

The Pride of Ada

Caboose 477779

Its given name sounds like a phone number: Pennsylvania 477779.

It's 75 years old and after a half-century of hard - all out-of-doors - work, it found Ada – or, Ada found it.

It sadly out-lived its usefulness. It became obsolete, and simply turned into a reminder of the good old days of railroading. But, boy, were those good days.

Pennsylvania Railroad caboose 477779 retired in Ada in 1989. Several historic-mind and railroad-loving residents had a vision for Ada's also retired and proud passenger station – that also avoided demolition.

They believed that a caboose was a fitting object to park beside the depot. Now it's our little red caboose, the Pride of Ada. And, this summer a refurbishing brings out its shine.

At 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17, during the Harvest and Herb Festival, this 27-year-old Ada resident will be re-christened.

Here's a photo essay of the caboose, with some before and after photos.



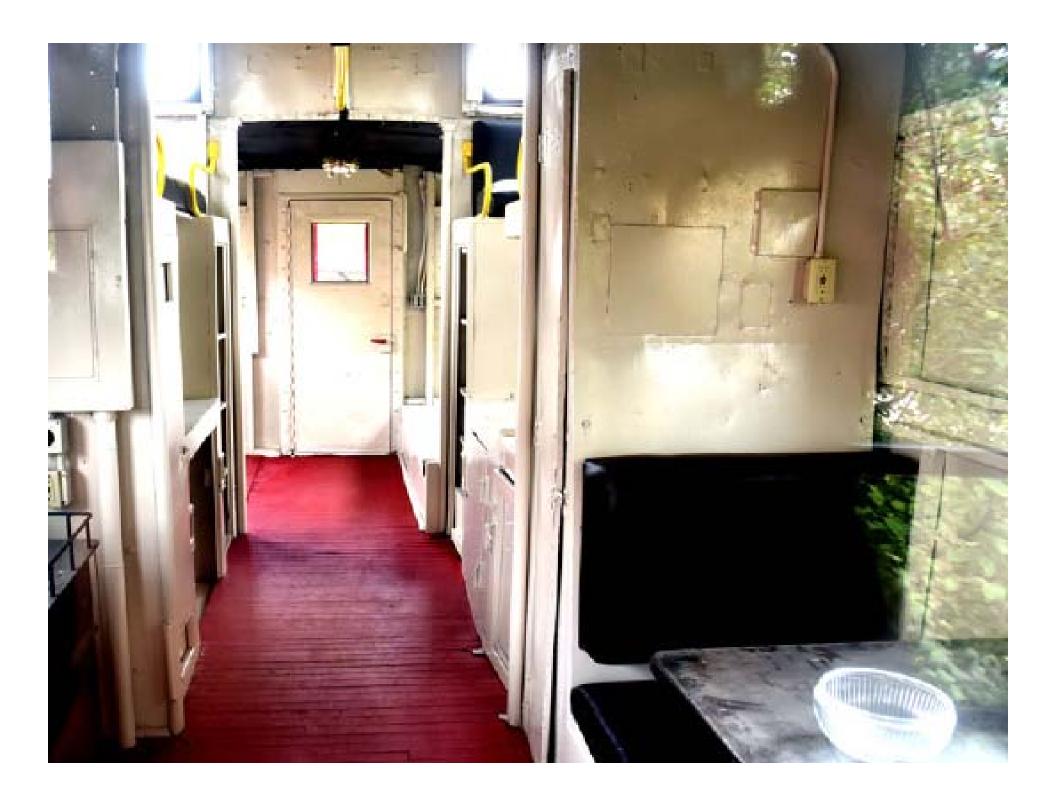
Before renovation



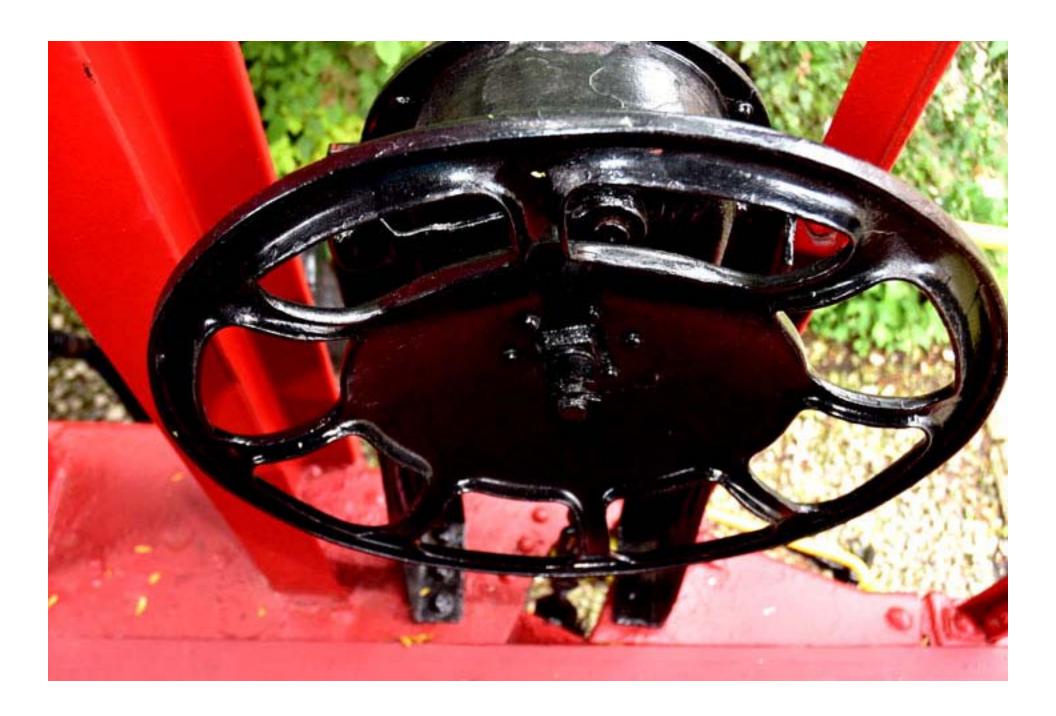
During renovation





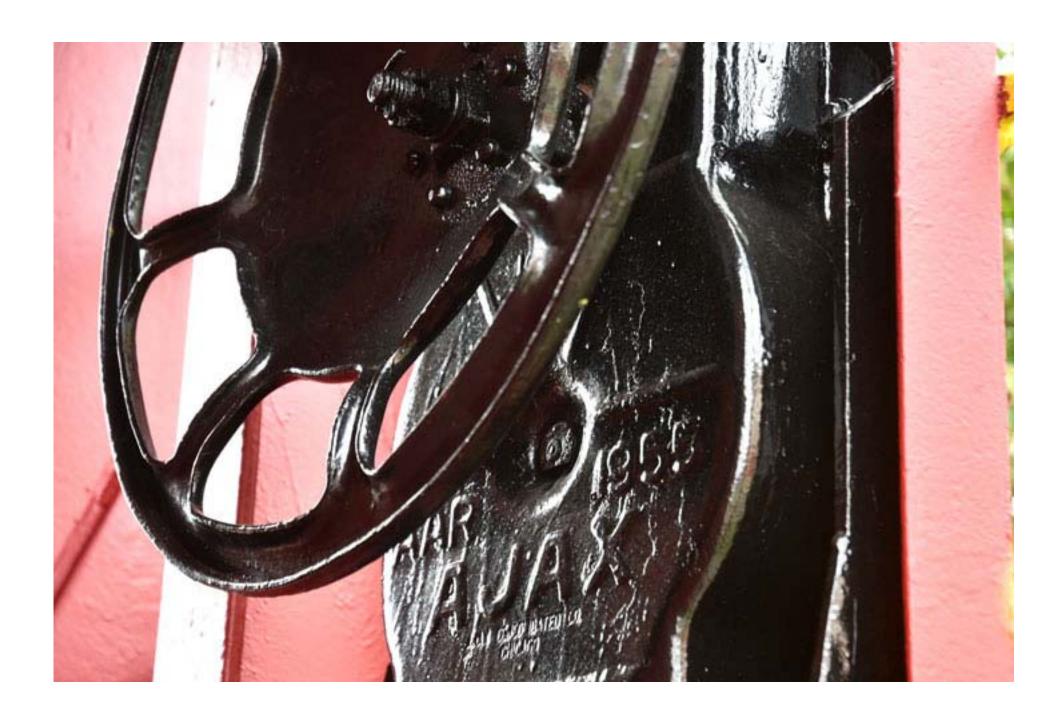










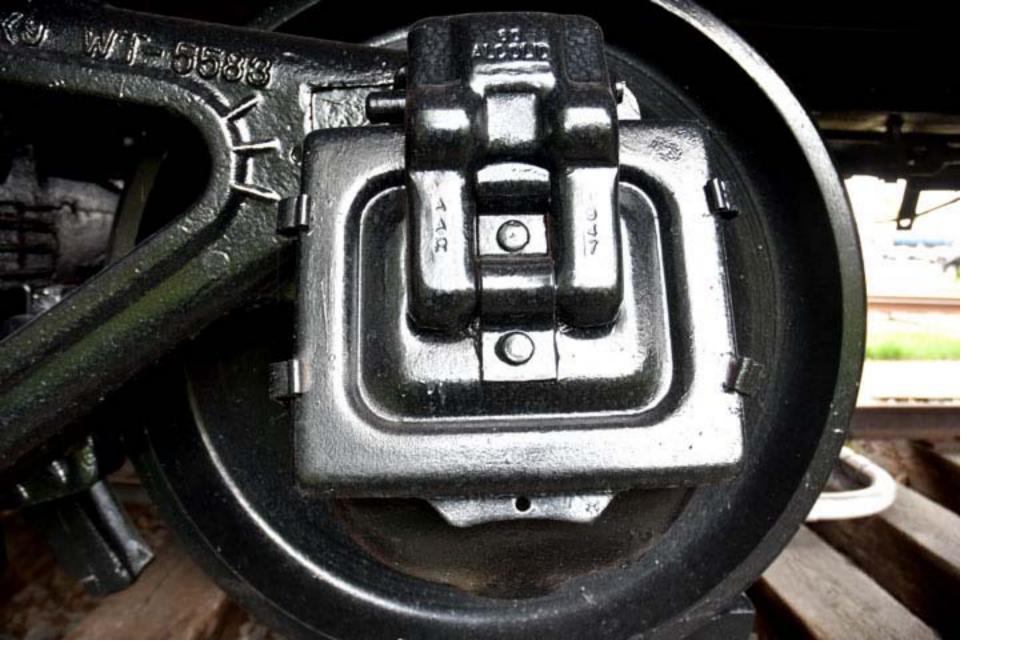


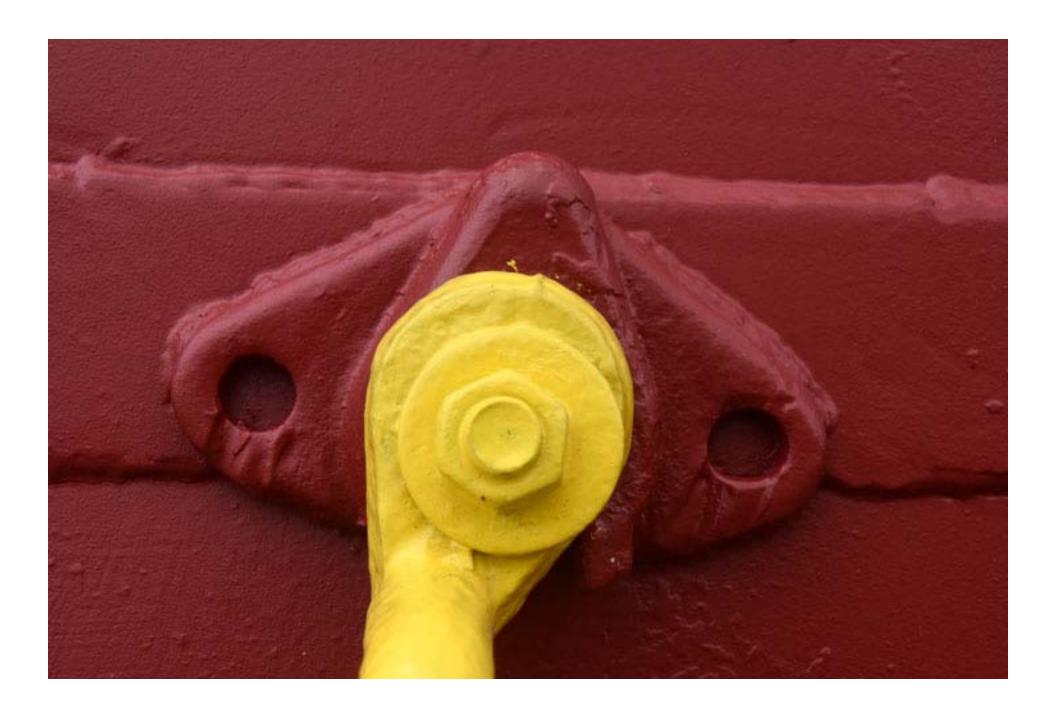




PRR No. 477779 1941 ALTOONA, PA. Class N5B WT. 43,200









ADA PASSENGER DEPOT. 1887

Pennsylvania Railroad, Southwest Division

Ada grew alongside the tracks of the Ohio & Indiana Railroad. completed in 1854 between Crestline. Crawford County, and Fort Wayne. Indiana. This line became part of the Southwest Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1869. Ada's rapid growth as a college town in the 1880s prompted the railroad to build this distinctive and unique two-story Stick Style depot in 1887. departing from the railroad's standard depot plans. Larger than most small-town stations. It features a second-story telegrapher's office. For many years the station served as Ada's gateway to the outside world. One of few surviving 19th century Pennsylvania passenger stations in Ohio, the Ada depot was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1998.

THE OHIO BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION. THE LONGABERGER COMPANY



VILLAGE OF ADA AND THE

ADA COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION
THE OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2001

16-33

