

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**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 Johnson Railroad Depot
 AND/OR COMMON Johnson, Vermont Railroad Depot
Johnson Railroad Depot

2 LOCATION
 STREET & NUMBER Railroad Street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION
 CITY, TOWN Johnson VICINITY OF Vermont CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 STATE Vermont CODE 050 COUNTY Lamoille CODE 015

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
 NAME Depot Woodworking
 STREET & NUMBER Railroad Street
 CITY, TOWN Johnson VICINITY OF Vermont STATE Vermont

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Johnson Town Clerk's Office
 STREET & NUMBER Pearl Street
 CITY, TOWN Johnson STATE Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey
 DATE 1980 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
 CITY, TOWN Montpelier STATE Vermont

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Situated by the tracks of the Lamoille County Railroad, in an industrial area on the southern edge of Johnson Village, the Johnson Depot is a two-story clapboard station house of approximately 6 by 2 bays, with an adjoining 1-1/2 story freight house of similar construction. The distinctively wide, overhanging eaves are finished with beaded soffits and supported by brackets made of heavy chamfered trusses. The raking eaves show decorative cut-out brackets, and original asbestos tiles cover the roof in a diamond pattern.

The irregular fenestration uses two-over-two sash, panelled and glazed doors, and plain surrounds with molded caps. The broad elevations of the station house, fronting on the street and the tracks, each have three entries; the track (south) elevation also has a rectangular bay window lighting the interior ticket office. The freight house has large service entries on both the street and track sides.

The interior walls and ceilings of the station house are fully sheathed with beaded fir panelling, and trimmed with moldings at the wainscot, crown, and in a grid pattern on the ceiling. Windows and doors have heavy molded surrounds with cornerblocks. The polygonal ticket office and an enclosed washroom area face each other and bisect the floor on a north/south axis, creating two mirror-image waiting rooms, each with half the ticket office and a bathroom serving it. The sales windows of the ticket office have broad sills supported by consoles. A shaped bench runs along the east and north walls. Many original hardware fixtures are found throughout the building.

Because the few alterations to the building have been mostly structural or functional, the Johnson Depot retains its original appearance to a remarkable degree. The major changes have been: temporary weathertight doors on the freight house service entries (planned to be replaced by sliding doors using original hardware), new chimneys, replacement of foundation and sills under the south facade, removal of track-side loading dock, and removal of a shed and balcony from the gable of the freight house.

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 checked="" 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 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 1887

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Johnson Depot is significant as an excellent example of Victorian railroad architecture. Its distinctive Stick Style uses heavy chamfered wood trusses under wide eaves, and is otherwise enriched with Queen Anne period detail. The interior plan was a standard on northern Vermont rail lines, with separate waiting rooms for men and women, richly finished in beaded fir panelling. Both the interior and exterior are in near-original condition, including much of the hardware and fixtures.

The Depot's significance to the community goes far beyond its distinctive architecture. For nearly a century it played a major role in the economic and social lives of Johnson's townspeople, linking them to the people and markets of the whole nation. In 1887 this building was erected to replace an earlier structure which had served since 1872, the year the St. Johnsbury and Lamoille County Railroad first brought rail service to the town. Although the St. Johnsbury and Lamoille County line was originally financed and constructed by the Fairbanks Family of St. Johnsbury as a means of shipping their world-famous scales directly to their western buyers, the railroad's most permanent impact was to bring the hitherto-isolated mountain regions of north central Vermont into the industrial age. Much of Johnson's heavy produce - milk, woolen goods, talc, and wood products - passed through the Depot's freight doors. Express freight service made mail order shopping convenient, and kept the town supplied with fresh fruit and produce, groceries, and same-day mail. Passenger service also made it possible to make a one-day trip to Burlington for business or shopping.

The two-story stationhouse provided upstairs living quarters for the stationmaster, who supervised the day-to-day operation of the Depot, and was thus an important public figure in Johnson. Although regular mail service ended here in 1969, the continued daily passage of freight trains helps sustain the building's integrity as part of railroad heritage.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Child, Hamilton, Gazetteer and Business Directory for Lamoille and Orleans Counties, Vt. (1883, Syracuse).

Lewis, Edward A., Vermont's Covered Bridge Road: The Story of the St. Johnsbury and Lamoille County Railroad (1974, Strasburg, Pa.).

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Hyde Park, Vermont Quadrangle

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \pm 1 acre Scale 1:62,500

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	6,8,3,4,3,0	4,9,4,4,3,5,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point 6 feet distant northeasterly radially from approximate station 2951+40 of the Lamoille County Railroad track centerline, thence 131 feet along the track southeasterly, then 40 feet northeasterly, thence 113 feet northwesterly, thence 50 feet to point of beginning.

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

John C. Page

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Consultant

DATE

June 10, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

802-644-2796

CITY OR TOWN

Waterville

STATE

Vermont

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

William B. Timney

TITLE Director/Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 10/6/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. Ray Force

DATE 11/25/80

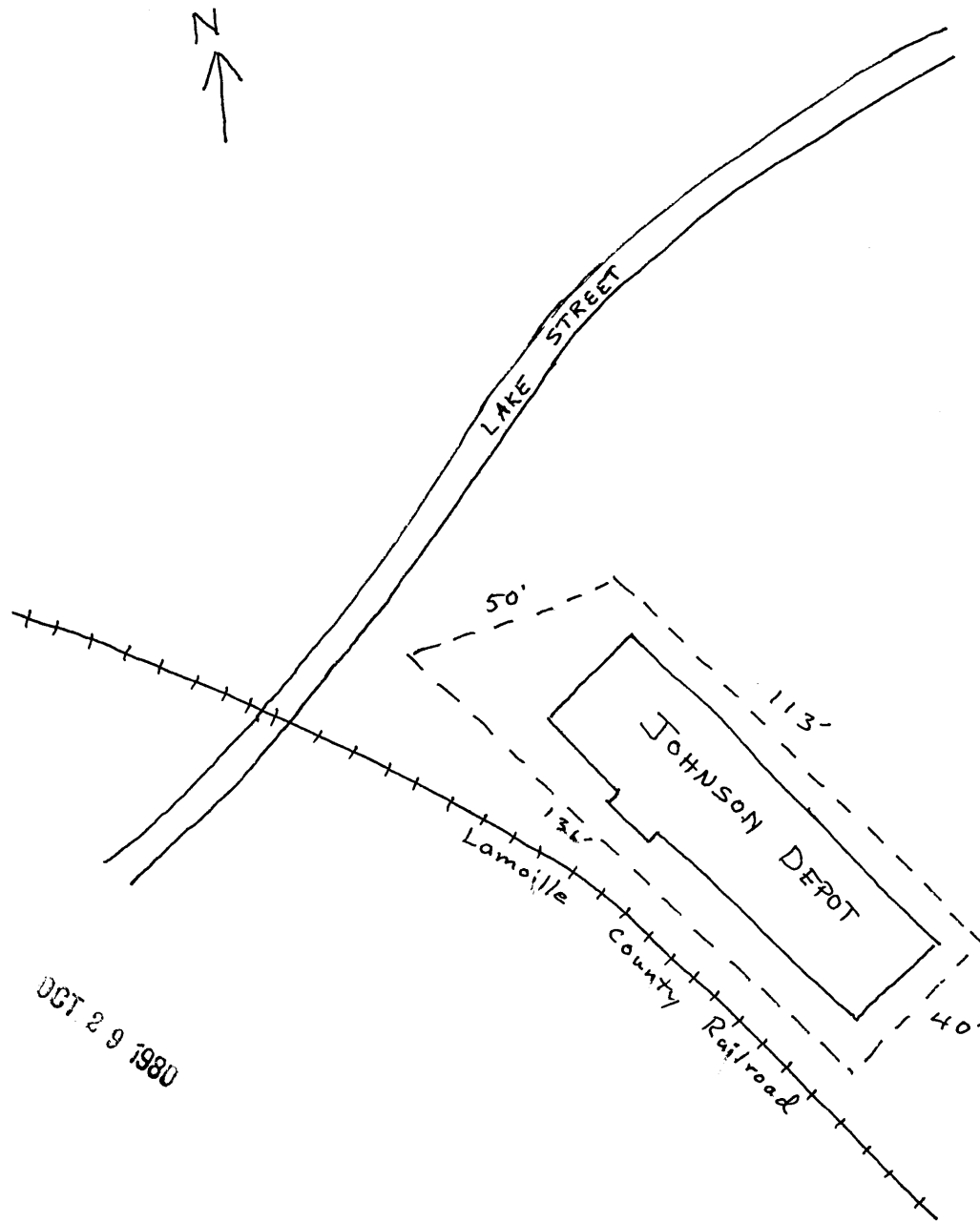
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Patricia Andrews*

DATE 2/28/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Sketch Map of
Johnson Depot property,
Johnson, Vermont
(not drawn to scale)

DGT 2-9-1980

John C. Page
9/12/80