ш ш Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY DATE

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CITY	OR TOWN: Creston				CONGRESSIO Fifth	NAL DISTRICT REGIS	STER		
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	or town: Creston				STATE:		CODE]	1
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			-	(Chec	k One)			
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	🗶 Fair	☐ Dete	eriorated	Ruins	□ U ₁	nexposed
CONDITION		(Check Or	1e)			(Che	ck One)	
	Alter	ed	🔀 Unaltered			Moved	X Or	iginal Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Presently this landmark of nearly seventy-five years is beginning to show a moderate amount of deterioration due to lack of attention for the last four years. Many of the windows have been broken, paint has scaled off the exterior wooden areas, a few of the roof tile are missing allowing some moisture to enter the building causing some warpage of wood, and the interior is in need of a thorough cleaning. As yet the ceilings and walls appear to be in good shape with no major repairs being needed. The building is structurally sound as has been attested to by Clark, Anderson, Hamersky, & Associates of Lincoln, Neb., and Wagner and Associates of Des Moines, Ia. The heating unit has become outdated and the wiring and plumbing have been partially removed by the railroad. Since the exterior of the building is composed of stone and brick with tile roofing it has weathered the elements very well and with proper care will be able to do so for many years to come.

Originally the depot was a majestic structure looming over Iowa's prairie. It was built in 1899 at the cost of \$75,000.00 to the Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy Railroad. The building is three story structure with concrete footing and rubble foundation. Above ground a cut stone base rises to the window sills and from there walls are of St. Iouis pressed brick with stone built courses. The walls are capped by a heavy copper cornice as a base for a semi-glazed red tile roof broken by six dormers. The entire building is 173' long by 43' wide and is 53' high from ground line to the ridge of the roof. The entire building is surrounded by a red brick sidewalk with a small parking area near the northeast corner for customers of the express office housed within the depot in that area.

The first floor is divided into general waiting room, ticket office, lunch counter, two restrooms, checkroom, and baggage room. The large waiting room is beautiful in every detail. The floors of dark red marble are contrasted by four massive round white ceramic brick pillars rising to a natural oak wood beam and inlay ceiling. The walls are also of white ceramic brick with deep green ceramic brick brick trip. The solid oak natural finished wooden benches are still in the waiting room. Condition: Very Good. Directly off the waiting room is a restroom on the north east and a ticket office on the southeast separated by a corrider which runs through the center of the depot to the baggage room on the east end. On the South side of the corrider next to the ticket office is the area occupied by the lunch counter. Across from this is a large storage room. Another restroom completes the 1st floor.

A broad stairway at the southeast end of the corrider leads to the second floor on which were located the rooms for the local officials and the telegraph apparatus. A long hall passes down the center of the second floor ending at a large counter separating the 30'x40' telegraph office from the hall. From the hall doors to seven other offices can be seen. These rooms were occupied by the Division Superintendent, Secretary, Dispatcher, Road Master, Physician, Canductor's Room, and Burlington Relief Department.

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At the east end of the hall a smaller stairway to the South leads to the third floor which is composed of two large rooms. One room was used as a meeting room for special schooling sessions such as "Book of Rules" school. The second and largest room was used to store the thousands of documents accumulated over the past seventy-five years. They are still in the depot.

ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
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☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 1899	-process.	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	•
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Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	,
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was the largest, best constructed depot in Iowa on the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad at this time. It was a division point and all the business for southwest Iowa was conducted from this depot. Being a division headquarters, this depot also housed the office for the Master Carpenter who was in charge of all section work and bridge work for the entire division. Since a great amount of switching and the forming up of trains was done in the Creston yards the office of the trainmaster was also located in the Creston Depot. In addition there were two branch lines and one foreign railroad also originating in Creston and controlled either entirely or in part from this depot. Also, shortly after the construction of this depot the Creston roundhouse was at its peak and was reputed to be one of the largest roundhouses on the entire CB&Q system. Additional information is being accumulated and compiled pertaining to Creston as a railroad center.

Architecturally this building was unique for this area in both size and design. It was truly the most magnificant structure to be erected in Creston up to that time or sine. Due to the replacement of true crafts—manship with modern mass production methods the opportunity to be able to see and preserve a structure of this nature will never again be made available to us or future generations.



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Dr. Adrian D. Anderson
Director, Iowa State distorical Department
Office of Historic Preservation
Historical Building
East 12th Street & Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

RE: Ralph Rollins House, Polk County
LaPorte Town Hall and Fire Station, Black Hawk County
Albert City Station, Buena Vista County
Rock Rapids Depot, Railroad Track and Bridge, Lyon County
Creston Railroad Depot, Union County
Rock Island Lines Passenger Station, Poweshiek County
Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, & Pacific Depot, Worth County

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Thank you for the additional information provided on the above properties. We have made the following corrections to our files:

Ralph Rollins House LaPorte Town Hall and Fire Station Albert City Station

Rock Rapids Depot, Railroad
Track and Bridge

Creston Railroad Depot

Rock Island Lines Passenger Station

Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Depot

Correct address: 2801 Flant Drive Correct name: LaPorte City Town

Hall and Fire Station

Correct name: Chicago, Naukee and Pacific Railroad: Albert

City Station

Correct name: Burlington, Cedar Rapids, and Northern Railroad: Rock Rapids Station, Railraod

Track and Bridge

Correct name: Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad: Creston

Station

Correct name: Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad: Grinnell

Passenger Station

Correct name: Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad: Grafton

Station

Thank you for your interest in maintaining the quality of the National Register records.

Sincerely,

Est. Transcr

Carol D. Shull Chief of Registration National Register of Historic Places Interagency Resources Division