



The Herndon Depot dates from about 1861 when the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad obtained land for it. This railroad line was formed in the 1850s. It eventually was electrified and operated well into the twentieth century as the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad. The path of the Washington and Old Dominion is now a regional park. Herndon was once one of the largest towns in Fairfax County, and was the center of a profitable dairy area. In addition to the farmers, the railroad had a great importance to the commuter. The Washington and Old Dominion served a group which commuted into Washington, D.C., daily. The trip took about an hour each way. After the railroad closed, the building was used as an office for the Director of Public Works and his staff, as the Herndon Town Hall and as the headquarters for an historical society.

Herndon depot is an excellent example of the simple railroad station whose presence was at the same time the focal point and the point of departure for the small rural communities of the 19th and 20th centuries.



Herndon Depot

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