

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 23 1976
DATE ENTERED JUL 13 1977

**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 **

Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Station at Boonton

AND/OR COMMON

The Station, Boonton

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Myrtle Avenue and Main & Division Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Boonton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

13

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

34

COUNTY

Morris

CODE

027

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__DISTRICT

X BUILDING(S)

__STRUCTURE

X SITE

__OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__PUBLIC

X PRIVATE

__BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__IN PROCESS

__BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

__OCCUPIED

X UNOCCUPIED

X WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

X YES: RESTRICTED

__YES: UNRESTRICTED

__NO

PRESENT USE

__AGRICULTURE

X COMMERCIAL

X EDUCATIONAL

__ENTERTAINMENT

__GOVERNMENT

__INDUSTRIAL

__MILITARY

X MUSEUM

__PARK

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__RELIGIOUS

__SCIENTIFIC

__TRANSPORTATION

__OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Joseph Marcello

STREET & NUMBER

238 Roosevelt Street

CITY, TOWN

Boonton

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Mooristown Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Morristown

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#462.9)

DATE

1975

__FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Sites Office, Dept. of Environmental Protection

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

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

The Erie-Lackawanna Railroad Station buildings were constructed in 1904 as the need became apparent for a new station and shelter house because of heavy use by travelers and for the shipment of goods. They were built on Myrtle Avenue (Route 202) and Division Street - the larger one - Eastbound - and the smaller one - Westbound - on Division Street. Construction was of brick and stone with a terra cotta roof.

The Boonton Railroad station, architecturally a Prairie-style structure, has a clean-cut simple rectangular block massing with axial open-air wings.

The central block is 2 1/2 stories at the street with three bays and a hip roof with a four foot overhang. This roof originally was a Spanish tile roof, but is currently asphalt. The elevation on the street facade is faced in stone on the first floor. The rest of the building is brick. The dimensions of this main block are approximately 56 feet by 28 feet with a 42 foot height at street and 32 foot height at track. The three windows on the street facade are tripartite form and the center window is 11 feet by 10 feet flanked by 11 feet by 7 feet windows.

A one story open air wing projects out from the west facade and is approximately forty feet by twenty-eight feet with a gable roof. An east wing complements the west wing, but is only 20 feet long.

A cement platform extends some three hundred feet on both sides of the railroad tracks and is partially covered by a passenger shed fifteen feet wide and 165 feet long supported by braced wooden columns.

The original architectural drawings showed the Eastbound building had a general waiting room (40' x 27'), ticket office forming a bay window with dimensions of 12' x 19', baggage room (14' x 27'), express office (15' x 27'), and telegraph office. The station building and the shelter house on the opposite side of the tracks are connected by a tunnel so that passengers would not have to cross the tracks when taking trains. With driveways on both Division Street and Myrtle Avenue, the surrounding areas had flower beds placed in various locations to add to the beauty of the station.

The street level held a smoking room, women's room, newsstand and express and baggage room and an elevator. The station on the westbound tract harmonizes in architectural construction with the main building and has a large waiting room. Both buildings are furnished throughout in oak and patent plaster walls.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cunningham, J. T. New Jersey - America's Mainroad
Boonton Times Weekly Bulletin - March 17, 1904
Boonton Times Weekly Bulletin - June 23, 1904
Boonton Times Bulletin - July, 1969

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.5 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

4528

A	1 8	5 5 0 0 0 0	4 5 2 8 0 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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
 Sonya Comstock (revisions by Terry Karschner, Historic Sites)

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE
 March 24, 1976

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE
 408 Hillside Avenue (201) 335-3259 or 822-3800

CITY OR TOWN STATE
 Boonton New Jersey 07005

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 *David J. Bardin*

TITLE David J. Bardin, Commissioner DATE OCT 19 1976
 Department of Environmental Protection

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE 7/13/77
Charles A. ...

ATTEST: *Charles A. ...* KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 6.7.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Boonton Railroad Station
Boonton
Morris County
New Jersey 031
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

7. DESCRIPTION (cont.)

Owner Joe Marcello hopes to soon operate the station as a mini-mall using the main station as a restaurant and the westbound waiting room as an ice cream parlor. Old passenger railroad cars are also being brought in which will be converted into small commercial shops.

The restoration of the station buildings is actually a double recycling project because owner Joe Marcello not only saved the building from demolition, but is providing the public with the rich history of railroading. The station was closed for 27 years, so the restoration was enormous. Sandblasting the brick to its natural state, and then patching and painting the outside trim, Marcello then concentrated on the inside. Not wanting to change actual rooms, he worked around them and highlighted them. A perfect example would be the Print Shop which was once the baggage room. A front door was added, but inside the elevator is still visible even though now sealed off. The newsstand will become a Hot Nuts Shop, and yet the only change was the addition of a door. Original signs have been put back in place. In another area of the station, where coal used to come through the chute, special attention was given to this chute by sealing it with a train light and leaving coal inside, but calling it to the public's attention by the addition of a small red light. The large waiting room with its 16' ceiling will become an old-fashioned restaurant with no structural changes. Apparent are all the rooms as described above, but now serving another purpose by way of shops. The addition of such modern necessities as heat, air conditioning, modernized rest rooms and lights have been carefully worked in. A dramatic entrance in the main building is the use of 1878 newspapers from the Town of Boonton's Historical Society as wall covering. A dual purpose is what Joe Marcello had in mind when he leased these buildings from the Erie - to have a unique shopping center and to preserve the importance of the railroad for generations to come.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Boonton Railroad Station

Boonton

Morris County

New Jersey 021

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

8. SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

Built in the Prairie style of architecture by Lackawanna Railroad architect Frank J. Nies the Boonton Railroad Station stands today as a solid and impressive reminder to the town's important industrial patrimony. The station responds to the memory of an earlier Boonton.

In addition to providing transportation for passengers to and from Boonton, the terminal also freighted in coal for the iron industry and transported out finished iron products (nails, bolts, rods, washers, etc.) until when the industry closed.

While the railroad was the most convenient mode of travel in the first and even second quarter of the 20th century, the increased availability of the automobile spelled the doom of the Lackawanna in the second half of the century. At present the railroad station in Boonton does not function as a passenger or freight terminal and only recently, has been acquired by a private citizen for commercial/educational purposes. Save the revitalization of mass transit it does not appear that The Boonton Station will ever again be a transportation mecca, but can function profitably as an economically viable venture.

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Boonton

Morris County

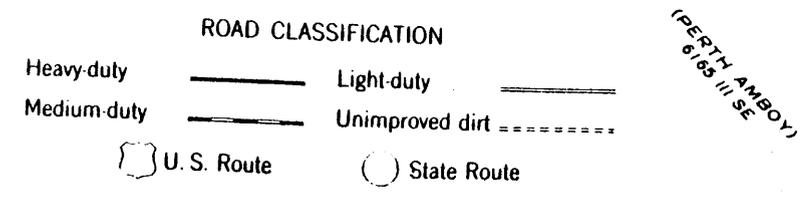
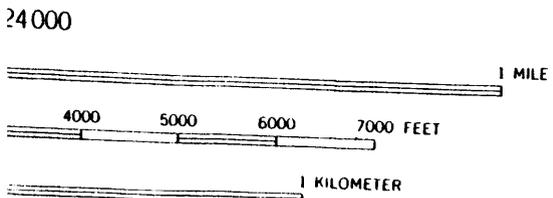
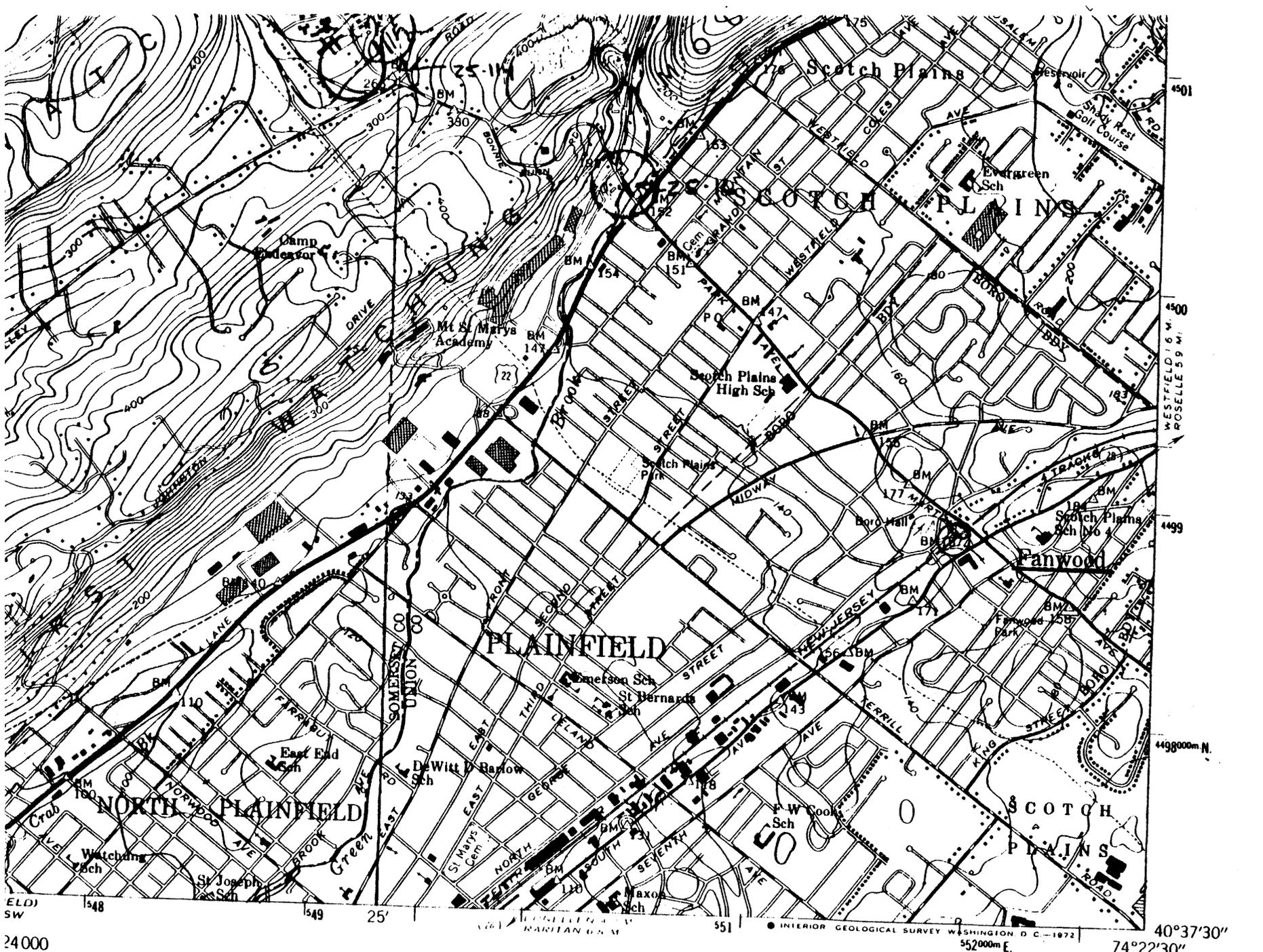
New Jersey 031

CONTINUATION SHEET

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9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (cont.)

- "Elevations for the Passenger Station at Boonton, New Jersey for the D. L. and WRR Company" 1904. Sheets 5, 6, and 7. Possession of Historic Sites Office, Department of Environmental Protection.
- Photograph of Boonton Railroad Station. Estimated date of photo ca. 1910.
- The Lackawanna Story. Robert Casey and W.A.S. Douglas. New York, 1951.



RR 2005-8-3