ST. LOUIS

Business Car – Stabled at Council Bluffs

The St. Louis was built in 1950 by Pullman Standard as 44-seat coach No. 5448. It was rebuilt into business car No. 100 in May 1952, and was named the St. Louis in 1989. In 2010, the car was remodeled with a wood interior.

St. Louis was headquarters of the Missouri Pacific prior to its merger with Union Pacific. From here Lewis and Clark began their 1804-1806 expedition to the Pacific Ocean.

Established as a fur trading post by the French, St. Louis grew to become the headquarters of many famous fur companies. The American Fur Company and the St. Louis Fur Company sent their trappers throughout the Rocky Mountain area to trap and trade with the natives. A rendezvous held each spring gathered the trappers together for a celebration and gave them a chance to turn their furs in to the company before beginning another season.

The Pacific Railroad, a predecessor of the Missouri Pacific, began in St. Louis in 1850. Tracks slowly were pushed west toward Kansas City, Mo., but construction was interrupted by the Civil War.

In 1904, the World’s Fair, the first all-electric-lighted exhibition, opened in Forest Park, Mo. It was later made doubly famous by the movie “Meet Me in St. Louis.” Some of the buildings from that fair still are in use by the Missouri Historical Society. The St. Louis Zoo, promoted by Marlin Perkins and the “Wild Kingdom” television program, is nationally recognized and was featured in Missouri Pacific travel films produced prior to World War II.

Configuration: St. Louis is a platform car with the average Business Car arrangement: a kitchen, a crew room that sleeps two, a dining room that will seat 12 and an observation room that will seat 12. It has one public restroom and one bedroom suite with private bathroom. (Sleeps one guest and two crew)