

▼ DOW +2.77%    ▼ S&P 500 +1.95%    ▼ NASDAQ 100 +1.02%

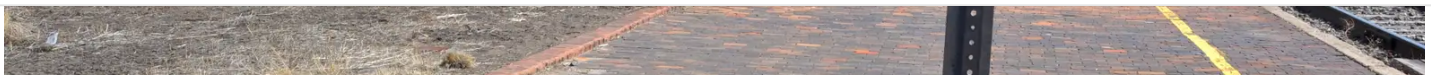
# 'Game of Thrones' author George RR Martin just bought a historic American railroad he wants to restore for sightseeing, film shoots, and even escape rooms on rails

Graham Rapier May 25, 2020, 6:55 AM



[← HOMEPAGE](#)

Subscribe





**The historic train station in Lamy, New Mexico, serves as a daily stop for Amtrak's Southwest Chief which runs between Los Angeles and Chicago. Passengers destined for Santa Fe detrain at the small station and take a shuttle bus to the nearby state capital. The station was built in 1909 by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. It is one of seven New Mexico stations served by Amtrak. (Photo by ) Robert Alexander/Archive Photos/Getty Images**

---

**George R.R. Martin and two co-investors have purchased an abandoned, 18-mile part of the Santa Fe railroad.**

---

**The author who wrote the novels HBO's "Game of Thrones" series was based on says he wants to restore the line to its former glory for sightseeing, film shoots, and more.**

---

**The trio also acquired two locomotives, 10 train cars, and a historic station house currently used by Amtrak.**

---

**[Visit Business Insider's homepage for more stories.](#)**

---

The railroad station that serves Santa Fe, New Mexico isn't completely abandoned, but it's seen better days.

Twice daily, Amtrak's Southwestern Chief rolls through on its journey from Chicago to Los Angeles via a town called Lamy, a full 18 miles from the New Mexico capital and historic town square. It's a quintessential stop for American railfans young and old, as well as acclaimed author George R.R. Martin.

Along with two other investors, the "A Song of Ice and Fire" writer purchased a historic



The inside of Lamy station still has elements of yesteryear, including Santa Fe signage. Most of the railroad eventually became what is known today as BNSF, a Berkshire Hathaway company. Robert Alexander/Archive Photos/Getty Images

"There are a lot of opportunities for a new tourist attraction," Martin, who's also an investor in projects around Santa Fe's railyards, told the Albuquerque Journal. "COVID has thrown a monkey wrench into our plan. We had hoped to get things up and



murder mystery shows, and even escape rooms on rails. Perhaps more importantly, the 71-year-old said he wants to live out a childhood dream to blow a train whistle.

"Even though I'm an old guy, I'm a 13-year-old inside," he told the paper.

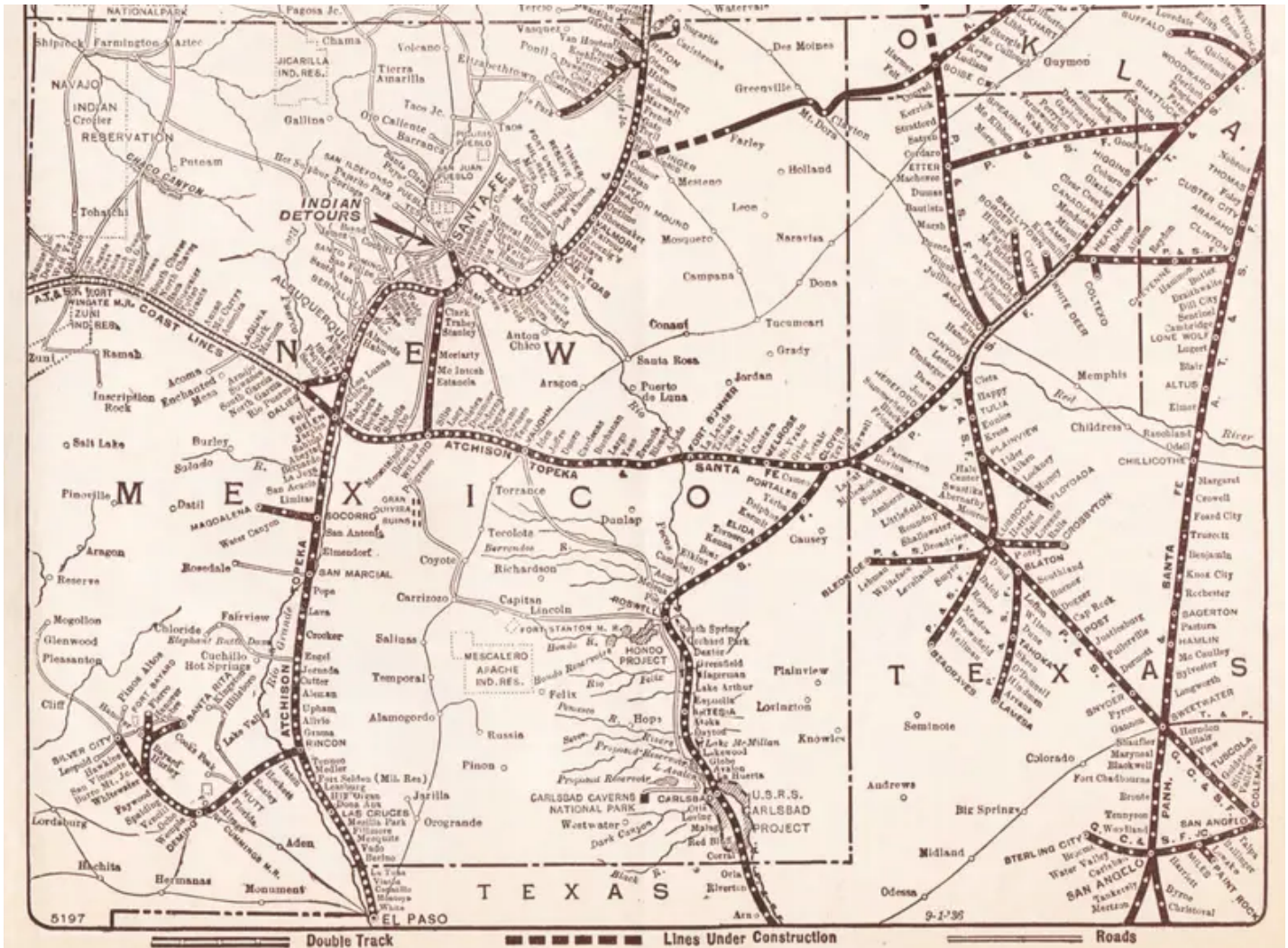


**18 miles away, the tracks connect with Santa Fe's historic train depot, where trains also run to Albuquerque. The area surrounding the station is a bustling arts district with a large farmers market.** Robert Alexander/Getty Images

No price was reported for the acquisition, which Martin made alongside local arts philanthropist Catherine Oppenheimer and arthouse theatre owner Bill Banowsky. According to the Journal, the trio also acquired 10 antique rail cars, two vintage locomotives, and the station house currently leased by Amtrak.

inspect and repair, old historic coaches to restore to their former splendor, a dead





This 1950's era map shows Santa Fe railroad service throughout the southwest. The Santa Fe-Lamy branch is in the center. [Archives](#)

**Don't miss industry news. Get our daily newsletter today.**

Email

[SIGN UP](#)

By clicking "Sign Up", you agree to receive marketing emails from Business Insider as well as other partner offers and accept our [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). You can opt-out at any time.

[< HOMEPAGE](#)

Subscribe

**hospitals fighting coronavirus**