

Rochester Model Rails

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The Finger Lakes Scenic Railway diesel locomotive number 2201, a U23B built by GE, waits for passengers to board for the Public Excursion at the Victor, NY, Inaugural Railroad Festival held on August 9, 2008.

Inaugural Railroad Festival – Victor, NY

Construction a Wedge Building *by Bob Lennox*

Building a 1:87 Scale Sawmill - Part 10 – the Log Brow
by Richard Senges

Inaugural Railroad Festival, August 9, 2008, Victor, NY



Right: Loco # 2201 gets ready to head for Manchester for one of the public excursion runs. Loco # 2201 is a U23B built by GE. Diesel # 1703 is at the other end.



Below: The folks from the VIP Excursion run line up for the official photo shoot.





Above: Sue Stehling, one of the event organizers, holding “the golden spike”.



Above Right: Dr. Robert Ward talks about the Lehigh Valley Railroad in Ontario County.



Above: “Them good eats”.



Right: Matt Kovacic and Dave Thompson recreate their own “golden spike ceremony”.



Above Left: Loco # 2201 and the conductor/engineer.



Above Right: Boarding the train. Four runs were made on Saturday August 9th and three on Sunday August 10 for a total of about 1300 passengers.

Below: Diesel locomotive # 1703 is ready to make its run to Manchester. It is a GP9 built by EMD. Loco # 2201 is at the west end of the train and Loco # 1703 is at the east end. Photo by Bill Parker.





Above Left: Ken May gave a lecture regarding the railroads of the Victor, NY area.



Above Right: Matt and Dave look over the Park Ridge Transfer electric loco.



Left: Dave Armitage and Kay McMahon provide great entertainment in the form of famous railroad songs.



Inaugural Railroad Festival

Constructing a Wedge Building

by Bob Lennox



I've been a fan of Art Curren since I first ran across his articles in *Model Railroader* many years ago. He was a master of kitbashing (or kitmingling as he liked to call it) inexpensive plastic structures into buildings rivaling today's craftsman structure kits.

Here are some photos of a building I made last week using two *IHC 708* (also *AHM*) Storefront Apartment Buildings, scrap plastic, and some miscellaneous parts from *Walther's Cornerstone* kits and add-on sets.



I pre-paint all parts before assembly using an airbrush and *Floquil* paints for their ability to adhere to plastic and give a good base for whatever else goes on top. The colors used on my model were *SP Armor Yellow* (I'm tired of red brick) for the bricks and *Tuscan Red* for the trim.

The mortar is *Roberts Brick Mortar Formula*. I used to mix my own mortar wash out of acrylics, but *Roberts* is much easier and more consistent than anything I've been able to come up with on my own.



The secret of Art's buildings is in the details. It took me just a couple of hours to cut up the original kits using a razor saw and sharp *Xacto* knives and reassemble them into the basic structure. The base and details, however, took another 20 hours or so. I use pretty much what I have on hand.

From the top down - the water tank is from *Walthers* Water Tank accessory pack - the oil storage tank is also a *Walthers* accessory item - the dust collector is also from *Walthers* - the window vent is from the scrap box - and the oil tank supports, steps, shed, and shipping dock are scratch.



Mr. Shaw is taking Joe, the forklift operator, to task for walling up the shipping entrance. OOPS! The stonework foundation is made from rows of stone cut from a larger wall I cast in *Hydrocal* from molds I believe I got from Dave Frary.

I use *Gatorfoam* for my building bases. It doesn't warp, is very strong, takes paint and plaster, and is easy to cut.

The foliage is from *Woodland Scenics* and *Scenic Express*. Note the foliage *under* the dock. Don't neglect this feature. It adds to the realism. I added the foliage before gluing the top on the dock.

Right - Tony is just coming down the ladder after getting a reading on the oil level in the supply tank. I might add some more, industry specific, roof details later.





The air conditioners are cut from the original kits, sanded down and fitted into the window frames. The building cornice was built up from strip plastic, cut and sanded to shape.

You could add a clock or some industry specific ornament – say a cow if this was a dairy – to top off the cornice with little effort. Humor is good!



The front entrance was made from a spare window frame and parts from the “storefront” portion of the kit. Two workers are enjoying their lunch hour on the truck dock. The overhead door is made from *Campbell's* corrugated roofing. Weathering was done almost exclusively with pastel chalks and weathering powders with a little help from *Doctor Ben's* rust products.

You might notice that there is no signage on the structure. It's not an oversight. I just haven't figured out the name for this place yet! When I do, the signage will probably be printed on a photo printer, peeled from the photo paper backing, sanded very thin, and glued in place.

Interested in learning more about Art's buildings, with kit lists and Art's unique how-to? Although out of print, you can still obtain copies of Art's book, *Kitbashing Model Railroad Structures*, on the secondary market (search *Amazon*) for \$10 to \$20. It's a wealth of information and a “steal” at this price. Art's book includes a kit cross-reference table. Different companies, *AHM*, *IHC*, *Revell*, *Heljan*, *Atlas*, *Tyco*, and others made the same kits over the years using the identical molds. My favorite, *AHM's Superior Bakery*, was also made by *Revell (Weekly Herald Newspaper)* and *Heljan/Con-Cor (Engine House)* – same basic building, different accessories.

The bad news is that with a few exceptions, these structures are out of print. The good news is most, if not all, can be had on *eBay* for very reasonable prices. I have collected half a dozen *Superior Bakeries* via *eBay* over the last few years. I have my eye on *AHM's American Farm House* on *eBay* that will become the office for a lumberyard (also from Art's book). Looks like its time to place that bid.

Building a Large 1:87 Scale Sawmill I

Part 10 – The Log Brow

by Richard Senges

In Part 9 of the Sawmill Series we discussed the construction of the Log Unloading Platform. This issue we will review the Log Brow - see the model photo below.

The Log Brow was built per the instructions in the *SierraWest Twin Mills at Deer Creek* kit except that real logs were substituted for some of the logs during construction

The wood parts of the model were distressed and stained as usual and per the kit's instructions.

Improvement suggestions if building this *SierraWest* kit or a log unloading platform: use real logs for the construction.

Next Issue – The Edger



Potential Future Articles

Sawmill Construction

Resin Casting

The Santa Fe CF - 7

Modeling Keuka Lake - Hammondsport

Siegel Street Revisited

Tortoise Installation Made Easy

Workbench Construction

NEXT ISSUE

Speeder Parade in Victor, NY

The Washington, CT NYNH&HRR Tunnel

**Building a Large
Sawmill/Mill Pond Complex
Part 11 – The Edger**

Doctor Dick

Rochester Model Rails

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