



## Caboose 0711



0711 is a *Cupola Caboose* because it has an elevated windowed platform on the roof (where it was used in the past by the train crew to perform safety observations and inspections).

### Timeline

- 1960s The ACL Waycross Shops (in Georgia) built the first **steel** cabooses (**Class M-5s**) and they were numbered **0600 – 0786**. They were called Cupola cabooses because they had small windowed projections on the roof where the crew sat to inspect the train from above.
- 1964 Caboose 0711 was built new for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (which merged in 1967 with Seaboard Air Line Railroad)
- 1983 Retired from service
- 1986 Seaboard Coast Line Railroad donated **Caboose 0711** to the Boca Raton Historical Society
- 1987 Arrived by rail and was hauled four blocks to the Boca Train FEC Depot at a cost of \$3,000.
- 1996 The caboose was sandblasted and repainted and is currently on display at the Boca Express Train Museum.



“The caboose that generations once looked for at the end of every freight train is now a thing of the past, replaced by modern technology”

### Interesting Facts about Cabooses

🚂 A **caboose** was a “**manned railroad vehicle**” at the **end** (usually) of a freight train that provided **safety functions** for the train and **housing quarters** for the conductor, brakeman, and flagman.

🚂 The **caboose** provided a place for the crew members to **observe** the train from the rear. This allowed them to **address** and **resolve** any **problems** encountered (such as train cars separating, axles overheating, etc.).

🚂 In the United States **all freight trains were required to have a caboose** up until the 1980s, when technology eliminated the need for them due to modern switching and communications systems (which performed the necessary safety functions).



Caboose 0711 resides at the Boca Express Train Museum giving visitors a glimpse into the past.