City of Benson
City Council Communication

Regular Meeting **July 8, 2013**

To: Mayor and Council Agenda Item # 4

From: Jim Cox, Interim City Manager

Subject:

Discussion and possible action to provide financial support for proposed murals on the outdoor walls of the Visitor's Center parking lot

Discussion:

Benson Clean & Beautiful proposes to paint murals on the walls of the Visitor's Center parking lot as a complement to the railroad logo signs that will be installed soon. The estimated cost for the project is $3,970. Benson Clean & Beautiful requests financial support from the City for their project.

Staff Recommendation:

Council pleasure

Benson Clean & Beautiful Committee
June 19, 2013

Doug Quarles, a muralist painter from Tucumcari, New Mexico, has submitted a quote to paint murals on the panels on the west side of the Benson Visitors' Center. We as a committee feel that those panels should be painted with a railroad theme because the Visitors' Center is so close to the railroad. Bob Nilson of the Visitors' Center has indicated that the railroad logos that are being fabricated will be mounted on every other panel on both sides of the Visitors' Center. With this in mind, Mr. Quarles has submitted a rough sketch drawing of the photos we provided to him showing murals and the railroad logos on the length of the west wall.

Mr. Quarle's normal rate is $15.00 per square foot, which would be a total cost in excess of $7,000. However, Mr. Quarles has offered us a package quote to do eight panels for $3,600.00, which is slightly less than $10.00 per square foot. This quote includes the cost of the primer, the paint, and the clear coat. He is offering this discounted rate with the expectation of moving to Benson soon and literally "Painting the Town" with murals of our choice.

He estimates that it will take approximately eight weeks to do the murals, and has asked that we reimburse him for half of his motel bill while he's here. Nancy Iverson, owner of the Sahara Motel, has offered to give him a discounted monthly rate of $756.00, with half of that being $378.00. Therefore, the total cost to the Clean & Beautiful Committee for painting these eight murals would be $3,978.00.

In addition to the rough sketch drawing, also submitted for review are photos of some of the murals that Mr. Quarles has previously painted.

Lisa Hill, Chair

Benson Clean & Beautiful Committee

June 24, 2013

After having been inactive since 2007, the Benson Clean & Beautiful Committee is being revived. For our first major project, it is our wish to have murals of early Benson history painted on the outside walls of as many Benson businesses as possible. We would like to make Benson a destination for all tourists, rather than just a pass-through on the way to Tombstone and Bisbee. The mural program has revitalized other cities such as Tucumcari, New Mexico, Lake Placid, Florida, and Ely, Nevada, to name just a few.

I have been elected Chairman of the Clean & Beautiful Committee and as such, would like to ask the City Council for permission to paint murals on eight of the outside panel walls west of the Benson Visitors' center. We as a Committee are also asking the City of Benson for a donation to help cover the cost of this first project.

Doug Quarles, an experienced muralist painter from Tucumcari, New Mexico, has submitted a quote to paint murals on these panels. Because the Visitors' Center is so close to the railroad, we as a committee feel that the panels should be painted with a railroad theme. Bob Nilson of the Visitors' Center has indicated that the metal railroad logos that are being fabricated will be mounted on every other panel on both sides of the Visitors' Center. With this in mind, Mr. Quarles has submitted a rough sketch drawing of the photos we provided to him showing murals and the railroad logos on the length of the west wall. A copy of these drawing is attached.

Mr. Quarle's normal rate is $15.00 per square foot, which would be a total cost in excess of $7,000. However, Mr. Quarles has offered us a package quote to do eight panels for $3,600.00, which is less than $10.00 per square foot. This quote includes the cost of the primer, the paint, and the clear coat. He is offering this discounted rate with the expectation of moving to Benson soon and literally "Painting the Town" with murals of our choice.

He estimates that it will take approximately eight weeks to paint the murals, and has asked that we reimburse him for half of his motel bill while he's here. Nancy Iverson, owner of the Sahara Motel, has offered to give him a discounted monthly rate of $756.00 for a kitchenette unit. The total cost to the Clean & Beautiful Committee for painting these eight murals would be $3,600.00 and one-half of two months' motel bill in the amount of $756.00, for a total of $4,356.00.

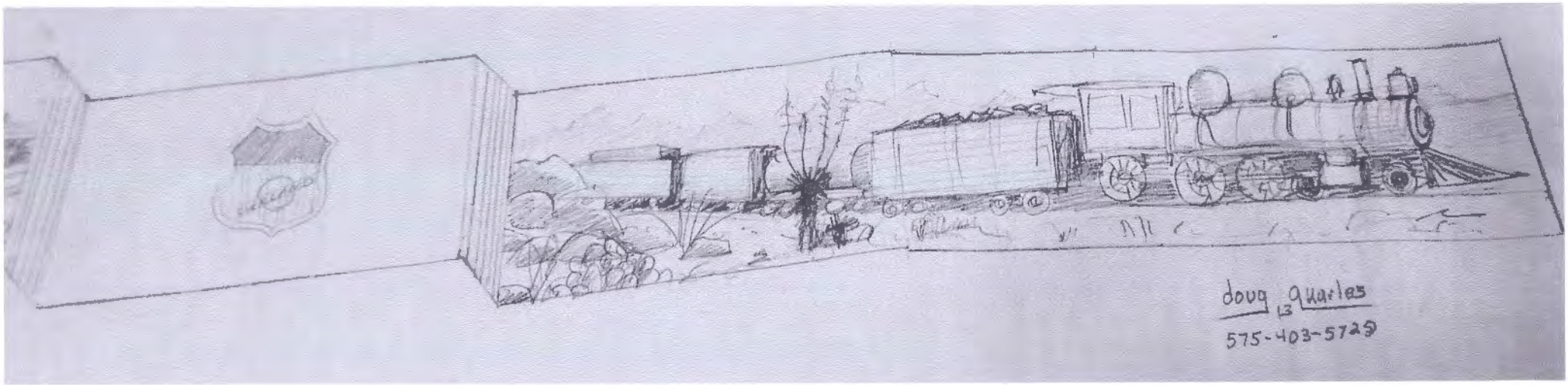
In addition to the rough sketch drawings, also submitted for your review and information are copies of the railroad logos, several photos which are the subject of the murals, and photos of some of the previous murals that Mr. Quarles has painted.

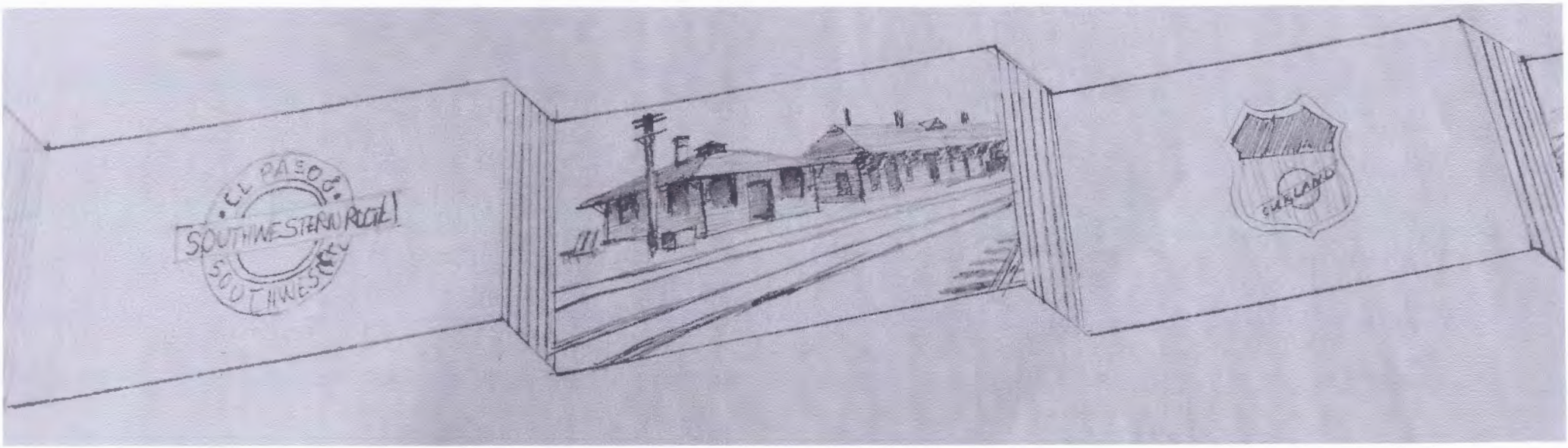
Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

BENSON CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE

Lisa Hill

Lisa Hill, Chairman


doug 13 quarles
575-403-5729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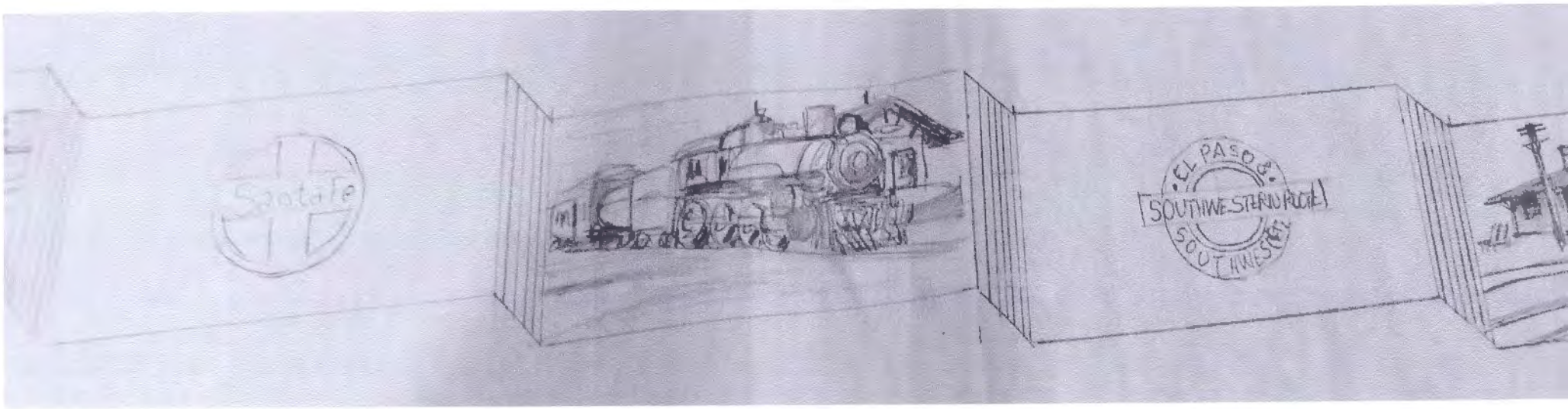
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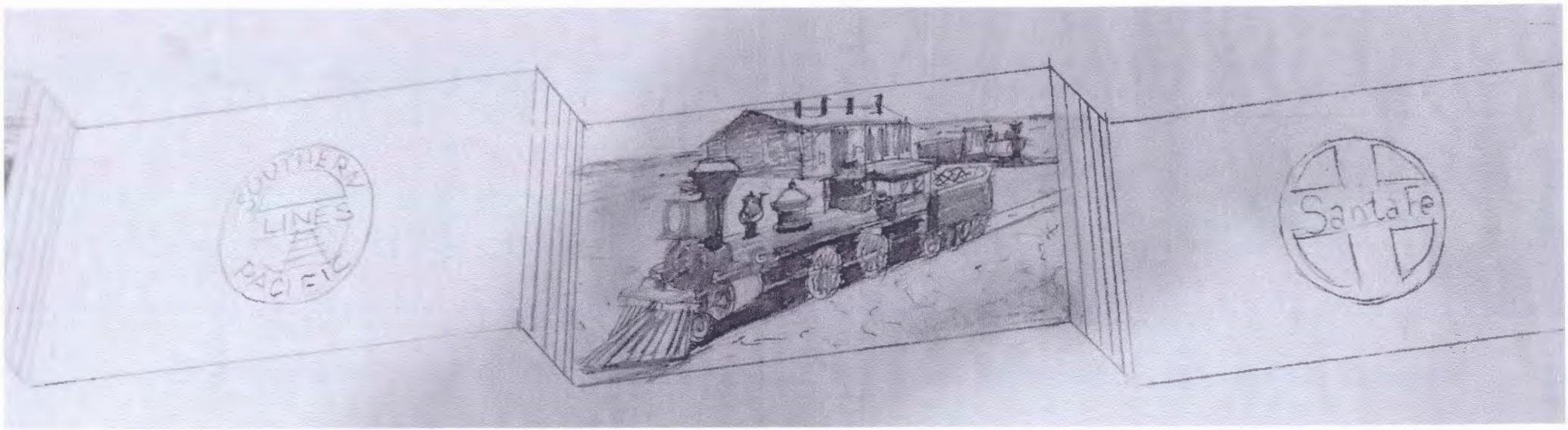
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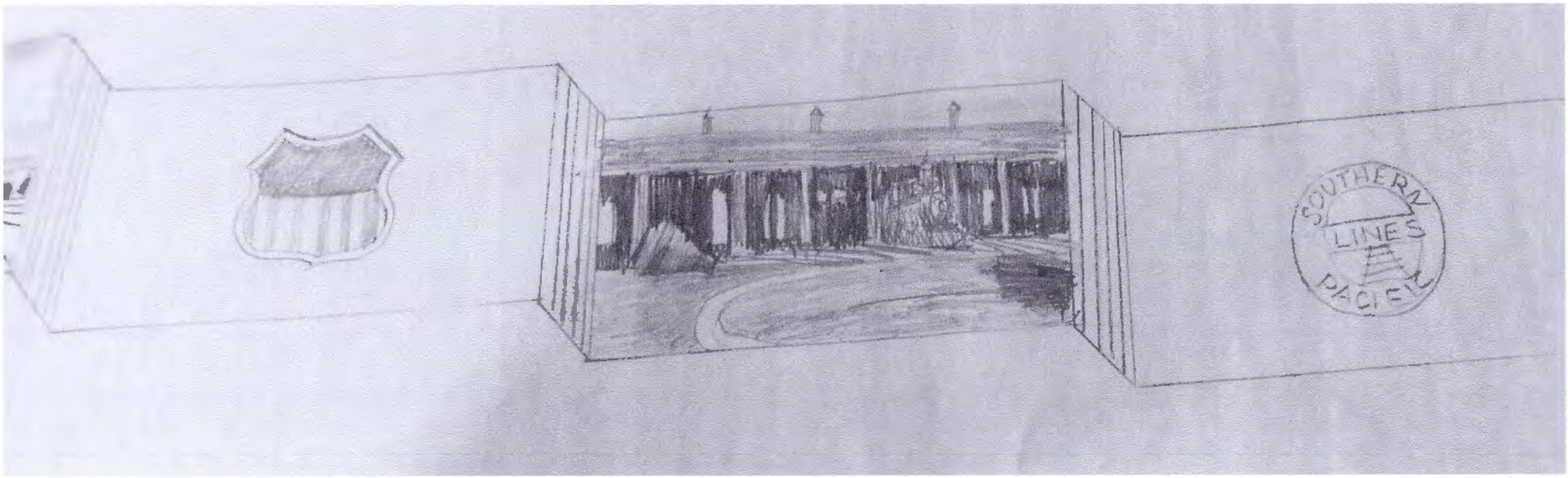
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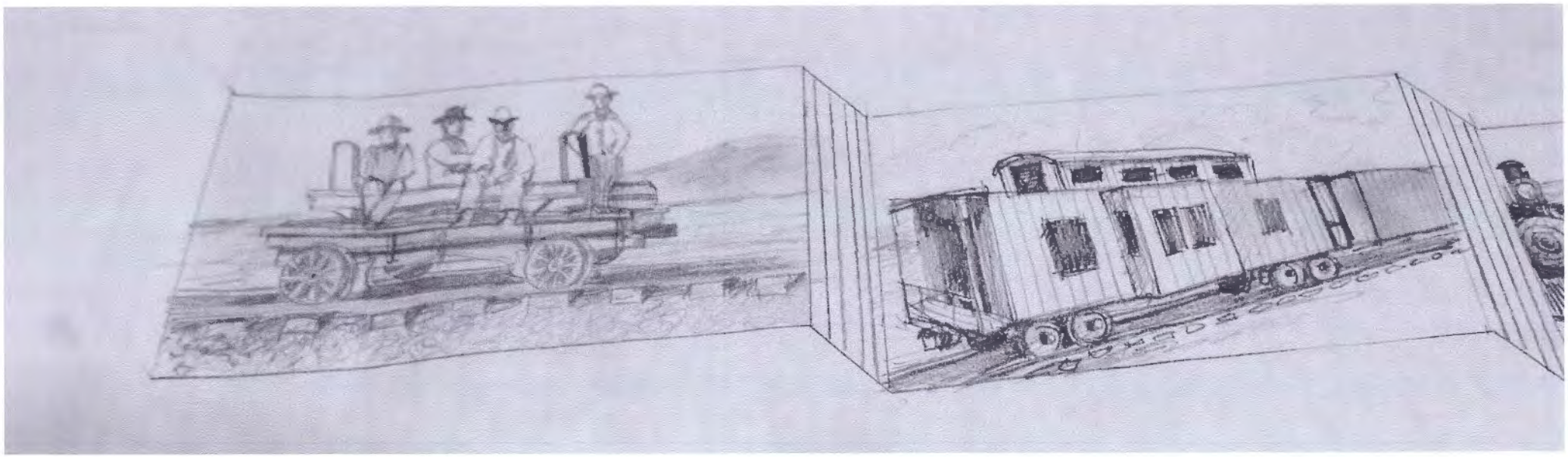
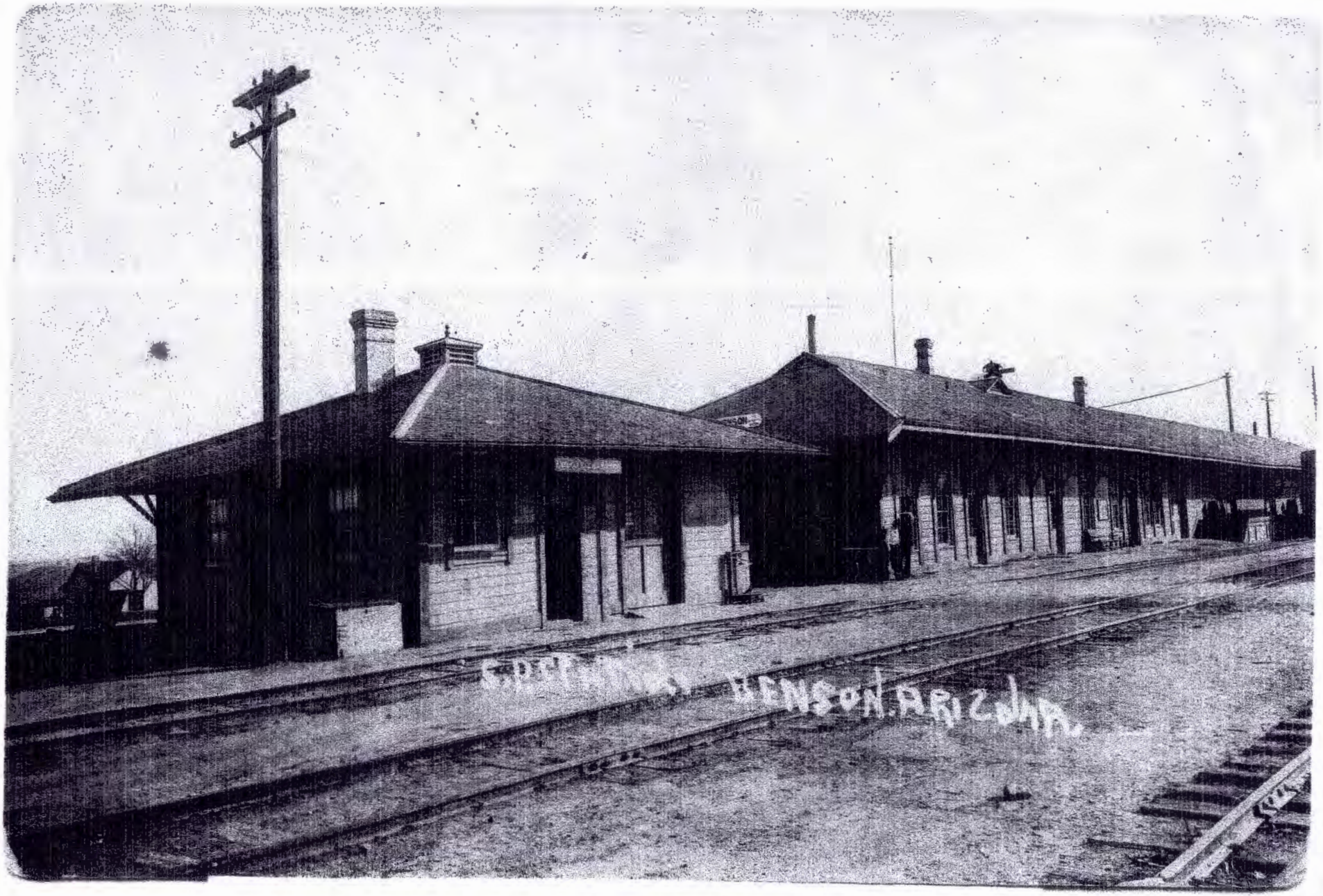


UNION PACIFIC
Santa Fe
UNION PACIFIC

#1



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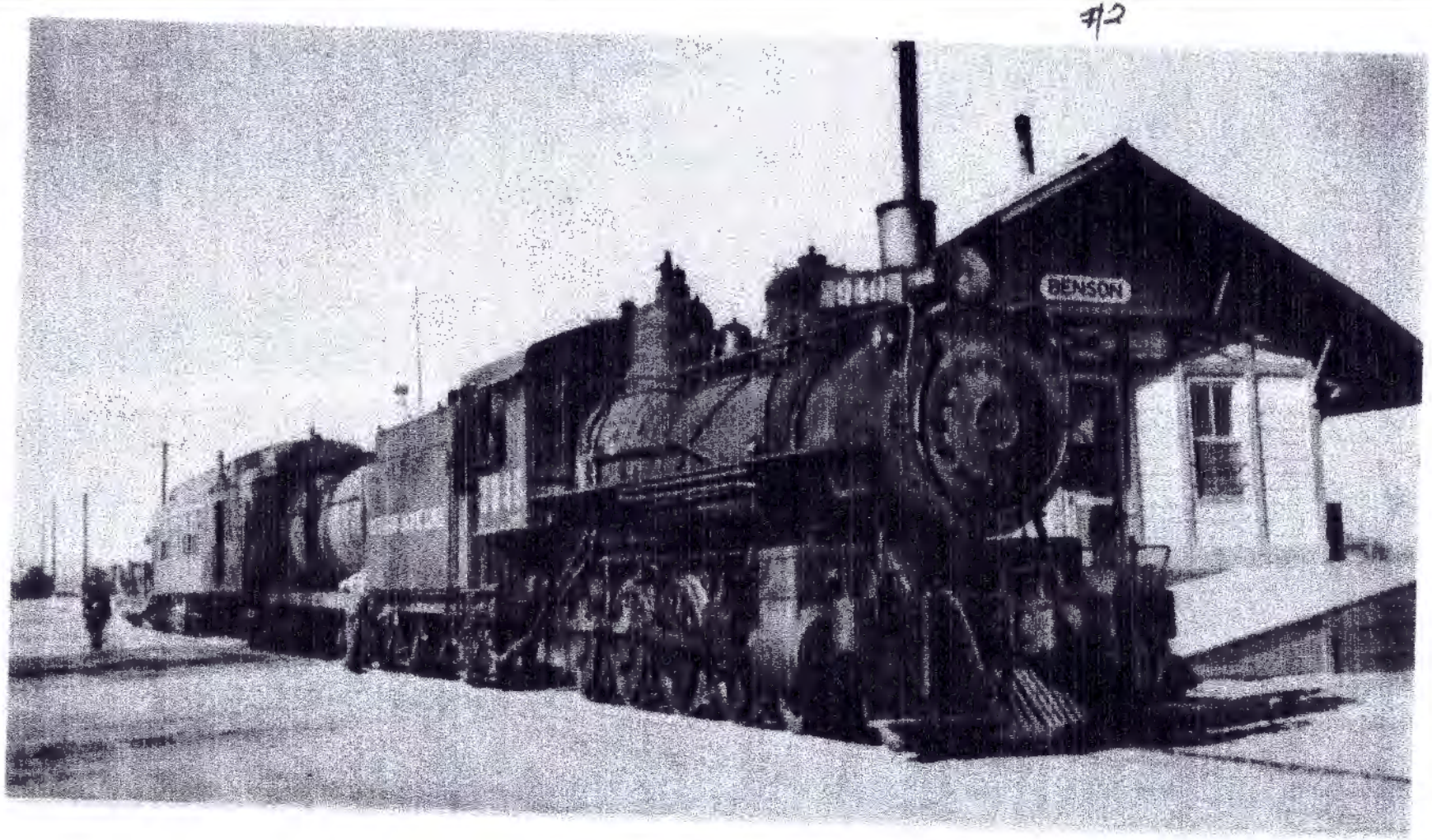

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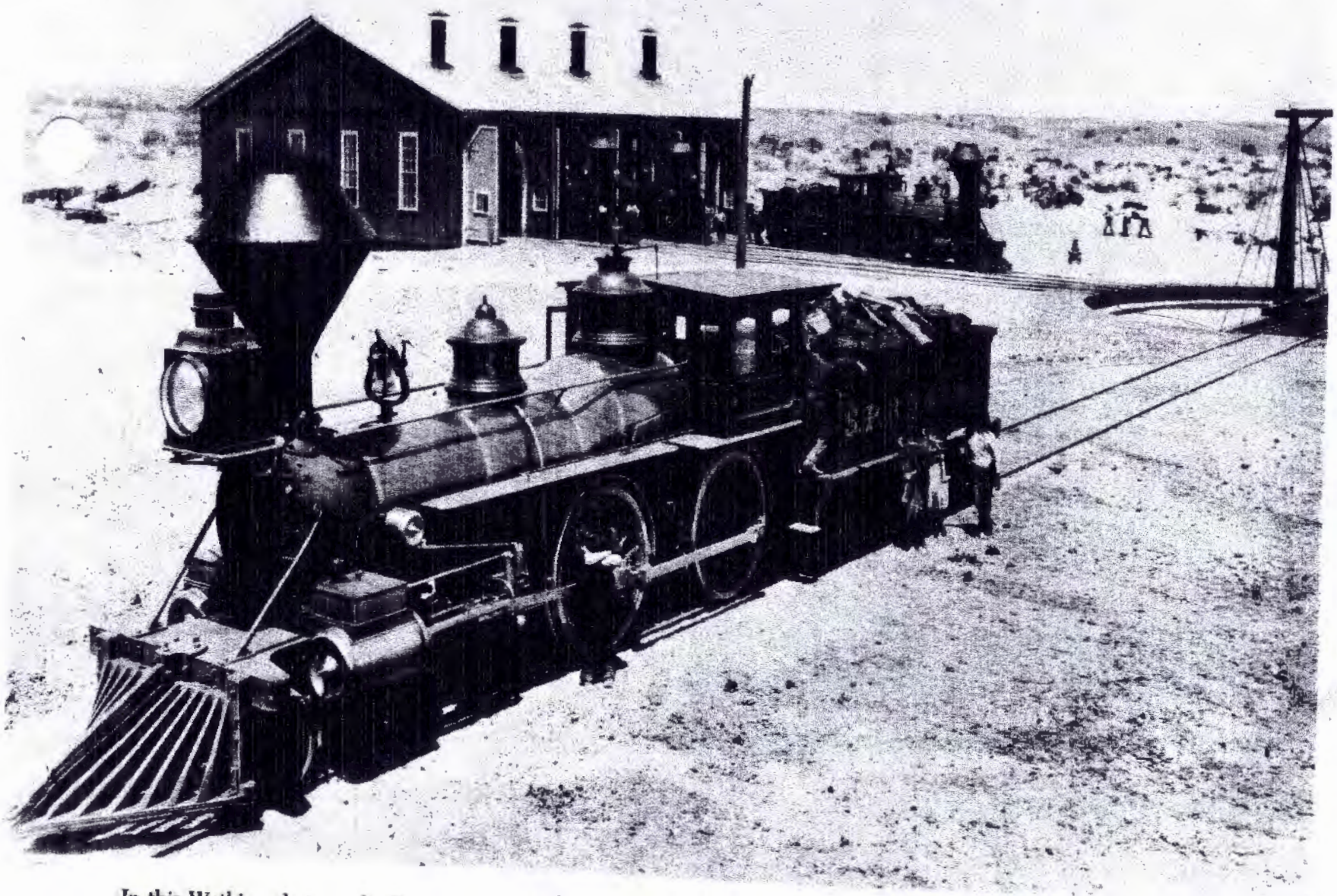
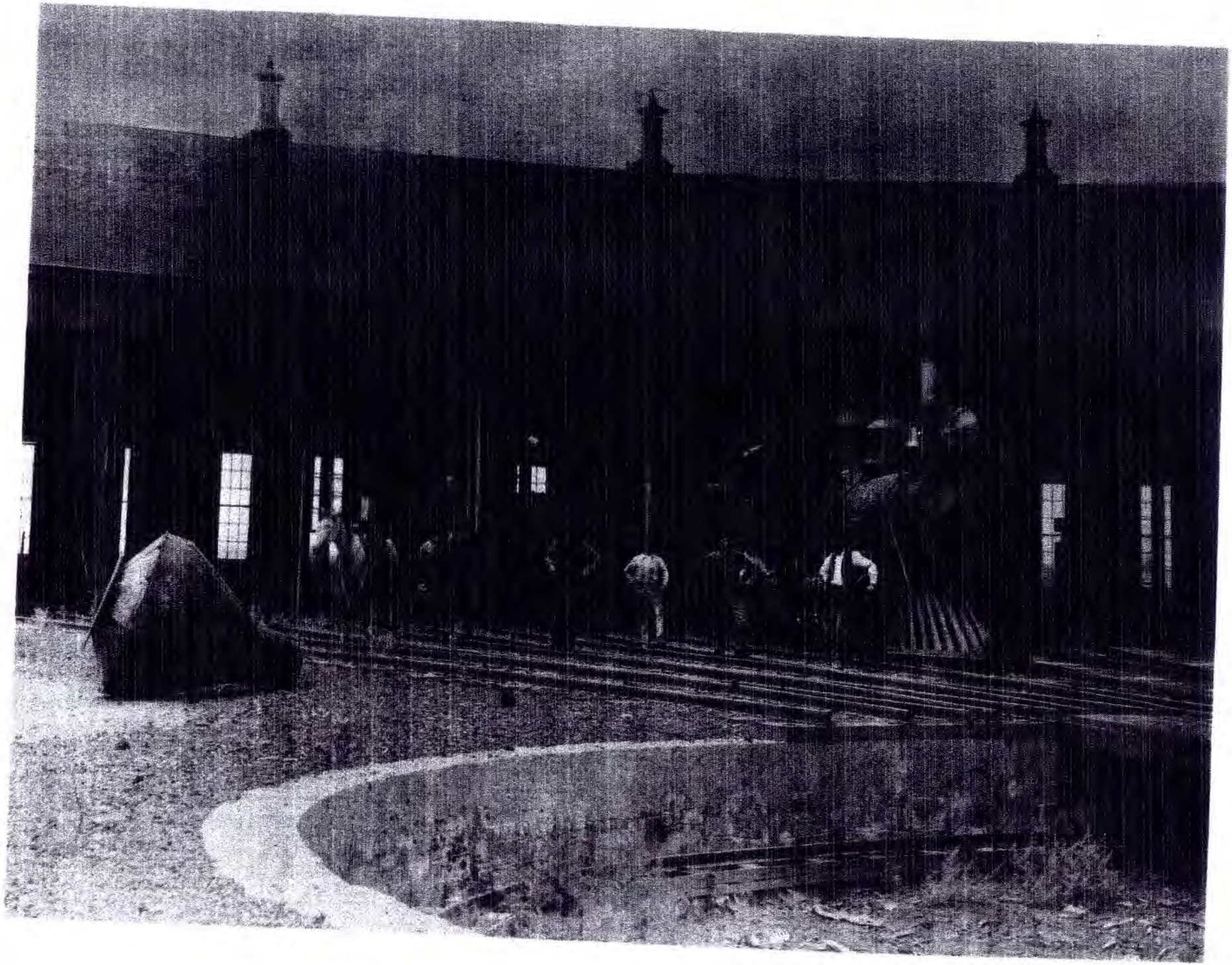


In this Watkins photograph, these wood burners had just been received from Schenectady. Proudly lettered "S.P.R.R. of Arizona," this motive power is clustered around the Yuma roundhouse which was to be enlarged several times before its demise. Approaching the "armstrong" turntable (at the present intersection of Fifth and Main Streets) is No. 8. *(Huntington Library)*



#4

#5

#6

Subject: Murals 5 years old+

From: Sharon Quarles (quarlesartgallery@plateautel.net)

To: lisad1945@yahoo.com;

Date: Monday, May 20, 2013 9:35 AM

Mrs. Hill,

This is some of the Murals 5 + years old as per request. We hope this meets your needs.

Regards,

Doug & Sharon Quarles

Legendary Road 2004 14 x 114

In Memory Of 2005 8 x 20

Conchas Lake & Dam 2005 13 x 135

Southwest Scene 2005 14 x 135