

South Carolina Rail Road Routes 3131 & 5605

The South Carolina Canal & Rail Road Company was chartered in December 1827 and was the first road in the USA to carry passengers on the 6 miles of track west from Charleston to Sixmile in 1830.

By July 1854 Route 3131 was contracted for the 396 miles between Augusta, Georgia and Charleston including branches to Kingsville, Camden and Columbia. In 1874 Route 5605 of 261 miles was contracted at \$18,176 a year.



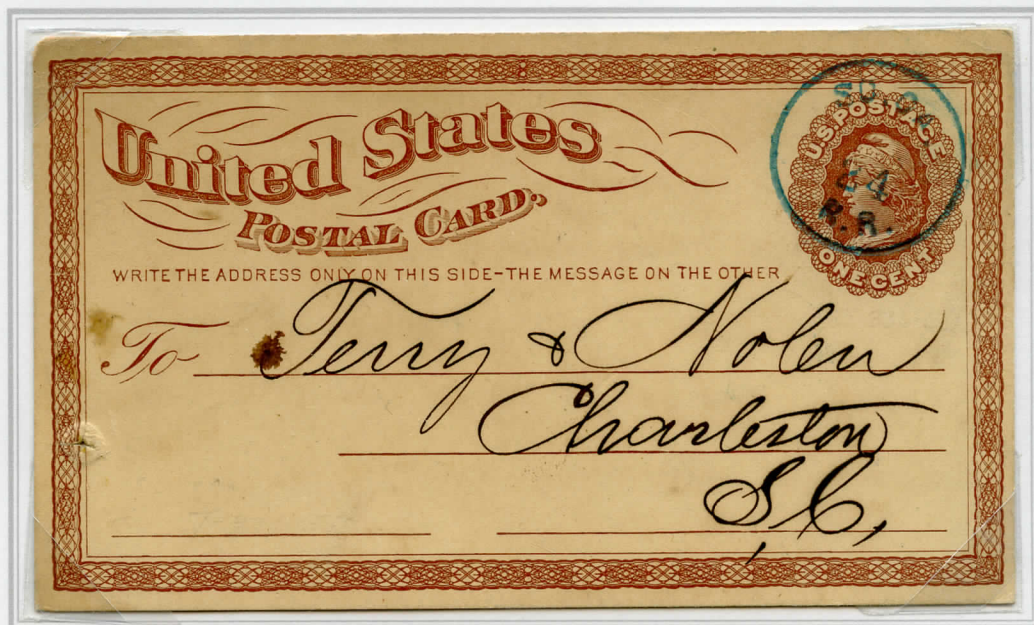
SOUTH CAROLINA R.R. / DEC 11

Envelope put onto the course of Route 3131 for Charleston to receive the Route Agent's date stamp (Towle 336-D-2) cancelling the 3 cent franking.

SO. & CA. R.R. / APR / 24

Postal card dated "April 24th 1875" and put onto Route 5605 on its course east to Charleston. Cancelled by the Route Agent's date stamp (Towle 336-E-1).

Note the missing "APR" date slug.



Map by G.W. Colton of 1873 with the course of the Charleston to Augusta track of the South Carolina Rail Road.

South Carolina Rail Road Routes 3101

Chartered in 1836 to build a branch line from the South Carolina Canal & R.R. Company's Charleston to Hamburg route 68 miles from Branchville to the State Capitol at Columbia. The first contract was for Route 2288 in October 1841.

By July 1847 the Company was renamed the South Carolina R.R. and the contract for Route 3104 was made at \$8,187 a year for a daily service. In July 1851 recontracted as Route 3101 at \$16,387 for the daily service.



SOUTH CAROLINA R.R. / DEC 11

Envelope file noted on reverse "Recd. Dec 13th 1851" addressed to Columbia and carried on Route 3101 on December 11th. The letter would have originated either on the Charleston to Branchville or Hamburg to Branchville portion of Route 3131 to receive the Route Agent's date stamp (Towle 336-D-3) and his 5 cent charge stamp for under 300 miles.



"S C R R / OCT 31" in Manuscript

Ladies envelope put onto Route 3101 on October 31st circa 1853 and manuscript endorsed by an employee of the rail road acting as the Route Agent. Towle illustrated 7 different written examples which do not include this one.

As the Route Agent was not a Post Office appointment he was not allowed to use a Post Office Department issued date stamp, hence the number of manuscript endorsements recorded by Towle.



Map by James T. Lloyd of 1862 with the course of the South Carolina Rail Road branch route between Branchville and Columbia.

Charleston to Augusta Route Agents Stamp Route 3125

South Carolina Rail Road

Chartered in December 1827 as one of the earliest roads in the United States. Completed from Charleston to Hamburg in October 1833 and by bridging the Savannah River to Augusta in 1833.

First contracted for mails in May 1839 as Route 2214 at \$27,000 a year for a daily service.



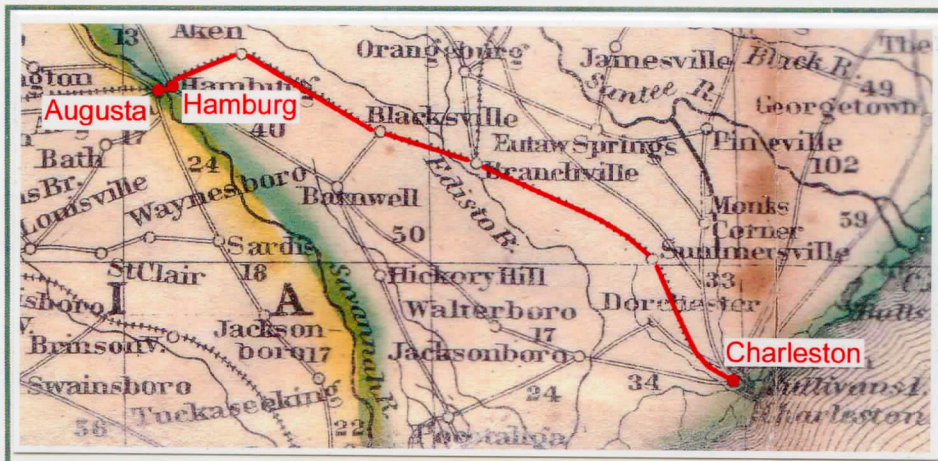
SOUTH CAROLINA R.R. / DEC / 11

Envelope carried on the line circa 1853 to Charleston and prepaid with a 3 cent Scott 10 stamp cancelled by the route agents stamp (Remele S5-b).

SOUTH CAROLINA R.R. MAR / 27

Envelope addressed to Darlington Court House endorsed by addressee "March '53". Also prepaid using a Scott 10 cancelled by the route agents stamp (Remele S5-c).

Carried on the line to Branchville for transfer to the companies branch line to Camden. Transferred for the 44 miles east on the post roads to Darlington.



Phelp's map of 1853.

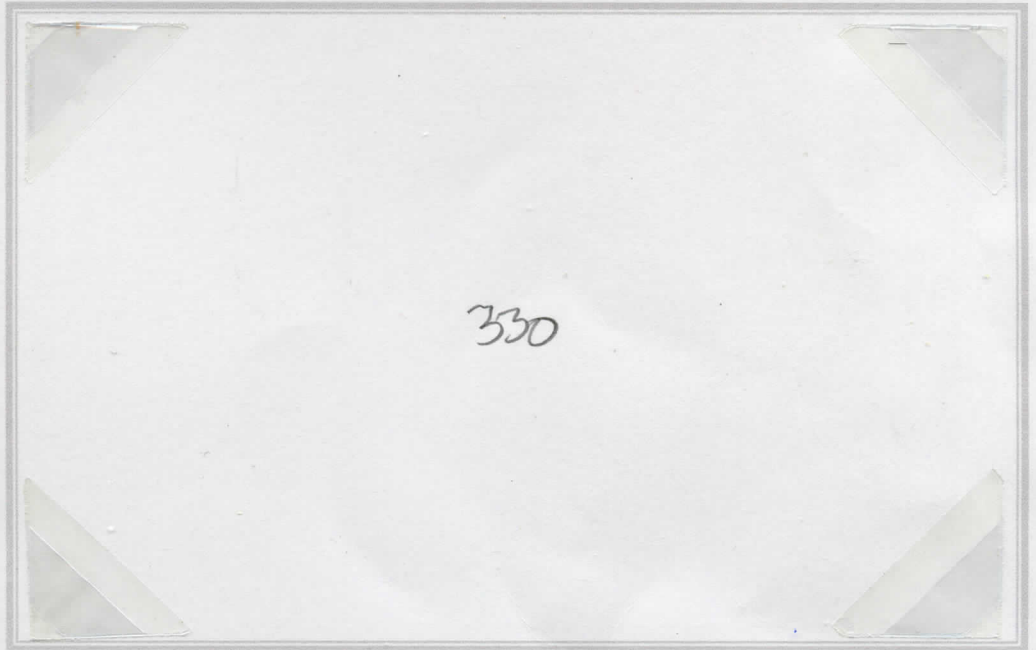
South Carolina Railroad Route Agent Marks

South Carolina Railroad. Route 3104 of 69 miles once daily. Contract value \$6,900 a year.
South Carolina Railroad. Route 3101 of 69 miles once daily. Contract value \$16,387 a year.

SoCa RR / May 19

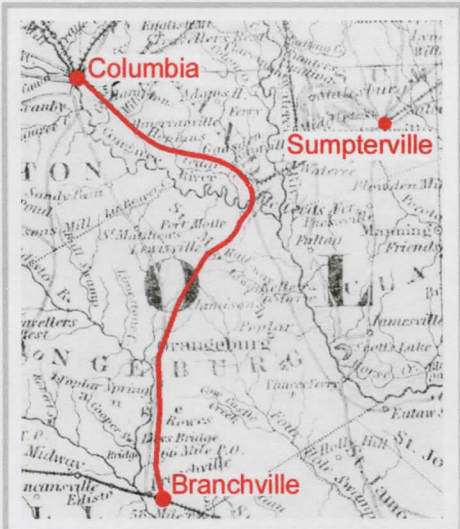
Wrapper file noted "Answd May 26 / 51" and carried north on Route 3104 to Columbia for transfer on the 45 mile post road to Sumpterville..

E



SOUTH CAROLINA R.R. / DEC / 11

Envelope file noted "Recd. Dec 13th 1851" and carried on Route 3101 to Columbia. Rated at the 5 cent unpaid rate of July 1851.



Map by Colton of 1861

North Eastern Rail Road Routes 5604 & 14005

The North Eastern Rail Road completed its 103½ mile line between Charleston and Florence in November 1856. The pre Civil War contract was reinstated in July 1866 as Route 5604 at \$7,772 a year for a daily service.

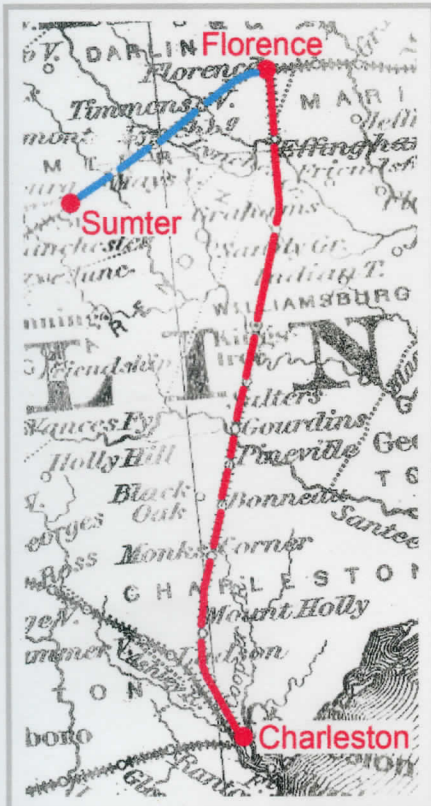
In July 1873 contracted as Route 14005 at \$13,905 a year, also for a daily trip.



NORTH EASTERN R.R. DEC / 12

Envelope put onto Route 5604 on December 12th circa 1866 addressed to Sumter. Carried north to Florence and transferred to Route 5254 to Sumter on the Charlotte & Rutherford Rail Road.

The Route Agent applied his date stamp (Towle 340-C-1) and cancelled the 3 cent franking with his obliterator.



NORTHEASTERN R.R. / OCT / 12

Postal card dated "Florence S.C. Oct. 12/75" addressed to Charleston and carried south on Route 14005 to receive the Route Agent's date stamp (Towle 340-C-2).

Map by G.W. & C.B. Colton of 1873 with the course of Routes 5604 & 14005 (in red) and 5254 (in blue).

Doves Station Datestamp

Cheraw & Darlington Railway

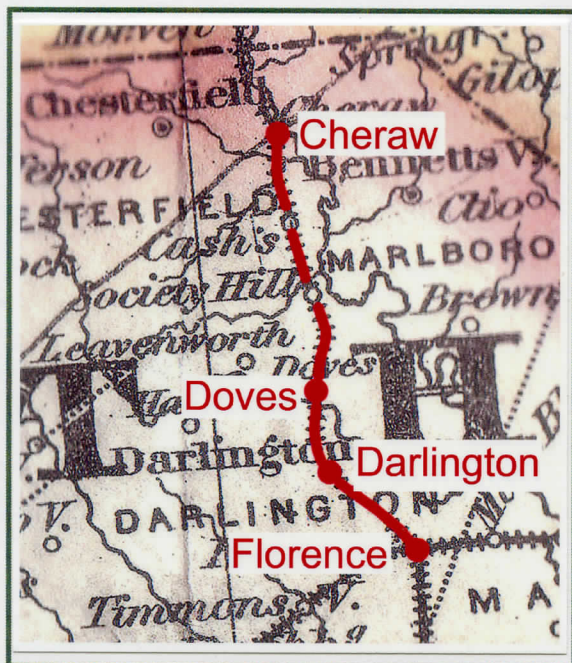
The Cheraw & Darlington Railway was chartered in 1849 and opened in 1853 running from Cheraw to Florence in South Carolina. It was contracted for Route 5603 to give a daily service at \$1,200 a year.

The station of Doves was situated 22 miles south of Cheraw and 18 north of Florence. The cover shown travelled just 8 miles on the line from Cheraw to Darlington.



DOVES C. & D. R.R. / APR / 28 / 1870

Envelope posted at Dove's franked with a Scott 114 pen cancelled stamp and addressed to Darlington. Struck with the Station Agents stamp (Towle 341-S-1)



G.W. Colton's map of 1873

CHERAW & DARLINGTON RAILWAY.					
D. W. McIVER, Pres., Cheraw, S. C.			S. S. SOLOMONS, Supt., Charleston, S. C.		
[April 13.]					
P. M.		LEAVE	ARRIVE		A. M.
3 45	0	... Florence ¹ ...	40		10 00
4 25	10	... Darlington...	30		9 15
5 00	18	... Dove's ...	22		8 40
5 35	26	... Society Hill...	14		8 00
6 05	30	... Cash's...	10		7 25
6 30	40	... Cheraw ...	0		7 00
P. M.		ARRIVE	LEAVE		A. M.

¹ Connects with North-Eastern and Wilmington & Manchester Railways.

From page 300 of Appleton's Railway & Steam Navigation Guide of September 1869.

Greenville & Columbia Railroad Route Agent's CDS

South Carolina Railroad. Route 3102 of 143 miles once daily. Contract value \$10,719 a year.
Greenville & Columbia Railroad. Route 5607 of 145½ miles once daily. Contract value \$11,400 a year.



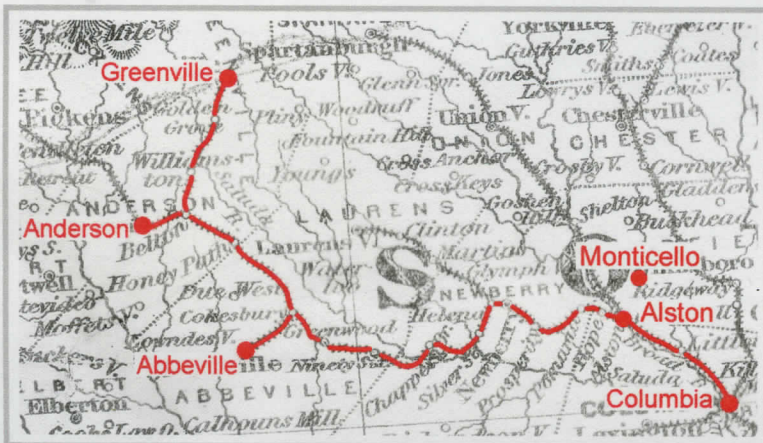
**GREENVILLE & COLUMBIA R.R.
FEB 17**

Nesbitt Die 3 envelope put onto
Route 3102 and carried to Alston
for the 10 mile post road to
Monticello.



GREENV. & COLUMBIA R.R. / SEP. / 12

Envelope put onto Route 5607 on September 12th
circa 1867 and carried to Augusta. Carried to
Cokesbury for transfer onto the 11¼ mile branch
line to Abbeville.



Map by Colton of 1873