NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot
other name/site number: __________________________________________________________

2. Location

street & number: Main St., Lost Creek Rd., County Route 48
city/town: Lost Creek
state: West Virginia
code: WV
county: Harrison
code: 033
zip code: 26385

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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.)

Susan M. Pierce, Deputy SHPO Date

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
State or 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 this property is: | Signature of Keeper | Date of Action |
--- | --- | --- |
____ 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): ____________________________________________________________________

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: | Category of Property: |
--- | --- |
(Check as many boxes as apply) | (Check only one box) |
X private | X building(s) |
____ public-local | ____ district |
____ public-State | ____ site |
____ public-Federal | ____ structure |

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing |
--- | --- |
1 buildings | |
1 sites | |
1 structures | |
1 objects | |
1 TOTAL | |

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register ____0
Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot  Harrison, West Virginia
Name of Property                         County and State

6. Function or Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Functions</th>
<th>Current Functions</th>
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<td>Transportation: Rail-related</td>
<td>Social: Meeting</td>
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7. Description

<table>
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<th>Materials</th>
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<tr>
<td>Other: Folk Victorian</td>
<td>Foundation: Stone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Walls: wood</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Roof: Asphalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other: Brick</td>
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</table>

Narrative Description
(See continuation sheets)

8. Statement of Significance

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

X  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.
Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot  Harrison, West Virginia
Name of Property                  County and State

====================================================================
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.

Areas of Significance
Transportation

Period of Significance
1892-1955

Significant Dates
1923

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Baltimore and Ohio Railroad

Narrative Statement of Significance
(See continuation sheets)
Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot  Harrison, West Virginia
Name of Property  County and State

=====================================================================
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
X  Other

Name of Repository:  _Clarksburg/Harrison County Library

=====================================================================
10. Geographical Data
=====================================================================

Acreage of Property: 0.117 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Quad Map Name:  __Mt. Clare_______________________

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<th>Northing</th>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
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</table>

_____ see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(See continuation sheet.)
Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot  Harrison, West Virginia
Name of Property  County and State

=====================================================================

11. Form Prepared By
=====================================================================

Name/Title: _Becky Nesbitt and Jeff Wyne
Organization: Harrison County Landmarks Commission  Date: 9/15/04
Street & Number: 301 W. Main St.  Telephone: 304-624-8690
City or Town: _Clarksburg  State: _WV  ZIP: 26301

=====================================================================

Property Owner
=====================================================================

Name: Lost Creek Lions Club C/O Connie Poe
Street & Number: _PO Box 353  Telephone:304-884-7391
City or Town: Lost Creek  State: WV  Zip: 26385
Introduction
The Lost Creek Depot is located in the small rural community of Lost Creek in the southwestern corner of Harrison County WV, near the intersection of WVA Route 25 and Lost Creek Road (WVA Route 48). The Lost Creek Depot is bounded on the east by Lost Creek Road (WVA Route 48), on the south by another road, the west by and alley between the Depot and the Village Pharmacy and the north by the rail bed. As late as 1996, the rails were still in place. Across the road on the east side is the BP gas station. On the south side is the Harrison County Bank. On the west side is the Village Pharmacy. Across the rail bed on the north side is Peggy Sue’s Main Attraction—a hair salon. The building is located approximately 1 ½ blocks southeast of the Daniel Bassel house and is on about 0.117 acres of flat ground. Historically, the stockyards were located approximately two blocks to the west of the depot.

Description
The depot building is a 44’ by 18’6” rectangular structure. The exterior is board and batten on three sides, excluding the south side. The south side consists of vertical siding, with no battens. The walls are painted barn red with dark green trim. The roof is rolled roofing over the original metal. The roof overhangs the building on three sides and is supported by decorative brackets. There is very little overhang on the south side. The original freight platform has been replaced, but it will be rebuilt to its original height in a planned restoration effort. The bag hanger on the north side is original.

The interior waiting room is on the east end of the building and will be restored to its original configuration. The four gaslights that were present here originally have been replaced by electric globe lights, but the restoration plan calls for the return of gaslights. The original wrought iron ticket cage and counter will also be reinstalled. The walls of the waiting room are painted white with green trim and are composed of vertical boards above the chair rail, with diagonal boards below. There is one 6 over 6 double hung window on the south side of the waiting room, two 6 over 6 double hung windows on the east side. The window nook on the north side, which would have been behind the ticket desk, consists of two adjacent 4 over 4 double hung windows flanked at right angles by two 2 over 2 double hung windows. This nook is accented by a decorative carved board against the ceiling. The window openings are original, but the old glass has been replaced. The ceiling of the waiting room has a centered decorative finial located at the center of two crossed false beams. The north facing front door has a three-pane transom. The floor appears to have been replaced.

The freight room is located on the west end of the depot. It has two sliding freight doors, one on the north side, one on the south. Each has a six-pane transom. The floor appears to be original. The central fireplace between the two rooms has been covered over, but the brick chimney is exposed in the freight room. The restroom was added by partitioning off the northeast corner of the freight room. The room has a red-painted floor and modern fixtures. Its door is on the exterior north side.

Currently, the building is owned by the Lost Creek Lions Club and is used as the site for their fundraising events.
Statement of Significance

The Lost Creek Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Depot is significant under Criterion A for transportation. In 1915 it was the largest shipping point for cattle on the entire B&O System in West Virginia. By 1923 it was the largest cattle shipping point east of the Mississippi River. The period of significance begins with the depot’s construction in 1892, and ends in 1955. This period encompasses the years that the depot served passengers and freight as a local component of the B&O system. 1923 has been selected as a significant date, as the depot reached its peak as a local shipping point in that year.

This rail line is one of the oldest in Harrison County. In 1878 the B&O was completed from Clarksburg, through Lost Creek and Weston, and on to Flatwoods, West Virginia, where there was a junction. The Lost Creek Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Depot was built in 1892 along the main line which ran through Lost Creek. The main line was flanked at Lost Creek with two sidings that served local businesses and the stock yards.

During the first half of the nineteenth century the more enterprising citizens of the area used their profits from the sale of cattle to buy and consolidate acreage for grazing land. Great blocks of territory were known as the Goff lands, Maxwell farms, Haymond holdings, Reynolds farms, Lucas acres, Gore land, Lowndes tracts, etc. after the families that consolidated them. The local cattle farmers built imposing houses in the communities of Harrison County and became men of influence and wealth.

Agricultural prosperity led in 1915 to the organization of a Lost Creek Farmer’s Club, which evolved into the County Farm Bureau. Several leading families, including the Maxwells, Smiths, Youngs, and Posts, built sturdy and attractive houses in Lost Creek. Doctors, hotel operators, feed stores, blacksmith shops, a corner drugstore and a bank located along the tracks and near the Depot. Despite the agriculture and transportation fueled boom, the town did not incorporate until 1946.

In the single season of 1922, Charles Post received orders for 35,000 head of cattle from Swift and Company. Post purchased cattle from every point in West Virginia and brought them to Lost Creek to be shipped. Cattle shipment from Lost Creek peaked in 1923 with 275 cars needed to carry 4,000 to 5,000 cattle sold for an annual revenue of between $700,000 and $750,000. As an odd side note, in the late 1920s, there was a terrible drought in Texas and Oklahoma. Thousands of cattle died there from thirst and lack of food. To help ease this problem, several cattle carloads of these western cattle were shipped to the farmers at Lost Creek where they could be fattened up. These were long horn cattle, totally unlike the cattle normally raised in the area. To commemorate the event the Lost Creek High School named their sports teams the Longhorns.

Just before the 1930s, West Virginia was one of the largest beef cattle producing states in the east and Lost Creek was the largest cattle shipping point in Harrison County. In the late summer or early autumn farmers would drive their herds of cattle or sheep right down through the main part of town and to the cattle loading pens where each farmer would ship 200 to 300 animals at a time.

The B&O also served industrial concerns in the Lost Creek area. The nearby glass industry of Weston and Clarksburg used the line, and the warehousing business in Clarksburg all contributed to the steady pace of rail traffic through Lost Creek up to the middle of the 20th century. Even as late as 1965, after the end of passenger traffic on the line, it was observed that the local coal mines were funneling a constant stream of coal on to the B&O and through Lost Creek.

Summary

The Lost Creek Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Depot is significant for its role as a major shipping point in West Virginia for cattle from 1892 to the 1930s and its later role in the development of the glass and coal mining industries in Harrison County. As a result, the depot is recognized as significant under Criterion A for transportation between the years 1892 and 1955.
Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot Harrison, West Virginia
Name of Property County/State
Section number 9 Page 3

Bibliography

Harrison County, ’76, Clarksburg-Harrison Bicentennial Commission, Ron Boram, Editor-in Chief, Martin Printing, 1976

History of Harrison County, West Virginia by Dorothy U. Davis, McClain Printing, 1972

“My Early Days in Lost Creek,” by Lud Freeman, Goldenseal Magazine, Fall 2002

Reflections of Lost Creek: A Community Mirror, by Willa Curry, 1937
Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot  Harrison, West Virginia
Name of Property  County/State

Section number  10
Page  4

Verbal Boundary Description
Beginning at a 5/8 inch rebar (set) in the right of way of the intersection of the CSX Transportation’s railroad right of way (20.0 feet southeast from the center line), and West Virginia County Route 48 (15.0 feet southwest from the center line) and running with the southwestern right of way of said Harrison county Route 48, 54 27’ 10” E 63.45 feet to a concrete nail (set) in the right of way of said Route 48, a corner to property of the Harrison county Bank; thence leaving said Route 48 and with a line of said Bank S 56 36’ 96.74, more or less, feet to a point; N 37 54’ W 2.40 feet to a point; thence N 37 54’ W 57.50 feet, more or less to the right of way of said railroad (20 feet from the centerline); thence with said railroad right of way N 56 36’ E 78.62, feet more or less, to the point of beginning, containing 0.117 acres.

Boundary Justification
This is the property historically associated with the lost Creek Depot, as recorded in Deed Book 1358, page 475, November 12, 2003.
Name of Property: Lost Creek Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Depot
Address: Main St., Lost Creek Road and County Route 48
Town: Lost Creek
County: Harrison County

Photographer: Jeff Wyne
Date: October 5, 2004

Negatives: Landmarks Commission, Harrison County Courthouse, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301

Photo 1 of 22: B&O Depot historical marker NE side of Depot, camera looking North
Photo 2 of 22: Mail bag pole North façade of Depot, camera looking South
Photo 3 of 22: NE side of Lost Creek Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Depot, camera looking SW to Village Pharmacy in rear of Depot
Photo 4 of 22: East side of Depot, camera looking SW
Photo 5 of 22: North façade close up of entrance to waiting area of Depot with ticket window to right of doorway, camera looking South
Photo 6 of 22: North façade platform and freight area, camera looking East
Photo 7 of 22: Southern elevation, rear side, of Depot camera looking NW
Photo 8 of 22: South and West side of Depot, camera looking NE
Photo 9 of 22: SE corner of interior waiting room, camera looking from SW to SE
Photo 10 of 22: Early circuit breaker box on West wall of waiting area, camera facing West
Photo 11 of 22: Window alcove NW corner of passenger waiting room, camera looking NW
Photo 12 of 22: Arch over window alcove on NW corner of waiting room, camera looking NW
Photo 13 of 22: Ceiling of waiting room to South corner showing replacement lights, camera looking to South
Photo 14 of 22: NE corner of freight room and freight room door on NE side, camera looking North East
Photo 15 of 22: SE corner of freight room, camera looking East
Photo 16 of 22: South interior of freight room, camera looking South
Photo 17 of 22: North façade entrance and ticket window, camera facing SW
Photo 18 of 22: Early Board of Health sign on North façade by front door, camera looking SE
Photo 19 of 22: North façade of Depot showing ticket booth, camera looking East
Photo 20 of 22: Street scene of Peggy Sue’s Main Attraction, North side of Depot, camera looking toward I-79 in background to the NW
**Lost Creek Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot**  
**Harrison, West Virginia**

**Name of Property**  
**County/State**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Photo 21 of 22 Village Pharmacy, formerly Freeman Brother’s Company Hardware Store, to the West side of the Depot, camera looking SW toward site of former cattle pens

Photo 22 of 22 BP Gas station and convenience store to the East of the Depot, camera looking from SE corner of Depot
LOST CREEK
Baltimore + Ohio Railroad Depot
Lost Creek Harrison County, West Virginia
UTM: 17/556024/4334561
EXHIBIT A-1
PLAT OF SURVEY
FOR
THE HARRISON COUNTY BANK
B&O DEPOT

Built 1892, following the completion of railroad in 1887. Lost Creek grew to become largest shipping point for cattle in West Virginia in 1915 and on entire B&O system, east of Mississippi in 1923.
SPITTING
ON STATIONS, PLATFORMS AND APPROACHES
BEING A MISDEMEANOR IS PUNISHABLE BY
$500 FINE, A YEAR IN PRISON, OR BOTH.

SANITARY CODE SEC. 194
PELICAN CODE SEC. 15

BY ORDER
BOARD OF HEALTH