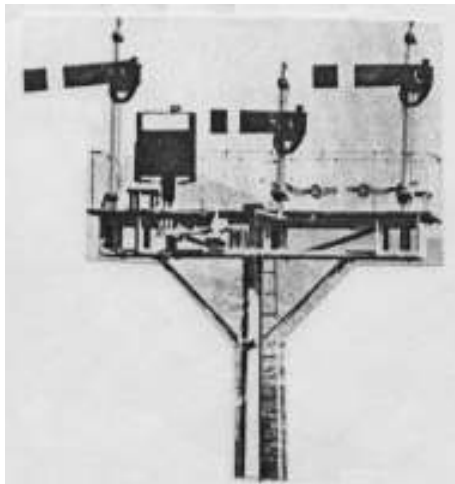




GWR/BR(W) 3 or 4 DOLL TUBULAR POST SIGNAL BRACKET



The GWR introduced this style of bracket in the 1940s, and the design was continued by BR's Western Region.

Note: this kit contains bracket and landing components only. For a complete signal, you will need: a base post (T18); dolls (T200A); signal arms (S0015); finials (SC0018); lamps (SC004); balance weights (S0015 and SC0041/1) and a ladder (S009 series).

Obtain good photographs before starting work.

Burnish both sides of the fret, then tin all parts before removing.

Cut to length sufficient dolls from T200A tubing, remembering that the bottom of the doll should be level with the bottom of the bracket. A two feet (8mm) difference in arm height is typical. Complete the dolls by adding the arms, lamps and balance weights. Finials should be left until last to avoid breakage.

Prepare a length of base post from T18 tubing, ensuring that you have a minimum of 14'6" clearance remaining between rail head and the underside of the proposed bracket at any point where it will foul a running line. Allow for a 1mm projection of the base post above the platform, and don't forget to file up a cap for the post top.

If modelling a 3-doll signal, remove the outer 20mm portion of the bracket from the appropriate end (hold the fret flat, with the platform pointing away from you, and discard the **left** hand end if two dolls are to be to the **right** of the base post).

Make the cut on the outside of the vertical stanchion, and do not cut through the platform just yet. Remove the outer 20mm of the platform with a separate cut, so the platform end overhang is replicated.

Fold up and solder the bracket and platform assembly, with the half-etched tabs on the **outside** of the folds. If modelling a 3-doll bracket, add the square end-piece to the bracket (this was removed when cutting the bracket to size). Solder the bracket/platform unit to the top of the base post - it is a good idea to line and pin everything upside down on a balsa block so the job remains square in all directions. Next, add the four angle brackets from thin brass strip. Finally, solder the dolls into their locating holes, so that the platform overhang is to the rear of the signal.

All working motion should now be undertaken to a satisfactory stage, before the addition of handrails, so as not to impede access. Establish the handrail stanchion positions from your prototype photographs, as they do vary a great deal. Drill the landing perimeter at the chosen intervals with a #75 drill, and insert scale 3' to 4' lengths of wire (no more than 0.33mm diameter) into each hole, from below, with a short "L" turned on the bottom of each one. A quick solder joint on each one will fix them in place, then they can be aligned by eye, and a handrail of soft iron wire fixed around, one stanchion at a time (usually 10mm above the platform). Leave a hoop at the rear where the ladder will be attached. Finally, trim off all excess wire.

Solder the chosen ladder to the rear of the landing, adding two bracing stays from thin brass strip midway up the base post. Most bracket signals had bracing wires and posts, so don't forget to add these once the signal is installed on the layout.

PAINTING

Clean the signal by immersing in warm detergent water, rinse under a running tap, then allow to dry overnight. Spray overall with primer. Refer to photographs to ascertain which parts are likely to be black and which silver-grey. Generally, the base post and dolls were silver-grey, with the bottom few feet of the base post and all other ironwork black, but there are exceptions, so beware!

