

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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HAER No. CA-214

HAER
CAL
31-CISCO,
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Central Pacific Transcontinental Railroad, Tunnel 4
Southern Pacific Donner Pass Route Tunnels
Milepost 180.95
Cisco
Placer County
California

For written information regarding Tunnel 4, please refer to Central Pacific Transcontinental Railroad (HAER No. CA-196). Note also that all references to tunnel portals are given in Southern Pacific Railroad terminology. Headquartered in San Francisco, the SP considered all trains heading *away* from San Francisco to be eastbound, all trains heading *toward* San Francisco to be westbound, regardless of actual cardinal direction. Thus a train heading north from Los Angeles to Portland would be westbound until it passed San Francisco, at which time it would become eastbound. Similarly, the railroad referred to all tunnels and other structures along its lines in the same fashion, with tunnels always having west and east portals. Direction of view in the captions will indicate cardinal direction.

Documentation: 1 photograph (1997)

Ed Andersen, Photographer
John Snyder, Field Director

PHOTOGRAPHS

CA-214-1 East portal of Tunnel 4, view to west with east portal of Tunnel 38 (HAER CA-211) visible in distance, 135mm lens with electronic flash fill. This tunnel was photographed to provide context, because even though somewhat enlarged, it illustrates the nature of the unlined hard rock tunnels typical of the original Central Pacific construction in 1868.