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C B & O Railroad Depot

Name	of	Property
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Appanoose County, IA County and State

5. Classification							
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Re (Do not include pro	sources within Property aviously listed resources in the	(count.)			
IX private ☐ public-local ☐ public-State ☐ public-Federal	⊠ building(s) ☐ district ☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object		Noncontributing 0				
		1	0	objects Total			
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	roperty listing of a multiple property listing.)	Number of co in the Nationa	ntributing resources pr I Register	eviously listed			
Architectural & Histo	rical Resources of Center	erville, IA	0				
6. Function or Use							
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Function (Enter categories from					
TRANSPORTATION/Rai	l≌Related/Depot	SOCTAL/Meet	ing Hall				
	·······		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
7. Description Architectural Classification		Materials					
(Enter categories from instructions		(Enter categories from Instructions)					
	20th CENTURY AMERICAN	foundationCor	foundation Concrete				
MOVEMENTS/Prairie	e Influences		walls Brick				
		roofAsp	halt				
				<u></u>			
		other					

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

C B & Q Railroad Depot

Name of Property

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.)

- XX 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.)

Property is:

- 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.

Bibilography

- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Appanoose County, IA

County and State Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) TRANSPORTATION ARCHITECTURE Period of Significance 1912-1953 **Significant Dates** 1912 Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A **Cultural Affiliation** N/A Architect/Builder Archt: C B & Q Railroad Bldr: Staley, B.S. (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

Narrative Statement of Significance

9. Major Bibliographical References

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36) CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- □ University
- □ Other
- Name of repository:

<u>CB&QRailr</u>	oad Depot_		se county, IA	
Name of Property		County and	State	
10. Geographical	Data			
Acreage of Proper	tyLess than one acre			
UTM References (Place additional UTM r	references on a continuation sheet.)			
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Verbal Boundary I (Describe the boundarie	Description as of the property on a continuation sheet.)			
Boundary Justifica (Explain why the bound	ation laries were selected on a continuation sheet.)			
11. Form Prepare	d By			
name/title	Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant			
organization	For the Centerville H.P.C.	date	January 2003	
street & number	167 West Alta Vista	telephone	641-682-2743	
city or town	Ottumwa	_ stateIA	zip code <u>52501-1</u>	437
Additional Docum	entation			
Submit the following ite	ams with the completed form:			
Continuation She	ets			

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner					
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)					
name	Appanoose County Post #526 Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States				
street & number	1124 South Eighteenth Street telephone				
city or town					

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number 7 Page 1

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Passenger Depot (1912) in Centerville is located on the west side of 18^{th} Street, 20' north of the railroad tracks (non-extant). It is a single story brick building with a hip roof slightly flared at the eaves. The broad eaves, paired windows, and stone belt courses give the building a horizontal emphasis that may be a Prairie influence. Rectangular in shape, it measures $32' \times 90'$, with the ticket office projecting five feet to the south and the restrooms projecting four feet to the north. A brick platform extends all the way around the building, being 20' wide on the south, 23' on the east, 10' on the north, and to 17^{th} Street on the west. No architect has been identified, but it was designed in the CB & Q offices in Chicago.



Plan and Elevations (Drawings from Corbin, p 59)

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Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

The building rests on a concrete foundation with a 32' x 20' basement under the west end (baggage room). The exterior walls are of dark brown pressed brick laid in running bond. Two belt courses of Bedford stone create a strong horizontal emphasis: one connecting the windows at sill level; and the other connecting them at the top. These belt courses run all the way around the building. A single brick chimney is located above the freight room at the west end of the building. The original slate roof has been replaced by the present asphalt shingles.

Windows throughout are tall and slender. In most cases the windows are set in pairs, but there is an occasional single window, and on the ticket office there is a band of four. The original windows featured double hung sash with a nine light transom at the top. The double hung sash has been replaced by glass blocks throughout the building. These blocks were installed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as memorials. The size and shape of the window openings has remained the same, and all original window framing is in place. However, the glass blocks are visually distracting, and the resultant loss of integrity negates eligibility under Criterion C, architecture. The nine light transom design is also found above all exterior doors in the depot.

The east elevation faces 18th Street. It is symmetrical with a single door in the center, and a pair of windows on each side. A sign reading "Centerville" is located directly above the door. The south (track side) elevation is slightly asymmetrical. From left to right (west to east), there is a double door freight entrance, a single window, a double window, a passenger door, a double window, the projecting ticket office bay has a single window on each projecting side, and a band of four windows on the south side. Continuing along the south elevation there is a pair of windows, a passenger door, and a final pair of windows.

The west elevation has two single windows symmetrically arranged. The only doors along the north elevation are double freight doors near the west end. Then, working east, there are two sets of double windows, the projecting bay for the restrooms has two sets of double windows, and then there are two final sets of double windows near the east end.

On the interior, the waiting rooms were segregated by sex, with the women's waiting room (24' x 30') on the east end facing south. The ticket office and two restrooms occupy the central portion of the building, with the ticket office (16' x 20') in the south bay and the restrooms (10' x 16' each) in the north bay. A hallway separates the two and connects the two waiting rooms. The men's waiting room is the same size as the women's (24' x 30'). At the far west end is the freight room (19' x 30'). There is a two ton scale built into the floor of this room, and a set of stairs leads to the basement in the northwest corner.

Few changes have been made to the interior, and a description from a 1912 newspaper basically describes the interior today.

The interior finish is what will call forth pleased remarks. The floor is all tile, in waiting rooms and toilets. The walls are Tiffany brick five feet high, set on a sanitary tile base. The upper walls and ceilings are rough cement plaster, painted in oil tint. The woodwork is all red oak, with beamed ceilings, and stained what is known as a Burlington green, making a very attractive appearance. The ticket office and baggage room have hard maple floors. The baggage room is equipped with a two ton scale level with the floor, and the ticket office has shelving and various accommodations built in. The toilet rooms

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number 7 Page 3

have lavatories, hot and cold water, etc. The entire building is heated with hot water from a heat in the basement under the baggage room. Electric lighting is used. (*Centerville Semi-Weekly lowegian*, Dec 5, 1911)

The Centerville Journal went into more detail concerning the electrical system. "The building is equipped with a lighting system, on five different circuits, making possible a very brilliant illumination or very moderate light, as occasion demands." (Feb 2, 1912)

When the Burlington discontinued rail service in 1982 the *Centerville lowegian* ran an article that included a short description of the depot interior. It said, "Layers of varnish have turned the wide wooden wainscot coated walls to a deep shade of brown, almost black in places....." (Mar 18, 1982)

Under the current ownership, the interior is being preserved. Long conference/banquet tables and chairs have replaced waiting benches, ceiling fans have been added for ventilation, and the ticket office has been converted into a kitchen. Meetings are held here on a regular basis, and the Centerville Historic Preservation Commission recognized the significance of this building by holding an awards banquet in the ladies waiting room.

When construction of this depot started in 1911 there was a small business district already located along 18th Street between Walsh and Elm streets. This was known as "the Levee" and may have developed due to the location of the original frame depot that was located on the east side of 18th. (Research has not uncovered the origin of the term "Levee" for this neighborhood.) This business district continues to exist, in a diminished capacity, today.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number **7** Page 4



U.S.G.S. Map of Centerville (1979) (East and West Quads combined) Location of CB & Q Depot indicated by arrow

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA



1913 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Arrow indicates location of CB& Q Depot north of the tracks Note small commercial district located along 18th between Walsh and Elm

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number 8 Page 6

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Passenger Depot in Centerville is locally significant under Criterion A as it illustrates the importance of the railroad to community development, and as it illustrates the type of building constructed in county seat towns. The 1997 Multiple Property Document addressed the historic context "The Impact of County Seat Designation (1846-c.1945). The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot meets the criteria for significance for this context. Criterion C significance was considered, but found inappropriate due to loss of integrity by window replacements.

Centerville was designated the seat of justice of Appanoose County in the same year that the county was formed, 1846. The town was platted with a spacious, somewhat unusual, four block Public Square. Although the first, log, courthouse was not built in this square, the second courthouse, a fine two story brick structure was built in the center of the Public Square in 1860. The business district grew up around the sides of the Square in the years that followed.

Like all communities in the 1860s, Centerville realized that it would be vital to the community's continued growth to have at least one railroad running through their town. In 1871, two railroads arrived, almost simultaneously. The Chicago and Southwestern originally planned to go through Moulton, but the people of Centerville offered a contribution of \$125,000 and donated the right-of-way if the tracks would run through Centerville. The road was completed to the county seat in February 1871. The Chicago and Southwestern later became part of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific.

The Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad Company was organized in March 1870 and the road was built from Keokuk to Centerville the following year. The incorporators of this line included many prominent Centerville business and professional leaders. Contributions of about \$700,000 made this possible. In1879 the railroad was extended to the west. Eventually, working with, and merging with, other small railroads, the line connected Keokuk and Council Bluffs, and became known as the Keokuk & Western.

Having two railroads running through Centerville not only provided transportation for humans and animals, it brought in the needed goods and supplies for local merchants and industries, and it carried out locally produced goods. One of the most important local products was coal. It is believed that the first coal shaft was sunk in the county in 1863 or '64 by B.F. Kindig. Near Mystic the mines were primarily slopes or drifts, but at Centerville the vein was so deep that shafts were necessary. The first coal mine near Centerville was opened in 1872. Eventually Appanoose County supported a greater number of mines than any other in the state. By 1911 over fifty mines were active in the county, with a total production of one and one-third million tons of coal.

The impact of the railroads and coal mining was a positive force in Centerville's economy. Retails businesses ringed the courthouse square, churches grew and built new buildings, and social forces within the community flourished. There was a strong feeling of community pride, and substantial new public buildings became symbols of this prosperous county seat.

Although many towns had small lending libraries, only county seats were large enough to support a free standing building for its library. While other towns relied on the generosity of Andrew Carnegie to fund their libraries, Centerville had a local philanthropist, Francis Marion Drake. Drake had served as a general during the Civil War, was involved in bringing railroads to Appanoose County, helped found Drake University in Des Moines, and served as the governor of Iowa from 1896-98. He provided

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Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number 8 Page 7

\$25,000 for the construction of the Drake Public Library (NRHP) in Centerville in 1901. This Classical Revival building with shallow dome was designed by architect C.E Eastman of Des Moines.

In 1904 a new Appanoose County Courthouse (NRHP) was dedicated in the center of the Public Square. Designed by the Des Moines architectural firm of Smith and Gage, the majestic two story plus basement building featured a rusticated stone exterior with a green tile roof. Costing \$90,000, the building was a major addition to the town's landscape.

Further indication of the growth of the community came in 1904 when it was decided to build a new federal building/post office in Centerville. The federal government realized that county seat communities handled a higher volume of mail than other towns, and also that post offices were symbolic of federal authority. There was a movement around the turn of the century to construct buildings specifically for use as the post office. A Georgian style brick building was constructed one block south of the Square at a cost of \$40,000.

None of these three buildings would have been constructed if Centerville had not been the county seat. It appears that the same was true of the C B & Q Passenger Depot. The period from c.1890 to c.1920 has been called the "Golden Age of Steam Railroading" by Conard and Cunning. (MPDF, p E-13) The railroads had spurred industrial growth throughout the middle west, and the industrial growth in turn spurred more rail growth. By 1900 lowa had 9,185 miles of track, ranking 4th in the country, behind only Texas, Illinois & Pennsylvania. During this period "fashionable new depots replaced original frame depots in many lowa towns." (<u>Ibid</u>., p E-17)

In 1903 the C B & Q had acquired the Keokuk & Western. Centerville served as a division point on the line. By 1910 citizens of Centerville were starting to talk about the need for a larger, more substantial depot. Land was purchased just northwest of the original frame depot on 18th Street. The new depot was to be on the west side of the street, on the north side of the tracks. At this time railroad companies often relied on standard plans for depot construction. A similarity can be seen in a number of single story brick depots across the southern part of Iowa along the C B & Q tracks (Mount Pleasant, Fairfield, and Albia). It appears that new depots were built in communities where the traffic warranted more substantial structures.

In May 1911 it was announced that a new depot would definitely be constructed that year. Division Superintendent H.W. Hamm had seen the architect's drawings in Chicago and said the building would cost about \$25,000. (*Centerville Daily Citizen,* May 19, 1911) No architect was specifically identified, and it may have been drawn by a C B & Q architect following fairly standard plans. It is known that for their larger projects, such as the depots in Ottumwa and Des Moines, the work was done by the architectural firm of Burnham and Root. The firm of Holabird and Root was involved much later when depots were rebuilt or remodeled along the route in the 1940s.

Construction began around July 15, 1911, under the direction of Centerville contractor, B.S. Staley. The completion of the building was celebrated in February 1912, with the new depot opening on Monday, February 5. The local newspapers continued to describe the building, especially the interior, in great detail, letting the citizens of Centerville know that this was something very special. One paper said that between 600 and 700 people attended the opening celebration, while a rival paper said that over 1,000 were present. The reception took place between 7:00 and 9:00 PM with Martin's Harp Orchestra playing and local dignitaries (both city and railroad) shaking hands. "Through the kindness of Mrs. J.A. Bradley, there was a plentiful supply of frappe served from punch bowls in glasses. The company

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Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number 8 Page 8

furnished favors in the form of carnations of varied colors which were given to the ladies...." (*Centerville Daily Citizen,* Feb 6, 1912) The importance to the people of Centerville is shown by two quotes in two different newspapers,

That Centerville is recognized as a place of sufficient importance to warrant putting up such a depot is to its credit... (*Centerville Semi-Weekly lowegian*, Feb 6, 1912)

The Centerville Retail Merchants Association to show organized appreciation of the Burlington recognization of Centerville's needs, headed by President L. Salinger and Secretary Purley Rinker, attended the opening in a body. Centerville is indeed proud of its new depot, and strove by its attendance at the opening to show a portion at least of its appreciation. (*Centerville Journal*, Feb 18, 1912)

The C B & Q played an important role in Centerville's economy for a number of years. In 1930 the railroad employed 202 people in the area, paying almost \$345,000 in wages in Appanoose County. By 1982 the C B & Q was ready to abandon the line. Coal mines had closed, and following World War II transportation patterns had changed. Passengers were more likely to fly or drive than travel by rail, and freight was being transferred by truck. Many lines have been abandoned, and the tracks were removed. Depots were vacated, and unless there was a concerted effort, they were allowed to deteriorate. In some communities an effort has been made to move the depots and restore them for use as museums or for business purposes. Most of the moved depots were of frame construction because its easier to move them. Some brick depots were demolished by the Burlington because they were too close to the tracks and posed a liability problem (Albia is a case in point). In other cases, the tracks were removed, but the depots were left standing, and vacant.

In 1990 the Appanoose County Post #526 Veterans of Foreign Wars purchased the building for use as their meeting hall. They are aware of its historic significance, and, other than blocking in the windows with memorial glass blocks, they plan to preserve its integrity.

In her 1990 study of railroads in Iowa, and the preparation of a Multiple Property Documentation Form for the evaluation of these, Rebecca Conard wrote,

"...depots were among the most prominent buildings in any town, no matter the size. Iowa depended heavily on railroads to move goods and people from the 1850s through World War II, and many towns in the state owe their very existence to railroads. Consequently, almost every extant depot is significant at the local level. (MPDF, p F-10)

The Centerville Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Passenger Depot retains a high level of integrity and a strong sense of time and place. It is considered eligible under Criterion A.

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Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot Appanoose County, IA

Section number 9 Page 9

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- <u>Appanoose County, Iowa</u>. Written by the People of Appanoose County, Compiled by the Appanoose County Historical Society. Dallas, TX: Taylor Publishing Co., 1986.
- Atlas of Appanoose County, Iowa. Des Moines, IA: W.E. Walter & Co., 1908.
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Newspapers

Centerville Daily Citizen. Tuesday Evening, May 24, 1910, "Ground for a New Depot is Purchased by the C.B. & Q.

Friday Evening, May 19, 1911, "Approve Plans for 'Q" Depot" Tuesday Evening, February 6, 1912, "Passenger Station C.B.& Q. Opened"

Centerville lowegian. Thursday, March 18, 1982, "The iron hourse era ends in Centerville... BN Depot Closed"

Centerville Journal, Tuesday Evening, February 8, 1912, "New Burlington Depot Opened"

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Centerville Semi-Weekly lowegian. Tuesday, May 24, 1910, "Burlington Buys Lots on Which to Build Depot"
Tuesday, March 28, 1911, "Chances Good for New Depot"
Friday, May 19, 1911, "Burlington Depot Sure To Be Built"
Wednesday, May 31, 1911, "Freight Depot Site is Bought"
Friday, June 2, 1911, "Fleming Hotel Old Landmark"
Tuesday, December 5, 1911, "Handsome New Depot Soon Now"
Friday, February 2, 1912, "Burlington to Open New Depot"
Tuesday, February 6, 1912, "New Depot Is Now In Use"

Daily Iowegian. Tuesday, May 10, 1994, "Railroads vital to C'ville"

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GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

A tract described as beginning at the Southeast Corner of Lot 5, Block 1, South Centerville Addition, thence South to Northeast Corner of Lot 1, Block 2, South Centerville Addition, thence along North line of Lot 1 to the Northwest corner of said Lot 1, thence North to the Southwest Corner of Lot 5, Block 1, South Centerville Addition, thence east to place of beginning.

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Depot

Appanoose County, IA

Boundary Justification:

This is the area historically associated with this resource.

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The photographs submitted with this nomination were taken by a member of the Centerville Historic Preservation Commission in January 2002. The negatives are on file in the State Historical Society of Iowa, Community Programs Bureau, Des Moines, IA.

- 1. East elevation looking due W
- 2. South and east elevations looking NW
- 3. South elevation looking NNW
- 4. West and south elevations looking NE
- 5. North and west elevations looking SE
- 6. East and rorth elevations looking SW
- 7. Interior, ladies' waiting room looking SSW
- 8. Interior, men's waiting room looking SSE
- 9. Interior, ticket window in ladies' waiting room looking W