

Snailbeach Wagons

for 2' 3" Narrow Gauge

by Richard Maxted

This is a "work in progress" to develop a series of 2'3" narrow gauge items & assets as a FREE resource for Railworks. The gauge was chosen to enable use of the already existing Railworks assets developed for the Tallylyn and Phorum Peninsular routes.

Historical Background

The Snailbeach District Railway, which opened in 1877, was never more than a mineral line serving the lead mining area of the Stiperstones hills in Shropshire. It was totally reliant on the mining and extractive industries; in its time extracting lead, barytes and fluorspar. It also had a period of very productive stone and gravel working. To say the line had a chequered history is to understate. It went through repeated booms and busts, including a period as part of the Colonel Stephens network of light railways. It finally limped to a close in the early 1960's.

At one time the line owned around 50 wagons, including the modelled hopper wagons as well as a number of open wagons. The locomotives included Baldwins bought after the first world war by Colonel Stephens and the original Kerr Stuart 0-4-2 Skylark.

The hopper wagons were of a nominal load of 3 tons. They were originally painted stone grey and lettered in white with "S D R" on each wagon side. A restored wagon is now situated at the old Snailbeach engine shed as part of the Shropshire Mines Trust.

The Models

These models are for 2'3" gauge. I have not been able to find any accurate drawings so the models are based on some sketches by a railway modeller and a lot of comparison with photographs. I think the models capture the scale about right when compared to photographs of the wagons being pulled by Skylark. I have provided a number of liveries and separate loads. There is a default wagon that is required to provide some common aspects.

Version Control

As a work in progress I will occasionally update. Each release will contain all the stock previously released so that you will only need to keep a copy of the latest release.

Version	Description	Date
1	Original release	April 2020

Conditions & Licence – PLEASE READ THIS

For freeware that you develop for yourself or for release as freeware on any website or system, you have an absolute and total right of ownership. This package contains only assets made by me – it does not need any other downloads. You may use it, clone it, modify it, rebadge and rebrand it.

It may not be used where payment is sought or other commercial activities. I reserve absolutely the right to determine what is commercial. Charityware is commercial but is likely to be granted access.

If you release this stock modified then please do keep in mind that others will be using it in an original form. Please don't use the exactly the same names as mine in a public release just add your own. This is only to stop other folks having difficulties.

The Wagons Described



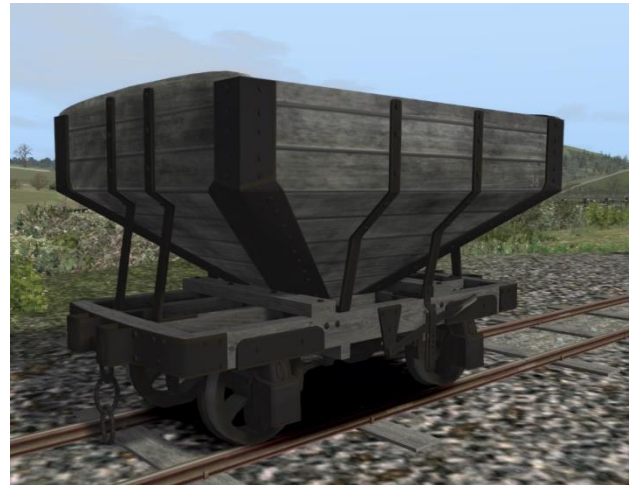
This is the **Used SDR** model. It is the DEFAULT wagon, for any other modification you need this wagon to get the numbering etc.

This wagon comes with a number of different loads described in the section below. It also has an automatic wagon number allocated which you can change.

This version has full lettering as used by the SDR.

This is the **Used** model. It is the same as the model above but has a completely see through decal set so that it is unlabelled. It still retains the wagon numbers.

Both of these **Used** models have a texture set that tries to show a working wagon that is reasonably well looked after.



This is the **Worn** wagon that is closest to the photographs from the 1950's. It is rusty.

The decal for the lettering is fully transparent and so there are no letters but the wagons still retain faint numbers.

This is the **New** wagon.

It has a full coat of grey paint. It is as close as I can get to the currently restored wagon at the Shropshire Mines Trust. I think it is also probably the colour scheme the wagons were supplied with.

It has a full set of decals that are newly painted.



Installing & Locating the Wagons

Should be simplicity itself as I hope I have added an RWP file that works. Don't forget that if you have a good .zip file manager like 7-Zip you can actually open an RWP like any other file anyway.

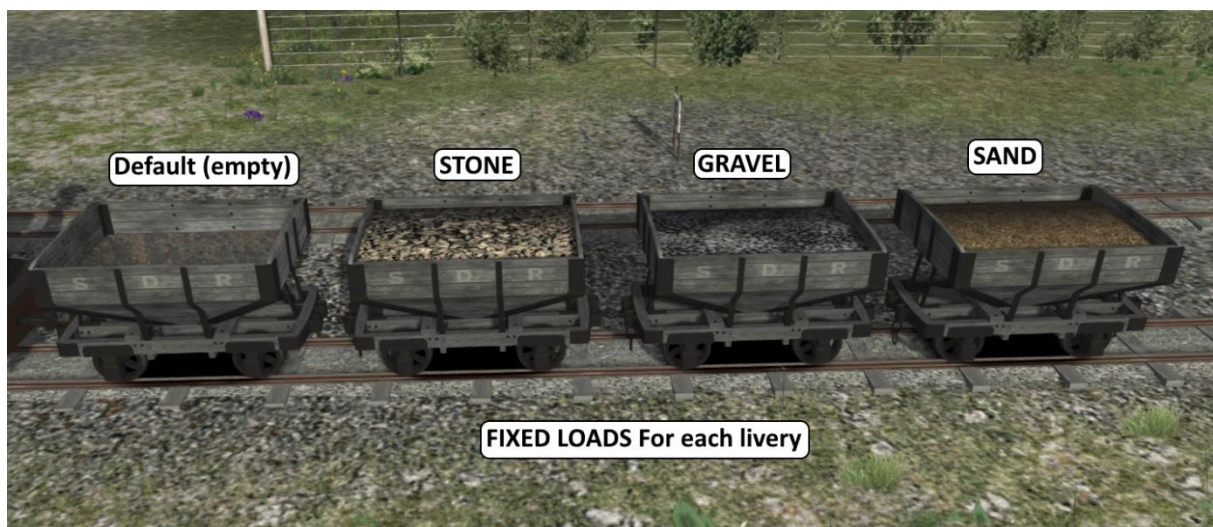
All of my future and current 2'3" narrow gauge assets will be located in subdirectories of ~

Assets/richardmaxted/NarrowGauge

To use the wagons in scenarios you will need to enable them using the infamous blue cube. My assets will always be under **richardmaxted**. All my Narrow gauge assets will be in the **NarrowGauge** tick box under this. The wagons will be found under the wagons symbol in the normal fly-out. All my wagons start with "NG" so these will be "NGSDR....etc".

Loads

Each wagon type is also supplied with a number of "Fixed Load" variations so that you can run loaded wagons in quick drives etc.



At present there are no "bulk" or "container" loads as I haven't thought of a way of unloading these yet.

Other bits and bobs

The wagons use a new three link coupling. *This coupling is part of the free download and does not require permission to be used elsewhere.*

The wagon numbers are read automatically from the ".dcsv" files in each directory. They are allocated to wagons in a random sequence. You can change the number in the Scenario editor to any 2 digit number. To get a single digit number to show correctly use X as a blank spacer. So the number 4 would be 4X. If you don't want the wagon to be numbered then simply typing a single digit number stops the wagon number and the "No" decals from showing.

The wagons use my narrow gauge basic sets of sounds for the couplers, the bangs & clanks and the rail noises.