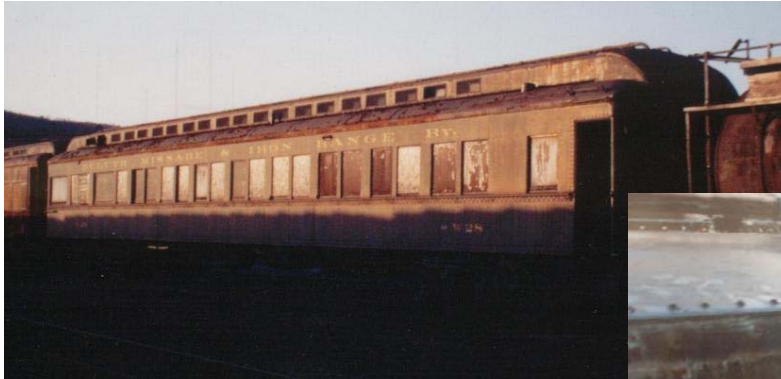


**Duluth & Northern Minnesota Railway Company
Solarium Car #28
Rebuilt May 1994—May 1995 by Greg Vreeland and Assistants
Built by American Car & Foundry in 1912**



Exterior view of car sitting in storage prior to being acquired for rebuild. Car had been used in revenue service through early 1960's, in maintenance service through 1970's and in storage since 1980. Fifteen years of neglect had taken its toll.



Large hole in roof was result of a stove pipe being removed as some point. Steel sheeting was paper thin along much of the hip area of the roof.



Roof edge was rusted completely through along most of the length of the car. This allowed a substantial amount of water to penetrate the walls destroying much of the original mahogany woodwork. Photo at right shows the completed metal work. Approximately 60% of the roof was replaced. Following the installation of the new galvanized sheeting it was painted with a special primer, all joints and fasteners were sealed and the roof received a new paint job.



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Interior view of car at beginning of project. Note the many layers of paint covering the mahogany woodwork. Also note the missing trim work. All remaining woodwork was stripped of paint and then examined for reuse. Much of it was water damaged beyond salvation.



Metal ceiling was sandblasted, repaired, primed and repainted using Dupont Imron. This durable paint works well in the northern climate because it is designed for harsh environments and stands up well to changes in temperature.



Construction of interior walls was accomplished using a framework of angle iron for strength and mahogany plywood for the sheeting. Steel frame was painted mahogany brown and then the panels were stained.



At beginning of project car was completely stripped. During project walls were added to create a restroom, storage closet, mechanical/furnace room, buffet kitchen, and an open bar. Tables were added in the main body, and overstuffed lounge chairs in the solarium. Original woodwork was used whenever possible and new mahogany added where needed. New wood was stained to blend with original.



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Exterior view of completed car in service on the Wisconsin Great Northern Railroad in Spooner, Wisconsin.



View of the Solarium end of the car. All of the window frames and 100% of the woodwork in this room is new. It has been matched to the rest of the car in both style and coloring.



The photo at left shows the completed hallway. Note the rich finish on the mahogany plywood and the trim work and stylish light fixtures.

The photo at right shows the newly built partition that separates the solarium from the main dining area in the middle of the car. This car was built specifically for private parties and can comfortably seat up to 42 guests.

