

# Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania

The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is located across the road from the Strasburg Railroad in the heart of Pennsylvania Dutch Country. The museum houses a very important collection of locomotives and rolling stock from railroads that operated in Pennsylvania, while its archives contain extensive photographic and print resources of importance to research in the Commonwealth's transportation history. A large proportion of equipment is under roof in large, enclosed pavillions, which made photography difficult when the author took these pictures with a non-digital SLR camera. Therefore this photo essay contains only a tiny sample of the things you can see when you visit.

Pennsylvania Railroad Mikado (2-8-2) steam locomotive No. 520 is pictured below. These locomotives were Class L1s on the Pennsy: "L" signified 2-8-2 wheel arrangement (2 pilot wheels, 8 driving wheels, and 2 trailing wheels); "1" for the first type in the class; and "s" to denote that the engine was equipped with superheaters. Class L1 dated from World War I, when it was state-of-the-art mainline freight power, and engines of this class survived in yard and transfer service to the end of steam. With single examples of other PRR steam engine classes, No. 520 was stored in the roundhouse at Northumberland, PA during the 1950s. All of the engines preserved by the PRR after dieselization eventually found their way to the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania.



At left is the Pay Car of the author's "home road," the Cumberland Valley Railroad, built around 1850. This car represents passenger car technology of the mid-19th Century and one of the earliest railroads in the Commonwealth. This car travelled the line with the payroll. The Cumberland Valley ran between Hagerstown, MD and Harrisburg, PA, forming an important connection between southern and northeastern markets and was controlled by the PRR from early in its existence, and the PRR absorbed it in 1919. The CVRR played a supporting role in the northeastern railroad wars of the Gilded Age.

The museum includes this stature of Matthias Baldwin, founder of one of the most important locomotive manufactories in the history of steam locomotion.



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