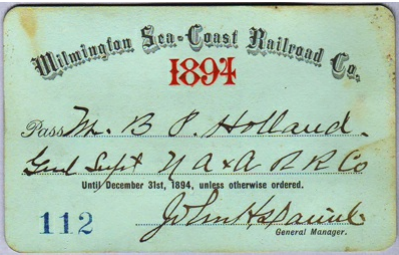


Wilmington Sea Coast Railroad^[1]

Wilmington Sea Coast Railroad

by George A. Kennedy, 2006

See also: [Transportation: Air and Rail \(from NC Atlas Revisited\)](#)^[2]



Boarding pass for the Wilmington Sea Coast Railroad, 1894. Image from the North Carolina Historic Sites.^[3] The Wilmington Sea Coast Railroad, also known as the Wilmington & Sea Coast Railroad, was chartered in 1887 to provide transportation between [Wilmington](#)^[4] and Wrightsville Beach. On 12 June 1888 a standard-gauge line for operation with steam engines was completed at a cost of about \$30,000; it covered 10.3 miles from a junction with the [Wilmington & Weldon Railroad](#)^[5] at Wilmington to Hammocks, just across Banks Channel from Wrightsville Beach. At Hammocks, passengers transferred to the 1.5-mile Sea View (later Ocean View) Railway, built in 1889, to cross the channel on a trestle to Atlantic Station at Wrightsville Beach. Among the promoters of the road were William A. Berry and William Lattimer of Wilmington; Lattimer was its first president (the *Bessie*, the first locomotive, was named for Lattimer's daughter). In 1889 the Wilmington Sea Coast purchased the Ocean View to provide through service, and in April 1902 the entire line was electrified and merged with the Wilmington [street car](#)^[6] system to become the [Consolidated Railways, Light, and Power Company](#)^[7].

References:

Charles Kernan, *Rails to Weeds: Searching Out the Ghost Railroads around Wilmington* (1988).

Henry B. McKoy, *Wilmington, N.C.-Do You Remember When?* (1957).

Additional Resources:

"An act to incorporate the Wilmington Sea Coast Railroad Company." *Laws and Resolutions of the State of North Carolina, Passed by the General Assembly Session Of 1887* Raleigh, N.C.: Josephus Daniels. 1887. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/laws-and-resolutions-of-the-state-of-north-carolina-passed-by-the-general-assembly-at-its-session-1887/3889584?item=3907896>^[8] (accessed August 6, 2012).

North Carolina. Board of Railroad Commissioners. "Wilmington Sea-Coast Railroad Company." *Annual report of the Board of Railroad Commissioners of North Carolina* p.521. http://books.google.com/books?id=F0aAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA521&ots=1_bAlVfQ6s&dq=%22Wilmington%20Sea%20Coast%20Railroad%22&pg=PA521#v=onepage&q=%22Wilmington%20Sea%20Coast%20Railroad%22&f=false^[9] (accessed August 6, 2012).

Image Credits:

"Pass, Boarding, Accession #: [S.HS.2012.1.619](#)^[3]," 1894. North Carolina Historic Sites.

Subjects:

[Gilded Age \(1876-1900\)](#)^[10]

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[Railroads](#)^[12]

Authors:

[Kennedy, George A.](#)^[13]

From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press](#).^[14]

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