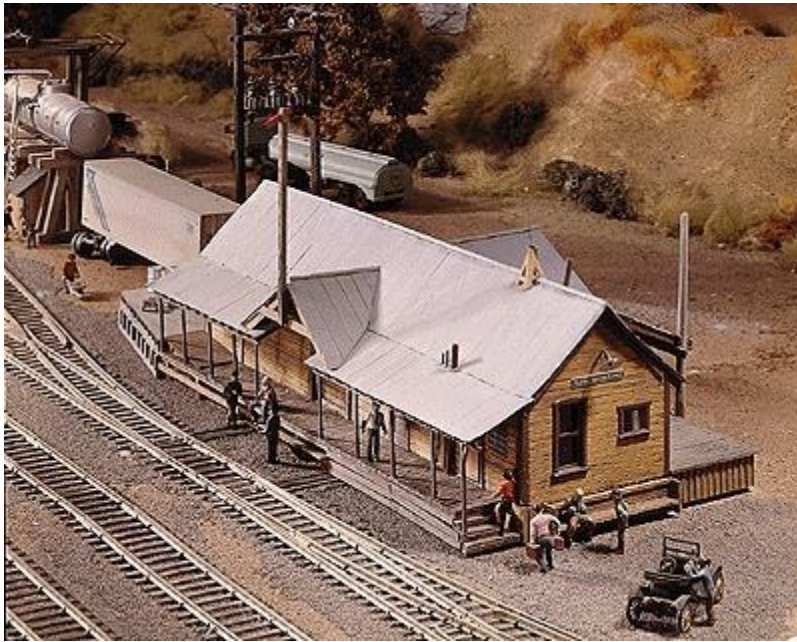


Building Campbell's Quincy Station

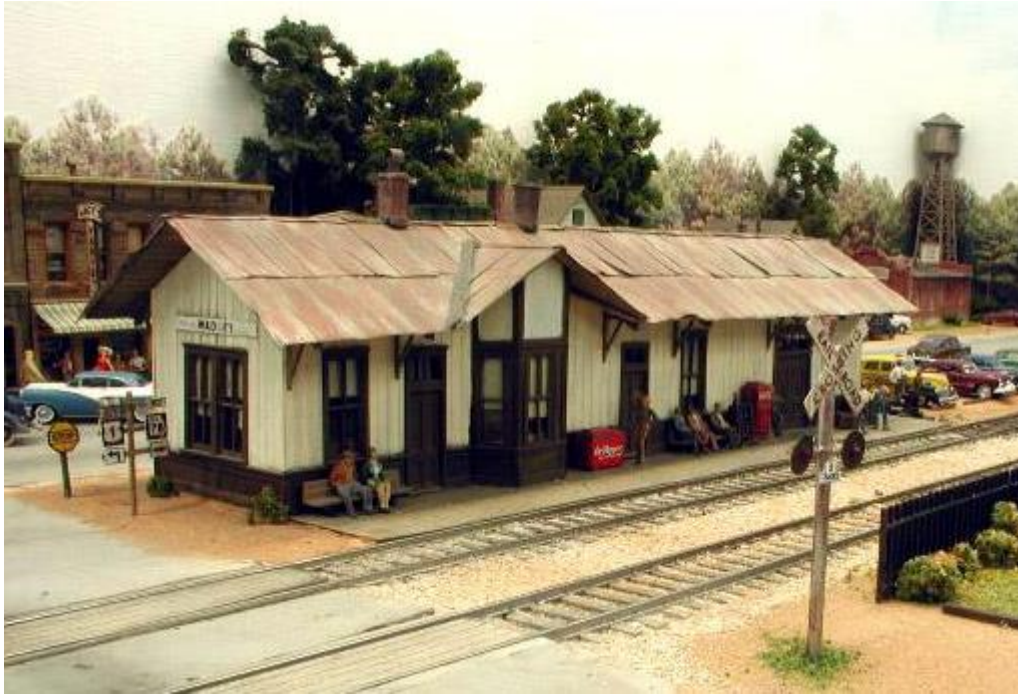


This is the Campbell Scale Models photo of Quincy Station, a kit that I bought a while ago, because the price was right, even though I already had 2 stations completed and another kit unstarted, and so I thought it would be interesting to build one day. Since I had just finished Campbell Cordage Company, I decided to dig my remaining Campbell kit out of the closet. It turned out to be a long slog.

There were no photos that I could find showing different views, or paint jobs, or modifications. Perry sent me a photo of his long-ago completed model.



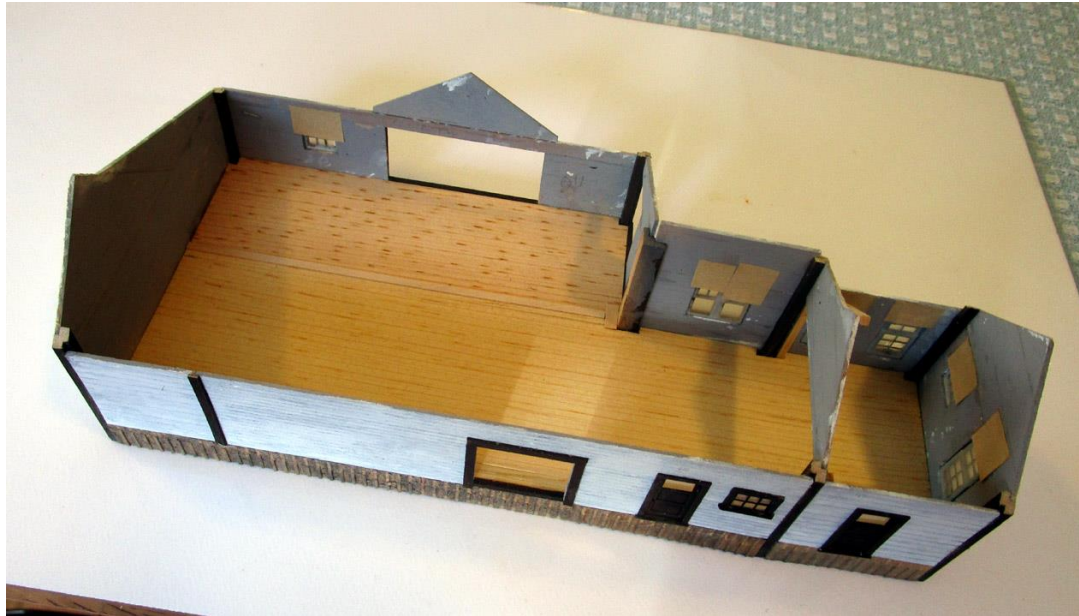
This was an excellent modeling job, but it showed me something I hadn't initially realized about the design—it was the type of station with one very big roof and not much else. The station I had initially envisioned wanting was one that was somewhat more open. Here is one from a modeler who based his layout in rural Georgia:



In any case, Campbells kits are always enjoyable to build, if challenging, as I have explained with the Cordage Company. This one is big, and the walls form more than just a simple box. There were some issues with the complex roof line, which was one of the rare places where the Campbell instructions were somewhat off, but I eventually figured that out.

Materials used were pretty simple: gray Rustoleum primer on both sides of the painted walls, to help prevent humidity causing problems in the future, and then white craft paint on the outside with dark brown trim. Some of the instructions were modified based on my experience that no wooden building like this is ever completely square. For example, instead of gluing up the floor as one piece and inserting it into the walls, I fit each piece in after trimming it, then added the next piece, which was also trimmed to fit. Similar adjustments were made in order to get the points of the roof gables to line up. The inside is not going to be visible unless there is an open freight door. This would have been the time to add lights—but that's a skill I haven't mastered. Almost everything was glued with canopy glue, which not only holds extremely well, but also can let go, if necessary with some prying and twisting, usually without destroying the wood,. It dries to a clear, slightly rubbery consistency which makes this possible. I think I'll buy stock in the company.

Front view: There is not much going on here—big blank on the left side of the front wall, and the whole left building wall is blank.



And back view: I like the tall windows—wish they were in the front also.



The station has several large decks. They were stained with Hunterline “driftwood” which is made in Canada and apparently currently not available due to tight supplies of alcohol. I’ve used many staining agents, including ink and alcohol, shoe dye, alcohol and chalk, paint washes—and I really like the Hunterline stains. There are many colors, which hopefully will soon all be available again.





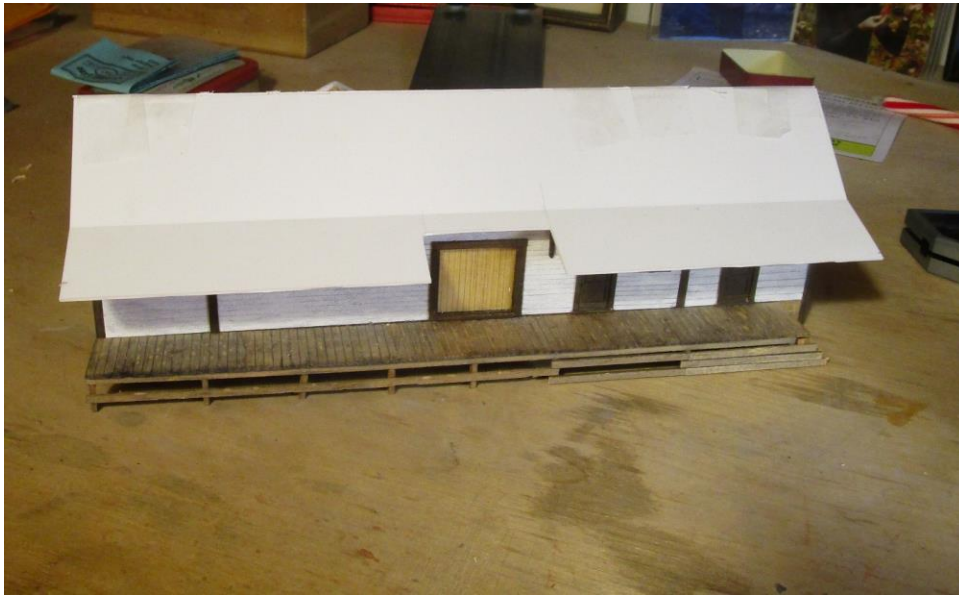
Soon after finishing the decks, it was time to build the roof. The base of the roof is Campbell cardboard, which is heavy and stiff and usually works well on a smaller building (not quite so well on this one). The top layer was Campbell metal, which, when cut and painted appropriately, gives a great imitation of corrugated iron. I've used it successfully on many Campbell buildings, and usually am quite pleased with its appearance. The tin metal comes in long strips which must be cut carefully into 3 foot wide pieces, then glued on one at a time. My big mistake was deviating from my tried-and-true canopy glue—which holds the metal pieces just right, although it is a slow process. My experimental glue material this time was “transfer tape” which is applied like double stick tape—but is more like glue once the paper is peeled off. It allowed me to apply the panels quickly, but it had two problems—the overlaps on each panel not touching the roof were not stuck down, and the glue didn't harden quickly enough so that many of the panels shifted after being put in place. They ended up looking very messy.

The other mistake I made was shortening the front roof overhang, in an attempt to make the roof less dominant and the walls more visible. I hated the way it came out.



This isn't the first time a structure has turned into something that I dislike. It's a sad business. There are several options: 1 give up, stick it in a box somewhere and maybe use part of it for a different building; 2 put in way back on the layout with several large trees blocking the view; 3 try to make one side acceptable. This last option can work with a shelf layout, which I have, as I believe many others have also. The back of a building is really not even necessary if it is invisible. Many times the back can be used for something else—more material to lengthen the front, or extra walls, windows and details for another project. In this case I didn't like the back or the front. So...the roof and all that tin came off.

A new roof was fabricated out of styrene. This time the front overhang was left long, but my intention was to raise it higher than the Campbell design, so that the roof wouldn't be so dominant. I added brackets and lengthened the front posts in order to do this.



I went back to another tried-and-true roofing material—rolled roofing. I make mine out of masking tape, painted gray-black, and cut into 3 foot strips. I liked this roof better and believe I have saved this model from the dungeon or worse.

After getting some weatherproofing down on that big roof, I finished all the rafter tails and other trim.



Finally, I tried to make the roof more interesting with a chimney, some pigeons, and also added various details on the big decks.



On the left side I added a door and window, as well as an additional one on the front.



The details were not provided in the kit, but are pretty easy to collect, and inexpensive—the baggage wagon is from Grant Line, now out of business—Tichy has them, as well as milk cans and other small items. The chairs are from a furniture factory kit, and various other parts like the brackets and pigeons are from BEST and Crow River.



Hope I haven't discouraged anyone from trying a Campbell kit—challenging, but always interesting.