Shoshone

Business Car – Stabled at Council Bluffs

The Shoshone was built by Pullman Standard in 1914 as business car No. 99 for then Union Pacific Chairman Robert Lovett. It was renumbered No. 106 in June 1952, and named Shoshone in 1978. It was donated to the California State Railroad Museum in 1985. Shoshone was loaned back to Union Pacific in 1992 in exchange for business car No. 103.

The car is named for Shoshone, Idaho, a town on Union Pacific’s line in central Idaho. The Shoshone is the second oldest car still in service in Union Pacific’s Heritage Passenger Fleet. The oldest car in the fleet is business car Selma, built in 1912.

In 1916, Union Pacific first employed members of the Shoshone tribe in its car repair shops at Pocatello, Idaho. This association led to the presentation of numerous artifacts—now displayed in the Union Pacific Railroad Museum in Council Bluffs, Iowa—from the tribe to Union Pacific.

When Union Pacific developed Idaho’s Sun Valley resort in 1936, Shoshone was a busy place. Guests traveling via rail to the popular ski resort would pass through Shoshone on their way to the branch line to Sun Valley. During the heyday of trains going to Sun Valley, Union Pacific had a roundhouse and watering and coaling facilities at the wye that routed trains to Ketchum, Idaho.