

## Caboose on the Move!



By Norman Holmes

After resting for 25 years, WP 679, a wooden bay window caboose, was moved from Portola's City Park on July 6, to the back of the Commercial Street parking lot. At its new location it will have a viewing platform constructed overlooking the Union Pacific yard with an information plaque giving a brief history of the WP yard and pointing the way to the Portola Railroad Museum.

The caboose was donated to the City of Portola by Western Pacific through the efforts of Trainmaster Mel Graham in 1975, and moved to a location in the City

Park opposite the City Hall. Portola's Old Town Merchants Association wanted to increase the town's railroad heritage and suggested the move to the new location.

Our museum's facilities manager, Doug Morgan, assisted city crews by helping to build the new track for the caboose, furnishing materials for lifting the caboose onto a flat bed trailer and overseeing the entire operation. Rick Joy Engineering provided a loader machine and trailer for the move. The spirit of cooperation between the city and the museum was appreciated.

The caboose will be repainted and properly lettered in its new home.



All photos by the author.