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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Kirkwood Missouri Pacific Depot

and/or common

2. Location

street & number West Argonne Drive at Kirkwood Road

not for publication

city, town Kirkwood St. Louis
X vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Missouri code 29 county St. Louis code 189

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Missouri Pacific Railroad

street & number 210 North 13th Street

city, town St. Louis vicinity of state Missouri

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds
St. Louis County Government Center
street & number 7900 Forsyth Blvd.

city, town Clayton state Missouri 63105

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historical Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Program,
P. O. Box 176
city, town Jefferson City state Missouri

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Kirkwood Missouri Pacific Depot is a one-and-one-half story edifice of random ashlar construction with a second-story circular tower, a picturesque roofline, and wide, flared overhanging eaves. In the center of the north (primary) facade is a portecochere with a gabled hip roof supported by square stone pillars. On the south side, facing the railroad tracks, a semicircular bay window permits an unobstructed view of the tracks in both directions. The bay window projects through the roof to form the tower, or dormer. This frame dormer is sided with shingles and has a flared conical roof capped with an ornamental finial.

In style, the building eloquently expresses the picturesque eclecticism defined by Carroll Meeks in his important study entitled The Railroad Station (New Haven, 1956). Built in 1893, the Kirkwood Missouri Pacific Depot possesses qualities common to several popular styles of the last third of the nineteenth century. Elements of the Queen Anne style include the high multiple roofs and the round tower, or turret. From the popular Richardsonian Romanesque come the round arch surrounding the north door and the heavy stone masonry construction. In many ways, however, the building more accurately reflects the shingle style, with its use of shingles on the second-story dormer, ground-story use of stone, and multiple intersecting roofs. There is also a classical aspect in the symmetrical placement of windows and doors.

The original plans and drawings for the building, still in the possession of the railroad company, contain no architect's signature, possibly indicating that the design was formulated by the company's own staff. Contractor Douglas Donovan constructed the building in 1893. He was forced to sink caissons deep into the soft, swampy ground in order to anchor the structure.

The original drawings indicate that the steep roof was covered with decorative metal shingles and capped with ornamental metal ridge tile. The lower end where the curved roof projected out to provide deep overhanging eaves was covered with a "tin roof". On the south side along the tracks, the eaves extended to Kirkwood Road (then known as Webster Avenue) forming a wide canopy for the comfort of the passengers.

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KIRKWOOD MISSOURI PACIFIC DEPOT

Continuation sheet

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In 1941 the building was remodeled extensively. However, irate citizens managed to thwart plans to drastically modernize the station in order to "conform with contemporary colonial architecture."¹ Plans announced by A. R. Becker, architect for the railroad company, called for removal of the tower and roof projections and sheathing the exterior walls with "asbestos cement clapboards."² These plans never materialized. In the 1941 alterations, the extended canopy on the east side was removed, the carriage porche (north facade) was widened to accommodate modern vehicles, two chimneys were removed, and central heating was installed. The present asbestos shingle roof must also have been installed at that time.

Footnotes

1. Kirkwood Messenger, May 28, 1941.
2. Ibid.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Historic Preservation

Specific dates 1893, 1941 **Builder/Architect** Douglas Donovan, Builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Kirkwood Missouri Pacific Depot is significant under Criteria A and C, to wit: it is associated with important changes in American society resulting from the expansion of railroads and the development of suburban bedroom communities in the late nineteenth century; it is an outstanding example of picturesque eclecticism in the design of a small-scale public building in the final decade of the nineteenth century. Alterations made in 1941 are exceptionally significant in that the quality and extent of the alterations were affected by the will of local citizens interested in preserving the historical character of a local landmark.

Architecture

The Kirkwood Depot dates from the early 1890's, a period of great achievements in the design and construction of railroad terminals, including Theodore Link's monumental Union Station in St. Louis, just fifteen miles away. With this enormous terminal, the Kirkwood Depot shares some elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. In contrast with Union Station, however, the depot in Kirkwood is modest, simple, and restrained. Less exuberant and extravagant than the grand station in St. Louis, the Kirkwood Depot is nevertheless a distinguished example of the picturesque public buildings of the period.

Transportation

Kirkwood exists because of the railroad. One of St. Louis County's first planned suburbs, the town was named for James Pugh Kirkwood, engineer and surveyor for the Pacific Railroad. The first station on the site of the present depot was erected in 1853, the year in which the first locomotive pulled into Collins Depot, the stagecoach stop that was soon renamed Kirkwood. The present depot stands as a symbol of the community's origins as a residential haven for businessmen who rode the train to their offices in St. Louis. Kirkwood remains a regular stop for Amtrak and one of the few American communities to have enjoyed uninterrupted passenger service since 1853.

Historic Preservation

The depot stands in its present form because of the timely intervention of local citizens who prevented a drastic alteration and "modernization" of the building in 1941.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached Continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre.

Quadrangle name Kirkwood, Mo.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	7	2	5	7	8	0	4	2	7	3	3	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification From the northern most point of the southwest corner of the intersection of Argonne Drive and Kirkwood Road move directly west 352 feet , then 200 feet south, then 352 feet east, then 200 feet north to the point of origin. See Figure #I.

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 Gerhardt Kramer, FAIA

organization Kramer and Harms, Architects

date December, 1984

street & number 2322 S. Brentwood Blvd.

telephone 314/962-4700

city or town St. Louis

state Missouri 63144

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



John Karel, Director & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
title Division of Parks & Historic Preservation

date

5/14/85

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Item 9

Atlas of St. Louis County 1893.

Atlas of the City and County of St. Louis, Julius Pitzman, 1878.

Dahl, June Wilkinson. A History of Kirkwood, Missouri, 1851-1965.
Kirkwood Historical Society, 1965.

Hereford. Robert A. "Kirkwood", in St Louis Star-Times, Feb. 20,
1946.

Historic Buildings in St. Louis County, 1983, p.34.

Historic Railroad Stations, A Selected Inventory Prepared by the
National Register of Historic Places Office of Archeology and
Historic Preservation. National Park Service, U. S. Dept. of the
Interior, 1974.

Kirkwood Historical Review, Vol. 20 No. 4 (December 1981).

Kirkwood Messenger, May 28, 1941.

Meeks, Carroll. The Railroad Station. New Haven: Yale University
Press, 1956.

Missouri Pacific Lines. The Empire that Missouri Pacific Serves!
St. Louis: Von Hoffmann Press, Inc., n.d.

100 Historic Buildings of St. Louis County, 1970, p. 31.

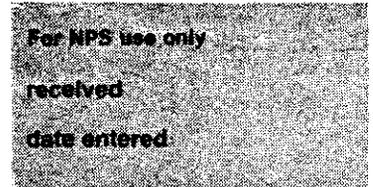
Plat Book of St. Louis County, 1909.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. A Guide to the
Styles. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1969.

Original plans and drawings, 1893, 1941.

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KIRKWOOD MISSOURI PACIFIC DEPOT

Continuation sheet

Item number 11

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Name/title Bonnie Wright, Cultural Resource Preservationist I

Organization Mo. Dept. of Natural Resources Date January 8, 1985

Div. of Parks & Historic Preservation

Street & number 1915 Southridge Drive Telephone 314/751-4096

City or town Jefferson City State Missouri 65102

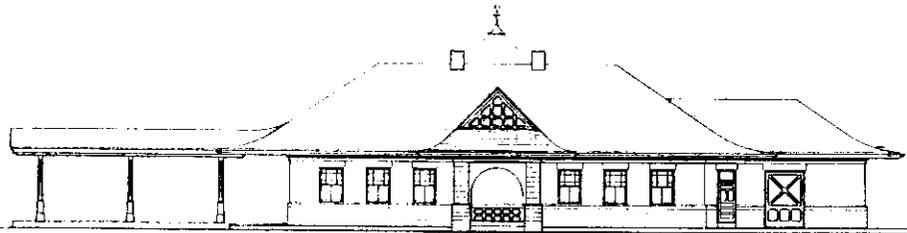
Name/title James M. Denny, Section Chief and State Contact Person

Organization Mo. Dept. of Natural Resources Date January 8, 1985

Div. of Parks & Historic Pr-servation

Street & number 1915 Southridge Drive Telephone 314/751-4096

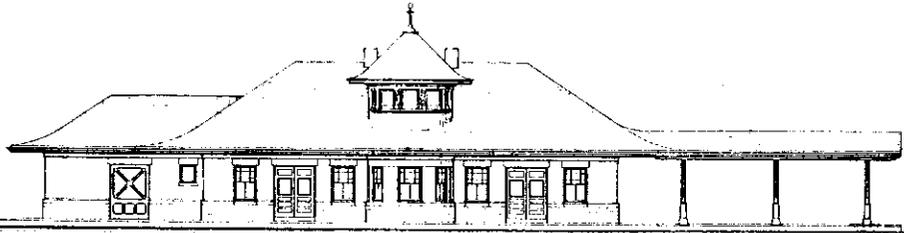
City or town Jefferson City State Missouri 65102



ELEVATION MAIN STR.



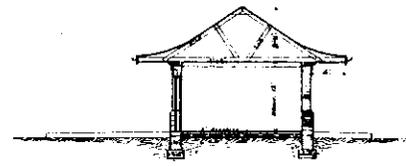
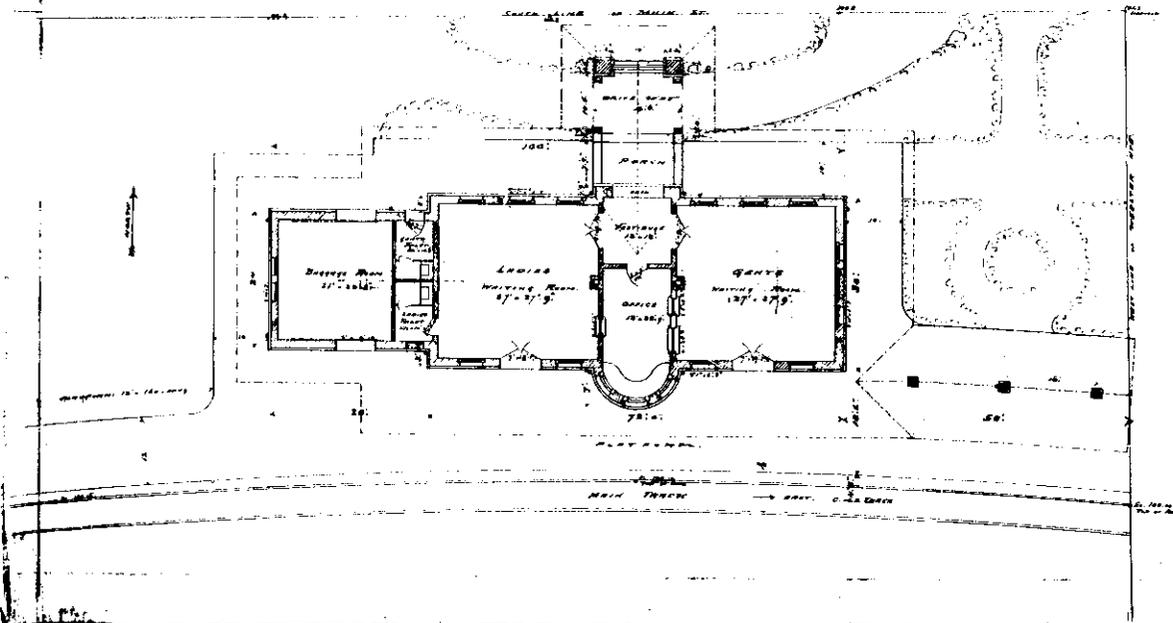
WEST END ELEVATION.



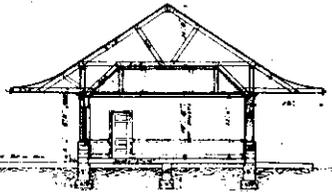
ELEVATION FACING TRACKS.



EAST END ELEVATION.
FACING WHEELER ST.



SECTION THROUGH BAGGAGE ROOM.



SECTION THROUGH WAITING ROOM.

PROPOSED PASSENGER DEPOT.

KIRKWOOD, MO.

SCALE: 1" = 10'

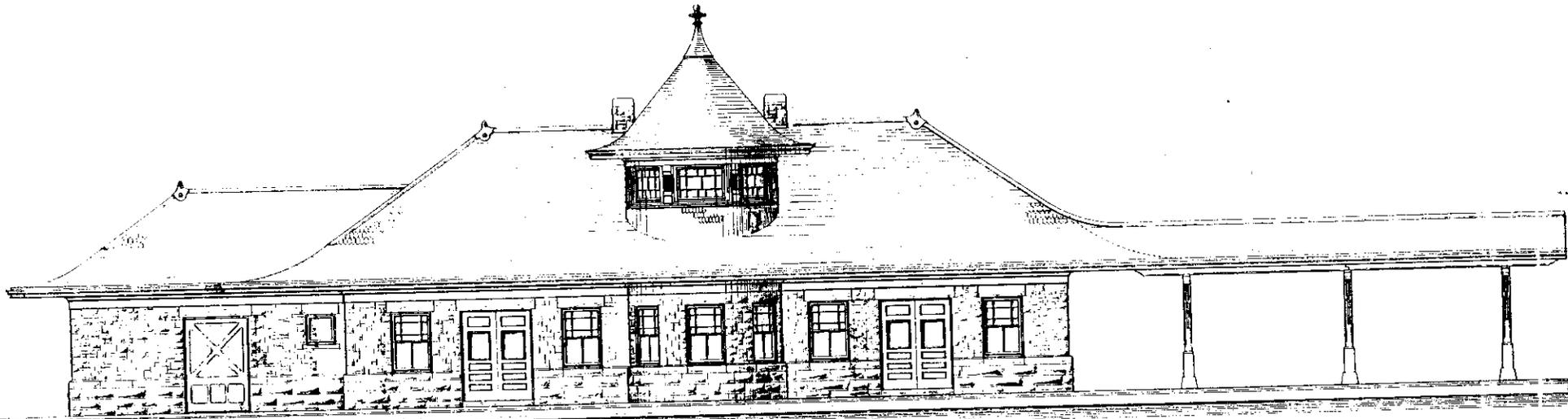
P-356
DRAWING NO. 4928

P 356

PROPOSED-PASSENGER DEPOT,

KIRKWOOD, Mo.

Jan 24/01



ELEVATION FACING TRACKS

Des. 10/1/01

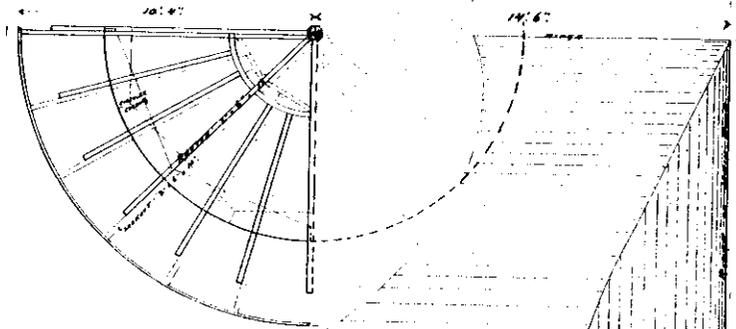
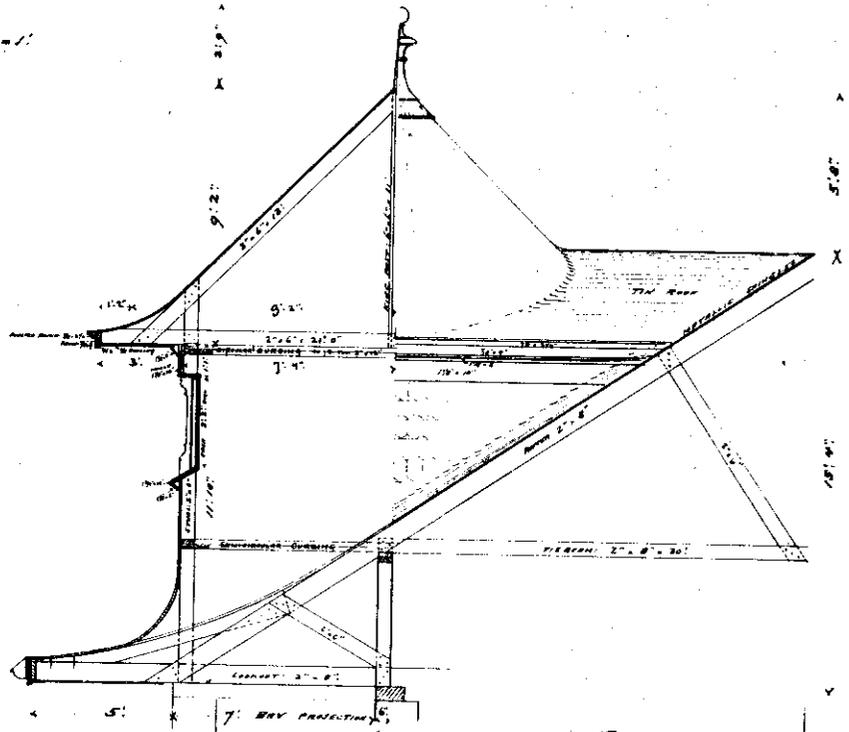
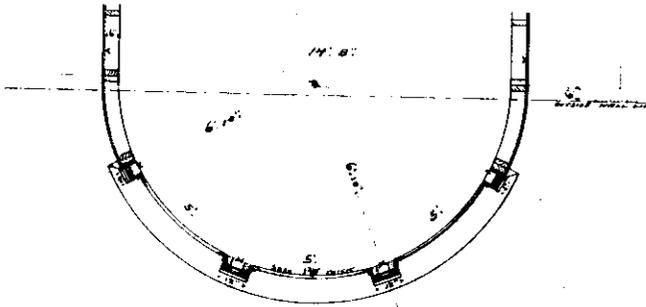
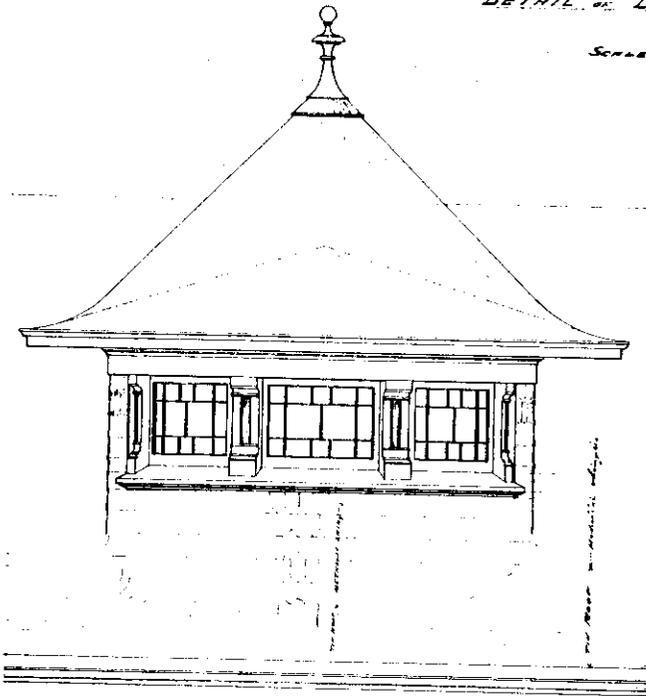


DEPOT KIRKWOOD.

DETAIL OF DÖRMER OVER BAY

P. 364-98.

SCALE: 1/2"=1'



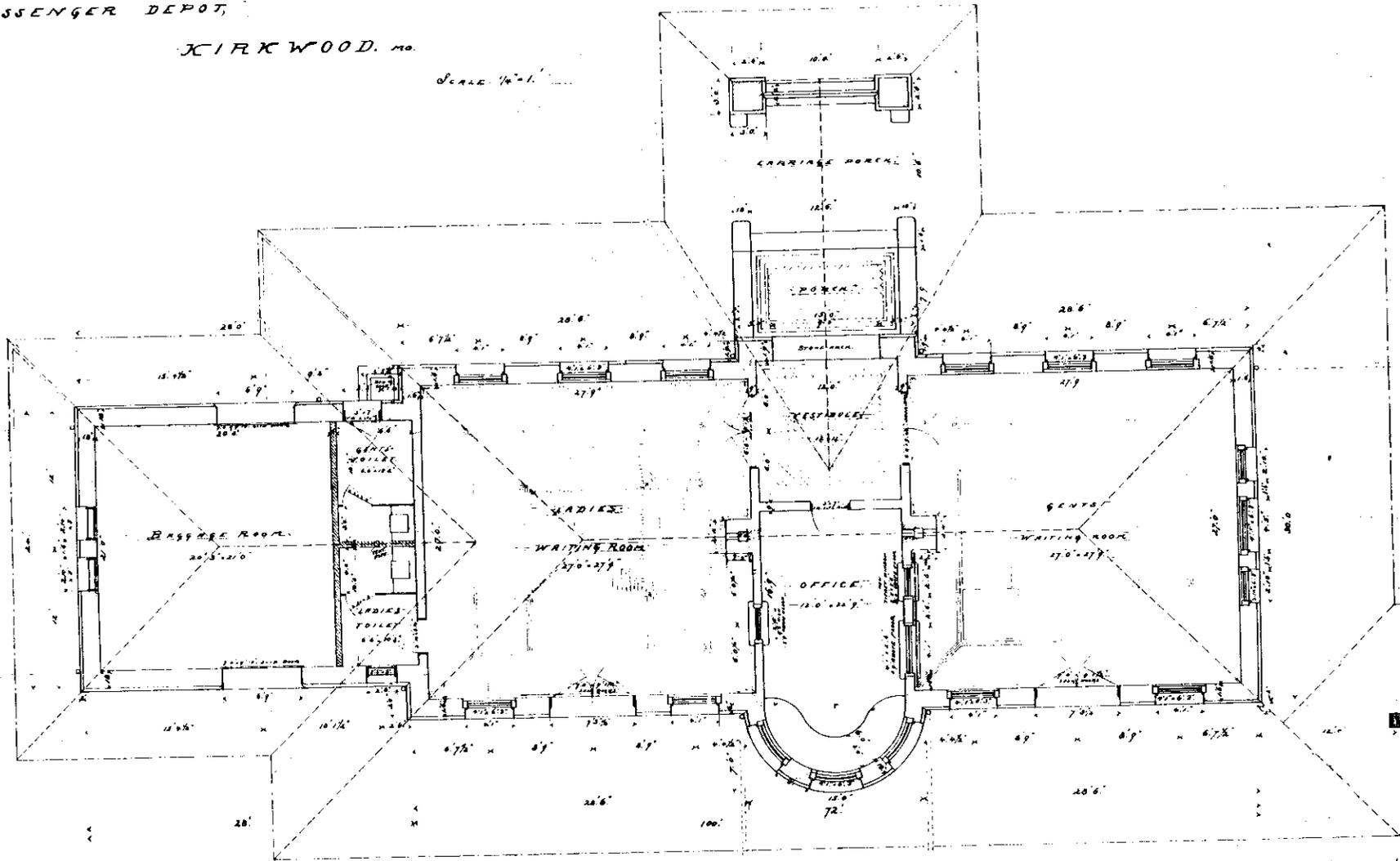
P-364
Drawing No. 6778

P 364

PASSENGER DEPOT,

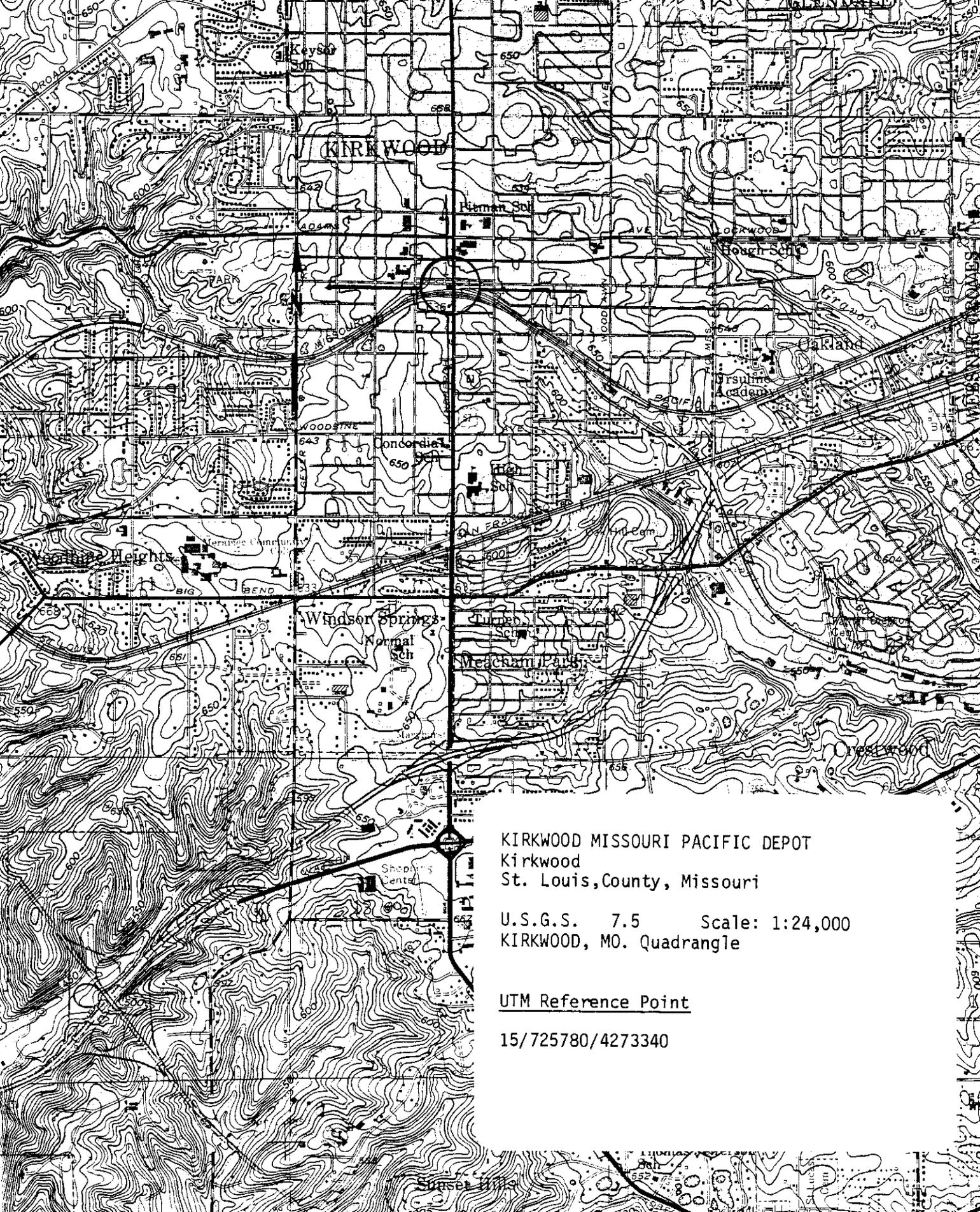
KIRKWOOD, MO.

Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"



P 360
D. W. H. 1910

P 360



KIRKWOOD MISSOURI PACIFIC DEPOT
Kirkwood
St. Louis, County, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5 Scale: 1:24,000
KIRKWOOD, MO. Quadrangle

UTM Reference Point

15/725780/4273340

Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Kirkwood Missouri Pacific Depot**

City or Vicinity: **Kirkwood**

County: **St. Louis County** State: **MO**

Photographer: **David Radcliffe**

Date

Photographed: **Nov. 1984**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 3. View of N façade; looking S.
- 2 of 3. View looking N.
- 3 of 3. View looking W.





