

OUT OF THE ARCHIVES

Railroad Heritage Visual Archives Gallery

THIS REGULAR COLUMN BRINGS TO light the world of professional archiving, providing a forum to share selections from our collections and tips for maintaining your own photographs. Whether you are a photographer, collector, or avid fan, it is important to organize and preserve the materials you create or collect. In this special seventh installment, we present a gallery of photographs we have recently processed or acquired. Please get in touch with me by email at jordan@railphoto-art.org if there are any topics you would like us to cover in the future.

Railroad Heritage Visual Archive updates

In our Madison office, Aviva Gellman and John Kelly are entering metadata for the John F. Bjorklund Collection so we can post more of it online. I am continuing to work closely with J. Parker Lamb on the ongoing transfer of his remarkable black-and-white photography collection to the Center. We recently uploaded selections of his sixth batch and expect to receive his seventh batch soon. We recently hired two new graduate archival interns, Emily Shultz (UW-Madison) and John L. Quinlan (UW-Milwaukee), to assist with processing two newly-acquired collections, one being the work of Donald W. Furler (read more in the story on p. 4).

STORY

Jordan Radke

PHOTOGRAPHS

Collection of the Center



At Lake Forest College, graduate archival intern Colleen O'Keefe is finishing metadata entry and scanning of the Wallace W. Abbey Collection, while also processing the Ted Rose Collection.

You can view highlights online from many of our collections at www.railphoto-art.org, and we post selections weekly to our social media platforms on Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, and Twitter.

About our collection

The Railroad Heritage Visual Archive includes more than 200,000 photographs. Besides me, the team in Madison consists of graduate archival interns Emily Shultz and John L. Quinlan, intern Aviva Gellman, and volunteer John Kelly. We also partner with Lake Forest College, working with Anne Thomason, archivist, along with graduate archival intern Colleen O'Keefe, to process and maintain Center materials housed in the college's Archives & Special Collections in the Donnelley and Lee Library. Scott Lothes, Center president and executive director, and the Collections & Acquisitions Committee of the board of directors provide oversight.

In keeping with our mission of preserving and presenting significant images of railroading, with the Railroad Heritage Visual Archive we seek to securely house collections and make their contents accessible. We adhere to established archival principles to ensure safety and accuracy. Our work as archivists includes:

Preservation. One of our main objectives is properly preserving our collections. This includes using archival-safe supplies and providing a controlled environment where our materials are housed.

Processing. Processing materials is a long, tedious, and detailed endeavor. Organizing a collection appropriately sets up the rest of the processing work that includes digitization and metadata entry. This work is essential to the long-term care and future accessibility of a collection.

Arrangement and Description. To maintain quick and easy retrieval of our materials, we organize every collection down to its individual items, if possible, given the time and resources available to us.

Accessibility. Finally, we will make sure that users have access to our processed collections. We create detailed finding aids to describe each collection and its contents and share images electronically through our website and many social media platforms.



Left: New York Central Railroad L-2a class 4-8-2 steam locomotive no. 2739 sends an eruption of steam and smoke into the winter sky as it powers a train down the railroad's four-track main line sometime around 1950. Photograph by Robert A. Witbeck. Witbeck-02-020-04

Opposite: City center, Luisenplatz, at Darmstadt, Germany, with a Darmstadt tram (center) and the Ludwig Monument (right) in August 1945. Note the wartime camouflage paint still adorning the tram cars. Photograph by Perry Frank Johnson. Johnson-14-004-02

Right: Rain blankets Canadian Pacific Railway 4-6-2 Pacific locomotive no. 2235 as it is rotated at Toronto's John Street roundhouse in Toronto, Ontario, on April 7, 1958. Photograph by J. Parker Lamb. Lamb-01-060-02

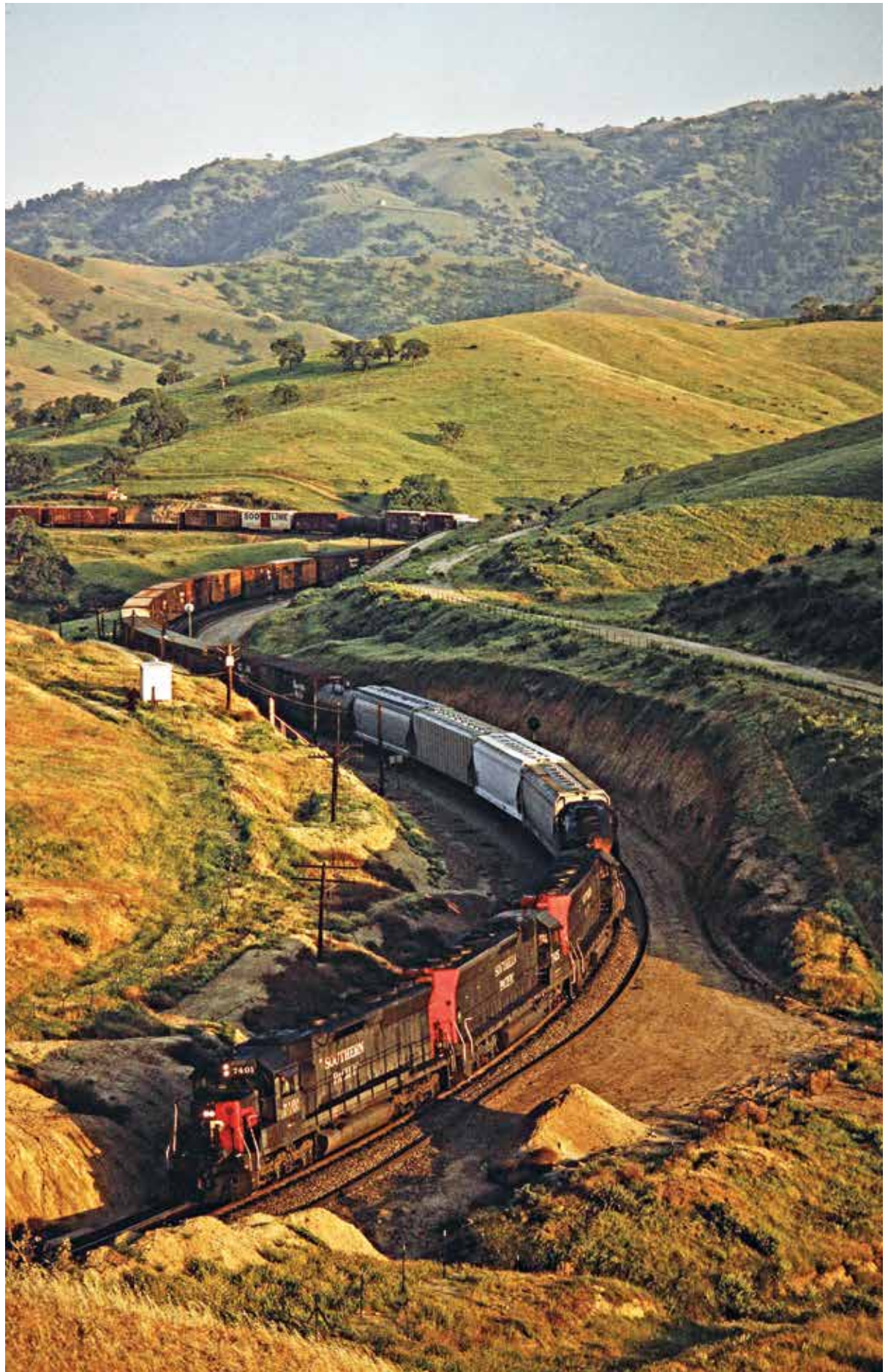


Below: Lehigh & Hudson River 2-8-0 steam locomotive no. 90 rolls an eastbound freight train through the snow-covered fields and hills of Craigville, New York, on December 12, 1945. Photograph by Donald W. Furler. Furler-01-067-01





Rods and wheels of National
Railways of Mexico 2-8-4
steam locomotive no. 3354.
Photograph by Ted Rose.
Rose-01-079-11



Westbound Southern Pacific Railroad freight train descending through the Tehachapi Mountains near Allard, California, on April 13, 1989. Photograph by John F. Bjorklund. Bjorklund-87-22-06



Left: New York Central train no. 25, the westbound *20th Century Limited*, arriving at Chicago's La Salle Street Station in April of 1967. Photograph by Wallace W. Abbey

Below: Hedjaz Jordan Railway 2-8-2 steam locomotive no. 71 pulling a three-car train upgrade near Amman, Jordan, on July 15, 1991. Photograph by Fred M. Springer. Springer-Hedjaz-ZimZam(1)-02-14

