.

Everything from a hobo's bedroom to the mayor's office is housed in Winnsboro's tiny town hall.

A WPA research writer, gathering material for the South Carolina Guidebook, found that the history of this tiny old building towering above the main street, is as interesting as the many uses to which it is put at present.

Most of the activity centers in the council chamber. In addition to the council meetings and recorder's court, the Winnsboro Rummy Club engages in the past-time in the council chamber from noon each week day6 until 10 o'clock at night. The club has fifty members.

On the ground floor three small bedrooms are provided for financially embarrassed tourists; a calaboose for prisoners arrested for small offenses; the fire department, police department, tool room for city equipment and offices of town officials.

The building, small enough to be erected in the middle of a street with room on either side for cars to pass, was built in 1790 of brick hauled from near Monck's Corner. It was originally used as a public market. Later booths were installed and fairs were held in the building twice a year under an act of the general assembly of the state.

Encased in the tall steeple topping the structure is the town clock. According to tradition, it was made in Bremen, Germany; shipped to Charleston, via Liverpool, hauled over a wagon trail to Winnsboro and erected over the building in 1833.

Once a citizen obtained a judgment against the Town of Winnsboro. The village, at the time, having no other visible property, the town clock was attached to satisfy judgment. It was sold at public auction to the highest bidder for thirty cents. The buyer immediately thereafter donated it back to the town.