

RR Name	Northern Illinois Railroad Co. (1884)			RR Code	NOIL
City	Spring Valley	State	IL	Country	Zip3

Operated from-to:Belvidere, IL - Spring Valley, IL

RR: Common Carrier

Gauge

Elevation

Max Grade

Chartered in 1884 Merged into Chicago & North Western Railway on 6/9/1888

The Northern Illinois Railroad (1884) was organized by the Chicago & North Western to connect the North Western with the coal fields in Spring Valley.

The Spring Valley extension was important for the Chicago & North Western, as it provided the closest "on-line" coal supply for the line.

Stations were constructed at Belvidere, Herbert, Henrietta, Sycamore, Sycamore Junction, DeKalb, Elva, Newtown, Shabbona Grove, Rollo, Earlville, Triumph, Troy Grove, Siding, Shaft No. 2 and Spring Valley. Belvidere, Sycamore, DeKalb and Spring Valley were the most imports stations. [2]

Construction began on April 29, 1885 when the line was built north and south from DeKalb, connecting Belvidere with Spring Valley. The line was opened on November 23, 1885, and soon began shipping 200 cars of coal a day north from the mines at Spring Valley. This railroad was taken over by the Chicago and Northwestern Railway on June 9, 1888. The railroad's passenger service made it possible to go by train from DeKalb to Madison, Wisconsin by changing cars at Belvidere, Rockford and Freeport. The trains from the south carried many students to DeKalb in the heyday of the railroad. Passenger service was discontinued early in the 1920's. The line to the north was discontinued north of Sycamore in 1942, but the line south to Spring Valley is still part of the Chicago and North Western System.

References

1. <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uiuo.ark:/13960> (pp 313)
2. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/wdemunn/sets/72157638102927825/> (Photo album: Steam locomotives, passenger cars, historical newspaper articles, Herbert, IL map,

Maps

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/wdemunn/sets/72157638102927825/> (various cities along the line)

Parent/Successors

- 1862 - Union Pacific Railroad
 - 1859 - 1995 Chicago & North Western Railway (Chicago & Northwestern)
 - 1884 - 1888 Northern Illinois Railroad Co. (1884)
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