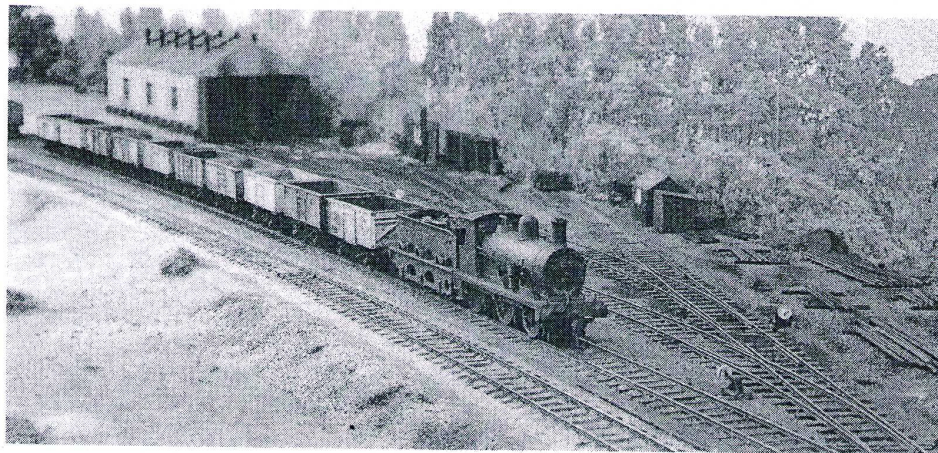


SHEPHERDSWELL

EAST KENT RAILWAY



OO gauge layout in the 1960's

By Ian Lampkin

The Concept

With so many new industrial locos released in recent months I decided to build an industrial layout. As I already had many 1960's Southern region locos and wagons I wanted to base the new layout within the South. The original idea was to use the old East Kent Railway as a basis but it has become more of a near prototype model of the old Colonel Stephens line that lasted into nationalisation and served Tilmanstone colliery until the mid 1980's. The passenger service finished not long after nationalisation in 1948 and the loco shed was demolished not long after. Today the line to Eythorne about 2.5 miles away is now a preserved railway.

However, in order to make the layout's operation more interesting I have changed the history to allow workmen's trains to run and that the line wasn't nationalised, with the engine shed remaining in use longer, maintaining industrial locos for other lines. Also coal trains can be seen swapping locos in the yard with the occasional box van etc. to and from the colliery.

Layout operation

Control is by Digitrax Digital Command Control. We also use touch screen PC's to monitor and control the layout. Some locos are sound fitted.

As the layout is set in the early 1960's around the time that the Kent mainlines were electrified, both steam and diesel locos can be seen at work.
