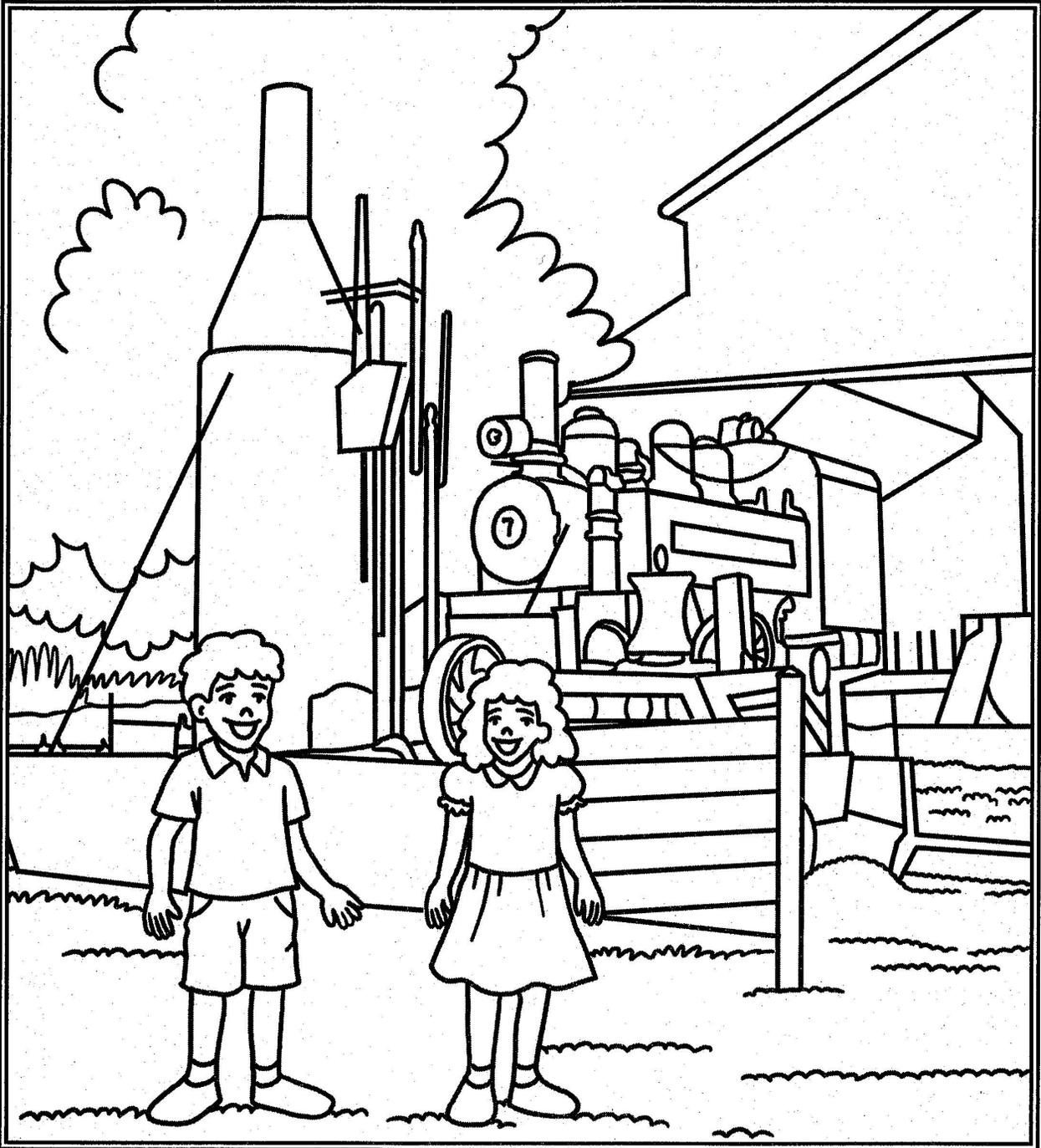
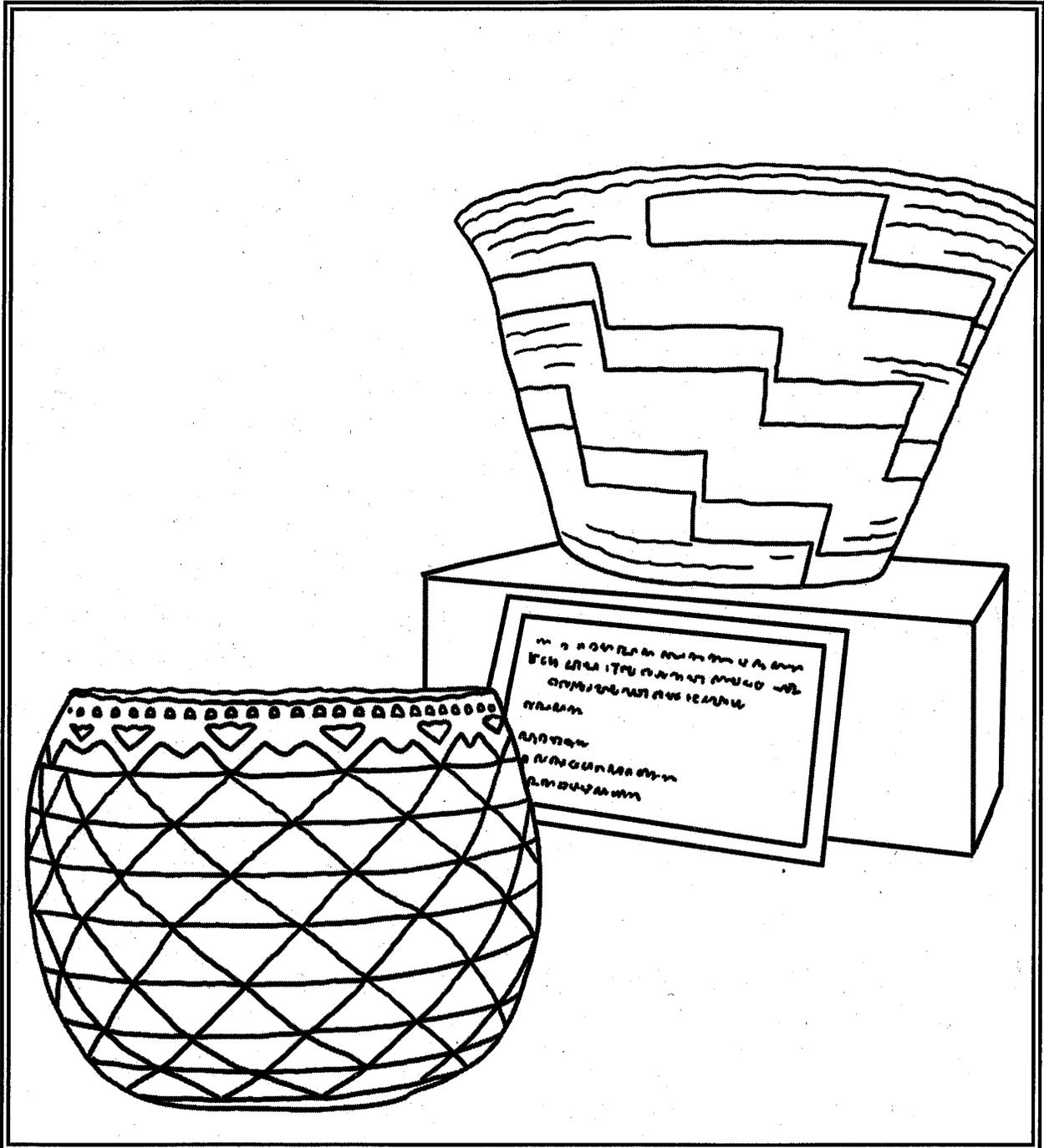




MENDOCINO COUNTY *Museum*



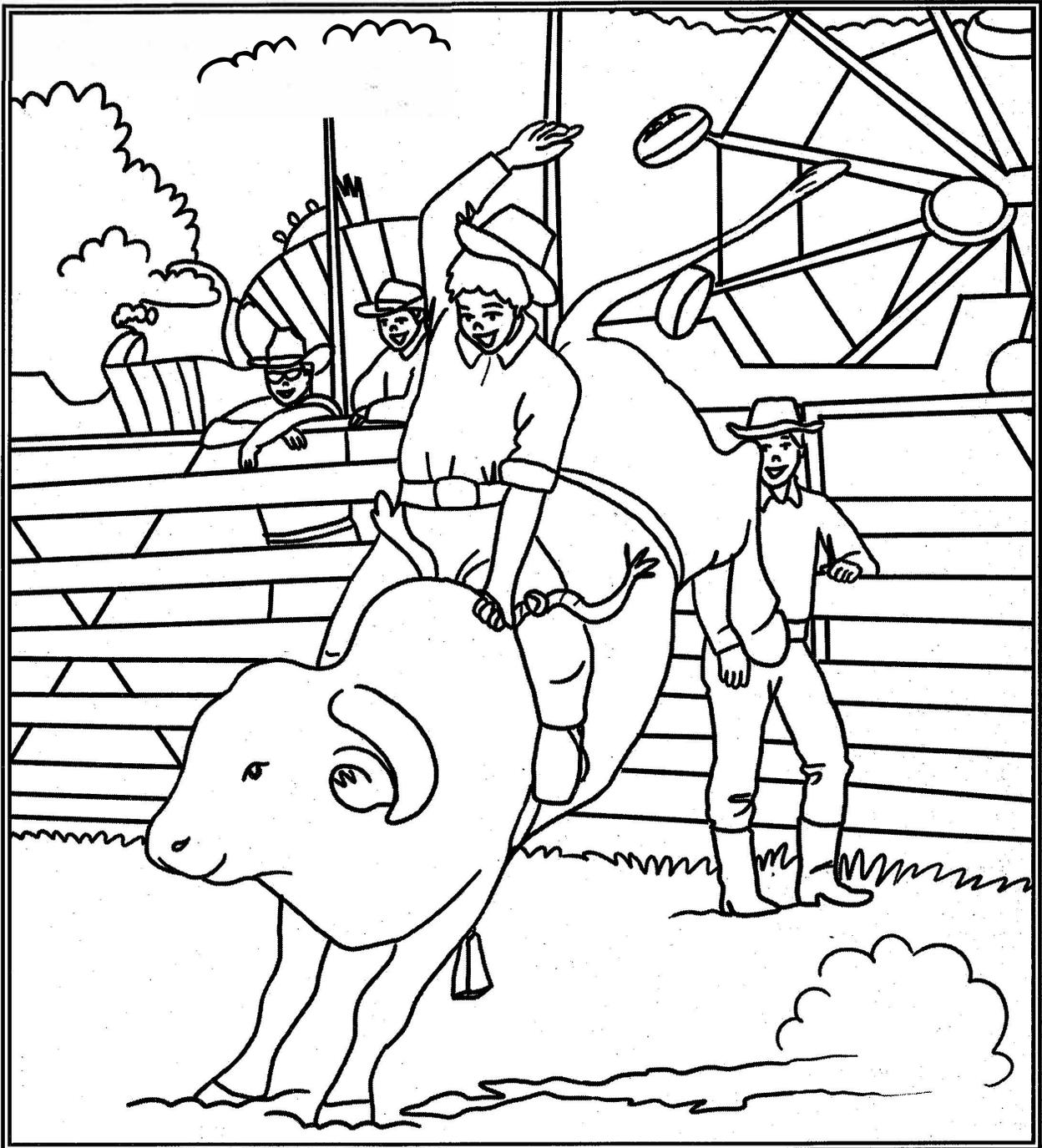
Welcome to historic Mendocino County! We have a lot of interesting exhibits, especially real train engines, an engine house, cultural exhibits, and photographs of historic people and places... and more! Roots of Motive Power is a volunteer organization that works with the museum to preserve the history of Mendocino County with emphasis on trains, logging, lumber, life styles, world trade, and other events of historic significance. This steam donkey is just one example.



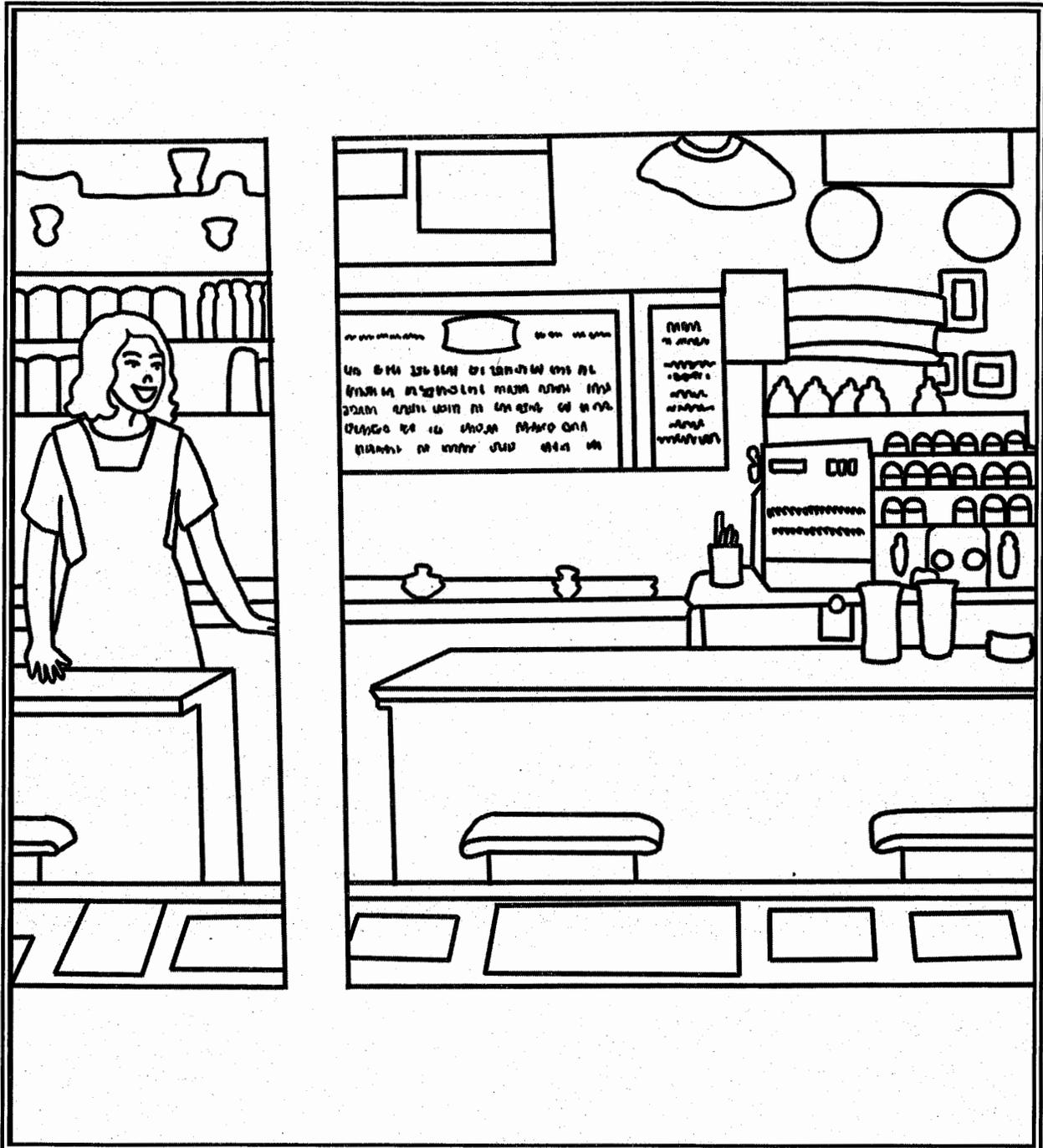
Pomo weavers make the beautiful and intricate basketry used for storage, cooking (yes, they cooked in baskets by dropping in hot rocks to make the water boil), and when highly decorated with feathers and beads-as gifts. Willow, Redbud, and Sedge-all local plants-are the primary materials which make possible the intricate designs and colors. Mothers passed their knowledge of material harvesting and weaving to their daughters.



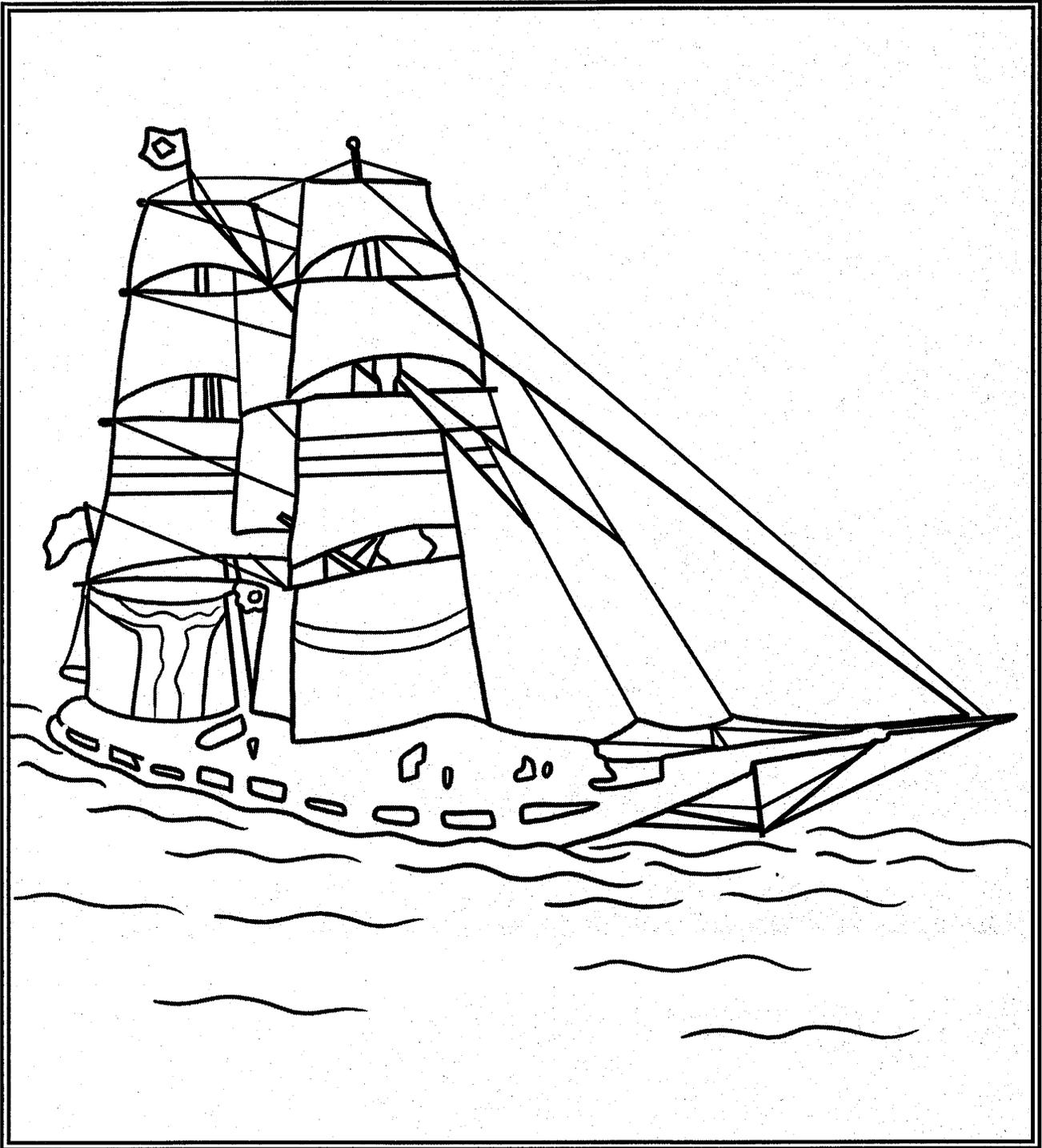
MENDOCINO COUNTY *Museum*



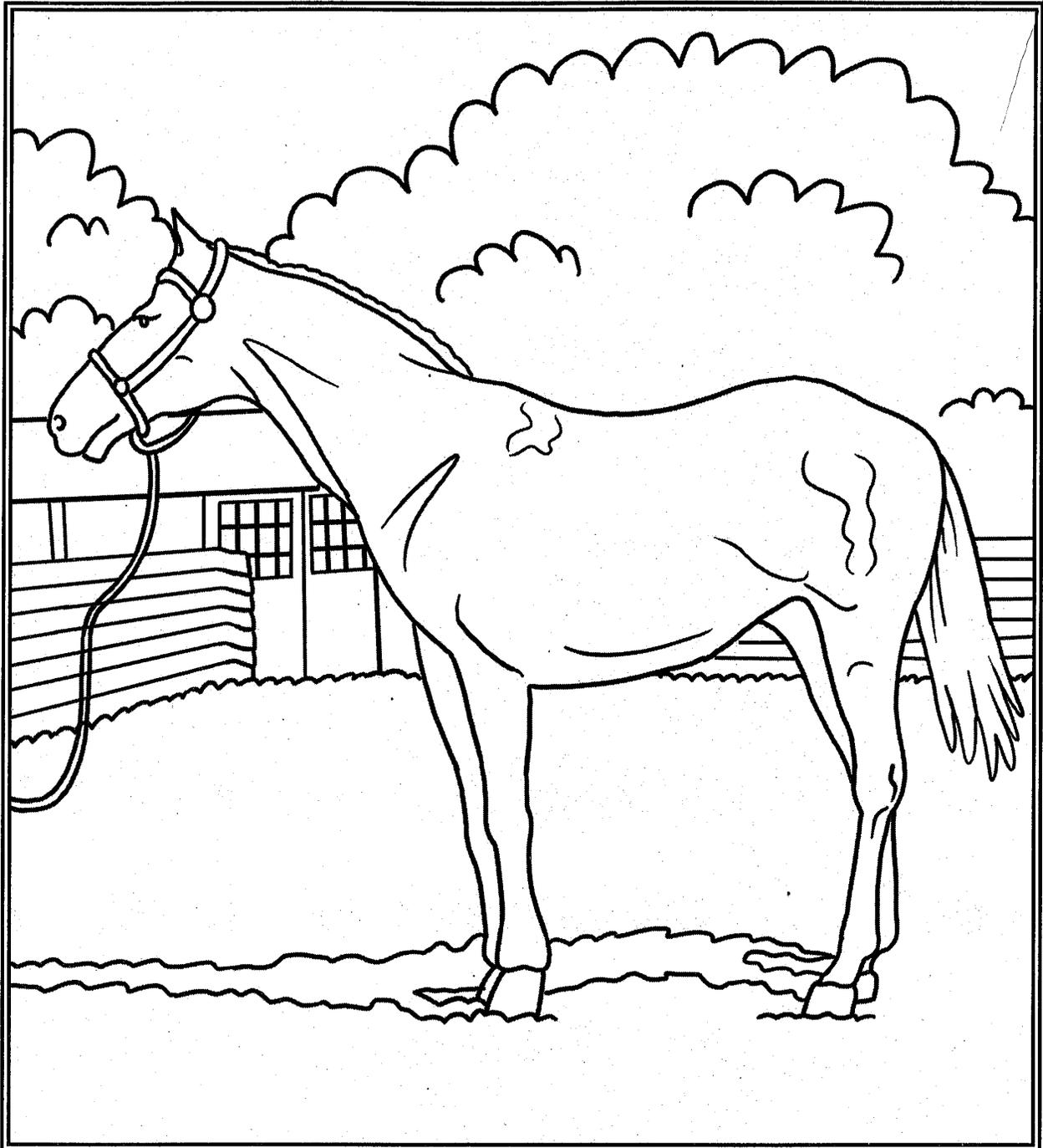
Willits, California is home to a week-long Fourth of July celebration known as Willits Frontier Days has been going since 1926 and is the oldest continuously running annual rodeo in California.



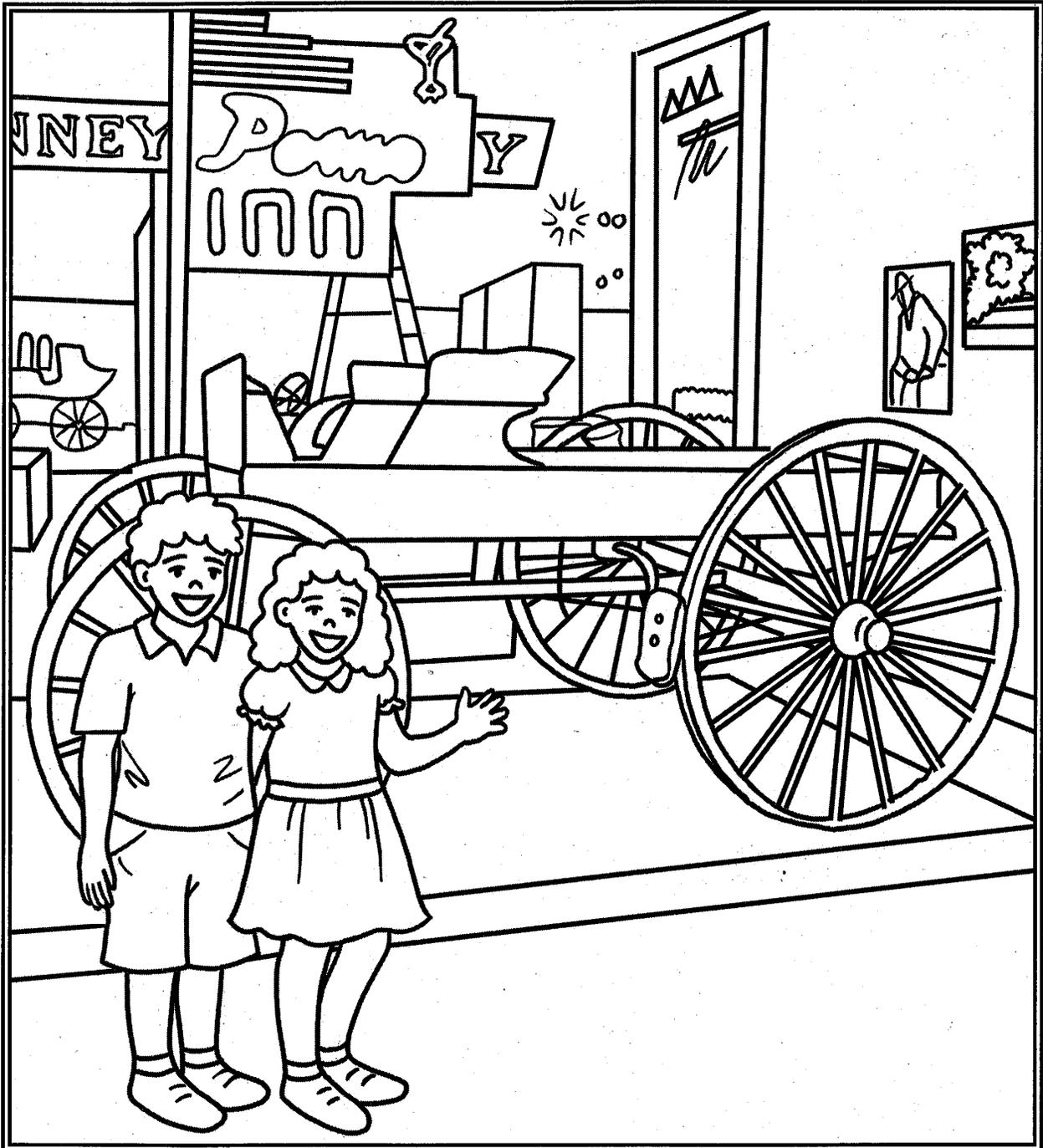
In the “old” days, before fast food places were commonplace along highways, towns had small cafes, often specialized as sandwich shops, soda fountains, or ice cream parlors. The Willits Creamery Ice Cream Parlor was originally on Main Street and served travelers as well as locals. The Creamery exhibit displays original milk-shake machines, and its home-made counter and stools.



The "Frolic" was a Baltimore Clipper Ship and was the fastest of American sailing ship designs. Its last voyage was a cargo from China, of colorful silks, ceramics, lacquer wares, a prefabricated house, tools and items bound for the Gold Rush miners working near San Francisco. It crashed and sank on rocks on the Mendocino Coast in 1850. Pomo Indians salvaged much of the cargo, after the shipwrecked crew walked through coastal redwood forests to San Francisco.



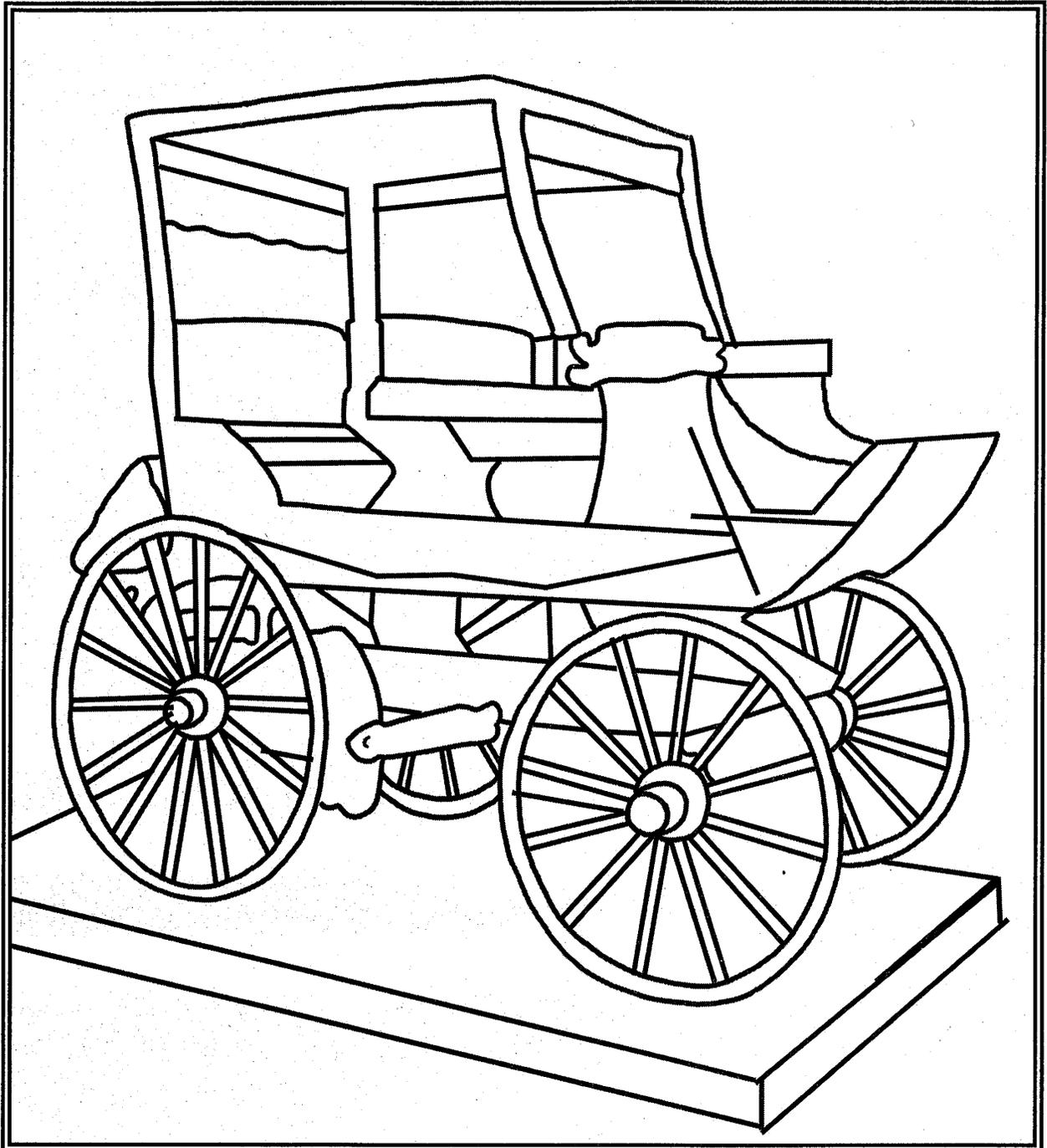
Though he was knobby-kneed, and had short legs for a thoroughbred, Seabiscuit became a champion. By 1938 and with proper training and an excellent jockey, Seabiscuit won a one-on-one race against the famous "War Admiral" and soon after the "Santa Anita Handicap". Seabiscuit fascinated people all over the country and became a symbol of hope at the end of a decade of the Great Depression. He became horse racing's all-time money winner and retired to Ridgewood Ranch in Willits.



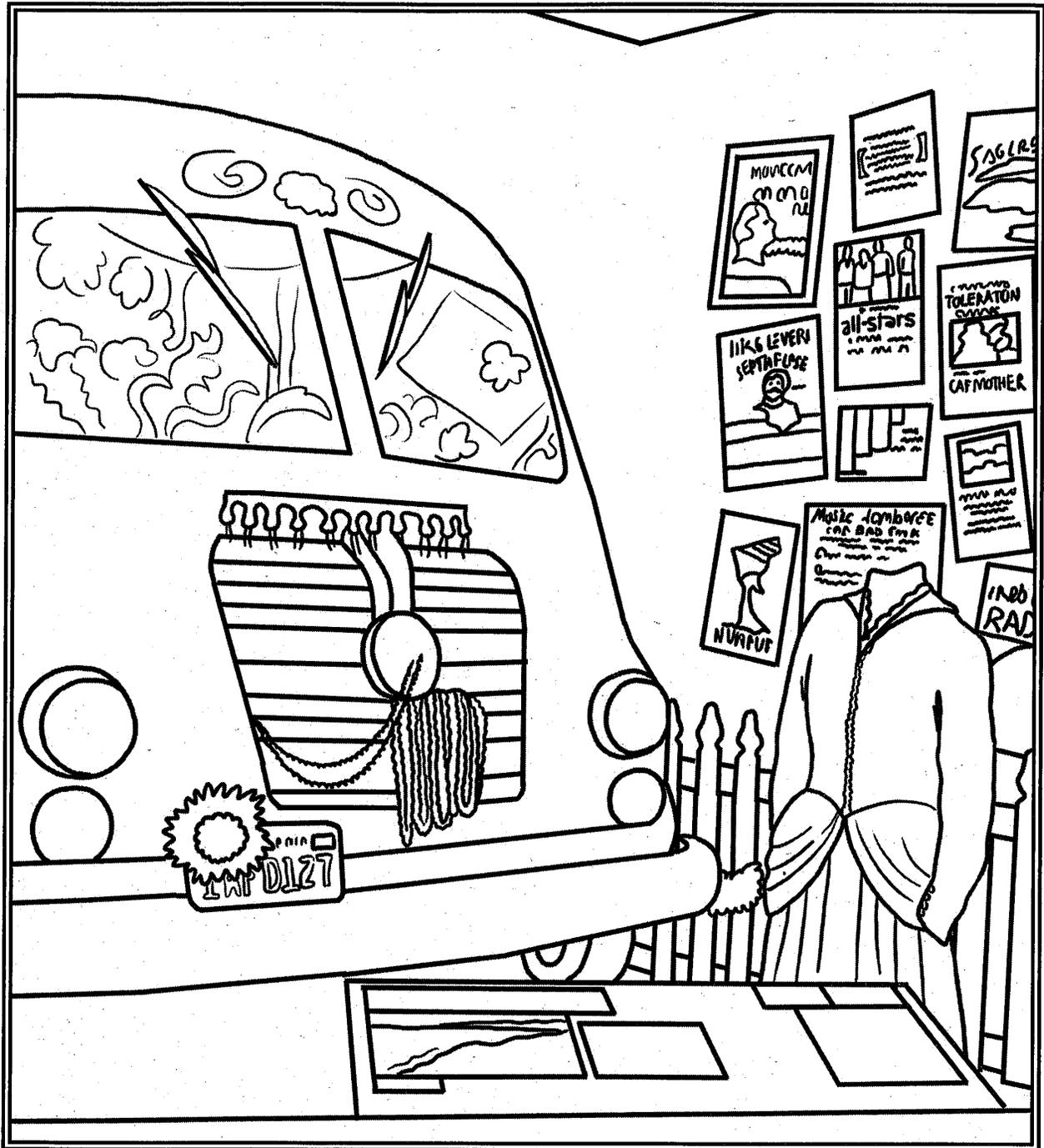
The Platform Spring Wagon was to farmers before automobiles, like the pick-up truck of today. It could haul two or three people on the seat, and groceries or other items in the bed. This one was made by Charton & Sons of Ukiah, and was used exclusively on a working ranch in the Ukiah Valley.



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Like an inner-city bus of today, the "Cloverdale and Greenwood Stage" carried passengers and freight and US Mail, called a "Star Route Stage" when it carried mail. The stage operated from the 1890's until the 1920's. The big wheels kept passengers above the infamous Mendocino County dust in summer and mud in winter, and made it easier for the horses to pull the heavy stagecoach. The town name "Greenwood" was changed to "Elk" in the early 1900's.



Andrée Connors-herself a colorful character of the 1960's counter culture movement-decorated this van in an eclectic style all her own, and made it her home near Fort Bragg for several years. Lasting aspects of the "hippie" movement are heightened awareness of differing styles of living, and publications such as New Settler Interview which presented a differing viewpoint in issues of the day.