

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JAN 8 1980 FEB 19 1980
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 Stuart Passenger Station
HISTORIC
Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad; Stuart Passenger Station
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Front Street --NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Stuart CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Stuart 5
STATE Iowa VICINITY OF
Iowa CODE COUNTY Adair CODE

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad
STREET & NUMBER
332 South Michigan
CITY, TOWN Chicago STATE
Chicago VICINITY OF Illinois 60604

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Adair County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Greenfield STATE
Greenfield Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rock Island passenger station at Stuart was built 1868-69. It is located adjacent to the business district of Stuart, on the north side of the main line.

The building is a long, one-story side gable structure, with a heavy wood frame structural system on a limestone foundation, and exterior walls veneered with brick. All window and door openings have segmentally-arched heads, with brick hoods. Keystones, impost blocks and window sills are limestone.

The building is divided north-south into four rooms, reading from east to west as baggage room, men's waiting room, ticket office, and "ladies" waiting room. The ticket office is marked on the trackside elevation by the traditional projecting polygonal bay which permitted the clerk a clear view of the tracks in both directions.

The station was abandoned by the Rock Island in 1977, and has stood empty since that time, subject to repeated vandalism. It appears structurally sound, however, and there is local interest in obtaining it from the railroad and using it as a museum or other public facility.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

b. 1868-69 (1884 County History, p.748).

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This passenger station is the only structure remaining in Stuart to mark the community's 19th century history as a division point on the Rock Island Railroad. In this role, with large shops, a roundhouse, and appurtenant structures, Stuart was a focal point of activity for one of Iowa's leading railroads, from the time the town was platted (1868-69) until the railroad moved its operations to Valley Junction (now West Des Moines) in 1897.

The Rock Island line reached this area in 1868, which was planned to served as a division point from the start. The town was laid out by, and named for, Charles A. Stuart, "working closely with railroad officials" (excerpt from Stuart history, 1870-1970, reprinted in Stuart Herald, 16 December 1976, p.10). The passenger station was among the earliest railroad structures to be erected, with roundhouse following in 1871 and large brick shops (replacing earlier wooden structures) in 1874. The town was immediately prosperous, with most residents earning their living, directly or indirectly, from the railroad. By 1893, Stuart's population was 2500 and growing. Agricultural depression in the 1890's, however, produced a slump in the railroad's business (most of which in western Iowa was devoted to shipping corn, grain, and livestock). As the nation recovered, so did the railroad. The town of Stuart might have again prospered, too, but for the Rock Island's decision to move its facilities to Des Moines, more centrally located in the state and certainly more populous than Stuart.

The loss of the railroad shops resulted immediately in a loss of some 400 residents from the community, and the population of Stuart began a decline that continued well into the 20th century. Stuart managed to reorient its economy toward agriculture, but was never to have the vitality present in the "railroad years". Of all the railroad structures once so proudly boasted by the community, only the passenger station remains, a "monument to the folly of trusting the prosperity of a town to a corporation." (Stuart Herald, 24 September 1897).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Stuart Herald, Centennial Edition, 30 July 1970. Includes reprints of articles from past issues, including articles dated 3 August 1871, 1 February 1875, 24 September 1897. History of Guthrie and Adair Counties, Iowa. Reproduction by Unigraphic, Inc., 1974. History of Guthrie County, 1884.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Omaha, Nebraska; Iowa

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:250,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 3910 2010 45195 12100

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 1, of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.4, T 77 N R 30 W, Adair County, Iowa.

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

M. H. Bowers, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

September 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319-353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian S. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

December 3, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Ray Luce

DATE

2-19-80

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William A. Brennan

DATE

2-12-80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION