



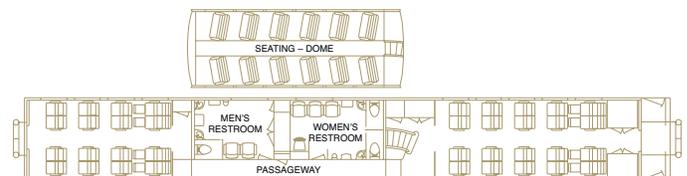
COLUMBINE

Dome Coach – Stabled at Council Bluffs

The *Columbine* was built by American Car & Foundry in 1955 as dome coach No. 7001. It was reacquired by Union Pacific in 1989.

The columbine is the state flower of Colorado. When a new heavyweight train was put on the run between Chicago and Denver in 1929, it was named after the flower, and was dubbed the “Flower of Travel Comfort.” The train’s limousine lounge car, the *Colorado Club*, had a special color scheme. The car featured buffet soda fountain service, as well as standard valet features. The observation platform was enclosed and called a solarium. In the dining car, a special china pattern was in use. The *Columbine* and the *Portland Rose* were the only two Union Pacific trains which had exclusive dining car china patterns. Though the train was in daily service and there were only four dining cars, china quantities were limited. Today the most collectible china pattern from Union Pacific is the *Columbine*. Recently a cup and saucer sold at auction for \$1,650.

In addition to the lounge and diner, the train had standard Pullman sleeping cars and coaches. Two of the sleeping cars were not put on the train until it reached Omaha, Neb. The timetable notes that these cars would not be available for boarding until 9:30 p.m. for a 12:06 a.m. westbound departure. On the eastbound trip, the train arrived in Omaha at 6:30 a.m., but passengers could remain in their sleeping space until 8 a.m. The *Columbine* train remained in service until 1950.



Configuration: *Columbine* is a Dome Coach Car. The short end of the car has coach-style seating for 16, and the long end of the car has coach-style seating for 20. The dome has seating for 24, giving this car a total seating capacity of 60. The car has public restrooms in the belly.