

MAINE CENTRAL CHRONOLOGY

- 1832 Bangor & Old Town Railway Company chartered and some minor work done
Calais Railway Co. chartered
- 1833 Bangor & Piscataquis Canal & Railroad Co. chartered
- 1835 Calais Railway, some work done
- 1836 Kennebec & Portland Railroad Co. chartered
Bangor & Piscataquis opened Bangor to Old Town
- 1837 Calais & Baring Railway Co., chartered
- 1838 Calais Railroad Co. (former Calais Railway) chartered
- 1839 Calais & Baring Railroad Co. (former Calais & Baring Railway) chartered
Calais Railroad Co. opened
Calais to Salmon Falls (2 miles) using horses
- 1841 Calais Railroad abandoned
- 1845 Androscoggin & Kennebec Railroad Co. chartered
Penobscot & Kennebec Railroad Co. chartered
- 1847 Buckfield Branch Railroad Co. chartered
- 1848 Androscoggin Railroad Co. chartered
Somerset & Kennebec Railroad Co. chartered
Androscoggin & Kennebec opened Danville Jct. to Lewiston
- 1849 Calais & Baring Railroad Co. chartered (former Calais. R.R.)
Androscoggin & Kennebec opened Lewiston to Waterville
Kennebec & Portland opened Yarmouth Junction to Bath
- 1850 European & North American Railway Co. chartered
Buckfield Branch opened Mechanic Falls to Buckfield
Kennebec & Portland opened Portland to Falmouth
- 1851 Kennebec & Portland opened Brunswick to Augusta
- 1852 Androscoggin opened Leeds Jct. to Livermore Falls
Calais & Baring opened Salmon Falls to Baring
- 1853 Dexter & Newport Railroad Co. chartered
Penobscot & Kennebec opened Waterville to Fairfield
Somerset & Kennebec opened Augusta to Waterville
- 1854 Lewy's Island Railroad (Maine) chartered
Bangor & Piscataquis Canal opened Old Town to Milford
Penobscot & Kennebec opened Fairfield to Pittsfield
- 1855 Bangor, Old Town & Milford Railroad Co. (former Bangor & Piscataquis Canal) chartered
Buckfield Branch opened Buckfield to East Sumner
Penobscot & Kennebec opened Pittsfield to Bangor
Somerset & Kennebec opened Waterville to Fairfield
- 1856 Maine Central Railroad Co. chartered
Lewy's Island opened Baring to New Brunswick border
Penobscot & Kennebec leased to Androscoggin & Kennebec
Somerset & Kennebec opened Fairfield to Skowhegan
- 1857 Portland & Oxford Central Railroad Co. chartered (former Buckfield Branch)
Lewy's Island opened New Brunswick border to Princeton
- 1859 Androscoggin opened Livermore Falls to West Farmington
- 1860 Somerset Railroad Co. chartered
- 1861 Androscoggin opened Brunswick to Leeds Jct. and Crowley's Jct. to Lewiston
- 1862 Portland & Kennebec Railroad Co. chartered (former Kennebec & Portland)
Maine Central Railroad Co. organized by consolidation of Androscoggin & Kennebec and Penobscot & Kennebec
- 1864 Essex County Railroad Co. (Vermont) chartered
Knox & Lincoln Railroad Co. chartered
Portland and Machias Steamboat Co. chartered
Portland & Kennebec leased Somerset & Kennebec
- 1865 Leeds & Farmington Railroad Co., a reorganization of the Androscoggin, operated between Leeds Jct. and West Farmington
- 1867 Portland, Bangor & Machias Steamboat Co. chartered (former Portland & Machias Steamboat Co.)
Portland & Ogdensburg Railroad Co. chartered
Portland & Oxford Central opened East Sumner to Hartford
- 1868 Belfast & Moosehead Lake Railroad Co. chartered and ground broken at Belfast
Dexter & Newport opened Newport to Dexter
European & North American opened Bangor to Olamon
- 1869 Maine Central leased Dexter & Newport European & North American opened Olamon to Mattawamkeag
European & North American acquired Bangor, Old Town & Milford
- 1870 St. Croix & Penobscot (former Calais & Baring) chartered and acquired Lewy's Island
Maine Central leased Portland & Kennebec
Maine Central leased Somerset & Kennebec
Androscoggin opened West Farmington to Farmington
Bangor, Old Town & Milford line discontinued
Belfast & Moosehead opened Burnham Jct. to Belfast
Maine Central opened Royal Jct. to Danville Jct.
Portland & Ogdensburg opened Portland to West Baldwin
Portland & Oxford Central opened Hartford to Canton
- 1871 Maine Central leased Androscoggin and Leeds & Farmington
Maine Central leased Belfast & Moosehead Lake
European & North American opened Mattawamkeag to Vanceboro
Knox & Lincoln opened Woolwich to Rockland Engine House and first used Bath - Woolwich Ferry
Maine Central opened Danville Jct. to Cumberland Jct.
Portland & Ogdensburg opened West Baldwin to North Conway, N. H.
- 1872 Essex County opened St. Johnsbury, Vt. to West Concord, Vt.
- 1873 Bucksport & Bangor Railroad Co. chartered
Portland & Ogdensburg opened N. Conway to upper Bartlett
- 1874 Rumford Falls & Buckfield Railroad Co. chartered (former Portland & Oxford Central)
Maine Central acquired Leeds & Farmington
Maine Central acquired Portland & Kennebec
Maine Central acquired Somerset & Kennebec
Bucksport & Bangor opened Bangor to Bucksport
Portland & Ogdensburg opened Bartlett to Bemis
Somerset opened Oakland to Madison
- 1875 Essex County opened West Concord, Vt. to Lunenburg, Vt.
Portland & Ogdensburg opened Crawford Notch to Lunenburg, Vt.
Somerset opened Madison to North Anson
- 1876 Knox & Lincoln opened Rockland engine house to depot
- 1879 Rumford Falls & Buckfield opened Canton to Gilbertville
- 1881 Maine Shore Line Railroad Co. chartered
- 1882 Coos Valley Railroad (Vt.) chartered
Eastern Maine Shore Line Railway Co. chartered (former Bucksport & Bangor)
Portland, Bangor, Mt. Desert & Machias Steamboat Co. chartered (former Portland, Bangor & Machias Steamboat Co.)
Maine Central leased European & North American
Maine Central became a major stockholder in the Portland, Bangor, Mt. Desert & Machias Steamboat Co.
- 1883 Somerset Railway chartered (former Somerset Railroad)
Upper Coos Railroad (N. H.) chartered
Maine Central leased Eastern Maine Shore Line
- 1884 Maine Central leased Maine Shore Line Railroad which opened Brewer Jct. to Mt. Desert Ferry
Maine Central began Bar Harbor Ferry operations
- 1886 Portland, Mt. Desert & Machias Steamboat Co. chartered (former Portland, Bangor, Mt. Desert & Machias Steamboat Co.)
Portland & Ogdensburg Railway (former Portland & Ogdensburg Railroad) chartered
Sebasticook & Moosehead Railroad Co. chartered and opened Pittsfield to Hartland
- 1887 Dominion Lime Co. (Canada) chartered and opened Dudswell Jct., P. Q. to Lime Ridge, P. Q.
Portland Union Railway Station Co. chartered
Upper Coos (N.H.) opened North Stratford to West Stewartstown

- 1888 Dexter & Piscataquis Railroad Co. chartered
Hereford Railway Co. (Canada) chartered
Upper Coos Railroad (Vt.) chartered and opened
N. H. - Vt. border to Vt. - Canada border
Maine Central acquired Maine Shore Line
Maine Central leased Dexter & Piscataquis
Maine Central leased Portland & Ogdensburg which
opened from Lunenburg, Vt. to St. Johnsbury,
Vt.
European & North American opened Enfield to Mont-
tague
Somerset opened North Anson to Embden
Portland Union Station opened
- 1889 Dexter & Piscataquis opened Dexter to Foxcroft
Dominion Lime Co. line sold to Hereford
Hereford opened Vt. - Canada border to Dudswell
Jct., P. Q.
Portland & Ogdensburg opened Fabyan's to Scott's
Jct.
Maine Central General Office Building opened on
St. John Street, Portland
- 1890 Portland & Rumford Falls Railway chartered
Maine Central leased Hereford — opened Cookshire
Jct., P. Q. to Dudswell Jct., P. Q.
Maine Central leased Upper Coos from North Strat-
ford to Beecher Falls, Vt.
Maine Central and Canadian Pacific entered agree-
ment for joint use of tracks between Matta-
wamkeag and Vanceboro.
Portland & Rumford Falls leased Rumford Falls &
Buckfield
Somerset opened Embden to Bingham
- 1891 Maine Central leased Knox & Lincoln
Coos Valley opened Guildhall, Vt. to Brunswick, Vt.
and leased to Upper Coos (N. H.)
European & North American opened Montague to
Howland
Upper Coos (N. H.) opened Quebec Jct. to North
Stratford
- 1892 Portland & Rumford Falls opened Gilbertville to
Rumford Falls
- 1893 Washington County Railroad Co. chartered
- 1894 Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lakes Railroad Co. char-
tered
Portland & Rumford Falls opened Auburn to Me-
chanic Falls
- 1895 Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lakes opened Rumford
Falls to Houghton to Letter "E"
- 1896 Portland & Rumford Falls opened Canton to Peter-
son Rips
Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lakes opened Houghton
to Bemis
- 1897 Maine Central leased Dexter & Newport
Portland & Rumford Falls opened Peterson Rips to
Chisholm and acquired Rumford Falls & Buck-
field
- 1898 Washington County acquired Calais & Baring
Washington County opened Ayers Jct. to St. Croix
Jct., Washington Jct. to Ayers Jct., and Ayers
Jct. to Eastport and operated by contractors
- 1899 Portland & Rumford Falls opened Canton to Liver-
more Falls
Washington County acquired St. Croix & Penobscot
and Lewy's Island
- 1901 Knox & Lincoln merged with Maine Central
Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lakes opened Rangeley
Station to Haines Landing
Sebasticook & Moosehead opened Hartland to Main-
stream
- 1902 Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lakes opened Bemis to
Oquossoc
- 1903 Washington County Railway Co. chartered (former
Washington County Railroad)
- 1904 Maine Central acquired majority stock of and oper-
ated Washington County Railway
Somerset Railway Co. chartered
- 1905 Maine Central acquired Portland, Mt. Desert & Ma-
chias Steamboat Co.
Somerset opened Bingham to Deadwater
- 1906 Somerset opened Deadwater to Landers
Washington County opened Woodland Jct. to Wood-
land
- 1907 Portland & Rumford Falls Railroad chartered and
leased Portland & Rumford Falls Railway and
Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lakes Railroad
Maine Central leased Portland & Rumford Falls
Railroad which had been chartered and acquired
Portland & Rumford Falls Railway and Rum-
ford Falls & Rangeley Lakes
- 1909 Rangeley Lakes & Megantic Railroad Co. chartered
- 1910 Maine Central leased Sebasticook & Moosehead
- 1911 Portland Terminal Co. chartered (formerly Port-
land Union Railway Station)
Maine Central acquired Androscoggin
Maine Central acquired Mount Kineo House
Maine Central acquired narrow gauge Sandy River
and Rangeley Lakes Railroad
Sebasticook & Moosehead merged with Maine Cen-
tral
Somerset Railway merged with Maine Central
Washington County merged with Maine Central
- 1912 Maine Central acquired Ricker Hotel Company
which owned SamOset Hotel
Maine Central acquired narrow gauge Bridgton &
Saco River
Maine Central acquired Essex County line
Maine Central opened line Mainstream to Harmony
Maine Central leased St. Johnsbury and Lake Cham-
plain Railroad extending from Lunenburg to
St. Johnsbury, Vt.
Rangeley Lakes & Megantic opened West Kamen-
keag to Kennebago
- 1914 Maine Central acquired Rangeley Lakes & Megantic
Control of Maine Central returned to Maine inter-
ests after period of control by Boston & Maine
and Eastern and Maine Railways Company
formed
- 1917 Government took control of all U. S. railroads
- 1920 Government control of railroads released
- 1923 Sandy River and Rangeley Lakes went into receiv-
ership
- 1925 Maine Central operation over Belfast & Moosehead
Lake discontinued
Hereford lease to Maine Central terminated; line
abandoned
The SamOset Co. formed to run hotels, buses and
trucks
- 1926 Maine Central turned over Belfast & Moosehead
Lake to City of Belfast
- 1927 Bridgton & Saco River went into receivership and
chartered as Bridgton & Harrison Railway Co.
Carlton Bridge across Kennebec completed and
Maine Central ceased ferry operation
- 1931 Maine Central acquired Coos Valley
Maine Central acquired Upper Coos (N. H.)
Maine Central acquired Upper Coos (Vt.)
Maine Central discontinued its coastal steamer ferry
service
- 1932 Maine Central Transportation Co. created to oper-
ate bus service (formerly The SamOset Co.)
- 1933 Maine Central managed by Boston & Maine
Maine Central and Boston & Maine inaugurated reg-
ular air service between Boston and Bangor un-
der name of Boston - Maine Airways, Inc.
Bingham to Kineo line discontinued
Oquossoc to Kennebago line discontinued
Woodland Jct. to Princeton line discontinued
- 1935 Maine Central acquired Eastern Maine
- 1936 Maine Central acquired Maine Shore Line
Rumford to Oquossoc line discontinued
- 1938 Crowley's Jct. to Leeds Jct. line discontinued
Waukeag to Mt. Desert Ferry line discontinued
Mount Kineo House razed by Maine Central
- 1939 Maine Central acquired Dexter & Newport
Maine Central acquired Dexter & Piscataquis
- 1940 Boston - Maine Airways acquired by Atlas Corp.
and renamed Northeast Airlines
- 1941 SamOset sold by Maine Central
- 1943 Maine Central acquired Portland & Ogdensburg
Maine Central substantially reduced its ownership in
Northeast Airlines
- 1946 Maine Central acquired Portland & Rumford Falls
Railroad which included Portland and Rumford
Falls Railway, Rumford Falls & Buckfield, Port-
land & Oxford Central, and Buckfield Branch
- 1948 Coos Jct. to North Stratford line discontinued;
Maine Central began operation over Boston &
Maine and Canadian National
- 1954 The 470, the last Maine Central passenger steam
locomotive, made its final run
- 1955 Maine Central acquired European & North American
Maine Central acquired St. Johnsbury & Lake Cham-
plain Railroad
Maine Central management completely separated
from Boston & Maine
- 1956 Maine Central sold its interests in bus service to
Greyhound Corporation
- 1960 Maine Central passenger service discontinued per
order of Maine Supreme Court
- 1966 Hartland to Harmony line discontinued
- 1971 Shawmut to Skowhegan line discontinued
- 1974 Mattawamkeag to Vanceboro line sold to Canadian
Pacific