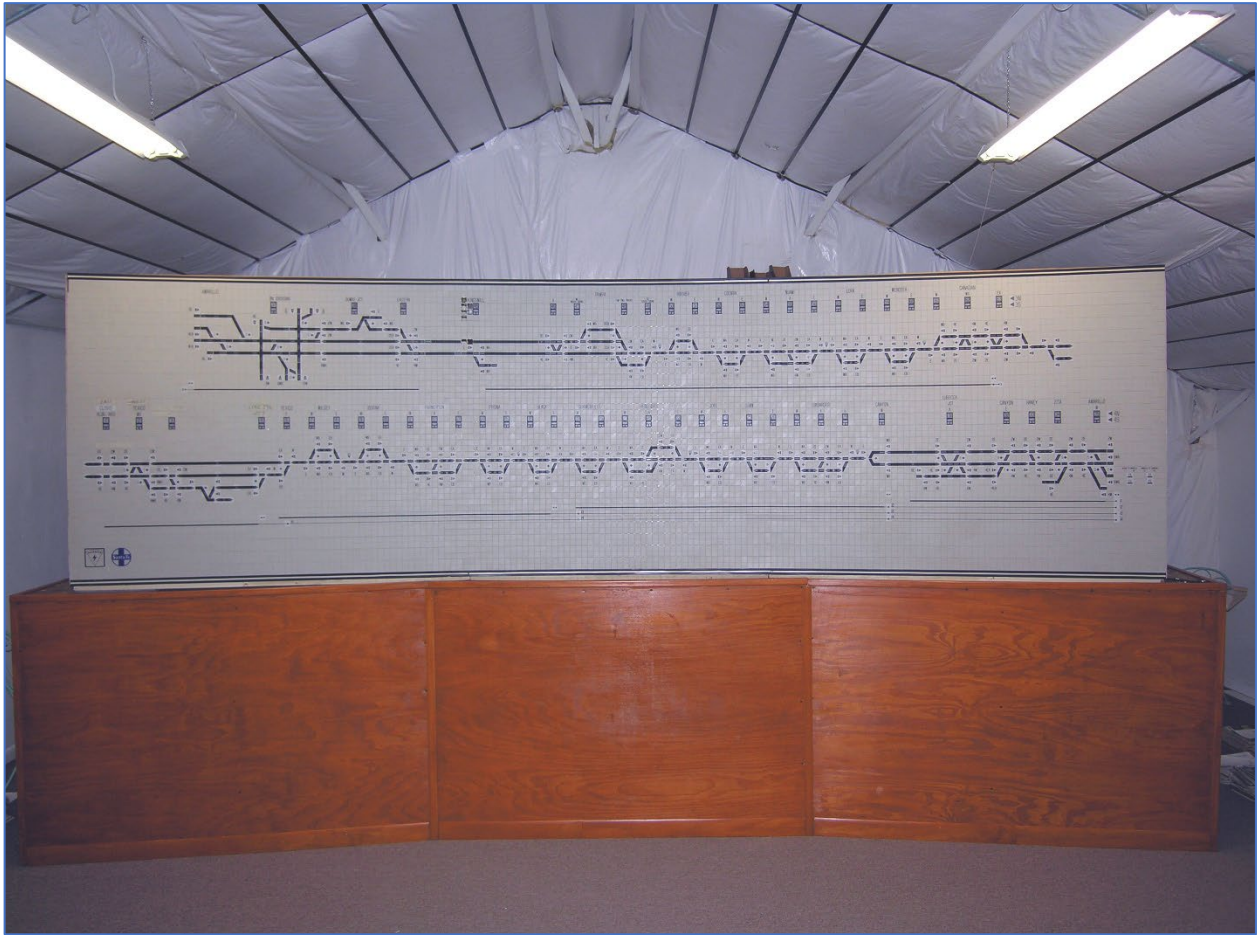


Dispatcher Panels – Our First Donation

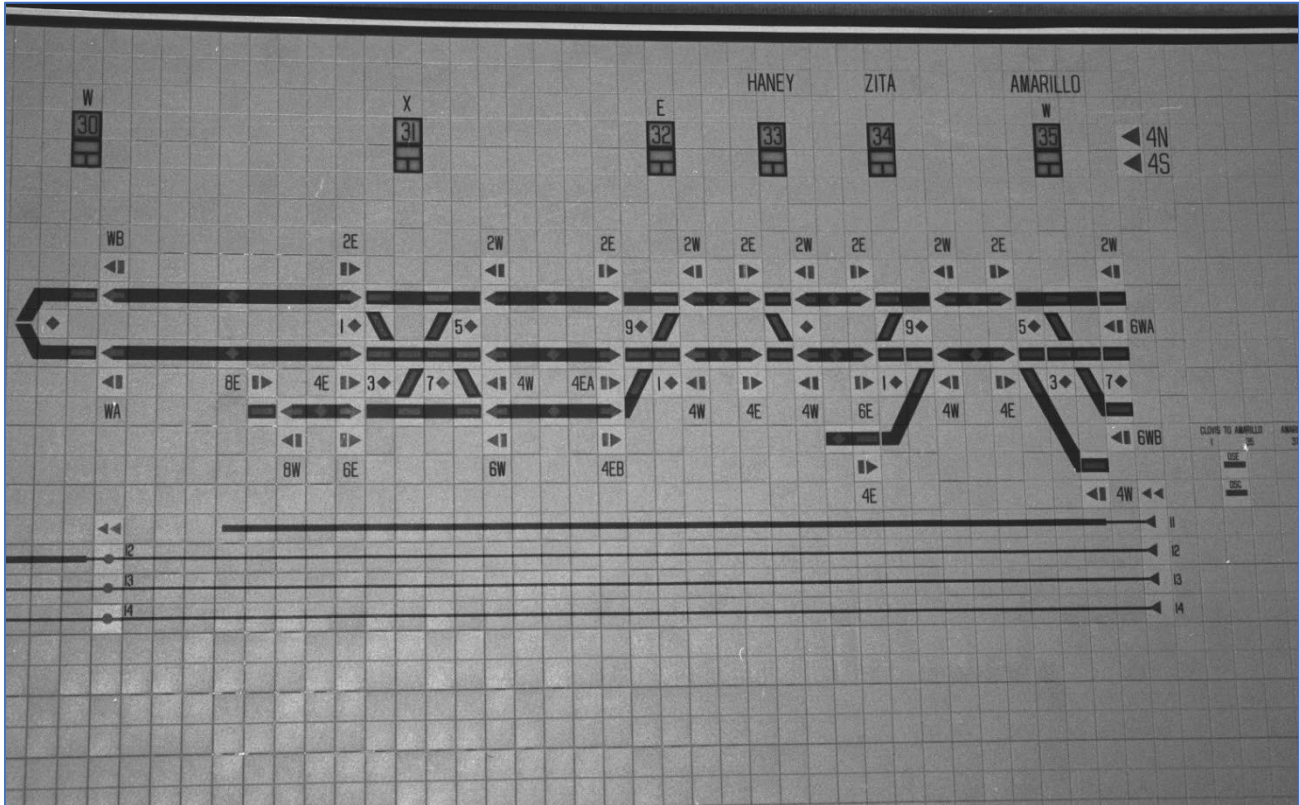


In September of 1995, we were given permission by the Santa Fe Railroad to remove and preserve the dispatching center display panels and associated equipment. The railroad was in the process of moving out of the Santa Fe building in downtown Amarillo, and eliminating the divisional dispatching center located on the 12th floor. We spent two days disassembling, moving, and storing the display panels. This dispatching system was of a French design and was about five years old. At the time of its installation, it was a multi-million-dollar, state-of-the-art system. It replaced a much older Union Switch and Signal Company system that had been in place since the 1940s. In the fall of 2006, we moved some of the panels to our new building.

Thanks to the hard work of member Earl Carrell, a base was built to set the panels that depict the 2nd and 3rd Districts of the Plains Division of the railroad from Canadian to Clovis. The base and panels have been installed in the building loft. In the future, we intend to use these panels to dispatch the railroad.

THE AMARILLO RAILROAD MUSEUM, 1990-2023

Since the panels consist of 1 x 1-inch cubes, it is easy to change out track diagrams, signal locations, town names, etc. We will keep the historical authenticity of the panels intact. In addition to the panels installed in the loft, we preserved the panels for the 1st District (the line from Wellington, Kansas, to



Canadian), the South Texas Division (Canyon to Sweetwater), and the Dumas District (Amarillo to Boise City, Oklahoma). These are safely stored for future use or sale. For more information about the divisions and districts our panel cover, look at <https://old.atsfrr.org/resources/burton/index.htm>

