

PH0690805

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 4 1976
DATE ENTERED	NOV 7 1976

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

Southern Railway Passenger Station *Whe*

AND/OR COMMON

Westminster Depot

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

129 Main Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

CODE

045

COUNTY

Oconee

CODE

073

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
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

Community Center
Health Clinic

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Town of Westminster

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Oconee County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Walhalla

STATE

South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Places in the Appalachian Region

DATE

1975

regional
__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments

CITY, TOWN

greenville

STATE

South Carolina

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small town railroad depot, thought to have been built ca. 1885, remains as the focal point in downtown Westminster, South Carolina. Rectangular in plan (approximately 96' by 40'), this structure features a prominent hip roof with a deep overhang, supported by large wooden brackets. This structure is wooden with asbestos siding (ca. 1940) and wood trim. Opening to the exterior are four double doors and four single, five-paneled doors. There are ten windows with leaded diamond-shaped panes on the upper sashes and a single pane below. (On the right side of the front facade there are also two small, four-paned windows, which are later additions.) At the rear of the structure is a large three-sectioned dormer window featuring diamond-shaped panes. Directly beneath this dormer is a three-sectioned bay window. Above all the single doors and one of the sliding doors are transoms featuring the diamond-shaped panes.

An early 20th Century postcard of Westminster's depot shows that the structure has undergone alterations during the 20th Century. Several windows on the left side of the front facade have been removed; changes in door and window locations have been made to the right side; and the placement of the interior chimneys appears to have been altered. Within more recent times the roof has also been reshingled. Despite these changes, however, the basic integrity of the design remains.

To the left side of the structure is the loading platform which has been enlarged.

Interior: The depot is a one-story structure which was originally divided into four sections: two waiting rooms, a main office, and a large baggage and warehouse space. These areas have recently been adapted for use as a community meeting room, a library, and a community health center. Alterations and partitions had to be made to the area which is now the health center in order to create examination rooms, laboratories, etc.

Surroundings: The depot is located on an elevation, directly across from the major business section of Main Street, Westminster, South Carolina. (Oldest surviving citizens remember that the structure was moved approximately 100' in 1917, when double tracks were laid, but they say it was soon moved back to its original position.) The grounds retain some of the original shrubbery and are presently being landscaped by the Westminster Garden Club. The railroad tracks are directly behind the station, but for safety purposes and compliance with railroad regulations a link fence has been erected between the tracks and station.

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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to tradition, the Westminster Depot was built ca. 1885. The railroad was one of the principle reasons for the growth and development of the town of Westminster (incorporated in 1875), and as a result, the railroad station is one of the town's oldest buildings and has long been considered a local landmark. The station served as a gathering place and as a center of activity for this small community (present population ca. 3000). An early postcard and early photographs of the station support its position as a long-time town landmark.

With the general decline of the railroad in America, Westminster's rail services were curtailed; the passenger service eventually being discontinued about 1969. Recently threatened by demolition, the station was saved through the efforts of the Westminster Garden Club, which recognized its importance to the town's history and appearance. Today the Westminster Depot again serves as both a visual and social focal point in Westminster. Its adaptive use as a combination meeting room, community health center, and library make it once again a vital center of the town.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Breazeale: We Had No Idea How to Raise Money, But We Were Determined to Get that Depot Back," Regionews (South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments), Vol. I, No. 7 (January 1976).

Interview with Mrs. Enoch D. Breazeale and other members of the Westminster Garden Club, November 6, 1975.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 307920 3837780
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY (Mrs. E. D. Breazeale, President Westminster Garden Club)

NAME / TITLE

Katharine N. McNulty

ORGANIZATION

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

DATE

March 30, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 11,669 Capitol Station

TELEPHONE

(803) 758-5816

CITY OR TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

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

Charles E. Lee

TITLE Charles E. Lee
 State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 4-19-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Levy R. ...
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11/7/76

DATE 11/1/72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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66

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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one

"Saved By Woman Power," The State (Columbia, South Carolina, April 14, 1975).