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## THE 'C' COMPARTMENT

This compartment is made of laurel, a close grained hardwood four in North America. The compartment has This compartment was used by an assistant(s) to Dr. Webb in his travels, or by another couple traveling with him. A small closet is behind the door and a full bathroom is in the companion compartment. Additional storage is under the lower berth, and a ladder was stored in the upper berth.

## PORTER & COOK'S COMPARTMENT

This compartment was for the porter and cook which included a full shower, a small sink, and their upper and lower berths. The small table between the two seats was removed and slats were placed across the space and the cushions were placed on them to form the lower berth. This compartment included the electrical cabinet for the car, controlling the interior and exterior lights, and the switches to use onboard batteries or exterior supply.

## GALLEY

The galley is the kitchen of this beautiful private business car. The original tally was sheathed in stainless steel in the 1930's, the original wood is under the bright finish. The stove was originally a coal fired unit, but was replace in the 1930's with this gas fired stove. There is a true ice box under the heavy covers to the right of the entry door. A two compartment sink and some storage is available. Additional refrigeration is in the vestibule outside.

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## ~ ELLSMERE ~

The restoration of the Golden Age of Railroading car is a part of the work by the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railroad. The work is accomplished by a dedicated staff of volunteers who use natural cleaners and lots of elbow grease.

There are several projects in the near future for the car. Included are re-upholstery of two chairs in the parlor, renew the exterior sheathing, and more. If you would like to assist and volunteer on any of our projects please contact one of our members.

If you are interested in supporting the restoration of Ellsmere, please contact us with your interest. The Friends of the Nevada Southern Railroad is a tax exempt, 501(C)(3) organization under USIRS regs.



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## ~ ELLSMERE ~



*Ellsmere* was built in 1899 by the Wagner Palace Car Co. of Buffalo, N.Y. This is the third version of this private railway car. The car was completed and delivered in December of 1899 to the then President of the company, Dr. William Seward Webb, son-in-law to William Vanderbilt, the president of the New York Central Railroad (NYC) system, one of the largest, east coast railroad systems of that era.

*Ellsmere* was considered one of the most luxurious railroad cars of the era. The car had the most modern appliances, including electric lighting, with AC and DC currents, ice box for foods, and more. The car is built of solid hardwoods, with a partial steel underframe added ca. 1915. Being an all-wood car prevented her from going into New York City due to city regulations in the tunnels carrying the railroads into the city.

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*Ellsmere* carried Dr. Webb around the New York Central RR railroad from New York City to Vermont, where he lived. The car also carried him on many trips to the west coast, along the route of the Santa Fe RR (through Kingman, AZ). Dr. Webb enjoyed the California area, including the wine country, and many of the scenic places along the coast.

As you explore *Ellsmere*, you notice several white buttons, these are call buttons, the passengers could use to call the members of the car staff. You also note there is very little in the way of storage space for clothing and other necessities of travel. Well, remember, these cars were a part of the support for the tycoons of industry, so a baggage car was a part of the train.

Born on January 31, 1851, Dr. Webb studied medicine in Europe and the US receiving a medical degree from Columbia College. Wm. Vanderbilt (NYCRR President) owned the Wagner Palace Car Co, and convinced his now son-in-law to take over the company and build his passenger cars.

Dr. Webb and his wife Eliza had four children, and lived in NYC and on their farms in Shelburne, VT. If the couple and children were making one of their long trips to the west coast, Eliza and the children would travel in her private car *Marquita*.

Dr. Webb passed away in October of 1926. His farm in Shelburne, VT is still exists and is a part of a historical farm group.

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## INTERIOR OF OBSERVATION COMPARTMENT

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Prior to restoration work



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The Observation compartment was the entryway into this elegant, private business car one of the premier cars of the early 1900's.

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The observation compartment is the entryway into *Ellsmere*, an elegant passenger car from the Golden Age of Railroading. This compartment is made of quarter sawn, English Oak, and like the rest of the car is a solid hardwood and hand carved. This compartment would contain a couple of wicker chairs which could be used on the observation platform. A portable writing desk is also present. The air brake system gauges are mounted on the rear facing exterior wall along with a speedometer. A small sofa was mounted to the interior wall which could be made into an upper and lower berth for night accommodations. Please note the hand carved details in the woodwork and the brass railing for the small, upper bookshelf.

## DR. WEBB'S COMPARTMENT

Dr Webb enjoyed this spacial compartment built of Prima Vera wood, a South American hardwood, rare today. Please note the full interior attached bathroom which included a shower, sink and lavatory. There are small storage compartments above the bed, a nightstand, dresser and small closet. The compartment is lit with electric lights, and included a portable desk using the hinge points on the exterior wall.

## THE 'A' COMPARTMENT

This compartment is also built with Prima Vera wood, and would be used by Dr. Webb's wife Eliza, or other officials that traveled with him. The lavatory is now in the compartment rather than a separate room, a small sink would be included. A dresser, and small closet are included in this compartment.

## THE DINING AND PARLOR COMPARTMENT

This compartment was the main meeting and gathering compartment of the car. The sofa on the rear wall could be made into an upper and lower berth by raising the back of the piece and installing the legs. The car includes Dr. Webb's desk with the intricate brass railings to contain the books and other materials. A liquor cabinet is to the left of the desk. There are four small displays with brass railings around the compartment just above the covers for the steam heating. Originally this compartment was lit with two chandeliers hanging from the clerestory roof.