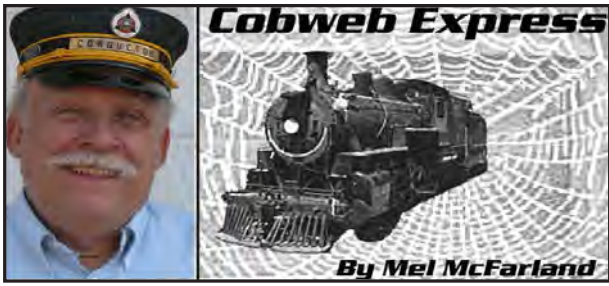


A Building Boom



No, not the one we have been seeing here lately, but back in the 1890s! And you might be surprised at the material being used in much of the construction. When I found this story, I thought it would be just the thing for our entertainment:

The red sandstone, which is found in large quantities in the Colorado City and Manitou districts, is quickly coming to the front for building purposes. Mr. L.G. Hunt, who has several large contracts at Pueblo, said to a reporter for this journal Thursday: "The demand for this red sandstone at Pueblo is increasing daily so much so that I cannot supply the wants of the people who wish to have houses built of it. Previously the stone was only used for foundations. Now it is used in the whole structure. People have seen what a handsome building it makes, and the Union Depot and Chamber of Commerce building at Pueblo, built of this stone, have proved a big advertisement for the stone from Colorado City. This week I received two contracts to erect private residences composed of it, and am firmly convinced that in the future, those who can afford it will use nothing else in building. The Colorado Midland people have put in another sidetrack of 500 feet to my quarry, which is a great assistance to me in shipping. I fully expect that during the coming winter, I shall handle from eight to ten cars of stone daily, and the order will be increased in the spring and summer."

Indeed, when I lived in Pueblo I was quite impressed by the number of fine old homes built with the stone. These homes can still be seen scattered all around town. Not all of the stone was from Colorado City, but from quarries on the western slope and Castle Rock. Moving the large numbers of heavy stones must have been quite industrious. Today the scars of the work at the quarry at Red Rock Open Space just south of Garden of The Gods is quite a contrast to the unspoiled park. I have seen pictures of train cars loaded with huge stones. Once at the destination they were cut into usable chunks.

Pages of the Past

(1958 - Present)



Sixty Years Ago (1961) THE TEAM BEHIND THE PARTY

Sandy Horn (center) reigned over the 1961-1962 Widefield Homecoming. Sitting with Sandy are her attendants (top left to right) Linda Morse and Sandy Davis, and (bottom left to right) Jackie Smith and Jo Etta Bishop. (Photo by Stephen Randolph)

Fifty Years Ago (1971) HEAD IN THE CLOUDS...

Widefield High School students carry "Charlie," a homemade Widefield Gladiator statue, onto the field for the homecoming game against Harrison High School in 1971.



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Forty Years Ago (1981) LASSIE, I'M SIGNALING FOR A TURN

Fountain resident Bill Laurens' dog Patches, a mixed breed canine, loved pretending to drive the car and would assume the driver's seat as soon as Bill got out of it. (Photo by Gus Larson)

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Thirty Years Ago (1991) GOBLINS ARE MOVING IN...

Ghouls and spooky creatures abounded on this front lawn at Roaring Springs Avenue, just waiting to scare the young and young at heart during the 1991 Halloween season. (Photo by Patricia St. Louis)



Twenty Years Ago (2001) DON'T WORRY, THE KIDS AREN'T SCARY

Brownies from North Elementary School's Troop #95 are shown taking their jack-o-lanterns down the trail at Fountain Nature Center, participating in the Oct. 27, 2001, Build A Jack-O-Lantern Trail Project. 100 pumpkins were donated for the occasion by the Fountain Valley Optimists Club. (Photo by Jerry Bahner)

NEWS

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