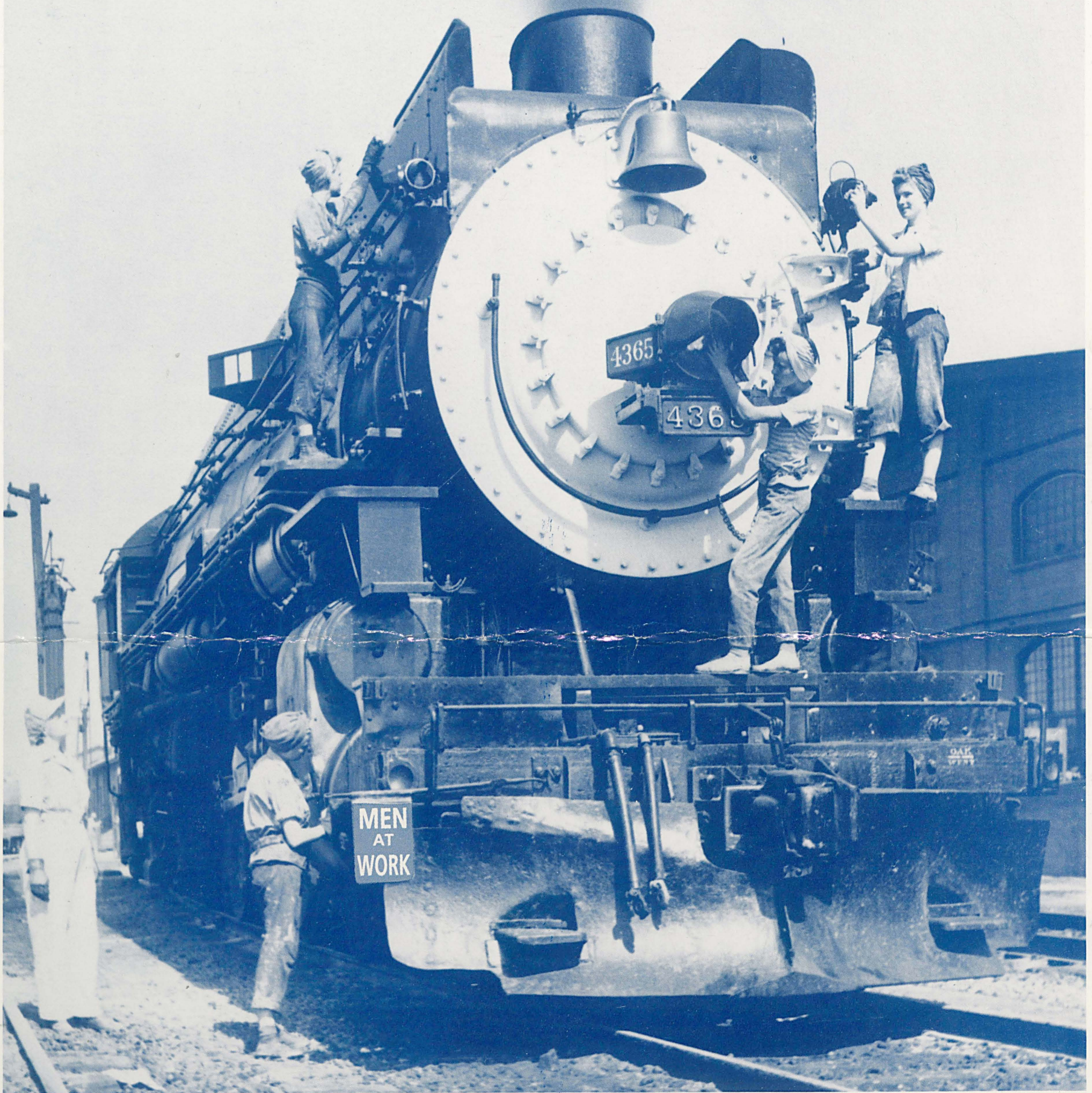


WOMEN and the AMERICAN RAILROAD



Southern Pacific Railroad S. Burman Photo Bakersfield, California Roundhouse WWII August 1943 "Women Loco Washers"



SHIRLEY BURMAN
Curator

December 1, 1992 - January 31, 1993
North Carolina Transportation Museum
at
Historic Spencer Shops
Spencer, NC

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

For More Information Call 704-636-2889

Exhibit showing sponsored by the
Samuel Spencer Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society, Citizens for Historic Spencer
Association, Inc., and the Perceptor Psi and Alpha Lambda Chapters of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Salisbury

WOMEN *and the* AMERICAN RAILROAD



Wyoming State Archives J. E. Stimson Photo

Women Laborers, Union Pacific Railroad, Cheyenne, WY May 29, 1918

Shirley Burman, Curator

*135 Years of Women's Association with the Railroad
A Photographic and Interpretive Exhibition*

December 1, 1992 – January 31, 1993

North Carolina Transportation Museum
Historic Spencer Shops • Spencer, NC

WOMEN *and the* AMERICAN RAILROAD

"... the railroad did not follow the towns made by the road but it made a road followed by the towns in the country: there were no towns and no roads therefore no country until the railroad came along."

— Gertrude Stein

EXHIBITION THEMES

Ladies at Work – 1855

Little is known about the earliest railroad women employees.

My, Isn't It Wonderful To Ride The Train

Women were intrepid travelers even before the golden spike was driven.

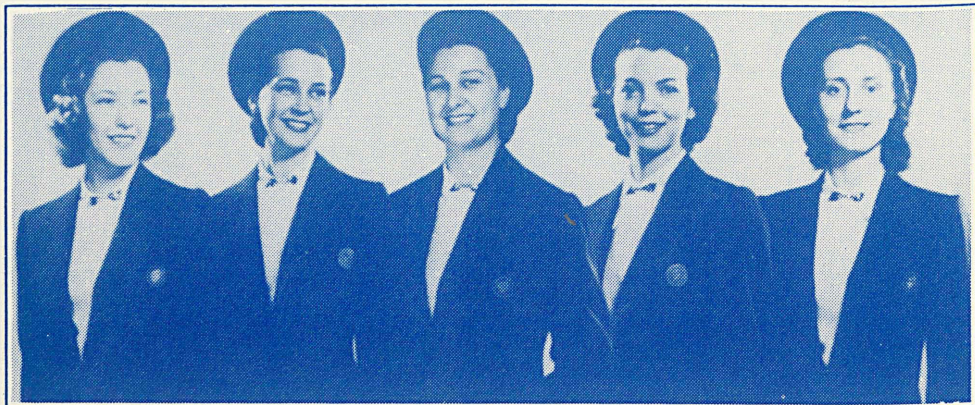
Go West, Young Women – 1870's

The call to settle the West by the railroads.



Heroines – Real and Fictional

From braving a raging storm to saving a train to "*Leaping from the Water Tower*," our heroines "saved the day."



Miss Myers and the four original *Tennessean* hostesses pose in their woolen berets and uniforms.

Designers, Inventors and Engineers

Who best would know how to make travel by trains more comfortable for women – a woman!

The Soft Sell

Women in Railroad Publicity!

THE TENNESSEAN

ON DISPLAY
May 8th, 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.
Market Street Near
TERMINAL STATION
CHATTANOOGA
You are cordially invited to inspect this new Coach train . . . the last word in ultra-modern streamliners.
IN SERVICE
Westbound from Washington, May 18
Eastbound from Memphis, May 17
Through connections at Memphis for Little Rock, Hot Springs, Pine Bluff, Camden, Evansville, Dayton, Ft. Worth, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, El Paso and Galveston.





HERE'S the train thousands have been eagerly waiting for . . . the ultra-modern, Diesel-powered Streamliner, The Tennessean. You will thrill to the sight of this new king of the rails . . . You will marvel at the new beauty, exquisite appointments, new comfort and conveniences it affords at low coach fares. * Completely air-conditioned. Deluxe coaches with individual soft-cushioned, reclining chairs. (Pillows, if desired, at twenty-five cents.) A gas Tavern Car and

luxurious Observation Lounge, Dining Car, Houses, train Passenger Representative. Here's the modern way to travel. For full information and reservations phone 6-2810 and 6-0120.

JAMES FREEMAN, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Chattanooga, Tenn.

*Allotment pooled between Memphis and Bristol. Off-peak rates between Memphis and Chattanooga, Memphis and Bristol, Nashville and Bristol.

FRANK L. SCHUB, Passenger Traffic Manager, Washington, D. C.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

Responding to the Call – 1914 – Women in World War I.

Girls Who Civilized The West – The Harvey Girls and the Southwest Indian Detour Guides were known for their manners, intelligence and wholesomeness.

Nurses Who Rode the Trains – Predecessors to airline hostesses.

Back to Work in World War II – Women again answer the call to help.

Rosie Wins in Court – Southern Pacific operator/telegrapher overturns California's Women's Protective law.



Breaking Down the Barriers – 1970 – 80's

New Employment opportunities for women.

Railfans and Volunteers

Women help keep the romance of railroading alive.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Shirley Burman, photographer and photo-historian spent the first part of her career as a housewife and the mother of five children. In 1968, Shirley packed her lunch and headed for college, graduating from the University of California-Davis four years later with a B.A. in Art. She had dreams of becoming an illustrator. She worked part-time first as an artist, and then turned photographer. One of her first jobs as a photographer was for a small weekly newspaper. Then she worked for the Federal Government as a documentary photographer at a dam construction site.

In 1978, the California State Railroad Museum hired Ms. Burman as a photographer during the building construction and equipment restoration projects. Her interest in railroads developed through her six-year employment with the Railroad Museum and her continuing association with staff friends. She also has been involved with the Nevada State Railroad Museum for nine years as a volunteer and is currently on the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Nevada State Railroad Museum.

For the exhibition **Women and the American Railroad**, Ms. Burman scoured corporate archives, historical society files, university libraries, museums and many private collections to assemble the images that document the wide-ranging participation of women in the development, management and operation of railroads.

Shirley is married to Richard Steinheimer, a railroad photographer and writer. They often work together on commercial photographic assignments. Clients include Amtrak, Southern Pacific Railroad, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency and many corporations.

Ms. Burman welcomes further stories or photographs about railroad women. Please contact her by writing to P. O. Box 8188, Sacramento, CA 95818 or by telephoning (916) 457-1908.

*This exhibit is made possible through the generous gifts of these loyal
NCTM supporters:*

*Samuel Spencer Chapter, National Railway Historical Society
Citizens for Historic Spencer Association, Inc.
Perceptor Psi and Alpha Lambda Chapters of
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Salisbury*

The North Carolina Transportation Museum

Historic Spencer Shops

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday

For Information: (704) 636-2889, P. O. Box 165, Spencer, NC 28159