



HO Scale Structure **CITY STATION** 933-2904

Thanks for purchasing this Cornerstone Series® kit. All parts are styrene plastic, so use only compatible glue and paint. Please take a few minutes to read the instructions and study the drawings before starting construction.

During the 19th and much of the 20th century, the railroad depot was one of the most important buildings in town. In an era before paved roads, telephones and radios, the tracks and telegraph were the only connection to the outside world for local residents. As a result, the depot became more than just another business office, it truly was a social and entertainment center.

New rail lines were usually completed quickly, as were depots. Little more than shacks built from available materials, or retired rolling stock (old box cars were common), these structures were typically sufficient until the town began to grow.

Local residents, businessmen and politicians understood the relationship between their town's future and the impression the depot made on visitors and potential residents. To convey an image of hard work and success, it was common for local residents to demand a new and better structure. In some cases, especially if the railroad was slow to respond, the townspeople simply built their own!

During this era, a number of factors influenced the choice of materials and the custom design of the structure. A large town that generated a lot of railroad business, or held a prominent position such as the county seat, required a fancier structure than a tank town or village.

If another railroad served the same town, a fancier depot might be built to attract more business. The traffic in the area also determined how the depot was constructed. In populated areas where there were more passengers, depots had large waiting rooms and other amenities.

Towns of this size usually had a lot of express business as well, so a separate freight house was built down the tracks from the station. The new structure quickly became a source of civic pride for local residents as well as an important social center. "Going down to the depot" to watch trains and the people who arrived and departed became a fashionable pastime.

In many towns, the station grounds were transformed into landscaped gardens with carefully tended flower beds, shrubs and brick pathways. For the railroad, the depot served as its local office. Being a station agent was a job of great importance. The agent helped plan trips, sold tickets, loaded mail and baggage, processed billing and other reports, kept the depot clean and most importantly, handled the telegraph.

Agents reported the passing of trains to the dispatcher, copied train orders and other railroad communications. But when the line was quiet, the telegraph was the only long-distance communication available.

Telegrams for residents were only part of the service. Local business people, farmers and "loafers" would gather for the latest news, sports, weather forecasts, commodity prices and more. Depots began their slow decline during the 1930s. The Depression caused the closing or consolidation of unprofitable stations, while others were allowed to fall into disrepair.

Changes in railroading, including dieselization and larger cars, as well as radio and Centralized Traffic Control (CTC) signal systems, eliminated the need for agents and depots. The loss of passengers and local freight shipments to the highways closed still more stations, as did abandonments and mergers.

Some depots were retained as storage buildings for track crews, and many former depots still stand as shops, museums, offices and private residences.

ON YOUR LAYOUT

Your new model is patterned after an actual structure at Wausau, Wisconsin, which is still standing today. With its classic lines, it's typical of city stations built throughout the US and fits well in steam- or diesel-era scenes. The sturdy brick construction was a feature reserved for stations in more important towns, but traditional elements like the bay window, large baggage room doors and large windows were retained in these fancier designs. While the brick color might vary depending on what was available locally, all of the wooden parts were painted the same standard trim color used on all of the company's stations.

To provide a spot for passengers to wait more comfortably in warm weather, many stations were equipped with attached or freestanding station platforms. This important detail can be added with the Wood Station Shed & Platform (933-3188).

This modular kit includes parts for four complete platforms, which can be combined to build longer platforms if desired. A special roof section is also provided to attach the platform directly to a station building. Stations of this type were typically built only to serve passengers.

A block or so down the tracks, a separate freight house was constructed to handle the Railway Express Agency work. This detail can be modeled with the Golden Valley Freight House, which is available as a kit (933- 3533) or in Built-up versions (933-2821, 2827 or 2828).

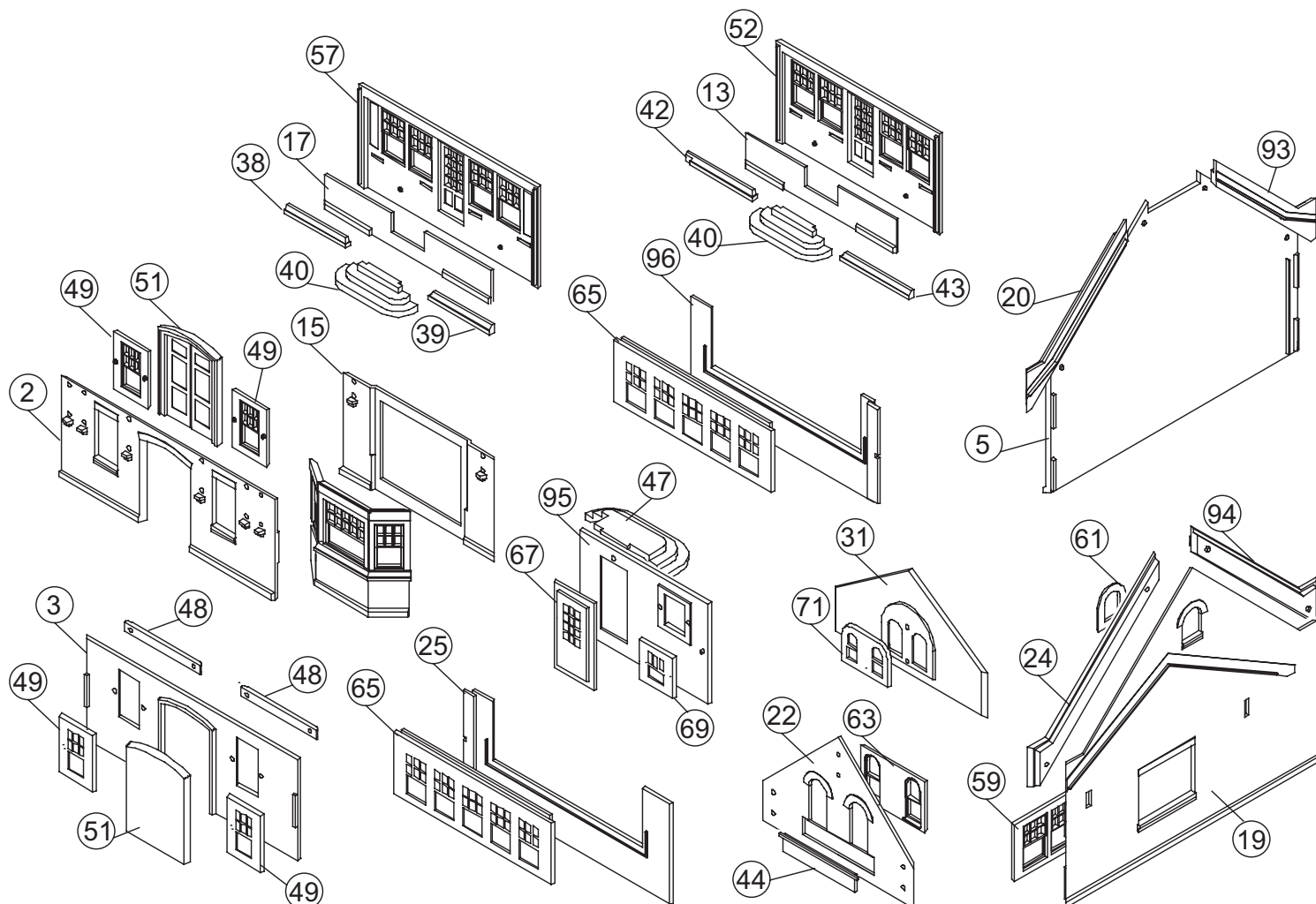
While the depot was located trackside, it was often part of or within a block or so of the business district. In early years, this street might have been the only paved road in town. This can be modeled with Brick Streets (933-3139) or Concrete Streets (933-3138). Merchant's Row stores (933-3028, 3029 and 3064) can be used together or separately to model a typical downtown scene.

On a modern layout, your model can represent a restored structure, with new signs to indicate the current owner. For safety and security reasons, especially if the building is still trackside, it may be protected by a Chain Link Fence (933-3125).

A wide range of passenger cars, figures, vehicles and accessories are available to set the scene. See your dealer, check out the latest Walthers HO Scale Model Railroad Reference book or visit our Web-site at waltherscornerstone.com for more ideas.

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- Bay Window**

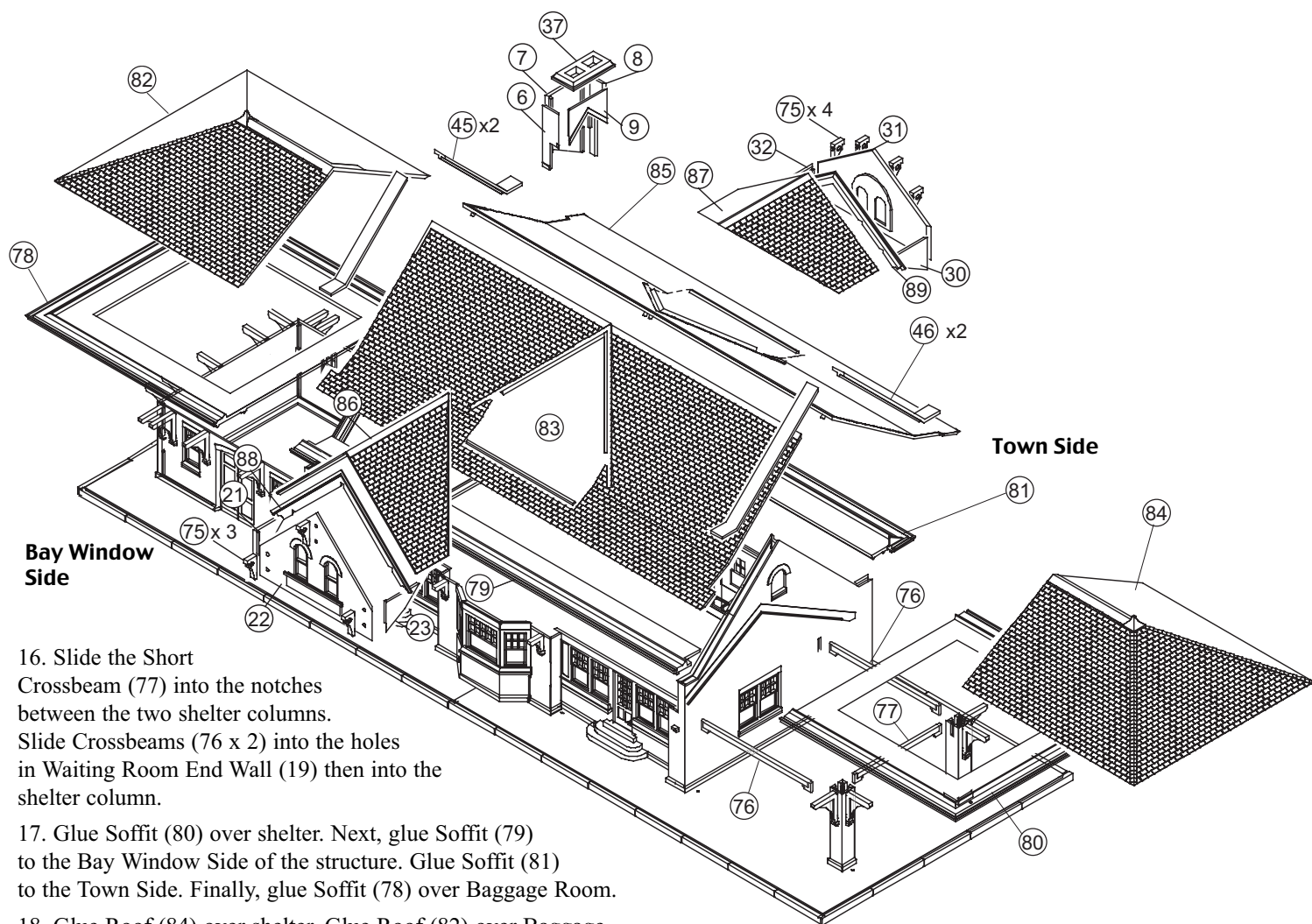


12. On the Bay Window Side, glue a Left Pilaster Return (11) to the Bay Window Wall (15). Glue Wall Assembly (57) to the Base and to the Bay Window Wall. On the town side, glue Left Wall Section (25) to the base and to Wall Assembly (95).

13. Glue a Right Pilaster Return (14) to the Wall Assembly 57 and Base; glue a Left Pilaster Return (11) to Wall Assembly 25.

14. Glue the last two Roof Brackets (74) to Pilaster Fronts (10 and 18). Glue Right Pilaster Front (18) to bay window side of the structure. Glue Left Pilaster Front (10) to the town side. Finally, glue Waiting Room End Wall (19) to the Base and the Right (18) and Left (10) Pilasters.

15. Assemble two shelter columns; glue two Outside Corner Column Sides (33; with bracket mounting points) together, then glue two Notched inside Corner Column Sides (34) together. Glue both assemblies together, then to the Base – be sure the notches on the Inside Columns face toward the building and each other. Repeat for the other column. Glue Roof Brackets (73) to Outside Corner Columns.



16. Slide the Short Crossbeam (77) into the notches between the two shelter columns. Slide Crossbeams (76 x 2) into the holes in Waiting Room End Wall (19) then into the shelter column.

17. Glue Soffit (80) over shelter. Next, glue Soffit (79) to the Bay Window Side of the structure. Glue Soffit (81) to the Town Side. Finally, glue Soffit (78) over Baggage Room.

18. Glue Roof (84) over shelter. Glue Roof (82) over Baggage Room. Glue Roof Half (83) to the Bay Window Side of the building and Roof Half (85) to the Town Side.

19. Locate the small holes in the Base; Downspouts will be glued in these openings and on the Soffit above. Install Downspouts (91 x 4) on the Town Side. The other Downspouts (90 x 7) will go on the rest of the building.

20. Glue Roof Cap (46) on Wall (19).

21. Assemble Chimney by gluing parts 6, 7, 8 & 9 together. Then glue Chimney Cap (37) on top of Chimney. Glue the complete Chimney to Chimney End Wall (5). Glue Roof Cap (45) on Chimney Wall (5).

22. To assemble the Dormers for the roof of the depot, glue Roof brackets (75) to Dormer Walls (22 and 31). Glue Side Walls (21 & 23) to Dormer Front Wall (22). Glue Side Walls (30 and 32) to Dormer Front Wall (31). Glue Soffit (88) to Dormer Roof (86) and Soffit 89 to Dormer Roof (87).

23. Glue Roof (86) to Wall (22) and Roof 87 to Wall (31).

24. Glue Dormer (22) to Bay Window Side. Glue Dormer (31) to opposite side.

SIGNS

To mount signs, simply cut the desired name and, using a small drop of white glue on the back, glue it in place.