**“Building Community Wealth: A Five-Year Report,” published by the North Carolina Minority Support Center (1996):**

Bricks Community Federal Union, the brainchild of I.C. Rogers, an agriculture teacher at Phillips High School. In the region of Franklinton Center, Enfield, north of Rocky Mount. Report says Franklinton Center a longtime focal point for the black community’s economic development. Josephine Brick of New York built a school for black students there in 1895. Later the site was location of Bricks College, a junior college. Then Bricks Community FCU chartered there in 1936.

Membership open to anyone living within fifteen miles of the Bricks School building. It’s now the oldest existing federally chartered credit union in NC, and second oldest in the US, according to this report. At first, most loans went to farmers for seed, animals, equipment, repairs.

For a while, the credit union operated in the business owned by a member, in Enfield, about six miles from Bricks, but now back in original spot in Franklinton Center. For some 30 years, Juanita Clark managed the credit union while also running family business next door, Clark’s garage and used car shop. Can still see features like Bricks School Lane on the map.

Looks like the credit union became insolvent in 1990s, liquidated, according to a court case:

BRICKS (NC) COMMUNITY FED. CREDIT v. NAT. CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION. The NCUA apparently had reported finding many problems with operation and management of Bricks CU.