

# Norfolk & Western Railway Menus

Norfolk & Western Railway Menus  
ca. late 1940s-1960s



## Title Statement

Norfolk & Western Railway Menus Norfolk & Western Railway Menus, ca. late 1940s-1960s Ms.2013.080

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## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)  
560 Drillfield Drive  
Newman Library, Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061  
Business Number: 540-231-6308  
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URL: <http://spec.lib.vt.edu>



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## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-08-07 13:44:23 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.2013.080

### Unit Date

ca. late 1940s-1960s

### Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

### Abstract

The collection contains breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack, and beverage menus from the Norfolk & Western Railway, as well as two unused carbon copy checks for Norfolk & Western Railway's Dining Car Service.

### Creator

Norfolk and Western Railway Company (1896-1982)

### Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

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### **Source of Acquisition**

The Norfolk & Western Railway Menus were purchased by the Special Collections and University Archives in December 2012.

### **Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Norfolk & Western Railway Menus was completed in September 2013.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Norfolk & Western Railway Menus, Ms2013-080, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## **Administrative History**

The Norfolk & Western Railway was established through a reorganization of the bankrupt Norfolk and Western Railroad in 1896, the latter company itself having arisen from the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio Railroad, a successor to the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. In order to raise capital to pay off debt, meet its payroll and other obligations, and make continued improvements to the line, the new company issued \$23 million in preferred stock, \$66 million in common stock, and \$62.5 million gold bonds paying four percent, secured through a consolidated mortgage to the Mercantile Trust Company of New York.

Through expansion and various mergers, the N&W grew to become a major U.S. carrier, serving 14 states. The company manufactured steam locomotives at its own Roanoke Machine Works (established in Roanoke, Virginia in 1882), and among the railroad's affiliated holdings were several hotels. In 1982, the N&W combined with the Southern Railway to form Norfolk Southern Corporation.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection contains breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack, and beverage menus from the Norfolk & Western Railway, as well as two unused carbon copy checks for Norfolk & Western Railway's Dining Car Service. The menus list prices and are in color or black & white. These menus describe a variety of dishes and full course meals, including the dining car's "Famous Salad Bowl... a meal in itself," Roast Sirloin of Beef, and Apple or Peach Pie, "baked on car today." The unused checks were "to be used ONLY for government meal or purchase orders for our armed forces (or allies)."

Neither the menus nor the checks are clearly dated. Several menus mention the President's Citizens Food Committee, which suggest they may be from the late 1940s.

## **Related Archival Materials**

Additional menus for a variety of railroads, including Norfolk & Western, can be found in Wayne Perkins Collection, Ms2010-078.

## **Keywords**

Cocktail History Collection  
History of Food and Drink  
Cocktails -- History  
Local/Regional History and Appalachian South  
Railroad

Norfolk and Western Railway Company (1896-1982)

## **Existence and Location of Copies**

This collection has been digitized and is available online.

## **Rights Statement for Archival Description**

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## **Description of Subordinate Components**

**Menus**

**folder 1**