



Canadian National Railways

Rideau Area

Belleville, Ontario
30 December 1966

Mrs. Jack English
R.R. #1
Shannonville, Ontario

Dear Mrs. English:

Following our telephone conversation, I am transmitting you briefly some of the background of stations on the former Deseronto Subdivision in the Township of Tyendinaga.

This subdivision was part of the Canadian Northern Railway (prior to amalgamation in 1924 when it became the property of Canadian National Railways). The actual stations between Napanee and Belleville, east to west, were: Napanee, Deseronto, Mohawk, Thurlow and Belleville South. I understand there was a water tank sometimes referred to as Shannonville, between stations Mohawk and Thurlow. The Shannonville station which is still in existence is located on the Grand Trunk Railway.

The stations listed above are those which were manned by an Agent and hence were agencies. An agency is a point at which business is transacted and a balance sheet struck on the operations at that point. Most such agencies are located in stations along the track and trains are scheduled to and from these points. In addition, these agencies are also published in the freight and passenger tariffs for the purpose of conducting business to and from these points. However, in some larger cities an agency might be located "off line" and need not necessarily be involved in scheduling trains since they are not located on the main line.

Apart from agencies mentioned above there are locations where a station building may exist. These are commonly known as Flag Stations. Freight traffic and passengers may be handled to and from such flag stations and the accounting performed normally by the nearest agent. You mentioned that some people entrained and detrained at a point somewhere between Mohawk and Thurlow; this could very well be on the basis of a flag station.