

1448

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben

other name/site number n/a

2. Location

street & town Tow Path Road not for publication

city or town Wawarsing vicinity

state New York code NY county Ulster code 111 zip code 12489

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
William Carter SVPD 10/15/01
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Edson Beall Date of Action 1-11-02

O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Name of Property

Ulster, New York
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- public-local
- private
- public-State
- public-Federal

- district
- building(s)
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

n/a

n/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/Train-depot

Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/
Tudor Revival

foundation Concrete
walls Wood
roof Slate shingle
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

*O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

The Ontario & Western Railroad (Port Ben) passenger station is situated on the north side of the former railroad right of way and on the east side of Tow Path Road just beyond its intersection with Port Ben Road.

Contributing Building: 1
Contributing Site: 1

The boundary for the nominated station has been drawn to include the former station and nearly one-mile of historic track right of way (4700 feet). The nominated property includes 13 acres of land historically associated with the property. The tracks for this line were removed in the late 1950s.

As noted above the station is situated in the center of the small hamlet of Port Ben. The station is bounded on its west by the above noted road. East, north and south of the station are scattered buildings.

The O&W Station is a single story, two by six-bay, wood frame building set on a low foundation. Its medium pitched gabled roof is covered with slate shingles. The roof features a wide overhanging eave supported by brackets on the south (track-side) elevation. The exterior finish of the station consists of smooth stucco over metal lath divided by half timbering above a low brick knee wall. Fenestration throughout the building is asymmetrical and consists of square and rectangular openings with individual and paired groups of multi-light double hung sash.

The south facade of the station features a slightly off center projecting train master's window, freight door and passenger door. The station's east elevation features a passenger entrance and window, while two square windows pierce its west (freight side) elevation. The north elevation features single and paired groups of square windows and a freight entrance.

The interior of the station consists of a passenger waiting area (east section), ticket office (central section) and a freight area (west section). The freight area is raised a few feet above the floor level of the other sections to facilitate the transfer of freight from carts. Finishes throughout the building survive with an astonishing degree of integrity. Plaster on wire lath wall finishes, varnished wood wainscoting, door surrounds and window trims all survive as do the original multi-light sash and wood panel doors. The waiting area benches, original knob and tube electrical wiring and switches and the coal bin partly full of coal also survive. The contributing railroad right-of-way on the property also survives. Although the tracks were removed in the mid-twentieth century the path of the line remains evident and provides a critical setting for this highly intact station.

8. Description

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture _____
- Transportation _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1912-ca.1958

Significant Dates

1912

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

n/a

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository:

*O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1

The Ontario & Western Railroad Station (Port Ben, 1912) is architecturally significant as a well-preserved early twentieth century passenger station. Built by the O&W in 1912, the station served the community of Port Ben as the focal point of its commerce and transportation needs. The station remains virtually intact from its construction. The nominated property achieves further significance through the survival of a large section of the hamlet's historic railroad right of way, which remains in the same ownership as the station.

The New York, Ontario & Western Railroad was established in the post Civil War industrial boom and western expansion. In October 1865 a group of individuals met in Delhi, New York to discuss a railroad that would connect Oswego with New York City. In 1868 construction for the line began in Norwich, New York. The first train on the new line named the Oswego Midland Railroad ran from Jersey City to Oswego on July 9, 1873. Soon after it opened, as a result of the financial panic of 1873 the line went into receivership. It struggled to survive for several years. The line was bought by Conrad N. Jordan on November 14, 1879 and the line was formally renamed the New York, Western & Ontario Railroad. A branch was extended from Middletown to Cornwall, Orange County in 1880. In 1890 a line was extended to coal rich Scranton, Pennsylvania. Additional branches were built to Kingston and Port Jervis, Ulster County.

In 1902 a branch from Ellenville to Kerhonkson were laid. In this year stations were established at Accord, Ellenville, High Falls, Kyserike and Napanoch. In 1911 a station at Cottelkill was constructed with the Port Ben station following in 1912.

As built, the O & W Railroad Passenger Station at Port Ben features a standard plan for rural and resort community rail stations of the era. The plan called for a commodious waiting room with built in benches, station master's office with ticket window, baggage area and covered outdoor waiting areas. The Port Ben station displays a unique Tudor Revival architectural vocabulary. The use of half-timbering and stucco, decorative rafter ends, small square and rectangular window units and rustic timber braced passenger waiting shed area provide this station with a resort character.

The line continued with limited success into the pre-World War II era. In 1953 the passenger aspect of the line was curtailed and the entire line was abandoned.

Despite its lack of use and the loss of its tracks in the late 1950s the station retains an outstanding degree of original fabric and architectural integrity. Interior and exterior finishes and detail survive virtually intact. The station and its associated right-of-way remain an important example of its type and is an important link in the history of transportation in the region.

*O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

Benepe, Barry, ed.. *Early Architecture in Ulster County*. Kingston, NY: Junior League of Kingston, 1974.

Sylvester, Nathaniel Bartlett. *History of Ulster County, New York*, Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1880

O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Name of Property

Ulster, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 13.49 acres

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 554766 46223301
Zone Easting Northing

2 18 554042 4621825
Zone Easting Northing

3 18 553813 4621690
Zone Easting Northing

4 18 553807 4621728
Zone Easting Northing

5 18 554720 4622356
Zone Easting Northing

6
Zone Easting Northing
 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John A. Bonafide, Historic Preservation Program Analyst

organization NYSOPRHP date July, 2001

street & number P.O. Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643

city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188-0189

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and **white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title Herta Diener

street & number PO Box 106 telephone _____

city or town Wawarsing state NY zip code 12489

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

*O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the nominated property is shown as the heavy black outline on the accompanying map entitled "O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben, Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York."

Boundary justification

The boundary for the nomination has been drawn to coincide with the current legal lot for the property.

*O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number PHOTOGRAPHS

O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben

Wawarsing, Ulster County

Photo by: John A. Bonafide, 2001

NYSOPRHP, PO Box 189

Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Neg. at: NYSOPRHP, PO Box 189

Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Photographs

1. North façade and west gable elevation
2. South track-side elevation
3. Interior detail, passenger waiting area
4. Interior detail, passenger waiting area
5. Interior detail, passenger waiting area
6. Interior detail, Station Master's office
7. Interior detail, Station Master's office
8. Interior detail, freight room (note coal in coal bin)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

*O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County*

Section number PHOTOGRAPHS

O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York
Historic View

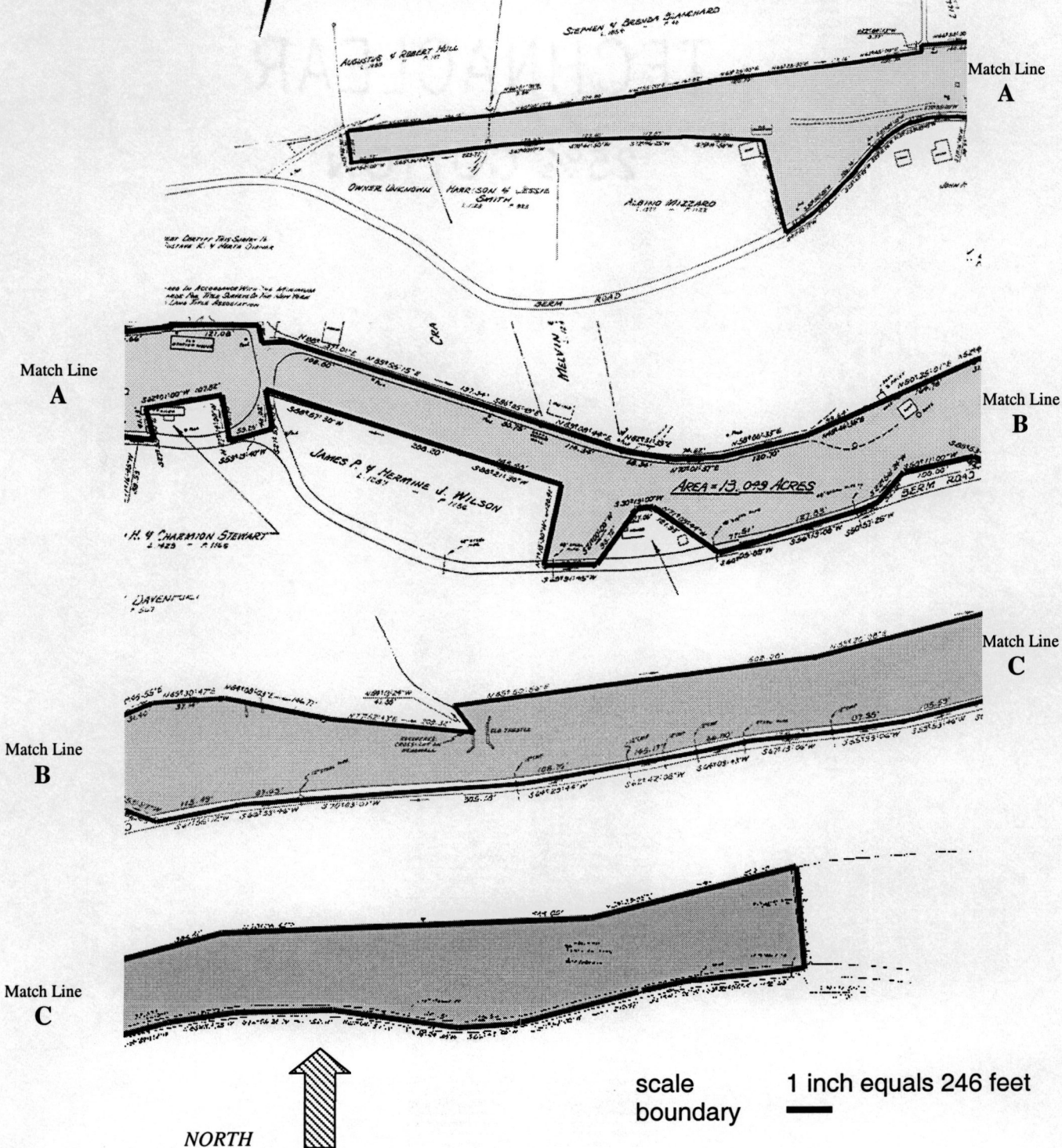


O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number MAP

O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York

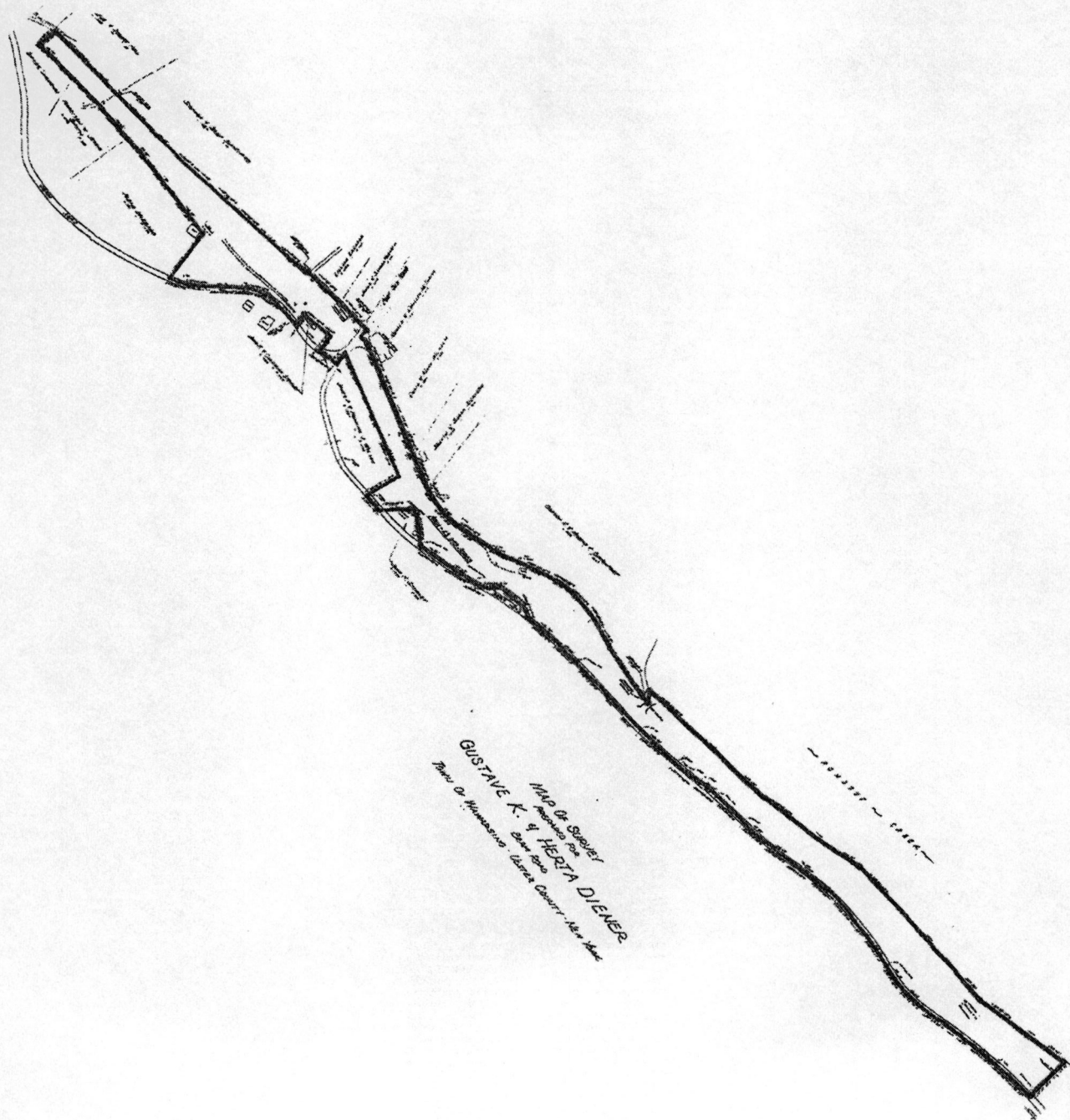


O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number MAP

O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY O & W Railroad Station at Port Ben
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Ulster

DATE RECEIVED: 11/26/01 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/27/01
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/12/02 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/11/02
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 01001448

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 1.11.02 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in the
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



O+W RAILROAD STATION
WAWARSING, Ulster Co.

1

014 060 NNNB --- 26*07*01 ELITE PHOTO



O+W RAILROAD STATION
WAWARSING, Ulster Co.

2

016 060 NNNB --- 26*07*01 ELITE PHOTO



O + W RR Station
WAWarsing, Ulster Co.
3

004 028 NNNC --- 04.10.01 ELITE PHOTO



O+W RAILROAD Station
WAWARSING, Ulster Co.

4

006 060 NNB 26.07.01 ELITE PHOTO



O-W RR Station
Wawarsing, Ulster Co.
5

003 078 NNJC --- 04"10"01 ELITE PHOTO



Oow RR Station
Wawarsing, Ulster Co.
6

005 078 NNNC ----- 04.10.01 ELITE PHOTO



O+W RAILROAD STATION
WAWARSING, Ulster Co.

7

009 060 NMB ----- 26.07.01 ELITE PHOTO



O & W RR Station
WAWARSING, Ulster Co.

8

001002 MMND ----- 04.10.01 ELITE PHOTO



NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

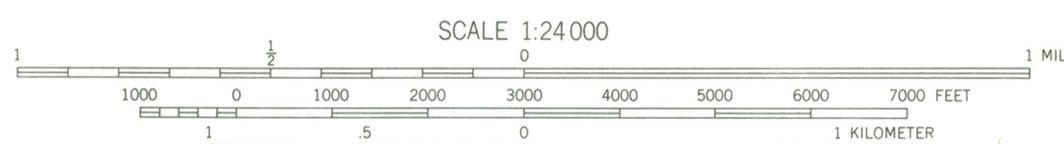
NAPANOCH QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK
7.5 MINUTE SERIES PLANIMETRIC
NE/4 ELLENVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE

415742 DP

O&W Railroad Station 1 & 2
at Port Ben
Wawarsing, Ulster Co.
Napanoch Quad
Zone 18 Scale 1:24,000
1. 554766 4622330
2. 554042 4621825
3. 553813 4621690
4. 553587 4621728
5. 554720 4622338



Prepared and published in 1973 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.
Map base from 1956 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle.
Map revisions made using 1972 aerial photography, construction plans, official records and other sources. Features revised include: highways and other transportation facilities; civil boundaries; recreation sites; hydrography; and buildings. Grey tint indicates intensely developed areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.
Revisions may not comply with National Map Accuracy Standards.
Correspondence concerning this and other maps of the Department of Transportation should be directed to: Map Information Unit, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, New York 12226.



Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum.
1000-meter ticks based on the New York Transverse Mercator grid.
Between 72° and 78° West Longitude, this grid is identical to Zone 18 of the Universal Transverse Mercator grid. Areas east of 72° and west of 78° are direct mathematical extensions of Zone 18.
10,000-foot ticks based on the New York Plane Coordinate grid, East Zone.



BOUNDARIES:
State.....
County.....
Town or City.....
Incorporated Village.....
Federal-Aid Urban Area.....

ROADS:
Touring Route markers:
Interstate.....
U. S.
State.....
State Highway number and limit.....
County road.....
Interchange number.....

Divided highways and streets:
Wide mall.....
Narrow mall or barrier.....

Undivided highways and streets:
4 or more lanes.....
Less than 4 lanes.....
Vehicle track; trail.....

SPECIAL TOPOGRAPHIC EDITION
Contours, at 20-foot intervals, shown unrevised from 1956 U.S. Geological Survey map. Datum is mean sea level.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

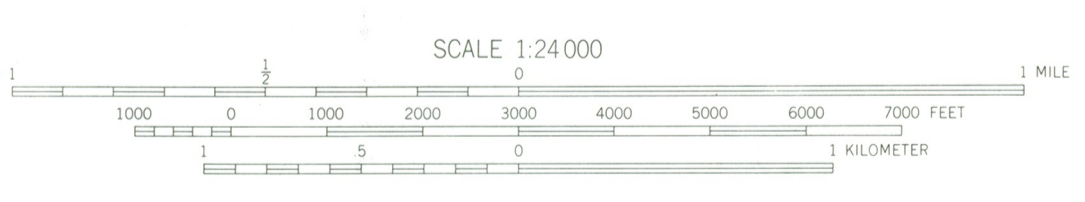


KERHONKSON QUADRANGLE NEW YORK-ULSTER CO. 7.5 MINUTE SERIES PLANIMETRIC

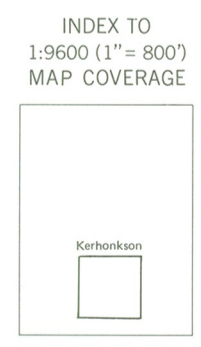


O&W Railroad Station 242 at Port Ben Wawarsing, Ulster Co. Napamoch Quad Zone 15 Scale 1:24,000 1. 554726 462230 5 554720 462235

Prepared and published in 1973 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Map base from 1969 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle. Map revisions made using 1972 aerial photography, construction plans, official records and other sources. Features revised include: highways and other transportation facilities; civil boundaries; recreation sites; hydrography; and buildings. Grey tint indicates intensely developed areas in which only landmark buildings are shown. Revisions may not comply with National Map Accuracy Standards. Correspondence concerning this and other maps of the Department of Transportation should be directed to: Map Information Unit, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, New York 12226.



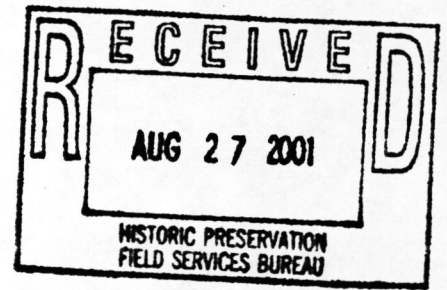
SCALE 1:24,000 Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum. 1000-meter ticks based on the New York Transverse Mercator grid. Between 72° and 78° West Longitude, this grid is identical to Zone 18 of the Universal Transverse Mercator grid. Areas east of 72° and west of 78° are direct mathematical extensions of Zone 18. 10,000-foot ticks based on the New York Plane Coordinate grid, East Zone.



BOUNDARIES: State, County, Town or City, Incorporated Village, Federal-Aid Urban Area. ROADS: Touring Route markers, Interstate, U.S., State, State Highway number and limit, County road, Interchange number, Divided highways and streets, Wide mall, Narrow mall or barrier, Undivided highways and streets, 4 or more lanes, Less than 4 lanes, Vehicle track; trail.



MR. GUSTAVE K DIENER
PO BOX 106
WAWARSING, NY 12489



August 25/2001

N.Y.St. Office of Parks,
Recreation & Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island
P.O. Box 139
Waterford, N.Y. 12188-0139

Attn.: Miss Ruth L. Pierpont
Mr. John Bonafide

Dear Mr. Bonafide,

Thank you for your correspondence (Miss Pierpont) of
8/7/01.

I would be pleased if the R.R. Station would be listed
as a Historic Landmark.

For 29 years I tried to protect and preserve the Station
from the local vandals and decay - I never received any
support or help from the Town, except being harassed.

To me the Station is a place to be cherished and restored -
as a reminder of days past - displaying old bills of lading,
postage stamps and coins used during that period of time.

It was a pleasure meeting you a few weeks back.

I am looking forward to hear from you.

Sincerely,

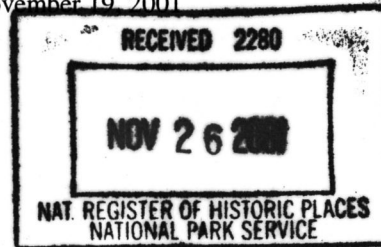
Gustave K Diener



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

November 19, 2001



Ms. Alexis Abernathy
National Register of Historic Places
United States Department of the Interior
Suite 400
800 North Capitol St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20002

Re: Transmittal of National Register
Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to transmit fifteen new National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register as follows:

- ✓ C. Van Der Zee House, Coeymans Hollow, Albany Co., NY
- ✓ Wheeler, William E., House, Portville, Cattaraugus Co., NY
- ✓ Pfeiffer-Wheeler American Chestnut Cabin, Portville, Cattaraugus Co., NY
- ✓ St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Livingston, Columbia Co., NY
- ✓ Bethlehem Grange No. 137, Selkirk, Albany Co., NY
- ✓ Congregation Tifereth Israel, Brooklyn, Kings Co., NY
- ✓ Church of St. Joseph of Arimathea, Greenburgh, Westchester Co., NY
- ✓ Old Broadway Synagogue, 15 Old Broadway, New York, New York Co., NY
- ✓ Lisanti Chapel, Bronx, Bronx Co., NY
- ✓ O&W Railroad Station at Port Ben, Wawarsing, Ulster Co., NY
- ✓ Coykendall Lodge, Hardenbergh, Ulster Co., NY
- ✓ Cassell Hall, Schoharie, Schoharie Co., NY
- ✓ Prospect Cemetery, Jamaica, Queens Co., NY
- ✓ Trinity Chapel, Far Rockaway, Queens Co., NY
- ✓ Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, Kings Co., NY

Thank you for your assistance in processing these nominations. Please feel free to call on me or the individual staff members associated with these proposals if any questions arise. I may be reached at 518-237-8643 ext. 3258.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Peckham
National Register
Program Coordinator

enclosures