

Taxonomy/Nomenclature for Hand Power on Rails by Jacqui

I have had to develop a "taxonomy" or "nomenclature" for Hand Power on Rails and divided it into "species" to allow sorting and naming types and variations of machines.

Once you have a basic list of types, seeing the "evolution" or design development of types becomes possible.

I am certainly not a new Linnaeus, but I'm the one who had to draw the first boundaries, to be able to talk to the rest of the world using the same words for the same hand power machine.

In the past the words

“Handcar” USA & **“Drezina”** Europe

Have been used and neither word is of **any real help!** They are both

“cover all” words which mean **ANY** hand powered machine.

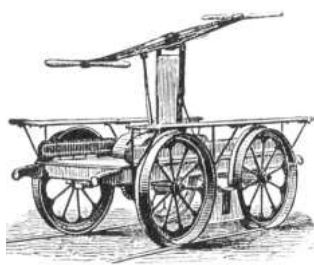
All types labeled **“Hand Car”** in the USA



Belt Crank Car



Row Boat



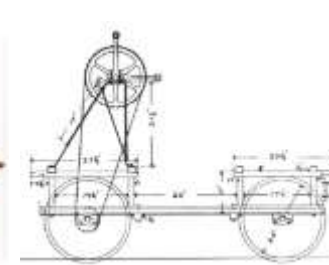
Pump Car



Geared Crank Car

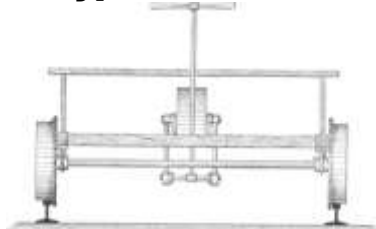


Pump Car



Chain Crank Car

All types labeled **“Drezina”** in Northern Europe



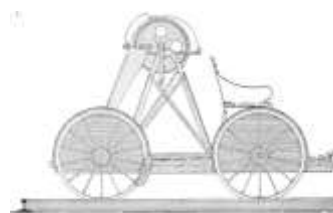
Velocipede



Draisine, converted from Velocipede



Geared Crank Car



Chain Crank Car

The Types so far separated into distinct groups of machines. See www.velocipedes.co.uk Other Downloads, "20 Types" 500 years for photos of all the types.

Also see the articles listed below on our website www.velocipedes.co.uk all free downloads

THIS IS A SLIGHTLY LONGER LIST than 20!

1 Push Car

2 Punt Car

3 Gravity Car *Newsletter 59*

4 Poling Car *Newsletter 70*

5 Hedley's Geared Crank Car of 1813, a Technology Tester for locomotive design. *Newsletter 100*

6 Walking Car 1825, 1885 *Newsletter 10/11* You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OeGO7IBwQ2M>

7 Belt Crank Car *Newsletter 101*

8 Geared Crank Car *Newsletter 100*

9 Chain Crank Car *Newsletter 101*

10 Crank Axle Pedal Car *Newsletter 71*

11 Pump Cars *Newsletter 27*

12 Row Boat

13 Velocipedes *Newsletter 30*

14 Draisine - European

15 Draisine - American

16 Arm Enhancers

17 Track Bike *Newsletter 40, Hartley & Teetor*

18 Folding Track Bike

19 Track Bike Conversions *Newsletter 84/64 & 39 pages 6 to 13*

20 Recumbent Track Bike

21 Velorail *Newsletters 73/28/21*

22 Monorail *Newsletter 53*

23 Mine and Tunnel *Newsletter 95*

24 (Miniatures/Models) *Newsletter 78*

(I am sure these classifications will develop over time and use, and eventually be supplanted).

Draisine, (half way between a track bike and a velocipede).

Velocipedes were sometimes **converted to Draisines** after c.1895 when safety bicycle parts became cheaply available all over the world. It was a much cheaper choice than replacing damaged gears.

Hand Power on Rails **Family Trees** *There is an exception to the evolutionary development.*

Push Car ——— **Punt Car** ——— **Gravity Car** ——— **Poling Car** —————

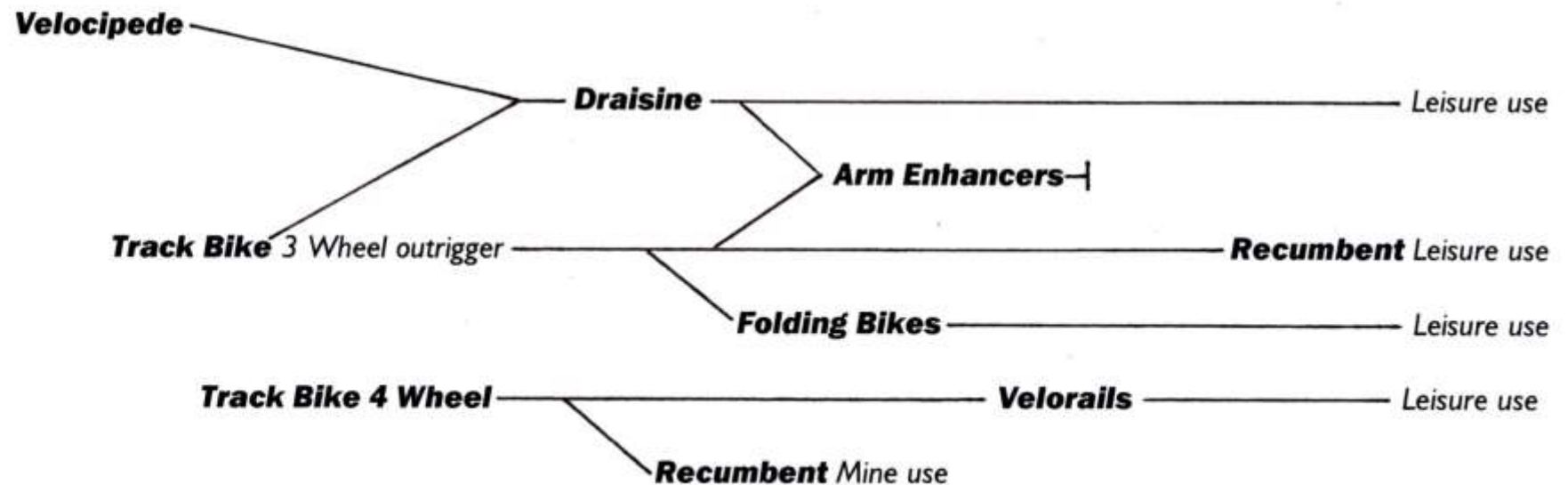
Geared Crank Car *Hedley's of 1813, a Technology Tester for locomotive design.*

Walking Car 1825

Belt Crank Car *(suffered belt stretch)* ——— **Geared Crank Car** *(more reliable)* ——— **Chain Crank Car** *(cheaper)*

Pump Car *developed in railroad usage, simplified, and improved by Sheffield in 1882*

Row Boat *The drawing office answer to the Poling Car, heavy.*



I have spent years collecting machines, drawings, photos, catalogues and in my experience **having distinct agreed names for types** saves a lot of time and trouble in communication.

Only once, many years ago, a confusion of types was a most pleasurable experience.

Poling Car



Photo Gavin Willis

We went to buy a “**Poling Car**” and found we were buying one of the oldest “**Row Boats**” in Britain. Look at both types in www.velocipedes.co.uk **Other Downloads, "20 Types" 500 years**” and see how “**big cast iron wheels and crank pins**” could lead to a misunderstanding, they both have them. Now an email photo removes all doubt over identification.

Row Boat

