



June 2, 2016

In reply, please refer to:
2016-HAM-34612

LaWada Poarch
Abandonments Coordinator
Norfolk Southern Corporation
3 Commercial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

RE: Proposed Abandonment between Milepost CT 3.7 and Milepost CT 7.8, Hamilton County, Ohio

Dear Ms. Poarch:

This letter is in response to correspondence received on March 18, 2016 and additional information received on May 11, 2016 and May 27, 2016. Our comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

Norfolk Southern proposes to abandon approximately 4.10 miles of rail line between Mileposts CT 3.7 and CT 7.8 in Hamilton County, Ohio in order to sell the property to the City of Cincinnati for public use. Following abandonment, the line's rail and related track material will be salvaged. The contour of the existing roadbed will remain as is, and existing drainage systems will remain intact. No ballast will be removed, and no soil disturbance will occur.

A portion of the project at Clare Rail Road Yards is surrounded by an archaeological site (HA0837), the Village of Mariemont National Historic Landmark and Historic District (Ref. 79001862), and the Mariemont Embankment and Village Site (Ref. 74001517).

We have reviewed the information submitted, including proposed work descriptions, photographs, and maps. You have provided additional information stating that no removal of track or structures will take place at Clare Yard as part of the proposed abandonment. Therefore, it is our opinion that the proposed work will not have an adverse effect on historic properties. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless there is a change in the project.

If you have any questions about this letter or our review of this project, please contact me at jwilliams@ohiohistory.org or (614) 298-2000. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joy Williams".

Joy Williams, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review

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