



# SOUTHERN RAILWAY

HISTORICAL & MODELING DIGEST

2021

By

DONNIE R. DIXON

SOUTHERN RAILWAY STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

PASSENGER ENGINES

PAINTING and LETTERING DIAGRAM

ILLUSTRATIONS and SOUTHERN

RAILWAY LETTERING ARTWORK

BY

DONNIE DIXON

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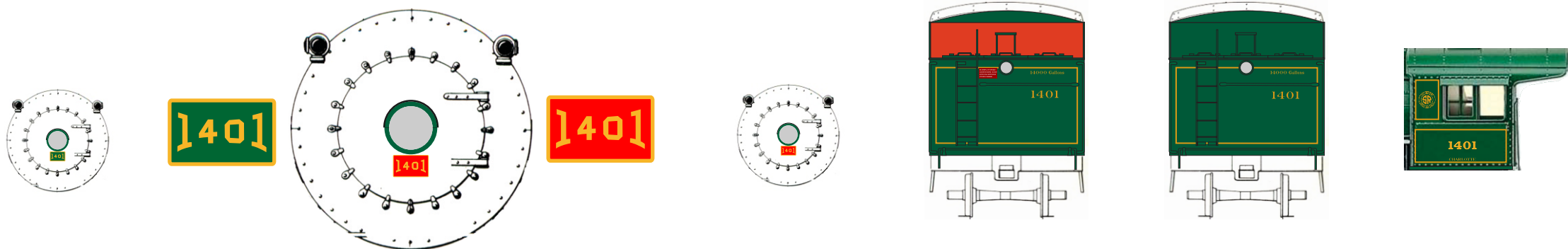
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# SOUTHERN RAILWAY

SR 4-6-2 Pacific PS-4 - circa 1940's

Dulux Gold - Single Stripe

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The above illustration was created using a photo of a brass model, super-imposed with Southern Railway Lettering Artwork by Donnie Dixon. This illustration is representative of SR PS-4 in general service in the 1940's. Originally, SR Passenger Engines wore black paint. In the mid-1920's SR President Fairfax Harrison visited England and while there observed the Southern Railway of England Green painted locomotives. He liked it so much that, upon his return, he ordered SR Passenger Engines be painted in Sylvan Green, sometimes referred to as "Virginia Green" SR issued drawing, SL-6129, October 26, 1927, General Arrangement & Painting Guide Passenger Engines. SL-6129 is provided on page 2 of this document. The 1917 Guide called out Sylvan Green as overall engine color with Gold Leaf Lettering. Also, double-striping was called out. This paint scheme lasted until the mid 1930's when SL-6129 was revised to discontinue the use of Gold Leaf in lieu of Imitation Gold Paint. Also, double-striping was replaced with single-striping. The round SR Herald shown on the Cab forward of the window was added in the 1940's. Also, late in life of steam, SR added the red "stoker warning" placard to the rear of the tender and painted the back of the tender coal board red for safety. I cannot find "red" mentioned on any SR Painting Guide for roof, or windows. It could have happened in some shops, but, I have no official proof that it was Southern Railway practice to paint cab roofs or tender decks red. But modelers have a choice to paint their models any way they desire. I am committed to providing accurate information I have in my possession. As to the choice of Modeling Paint, I prefer ScaleCoat II, Southern Green or TrueColors Southern Green. If still available, ModelFlex by Badger had a good choice for SR Green.

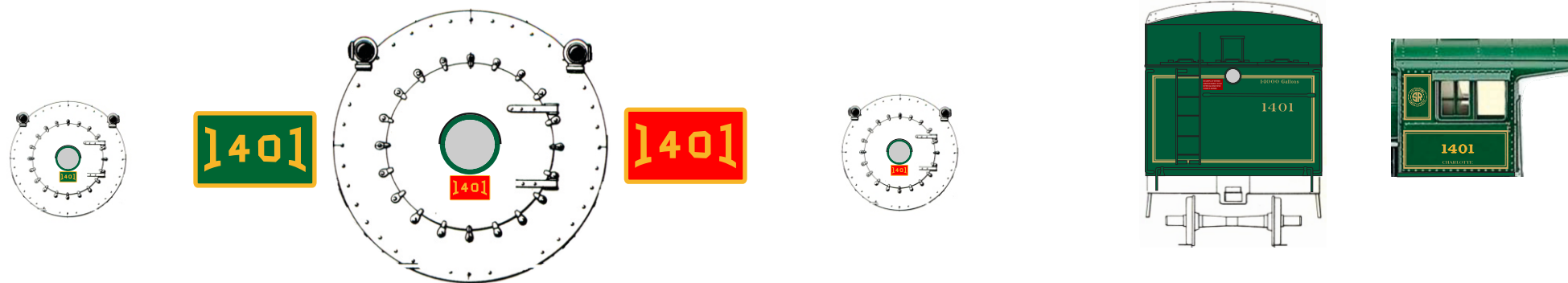
NOTE: The above painting and lettering schematic is typical of all Southern Railway Locomotives designated as Passenger Locomotives, such as the 4-8-2, Ts Class Mountains

# SOUTHERN RAILWAY

## SOUTHERN PASSENGER LOCOMOTIVE CIRCA 1929

### DOUBLE-STRIPED GOLD LEAF LETTERING

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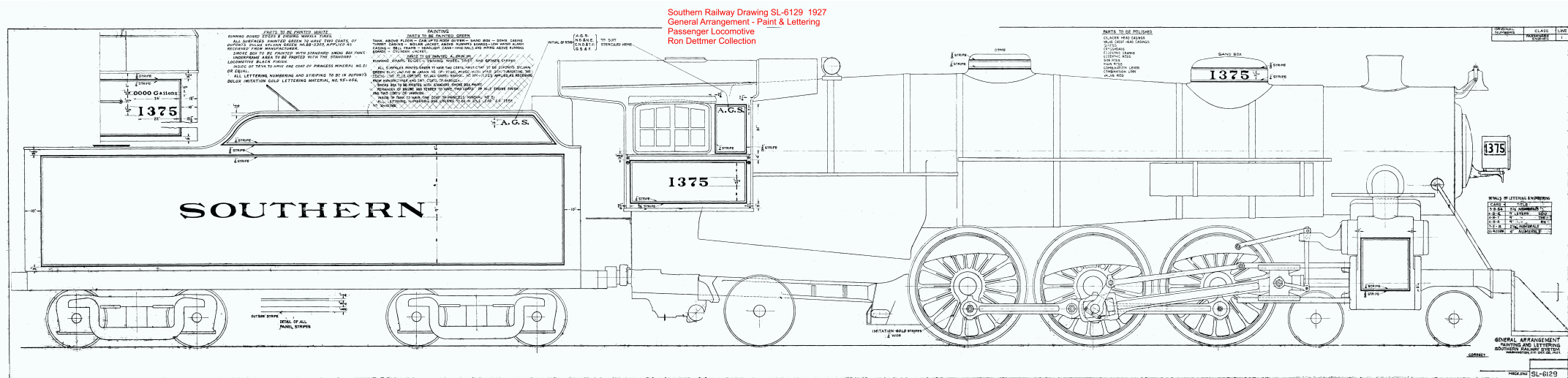
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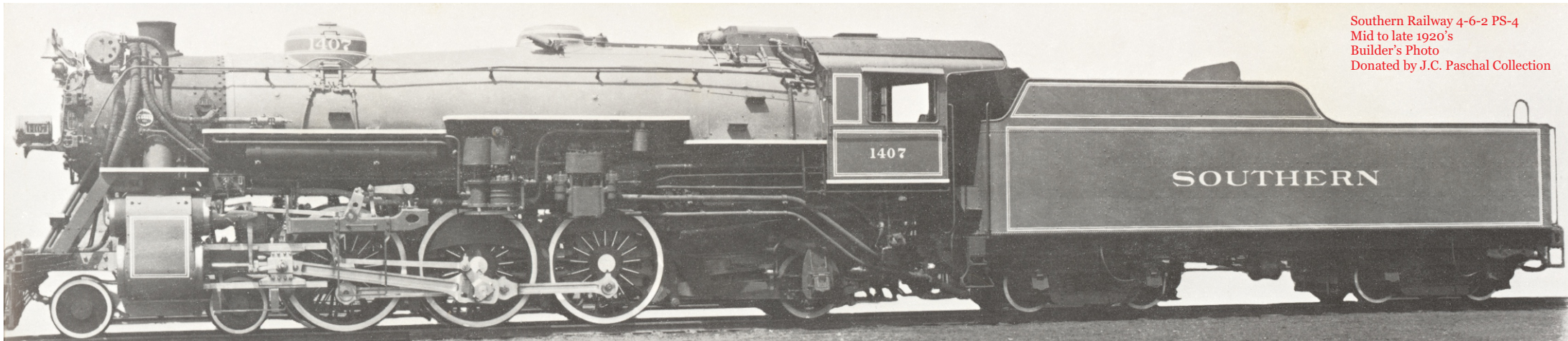
## SOUTHERN RAILWAY PAINTING DIAGRAM - DRAWING SL-6129 SOUTHERN PASSENGER ENGINES



On October 26, 1927, Southern Railway issued General Arrangement, Painting and Lettering Drawing, SL-6129. This drawing applied to all passenger engines. Initially, all engines would be painted in Sylvan Green overall. Areas not painted green were painted black. Lettering was to be Gold Leaf, with double striping. Silver was applied to the driving wheel tires, and along the edge of walkways, & silver stripes on the wheel spokes. In the mid 1930's this drawing was modified as indicated by the X-out portions with the new painting guide listed. The revision called for continuation of the Green Paint, but changed the lettering from Gold Leaf to imitation Gold Paint, Dupont Dulux Gold. Also, double striping was replaced with single striping. The revised paint scheme continued until the end of the steam era.

# SOUTHERN RAILWAY

SOUTHERN PASSENGER ENGINE 4-6-2 PS-4 # 1407



NOTE: The SR PS-4 in the above photo was used in normal passenger service. Also, note this locomotive would have received Gold Leaf lettering. Note the silver stripes on the driving wheel spokes.

# SOUTHERN RAILWAY

SR 4-6-2 PS-4 CIRCA: Early 1950's



NOTE: The black smoke box on this unit. By the early 1950's Southern was not to concerned about the aging Steam Locos. Thus some units got black smoke boxes in lieu of the traditional graphite color.



# SOUTHERN RAILWAY

PS-4 CIRCA: Late 1940's



**Southern RR PS-4  
Tom Alderman Collection  
Used here by permission**

Southern Railway 4-6-2 PS-4 late 1940's or early 1950's. Photo donated by Tom Alderman from his collection. Note: The warning placard on left rear of tender tank. The warning was for the automatic coal stoker.