



BODY: CS-11 METALLIC [C: 42 M: 80 Y: 78 K: 61].

LETTERING: WHITE LEAD.
SOME DETAIL HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR CLARITY.

PAINT RESEARCH PERFORMED BY ANDREW BRANDON AND RANDY HEES.

DIMENSIONAL DATA BY HERMAN DARR.

ILLUS. BY ANDREW BRANDON, GRASS VALLEY, CAL.

BOX CAR No. 17

FROM THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD CO. OF CALIFORNIA.

EXTERIOR PAINT CIRCA 1954.

INFORMATION SHEET

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD - BOX CAR No. 17.

Southern Pacific box car #17 was built by the J. Hammond Car Company of San Francisco, California in 1903 as part of a group of cars built for the Tonopah Railroad. In 1905 when the Tonopah converted to standard gauge they were sold to the Lake Tahoe Railway & Transportation Company (box cars 4-8). When the SP acquired the LTR&T in 1928, box car #7 was among the equipment shipped to Nevada, there it was renumbered to #338.

In June 1931 the car was rebuilt with small loading doors for soda ash service, which it carried until the car was rebuilt in 1952. During the 1946/47 car renumbering it became #17.

When the SP's Keeler Branch ended operations, the car was donated to Inyo County for the museum at Laws. Shortly before it was donated to Inyo County, box car #17 was serviced by the Southern Pacific and given a 1960 repack date which is replicated on the car today.

The car was painted in Southern Pacific's Common Standard CS-11 paint, the standard freight car color. In 1947 the color mixture was adjusted adding additional red to the overall brown shade. Lettering on the car was painted using white lead, common practice for the time period.

After donation the car's paint faded to a stronger red color due to the desert climate. This color is known as "Sunburn Red" by model railroaders. Today the car is displayed wearing Sunburn Red.

Sources.

Bader, Robert A. *Southern Pacific Narrow Gauge Locomotives & Freight Equipment*.
Paint sample from SP box car #15, stored at Laws, California.



BOX CAR #17 ON DISPLAY IN LAWS, CALIFORNIA.
COURTESY: DENNIS BURKE.