Descriptive Summary
Title: Stephen E. Drew Equipment Restoration Reports
Dates: 1974-2000
Collection Number: MS 606
Creator/Collector: Drew, Stephen E.
Extent: 11 boxes
Repository: California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives
Sacramento, California 95814
Abstract: This collection contains reports, research notes and other documentation, including photographs, compiled by
Stephen E. Drew in the preparation of various railroad equipment restoration reports and feasibility studies.
Language of Material: English
Access
This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to
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Preferred Citation
Stephen E. Drew Equipment Restoration Reports. California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives
Acquisition Information
Biography/Administrative History
Stephen E. Drew, a nationally recognized railroad equipment restoration and preservation specialist, was born in Oakland,
California on February 6, 1949. He received his A.B. in American History and Music from the University of California,
Berkeley in 1973. While attending college, Mr. Drew joined the staff of The Bancroft Library at the University of California,
Berkeley. During this period, he prepared several reports for the Nevada State Park System, including "Brief Histories of the
Virginia & Truckee Railroad Equipment Owned by the State of Nevada" (1974) and "Virginia & Truckee Railroad Equipment
Restoration Feasibility Investigation" (1975). In the mid-1970s the California Department of Parks and Recreation hired Mr.
Drew to prepare a series of restoration feasibility investigations relating to railroad equipment being considered for
restoration and display at the proposed California State Railroad Museum. Working with Short Line Enterprises President
William A. Oden, he researched the construction, operation and of several historic locomotives and cars, prepared
restoration feasibility reports, and supervised the actual restoration of several locomotives and cars. In 1976 Stephen Drew
joined the Department of Parks and Recreation to supervise the construction of the Museum of Railroad History and assist
in restoration and interpretation. After the opening of the California State Railroad Museum in 1979 he was appointed
Museum Curator, and was responsible for all aspects of interpretation, exhibit construction, collections management,
public relations and fund development. In August of 1990 he was promoted to Senior Curator and assumed additional
responsibilities for the operation of the Sacramento Southern Railroad and at Railtown 1897 State Historic Park. Mr. Drew
was promoted to Chief Curator in May 2002 and retired in June of 2009. He has continued to consult in the field of railroad
preservation, lending his expertise to restoration projects for the Nevada State Railroad Museum. He has also served as a
consultant for the Kansas State Historical Society, the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, and the City of
Westwego, Louisiana. Mr. Drew has been an expert witness, performed authentications and appraisals, served as faculty
and moderator at various symposia and written feature articles in publications such as Trains, Railroad Magazine, and
Pacific News. Mr. Drew has served as an on-screen historian for PBS and History Channel documentaries.
Scope and Content of Collection
Collection includes research notes and other documentation, including photographs, compiled by Stephen E. Drew in the
preparation of various railroad equipment restoration reports and feasibility studies. • This collection is arranged in two
series: Series 1. RESTORATION REPORT PROJECT FILES Series 2. PHOTOGRAPHS One box of artifacts donated with this
collection are filed with the Museum's permanent collection. These include a sample of jacket material for AT&SF steam
Locomotive No. 132, 11 pieces of wood with sample finishes, and one roofing tack for the AT&SF steam locomotive No. 410.

MS 606 STEPHEN E. DREW RAILROAD EQUIPMENT RESTORATION REPORTS [Complete finding aid]