



The completed O scale cream shed temporarily set in place on timber stumps (dowels). The shed and its steps must be removable for transporting the Capricorn Sugar Rail Museum mini-layout. The On30 Comeng-inspired loco is scratchbuilt from styrene on a Boulder Valley chassis. Photo by Lynn Zelmer.

Build a QR Cream Shed in O Scale

Lynn Zelmer has designed a downloadable/printable kit for a QR building.

There aren't many commercially available O scale models of Queensland buildings, so I've been exploring the use of computer-printed card models. Over the last year I've progressed from assembling free web downloads of generic buildings to designing and building my own Queensland structures.

My first 'scratchbuilt' kit design was for

a two-stall brick toilet, typical of those found behind older shops and commercial buildings in regional Queensland. This was followed by a worker's cottage inspired by one of Jim Fainges' drawings on the CaneSIG web site. I've also explored some of the Queensland prototype models on Jim's 'Ladndad' CD, but many of the structures are too large for my available space.

Cream sheds were once a common sight in Queensland (and other states), but most have disappeared as roads improved, traffic changed and branch lines closed. My most recent kit is based on the Manypeaks cream shed, now restored and part of the Bundaberg Rail Historical Society museum in North Bundaberg. Its recognition factor for older viewers and small size make it a perfect building for use on my Capricorn Sugar Rail Museum exhibition mini-layout.

The design of the cream shed went fairly quickly since I had both photos and rough dimensions of the restored shed. The shed components, including the stud framing, were drawn to scale on the computer and then layered with appropriate 'textures' to represent weathered timber and rusty corrugated iron. These textures were adapted from a Clever Models CD: colours modified and sizes altered for dimension timber, etc. I have almost 20 years experience using Photoshop for image manipulation, but there are many other drawing tools, some of them model railway specific, that could also be used.

The first board-by-board 'build' of the shed didn't get beyond the first wall when I discovered that the almost completely hidden studs didn't show up well enough as the individual boards of the outside sheathing was applied. A quick trip back to the computer to change the intensity of the stud layer and another set of prints was made. One advantage of card modelling is that altering or adding components is as easy, and as inexpensive, as printing another sheet of 210gsm smooth card.

The second build went well. A new scalpel blade cut boards smoothly and quality white wood glue attached components with only a small amount of clean-up required. The walls became a sand-



The Manypeaks cream shed while being restored at by BRHS, North Bundaberg, May 2005. The shed originally sat on squared concrete stumps with their corners chamfered and the guttering fed into a nearby water tank. Here it has a new roof and round stumps; the old paint has all been scraped down for a white undercoat and cream finish paint. Photo by Lynn Zelmer.

Roof trim boards: cut to length with glue flap and apply under roof.

QR Cream Shed (O scale, 1:48) v2 © Lynn Zelmer, Oct 2010; photorealistic textures © Clever Models PLC
Free download for non-commercial use from OldRailHeritage.com/mrqc/

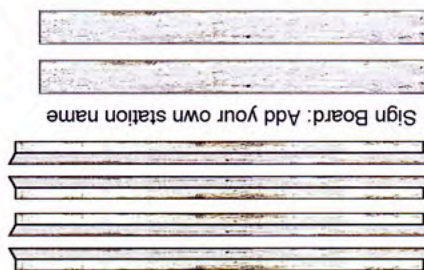


Front & back deck trim

Platform: Cut out with glue flaps as appropriate and form into box shape. Cut exposed timber into individual pieces and apply to deck so that they overhang the facing boards. Properly applied the front and rear walls will sit just over the edge of the decking and still allow the bottom side boards to fit under the decking boards.

Score & fold at top of side board, not outside edge of timber decking

Stumps and stairs also required to suit your site and loading gauge



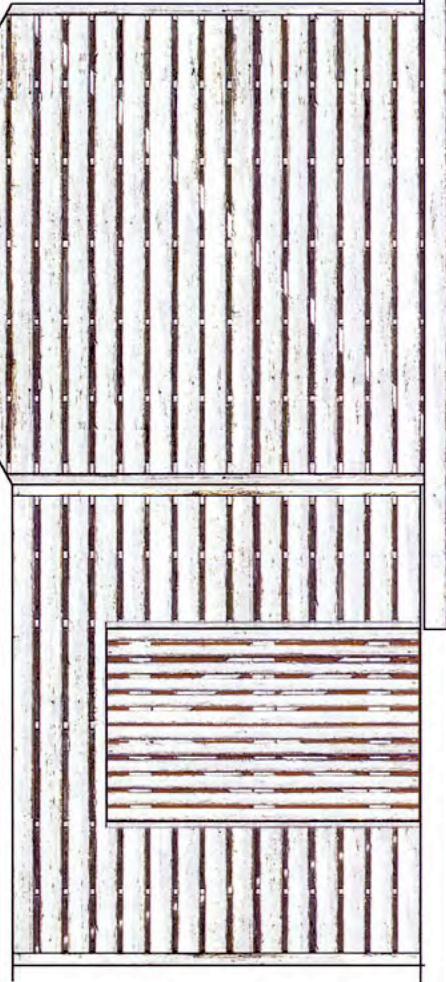
Sign Board: Add your own station name

Print sheet twice to make cream shed with board by board construction. Add glue tabs as appropriate. Cut boards from one wall set and apply to base set. Remove doors from base set & cut into boards to use on doors.

Add glue tabs sides & top of door to fix behind opening in base walls



Lock & hasp (above), door side trim below





The newly restored Manypeaks cream shed, now located at the North Bundaberg Rail Museum, 2007. Photo by Graham Hibberd.

wich of individual boards glued to a base print, backed by a thicker photo mount board for reinforcing. The doors were cut out of the base print and subsequently cut into individual boards. These were glued onto another set of door prints which, with glue tabs on top and sides, were glued behind the open doorway of the base print prior to applying the reinforcing layer.

The roof is two thicknesses of the 210gsm card with the only other reinforcement coming from glue tabs attached to the top of the walls. The roof trim boards were glued to the underside of the roof before fitting to the shed. They are printed lengths of weathered timber with a glue tab along one side and cut to length after installation. The corrugated iron cap was fitted last. While the original cream shed had guttering both front and back, I have omitted this from the model.

The height of the stumps and stairs are site specific in order to place the deck at the correct height for loading. It is probably best to complete most of the site scenery before placing the stumps if you are using printed card, as ink may run from the water- or solvent-based scenery elements. I used stained timber dowels pushed through holes in the scenery from underneath to ensure that the shed sits level and at the correct height. The stump caps are attached to the bottom of the shed and help hide any spaces between the stump and the shed.

Card models must be protected from fading and smearing with a clear spray. A gloss spray might be suitable for a newly painted building, otherwise use a matt spray applied in several light coats.

Designing the kit and assembling the model wasn't a one-evening task, but the finished model is worth the work and using a computer for model building in this way might be a way to involve more younger modellers in the hobby.

Acknowledgements and References

The Ladndad Queensland Buildings CD contains roughly 20 HO, S and O scale rail and domestic structures including a small station, goods sheds and other trackside buildings, houses and shops. It is available direct from Jim Fainges: fainges@ozemail.com.au.

Textures used in the cream shed kit are from Clever Models plc CDs. Their web site also has excellent tips for assembling card models: <http://clevermodels.net/>.

The QR cream shed can be constructed from the version printed in this article (scan or photocopy the drawing if you don't want to damage your magazine) and is also available as a lower resolution free download from the *Modelling the Railways of Queensland* convention web site (<http://qldrailheritage.com/mrqc/>). Other modelling resources can be found on the CaneSIG web site (<http://www.zelmeroz.com/canesig/>).