

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
EQUIPMENT DRAWINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS
VOLUME II, BOOK 1 - 50 ft. ALL-STEEL BOX CARS 1938 - 1963



Southern Railway Historical Association

George Eichelberger

An Acknowledgement and Thanks

Any book on railroad rolling stock requires as broad a selection of photographs as possible to describe and illustrate its subject matter. Over the years, rail fan photographers have typically concentrated on the steam or diesel locomotives that pulled the trains, not necessarily the equipment that made up those trains.

While this book has taken full advantage of carbuilder's photos in the SRHA Archives, it would not have been possible without access to one of the most complete private collections of Southern Railway freight car photographs known to the Author. The principal photographer and owner of that collection, Mr. Oscar W. Kimsey, Jr., has allowed full access and use of his photographs in this series of books for the Southern Railway Historical Association.

For allowing the generous use of his photographs in this book in addition to his earlier co-production of the Southern Railway Historical Society publication *Southern Rails*, the Author extends his thanks, and the thanks of SRHA members and Southern historians and modelers, to Oscar W. Kimsey, Jr., "OK" as he marked his slides and negatives with the K inside the O.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
STENCIL & GENERAL ARRANGEMENT DIAGRAMS
VOLUME II, BOOK 1 - 50 ft. ALL-STEEL BOX CARS 1938 - 1963

Foreword

The Southern Railway Historical Association (SRHA) has been fortunate to acquire a large collection of Southern Railway engineering documents. Correspondence, accounting records and Executive Department files cover many aspects of the Southern's structures, bridges, locomotives and passenger and freight rolling stock dating from the formation of the company in 1894 through the Norfolk Southern merger in 1982. Material has been acquired through the generosity of Norfolk Southern Corporation, individual NS employees and SRHA members. The SRHA drawing collection includes more than 15,000 linen and vellum originals and 35,000 35mm roll film and microfilm aperture card images.

In some cases the microfilm or linen originals used in these books are faded, have poor contrast, or focus. This may be the result of the age and condition of the original drawings and other times it was simply due to operator error when the drawings were microfilmed. Drawings have been cleaned to remove or repair illegible drawing text or portions of the images. Many drawings have been rearranged to remove as much white space as possible to make better use of the 11 in. x 17 in. format.

Readers should not assume any of the enclosed drawings are exact representations of the originals. Illegible title blocks have been removed or changed, content has been rearranged and drawings have been split and reproduced on two pages.

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While SRHA recognizes there will be a limited interest in books that go into this level of detail, they are seen as a way to publish definitive information on their subject matter and to make readers aware of the material available in the SRHA's archives at the Kennesaw Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw, GA.

Volume II, Book 1, *50 ft. ALL-STEEL BOX CARS 1938 - 1963*, is the second of a series of drawing and photograph books published by the Southern Railway Historical Association that will cover every major Southern freight and passenger car and diesel locomotive type as well as Central of Georgia freight cars and diesels. The addition of a second and third book to Volume II is simply because of the large quantity of drawings, memos and photographs that are available on the Southern's steel box car fleet. Volume II, Book 2 - *50 ft. Steel Box Cars 1963 - 1982* will be published next. Books planned for publication include:

Volume. I, Book 1 - 40 ft. Steel Box Cars (As Built) (Printed, May 2004)

Volume. I, Book 2 - 40 ft. Steel Box Cars (Rebuilds)

Volume. II, Book 1 - 50 ft. Steel Box Cars 1938 - 1963

Volume. II, Book 2 - 50 ft. Steel Box Cars 1963 - 1982

Volume. II, Book 3 - Large Capacity Box Cars

Volume. III, Book 1 - Wood and Steel Underframe Box, Stock and Refrigerator Cars

Volume. III, Book 2 - Wood and Steel Underframe Flat Cars, Gondolas and Non-Revenue Equipment

Volume. IV - Southern and Central of Georgia Cabs and Non-Revenue Equipment

Volume. V - Southern Hopper Cars and Gondolas

Volume. VI - Southern Flat Cars, Bulkhead Flats and Pulpwood Cars

Volume. VII - Central of Georgia Steel Box Cars

Volume. VIII - Central of Georgia Wood, Composite and Steel Underframe Cars

Volume. IX - Southern Passenger Cars

Volume. X - Southern, CofG and Subsidiary Diesel Locomotives

Volume. XI - Southern and CofG Rolling Stock Acquisition, Modification and Disposition Records 1894 - 1982

Volumes will be published out of the sequence shown here. If material is available, additional books may be added to particular volumes. SRHA and the author would appreciate the loan and use of any photographs, drawings or other related material for use in these books.

Technical and Production Notes

More than 8,000 microfilm images from the SRHA Archives have been scanned to provide the material for multiple volumes of Southern and Central of Georgia Railway stencil and equipment drawing books. Photographs, memos and letters were scanned on a Nikon Super Coolscan 9000 film scanner or a Brother MFC-6490CW flat bed scanner and saved in .tiff format. The scanned images were cropped, cleaned and re-sized using Lemkesoft Graphic Converter software and placed in an Adobe InDesign document. The final version was saved as a PDF file for printing.

Terminology and Spelling Notes

This book follows the naming, spelling and measurement conventions used in the Simmons Boardman *Car Builders' Cyclopedia*. Car capacities are described as "40-ton"; measurements are shown in "ft." and "in.". Words such as "center sill" are shown as two words but "carline" (framing from one side to the other that supports the roof) is a single word. Modern usage for non-railroad text may use a different spelling.

Thanks to the Editors and the Norfolk Southern Print Shop

Reviewing and editing any "technical" book is a painstaking process. Changes and edits have to be checked a second and third time. Several people, including Dan Sparks, Oscar W. Kimsey, Jr. and Ed King contributed comments and edits to this first book of Volume II and the author thanks them for their work.

Frank Greene and Sherry Ann Eichelberger assisted through two final edits of the entire book and corrected many errors and inconsistencies. Thanks to both of them in particular.

The printing of this Volume was done, at cost, for SRHA by the Norfolk Southern print shop in Atlanta, GA. All profits from the sale of SRHA publications are used to maintain the Association's archives. SRHA gratefully acknowledges Norfolk Southern and the staff of the print shop for their work.

These books are written for all SRHA members, Southern Railway Historians, modelers and rail fans. SRHA invites anyone interested in preserving the history of the Southern Railway, its predecessors or subsidiaries to join the Association. Membership, archives and convention information is available on the SRHA web site at www.srha.net. By publishing these volumes, SRHA is attempting to do its part to help "Keep the Green Light Shining".

George Eichelberger
Smyrna Georgia, October 2009

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