

## The Railroad



1886 – 2006

The Marietta and North Georgia Railroad arrived in Blue Ridge in 1886 and has a multi-faceted history. Quoted from "In Touch with the Past," Eva Baugh recalls, "The noon train from Knoxville stopped for 20 minutes for lunch. You could get dinner at the hotel or buy a dinner through the window for twenty-five cents. The morning train took four hours to get to Atlanta. You could leave at 6:00 a.m., shop for six hours and return on the 4:00 p.m. train." Today, the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway transports about 50,000+ passengers a year for the 3-1/2 hour scenic tour between Blue Ridge and McCaysville/Copperhill, including a 1-1/2 hour layover. Featured in the collage are the Blue Ridge Depot in the early 1900's, a flagman on a caboose, the "Hiawasse Loop," the Turnip Town trestle, a steam locomotive, and a group of men in hats and suits posing in front of a train car with "L & N" written on its side.