

## **Graham County Railroad Company** <sup>[1]</sup>

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"Brand new Graham County Railroad Company's Shay/ Number 1925 stands outside the Lima Locomotive Works/ factory in Lima, Ohio in February, 1925." Image available

by James Wrinn, 2006 from the North Carolina Historic Sites.

<sup>[2]</sup>

See also: [Transportation: Air and Rail \(from NC Atlas Revisited\)](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

The [Graham County Railroad Company](#) <sup>[4]</sup> was one of dozens of logging railways built in North Carolina in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Constructed over steep grades through the [Nantahala Mountains](#) <sup>[5]</sup> between Topton and Robbinsville in 1925, this 12.6-mile line was one of the nation's last railways to use steam locomotives before it shut down in 1970. Bible-quoting, hymn-singing engineer Ed Collins ran the train for almost 40 years. The last run of the Sidewinder, a specially designed geared steam locomotive prized for its strength and agility, was covered by TV newsman [Charles Kuralt](#) <sup>[6]</sup>. The railroad's original locomotive, No. 1925, is preserved at the [North Carolina Transportation Museum](#) <sup>[7]</sup> in Spencer.

#### **Additional Resources:**

[North Carolina Digital Collections](#) <sup>[8]</sup> search results for Graham County Railroad Company

#### **Image Credit:**

"Brand new Graham County Railroad Company's Shay/ Number 1925 stands outside the Lima Locomotive Works/ factory in Lima, Ohio in February, 1925." Image available from the North Carolina Historic Sites. Available from <http://collections.ncdcr.gov> <sup>[2]</sup> (accessed June 19, 2012).

#### **Subjects:**

[Businesses](#) <sup>[9]</sup>

[Gilded Age \(1876-1900\)](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

[N.C. Industrial Revolution \(1900-1929\)](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

[Railroads](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

[Transportation](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

#### **Authors:**

[Wrinn, James](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

#### **Origin - location:**

[Graham County](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

#### **From:**

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

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#### **Links**

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