

banta modelworks

411 Hopkins Road,  
Dummerston, VT 05301  
802.258.3869

## Park Hotel/Rita's Cantina

Our kit of the Ridgway Park Hotel is a representation of the building as best we could determine from the few photographs available. The overall structure is a near exact copy of the original at least from the front. I did make a few changes in the area of building size mainly in the depth to make it more "model railroad usable". A couple of details did not get included on the model that were obvious and not so obvious in the two photos the model was designed from. First I did not carry the rounded top windows to the side walls of the first floor, I somehow missed it even though it shows clearly in the better of the two photos, sorry, I hope is not a problem for you. A another detail left off is the brick detail that runs from the top of the building on the left across to the right. It can be seen in a photo from the RGS Story Vol 1 on page 46. Also in the photo, circa 1910 is the addition to the left side of a second floor and what appears to be an expansion of the cafe with the bricking over of the door on the left. Note that the photo in the same book, page 40-41 shows the building without the addition, this is the one we modeled the building from.

Models when designed this way become a "list" of choices. We chose to build this to the early version but with some additions that we chose to add that give the model some character and allow us to reach maybe a larger audience and at the same time maintain the integrity of the original building. What we did add is the covered stariway on the left of the building, some 30's and 40's era signs and a more ornate balustrade around the second floor porch. for those of you who like the building as modeled and don't give a hoot about where it was and the history and the nuts and bolts, build on! Those that do, we hope that you too find our rendition one you can use and enjoy on your layout with the compromises we have made.

The kit.... is composed of high quality hydrocal castings and laser cut components. Why hydrocal? for it's strength and durability. There are tougher plasters and plasters that are more brittle, this one lends itself well to model railroad use and overall hydrocal is the best we have found that has the strength and workability that we need. The laser cut parts make life a bit easier because we can design the components to fit perfectly and make the building experience more enjoyable for those with a lot of experience or those with not so much model building experience. Note that any castings you receive that are damaged or broken will be replaced at no charge, also, we will replace any castings that you damage or paint poorly at no charge (within reason).... we want you to be successful with this kit. VHS video tapes are available from us that go through the steps of assembling and painting plaster structures for \$20.

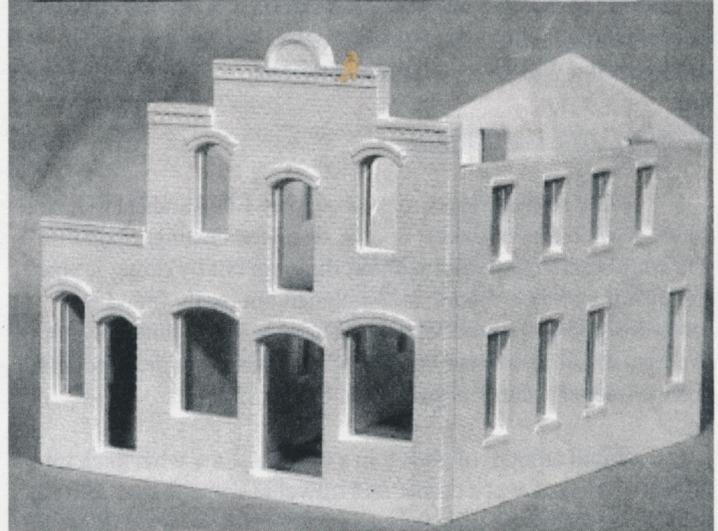
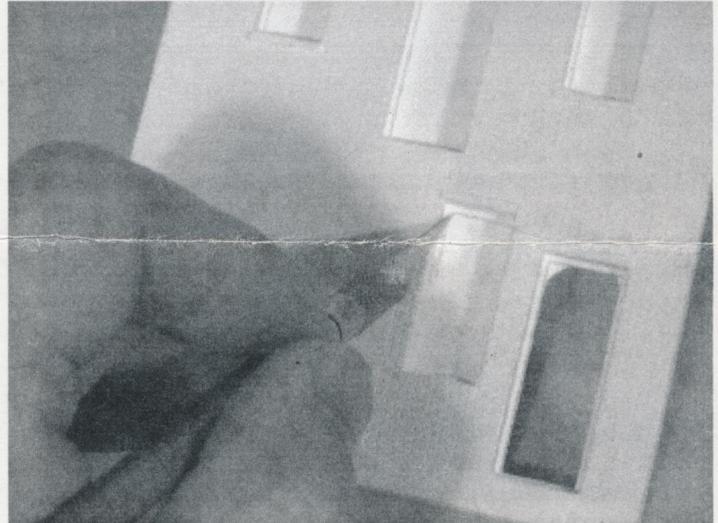
Construction starts with cleaning up the castings and removing the window "plugs". Then assemble the walls, patch the joints and sealing the plaster. Then paint. Assemble the laser cut parts and the windows and doors, add the signs..... done! That was easy huh? Ok, now for the real instructions....

Decals have been included for the Park Hotel and if you are more of a free lancer, Rita's Cantina or Little Creek Tavern.

So, here we go, read through the destructions from start to finish first before attempting assembly, we all do that right?.....

Preparation....

1. Using a tool called a *Surform* (made by Stanley tools) or med grit sand paper, square up the edges and remove any "flash".
2. Open up the window and door openings using a #11 blade in a hobby knife, a fresh blade is best though it won't be good for cutting wood or anything else for that matter after working the plaster. Score the sides, top and bottom of the opening and then gently push the plug free of the opening. It usually takes 3 or 4



3. Once satisfied with the cleanup, glue the walls together. First, there may be some disagreement with approach here. One way to go at this point is to seal and paint the walls flat, the technique I will use is to glue the building together first, then seal and paint.

It becomes a choice on your part as to which way to proceed and more so based on your experience with plaster kits. I will explain the way we did ours but feel free to use your own approach to coloring and assembly of the walls. Assembly of the laser components and the white metal columns is typical of all of our laser kits and should pose no problem though I will go into a lecture of how we did ours, so again, use the technique that works for you.

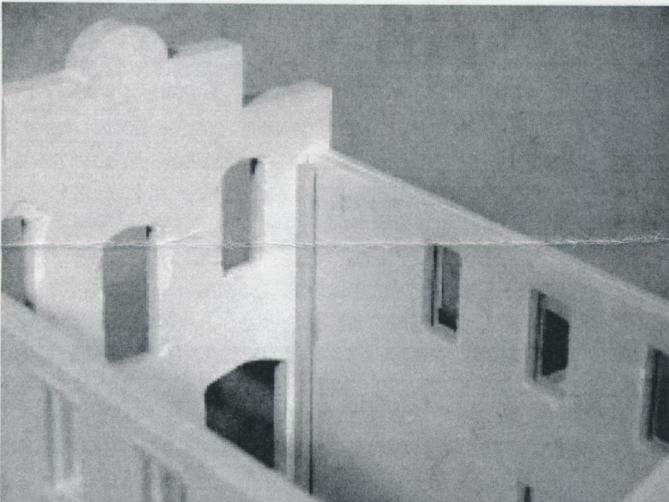
Anyhow, onward...

We used yellow carpenters glue to assemble the walls and added a short bit of 8x8 or equivalent strip wood to reinforce the corners. Glue a side wall to the front wall, we did the RH wall as viewed from the front first. Use a machinest square or drafting triangle to keep the walls square to each other and to the vertical. Let this dry, about an hour or overnight.

4. Now add the other main side wall and the back wall using the same technique. Let it dry again.

5. Finally, add the shoe shop side wall and back wall.

6. Add the 8x8 or equiv. strip to the inner corners for added strength. Add glue fillet to the sides of the wood strip once the strip wood glue has set. Give it overnight before doing anymore to the building. See photo.



7. Once all of the glue has had a good chance to dry the building can be handled without too much problem though use care because a slip will give you a pile of rubble.

### Sealing and painting....

The corner edges may need to be filled and carved. You may opt to do this or pass it up, we made the castings such that you could build the model without this step but by doing it you end up with a better model. Not included but easily found in hardware stores is a product called Durham Water putty, plaster of paris, or aquire a small amount of hydrocal from the Woodland Scenics scenery stand at your local hobby shop.

1. Mix a small amount of plaster in a cup to a some what thick mix. With an atomizer, wet a corner and trowel in some plaster into the groove, the wetter the mix, the easier it will trowel in. Do this to all of the corners. Let this dry overnight.

2. Carve in the brick lines using the side wall and the edge of the end walls as guides.

3. Clean up and repeat the above if necessary.

4. Seal the walls using inexpensive clear satin spray such as Krylon from the local Walmart or hardware store. Let dry.

5. Paint the walls with your favorite "brick" color. We chose Floquil boxcar red lightened with grey primer to where we got a light red brick. We used floquil solvent paint, the acrylic type paint will work very well here too. Paint the upper and lower window "beams" on the side walls and back wall windows and doors, the front wall trim is brick color. Use a thin wash of white acrylic to simulate the mortar lines. Finally seal it with a coat of the Krylon clear satin. This sets up the front wall for the decal and the other walls for weathering.

6. Add the decal. Cut the decal close to the outer border of the line. The decal sheet is white so cut real close. Apply the decal using decal setting solution. Let dry overnight and then spray the building with Testor's Dullcoat or equivalent.

### Windows and doors....

*A word on peel and stick.* Most of the windows and doors in our kits have an adhesive applied to the backside. This makes assembly quick and easy and allows for "glue-free" glazing installation (not "fingerprint free") Simply remove the backing paper and the adhesive is exposed. the adhesive used is positionable and can be gently pulled apart and reset. Note that once the parts are pressed together ther is no going back, so gently place the parts in alignment and when satisfied, press together and install.

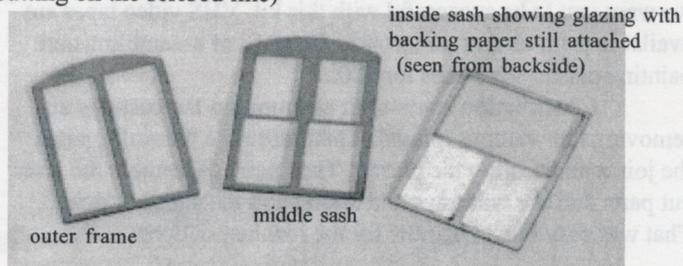
Paint your windows and doors while still attached to the carrier sheets. We air brushed ours. Keep in mind that you may wish to have some doors with contrasting colors so cut these free from the sheets. also there are 3 window frames attached to the batten sheet, remove from the sheet if you are painting the battens a different color. See the parts sheets for help. Located on the parts sheets are also drawings showing window and door assembly, use them as an aid in building up the windows and doors.

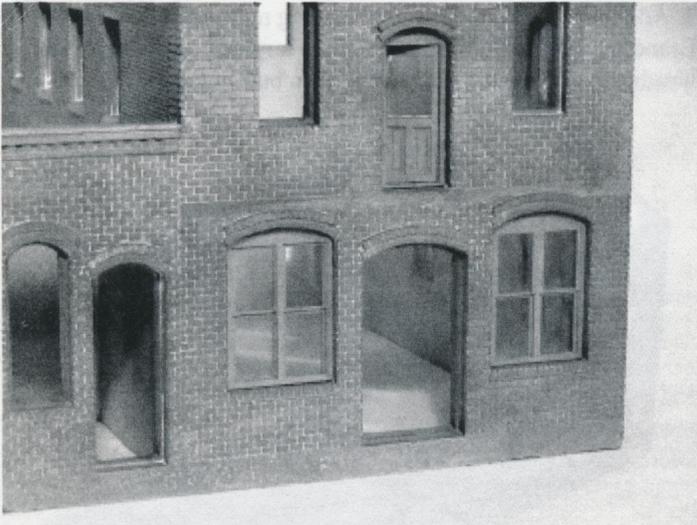
1. We will start with the front windows first. Locate the 3 parts of the window and the 4 pieces of glazing. Follow the drawing starting with the glazing adding it to the back of the inner sash. Leave the paper backing on the glazing until stuck to the sash, so, remove the backing paper from the sash to expose the adhesive and apply the glazing.

2. Next, remove the paper backing to expose the adhesive and apply the rear sash to the middle sash as shown, then add the glazing.

3. Finally, attach the assembly to the front frame after removing the paper backing to expose the adhesive. Insert into the opening and gently press to the window support in the wall.

NOTE: the windows can be modified to have the lower sash open in any position by following the drawing on parts page 1. (the double wide windows can also be made in the open position by following the drawing and trimming the two windows apart by cutting on the scribed line)





the above photo shows the front windows installed and the second floor balcony door installed.

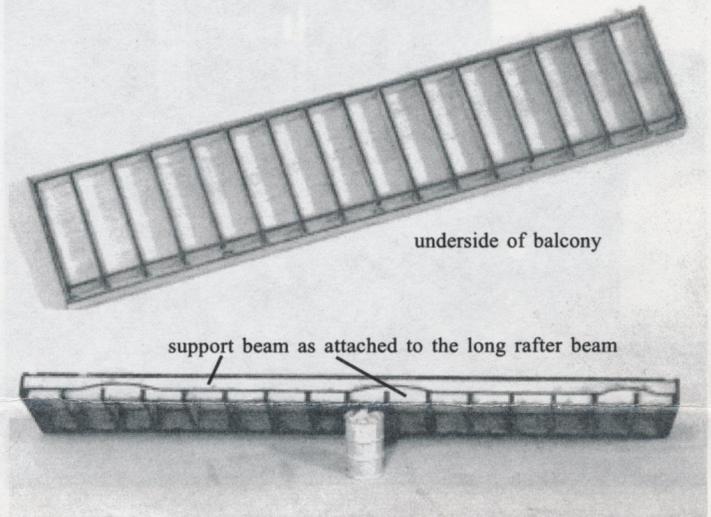
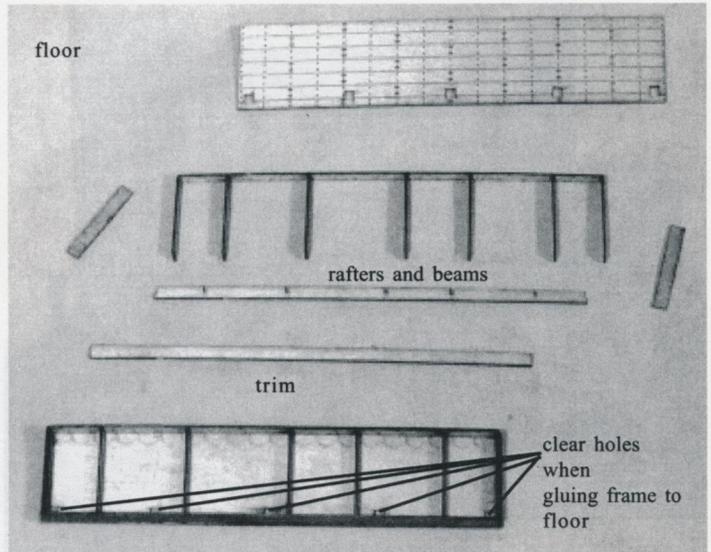
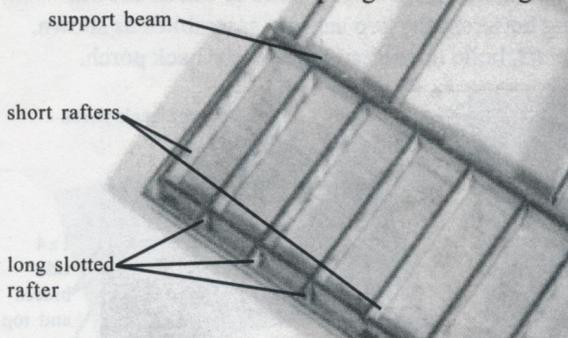
4. Following the drawings and written instructions above as reference, build up all of the windows and install.
5. Same for the doors, note that some of the doors are tabbed to the frame, assemble as shown and then remove the doors from the frame, install the frame in the door opening and then glue in the door in either an open or closed position.

### Porch and balcony

The front porch and balcony consist of laser cut parts and 5 white metal columns. These parts are slotted and tabbed and fit quite well. We painted our windows green. air brushing works best, paint them while they are still on the carrier sheet

1. First let's build the front porch or boardwalk. It is made up of the floor, some cross and long beams and trim boards. Glue the cross beams to the long beams. The cross beams are notched as are the long beams. See the parts drawing and the photos below.
2. Glue the frame you just built to the floor flush with the back and with even overhang at the ends keeping the holes clear for the posts to slip into. (The front of the floor has 5 square holes cut in it.) BTW, we stained the porch parts with a thin grimy black for a weathered appearance. See the drawings and photos.
3. The balcony is built in much the same way except that the rafters are built a bit differently, there are 5 short rafters with the balance being long rafters with a slot 1/8" in from one end. The drawings and photos should clear up any questions. The short rafters are to clear the posts for the balcony. Note also that the long trim piece glues to the ends of the long rafters.

So, start by gluing the support beam to one of the long rafter beams flush with the top edge. See drawing and photo.



4. Build up the rafter frame per the drawing and the photos.
5. Add the floor flush with the back edge of the support beam. The support beam rest on the window brick arches, don't glue it until later.
6. Cut 5 4x4 strip wood to 3/4". Paint your trim color, we painted ours brown. Then glue in the holes across the front of the balcony flush with the bottom edge. If you have a square or triangle, use it to check the square of the posts!
7. Cut the balcony balustrade from the carrier strip and then glue 1x4 to the edges as shown in the photo. Test fit between the posts and glue. Add a thickness of 1x4 if needed for a good fit. We painted our trim green and brown.

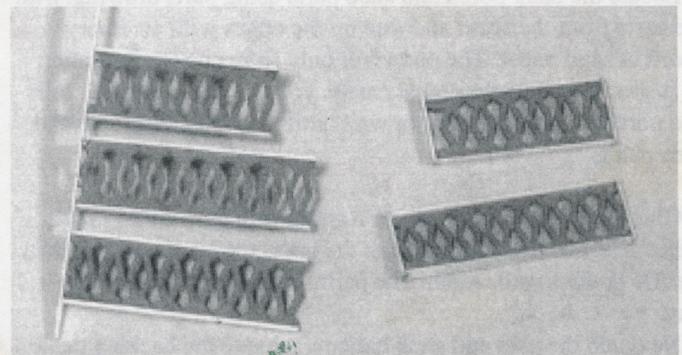


photo shows 1x4 glued to balustrade....



8. Glue the porch to the front of the building as shown above. Place the posts in the holes in the porch as shown in photo at top. Some filing may be necessary.

9. Test fit the balcony to the wall with the back support beam resting on the first floor window trim. Adjust the center post to the bottom of the balcony keeping the balcony level to the porch and glue the post in place using ACC/CA type glue. Now glue the balcony to the wall and the center post. When this is dry, adjust the other posts to the balcony and glue in place.

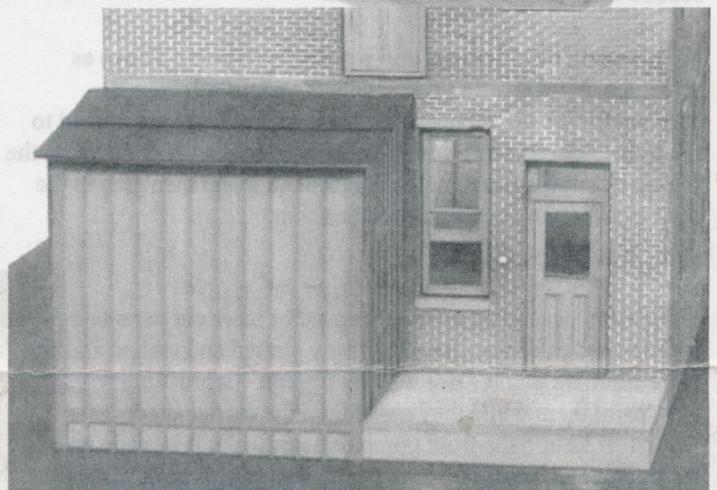
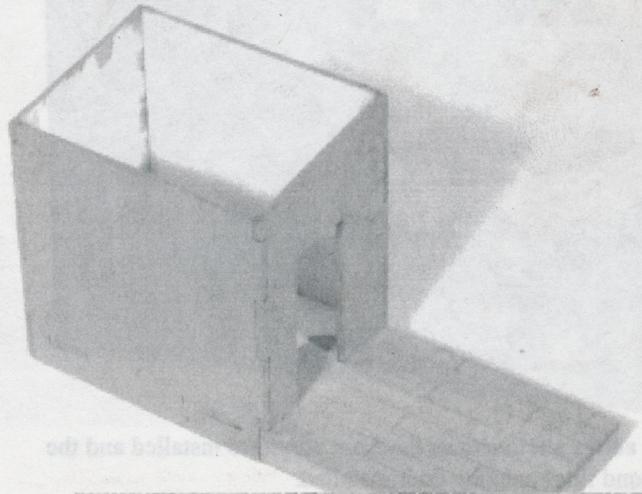
### Back porch and shed

1. Locate the back porch and shed parts using parts drawing. trim the parts from the sheet and true up the edges with an emery board or sand paper. The parts will only fit in one configuration so it should go together quite easily. you can pre-paint the walls and porch before assembly or wait until the walls are glued and then paint.

1. Glue the walls to the platform starting with the building wall, then the left wall as viewed from the back, the back wall and then the RH or door wall. Again, the parts are tabbed to fit only one way.

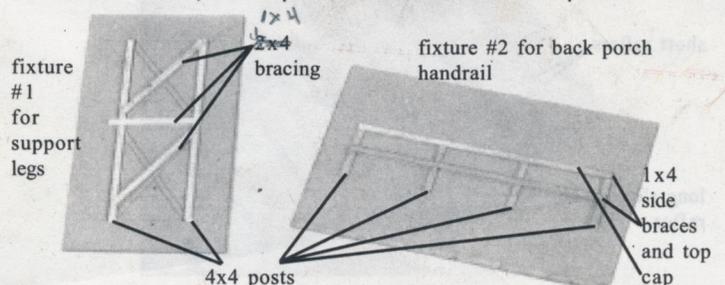
2. Next add the peel and stick battens, remove the backing paper to expose the adhesive and apply to the walls.

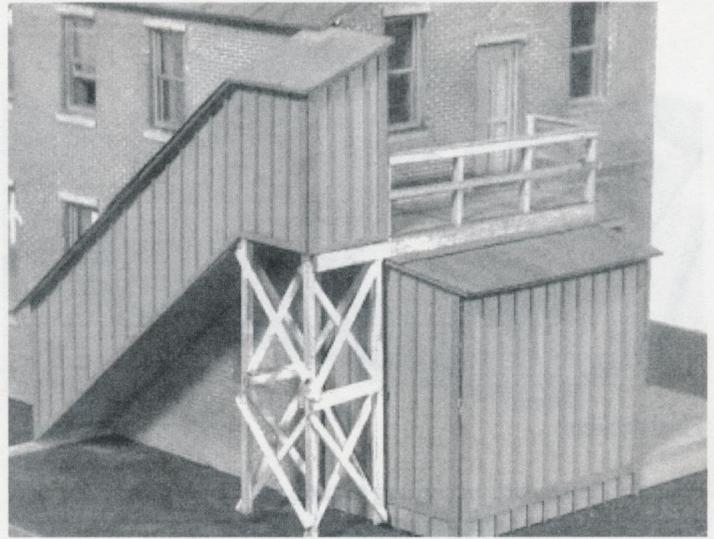
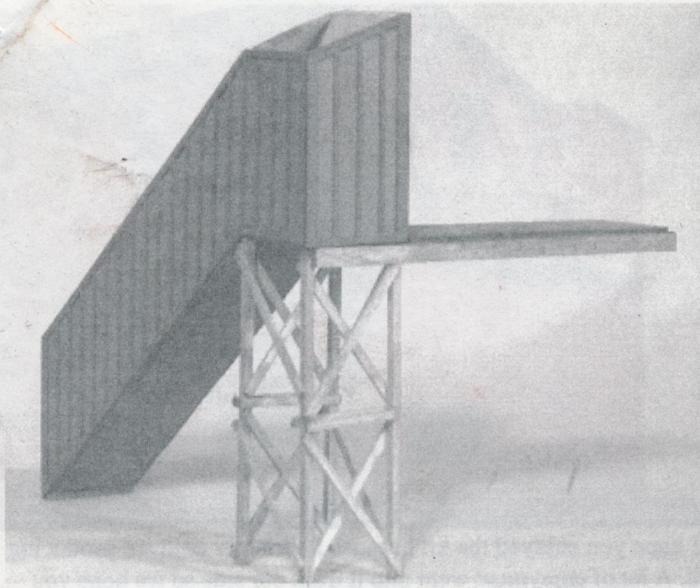
3. Add the roof and the tarpaper roofing material. We used 3M Brand spray adhesive, the painted the tarpaper grimy black and weathered it. Glue the shed to the main building...



### Side Stairway

1. Locate the parts per the drawing. Assemble the building wall, the entry wall and the outer wall to the floor.
2. Add the end wall and the stairway sub-roof.
3. Now add the stairway porch to the slots at the top end. Use a piece of 2x8 strip wood at the outer edge for support and a short one at the RH end. This beam will sit on the roof of the shed and support the porch from the airway to the second floor entry door. See photos next page
4. Add the board and att trim just like was done for the shed.
5. Build up two support legs sets using fixture #1, some 4x4 for the legs and 1x4 for bracing (add bracing to both sides). Glue the a support assembly to the outside edge of the stairway and then one under the transition from sloped stairs to flat as shown.
6. Add bracing between the two support assemblies as shown.
7. With fixture #2, build up the hand rail for the back porch.

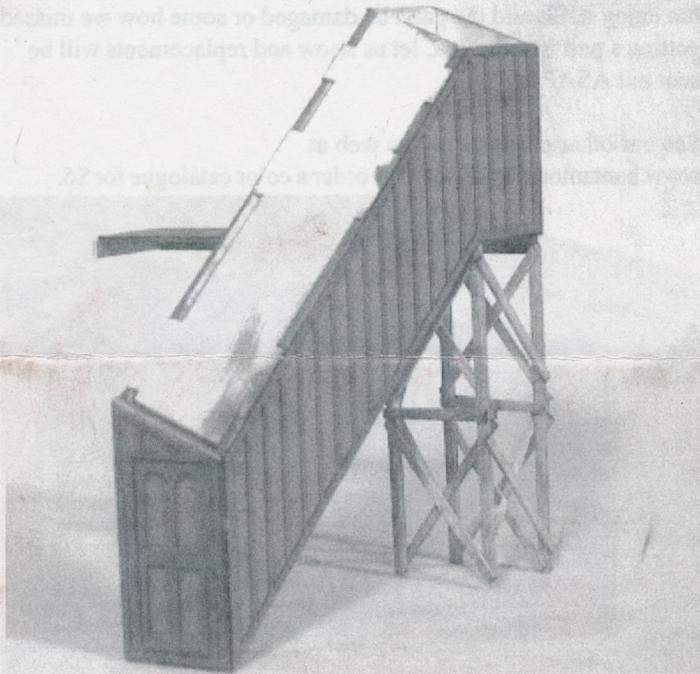




### Roof....

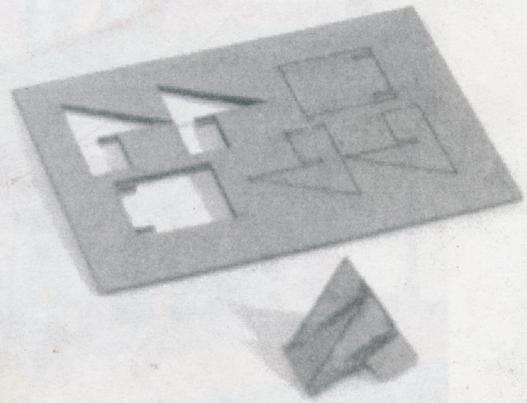
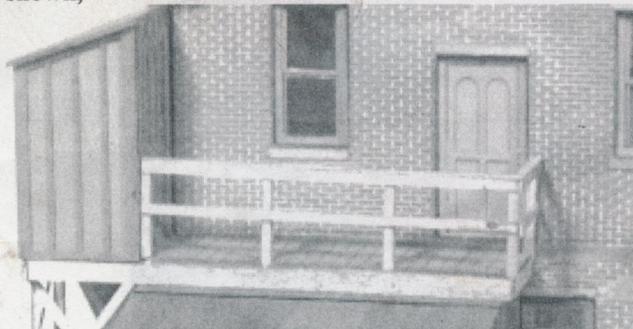
The remaining roofs will be completed next.

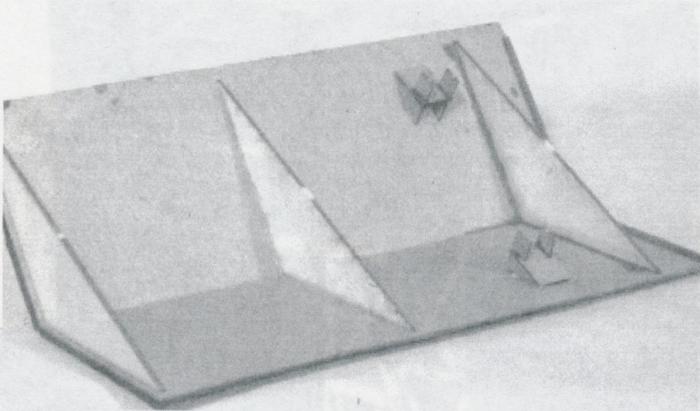
1. Start with the shoe shop roof, add the roofing material and a bit of 4x4 as edge trim. See the photo below.



7. cont'd... Use some 4x4 for the posts and some 1x4 for two side braces and a 1x4 for a top cap. see photo prev page.
8. Add roof to the stairway assembly, then add the roofing in the same manner you did the shed roof.
9. check the position of the stairway to the the building and the shed, make any adjustments needed and glue the assembly in place.
10. Add the hand rail assembly to the back porch, then add the end handrail to the above and to the side of the back wall as shown,

2. Locate the 3 roof support triangle and glue to the underside of the roof. The outside has a score etched in it, bend on this line and add the supports. See photo next page.
3. Build up the chimney supports as shown in the photos and glue to the chimney opening.
4. Add the roofing and some 4x4 trim at the back and paint as before. Glue or leave the roof loose for possible interior detailing.

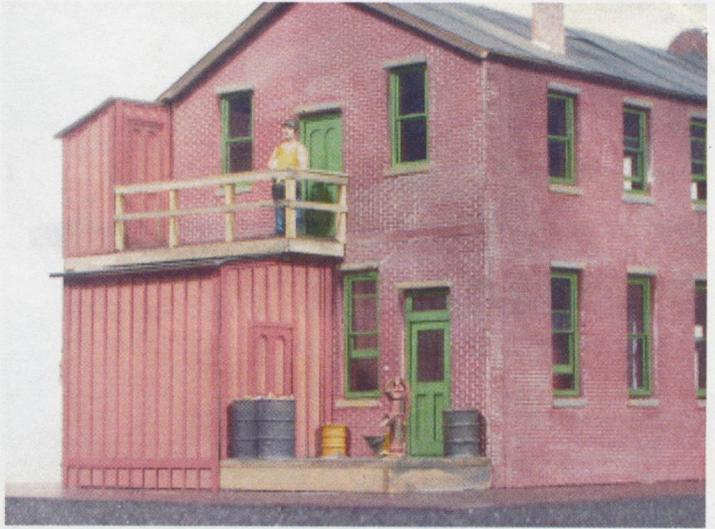




Final detailing....

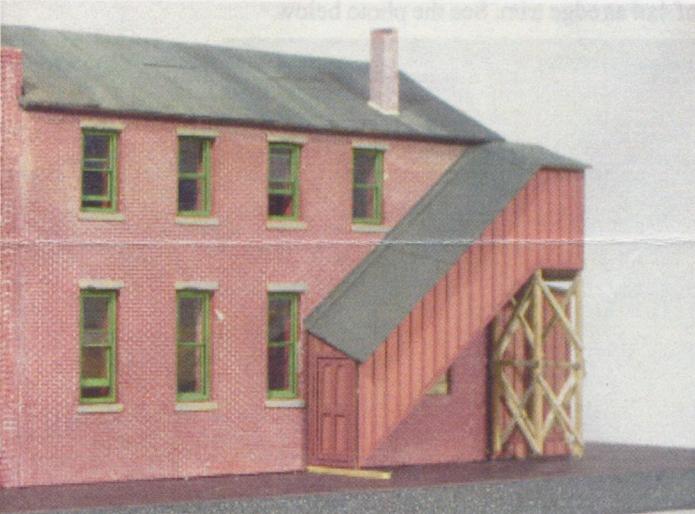
Paint the detail parts according to taste, add the chimney's to the roof after cutting clear the holes, add a bead of glue around the chimney to represent tar sealant.

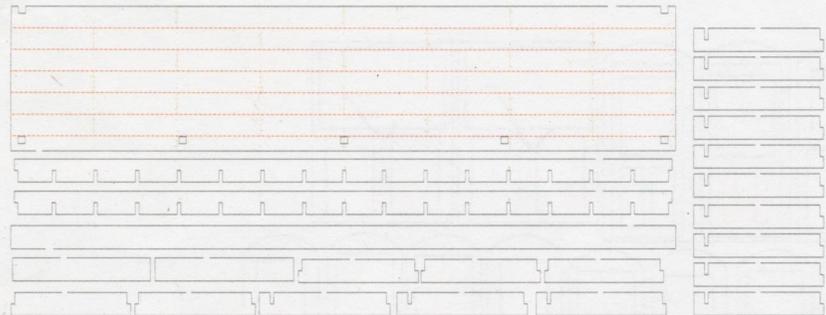
Cut out the small signs for the shoe shop and hotel and glue to the sign boards, then glue to a rafter under the front. Add a few signs to the side walls and plant on your layout



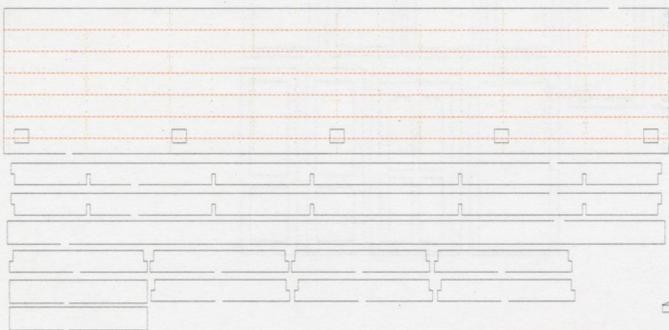
I hope you enjoyed the kit because I certainly enjoyed producing it. A lot of enjoyment went into it from our side so we hope you too enjoy it. Should the parts be damaged or some how we missed getting a part into the box, let us know and replacements will be sent out ASAP!

See our other products on the web at [www.bantamodelworks.com](http://www.bantamodelworks.com) or order a color catalogue for \$6.



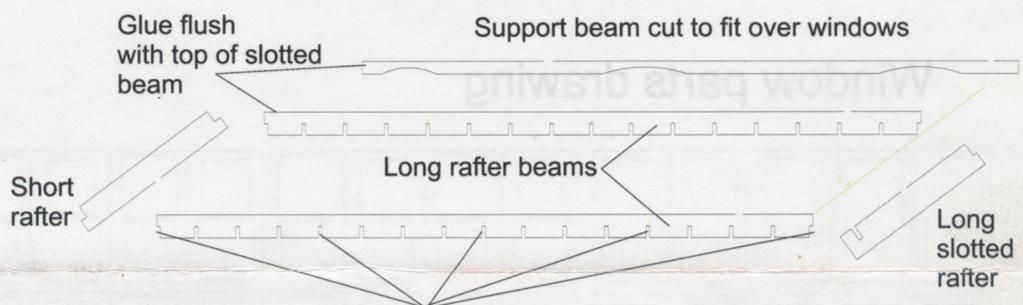


Balcony parts



Porch parts

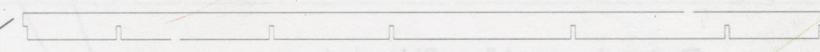
# Porch and balcony assembly



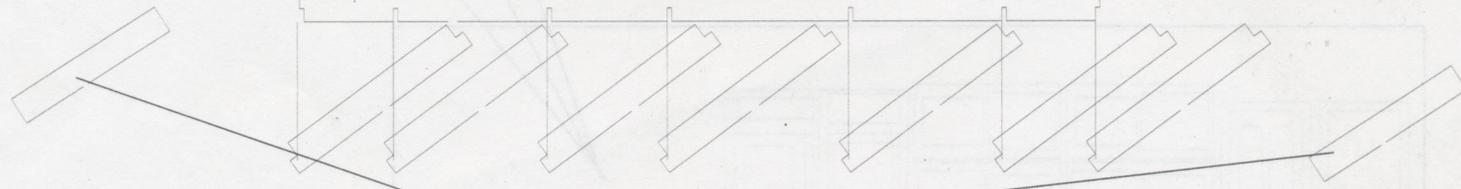
These slots have the short rafters to clear the balcony posts



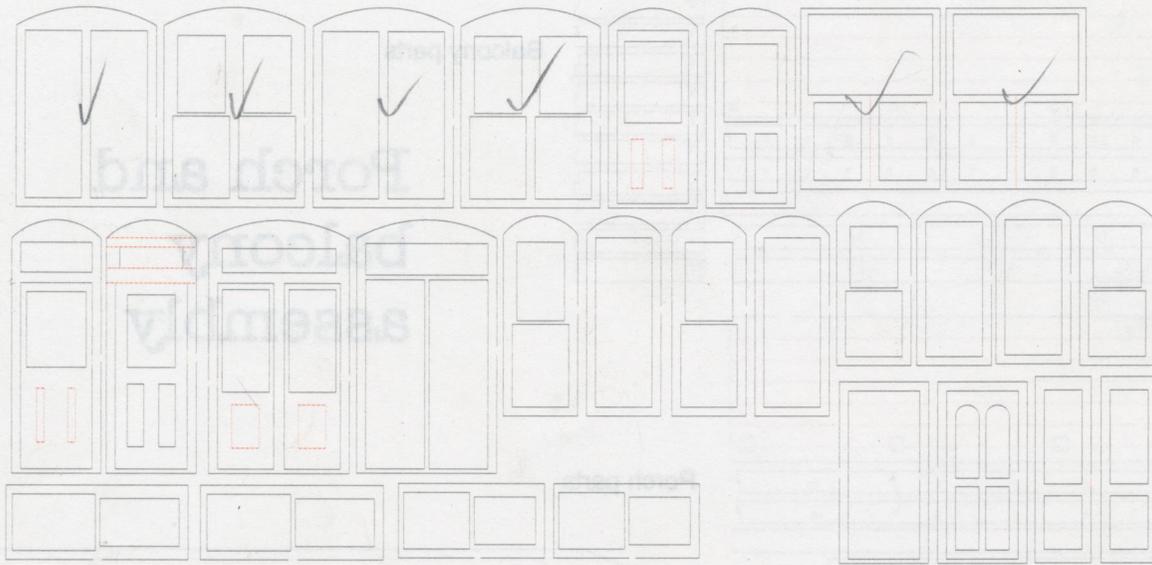
Floor



Beam s and rafters



Trim



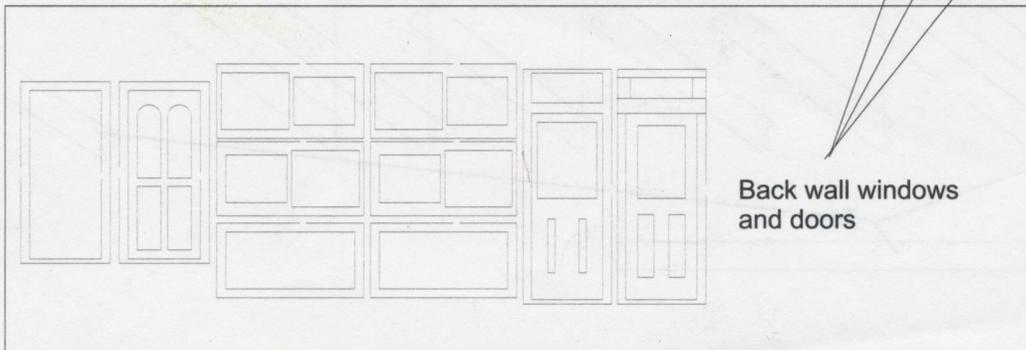
Front doors and windows

## Window parts drawing



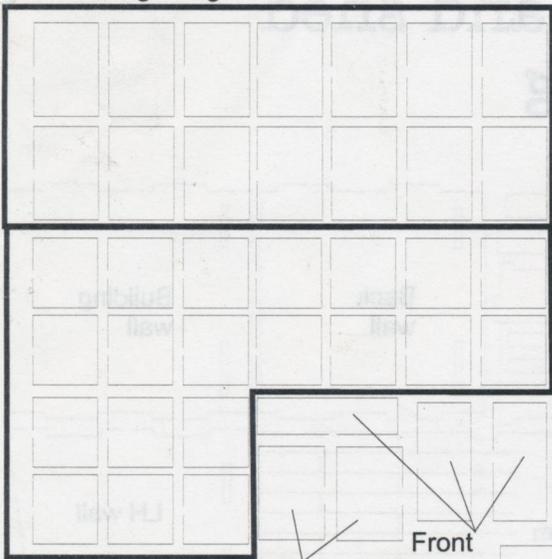
First and second floor Side windows.....

Back wall windows and doors



First floor side and back window glazing

# Window and door assembly



First floor front window glazing

Second floor front window glazing

Second floor side and back window glazing

Side shop door glaze

Balcony door glazing

Front door glazing

Back window second floor glazing

Glazing

(cut here to make two)

To make the sash movable for open windows

Front double window

Cut here

And build as shown

Glazing

Glazing

Front wall singles

Front door

Side and back walls first and second floor window assembly

Second floor front door

First floor back wall kitchen door

Second floor back wall door

# Back porch, stairway and shed parts drawing

