

## Rabun Gap Nacoochee RR Museum

This little museum is another accomplishment of the remarkable student body at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School (See also Foxfire Museum). The museum honors the Tallulah Falls Railway which made its way through Rabun Gap in the late 1890's until 1961. This



colorful TF Railway was chartered in 1856 but the Civil War, bad economic times, changes of ownership, over spending, receiverships, etc., all contributed to its on-again-off-again progress from Cornelia, Georgia, to Franklin, North Carolina. The final chapter was the ownership by Southern Railway from 1908 until its closure in 1961 when the tracks were pulled up and sold for scrap. Under the leadership of Dess Oliver II, an industrial arts teacher at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School, he and his students built the full-size two-foot gauge locomotive and rail cars. Students also laid the on-site track.

Notes for the Photographer: At this writing the museum appears to be permanently closed. You can, however, walk on the grounds at any time and take advantage of the exterior and the artifacts around the area. The photo here is of the water tower used to replenish the water used by steam locomotives.

Directions: The museum is 4.8 miles north of Mountain City on Hwy 441. It's right on the road opposite Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School as you approach the campus.