

Signalling Alterations at Canterbury

31st January, 1953, extensive flooding occurred in South East England and Anglia, in what is described as one of the UK's worst natural disasters in the 20th Century.

One of the lines affected was the coastal route to Ramsgate and Margate via Herne Bay. To allow services to run to & from Ramsgate and Margate, without a lengthy diversion down towards Dover, the Canterbury Loop was reinstated and brought into operation around March of 1953.

Information received shows that the Loop was opened from 1918 to 1924, then re-laid and reinstated as a single line in 1941, until it closed again in 1951. The urgent need to access Ramsgate and Margate led to the Canterbury Loop being reinstated as a double line.

The line finally closed in 1955.

The following diagram shows the signalling arrangements upon reopening of the Loop.

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