

Located in the Historic



Sacramento Railyards



A World-Class Showcase

Hands-On, Interactive Exhibits

Lively Restoration Shop Tours

Central Shops Historic District Anchor

Keeping the Railyards' Heritage Alive!



Linking Yesterday with Tomorrow



Cathedrals of Labor



The Last Spike of the Transcontinental Railroad is driven in 1869, with Sacramento as its western terminus.



Beginning in the late 1860s, Southern Pacific Central Shops expanded to become the West's largest industrial complex.

During their long history, the Southern Pacific Central Shops amassed a long list of superlatives. These Shops were the largest single-site industrial complex west of the Rockies. For 80 years the Shops were the Central Valley's largest employer. A massive and diverse workforce toiled for 130 years in these Cathedrals of Labor. Hundreds of locomotives and passenger cars and thousands of freight cars were built here. The Shops even created desks, tables and chairs, cast iron stoves, hand trucks, clip boards, restaurant silver service—and propulsion systems and machinery for the railroad's San Francisco Bay ferryboats.



The Shops' immense and diverse workforce included many women during both World Wars.

“These...are among the most historically significant buildings in all of California...For more than a century, the thousands of people [who worked in the Railyards]—of every cultural background—crafted the locomotives [and] rail cars...from which rose the modern West. There is no better way to commemorate and to learn first-hand...than to adaptively preserve these buildings and use them as a public education center for the 21st century.”

—William L. Withuhn, Curator of Work & Industry, Smithsonian Institution



Steam locomotives are reassembled in the Erecting Shop following major overhaul.

A Railroad Town

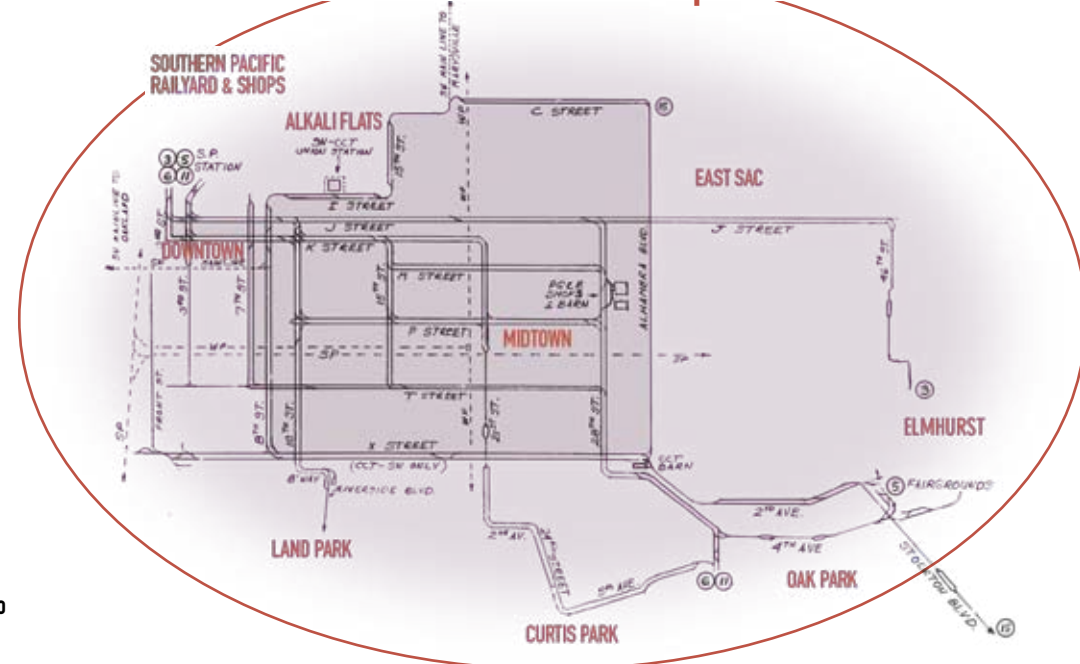


Each workday and at every shift, streetcars transported workers between their neighborhoods and the Central Shops.

“The Southern Pacific passenger depot and shops area were a major destination for the streetcars, carrying passengers to and from the station and the shops’ employees to and from work. The locomotive works and shops were the largest employer in Sacramento, and the Southern Pacific depot was the largest passenger station in the region.”

—William Burg, Author of “Sacramento’s Street Cars”

Streetcar Routes to the Shops, 1930s



Sacramento has been a railroad town as long as it has been the Capital City of California. The first railroad west of the Rockies opened here in 1855, and in 1869 Sacramento became western terminus of the world's first Transcontinental Railroad. The City of Sacramento and its many neighborhoods were influenced and shaped by railroad workers. The Shops' steam whistle announced shift changes and set a “rhythm” for the city and its residents. One out of every four workers in Sacramento was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad, many of them traveling to and from work via the city's once-extensive streetcar system.



A streetcar heads from Oak Park to the SP Depot and Central Shops, traveling via Fifth Avenue in Curtis Park.

The Railroad Technology Museum



Wheels, axles and brakes being inspected



Turntable and locomotive demonstrations



Vocational education programs will help train a regional workforce in a variety of industrial arts skills. Here, sparks fly as metal is welded and ground smooth.



Precision parts are crafted on machine tools

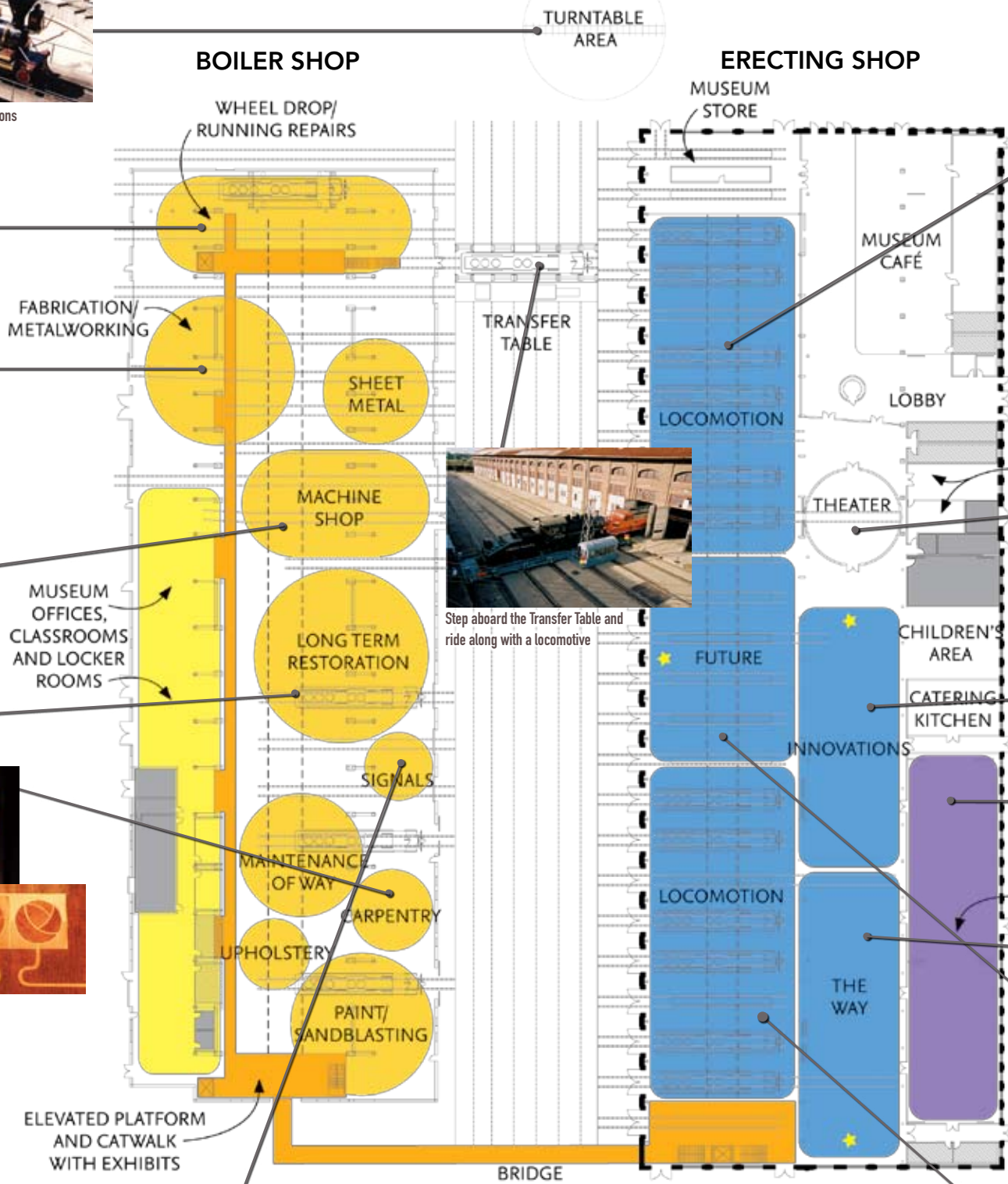


For over 30 years, Railroad Museum restoration professionals have been at work in the Railyards, with the full support of Southern Pacific and successor Union Pacific Railroad.



Craftpersons and artisans restoring interior finishes and wood inlay

All Aboard for the Railroad Technology Museum—a unique museum of science, technology, and innovation! The Railroad Technology Museum's main galleries will highlight the past, showcase the present, and explore the future with dynamic, hands-on exhibits. Its publicly accessible Restoration Shop will continue the time-honored work of craftpersons and artisans, and support Vocational Education training programs. This vibrant, interactive museum complex will commemorate Sacramento's incredible railroad heritage, and showcase the evolution of railroad technology—pointing the way to a greener future for California and our world.



Track and signals require regular inspection and repairs



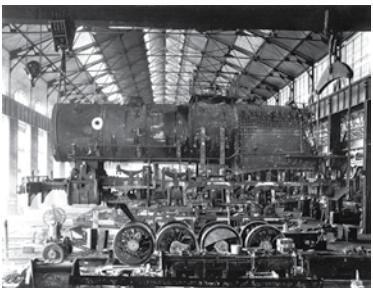
Great views of the Erecting Shop and the Intermodal Transportation Facility



Inside an interactive locomotive simulator



Showcasing high speed rail around the world



Once a center of innovation, the Erecting Shop is transformed into a center of learning



Central Shops public plaza leading to museum entrance



Learn how America's railroad industry helped shape our world of today



Water expands 10 times when turned to steam in a locomotive



Exploring weight and volume in railroad freight terms



Surveying and mapping the best route for a railroad

Making Connections Today



Streetcars and buses brought travelers to the Southern Pacific Depot in downtown Sacramento circa 1940.



The Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility will link the new Railyards commercial district, the Railroad Technology Museum, and the Old Sacramento Historic District with the Central Business District, bringing a new sense of vitality to downtown Sacramento.

“The Railroad Technology Museum represents a strategic investment in California’s heritage and the Sacramento region’s future. It will be a cornerstone of the Sacramento Railyards development, which promises to revitalize the City’s downtown core. It will create a regional asset and increase our region’s appeal and visibility on a national and international scale. It will also meet the needs of schoolchildren and visitors from throughout California while creating a civic amenity for the generations of today and tomorrow.”

—Steve Hammond, Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau President and CEO



The Railroad Technology Museum will link railroading’s rich heritage of innovation with its promising future for a greener world.

U.S. railroads today are carrying more freight than ever before. More passenger trains call in Sacramento today than in 1926, which was the opening year for the Southern Pacific depot (today’s Sacramento Valley Station). Located in the Railyards’ Central Shops Historic District, the Railroad Technology Museum will be immediately adjacent to the new Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility. Lively and vibrant community events will energize the Railroad Technology Museum and its surroundings. This new Museum complex will attract hundreds of thousands of new visitors each year. It will serve as anchor tenant to the Central Shops Historic District in the Railyards—similar to how the present-day Railroad History Museum complex serves as anchor tenant to the Old Sacramento Historic District.

Major special events and innovative programs will energize the Railroad Technology Museum’s surroundings.



Supporting the Vision

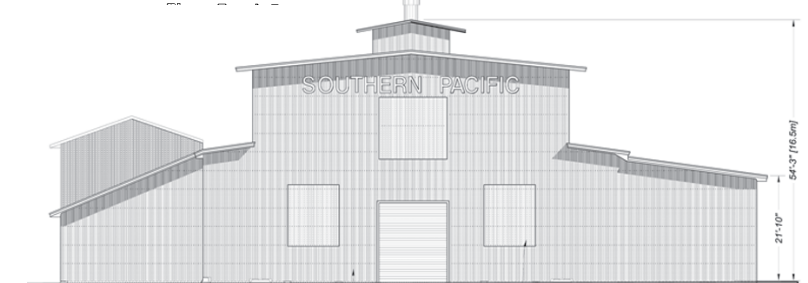
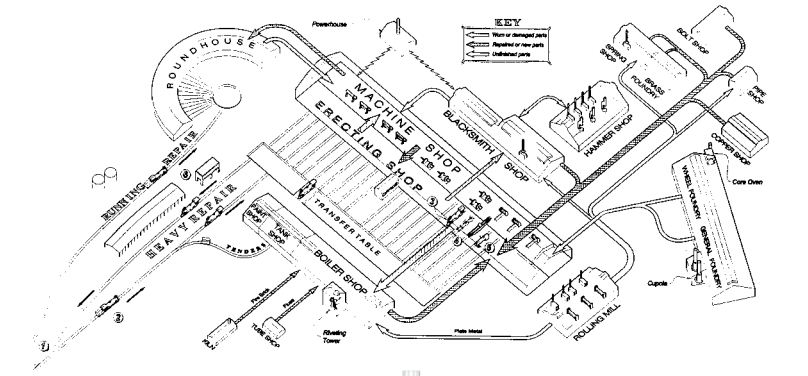
The Railroad Technology Museum (RTM), as envisioned, will break new ground in the museum community. Combining the high tech, interactive exhibits of a science museum with the authentic, behind-the-scenes experiences of an industrial tour, all in a historic setting, this new hybrid museum can bring the best of different worlds together in one location.

Partial List of Supporters

In addition to over 10,000 individuals who support the Railroad Technology Museum, dozens of local, state, and national organizations such as the

Association of Railway Museums
California Preservation Foundation
Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau
Sacramento County Historical Society
National Trust for Historic Preservation
North American Railway Foundation

support the Railroad Technology Museum

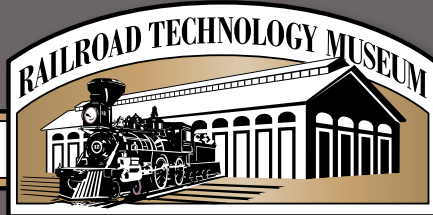


The Erecting Shop (top) and Boiler Shop together comprised the Locomotive Repair Area in the Central Shops. The Railroad Technology Museum re-uses the two buildings synergistically, honoring the past sensitively and appropriately while showcasing railroading’s dynamic present and its ability to help shape a greener future.

“Preservation and interpretive development of the two buildings in the historic Railyards’ Central Shops is of high priority for California State Parks. An internationally-renowned Railroad Technology Museum will beckon visitors to Northern California from throughout the country and from around the world, much like the Gold Rush did 150 years ago.”

—Walter P. Gray III, former California State Archivist and California State Railroad Museum Director

Located in the Historic



Sacramento Railyards

IMAGINE a world-class museum experience. One where children and adults alike **EXPLORE** technology's ongoing march as they **INTERACT** with the subject matter via hands-on exhibits and live demonstrations.

Climb aboard to **LEARN** about the contributions of America's railroad

industry and how its many innovations helped **SHAPE** our world of today.



STROLL through magnificent industrial buildings, true Cathedrals of **LABOR**

where tens of thousands of diverse workers toiled to keep America on the **MOVE**.

GATHER tools and knowledge to help **CHANGE** our world for the

better, and **UNDERSTAND** how fuel-efficient trains and high-speed rail

will **PLAY** major roles in shaping a greener future. **WATCH** as artisans and

craftspeople perform time-honored restoration and maintenance work. **ALL ABOARD** for the Railroad Technology Museum!



Linking Yesterday with Tomorrow

