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Missouri Pacific Brownsville Depot Writings - John Wagner recollections

David N. Currey

John Wagner

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Brownsville Missouri Pacific Passenger Station
Information from John Wagner

1. The station dome was blue. It was painted and was not a tile roof. Domes on Spanish mission style buildings are usually a different color from the building-- often blue.
2. The color of the station building exterior was beige.
3. The building's exterior was stucco.
4. The building's roof was Spanish roofing tile of a reddish orange color.
5. There was no stairway up to the tower/dome. John was of the opinion that the tower and dome was strictly ornamental.
6. Restrooms were to the right through two arched entrances.
7. The doors to the tracks were double and on the left front of the waiting room.
8. One of the platforms and sheds was very long--long enough so that when a passenger train was backed into the station, the platform extended way past the engine.
9. John was of the opinion that there were three, probably four tracks.
10. John was not sure if there were two platforms.
11. There was a baggage platform (walkway) that did not have a shed across the back of the building connecting the baggage part of the building with the platforms.
12. Passenger trains usually used the right two tracks on the long platform and shed.
13. The wye was near the station. It had spring switches so that trains went around the right leg of the wye, backed into the station, and then when they left, they would head to the right around the wye and leave town. All of these movements did not require switches to be thrown since they were spring switches.
14. The station was oriented so that trains leaving the station headed in a southward direction before gradually turning northward and going around the wye.
15. Much of the labor and materials came from Mexico.
16. Old pictures are in the court house at Brownsville.