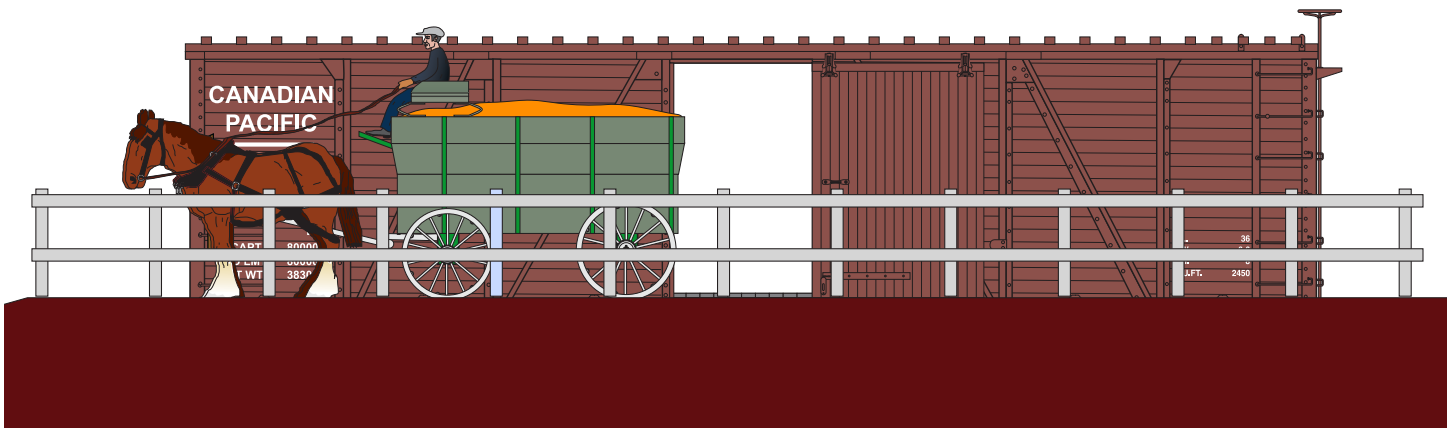
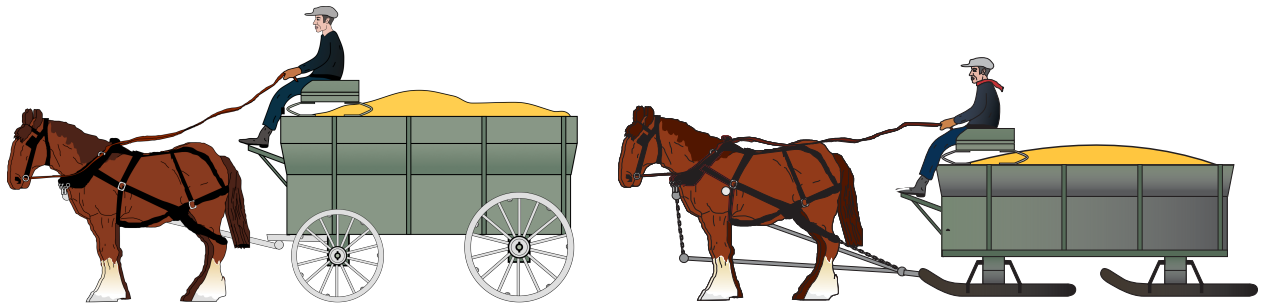
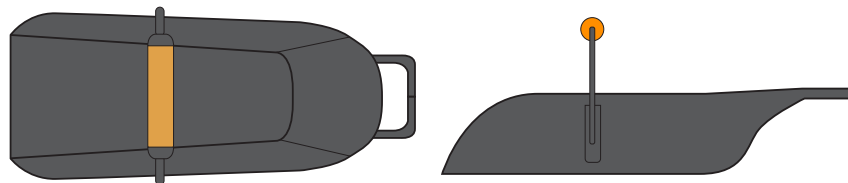


THE EVOLUTION OF GRAIN HANDLING

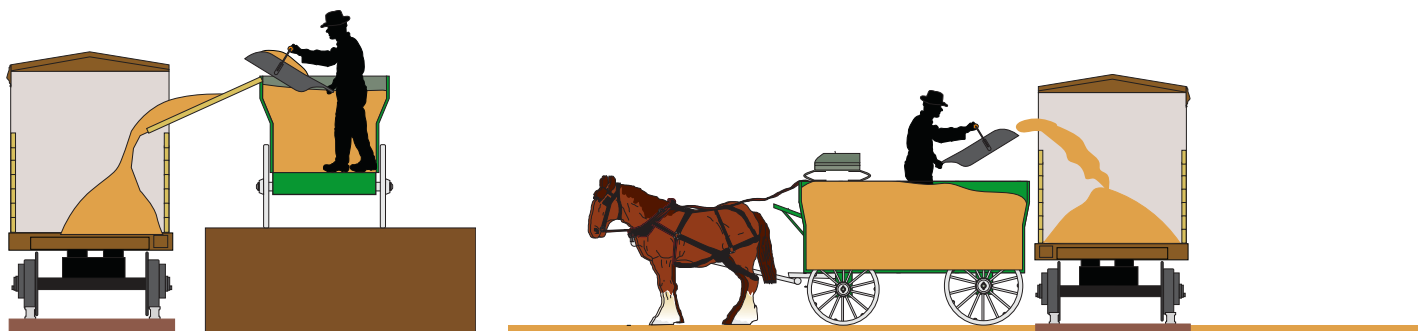
After grain was harvested in the fields, farmers would load loose grain into wagons. It could be hauled to their farm for storage or to local boxcar loading platforms for shipping. In the winter, grain sleds would be used to haul the grain. This was the method of grain transport in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



At the railway siding, the grain was manually transferred into the boxcar, or could be stored in warehouses built alongside the railroad until boxcars were delivered.



A Manitoba Wheat Scoop or a shovel would have been used to move grain from the Wagon into a waiting boxcar.

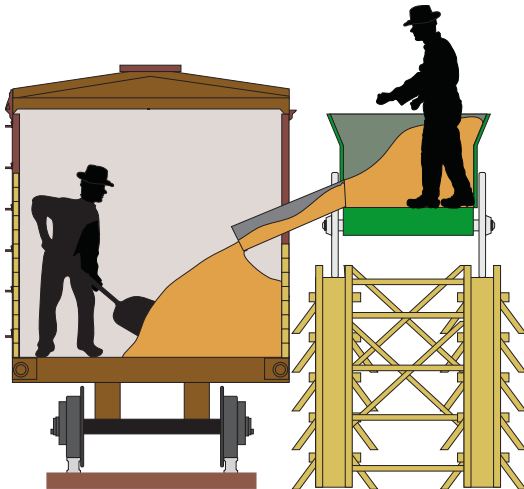


Left: Farmer loading grain into a boxcar from a wagon on a loading platform using a Manitoba Scoop.
Right: Farmer unloading grain into boxcar on level ground.

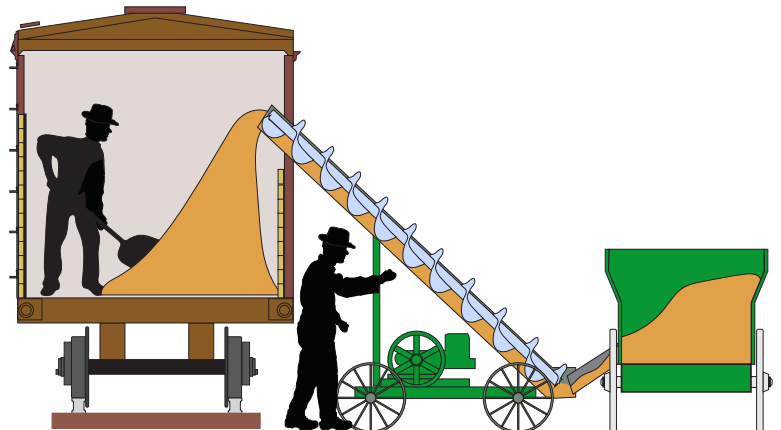
Drawings By Jim A Pearson



Raised scaffold for unloading wagons directly into boxcars
Based from a photo from Canadian Rail No. 285, October 1975, Page 304



In some areas, farmers built a raised scaffolding system where multiple wagons could be pulled up onto it. Here the grain in the wagons could be unloaded directly into the boxcars.



Another way to load boxcars used early grain augers. Grain would be released from the side or back end of the wagon into a hopper. The grain would then be lifting by a screw auger into the boxcar.

Drawings By Jim A Pearson

Another method used to transport grain was using grain sacks. These usually held up to 2 bushels of grain and could be bought either through catalogues such as the T. Eaton Co. or at the local merchant.

EATON'S "STANDARD" GRAIN BAGS

PRICES LOW-QUALITY GUARANTEED

You will soon be needing grain bags, as this is the reason when you clean your seed grain and dispose of the surplus. The four varieties listed below are exceptionally good values. They are standard size and weight --are made from the best of raw material have no seams in fact there is no better grain bag manufactured to-day. Send us an order and when the bags arrive if they are not up to your expectations in every way if they are not as good a bag, at a lower price, than you can obtain elsewhere send them back at once and we will refund your money in full and pay the transportation charges both ways.

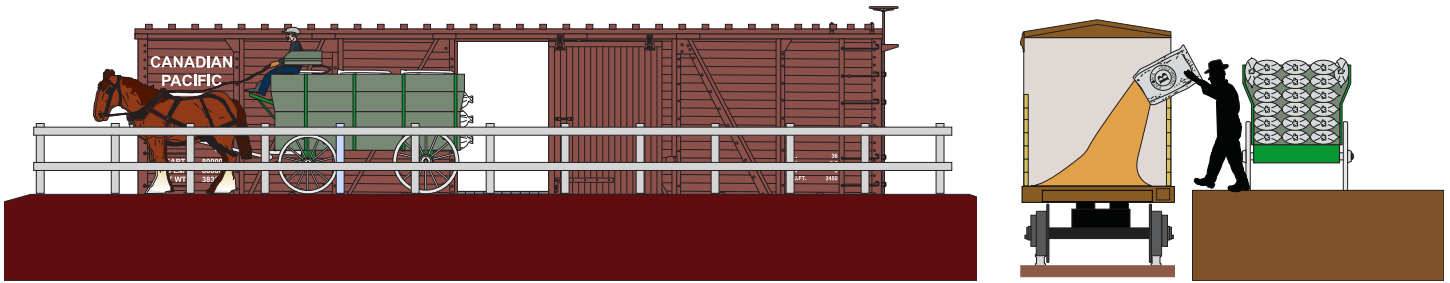
WE DO NOT PAY FREIGHT ON GRAIN BAGS

 <p>EATON'S A Our Price Per Doz. 255</p> <p><small>N3-1. EATON'S A Seamless Grain Bag, capacity two bushels, weight 14 ounces Price per 100</small></p>	 <p>EATON'S B Our Price Per Doz. 295</p> <p><small>N3-2. EATON'S B Seamless Grain Bag, clean and strong, capacity two bushels weighs 10 ounces Price per 100 23.75</small></p>	 <p>EATON'S C Our Price Per Doz. 348</p> <p><small>N3-3. EATON'S C Seamless Grain Bag, capacity two bushels, weight 14 ounces to bag Price per 100 27.75</small></p>	 <p>EATON'S D Our Price Per Doz. 359</p> <p><small>N3-4. EATON'S D Seamless Grain Bag, capacity 2 1/2 bushels, weights about 20 ounces, strong and durable. Price per 100 28.75</small></p>
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Every Farmer can save money buying from our Grocery Catalogue

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED
TORONTO CANADA

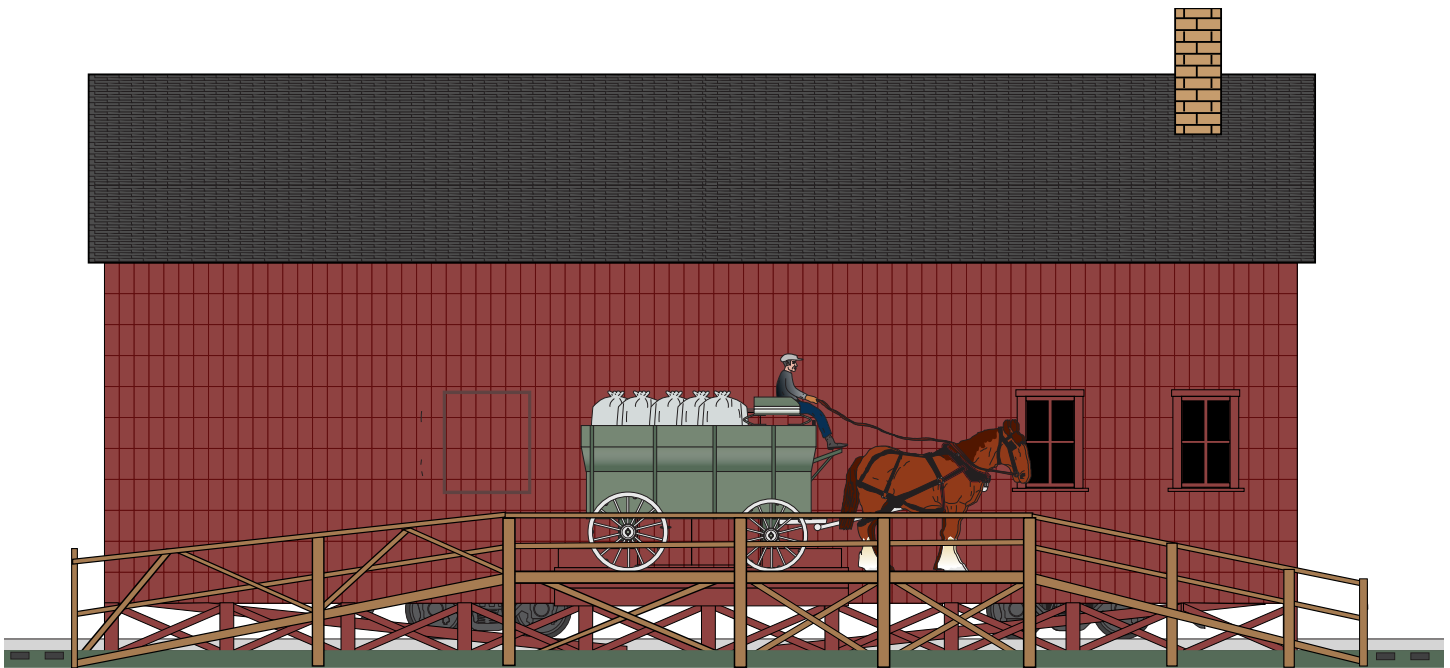
A copy of our Spring and Summer Catalogue should be in your home



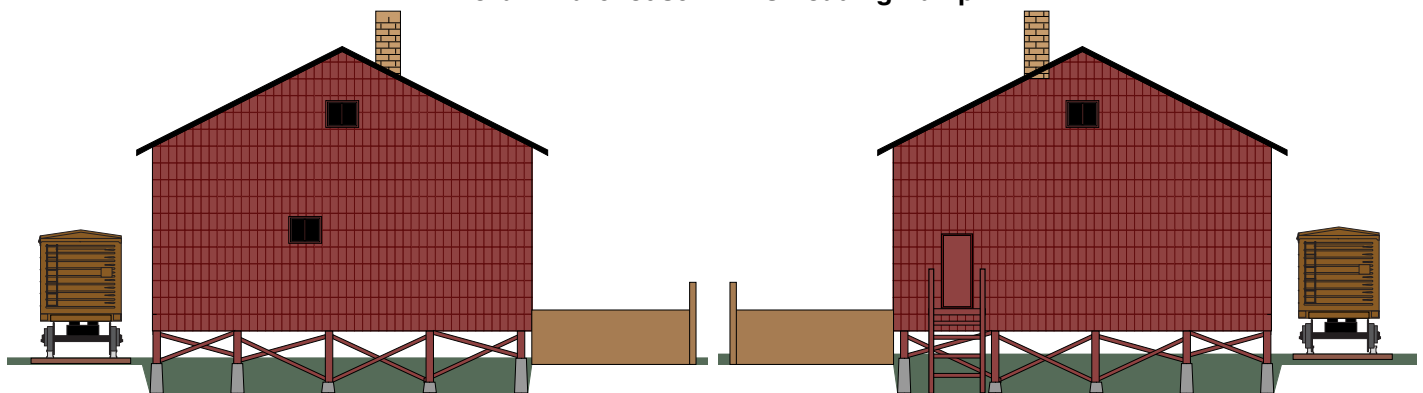
Wagons loaded with grain sacks could also be unloaded at loading platforms as well.

A major problem with these grain loading procedures included:

Availability of grain cars to load and back breaking work shovelling grain and unloading grain sacks.



Grain Warehouse With Unloading Ramp



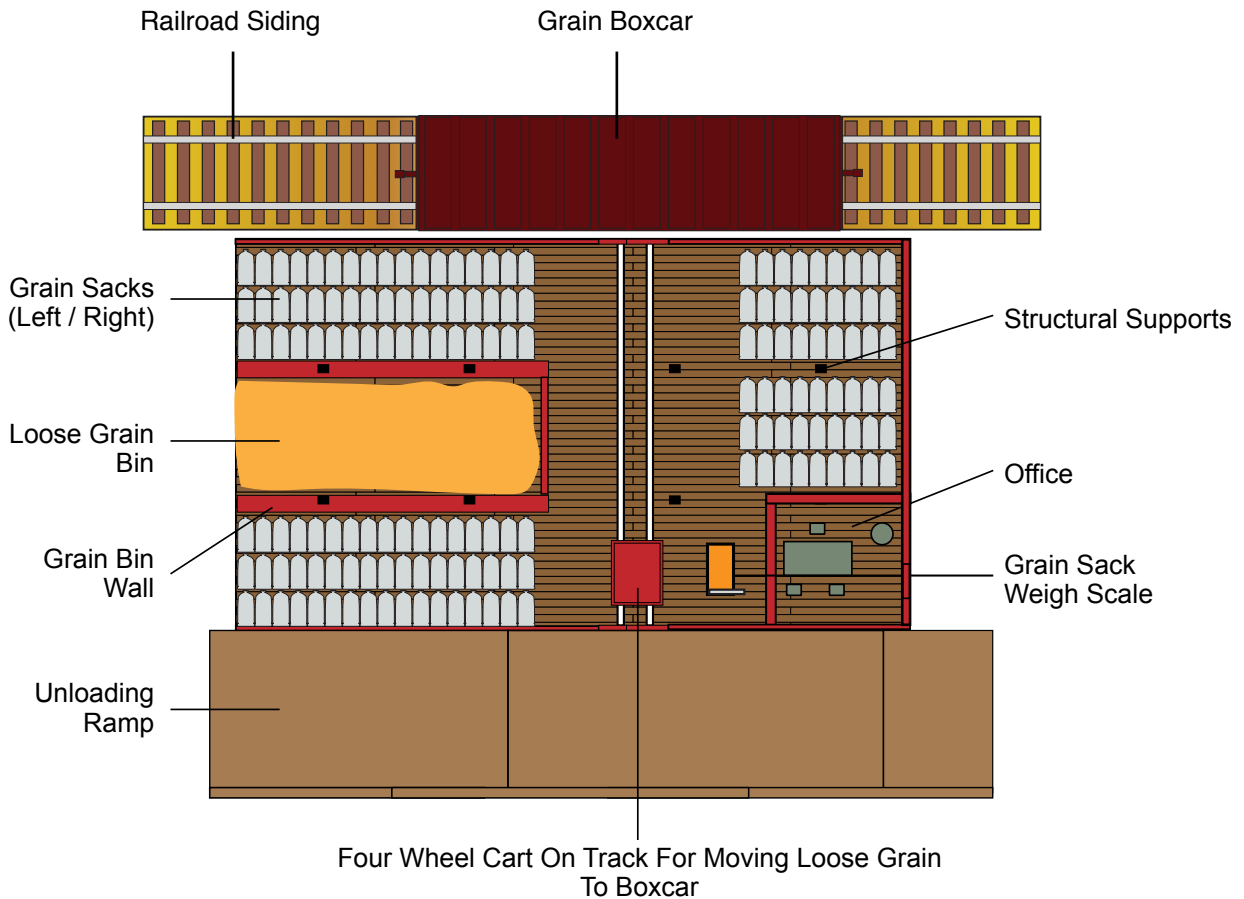
Grain Warehouse With Railroad and Wagon Unloading Ramp

Drawings By Jim A Pearson

An early method of storing grain until boxcars could be delivered by the railroad, was by using grain warehouses. Some were set up on raised platforms made of wood, stone or concrete.

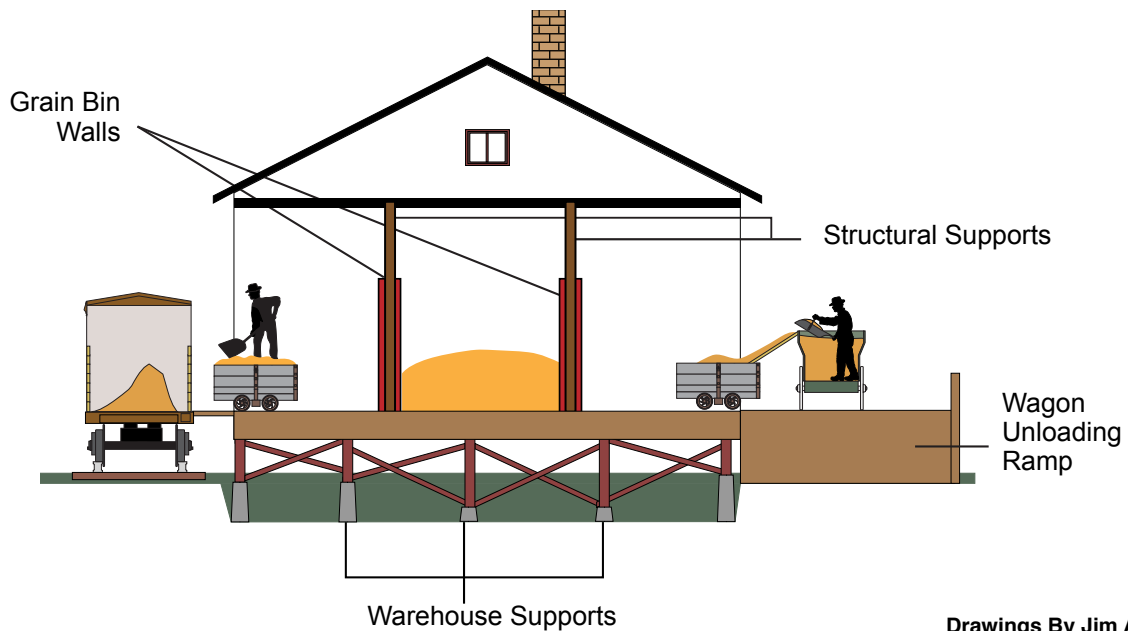
A platform and ramps were used to unload sacked or loose grain into the building.

These drawings are based on the Brookdale warehouse, believed to be the last standing one in Western Canada.

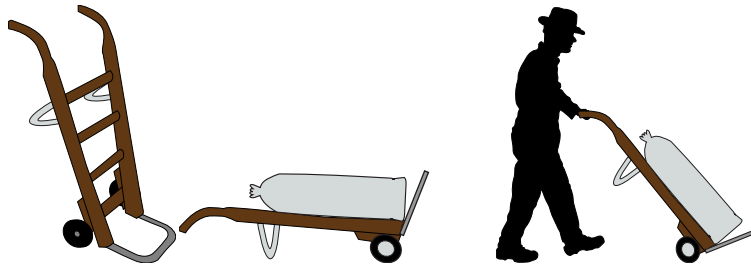


Warehouses varied in shape and size. Many had a four wheel cart on a track for moving loose grain from the wagon to a storage bin or the boxcar. Grain sacks were also stored in bins as well.

For moving loose grain, it would have to be shovelled into the wheeled cart. The grain would be transferred into bins for storage or shovelled into a boxcar.



Drawings By Jim A Pearson



Dollies were used since the grain sacks could weigh up to 100 pounds (45 kilograms) each.



Our \$11.50 Platform Farm Scale.
 Guaranteed the Best Platform Scale on the market.

No Farmer can afford to be without a set of these scales. Capacity from 400 to 1500 pounds (according to price.) You can weigh every load of grain you sell before going to market.

Everything grows on the farm should be weighted, it isn't safe to do otherwise.

These scales will serve you better than any other Platform Scales made.

REMEMBER, OUR 3 PER CENT CASH DISCOUNT when cash in full accompanies your order, when comparing our prices with those of other houses.

DON'T FORGET OUR LIBERAL C. O. D. subject to examination, TERMS.

	Capacity Lbs.	Ship. Wt. Lbs.	Price
No. 1410	400	155	\$11.50
No. 1411	600	170	12.67
No. 1412	800	180	14.00
No. 1413	1,200	265	16.00
No. 1414	1,500	270	20.00

These scales are unquestionably the best scale made for the money. They are provided with the best of steel pivots carefully hardened - have no check rods to bind and get out of place. The platform rests on adjustable chill bearings which takes the wear directly off the steel pivots, and the pivots remaining sharp, **the scale acts quick and sensitive.** Has wheels, wood center platforms sliding poise beam, sealed and tested. The greatest care is exercised in packing these scales for shipment.

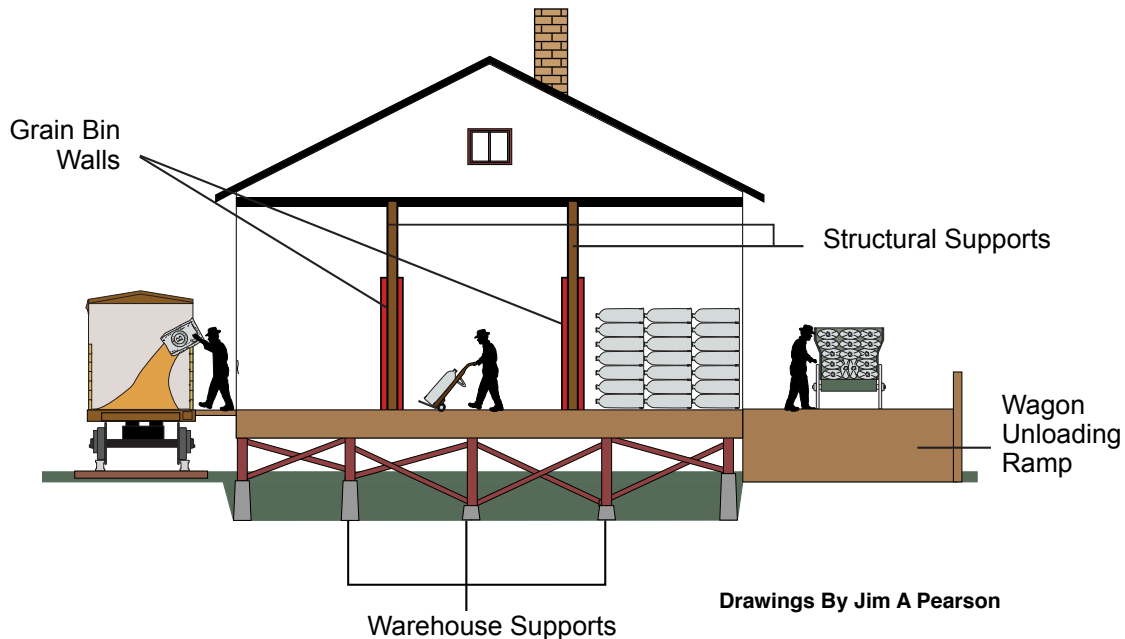
DON'T BUY A CHEAP MADE PLATFORM SCALE. They are dear at any price.

After the grain sacks were unloaded from the wagon, they would be weighed using a grain scale.

Next the sacks would be moved to storage bins or to the boxcar for unloading.

Grain weigh scale ad from
 Sears Roebuck & Co. (1897) & Scale.
 Courtesy Stettler, Alberta P&H Museum

Redrawn by Jim A Pearson



Drawings By Jim A Pearson

Workers would move the grain sacks into storage bins or transfer them to the boxcar. The sacks would be emptied inside. Grain doors would be placed in cars to prevent the grain from leaking out as it was loaded. Both operations were very labour intensive and a boxcar could be filled in about a day.