

NERx Virtual Convention - Text

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Introduction

Layout at a Glance

*Overview of the
Model RR*



The layout is made up of six major areas:

Oil Creek Railroad - September 1866

Mining - Above ground and below ground mine

Hammondsport, NY - The Bath and Hammondsport Railroad

Bath, NY - The Bath and Hammondsport Railroad

Sawmill Complex and Log Pond - multiple structures and detail

Logging - Switch backs and log dump

View of the 8' x 30' section of the layout showing the Oil Creek and some of the Oil Creek Railroad.

Hammondsport is in the far left corner, Bath the far right corner and the Sawmill Complex to the right. The river is *EnviroTex Lite*. The OCRR in the center.

Oil Creek RR

Overview - North to South



Miller Farm was located 5 miles south of Titusville, PA and north of Shaffer Farm and the Pioneer Bridge. The 4' x 50' mural is seen in the background. Ten scratch built wood oil derricks are on the layout.

Oil Creek RR

Miller Farm



Scratch built items in scene include: oil derrick, oil tanks, oil storage shed, oil loading platform, oil barrels and trees.

Oil Creek RR

Oil Loading and Oil Storage



This scene was captured and edited by Bruce Sheppard, LSD member. Bruce added the smoke and the headlight illumination. Shay #6 with logging cars cross the Pioneer Bridge on the Oil Creek Railroad.

Oil Creek RR

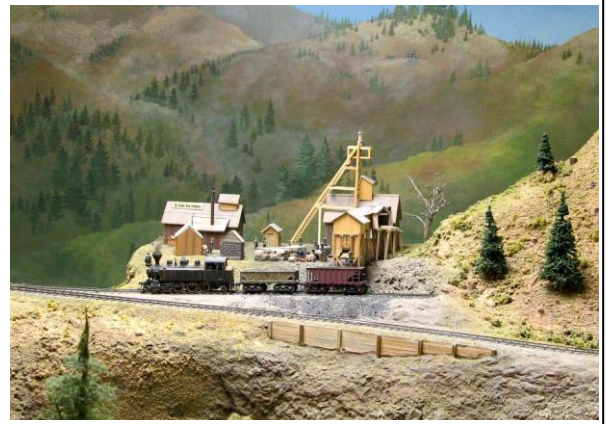
Pioneer Bridge



The Oil Creek Coal Mine started as a wood craftsman kit and was modified by extending the tailings tipple. The large mural shown on the wall is 30" from the mine. A small mine is on the mural.

Mining

Above Ground Mine



The underground coal mine is located directly under the surface mine (previous image) structures and is connected to the main cable. The tipple is a real tipple and has real coal which is transported by a hand pushed coal car.

Mining

Underground Mine



Hammondsport, NY looking from the north to the south. Includes the passenger and freight depots, grape house, ice house, gazebo, wharf shed, miscellaneous sheds, and docks. Scratch built grape vineyards are on the hill to the right. Logging switchbacks intersect the vineyards. Logging upper right.

Hammondsport

Overview

North to South



Hammondsport

Overview

South to North



Hammondsport

Close Up

Gazebo and Figures



Close up of Hammondsport, NY showing the famous passenger depot of the late 1800s. The pointed top of the depot was added later. The freight depot is just to the north and the gazebo to the south. To the right is Keuka Lake. B & H RR ran 7 trains on Sunday, 1890.

A coal truck is unloading coal on a wood coal tipple. Coal, loaded from the RR, is trucked up a steep hill and then dumped into the tipple. The slab wood tipple was part of the *SierraWest* sawmill kit but was used here for coal. The steep road continues up the hill to the log dump.

Bath

*Coal Truck
and Coal Tipple*



An old *Jordan* kit car is stuck on the railroad track. The track is code 70 *Micro Engineering* flex track. The scenery base is a dirt slurry made of water, white glue and sifted dirt over *Hydrocal* over *Wet n Shape* craft cloth over a corrugated base. Scenery is ground foam and spices.

Bath

Model T on Track



Three *Jordan* cars are shown next to the Bath, NY passenger depot along with some figures from *Fun N Games*. The Bath *Micro Engineering* turnouts are controlled by *Tortoise* switch machines and a panel switches w/LEDs. The Bath yards present a good opportunity for switching.

Bath

Figures & RR Depot



Overview of the large sawmill complex. This section spans an area of 3'5' x 9' and took eight years to build. Construction was board by board. Control is DCC *NCE ProCab* radio with *Tortoise* and *Switch-Its*. Images B. Sheppard.

Sawmill
Overview



The New Mill contains all the period mill equipment and shows the correct flow of the logs, cants, lumber and sawdust. The initial kit was *SierraWest* but each structure was modified to add interest. Extensive research was done on each mill machine before construction.

Sawmill
New Mill
& Log Pond



Close up of the New Mill and the scratch built trestles. Sound Shay #4 loads lumber to the far right. A scratch built wood dam holds back the water (*EnviroTex Lite*) to the far left.

Sawmill
Trestles & Loco



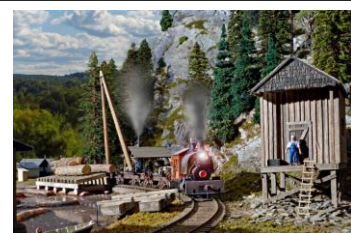
The boiler house was a combination of five kits: one wood *SierraWest* boiler house kit, two *Western Scale Models* boiler kits, one steam engine kit and one piping kit. The boiler bases, stacks and drive system were scratch built.

Sawmill
Boiler House



The log brow, dynamite shed, log hoist, log pond, company houses, company mess hall and company store were fun to build. The pond is 4 layers of *Enviro Tex Lite* epoxy - 1 opaque, 1 translucent and 2 clear.

Sawmill
Log Brow & Pond



View looking west from the logging section of the layout. Keuka lake is in the background. Note the old steam boat on the lake - right. Hammondsport is between the log dump and a 17" isle in front of the mural. A small logging town is outside the image to the left.

Logging
Overview



A Barnhart Loader loads logs onto log cars at the log dump. Only the large trees are cut.

Lower left: a black grizzly bear attacks the loggers.

Logging
Log Loading & Bear



Large
Trestle

*Large
Trestle*



Building the large scratch built trestle was a fun project. It connects the Sawmill Complex (right) with the mainline of the Oil Creek Railroad (left). It is curved and has a very slight grade.

Stories - 5

Bents - 15

Parts, including NBW - 1700

Climax #11 and my first railcar, an all wood *Kadee* caboose , sit on the trestle. The caboose has a full scratch built interior. Water is *EnviroTex Lite*. Note the reflection in the "water".