



7. ST-DENIS (Aude) — La Gare - Arrivée du Tram



Montagné Aubin, édité.

Tramway BRAM-SAISSAC. Gare de Saint Denis (AUDE)

A postcard with an old photo of the Bram to Saissac narrow gauge railway in southern France, near Carcassonne; from Laurie McLean, NMRA-AR1 newsletter, May 2013.

The Bram to Saissac tramway used to go from Bram, a French medieval town on the Canal Midi, and winds up the gentle slopes of the Montagne Noir. It would have crossed the canal lined with chestnut trees, then zig-zagged through St Martin-le-Vueill, Villelongue with its Cistercian monastery ruins, the Lower Saissac Forest and then into Saissac, another medieval village where the church opened in 854AD.

Modelling the Narrow Gauge: Building the structures would be interesting as most are of stone. The scenery is stunning with the Montagne Noir looking across the Arriege Valley to the snow-capped Pyrenees. This whole area has some of the best mixture of natural and man-made scenery I've ever seen.

Sassiac has the ruins of the Chateau at the edge of the village at the top of a double waterfall about 130 metres high. All of this is do-able but I don't know how you could duplicate the smell of the Bram boulangerie, which makes the most delicious bread I have ever tasted.

There were several short branches off the metre gauge main line to wineries, quarries and other small industries.

Laurie McLean, May 2013