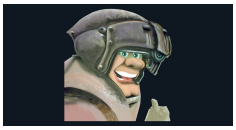


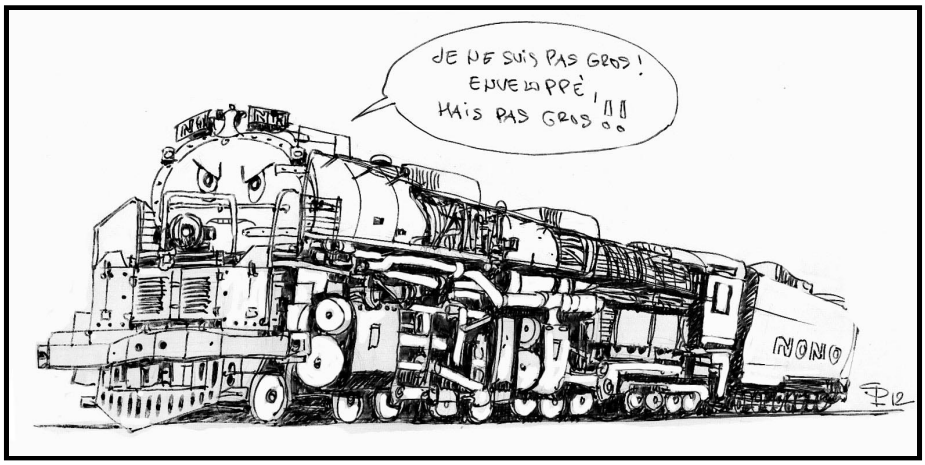
Big-Boy - 1/87 scale

31/10/2012 — Basic techniques

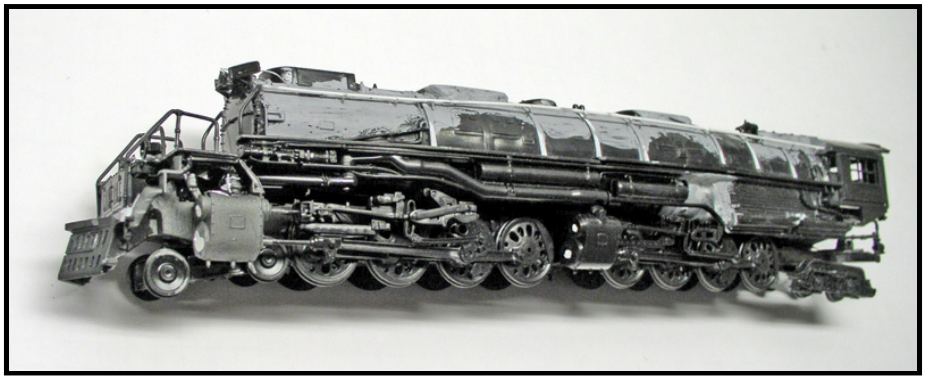
Contents

1. Painting
2. The Setting
3. The train station
4. The figurines

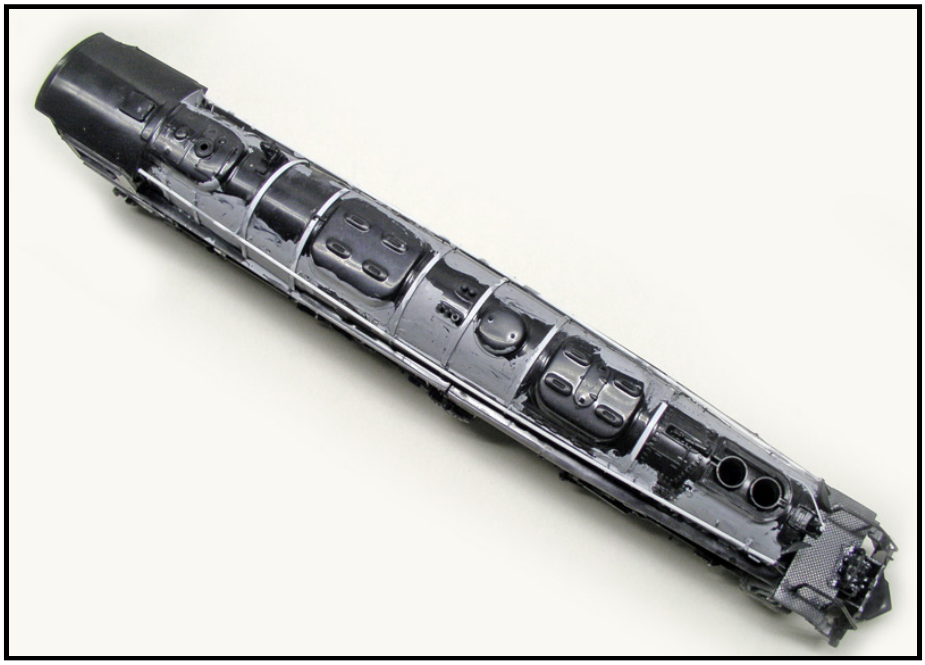
La boîte Revell d'une "Big-Boy" qui figure parmi les plus grosses locomotives construites aux U.S.A. à partir de 1941... La gravure n'étant pas mirifique à cette échelle-là, la première chose a été de poncer certaines pièces comme les arceaux et la tuyauteries...



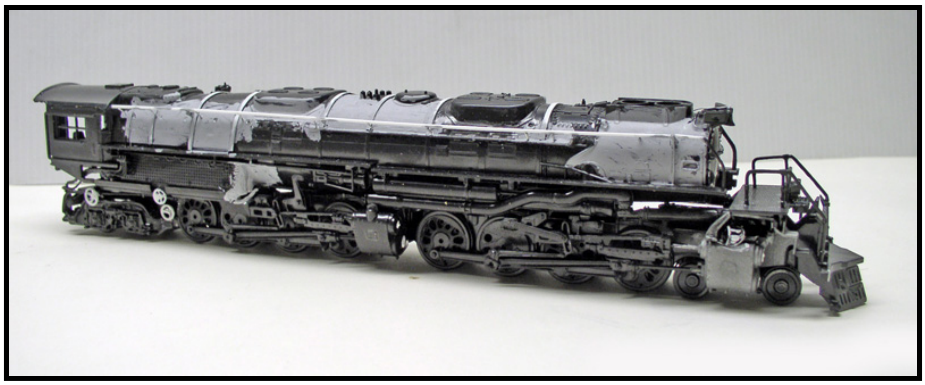
The Revell model kit of a "Big-Boy," one of the largest locomotives built in the U.S. starting in 1941...



Since the engraving wasn't very impressive at that scale, the first thing I did was sand down certain parts, such as the arches and the upper piping, which were engraved directly onto the body...

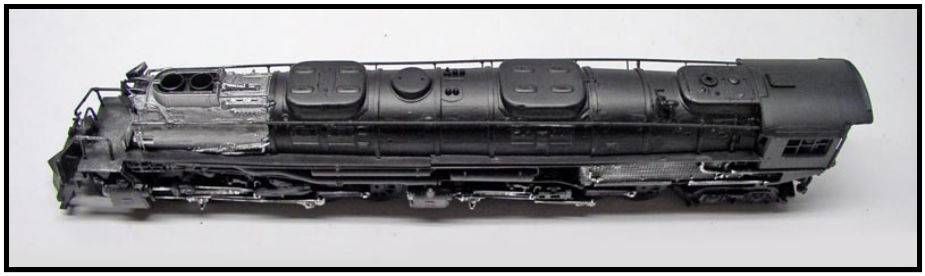


A generous amount of putty is applied after sanding the affected areas...



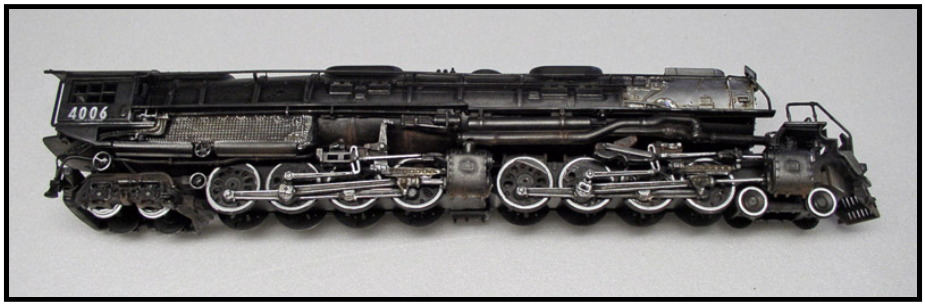
Another view: the steering wheels on the left were taken from the surplus box. Mounting the wheel assemblies on the body isn't easy...

A side view showing the tensioner...

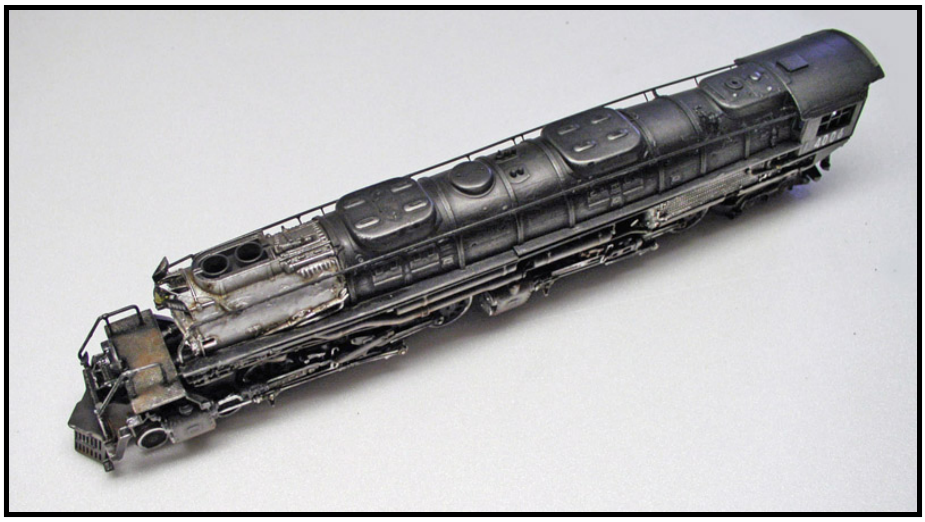


The improvement in the tubing is clearly visible in the photo... It took a lot of patience...

Painting

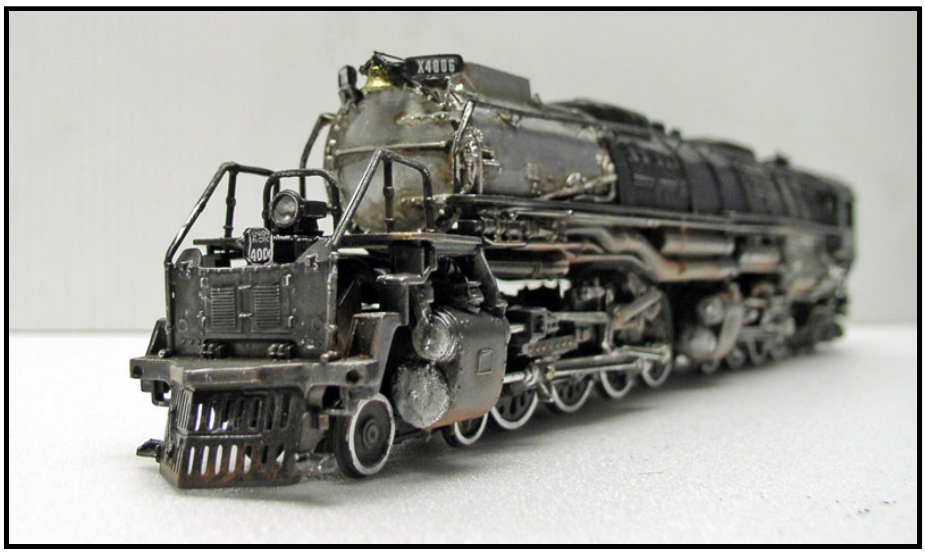


The paint scheme consists of matte black and Humbrol metallic and silver shades...

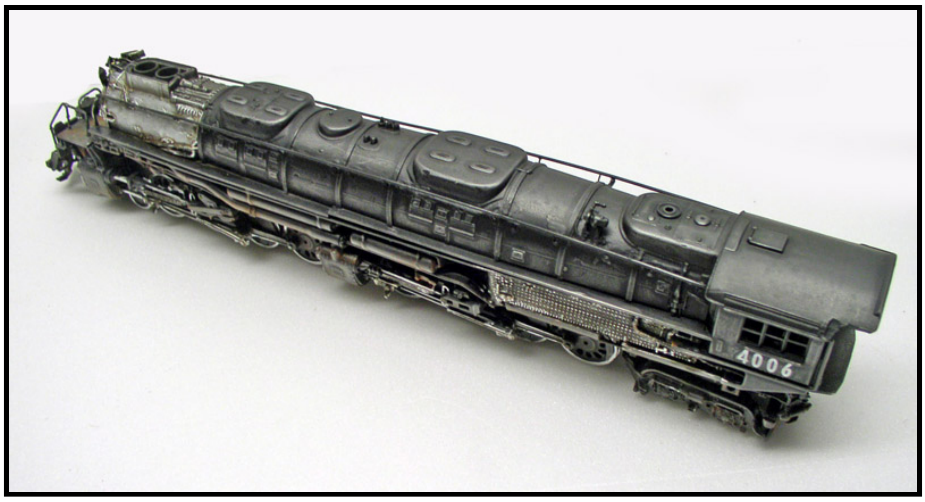


Once dry, the matte black is rubbed with a graphite pencil to create the steel-black finish characteristic of steam engines...

A mixture of Umber and Sienna was then applied to certain areas to simulate wear...

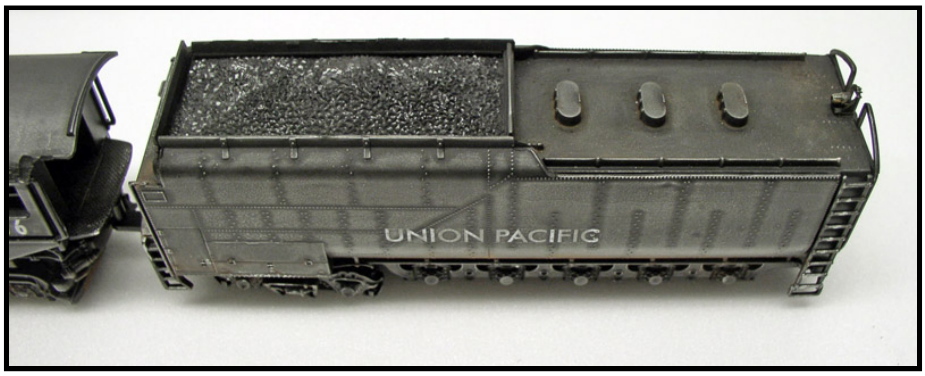


A close-up view. A few parts on the body have been upgraded. The bell is painted brass-colored...



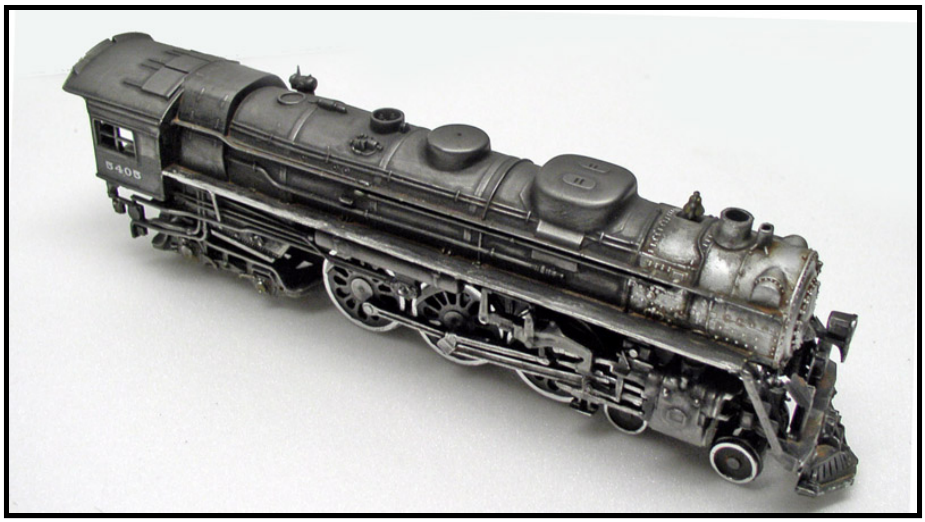
Now that the locomotive has been painted and aged...

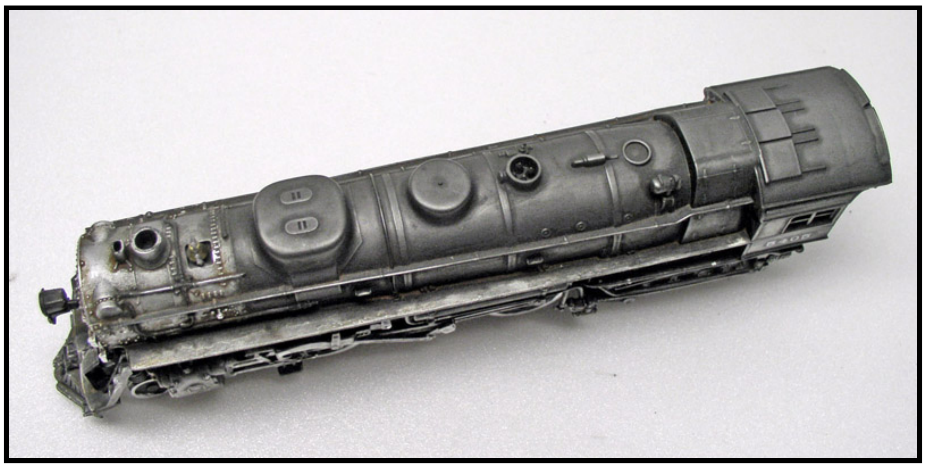
The tensioner is treated the same way as the machine...



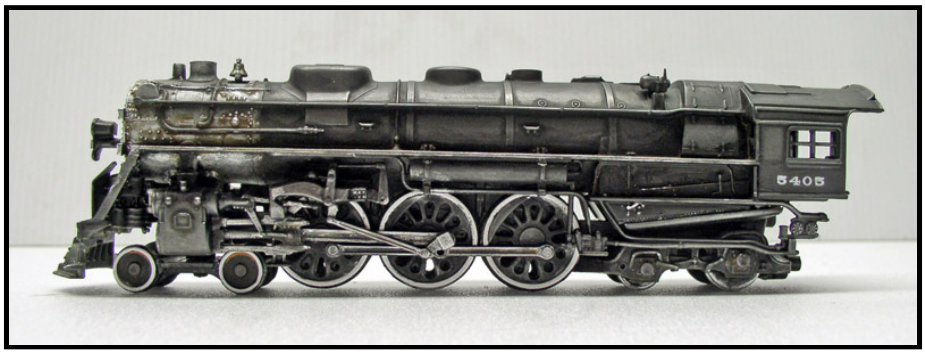
The charcoal was simply coated with a glossy varnish...

The set is finished and ready for the diorama...





Same goes for the Hudson...



...which will complete the diorama...

The locomotive and its tender are finished...

The Athearn "Caboose," sold as a pre-painted kit, has also been weathered...

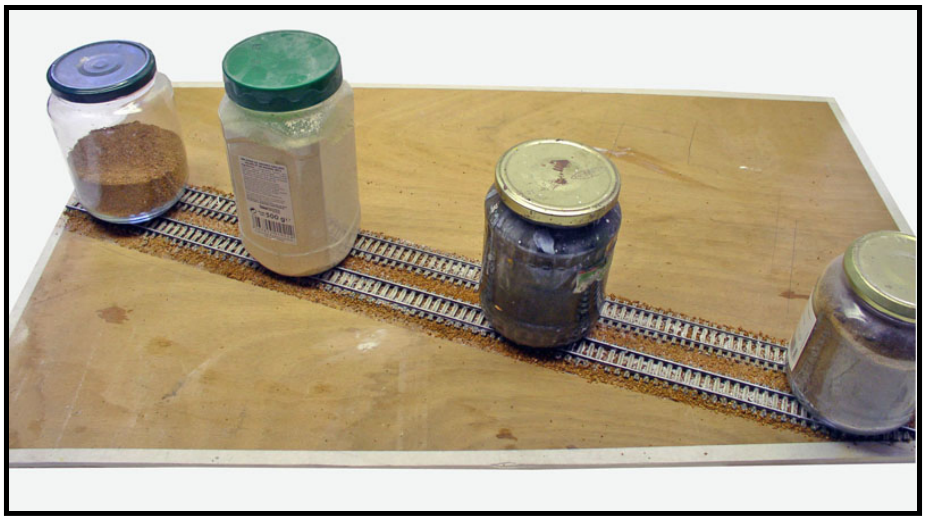
Another view...

The second car, also made by Athearn, is weathered and dusty...

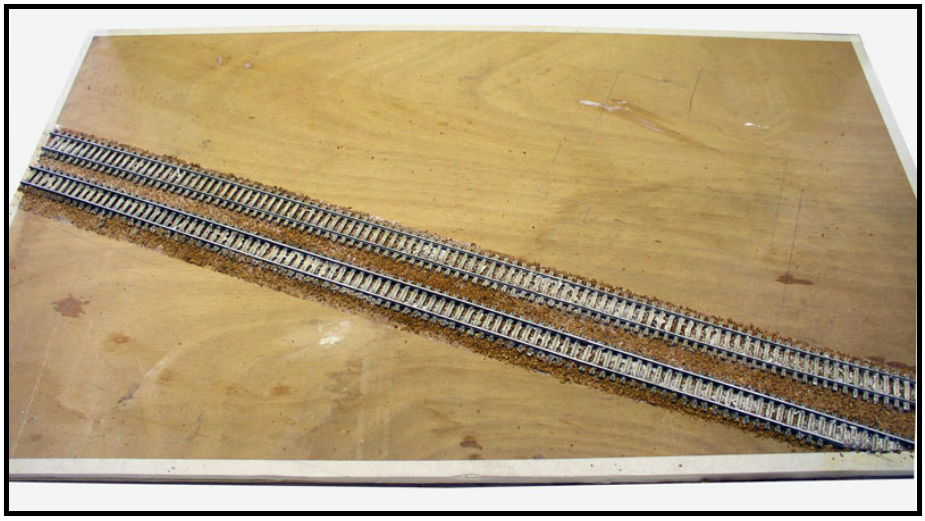
It should be noted that these railcars can operate perfectly well on electric train networks...

The Setting

On a plywood panel, use wood glue to attach two lengths of track used for electric trains and some ballast...



Every effort is made until the material is completely dry and set...



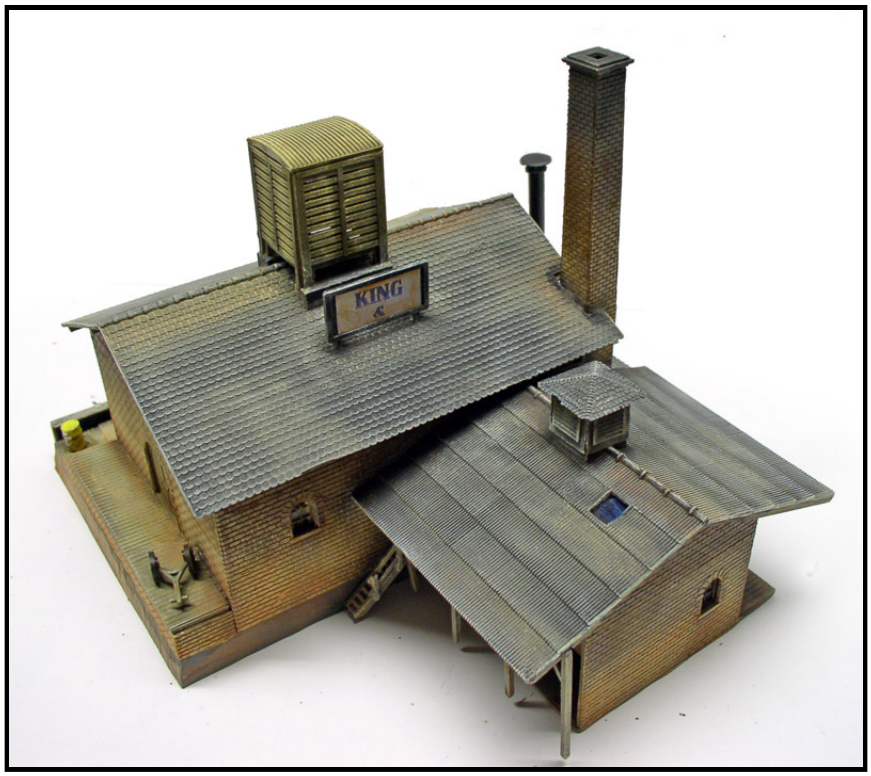
The tracks are ready for the rest of the scenery...

The train station

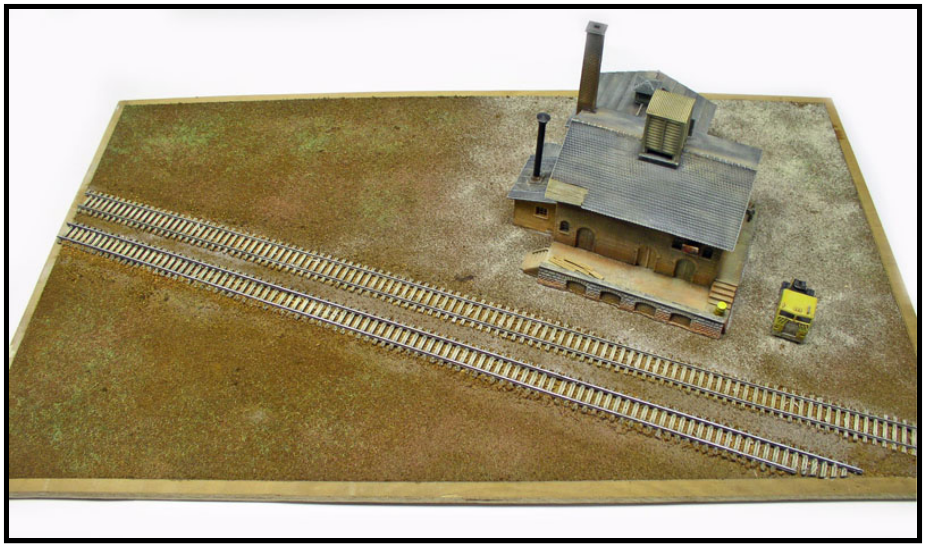
The train station—which is actually a foundry—is a train set prop I bought at a garage sale...

It has been improved, with doors and window panes added...

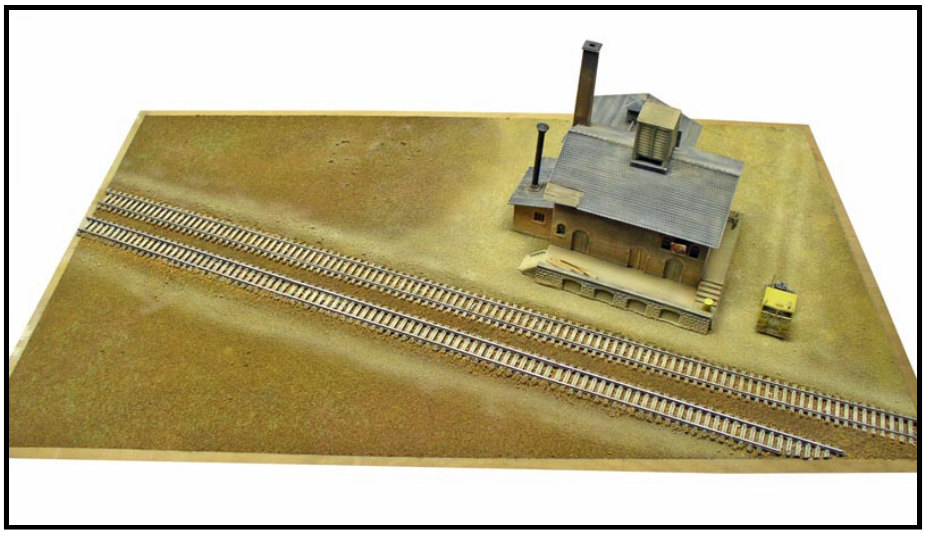
After a beautiful paint job—using Humbrol paints...



... And covered in dust. It's ready to be put away...



The landscape is sprinkled with various types of sand, with the finest sand found around the train station...



Then airbrush the whole thing...

Then airbrush the whole thing...

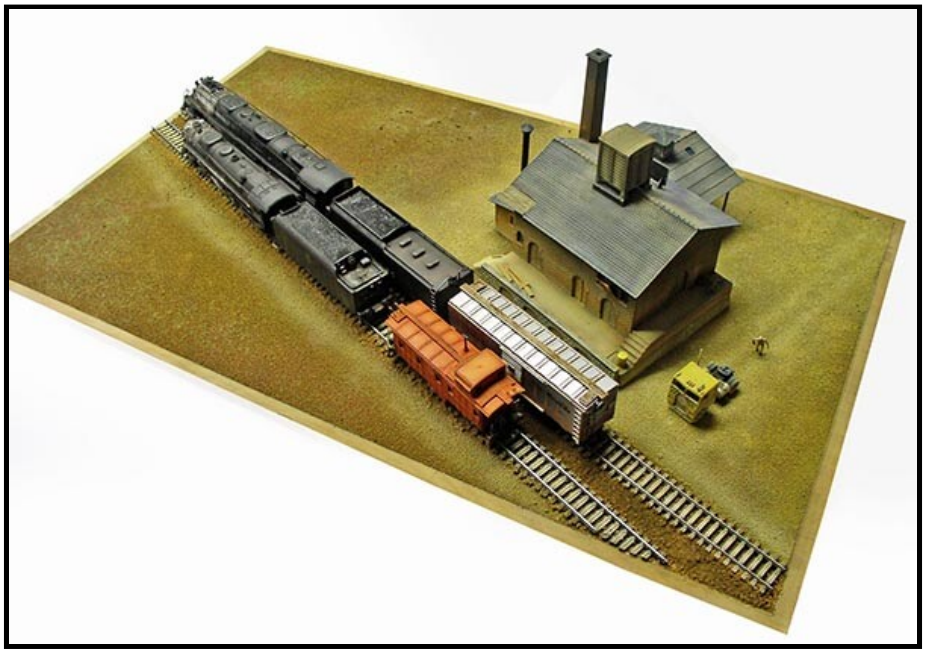
The figurines

An Athearn White truck rounds out the set...

Another view...

Pulling the trains onto the tracks... a tricky moment...

Putting the trains on the tracks... a tricky moment...



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