

Chicago & North Western Small No. 1 Tower HO Scale Kit 1015



The C&NW built interlocking towers at important locations, such as intersecting rail lines and junctions, to control the safe movements of trains. Typically two story buildings, towers contained the mechanical equipment needed to align switches and signals via levers and rods. The many windows allowed tower operators to visually see the switches and junctions they controlled. The kit is based on a #1 tower, that was the smallest found on the C&NW system. Tower size was determined by the number of levers it housed, ie how many switches or signals they controlled.

The kit is based on a #1 tower that was located at the east end of the Belle Plaine yard, controlling the mainline cross over and the 8th Ave. street crossing gates.

The first towers were probably boxcar red with dark red trim, but by 1940 some were repainted in the beige with brown trim and finally light gray with white trim.

Some suggested tools

- Carpenters wood or CA glue
- Modeling knife with several new No. 11 blades
- A small square
- A sanding block
- Paint of your choice.
- A small pair tweezers

Prepainting of all parts is recommended. A coat of sand-

ing sealer or primer paint will reduce the grain visible in the wood. Lightly sand the surface after sealer dries. Apply a second coat if necessary. Prepainting parts make it much easier to use a second color on trim. Some touch up will be necessary when the construction of the model is finished. For clarity of instructions, the model has not been painted.

For information on the Chicago & North Western Historical Society, visit their web site at:

<http://www.cnwhs.org>.



University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections

Lake Junction Models, LLC

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email: sales@lakejunctionmodels.com

On the Web at: lakejunctionmodels.com

Color Schemes:

There were three basic paint schemes used by the North Western on it's line side buildings.

- Oxide red with brown trim
- Buff (a pale yellow/brown) with brown trim
- Light gray with white trim

Paint foundation walkway and chimney cap a concrete color

Paint the Chimney brick red

Paint the flashing a galvanized gray color

Red and Brown Scheme



Sheet metal lead out for rods

Concrete Walk

Buff and Brown Scheme



Concrete colored cap
on chimney

Galvanized
flashing

Concrete
foundation



Another Lake Junction Models, LLC kit that may be of interest to the C&NW Modeler.

Standard Section Tool House.

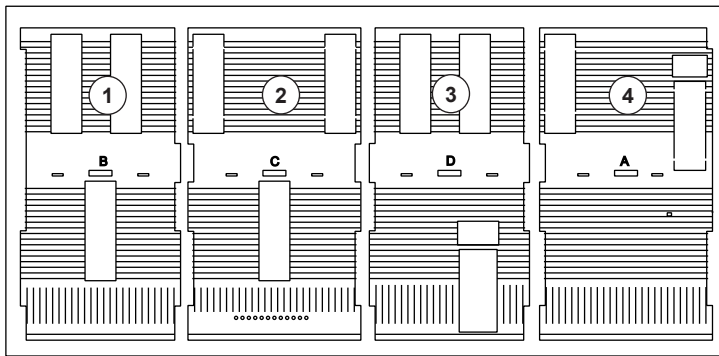
HO Scale Kit 1004 \$10.98

N Scale Kit 2004 \$7.98

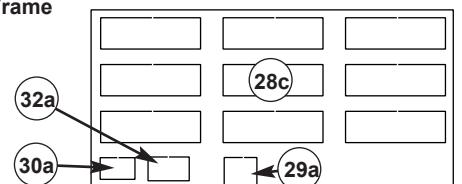
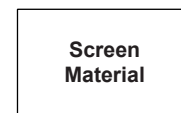
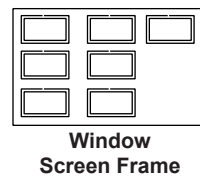
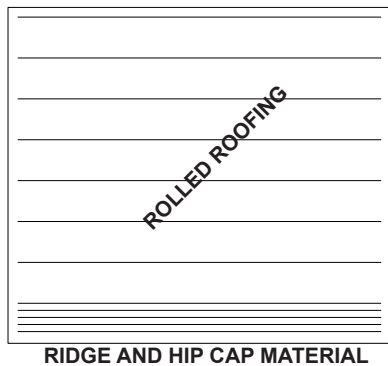
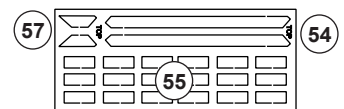
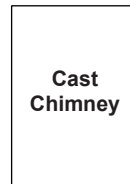
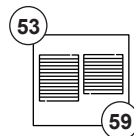
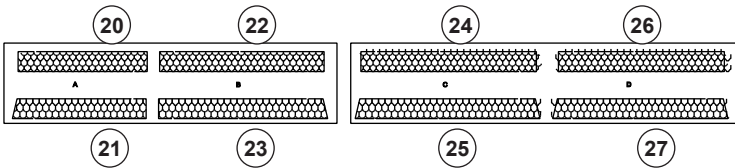
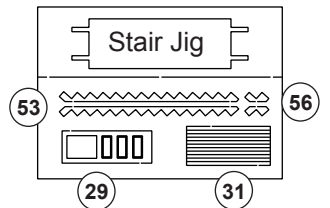
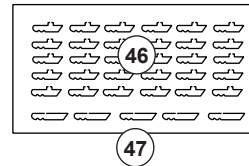
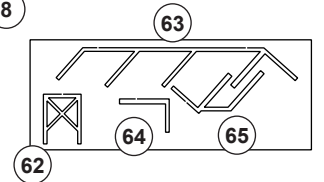
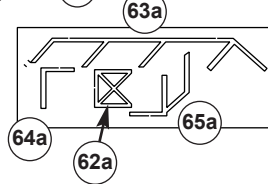
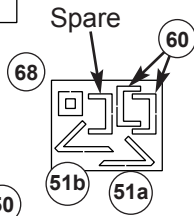
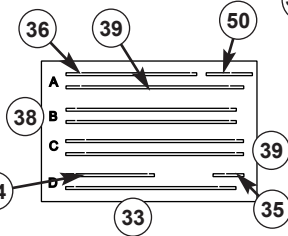
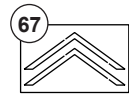
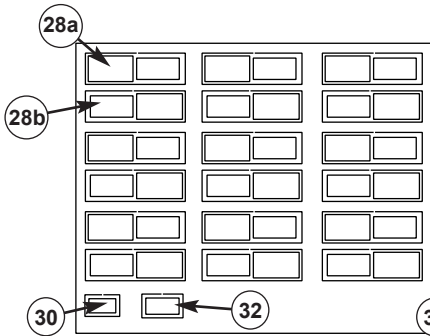
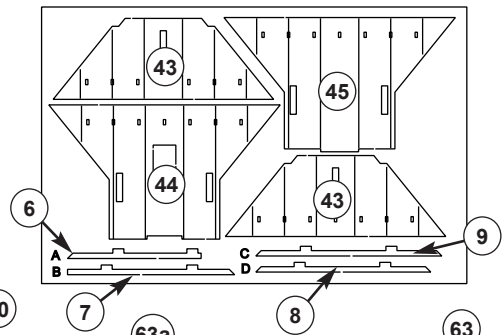
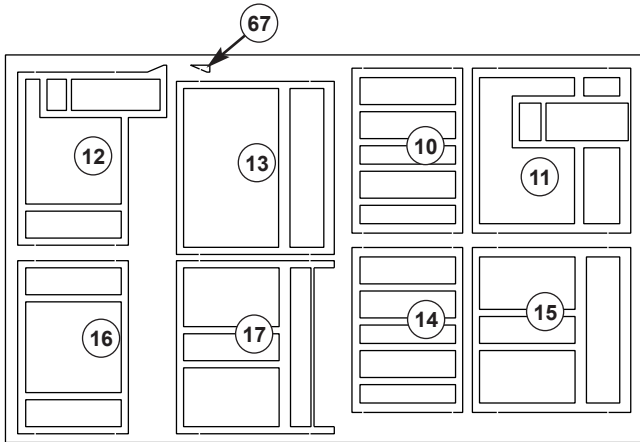
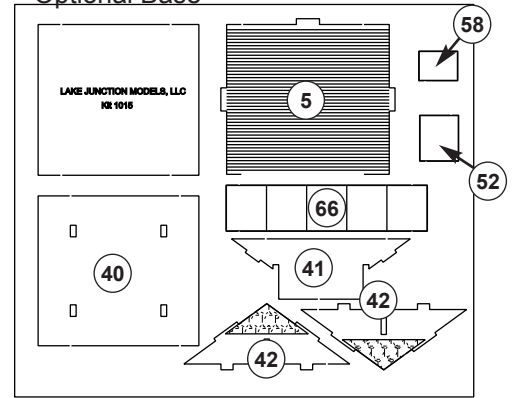
S Scale Kit 4004 \$16.98

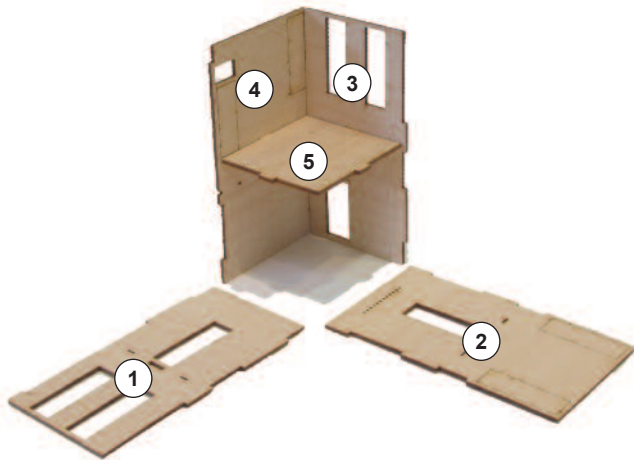
Parts Layout

(drawings not to scale and there may be some numbers not assigned)



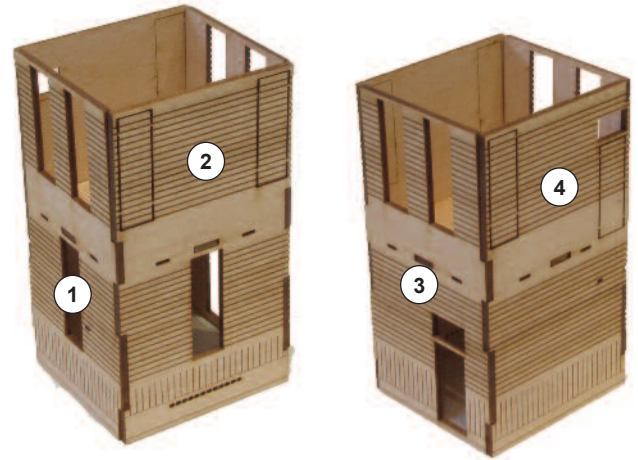
Optional Base



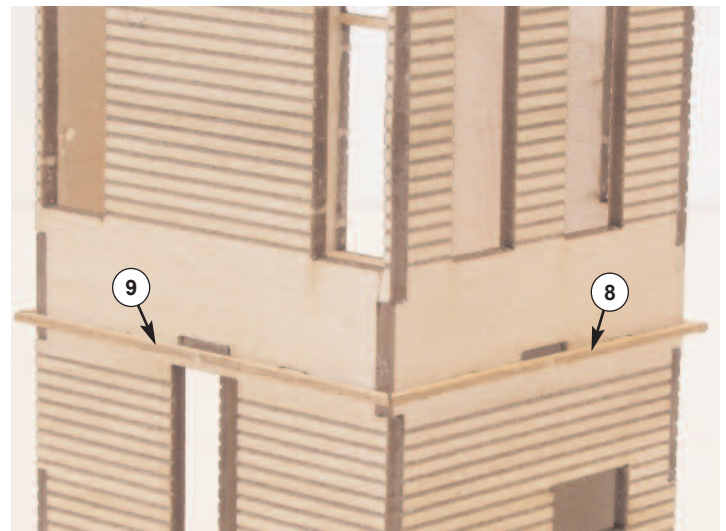
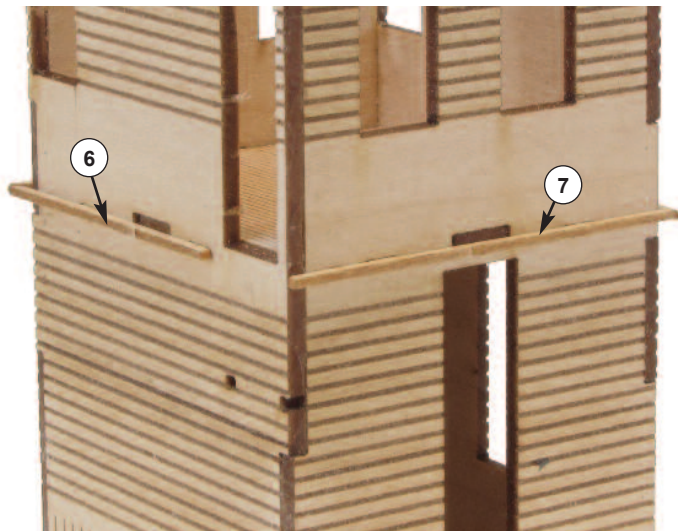


1. Begin by gluing two of the walls together with floor 5. Next add the other two walls. It's not necessary to glue the floor but you can if you wish.

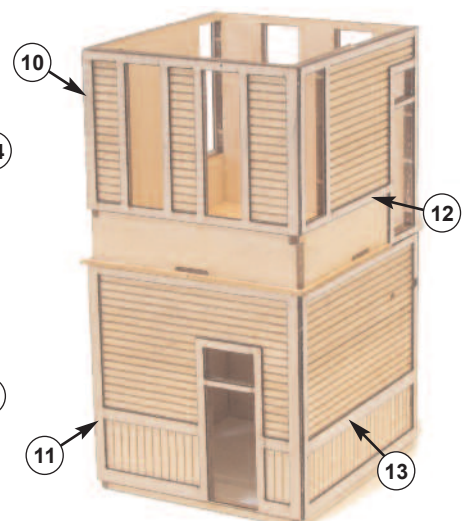
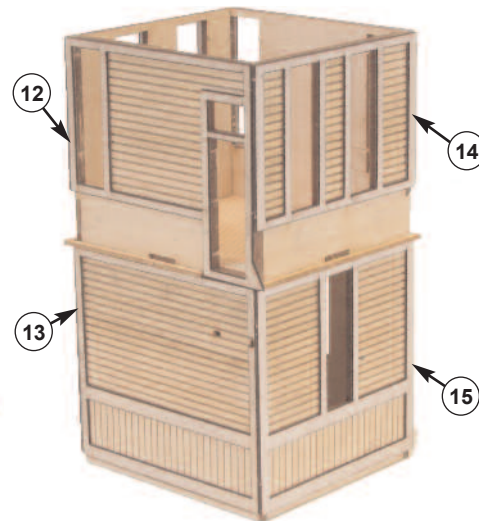
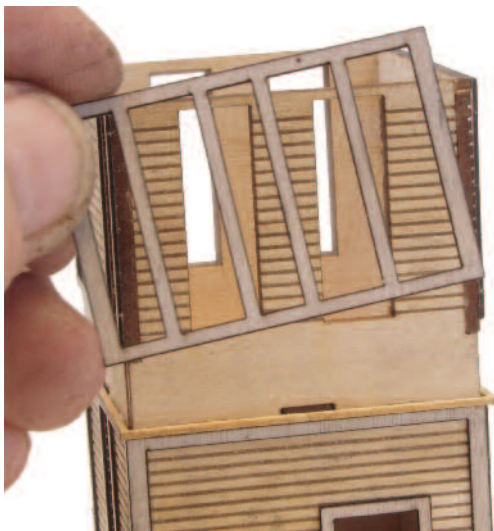
2. Because of some delicate areas, three of the Windows



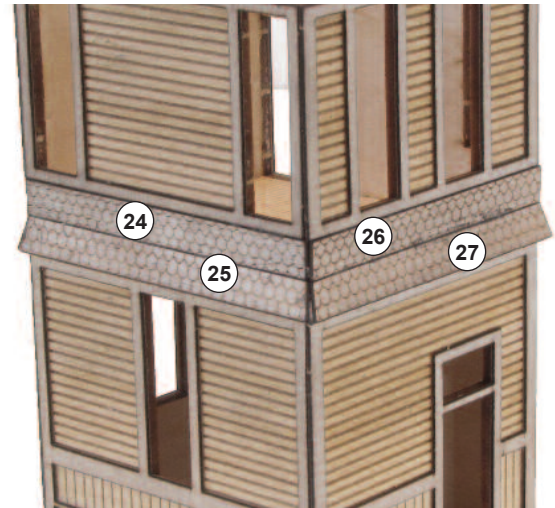
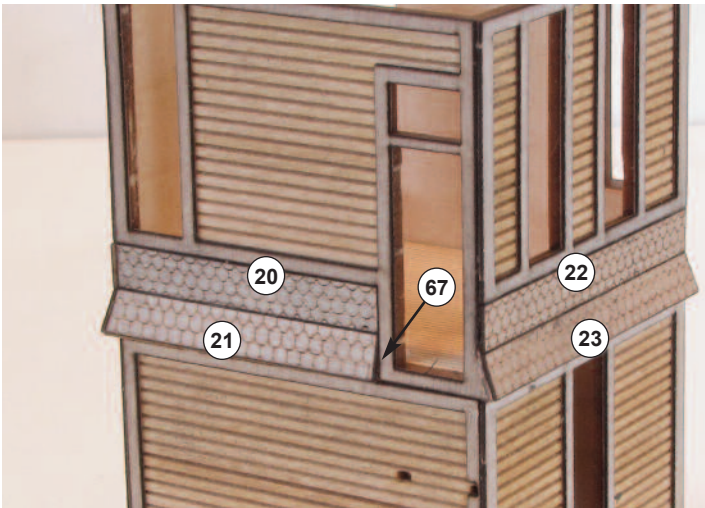
and one door opening on the second floor should not be removed until the glue has dried. Once the glue has dried, carefully cut the tabs opening up the second floor windows. Use care and several light cuts to cut through the tabs.



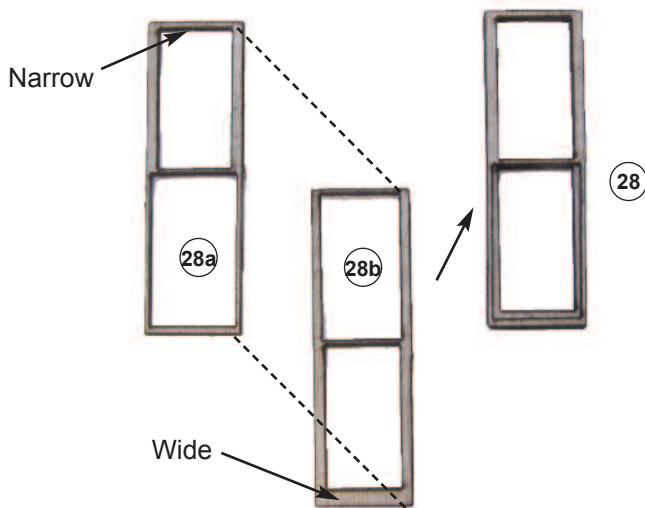
3. Glue the trim shingle spacers 6 thru 9 in place as shown above. Sand any excess material as necessary.



4. Next add the trim pieces. First remove the backing paper exposing the adhesive backing. Trim pieces 12, 13 on one side and 16,17 on the reverse side of the building before adding trim pieces 10, 11 and 14,15 on the remaining side.

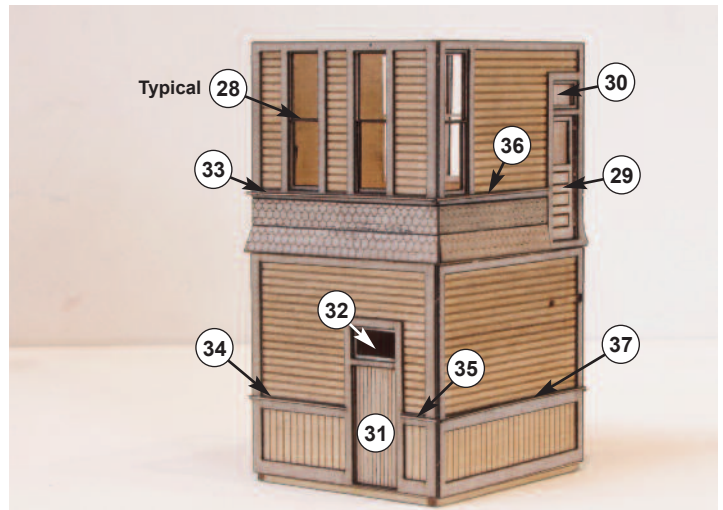
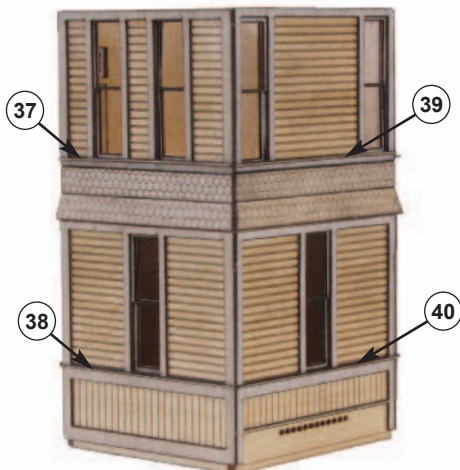


5. The next step is to apply the shake shingle banding between the first and second floor. Test fit all parts before final gluing and sand and bevel necessary. Beveling the outer edges slightly should give a better joint. Using the above photos for reference, glue pieces **20**, **22**, **24** and **26** against the chair rail of the trim. Small triangular piece **67** files the gap as shown.



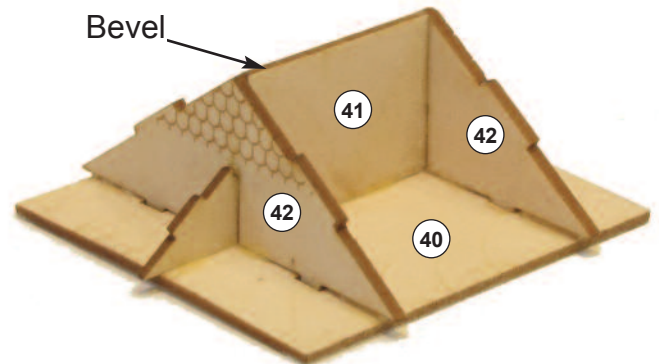
6. Assemble the windows by removing the backing paper from **28a**. Align **28a** with **28b** and press in place as shown above. Add glazing **28c** to the backside and then remove the paper from the backside. For the transom windows remove the backing paper and apply the glazing.

7. With the window units assembled, install them in the openings from the inside. Next add the transom **30** and **32**.

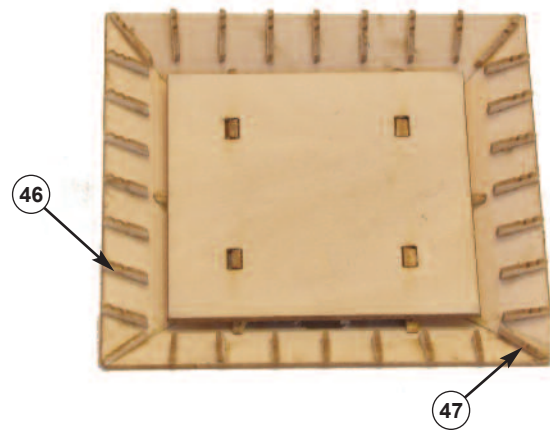
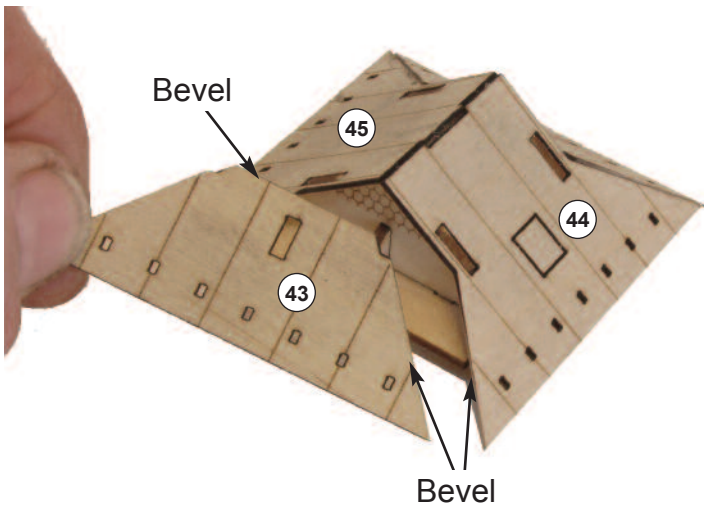


If desired the optional lower floor can be glued in place at this time. It's purpose is to add strength to the building, but it will also prevent you from accessing the first floor.

8. Now add the trim pieces **33** thru **39** as shown in the illustrations.



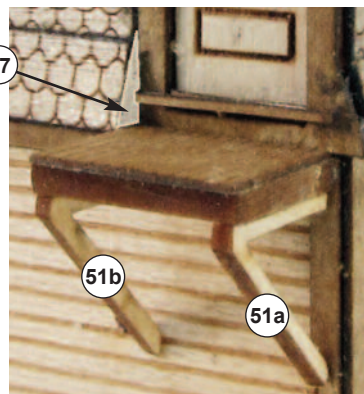
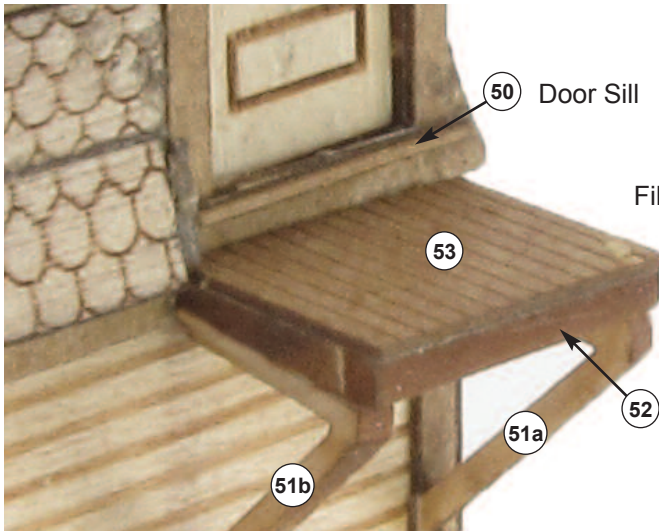
9. Glue roof formers **42** to former **41**. Next glue these part to the ceiling **40**. Using a sanding block bevel the top edge of **41** to match the roof pitch.



10. Test fit the roof sections. It will be necessary to bevel the edges to achieve a good fit. When satisfied with the fit of the parts, glue the two large roof sections **44** and **45** to the formers. Then fit the two pieces **43** to sections **44** and **45**.

11. Glue the common rafter ends **46** in the roof slots. The ends should be flush with the outside edge of the roof. Hip Rafters **47** are glued in the valley between the roof sections as shown above. Some trimming of these rafters may be necessary.

12. Now we'll add the stair platform. First glue the two supports **51a** and **51b** to the underside of the deck support **52**. Glue this group to the building. The deck support glues to the building with the top edge even with the bottom seam between the shingles and the first floor trim.



51a on the siding and **51b** rests on the corner trim. Finally remove the backing from the deck **53** and apply as shown at left.

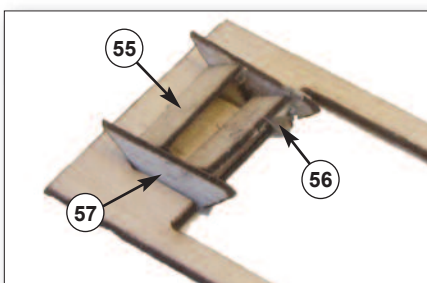
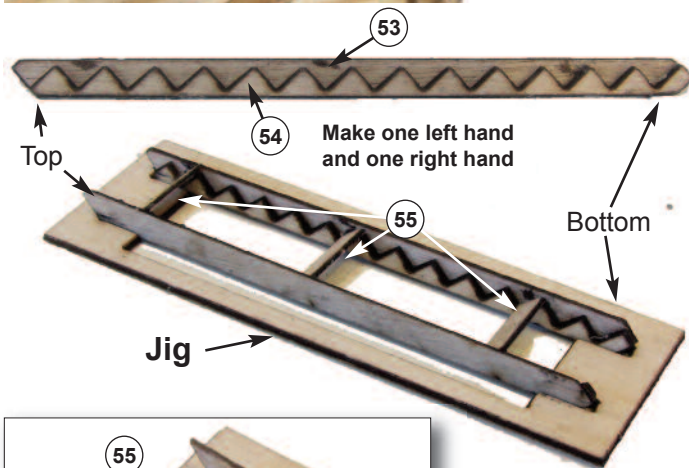
Finally add the door sill **50**.

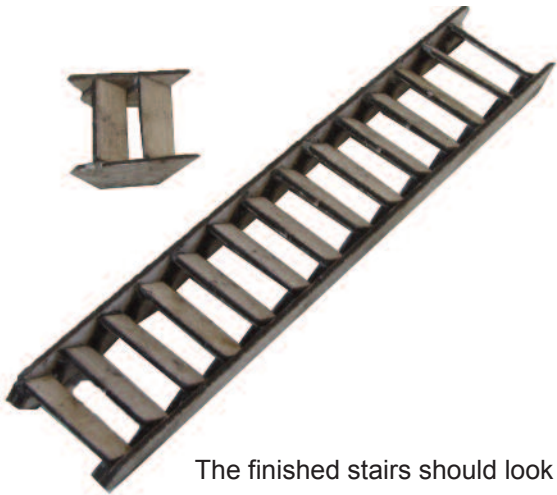
13. Eventually, we have to build the stairs. These can be a bit tedious so take your time constructing them. Notice in the photo at the left there is a top and bottom to both parts **53** and **54**.

Make up a left and right hand set of stringers. Spread a thin layer of carpenter's glue on stringers **53**. Align with part **54**, keeping them flush at each end and bottom edge. Allow to dry.

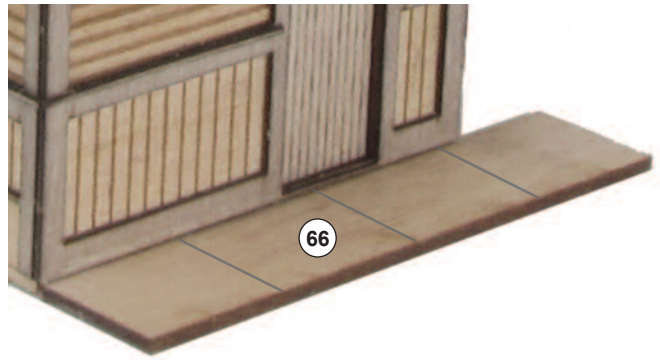
14. Fit both stringers in the fixture. Make sure they are oriented correctly and even with one end of the slots in the fixture. Apply a small amount of glue to the underside of a step tread **55** and glue as place as shown. I like to glue three (as shown) and then add the others. Make sure the top step is flush at the backside.

15. Repeat the process for the short run of steps using parts **55-57**. Make one left and one right. Use one end of the fixture to hold the parts.

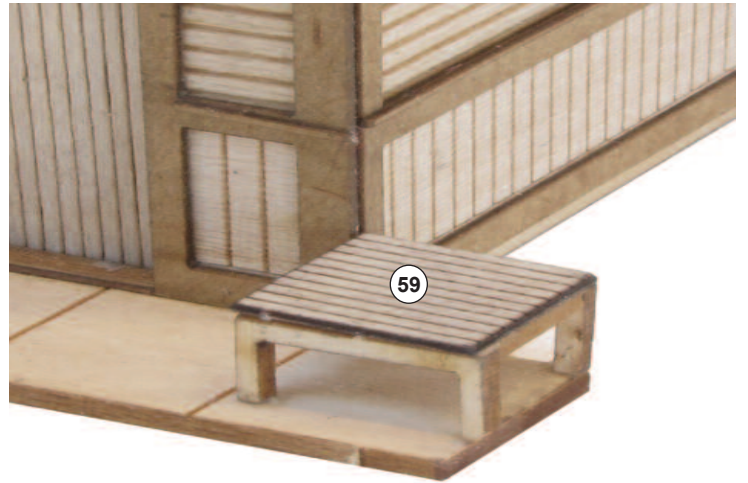
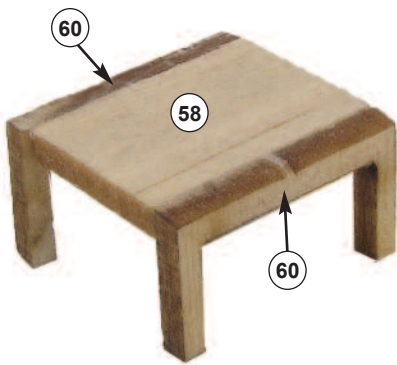




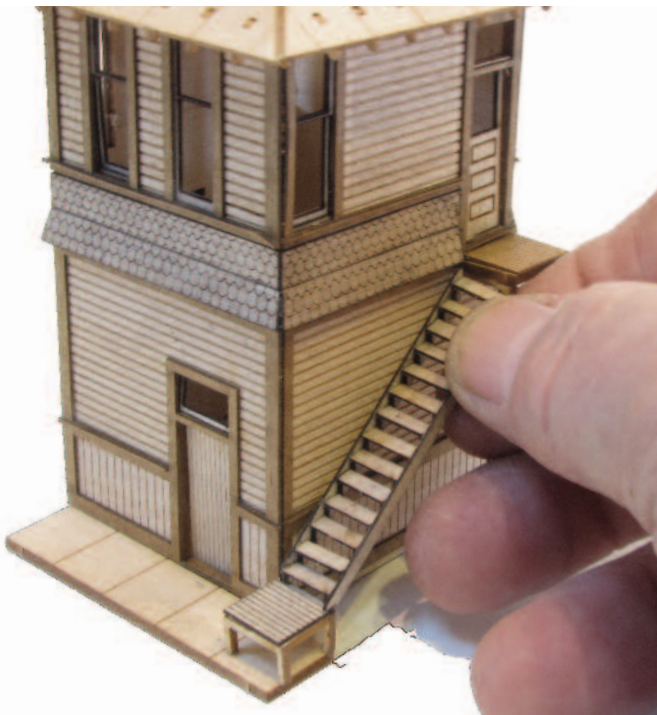
The finished stairs should look like this.



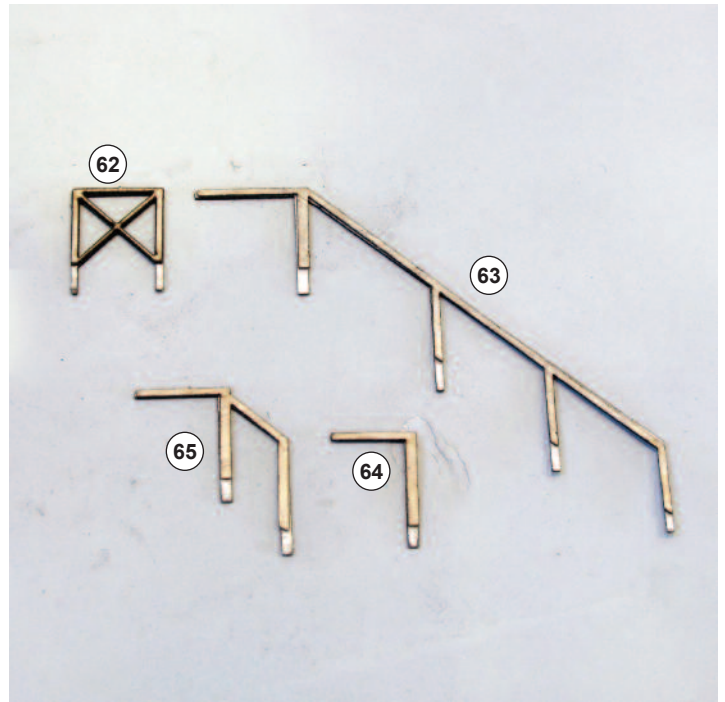
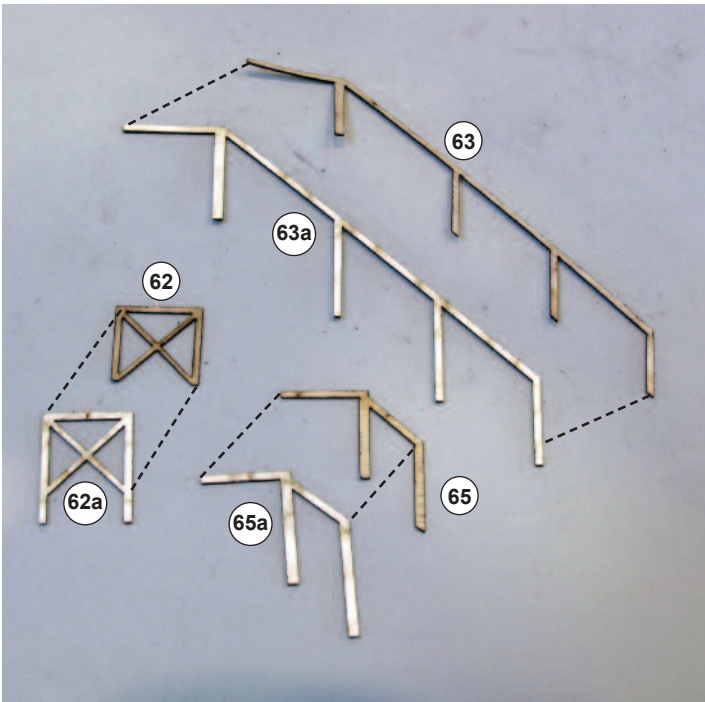
16. Glue the concrete walk **66** to the bottom edge of the side of the tower. It should be flush with the trackside wall and fits under the trim on the side.



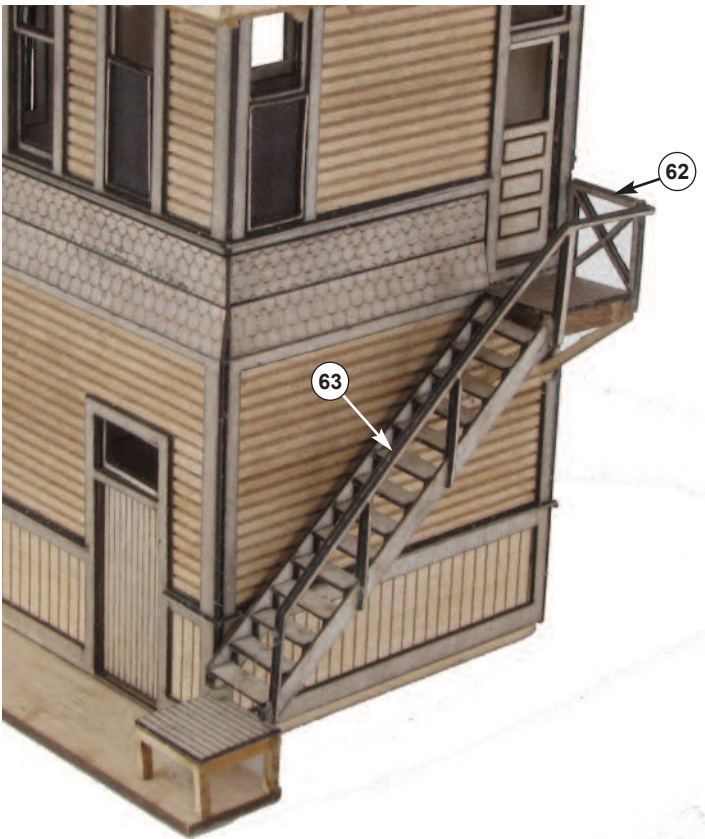
17. To assemble the small platform, glue legs **60** to the sides of base **58**, then add the deck **59** after removing the backing. Glue the platform to the concrete walkway. The back edge of the platform should align with the back edge and the inside (next to the building) edge of the walk. See photos above left and right.



18. When the glue is dry, glue the stairs in place as shown in the photo at right. The outside edge of the stairs should be even with the outer edge of both platforms and just clear the trim on the side of the building.



19. The stair and platform railings are very fragile until assembled. Start with an railing you want. Remove the backing paper, align with it's mating part and press together. Repeat for all railings. The photo above right show the assembled railings.



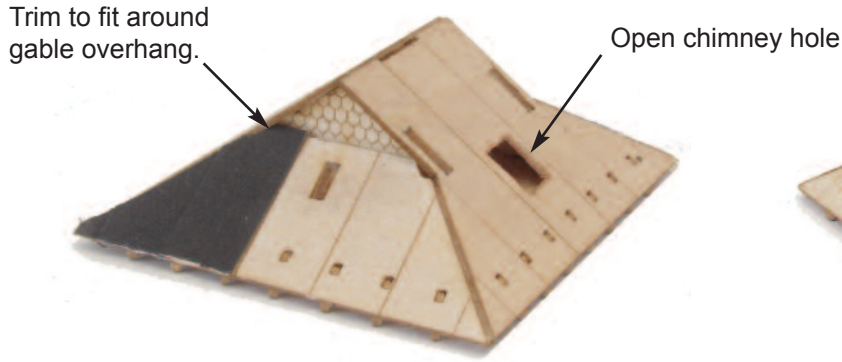
20. Glue end railing **62** on the platform. The inner edge of the legs will rest on the deck with the rest extending down. Once positioned, use a small drop of **CA** glue on the legs to permanently hold it in place.

21. Next add stair and upper platform railing **63** as shown in the above photo.



22. Glue the short stair in place again with the outside edge flush with the outside of the platform.

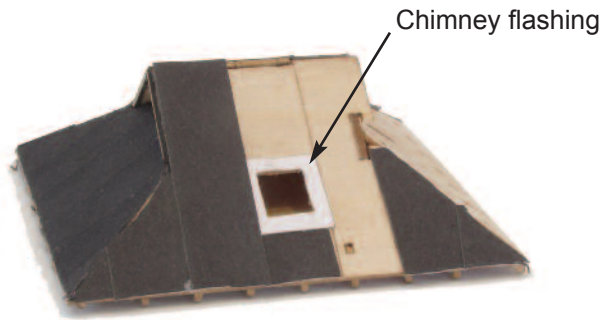
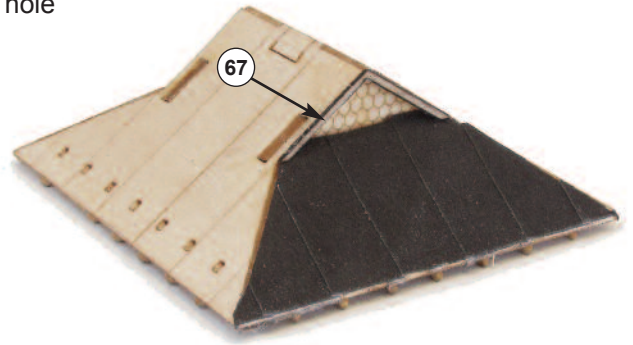
23. Add platform railing **64** and then the stair railing **65**.



24. Start at one edge of the hip roof and after removing the backing paper apply a piece to the roof, starting at one edge. Being left handed, I started on the left. The second piece will have to be carefully fitted. Continue across the roof. Repeat

for the other end.

25. With the roofing in place, add the gable trim **67**.



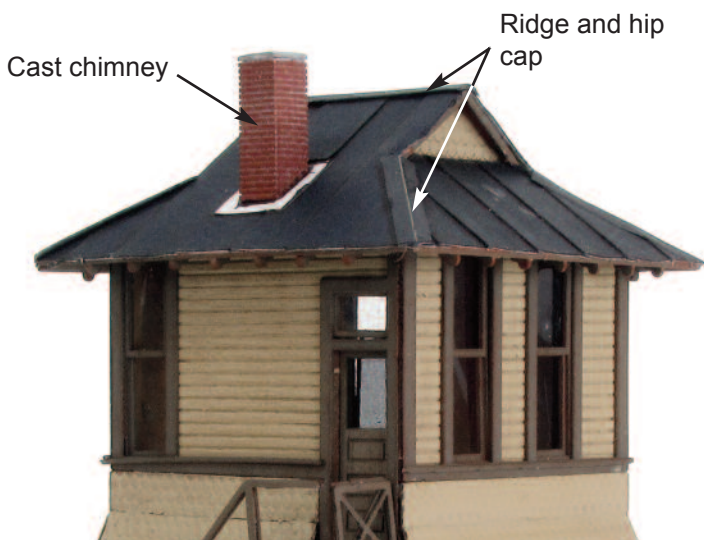
26. Again start at the edge of the roof and lay two strips and trim. Then cut a short piece of roofing to go from the bottom edge of the roof to the chimney opening. With this in place, add the chimney flashing, centering it over the open in the roof.

27. Next add a strip from the ridge of the roof so that it overlaps the flashing at least 4". With this done, finish the roofing. It should overlap the flashing on the side by about 4".

28. Now apply roofing to the other side.

29. All that remains to be done is add the hip and ridge caps. Cut the narrow strip of material slightly oversized, fold along the score line and remove the backing paper. Apply to the ridge and each hip. Trim the excess.

30. Glue the chimney in place. and you're done.



Window Screens (optional)

To color the "screen" material I use a Black Sharpie®. I lay the material on a paper towel and color the material. I then blot the top surface of the screen with the towel.

Remove the backing from one of the screen frames and place in on the material trying to keep the weave running horizontally and vertically. Use a modelers knife to trim the material. The screens are a press fit over the lower sash on the second floor.

Lake Junction Models, LLC

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