

Conowingo Models



Liberty Grove Produce

HO SCALE



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Thank you for purchasing this kit!

This kit is of a fictional structure. Liberty Grove is a local hamlet that was on the Pennsylvania Railroad until the line was wiped out by a hurricane in 1959.

The area around Liberty Grove was home to numerous farms, that produced peaches, apples, corn and tomatoes. Today, most of the production has turned to corn and soybeans.

This structure is a nod to the old Concrete Creamery House by C. C. Crow. It also has roots in our old background flat Carmassi's Motor Scooters.

Feel free to repurpose this structure into a mill, gunpowder factory or whatever you feel appropriate.

There is a file on our website in the Instructions section that addresses tips and techniques, such as which paints to use, which glues to use and a few simple techniques for better results. Please consult it if you need help.

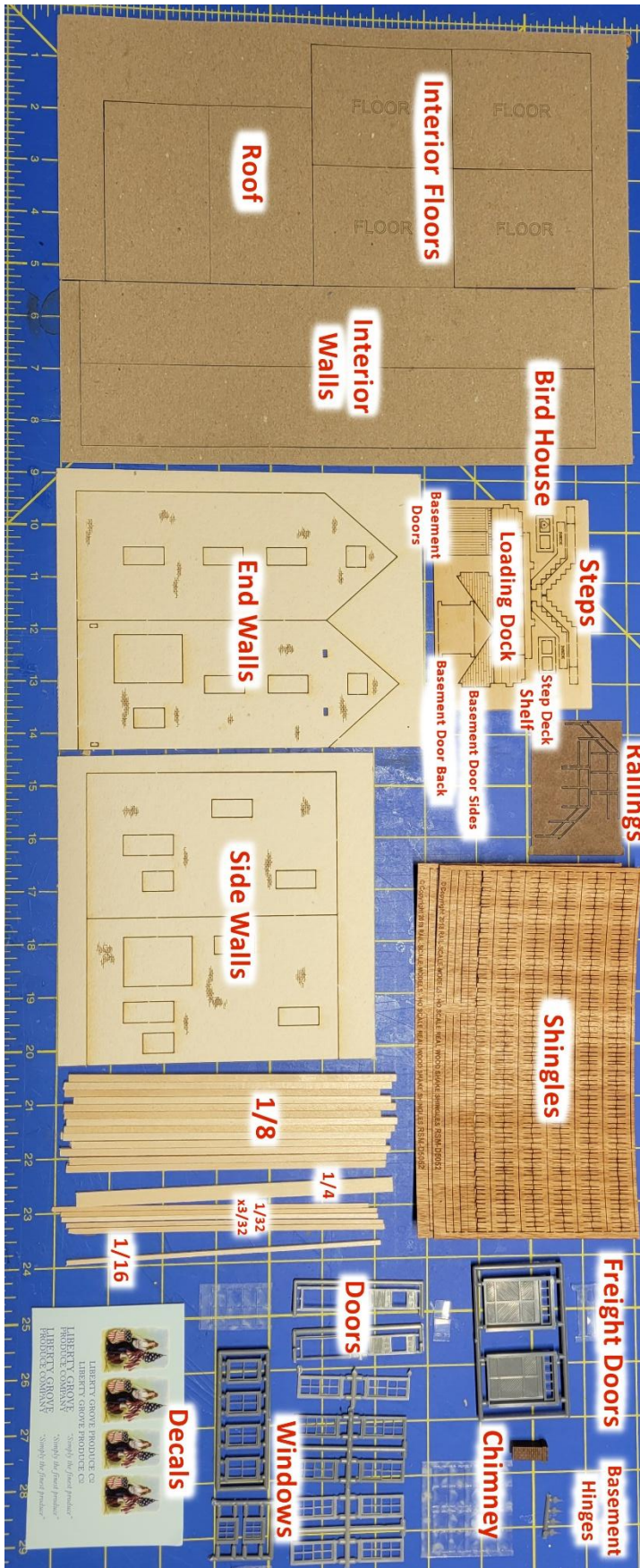
The kit walls are made from taskboard, which we would characterize as being like rigid paper towels and is very

fibrous. As a result, pay particular attention to the bracing- this stuff warps like crazy if not braced sufficiently. Additionally, if you make any cuts to the taskboard, you must use a brand-new, sharp, blade. Otherwise, it tears like cutting a paper towel.

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PARTS DIAGRAM



BRACING



Bracing is very vital to this kit because taskboard warps very easily.

1. Glue the bracing to the insides as shown above.
2. If you deviate from above, be sure that you have room to slide the side walls against the end walls and that each piece is braced both horizontally and vertically.
3. We've included a whole sheet of chipboard for the purpose of breaking up the floors and rooms, so that light doesn't go directly through the building. If you decide to use the chipboard, plan ahead and ensure that your horizontal bracing will line up so you can install level floors.
4. Let the bracing dry thoroughly before doing anything further with the walls.

STRIPWOOD PREP AND PAINTING CHART

The below chart assumes that you are assembling your model like the pilot model was painted. Please feel free to come up with your own paint scheme.

The building walls **MUST** be braced before painting. Additionally, the building walls are best painted after assembly as there is a process to covering up the seams.

Begin by staining the parts as indicated below. Cut them to length only after the stain has dried.

You can paint the remaining parts at any time.

The lengths to cut stripwood listed below are what was used on the pilot model. While yours should match, they may not be perfect, so take the below chart with a grain of salt.

Stripwood Cut / Parts and Color Chart				
Wood	Length	Qty	Purpose	Color
1/16 x 1/4	1.1 inches	1	Truck Dock Bumper	Stain Brown
1/16 x 1/16	2.4 inches	1	Loading Dock (Stain Ends)	Stain Black
1/32 x 3/32	.45 inches	22	Loading Dock	Stain Grey
1/32 x 3/32	.42 inches	28	Steps	Stain Grey
1/16 x 1/16	.58 inches	4	Step Supports	White
Chimney		1		Brick Red
Basement Door Hinges		4		Grimy Black
Doors		4		Grimy Black
Windows		14		Grimy Black
Loading Dock		3 pcs		Stain Black
Bird House		1		Blue
Basement Door Back		1	Top and side edges	Brown
Basement Door Sides		2		Brown
Basement Doors		2	Doors are connected	Brown
Roofing Material		2	Be light - Age the wood	Stain Concrete
Railings		4 pcs		White
Shelf		1		White
Step Stringers		4		White
Step Deck Support		2		White
Underside/Edges of Roof		1		White

DOOR AND WINDOW PREPARATION

1. Add the window glazing to the windows and the doors.

You may need to slightly cut the window edges so that they fit into place.

Be sparing with the glue to prevent unsightly globs.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION



1. Assemble the walls as shown above.

The side walls should fit against the inside of the end walls.

The side walls are interchangeable.

Ensure the walls are at 90° angle.

2. Set aside to dry.
3. Once dry, assemble similar to above, but vertically instead of horizontally.

Again, ensure you are assembling the walls with the side walls tucked inside of, and flush with, the end walls.

4. Glue the shelf into place on the track side of the building, using the two tab and slots.
5. **OPTIONAL –**

We included several chip board cut outs. The purpose of these cutouts is to serve as floors and walls. The floors are marked, but the walls are not.

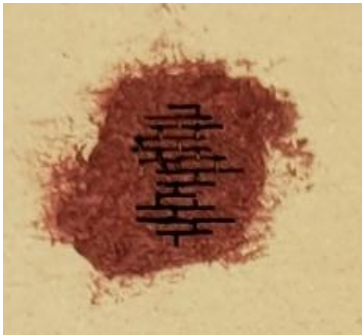
These cutouts are more to block light from going through or directing it, depending on how you choose to use them.

Each cutout will need to be cut to fit. They could also be painted if that's what you choose to do with them.

We recommend starting by installing the first floor, then proceeding to the walls. Then, do the same with the second floor, etc.

BUILDING PAINTING

This is where things get interesting.



1. Carefully paint the brick, laser-cut, areas on the walls with a brick red color.

Keep the areas small and limited. Otherwise, the walls will be harder to paint.



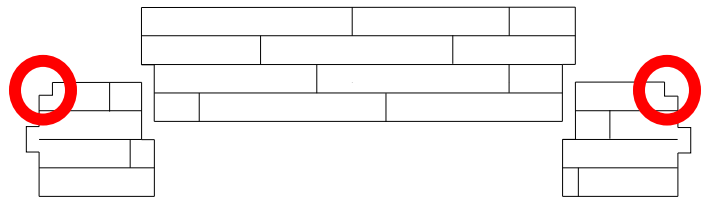
2. Let it dry for a few minutes, then take some spackle and fill in the laser cuts.

We use our fingers for the spackling steps.

If you want some mortar to look missing, don't fill in the cuts entirely.

3. Apply spackle to the the corners of the building, so that the seams disappear and the corners look uniform.
4. Apply some spackle to the chimney, while you have the spackle out.
5. Paint the building, except for the brick areas a slightly off-white. We used Apple Barrell Antique Parchment and are happy with the results.

BUILDING THE LOADING DOCK



1. Assemble the dock as shown above. The end pieces are slotted to fit with the rail-side wall.

Note that the side tabs fit into slots on the track side of the building.

The dock is intended to look like stacked and secured railroad ties.

2. Glue a piece of 1/16 stripwood to the top backside of the dock as indicated above by the red circles.

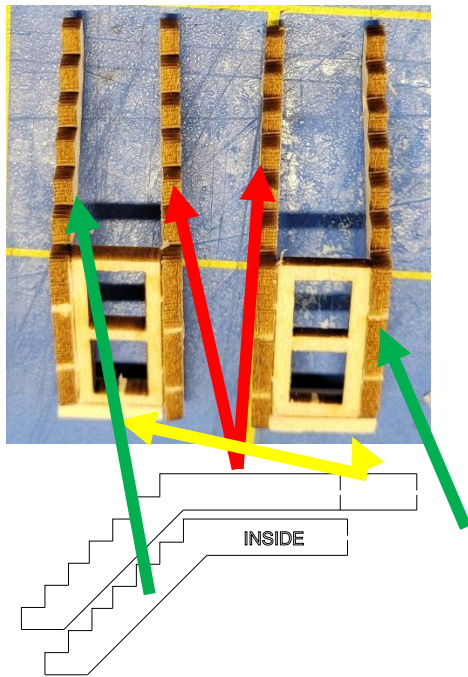
This serves two purposes; to hold the deck square while drying and to serve as a shelf for the deck wood.

3. Glue the deck wood in place as shown above.

You may choose to hold off until you install the dock on the building for a better fit.

Slight variations in the space between the boards allows for expansion and contraction and looks more realistic.

BUILDING THE STAIRCASES



1. Assemble the staircases as shown above.

Note that the two staircases are opposites and there is a piece marked “Inside”.

Notice that the outside stringer is longer than the inside stringer.

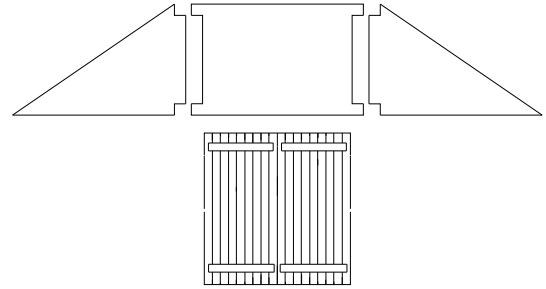
The end piece goes between the outside stringer and the wall and touching the end of the inside stringer.

The purpose of an inside stringer being marked is so that the end piece is hidden by the outside stringer.

All of this is done with the step support in the middle (The piece that looks like a block number 8.)

2. Insert a piece of scrap wood between the stringers at the bottom while the glue dries.

BUILDING THE BASEMENT DOOR



1. Assemble the basement door as shown above, using the tab and slots for the sides.

The double doors go in between the sides and in front of the back.

The laser-etched sides go on the outside.



2. Glue the hinges into place as shown above.

SHINGLING THE ROOF

1. Bend the roof along the guide line.
2. Shingle the roof, beginning with the starter strips at each end.
3. Shingle the roof using the included peel-and-stick roofing. Alternatively, you could use another material.

We’ve included guides, so you can approximate where to apply the shingles to keep them relatively straight.

We recommend that you do one or two rows at a time, then flip around to the opposite side to make it match. This seems to help keeping the shingles even on both sides.

DO NOT PUT THE ROOF CAP ON YET!

SIGNS, SIGNS, EVERYWHERE A SIGN

1. Decide which decals you would like to use.

We included several signs, so that you can choose which ones you want on what sides. Look at the pilot model to see what we did, or do something else.

2. Prepare the surface: Apply a gloss coat to the surface you're applying the decal to, ensuring that you do not make the glossy area too large.

This helps the decal adhere.

We recommend using a brushable product as spray products will cause more of an issue than they're worth.

If all else fails, do not use any gloss coat, but keep in mind that it will be more difficult for the decals to adhere.

3. Let dry.

Only do the following process one decal at a time.

4. Cut the decal as close to the desired shape as possible.
5. Soak the decal in water for 30–60 seconds. The paper backing will start to peel off.
6. Position the decal: Use tweezers to pick up the decal by the backing paper and position it where you want it.

We tend to use a hobby knife for this. However, doing so may cut the decal.

7. Remove excess water: Use a paper towel to gently dab or roll away excess water. Start in the middle and work your way out.
8. Set the decal: Apply a decal setting solution or Microsol to the decal to help it adhere and soften. Let it set for a minute, then use a dry cloth to tap away any remaining water.

9. Let dry.

10. Repeat the above steps for the rest of the decals

11. Seal the decal: Apply a thin layer of flat or matte varnish to seal the decals.

We use a Krylon clear flat spray.

ROOF INSTALLATION

1. Center the roof front to back on the building.

You may want to mark it lightly with a pencil so it can be positioned properly.

2. Apply glue to the 1/8 stripwood on the roof peaks.
3. Apply the roof to the building.
4. Hold the roof in place until the glue sets enough that the roof doesn't come away from the building.
5. Carefully, apply the ridge cap to the building.

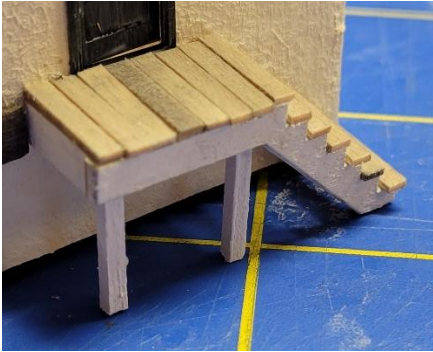
DOOR AND WINDOW INSTALLATION

1. Glue the doors and windows into their respective cut outs on the building.

STAIRCASE INSTALLATION



1. Install the staircases on their respective sides, ensuring that there is sufficient clearance for the loading dock.



2. Glue the decking and steps into place.
3. Glue the railings into place, along with the railing between the side railing and the building. (The pilot model lacks sufficient railings.)
4. Glue the 1/16 step supports into place as shown above.



2. Install the loading dock as shown above, using the tab and slots.



3. Install the basement door where desired. We decided to install ours on the non-track side, on the right side.

FINISHING TOUCHES



1. Install the truck dock bumper as shown above.



4. Install the bird house on the shelf or wherever you desire.
5. Trim the chimney so that the top will sit level when installed.
6. Install the chimney wherever you desire.
7. Do paint touch-ups where required.
8. Weather as appropriate.

We've found that brushing on a light coat of Hunterline Concrete will help age the building. It works well on pre-painted surfaces, but will require some effort to look good. It's not hard, it just requires the drive to stick with it. The pilot model had a coat on the doors, windows and roof.

The whole building could then use a coat of diluted acrylic grey or black paint to age it if you desire. In this case, the pilot model did not get any further aging.

The metal parts could use some diluted acrylic orange to represent rust. It could also use some less-diluted acrylic black over that to represent creosote and soot.

9. Enjoy!

Once again, thank you for your purchase!

If there are any parts missing, please e-mail us what you need to complete the kit and we'll send it your way. I'm a one-man shop and I do occasionally miss things. Also, suggestions for improvement are welcome.

Please send photos!

See the Conowingo Models website
www.conowingomodels.com
Or our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/ConowingoModels/>
for more exciting, funky buildings and rolling stock for your model railroad!

Many thanks to my family, Jeff Grove, Steve Milley and Mark Schreier for their support!

