Railway Goods Sheds (Queensland)

Yard Cranes

Adapted by A C Lynn Zelmer, CaneSIG coordinator, from clinic notes and provided by Jim Hutchinson and Jim Fainges

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The **yard crane** was a mandatory adjunct for a goods facility of any importance. These came in a number of sizes, varying from one up to ten tons in lifting capacity. The one tonne crane was arguably the most common model, and examples can be found throughout the entire system. Gin Gin was but one of the many yards equipped with this type.

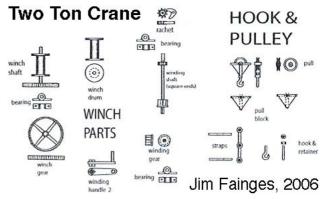


One tonne yard crane at Gin Gin, 1996 (above and right). Jim Hutchinson photos. $\,$

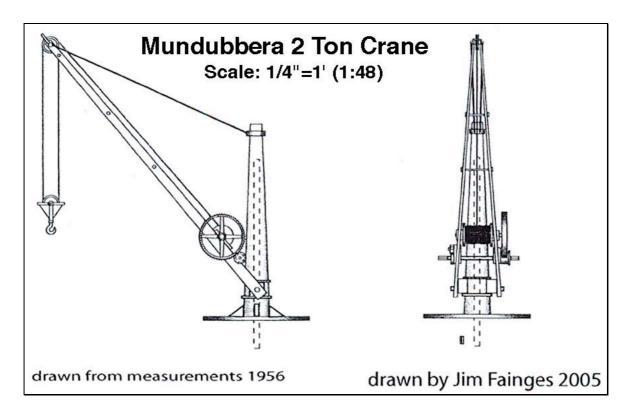
Several station crane models are available in common scales, generally as soft metal castings. Early cranes particularly were imported from the UK, thus UK models are often quite appropriate for Australian layouts.

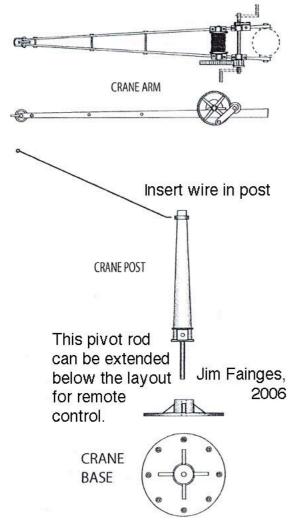


The two tonne crane below and on the next page, while larger, is very simple and is relatively easy to model.



Mundubbera 2 ton crane for modelling. Jim Fainges drawing.



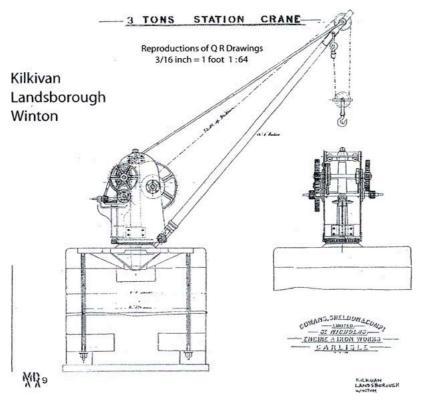


Mundubbera 2 ton crane for modelling. Jim Fainges drawing.

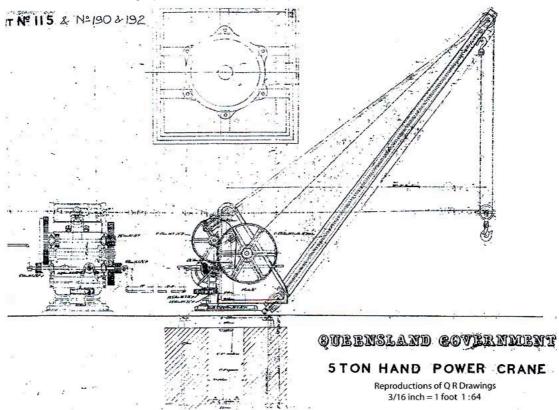
Three-ton cranes were found at a number of locations, typical of which was the Cowans, Sheldon & Co. crane at Yarraman, terminus of the Brisbane Valley Branch (drawing next page). The larger cranes were less common.



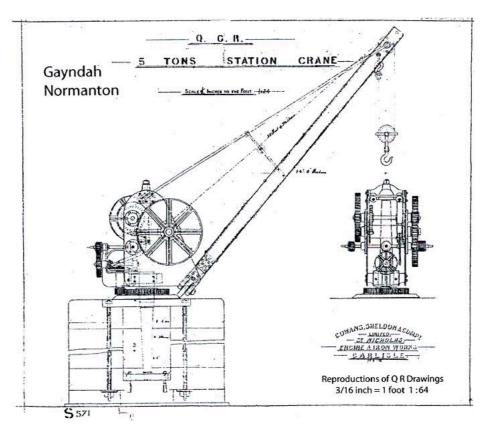
Three-ton crane at Yarraman, 1989. Jim Hutchinson photo.



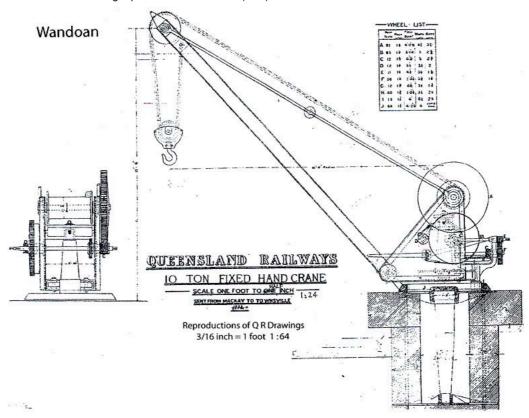
Three ton station crane. QR drawing reproduced at $\sim 3/16"=1'$ (1:64).



Five ton station crane. QR drawing reproduced at $\sim 3/16"=1'$ (1:64).



Five ton station crane. QR drawing reproduced at ~ 3/16"=1' (1:64).



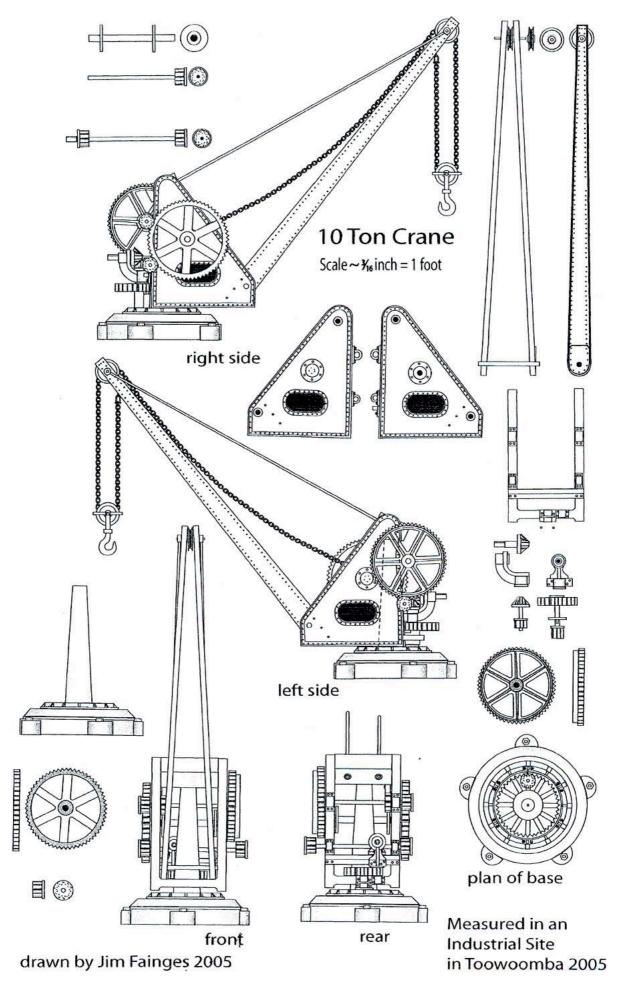
Ten ton station crane. QR drawing reproduced at ~ 3/16"=1' (1:64). Modelling details on the next page.

Acknowledgements

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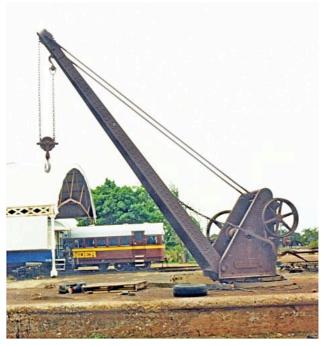
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Additional photos and some plans are available on the CaneSIG web site (www.zelmeroz.com/canesig) and on Queensland's rail heritage web site (QldRailHeritage.com).





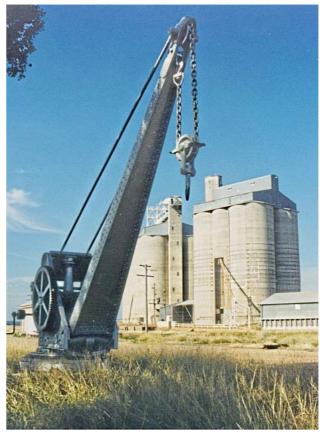
Prairie, 1996. Jim Hutchinson photo.



 $\bf 5$ ton station crane, Normanton, 1996. See drawing page 4. Jim Hutchinson photo.



10 ton fixed crane, Wandoan, 1996. See drawing page 4. Jim Hutchinson photo.



Wandoan, 1996. Jim Hutchinson photo.