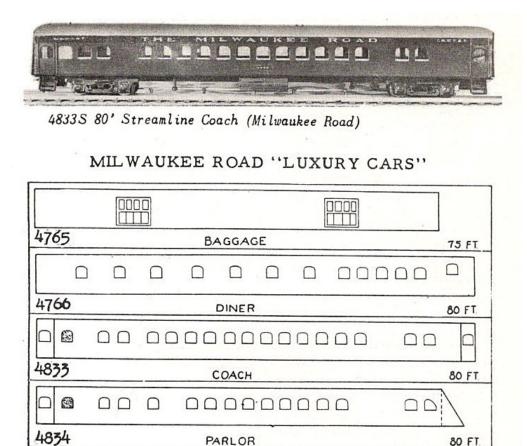
#### WALTHERS O SCALE MILWAUKEE ROAD HIAWATHAS and STREAMLINED KITS

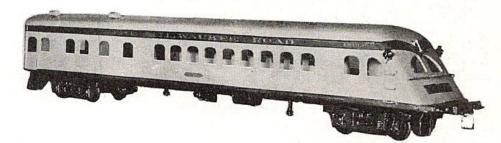
<u>The first series of Milwaukee Road 'Hiawatha' kits</u> were offered a few years after introduction of the new, streamlined steam powered Hiawatha of 1935. Some kits for this train were still available in 1967.

In addition, Walthers produced a series of kits for the 1948 Olympian Hiawatha in the 1950's, as well a third and final series of highly detailed, newly designed kits for Olympian and Twin Cities Hiawatha trains in 1977.

Below is a 1958 kit list for the 1936 Hiawatha. The early "Beaver Tail" observation end was modeled with an aluminum casting, typical for models of the late 1930's-early 1940's.

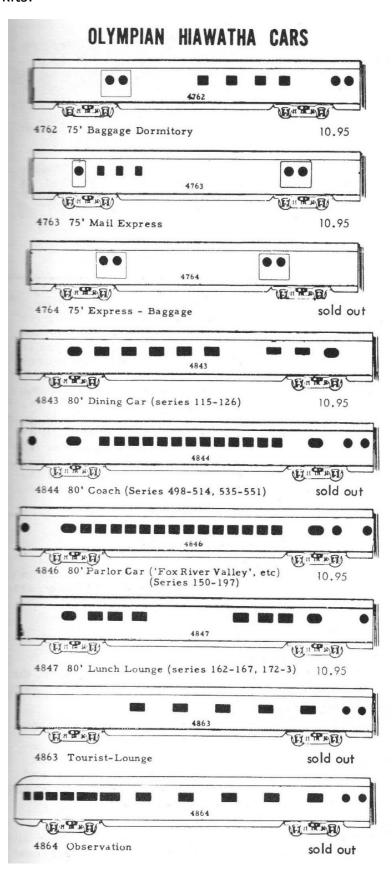


The cars shown above were patterned after the Milwaukee Road's first "Hiawatha" train.



4834 S Beavertail Observation (Parlor) Car (Beavertail end is an aluminum casting)

<u>The second series were Olympian Hiawatha kits</u> with similar construction of wood roof, floor, stamped metal sides and cast, soft metal ends, offered in the Post-War 1940's. Below is a kit list for that series in 1973 which appeared along with a series of other light weight streamlined car kits:



### Additional Kit Numbers for the above Olympian Hiawatha included:

4615 60' Railway Post Office

4865 10 roomette/6 double BR sleeper

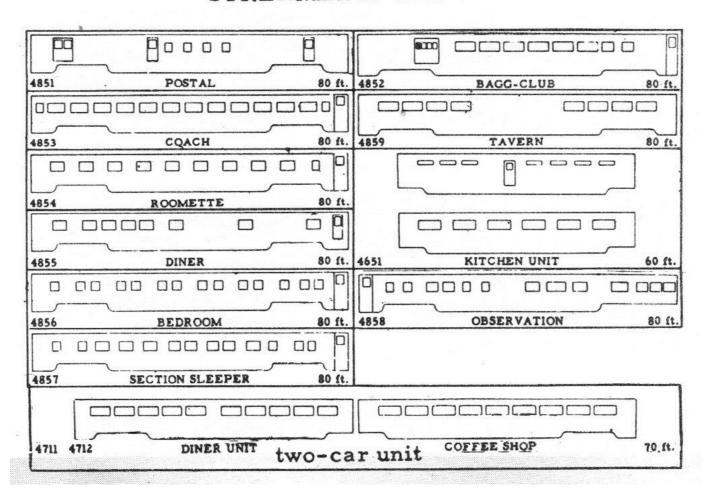
4866 80' Diner

A selection of two diner kits seems unusual. Kits 4843 and 4866 may have modeled cars with differing window arrangements.

## WALTHERS STREAMLINE CAR KITS

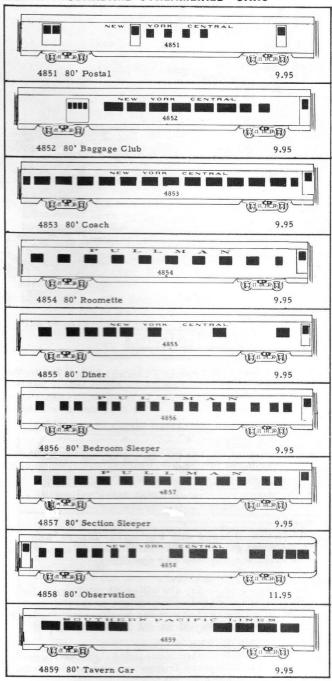
These kits followed the same design as the others and were made in the late 1940's concurrent with Olympian Hiawatha kits. Among the first set of streamline car kits was Southern Pacific's unique three-unit coffee shop/kitchen/diner. It is shown as separate kits (4651, 4711 and 4712). Listed as a two-unit coffee shop/diner and a short kitchen unit, the cars for this set do not appear in catalogs after 1958.

# STREAMLINE CAR SIDES



Below is a list of streamline car kits and fluting from the 1967 catalog.

# STANDARD STREAMLINED CARS



### CORRUGATED SIDES

NOTE: These cars can be made up either corrugated or smooth-sided, with or without skirts. The basic kit is smooth sided, with a separate skirt-strip which can be left off if not needed.

Corrugations are sold separately. We recommend that you use Walthers Goo to apply these aluminum strips to the car sides.

Aluminum corrugations for streamlined sides (2" long)

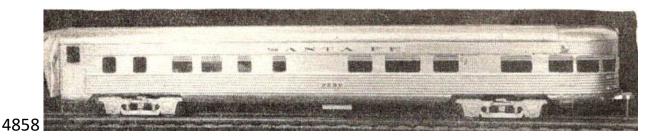


11 flutes per inch R318 -- pr .45



18 flutes per inch R317 -- pr .50

Walthers made long, thin corrugated aluminum strips with narrow and wide corrugations to add fluting to the above streamline cars. The narrow corrugation strip was wider, to enable roof application for modeling a Budd Company car. Wide corrugations on the narrow strip were intended for the lower car sides. While the ad below shows these strips as being 2" long, they were actually 2 feet long!



### THE THIRD AND LAST PASSENGER CAR KIT SERIES, THE TWIN CITIES HIAWATHA

These kits were made in 1977 as the 488\_ and 489\_ series in a limited run. The 488\_ series carry a 1955 paint and lettering scheme for the Twin Cities Hiawatha. The 489\_ series have an as built 1948 livery for the Olympian Hiawatha and included a 10 roomette / 6 double BR sleeper in that series.

Photos of O scale kit-built cars in the 1948 Oylimpian paint and lettering scheme are scarce. Where an O scale model of a Twin Cities car in 1955 Twin Cities livery cannot be found, a photo of a HO model is used and so noted. These model kits do not appear in the O scale catalogs of 1976, 1977 nor in 1978, where the photo of a Parlor/Lounge "Sky Top" observation is seen in the "Parts" section, listed as "No longer Available."

They were a vast improvement over the early Hiawatha kits. The roof was formed sheet metal. Car sides were pre-painted in orange and maroon with the road name applied. Decals were included for car names and numbers. Floquil provided matching orange, maroon and semi-gloss black paint. 1/32" black chart tape marked car side color divisions and created rib lines above and below the windows. Diecast Hiawatha emblems and die cast window frame gaskets were included.

Window glazing was done by painting the die cast gasket fames semi-gloss black, fitting and securing glazing in them, then installing them into the car sides from the outside with little touches of cement. Tedious work, but if done carefully, the effect is amazingly realistic.

New, highly detailed castings for the car ends, roof, underbody and other details were made specifically for these kits. A vacuumed formed, clear plastic "Sky Top" observation end was provided. While these kits were sold less trucks, Walthers made accurately scaled "Nystrom" trucks for these. They were Walthers finest O scale passenger car kits.

Walthers made just one run of these kits and it was sold out by the following year. The die cast detail parts created for these kits (excepting window gaskets), are available at Scale City Designs.

KIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	CAR
4881	80' RPO / Express	1955 "Twin Cities Hiawatha" Paint
4891	80' RPO / Express, Numbers 1208-1213	1948 "Olympian Hiawatha" Paint



4882 80' Baggage / Express

1955 Paint



4892 80' Baggage / Express 1948 Paint 4883 70' Railway Post Office (HO model shown) 1955 Paint



4893 70' Railway Post Office 1948 Paint 80' Coach (HO model shown) 1955 Paint

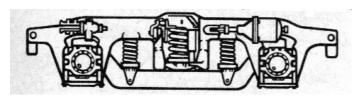


4894 80' Coach 1948 Paint 80' Lunch / Lounge (HO model shown) 1955 Paint 4885 80' Lunch / Lounge 4895 1948 Paint 4886 80' 40 seat Dining Car (Numbered 121) 1955 Paint 80' 40 seat Dining Car, Numbers 115-120 1948 Paint 4896 4887 80' 30 seat Parlor Car "Valley" series, Nos. 190-197 1955 Paint 4898 10 Roomette / 6 Double BR sleeper, Numbers 2-11 1948 Paint Only 24 seat parlor/lounge "Sky Top" Observation, "Rapids" series. 1955 Paint 4889





<u>'NYSTROM' TRUCKS</u> were developed by the Milwaukee Road for its lightweight, home built streamline cars of 1947 for Hiawatha service. Accurately modeled in O scale by Walthers, they are perfect for these Post-War Hiawatha kits.



Compiled by Edward F. Bommer

May 29, 2020