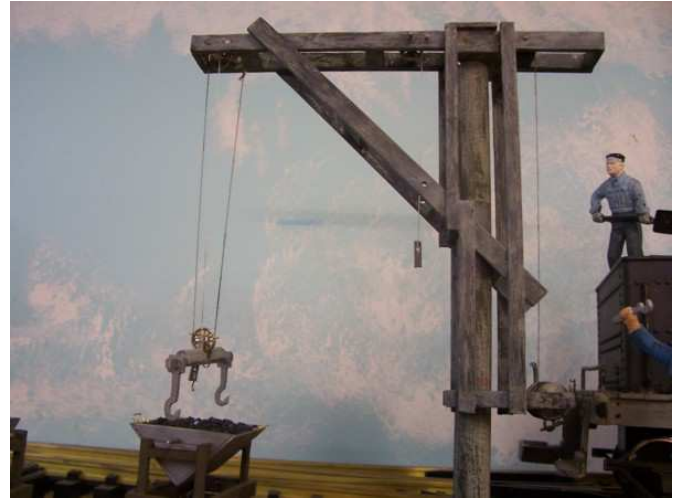
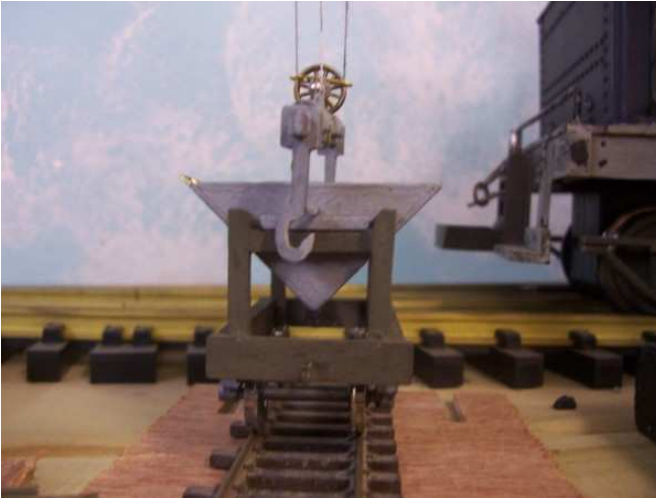


The BTR – Coal Loading Crane

The BTR has a unique Coal Loading facility suited to the slower pace and relaxed scheduling on the this railway compared to much larger systems.

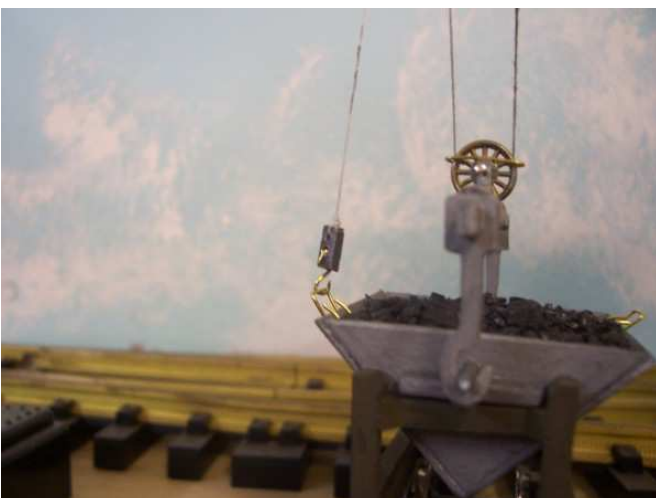
Locomotives are loaded with Coal by tipping one skip load at a time into the Tender / Bunker of waiting Locomotives.



Coal arrives at the Locomotive coaling facility via a 15" narrow gauge track in small tipper skips.



The lifting beam has two hooks that engage with lift pins at the ends of each skip hopper.



Once the lift hooks are engaged, the crane operator also engages the tipping rope and it's hook. Note the tipping hook & weight on left edge of hopper.

Note the tipper rope counterweight at crane post.

Those two weights are counter balanced so that the hopper can be tipped with the least effort. The operator then raises the hopper to a height that will clear the Loco Tender / Bunker.

The BTR – Coal Loading Crane

The skip hopper is raised to the top of the jib.



When the raised hopper is high enough, the crane jib slews around to be over the Coal Bunker.



The Fireman needs only a slight effort to tip the counter balanced hopper and spill the Coal.



The hopper now empty is leveled and latched. Jib turns and lowers the hopper to the trolley.

The BTR – Coal Loading Crane



When seated on the trolley, the hooks are released, the skip is moved along ready for the next.

