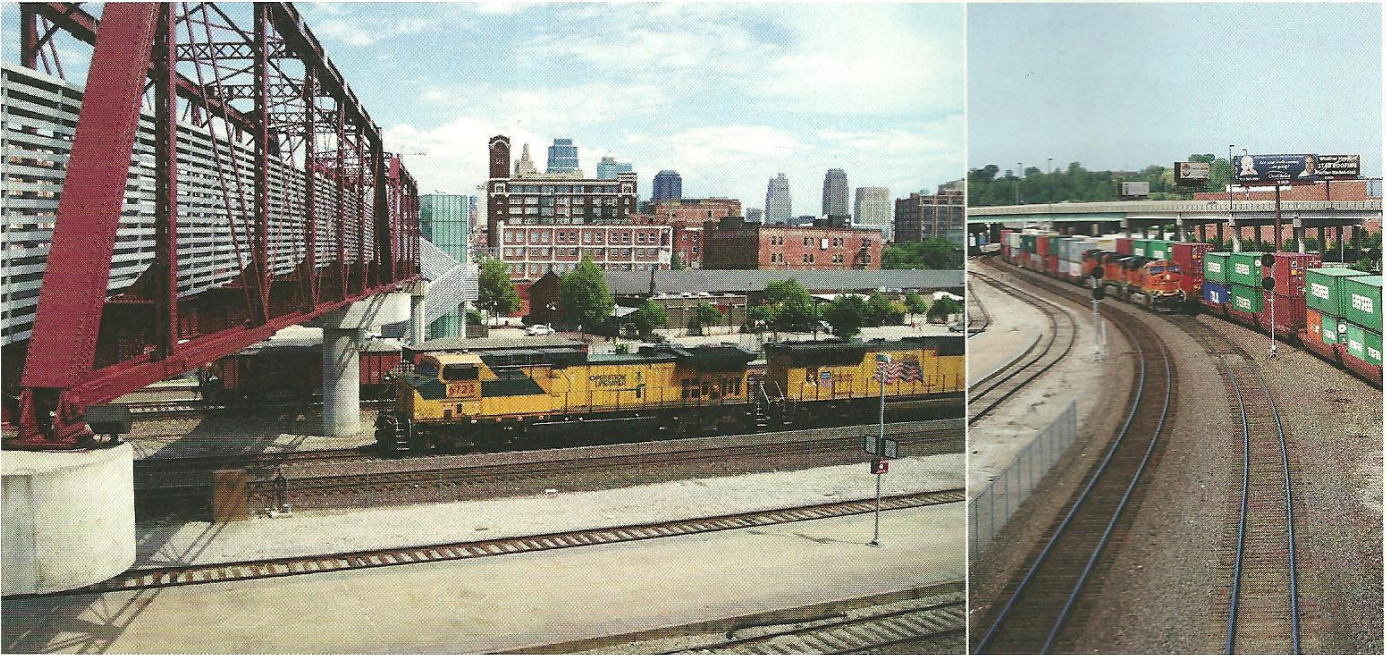


One busy bridge for train-watching

This downtown walkway connects Kansas City Union Station with a restaurant district, too



Kansas City's Freight House Bridge provides an excellent viewing platform for great train-watching, whether it's Union Pacific, BNSF Railway, Amtrak, or Kansas City Terminal. All of these railroads converge here for a non-stop show. Two photos; Alyssa Buecker

TRACKSIDE GUIDE KANSAS CITY, MO

CITY: Kansas City has one of the most magnificent preserved stations in the nation in its 1914 Union Station. The triple track BNSF Railway Transcon main passes just outside, and a foot bridge over the tracks connects the station with a restaurant district. Identical eastbound and westbound signals on either side of the bridge provide warning when trains are coming: They change from red to green minutes before the next move. The bridge is about a half-mile east of Santa Fe Junction, where BNSF trains may take the fly-over to and from Argentine Yard. This is also where UP trains access BNSF trackage rights to UP's River Sub connection east of Kansas City, and where Transcon rails cross the former Frisco and now BNSF main to Tulsa, Okla., and Springfield, Mo. Kansas City Southern occasionally puts in an appearance hauling grain cars over the UP High Line to elevators in the Fairfax industrial district on the Kansas side of the Missouri River. Amtrak is easily visible from the bridge. The westbound *Southwest Chief's* scheduled arrival time is 10:11 p.m., while its eastbound counterpart is due in daily at 7:45 a.m. Amtrak also operates two trains each way daily between Kansas City and St. Louis. These are the *Missouri River Runners*. When a *Runner* arrives in Kansas City, the passengers are dropped off at the station, and the train dead-heads to Santa Fe Junction to turn around.

RAILROAD FREQUENCIES: BNSF, KC Terminal, 161.085; Marceline Sub, 160.560 Argentine Yard, 161.385 and 452.900. UP, Armourdale Yard, 161.550. KCT, road, 161.010; yard, 161.310.

FOR YOUR FAMILY: Union Station offers Science City, a hands-on science and technology museum; the KC Rail Ex-

perience, the railroad museum for the city; and dining, ranging from casual to elegant, including the Harvey House Diner, which serves up excellent chocolate malts.

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