

THE VILLAGER

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association Volume 20 December 2021 Number 3

K-LINE AUTOMOBILES



DONALD W. HUOVINEN

-Line identified their automobiles as K-4160 Assorted Automobiles (10). The automobiles were first cataloged in 1981 and continued to be cataloged through the 2000 First Edition catalog.

The K-Line Automobiles were produced using the Marx molds. Therefore the automobiles were very much like the Marx automobiles. The major difference is that the Marx cars have metal axles and wheels which are flush at the end whereas the K-Line automobiles have plastic wheels and axles that are pointed at the ends. Additionally the K-Line vehicles come in a seemingly endless rainbow of colors.

The automobiles were produced in two very distinct varieties which I am going to identify as Older Vehicles and Modern Vehicles. Both varieties were given the same catalog number, K-4160, even though they were distinctly different.



Older Vehicles

These vehicles were described in the 1956 Sears Wishbook as a "Set of 8 cars for your service station. Latest foreign and domestic models of Ford, Cadillac, Buick, Chrysler,



DeSoto, Sabre Jet, 2 foreign racing cars". The models have been identified by body style and front end styling as the grills were often the most distinctive feature of a manufacturer and changed each year. The models are stylized representations of these vehicles and are pretty decent considering they are mass produced plastic models. The 8 vehicles modeled are: 1953 Ford Business Coupe (Photos 1 and 2), 1952 Cadillac Sedan (Photos 3 and 4), 1951 Buick



XP-300 Concept Car (Photos 5 and 6), 1953 Chrysler New Yorker Newport (Photos 7 and 8), 1953 DeSoto Sportsman (Photos 9 and 10), 1951 GM LeSabre Concept Car (Photos 11 and 12), 1953 Jaguar XK-120 (Photos 13 and 14), and a 1937 Talbot-Lago T150-C SS "Goutte d'Eau" Coupe (Photos 15 and 16).

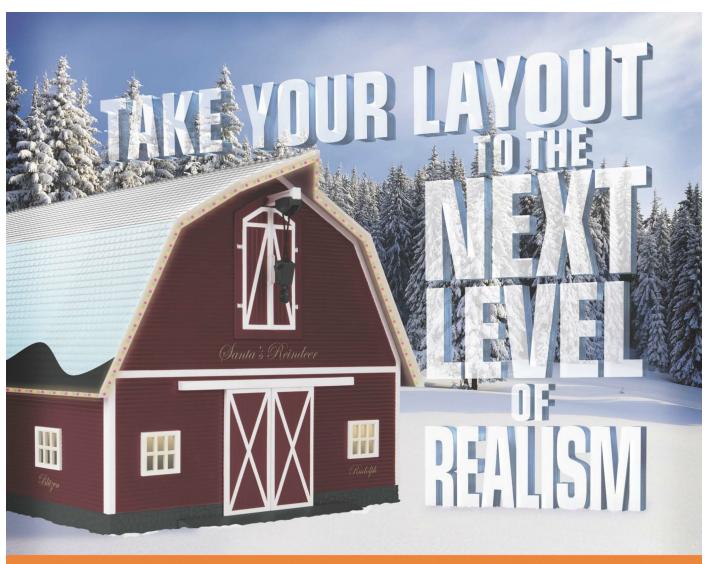
The Villager

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Colors

The automobiles were produced in a wide variety of colors as the pictures show. The colors of the older vehicles seemed to be a bit more subdued than the modern vehicles.

Wheels/Axles

The wheels/axles could either be white or black. The box typically included 10 sets of white wheels/axles and 10 sets of black wheels/axles packaged in a small plastic bag. The wheels/axles were to be attached to the cars by the buyer.

Packaging

Because each box includes 10 automobiles and there are only eight different automobiles, there can be an almost infinite variation of cars included.

The older vehicles have been observed in Type 1 and Type 13 boxes.

Modern Vehicles

These vehicles were described in the 1963 Sears Christmas Book as "8 new-model cars". Five of these eight vehicles were re-issued by K-Line. They are: 1960 Cadillac El Dorado (Photos 17 and 18), 1960 Chevrolet Corvair Sedan (Photos 19 and 20), 1960 Thunderbird (Photos 21 and 22),









1960 Pontiac Bonneville (Photos 23 and 24), and 1960 VW Beetle (Photos 25 and 26).

Colors

The automobiles were produced in a wide variety of colors as the pictures show. The colors of the modern vehicles seemed to be a bit brighter than the older vehicles.

Wheels/Axles

The wheels/axles could either be white or black. It has been observed that automobiles that were packaged in boxes could have both colors or only one color. The wheels/axles were packaged in a separate plastic bag and were to be attached to the automobile by the buyer. Automobiles that came in header bags have only been observed with black wheels/axles and came attached to the automobiles.

Packaging

Because each box includes 10 automobiles and there are only five different automobiles, it would seem that each package would include two of each automobile. Although this did happen on occasion, more often than not the automobiles were a mixed lot of varieties and colors. For example one sealed header bag included eight VW beetles in four different colors and two Pontiacs in another color.

The newer vehicles have been observed in Type 1, Type 13 and Type 14 boxes as well as in Type 1C Header Bags.

Additional Information

In addition to being packaged for sale, two of the modern automobiles were always included in the K-57XX Automobile Car (various road names). The automobiles were actually placed inside of the automobile car. Although prototypically correct it adds nothing visually compared to automobiles mounted on flat cars or auto racks.

Also three of the modern automobiles were included as components of a set K-1201, Santa Fe Steam Special, and two automobiles were included as components of set K-1107, Pennsylvania Iron Horse.





As always I welcome your additions, corrections or comments. This is a work in progress and if you are interested in K-Line buildings and wish to assist please e-mail me at dhuov@aol.com.

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THE YORK REPORT

MATTHEW HARVAZINSKI

EDITOR'S COLUMN



You will notice that this issue is a bit thin on content, I hope that can change next year. To change I will need your help, please consider updating our readers about any pandemic related projects you competed on your lay-

out or collection. I am sure with the stay at home orders and reduced travel many of you have had extra time to devote to the hobby. It would be great to share that with our readers.

We will try again next year with three issues, April, August, and December. Hopefully there is sufficient content to fill the pages. I have a few ideas for upcoming articles, but I am sure that many of you know more than me and can provide additional content!

It was nice to see the small group that assembled in York this past October, and hope to see more of you in April.

Matt Harvazinski, The Villager Editor

villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org

There was a small group for the PCA meeting at lunch time on Friday. Five of use gathered and it was great to be back in person at York. The show was busy but did not seem crowded, possibly due to the wider walkways in the trading halls. There was a lot of Plasticville out, prices ranged from a real bargain to extortion! A lot of the Plasticville was boxed, and there were some rare items here and there. Some of these included the rarely seen 1609 Street Accessories blister pack, SA-9 Outhouse dealer box. One dealer had a large collection of Master Units, these are always enjoyable to look at because of box artwork. I was unfortunately too late to see the master unit with the citizens molded in color, that was sold just before I got to the table. There were also a few boxed items of Littletown, which are rarely seen, unfortunately none of the sets I found were complete.

Overall it was great to be back, there were some great finds at reasonable prices if you had the patience to look. One thing that stood out was the large number of dealers that had 10 or more boxed items on the table. I do not recall as many individual sellers with Plasticville in the recent shows pre-pandemic.



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0400 Mobile Home (Blue or Cream walls) \$10 Mint

0500 King Apartment House (Brown) \$30

0550 King Add A Floor (Brown or Red) \$8 each 3/\$20

1504 Trailer \$30

1983 Colonial Mansion Scenic Classic \$20 Mint

1984 Colonial Church Scenic Classic \$25 Mint

1985 Log Cabin under boxed \$30

1611 Hardware & Pharmacy (Rare Art Deco box) \$45

45985 LCCA Air Admin Bldg Orange/Blue, \$20 Mint

1923 Roadside Stand \$20 Mint

1809 Loading Platform \$15 Mint

1607 Fire Dept W/DARK GREY SIREN\$75

FH-4 Fire Dept W/LIGHT GREY SIREN \$75

1987 Barn Scenic Classic \$18 Mint

1624 House Under Construction \$30

1804 Greenhouse, \$30

45986 LCCA Hangar, \$20 Mint

ON-5 Outdoor Necessities \$35

No Box Kits, Complete

Railroad Work Car \$10, Suburban Station \$8, Mobile Home (6 different colors) \$12 ea or 6/\$60 Barn \$8, Hobo Shacks \$15, School \$10, Fire Department \$10, Turnpike (green walls) \$15 Diner \$8, Add-A-Floor \$6 each 3/\$15, Colonial Mansion (red roof) \$15, Colonial Church \$15 KING Add A Floors (red or brown) sealed \$4 each, 3/\$10

Accessories

Telephone Booth \$4 each or 3/\$10, Telephone Booth(Never assembled) 7 pieces \$6 Outhouse (brown) \$4, 2 RED Fire Trucks \$10 per set, Street Corner signs with original tags 6 for \$8 24 Shrubs 3 each of 8 different colors \$20, Green Bus, Green or Yellow Ambulance \$5 ea, BBQs 5/\$10

PLASTICVILLE PARTS - \$1.00 ea unless otherwise noted (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

Factory(#1988): original walls, brown platform, Union Station: original walls, roofs, canopies, platforms, steps, Hobo Shacks: original walls & roof (brown or dark grey), original rear canopy \$5 (brown or dark grey), Railroad work car: original walls & roof, House Under Construction: shovel, rake, hoe, bucket, Hospital: desk chair, straight chair, 2 Story House: porch post, Fire Dept: red chimney cap, Police Dept: green chimney cap, Cattle Pen: crossbar, Turnpike: white lens holder, 2 lenses(Red or Green), Turnpike: white cone 4/\$3, green sign \$3, Post Office: flag \$5, Frosty Bar: stool \$1, Sign \$5

PLASTICVILLE PARTS - \$1.50 ea (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

Airport: windsock, : CHIMNEY: Log Cabin, Switch Tower, Loading Platform, Watchman's Shanty, Suburban Station, Cape Cod, Ranch House, Factory: railing Colonial Mansion: half chimney, New England Ranch: half chimney, ANTENNA: 2 story colonial, New England ranch, Police station, Police Station: antenna base WEATHERVANE: Barn, School, Independence Hall, Hospital: siren, Fire Department: siren, Barn caps, Church cross, Split Level downspouts, Watchman Shanty light, Bank: large or small canopy, House Under Construction: sawhorse (3 pieces)

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Jack & Jill: pail, brick, 3 Men: oar, Old Woman: clothesline, Goosey Gander: castle flag, chain

PLASTICVILLE BUILDING INSERTS \$1.00/SET (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

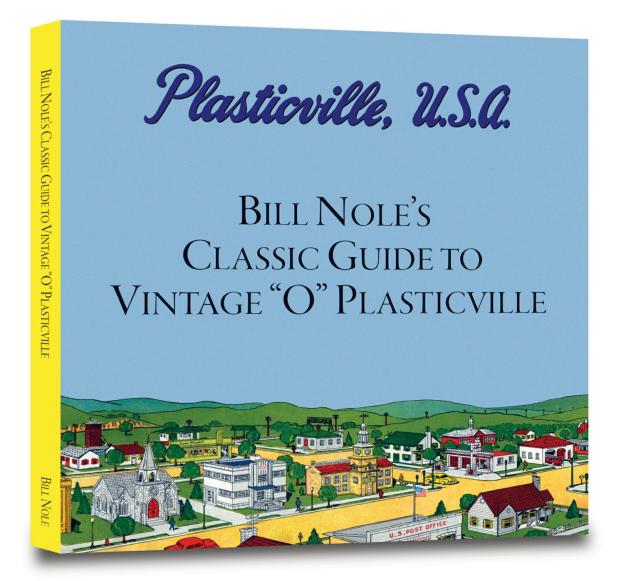
Corner Store: original Hobby, News, or Sport, Factory: (#1988), original decal, Union Station: original decal, Motel flowers, Large or Small Gas Station, Large or Small Supermarket, 5 & 10 Store, Hardware Store, Post Office, Suburban Station: roof signs (2)

Plastic Village Gazette RARE Issue #1, \$2 each, Issues 5 or 6, \$1 each

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A RUNNER'S FIRST REAL LOOK AT LITTLETOWN

ERIC MALGREN

ugust 12, 2021 – I received my first ever Little-town accessories in the mail today, some 65 years after receiving my first ever Plasticville accessories. That the two arrived at the same time was a coincidence since I ordered them on different days. The first of the two as ordered was a set of streetlights, 23 to be exact, with an original box. The second was a 101 supermarket.

I ordered the streetlights not so much because they were Littletown, but because I wanted more streetlights, and the price was right. I was not even aware of Littletown accessories until I was at a swap meet in Eau Claire, Wisconsin in 2018. That's when I saw one of the small stores with bakery inserts on the table of PPC member. The price was more than right based on what I have since seen for similar structures on eBay. However, I passed because it did not fit my plans at the time. Several months later, I kind of wished I had grabbed it.

As I was purchasing the store, I saw an irony to it. The SM-6 supermarket was the first Plasticville building I remember getting after receiving my first electric train for Christmas in 1959. I was crazy about electric trains in those days. My dad had one that seldom came out from the box under the bed. So, I wanted an electric train of my own. I could hardly stop talking about wanting an electric train. I drove my friends crazy about wanting an electric train. They had other interests. I drove my parents crazy about it. They kept telling me I had to be eight before I could have one (I was a Christmas baby, so I only had to wait a week once the time came, but what a week). I even remember a class activity where we had each put a question in a jar for a special class panel to pull and discuss. Mine was, "Should children under eight years old be allowed to have electric trains?" Is this starting to sound like "A Christmas Story?" I guess I do not need to tell you whose question was pulled first. I cannot remember how the discussion went, but I do remember someone commenting that they knew who wrote the question as all eyes turned toward me.

However, as I looked at the streetlights, it suddenly hit me that the supermarket was not my first Plasticville accessory. There was another that I had been given several years earlier. I suspect I was five at the time. My Aunt and Uncle gave me a windup train for Christmas. A short time later Dad came home with one of those red cards with 2 streetlamps on it. I suspect he found them at either Woolworth's or Kress's in downtown Seattle. It was probably Kress's because I remember there was a fair selection of small Plasticville stuff in their basement when I was a kid. Wow!

Streetlights for my train. But the real excitement came the next morning. My Mom told me that they had placed the lamps on the fireplace mantel so they would not get broken. When they turned out the lights to go to bed, they glowed. My mother would go on to work with toddlers and preschoolers. She new just the right tone to use to generate curiosity and wonder in her soon to be kindergartner. Naturally, I had to see for myself - right now. But it was daylight and even with the lights out and the curtains drawn, the house was not dark enough for the glow to show. Then I remembered the bathroom. I am not sure if there was a window in it, but with the door closed and the light out, it was dark, very dark. And the lights did glow. I know I still had the windup train after we moved that summer to the house where I grew up. I also know why I still know, but I would rather not go into it (stupid kid stuff). However, I do not know what happened to those 2 street lamps. I may have still have had them when I got my electric train. I might still have them now for all I know. Plasticville streetlights all look pretty much alike. But I doubt it. The fact that my supermarket survived is a miracle in itself.

But I am not a kid anymore. I am an adult, an obsessive-compulsive adult with an over-infatuation with details. The ironies on memory lane gave way to a close look at what I had purchased. Doubtless my observations have been addressed before. The first thing I noticed when I unwrapped the lights was that one was broken at the base. Based on the eBay picture it was clear that it was the victim of overly zealous packing. The 23 lights were wrapped tightly in bubble wrap then stuffed back into the original box. I am not a collector and I assumed when I bought them that they were likely not collectors quality



12 Littletown Street Lights stand in front of the original box.

based on the price. I got them to use on my layout and a bit of plastic cement put the damaged pole back in working order. So, this observation is just for the sake of those who do ship things. Be careful. Bubble wrap may be light weight, but it is more unforgiving than tissue paper when stuffed in a box.

The next thing I noticed was that the lights had been glued to some kind of layout. All of them have a grainy brown texture on the bottom. The grain is likely from the surface they were glued to, but as to the origin of the color, I am not enough of an expert to determine if I was looking at the glue, paint from the surface the lights were glued to, or some actual stained strands wood grain. Since I intend to glue them down myself, this is another minor detail, although the stuff I use can be peeled off fairly easily.



A Plasticville street light stands between a pair of its Littletown counterparts. Note the difference in the bases.

From there, I found myself looking at the streetlights themselves. Two things stood out immediately, the stands and the lamps heads. Plasticville streetlights have 2 little holes in the base for attaching the lamps to the scenery. These Littletown lamps have 2 slots instead. The lamp heads appeared smaller than I remembered their Plasticville counterparts to be. I also noticed that they did not appear to be as cleanly detailed at the top and some of them had a very noticeable indent in the side like they had been melted. The indent was consistent enough across my sam-

pling to indicate that this had to be a production flaw. The lamp heads do not seem to sit cleanly on the poles either. There is a gap between the light head and the pole on every one of them. I am in Tacoma, WA and most of my stuff went back to Baraboo, WI earlier this year. I do still have a couple of the Plasticville lights with me, so I dug one out. My observations to this point, particularly about



Littletown lamp heads with what appear to be casting flaws. Note the gaps between the head and the base.

the lamps, proved correct. Plasticville's lamp heads are larger, have sharper detail and they also sit on the top of the pole. Turns out the bases of the two products are the same size, but the Littletown pole is both thicker and taller (by 5%") than the Plasticville version.



The 101 Supermarket, showing the clear plastic windows with sticker signs, the added black entryway trim, the added green stripe on the facade of the building and marquee, the black highlights of the marquee lettering and the black roof. The trim of the roof is still the original green.

I was more surprised when I opened the 101 Supermarket. I knew when I bought it that it was not a collector's piece. I wanted one for my currently non-existent layout and did not want to mortgage the house to get one. This was the yellow walls, green roof and green doors version. I suspected from the picture that it might be glued. The original windows were replaced with clear plastic displaying a couple of sale signs that look like something that came in an HO kit I once had. I keep thinking that sheet of signs is in one of my miscellaneous parts boxes in Baraboo. The market marquee as pictured was reversed and, based on photos I have seen of other examples, the raised lettering had been highlighted in black and the trim given a green stripe. One of the facade details across the front had also been highlighted in green. The door frame was trimmed in black. The roof also appeared to be black. As I suspected, the building was glued, which is okay. The marquee was not glued so all I had to do was turn it around. And all the window openings, front, side, and back, had clear plastic glued behind them.

None of this surprised or offended me. All in all, this store was going to look good in town, once I get a chance to get my town together. What caught me by surprise was the size. Maybe someone somewhere has made the dimensions of Littletown structures available on the Internet or in a book. I have had only pictures to look at. The store as I have seen it in pictures looked a cross between Plasticville's large supermarket and the K-line version. So, I



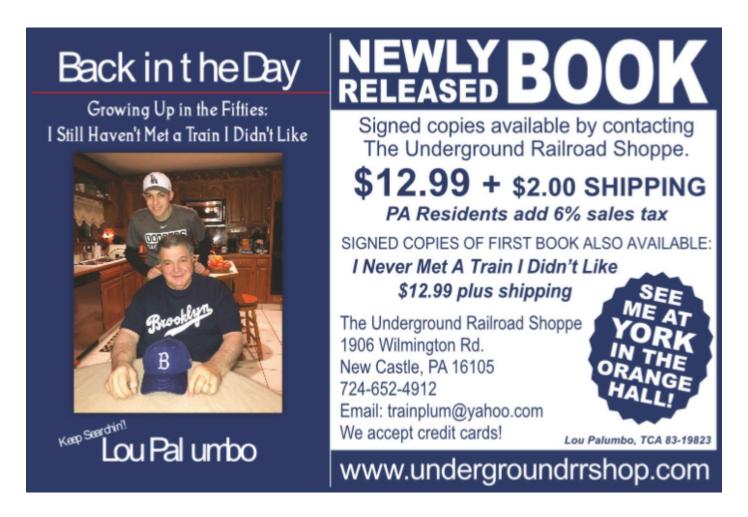
The 101 Supermarket sits inside a set of side and back walls common to Plasticville's larger commercial structures.



A comparison between the less detailed, smaller Littletown lamp head on the left and the sharper Plasticville head on the right.

expected it to be about the same size. Wrong. My first reaction was that it was more the size of the SM-6 small market. I grabbed a tape measured. Ignoring the doorstep, the Littletown market is 7 inches wide by 2 ½ inches deep. Then I dug out the notes on the sizes of my buildings that I did about 20 years ago. Sure enough, virtually identical in size. I will not swear to the perfect accuracy of those notes, but they are close enough for layout planning. The record shows my small Plasticville supermarket to be approximately 7 ½ inches by 2 ¾ deep.

Having said all that, I have taken my pictures and packed my new treasures away until I can get back to Baraboo. In the meantime, there is this cool plastic ferry that took me on another trip down toy train memory lane. Just the right size too. But that will be a tale for another day. After all, I grew up in Seattle. There has to be a plastic ferry story.



DISASSEMBLING SPRUCE TREES

JOHN L. NIEHAUS

Tow many times have you seen the half of a spruce tree without the base broken into two pieces? Probably more times than you wish. This

breakage is most likely caused by someone trying to take the tree apart. I know it pains me to see them split in two when there is a fairly simple method to disassemble these trees.

First a bit about the physiology of the two pieces. The half with the base and the slot at the top has a small protrusion on one side of the tree about ½ inch long and



Photo 1.

about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch immediately below the bottom of the slot. I hope you can see the protrusion in Photo 1.



Photo 2.

The slot in the half without the base is not an interrupted straight slot, from its bottom to its top. There is an approximate ½ inch long by less than a 1/32 of an inch widening of the slot, on both sides of the slot about ¾ inch down from the top of the slot. Photo 2 illustrates the configuration of this part's slot.

The pieces lock together through this slot and tab arrangement. Attempting to aggressively pull the two pieces apart many times cause the splitting into two the piece without the base or the breaking off of one side or the other of the top of the piece with the base, or both. Photo 3 is an illustration of such typical damage. With a little



Photo 3.

care and patience this damage can be prevented in the majority of cases.

The first step is to determine which piece has the base and which does not. Hold the assembled tree by the base with the "limbs" horizontal and vertical and attempt to move the horizontal set of "limbs". See Photo 4. The piece that moves is the one without the



Photo 4.

base. That is the one you want for the next step.



Photo 5.



Photo 6.

Hold the assembled tree with the base away from you. Position the "branches" on this piece (the one without the base) so that they form a horizontal plane as shown in Photo 5.

Here's the tricky part. Place your index fingers against the tree base between the base and its "branches". Photo 6 shows how to hold the tree. Now, ever so slightly horizon-

tally pull the branches of the piece without the base, the horizontal branches, apart while pushing the tree base away from you, using its tree branches as a lever. Once you



Photo 7.

have started to move the two pieces apart then grip the two pieces as shown in Photo 7 and pull the pieces apart. It may take a bit of a tug but you should not break either piece now.





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LARGE CAPE COD BOXES

MATTHEW HARVAZINSKI

The early HP-8 box for the Cape Cod house was large and contained a cardboard insert that separated the parts. This box rarely has a color stamp on the front circle. Below is an example of a "Blue Stamp". Does anyone have other versions of this with color stamps?

Let me know what color you have and send a photo if you like to:

villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org





INTERESTING CAPE COD VARIATION

CHARLES SWANSON

This is a possible previously unreported Cape Cod color variation. I would describe the normal green trimmed/roofed Cape Cod, as a medium green color. For this variation, the roof comes in the normal medium green, color, but the doors and windows are very dark green or blackish-green in color. Photo 1 shows the mixed color Cape Cod. Photos 2 and 3 show the blackishgreen on top and normal medium green on bottom.

This usual variation was acquired a couple of years ago in a collection of some boxed Canadian Plasticville. This Cape Cod unfortunately did not come with a box, so can't say one way or another, but wondering if it might be Canadian Production.

If any other members have this color variation, would be interesting in hearing from you.



Photo 1



Photo 2

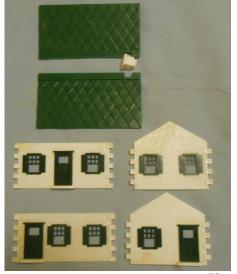
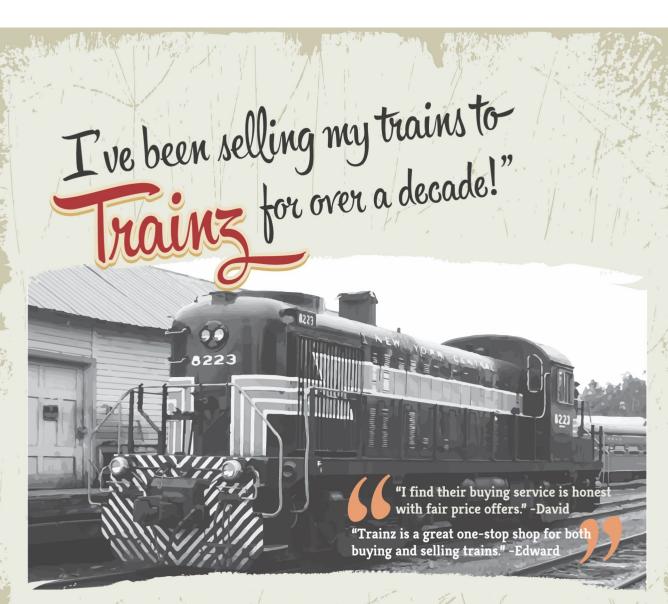


Photo 3







It's taken you decades to build the perfect collection full of rare gems. You've brought model railroading to perfection and your empire is the envy of all who see it.

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JOHN L. NIEHAUS

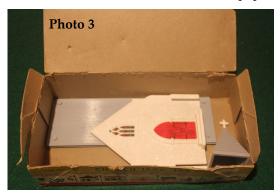
Place the box in front of you with it open and the top folded away from you. Put the faces of the roof sections together and place them in the box, sliding them away from you, photo 1.



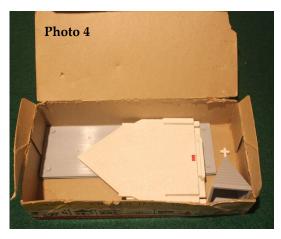
Place the cupola roof into the box with its base to the front of the box, photo 2. The cupola came with the cross attached although many were not glued well and have fallen out over the years.



Place the front wall in the box with its face up, photo 3.



Place the back wall into the box with its face down and so that it is not resting on either of the front wall steps, see photo 4.



Place the two belfry pieces with the V notch in them so that the notches nest with the top of the end walls, see photo 5.









Place the remaining belfry pieces on top of those already in the box, photo 6.



Place the side walls back to back and place them in the box, photo 7.



The photos with this article are my step by step process to get it "back in the box" and most likely not the only method.







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The Villager is looking for new contributors. Contact the editor to find out how to participate and share your knowledge.



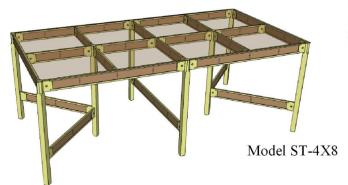
Recently I received a question about which issue a specific article **Did You Know?** appeared in. While I am happy to help, there is also a self-help option. On the PCA website hover over the 'Newsletter' tab then pick 'Article





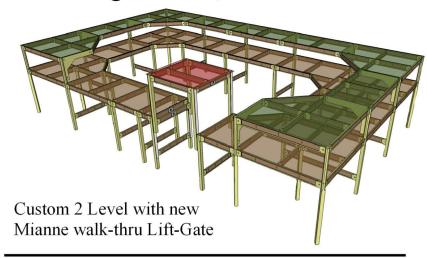
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PRODUCT REVIEWS

JOHN L. NIEHAUS

Solution Minnesota, Jim Angel & Ashley Mantooth, 128 pages, softcover, 6 ½ × 9 format, \$21.99. Published by Arcadia Publishing in their Images of Rail series. As with all books in this series this is a book of heavily captioned photos. It has been some time since I reviewed a book related to the Midwest and this one hit fairly close to home as I live in Central Iowa.

There is the usual acknowledgements and introduction section at the beginning of the book. The introduction is two and a half pages in length. It conveys a good idea as to what a person wanting to operate a locomotive, steam or diesel, had to go through to attain that position back in 1953 as well as an understanding of all the things the engineer and fireman had to keep under control.

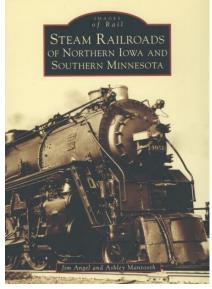
The first chapter not only shows steam engines but the various facilities - coaling towers and water tanks - that were required for their operation. It also has photos of a backhead, and the inside of a firebox. The second chapter is almost entirely photos of various classes of locomotives. It includes some of the Chicago & North Western streamlined steamers used for passenger service.

The third chapter carries the title *Complications of the Midwest Landscape*. It is loaded with photos of locomotives and other equipment stranded in snowdrifts. Two photos show a passenger train stuck in a snowdrift with the snow as high as the windows on the diesel engine and a crew hand shoveling a path through the snow. There are also photos of various maintenance equipment including a steam wrecking crane as well as some train wreck photos. What would a book be without wreck photos?

Have you ever heard of a pontoon bridge for trains? If you have, were you aware that one across the Mississippi river had a swing section to allow river traffic to pass? That is

just one of the many facts one will learn from chapter four. There are photos of the high bridge in Fort Dodge. Numerous photos of stations and other facilities along with train maintenance people various performing tasks fills out this chapter.

The last chapter addresses the coming of diesel engines. It begins with photos of



some preserved steam engines and then continues with photos of various diesel engines and shops. The entire crew or other dignitaries are pictured with some of the diesel engines.

This was a very interesting book. I especially liked the winter snow pictures in chapter three. I hope you will enjoy it as much as I.

Steam Railroads of Northern Iowa and Southern Minnesota is available from the Arcadia Publishing at http://www.arcadiapublishing.com. Their website also notes that most books are available in various E-book formats. I also found the book Amazon and Barnes & Noble's websites.

Afterword: There are nearly 250 editions in Arcadia's Images of Rail series. Let me know if one interests you and I will do my best to write a review for you.

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Then Trains Ruled the Rockies, My Life at the Banff Railway Station, Terry Gainer, 252 pages, softcover, 5 × 7 format, \$22 (Canadian). Published by Rocky Mountain Books. Over 60 color and black & white pages on glossy paper.

I picked this book up based partly on an illustration of a vista dome observation car resting at a railroad station with autos from the late 40's and early 50's.

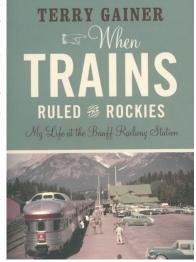
The book begins with the usual Foreword, Preface, Acknowledgments, and Introduction. The story starts with the author's father being transferred by the Canadian Pacific Railway to the Banff Railway Station as the station agent. The living quarters for his family were the upper level of the station. Who of us as a six year old would not have loved his living arrangement? This was the family's first quarters until the family grew.

The first chapter is a brief history of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The author describes various special trains including one that carried the King and Queen of England in the second chapter.

As the author grew in age he was employed by the CPRR. Mostly as a baggage and mail handler. That did not mean that he did not have time for antics in which many a youngster and adolescent would participate. He relates an instance where a film studio came to town and how some

of his preconceived ideas as to how movies were made were a bit dashed. The author details how he and a friend had a favorite fishing hole. The third chapter describes he and his buddies escapades with the ice house, water tower, and Whiskey Creek his aforementioned favorite fishing hole.

This book is a delightful reflection of what it was



like to grow up in a railroad town and in a railroad family. I felt as if I was there with him when he related some of his escapades. It is a very easy read and I feel that you will enjoy it also.

When Trains Ruled the Rockies is available from Rocky Mountain Books at https://rmbooks.com. It is available on Amazon in both softcover and Kindle formats. Barnes & Noble lists it only as a Nook book.

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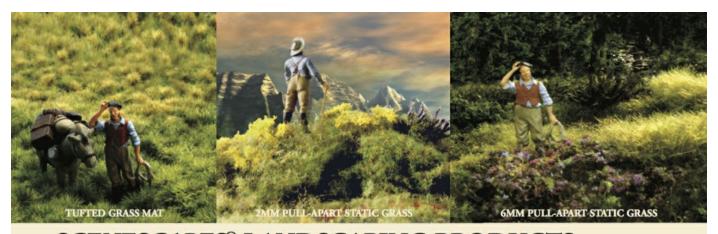
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