

PH 0501557

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	DATA SHEET
RECEIVED	JUL 27 1977
DATE ENTERED	FEB 14 1978

**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

HISTORIC

Waunakee Railroad Depot

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South and Main Streets

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Waunakee

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

Wisconsin 53597

CODE

55

COUNTY

Dane

CODE

025

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ___ DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- ___ STRUCTURE
- ___ SITE
- ___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ___ PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- ___ BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- ___ IN PROCESS
- ___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- ___ UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- ___ YES: RESTRICTED
- ___ YES: UNRESTRICTED
- ___ NO

PRESENT USE

- ___ AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- ___ COMMERCIAL
- ___ PARK
- ___ EDUCATIONAL
- ___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ___ ENTERTAINMENT
- ___ RELIGIOUS
- ___ GOVERNMENT
- ___ SCIENTIFIC
- ___ INDUSTRIAL
- ___ TRANSPORTATION
- ___ MILITARY
- ___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Chicago & Northwestern Transportation Company

c/o K.A. Leiser, Real Estate Rep.
Eastern Region

STREET & NUMBER

400 West Madison Street

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois 60606

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City-County Building

STREET & NUMBER

210 Monona Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53709

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1977

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A small, rectangular, single-story structure, the Waunakee Depot, built in 1896, has a gable roof with wide overhanging eaves. Siding is shiplap. At the center of the main (northeast) facade is a pavilion with a gabled dormer roof. Gable ends of the building and the dormer have carved horizontal supporting members from the center of which two smaller supports angle outward, meeting the roof at right angles. These are ornamental as well as functional and are original. The wooden platform in front of the depot, adjacent to the tracks, was removed and an ornamental wire fence installed in its place, separating the building from the tracks as a safety measure. Otherwise the depot has never been remodeled in its 81 years.

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			

SPECIFIC DATES

1871, 1896¹

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The establishment of the C&NW railroad depot at Waunakee led to the establishment of the small but important community which exists there today. In the late 1860s, the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad decided to extend service from Madison to the St. Paul area. By 1871 a definite decision had been made to locate a stop on this route at the present site of the village of Waunakee.² Earlier considerations for the site of the stop involved other places north of Lake Mendota, and at the time there was nothing where Waunakee now stands except a blacksmith shop operated by S. P. Martin.

Two local landholders, George Fish and Louis Bacon, were responsible for the decision to have the depot located at the site of present-day Waunakee.³ To do so they had to donate land for the railroad right-of-way and put up bonds in the amount of \$1500. Their efforts paid off handsomely, as a thriving farming village sprang up around the Waunakee depot. Since the end of the Civil War, farmers had faced increasing difficulty in transporting their produce to major markets. Now they had a dependable means of transportation for farm produce. Waunakee grew as a commercial and farming center. The railroad hauled farm goods to Chicago markets and brought shipments of dry goods and machinery from Chicago to eager merchants in Waunakee. This quickly brought schools, churches and other aspects of permanent settlement.⁴ Clearly the placement of the C&NW railroad depot at Waunakee led to the establishment, growth and development of the thriving and important village of today.

The original depot of 1871 was destroyed by fire in 1896 and the present building was erected on the same site later in the year.⁵ To the people of Waunakee, the second depot is as important as the first in the sense that it merely provides continuity to the story of the development of their community around the site chosen for the railroad stopping place in 1871. The depot itself, out of use for transportation purposes since about 1960, is leased by the Waunakee Arts Council. Today, through the joint efforts of the Waunakee Historical Society and the Arts Council, the depot is undergoing restoration to its original condition and conversion to a museum of art and history. It will remain a reminder of Waunakee's past as well as continuing to serve the community.

1. Waunakee Centennial Book, 27

2. Idem.

3. Koltes and Joseph, 1

4. Idem.

5. Waunakee Centennial Book, 27

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Buhlman, An Early History of the Village of Waunakee, n.p., n.d., 27, 29, 31
 Butterfield, Consul W., History of Dane County, Wisconsin, (Chicago, 1880), 611
 Keyes, Elisha W., History of Dane County, (Madison, 1906), 240
 Koltes, James P., The Early History of Waunakee, (Waunakee, 1971), 1, 2, 5, 6.
 Koltes, James and Joseph, Matt, "A Brief History of the Waunakee Depot," Waunakee Arts Council, 1975 (typescript), 1

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.4

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 300570 4784800
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

In the northwest corner of Block 7, Original Plat of Waunakee. Bounded roughly on the north by Main Street, on the east by the C&NW railroad tracks and right-of-way, and on the south and west by C&NW right-of-way.

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

Donald N. Anderson, Historian & Registrar, Historic Preservation Division

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

17 June 1977

STREET & NUMBER

816 State Street

TELEPHONE

608/262-0746

CITY OR TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Richard Steiner

TITLE: Acting Director

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

7/20/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Robert B. Rethig

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

John DATE 2/14/78

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 2-9-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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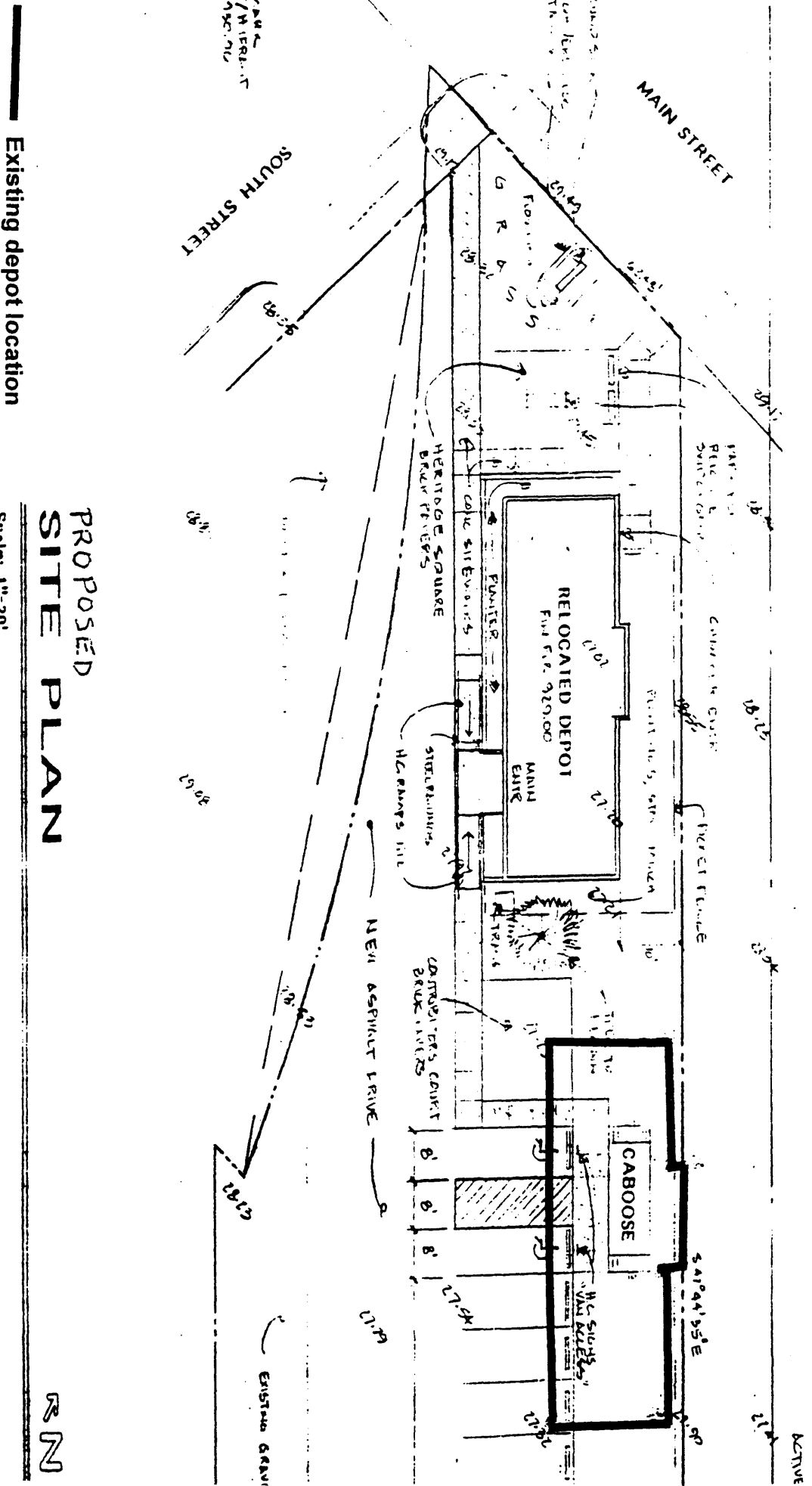
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

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Madison Daily Democrat, October 31, November 4, 1870
Waunakee Centennial Book, 1871-1971, (Waunakee, 1971), 27,29,31
Waunakee News, March 9, 1899
Wisconsin State Journal, July 5, 26, August 1, 1871

WAUNAKEE RAILROAD DEPOT WAUNAKEE, DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN



PROPOSED SITE PLAN

Scale: 1"=20'

Existing depot location

R2