Ately we haven’t had much news on the good progress being made in the restoration of single truck streetcar, Winona No. 10. So, hopefully this photo supplement will bring everyone up to date on what’s happening with the project.

In a nutshell, No. 10 is now being put back together again. All the woodwork, paneling, etc., removed from the streetcar in the early 2000s are now being put back in the spot from which they were removed. Where the wood was beyond being restored or refinished, new materials are being put in. It is also reported that the single truck that has been worked on at the shop in Pennsylvania is now finished and arrangements will soon be made to bring it to Excelsior. After the carbody is mounted on the truck, the electrical work will begin. Note the nicely finished trim and panels now being put back on this rare streetcar.

The steel rods you see are the linkages between the door control handles on the platform and the doors and steps. Winona No. 10 was a no frills streetcar—when delivered in 1914, nothing in the car was operated by air or electric motors other than the traction motors. Doors were hand operated. In fact when the car was first operated in Winona in 1914, the car didn’t have air brakes, just hand brakes! Air brakes were installed within a year or so, however, as the car was too heavy for hand brakes.

The platform floor is now being installed. The shaft seen in front of the left window post controls the two doors on the right. The doors on the left were not controlled from inside the streetcar and actually one of them was permanently fixed closed when the car was new. Within a short time both doors opposite the regular entry/exit doors to the right of the Motorman were permanently closed.

One of the walkover (flip over) seats was placed temporarily in the car just to see how it fits. The seat still needs stain and varnish.

Howie Melco completely refurbished and repainted Winona No. 10’s two headlights.
Finished woodwork and trim are being put back on No. 10. The plywood floor you see is temporary. Also note the new roof boards.

Winona No. 10’s truck has been worked on for over a year. Here’s a photo taken in January 2013 showing the progress made up to that point. In January we needed to find a small air compressor. We found one and it has now been mounted on the truck.

Major and minor hardware are gradually being put back on Winona No. 10. Here we see the rub rail has just been put on the front of the platform roof. This piece prevents the trolley rope from rubbing the edge of the roof and wearing away the paint and canvas roof material.

Here’s the trolley pole base just installed on the roof’s trolley boards. This photo was taken a few hours after the photo on the right. Dennis Stephens worked on rebuilding the trolley base.

Roof appurtenances and route/destination sign box are installed.