

Running Light



This was the original station at Hollsopple, Pennsylvania, about 1900. The view looks north. (Hollsopple Historical Building Committee)

Running Light is designed to provide a forum for amplifications of articles, corrections, updates and late news briefs. Mail them to Harry Meem, or e-mail them to Barry Rubin or Harry. We also steal from the Yahoo! chat room.

In Hollsopple, Pennsylvania, the **Hollsopple Historical Building Committee** has been working for 10 years to restore the former B&O station, built in 1916 and donated to the community by Chessie System in 1976

(By the way, we are indeed dealing here with two ways of spelling the location's name. The family that settled the area spelled their name Holsopple or, perhaps, Holzapple; a scion added an L to his name, and the Post Office named the town after him, so history has it.)

This was originally the Somerset & Mineral Point Railroad, which went broke in 1879 and was reorganized by the B & O as the Somerset and Cambria Railroad. The line from Somerset to Johnstown was completed in January 1881.

The first station was built in 1890. A fire in July 1915 destroyed it. Passenger service ended in the 1930s and the B&O closed the station in the early 1970s.

The donated station was moved about 20 feet back from the track and put on a concrete block foundation.



Hollsopple's second station, built after the first one burned in 1915, was jacked up and moved back from the tracks in 1980.

So far the Building Committee has replaced the slate roof with a metal one after repairing roof boards, replaced soffits and fascias, and painted the exterior to keep it from deteriorating too badly in the weather.

Yet to come are a replacement bay window, new transom windows above the doors, new doors as well, and a host of

other projects aimed at creating a site to display the town's historical memorabilia.

All of the committee's resources come from fund-raising events and donations. Donations are accepted through: Holsopple Historical Building Committee, P.O. Box 314, Hollsopple, PA 15935.

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