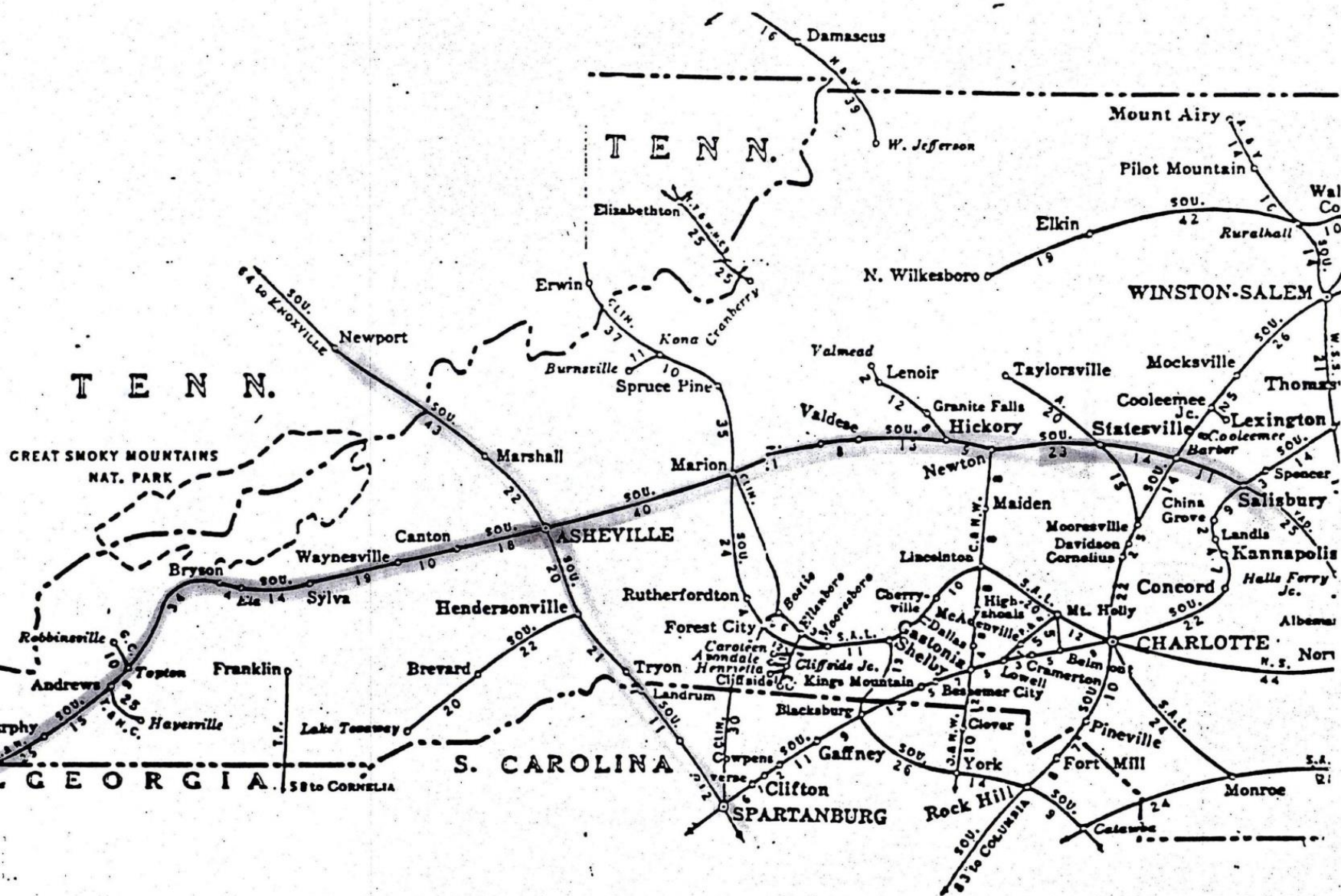


# NC House Select Committee On Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions

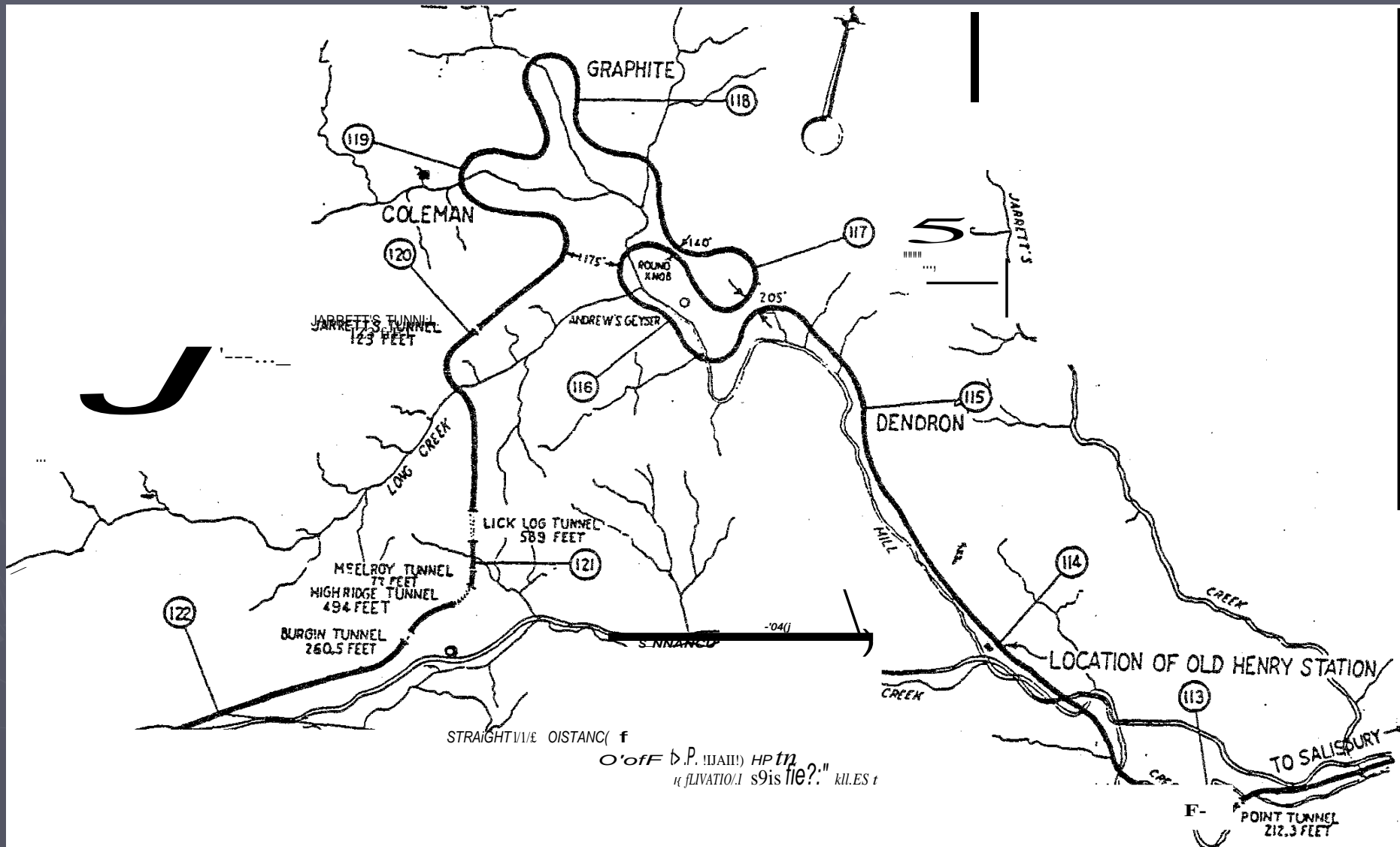




# Mountain Challenges to Road Construction

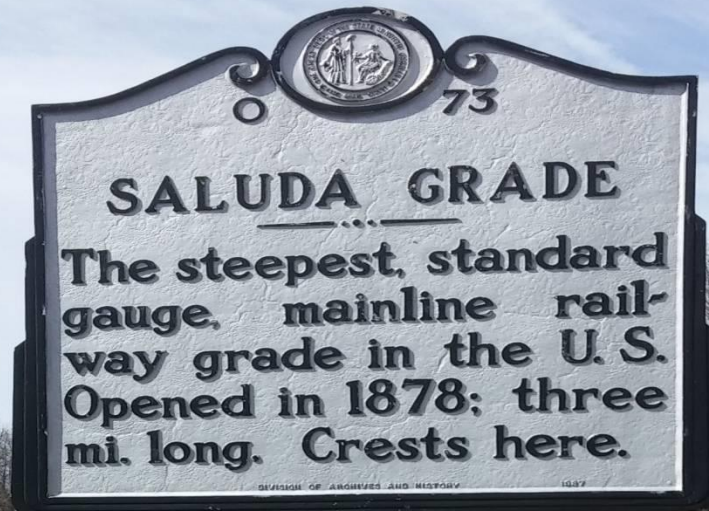
## The Railroads' Three Responses:

- ▶ Loops
- ▶ Steep Inclines
- ▶ “Follow the Rivers”



Frank Clodfelter Collection

The twisting route necessary to gain a rise of 891 ft. between mileposts 113 and 122 is shown in this map of the Western North Carolina Railroad dated 1881. Note that the air distance between the two points was only 3.4 miles compared to track distance of 9 miles. Total curvature was 2,776.4 degrees, equivalent to almost eight full circles.



**SALUDA GRADE**  
The steepest, standard  
gauge, mainline rail-  
way grade in the U. S.  
Opened in 1878; three  
mi. long. Crests here.

DIVISION OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

1987

VIEW ABOVE HOT SPRINGS.



Stripes but no Stars,  
Asheville, N. C.



# Attracting Investors Including the NC Legislature

- ▶ Timber
- ▶ Mining
- ▶ Tourism

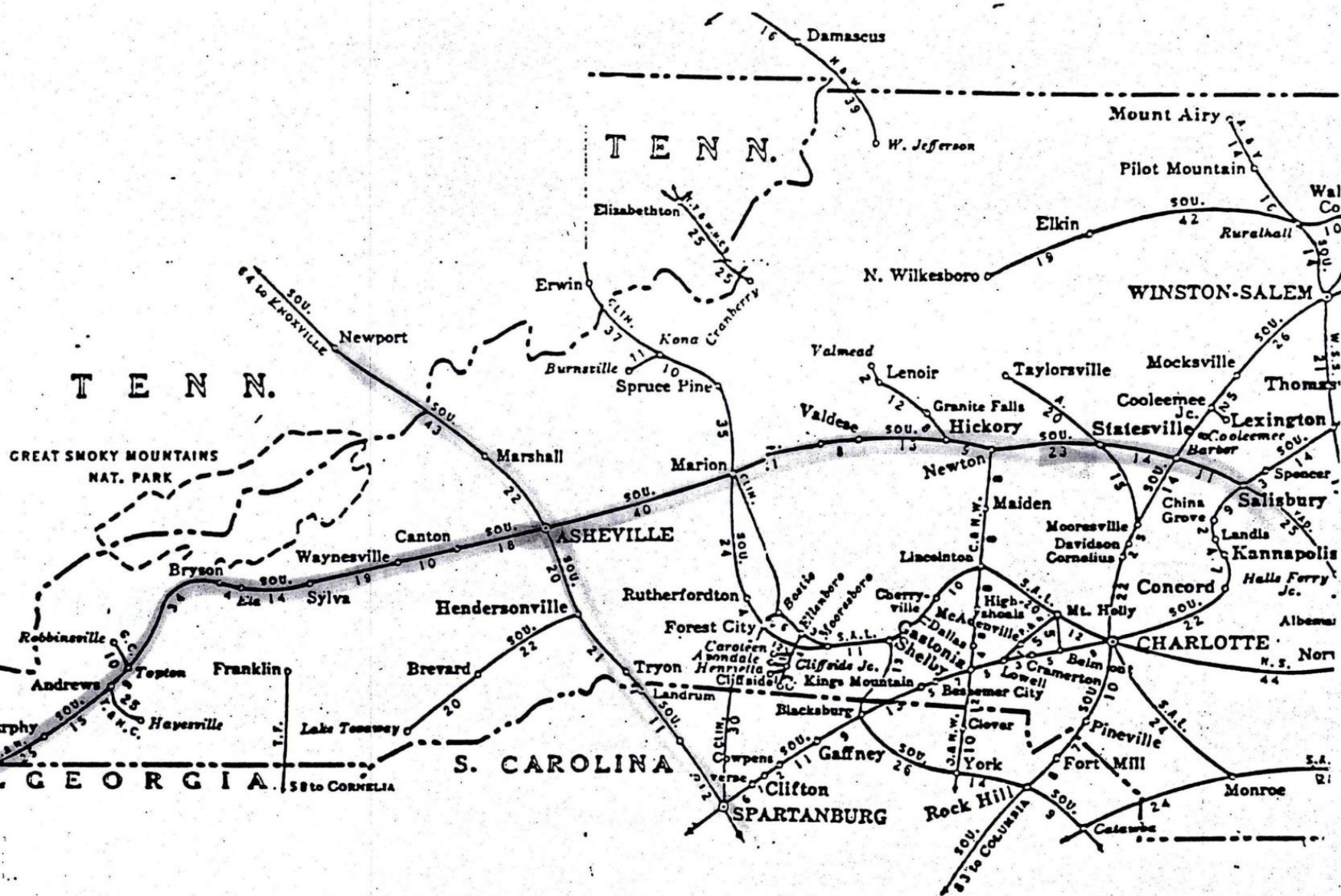






GREETINGS FROM ASHEVILLE, N. C. Battery Park Hotel.

Published by H. Taylor Rogers.





# Return of the “Varnish”

- ▶ 1975 - Last Departure (Asheville - Salisbury)
- ▶ 1994 - NC Legislature Directs DOT Rail Study
- ▶ 1997 - Rail Study Recommends Salisbury-Asheville Route (139 miles)



2000 (March) - WNC Rail Corridor Committee

2001 - WFU Babcock School Study

72,000 Riders

2001 - NC Legislature –

Engineering Study - \$250,000

Project Cost - \$134,700,000



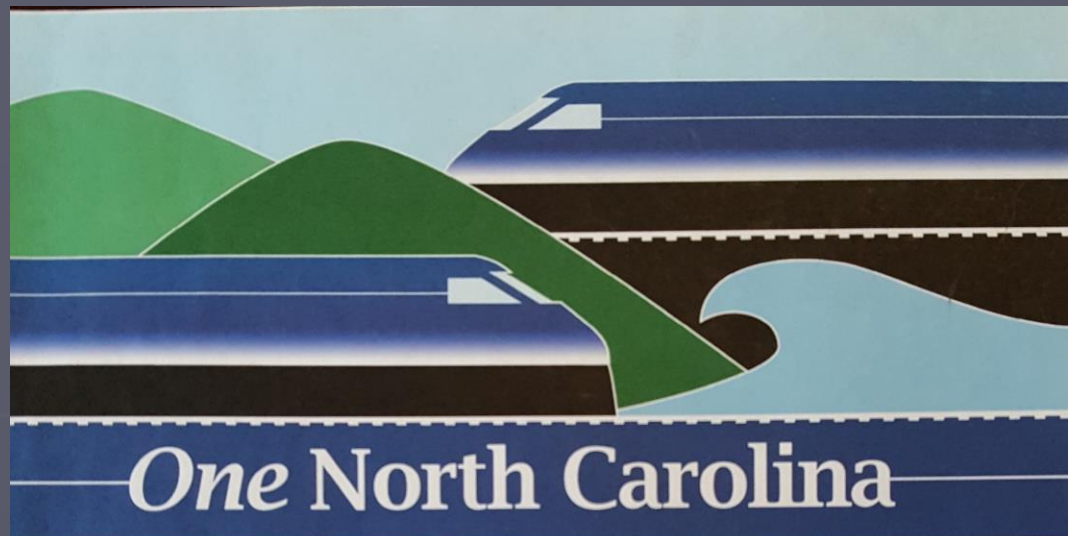
# Station Improvement Program



Salisbury  
Marion

Statesville  
Old Fort

Morganton  
Asheville



*One North Carolina*


*Passenger Rail*  
**RESOLUTIONS**

# 2017



# WNC RAIL COMMITTEE MISSION

1. Improve and Expand Freight Rail Services
2. Enhance Excursion and Tourist :Railroads
3. Re-establish A Passenger Rail Connection Between Salisbury and WNC



# Railroads & Regional Economic Development Conference | 2017

Friday, September 22

US Cellular Center Banquet Room - Asheville, NC

Sponsored by WNC Rail Committee, Inc. and North Carolina Department of Transportation - Rail Division

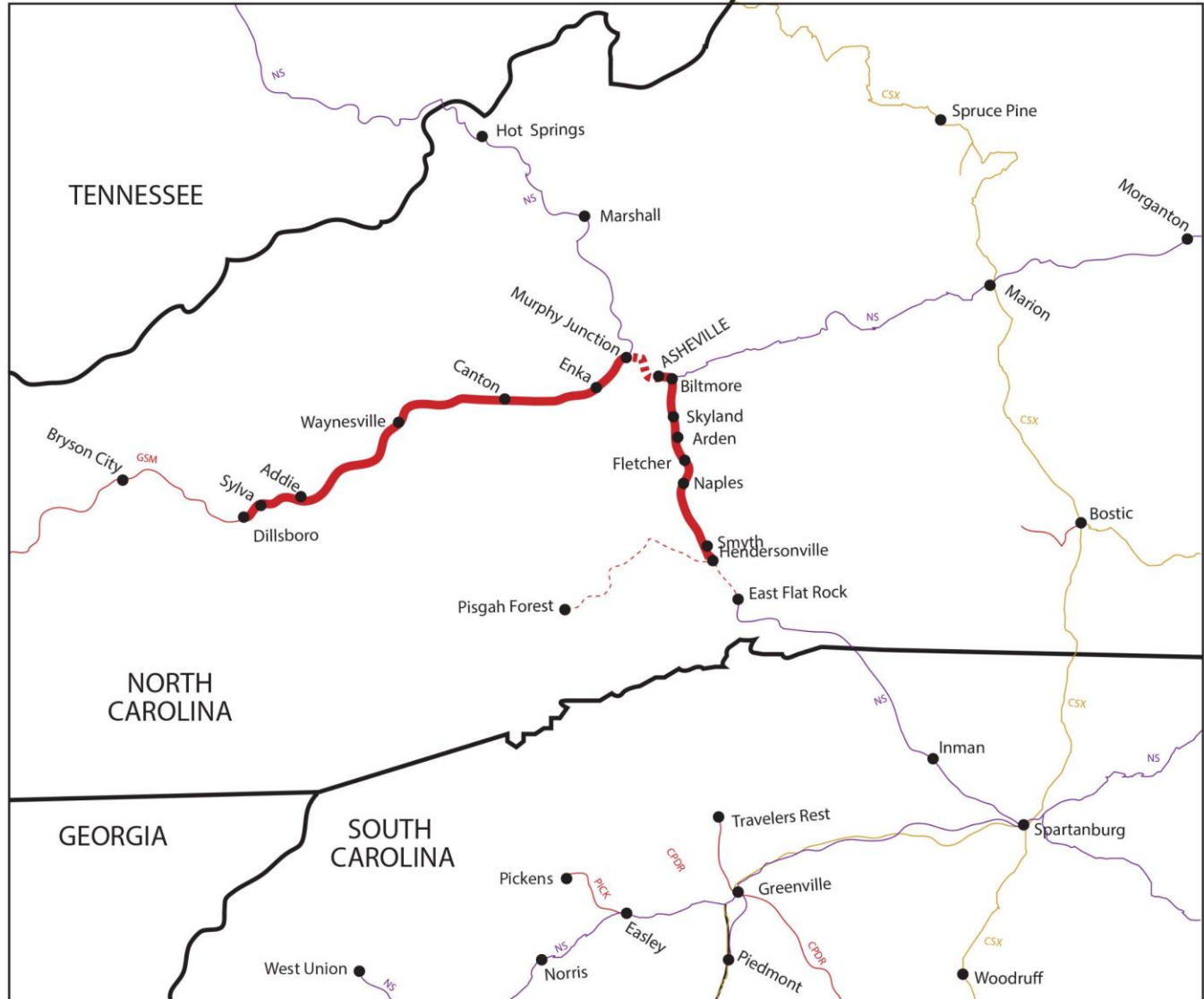
*'There is a light at the end of the tunnel and it is a train.'*

- Judy Ray, Former WNC Rail Committee Chair



WNC Rail Committee Members





**LEGEND:**

	Track Capacity
Blue Ridge Southern RR (BLU) -	286,000 lbs.
Blue Ridge Southern RR (BLU) Trackage Rights -	286,000 lbs.
Out of Service Track	

**Track miles - 92**

**Interchanges**

GSM - Dillsboro

NS - Asheville





