

Flamborough ON RAILS

The evolution of the railway and the changes it brought

TRACK BOLT & RAIL ANCHOR

Track bolts are used to fasten the joint bar at the end of two rails. Rail anchors are used to attach to the underside of the rail tie plate and prevent movement of the rail.



Coal was a commonly used fuel in steam driven locomotives.

Bituminous coal was most common, which was relatively smokeless and comparatively clean. This particular piece was discovered along the tracks between Grindstone Falls and Snake Road.

RAILROAD UTILITY LOCK

Most railroads used utility locks for general purposes such as locking outlying crew and clerk offices, equipment, and tool boxes. 11 NA

NARROW GAUGE RAIL

A narrow gauge track railway has a distance between the inside edges of the rails less then 4ft. 8 1/2 inches. Favoured in difficult terrain because of lower construction costs, it was used in the construction of the railway.

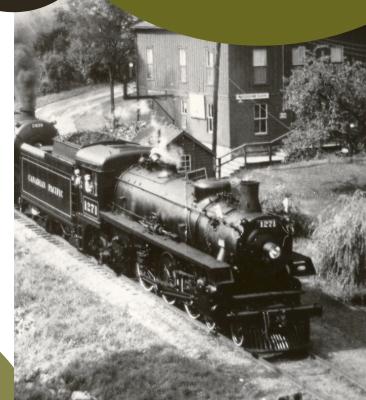


TH&B RAILWAY LANTERN

Railway lanterns were used as tools by railway workers to communicate. Mainly used at night, each lantern would have different coloured globes or lenses each to communicate a different meaning.

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Introduction

There's something magical about the railway - passenger or freight. The engineering of it all, and landscapes the rail travels through has been romanticized since its inception. Discover artifacts related to the railway in Flamborough, and the changes that came with this form of transportation.

Artifacts



This device would have been used by a trained operator to transmit messages using Morse Code. This example is a straight key, the most common example.

2 TELEGRAPH CROSSARM WITH INSULATORS

Communication is key throughout history - the telegraph system was a step forward in connection. This crossarm was part of the original telegraph that came to the village of Waterdown.



Insulators paralleled the development of electricity - they were needed to run wires on poles for kilometres at a time. They have been made out of different materials and in different shapes and colours. Paired with the insulators is an identification plaque for a telegraph pole crossarm.

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RAIL SPIKE

A rail spike, also known as a cut spike or crampon, is a large nail which is used to affix the rails fastening system to the railroad.



RAIL

Railway rails come in different shapes and sizes. These are two examples of flat bottomed rail. Their different profiles would have supported different weights per metre. In general, the heavier the rails and the rest of the trackwork, the heavier and faster the trains the tracks can carry.

The larger piece of rail comes from a section of the Toronto Hamilton & Buffalo (TH&B) railway in the early 1930s.



6 RAIL TIE PLATE

A tie plate is placed between the rail and the railroad ties, which are typically made of wood. With tie plates, the rails can bear the pressure evenly so that they can maintain a smoother surface.

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MODEL TRAIN

This is a fine example of an 'O' gauge Marx tinplate model train, manufactured in the 1950s. It includes a crane, visible in archival photos of the construction of the railway in Flamborough. The model also includes a lumber car, coal car, and look out for the rail worker in the covered wagon!