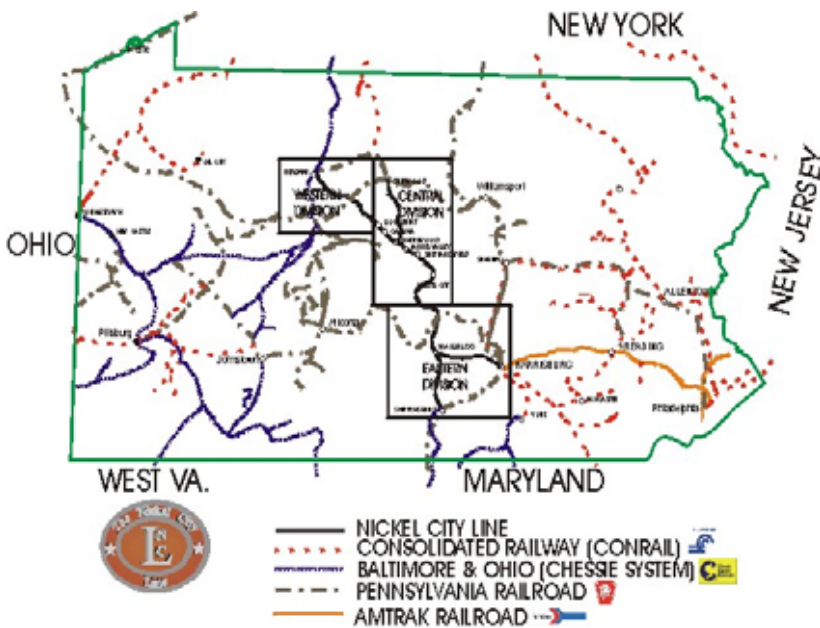


THE LAYOUT

The layout is an 18-foot by 18-foot triple deck design that provides staging on the lowest level, single track mainline operation on the main level, and duel track operations on the upper deck. Trains, block detection, turnout routing, fast clock operation and signaling are operated by the Digitrax Digital Command Control System. DCC throttles are either plug in or radio equipped.

The area modeled is known as the Central Division which encompasses Nickel City and the towns of Sheppardsfield, Laurel Valley, Mills River, Underwood, Canova, Chessie City, Bristow and Monserrat. Each town has one or more industries or serves as an interchange point between East and West Divisions.



interchange point between East and West Divisions. The areas of Harrisburg, Emporium, Driftwood and Rigway are not modeled but are provided on the layout in the form of staging yards. There are three staging yards that serve as these locales. The East Staging Yard is known as Harrisburg, the North staging yard is Emporium / Driftwood and the West staging yard is Rigway.

A more detailed description of each town and staging yard is provided below:

Starting East and moving to the West you can follow along by looking at the schematic diagram in Appendix A and the layout diagrams in Appendix B.

Harrisburg –

This is the East staging yard located behind the Dispatcher’s panel. The yard contains 6 staging tracks known as E1 through CR1E. Dispatchers refer to these track numbers when routing trains in and out of this yard. For operations purposes, the tracks also have alias names as well. Each name refers to a final destination in the ops session and a number. The number corresponds to the track number in the yard. Here are the track numbers and their alias names:

East Staging - Harrisburg Yard

- E-1 – Harrisburg 1
- E-2 – Harrisburg 2
- E-3 – Harrisburg 3
- E-4 – Baltimore 4



E-5 – Baltimore 5

CR1E – Nickel City Commuter Yard

Nickel City –

Nickel City is the focal point of the railroad. The City is divided into two regions, Nickel City and Nickel City East. Nickel City contains the main freight yard. The yard contains 3 mainline tracks (Tracks 1 – 3) and 9 yard tracks (4 – 12). Tracks 1, 2 and 3, serves a passenger station as well as through freight traffic. The yard tracks are broken down as follows:

Track 4: Arrival / Departure

Track 5: Arrival / Departure

Track 6: Arrival / Departure

Track 7: Run around – Keep Clear at All Times

Track 8: Break Down Track

Track 9: Make Up Track

Track 10: Short Term Storage Track

Track 11: Long Term Storage Track

Track 12: Intermodal Track Only.



Nickel City East is where a number of industries are located. A list of the industries is provided below:

Nickel City Lumber – lumber yard

Artic Freeze – frozen foods

Nickel City Transfer Company – freight transfer company

Sherman’s Warehouse – merchandise storage

Mountain Tire Company – tire manufacturer

Kandl Oil Company – home fuel heating oil distributor

Alleghany Brewery – beer manufacturer

Foote Factory Shoes – shoe manufacturer

Nickel City Power and Light Power Plant – coal fired power plant

Nickel City Locomotive Shops – light and heavy locomotive repairs

Nickel City Locomotive Fuel Facility – locomotive fueling and service facility



Sheppardsfield –

Sheppardsfield is a slightly more rural mountain community which has two mainline tracks (Tracks 1 and 2) and a small yard siding (Track 3). A passenger station is served by Tracks 1 and 2. Three industries are located in the small yard served by Track 3. These industries are:

Sheppardsfield Shipping and Transfer – freight transfer company

Allied Metalworks – metal fabrication facility



Sheppardsfield Team Track – A platform servicing numerous small industries without direct access to rail.

From this point forward until Canova, the trackage runs as single track territory.

Laurel Valley –



Laurel Valley contains one industry, the Laurel Valley Coal Company. The coal mine has one yard lead which branches off into four yard tracks.

Mills River –

Mills River is a small agricultural community. There is one industry that is served by rail which is Mills River Feed and Grain. It has a small siding.



Underwood –

The town of Underwood serves as the interchange point between lines running North and West. Underwood has no industries but it does have a train station. The tracks in Underwood branch off into two tracks (Tracks 1 and 2) which both serve the train station. Track 1 and 2 both head West to Monserrat and either can be used as a passing track for trains headed West. However, only Track 1 can route trains North to Emporium / Driftwood.

Emporium / Driftwood

This is the North staging yard located below Nickel City Yard headed north from Underwood. The yard contains 6 staging tracks known as N1 through CR1W. Dispatchers refer to these track numbers when routing trains in and out of this yard. For operations purposes, the tracks also have alias names as well. Each name refers to a final destination in the ops session and a number. The number corresponds to the track number in the yard. Here are the track numbers and their alias names:

North Staging – Emporium / Driftwood Yard

N-1 – Emporium 1

N-2 – Emporium 2

N-3 – Buffalo 3 (Temporary)

N-4 – Rochester 4 (Temporary)



N-5 – Rigway 5 (Temporary)

CR1W – Buffalo Station (Temporary)

Temporary denotes that these tracks are being used for West Staging service on an interim period until completion of the West Staging Yard.

Canova –

Headed West from Underwood trains must negotiate the Canova Grade, a long and winding stretch of single track mainline with grades of up to 5%. This grades winds through the mountains until it reaches the town of Canova. Canova is a small mountain community served by a train station and a small freight house. At this point the single track line reverts back to double track territory.



Chessie City –

Chessie City is another small mountain town which is known for some usually abundant clay deposits. As a result, the town has established a small siding and industry for manufacturing raw kitty litter material. The industry is known as Purina Kitty Litter Manufacturers.

Bristow –

Another small mountain town, this area has a small siding which serves a scrap yard for the industry known as Bristow Scrapworks.



Montserrat –



Montserrat is a slightly larger town in the mountains. The double track mainline reverts back to single track territory past this town. Monserrat has a train station and several industries that are served off a small yard. The industries are still under development as of the writing of this manual, however the basic layout includes a freight house, a small locomotive fueling facility, a grain silo, and a plumbing supply company.

Rigway –

This is the West staging yard located on the upper deck of the layout in the utility room. The yard is still under construction but is designed for 5 staging tracks known as W1 through W5. Dispatchers will refer to these track numbers when routing trains in and out of this yard. For operations purposes, the tracks will also have alias names as well. Each name will refer to a final destination in the ops session and a number. The number corresponds to the track number in the yard. Here are the proposed track numbers and their alias names:

West Staging - Rigway Yard

W-1 – Monserrat Commuter Yard1

W-2 – Rigway 2

W-3 – Buffalo 3

W-4 – Buffalo Terminal 4

W-5 – Rochester 5