

Former Shelburne railway station listed for sale as \$1.15 million country home

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A former railway station that helped connect Shelburne to the wider region has found a second life in the countryside of Mono Township, where its century-old features remain surrounded by more than 10 acres of wooded property.

The 1914 Canadian Pacific Railway station, located at 595343 Blind Line, is now a four-bedroom, two-bathroom country home listed for \$1.15 million by HGTV personality David Visentin and his sister Bonnie Visentin.

The building once served passengers and freight along the Orangeville-to-Owen Sound railway line, offering a connection between communities before the last passenger train ran on Oct. 30, 1970.

"Over my 35-plus years of working in Dufferin County, I've walked through countless properties, and I've never listed one that used to sell train tickets," said Visentin, who co-hosts Love it or List it. "Generations of Shelburne families said hello and goodbye from this building's platform, and now this unique building sits on more than 10 acres of beautiful countryside in Mono. Whoever buys it is going to love it."

The station was moved from Shelburne in the early 1970s and placed on a new foundation on the Mono property, where it was converted into a residence.

Its railway past remains visible throughout the home. The former waiting room now serves as a dining room, while the ticket booth has been converted into a kitchen. Original doors, the cashier's drawer, a bay window from the station operator's area and a waiting-room bench are among the features that remain.

The building's high ceilings and 10-foot windows also reflect its original purpose, when passengers gathered inside while waiting for trains.

Visentin said the building could also serve a purpose beyond its current residential use, with its distinctive layout offering possibilities for a studio, workshop or guest house. He suggested a future owner could adapt the space while preserving its historic character, rather than stripping away the features that make it unique.

"I think I would probably not have a second floor up there," he said. "I probably would do something different with it, but still trying to keep the character of it. This building would make an incredible art studio or workshop with a bit of work put into transforming it."

The property's landscape has also changed considerably since the station arrived. Visentin said the land was largely open at the time, but trees have since grown across much of the acreage, including hardwoods toward the back.

The owners also created a trail system that winds through the wooded property, while a barn and paddock area offer space for someone interested in keeping a horse. The home is within minutes of Shelburne and about 15 minutes from Orangeville.

Visentin said the station's history and distinctive structure make it unlike the typical home, while its conversion has allowed it to remain in use.

"You do want to make it so that you're walking into a home, not a museum that you're just visiting," he said. "You want to be able to feel like you could stay there, not like you just spent \$5 on a ticket to keep antiques."

The home has modern plumbing and electrical service, a heat pump and air conditioning, although Visentin noted some interior features could be updated.

More than a century after it first welcomed railway passengers, the station remains a reminder of the role railways played in shaping communities such as Shelburne.

Now set among mature trees and walking trails, the building's next chapter will continue in a place where its history is still part of the landscape.