

PH0000841

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: Titchfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 26 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Union Depot

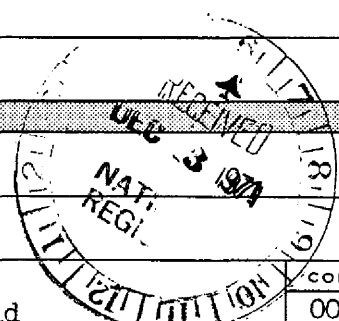
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
U.S. Route 44

CITY OR TOWN:
North Canaan

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09 COUNTY: Titchfield CODE: 005



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No					
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Penn Central

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
New York

STATE:
New York

CODE:
31

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
North Canaan

STATE:
Connecticut

CODE:
09

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1966 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
54 Pratt Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hartford

STATE:
Connecticut

CODE:
09

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Connecticut

COUNTY: Titchfield

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 26 1972

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DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Canaan Station, formally known as Union Depot, was built by the ~~X~~ousatonic and Connecticut Western Railroads in 1872. There are two long wings at right angles to each other, each on a different railroad line. Each wing is ninety feet long, has spacious platforms, and a wide, protective roof. The building is two stories high, and at the southwestern corner, which forms the junction of the two railroads, is a large tower, with rooms for the accommodation of the telegraph operators. The second story has several rooms, once suitable for family occupation. In one of the larger of these rooms is a semi-circular counter, twenty feet long, designed for a lunch-room or "Twenty minutes for dinner."

The exterior has board and batten siding. The roofs of the wings are low hipped, and each has a chimney, indicating the comfort once available. Graceful arches top the large sliding doors on the first level and the numerous windows on the second. The eaves extend more than a foot and have brackets and drops, neatly finishing the roof line. Windows are of many sizes; mostly they are double-hung and round-headed, of 4/4 or 5/6 sash on the second level, and 6/6, 4/4, or 6/3 on the first. Also on the first level are little round windows with 4 panes, and over the larger waiting room doors are 3-pane lights, slightly arched.

The station is now unused, except for a small amount of freight traffic, but it has remained untouched. The old benches with curved backs and the ticket window are still there. The interior is closed, with only a few rooms on the south side occupied. Some space is rented to a grain company and to REA; neither of these uses is detrimental to the building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

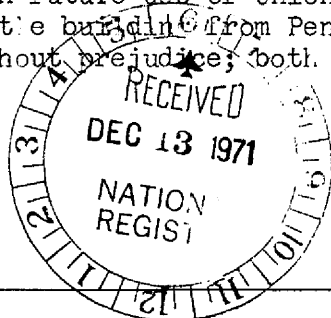
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

North Canaan, although a small town, was an important town to railroads, for it came at the junction of the Connecticut Western Railroad and the Housatonic Railroad; these were later known, respectively, as the Central New England, which ran from Hartford to Poughkeepsie, and the Berkshire Division of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad, now the Penn Central.

An article in Canaan's newspaper, "Connecticut Western News", on December 6, 1872, said of the station: "The new Union Depot was completed on December 2, 1872.) It is a grand structure indeed...The depot, so complete and elegant in every feature, was designed by Chief Engineer Shunk. The carpentry was under the supervision of G.H. Bundy of Lakeville, a general contractor, cabinetmaker, and maker of coffins. The masonry was done by Kilmev, of Canaan." The station is done in a "Victorian" style, but it is not typical of the usual "Victorian" depots, so commonly built at this time, as the railroads were booming. The Canaan Station is distinctive for its graceful lines, the interesting and well-integrated tower, and, of course, its size. The town was very proud of its new station. Wonderful apple pies were baked there and sold to passengers by Maggie Reilly, who became famous in the early 1900's as a result of the praise of Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, the German opera star. James B. Rutledge, now in his 80's, still owns the Canfield Inn, across the street from the station. He recently recalled the stops made by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on his way home to Hyde Park.

Passenger service was discontinued in April, 1971. Since then only freight has gone through Canaan. There is much interest in restoring the old station; it would be a wonderful terminus for excursion trips to the Berkshires and surrounding foothills. A museum and library containing railroad and industrial exhibits is one of the prime interests of those concerned with future use of Union Depot. The opportunity for the town to purchase the building from Penn Central was recently rejected (November 4, 1971), without prejudice; both sides are negotiating.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hartford Times, Saturday, July 29, 1967,
 Hartford Times, Thursday, May 6, 1971, p. 1B.
 Notepaper featuring the railroad station at North Canaan, printed by the
 Connecticut Railroad Historical Association, Inc.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	42°	01'	34"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	73°	19'	47"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: About one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Susan Babbitt, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: December 7, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 51 Pratt Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: December 7, 1971

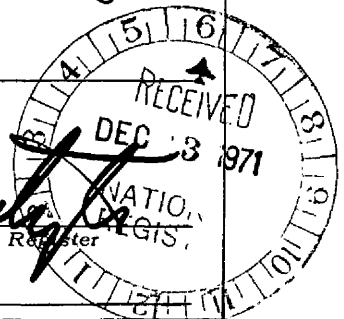
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/26/72

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 APR 26 1972

Date: _____



SEE INSTRUCTIONS