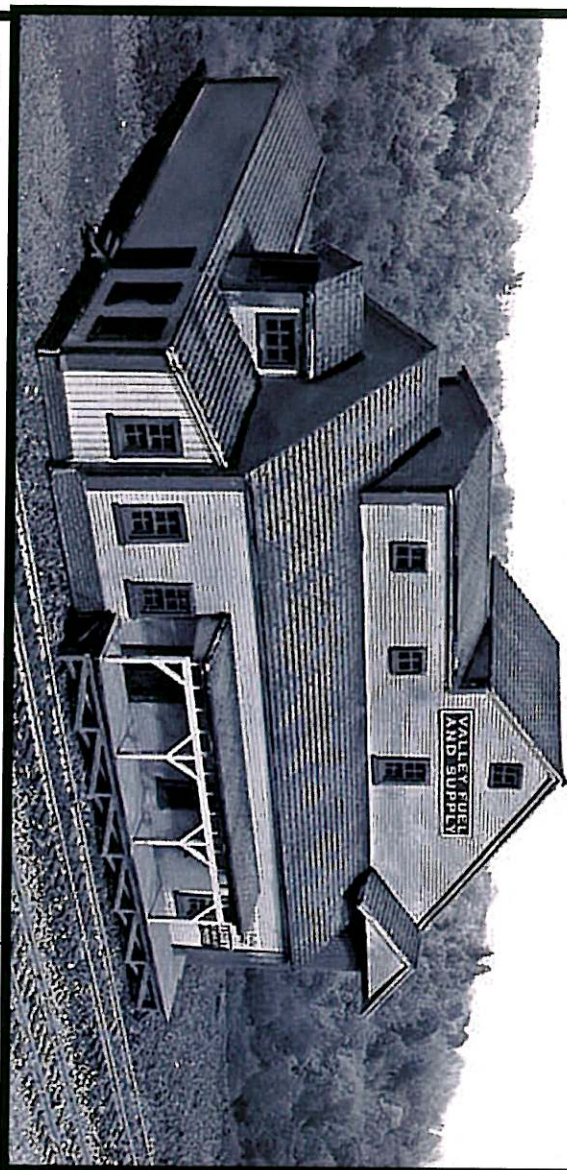


# Valley Fuel & Supply Co.



## LASER-ART STRUCTURES by BRANCHLINE TRAINS

Depending on the look you want from the finished kit you may also want to add some extra texture into the clapboard walls such as nail holes and warped clapboards. Both are easy to do and can add a lot to the finished structure, but should be done before the building is assembled.

To add nail holes to the siding lay the siding on your work surface with the clapboards facing up. Using a pencil mark off a series of parallel vertical lines to represent the studs (you can actually lay the inner wall framing piece over the siding and mark along each stud). Now take a pin or small nail mounted in a pin vice and press the point into the wood to create nail holes along the stud lines putting one or two nails per clapboard. For added interest you can also scribe peeling clapboards simply cut a vertical joint into the clapboard, then take your knife at a shallow angle and run it along the bottom of the clapboards, undercutting the raised board, using the end of your knife peel up the edge.

For a more weathered appearance the walls can be stained with a light gray stain (driftwood or similar) and then dry-brushed (painting with very little paint on the brush) along the grain. This will create a peeling paint effect.

We have included some printed paper signs. These can be glued into place prior to weathering to give them a weather beaten look, or added afterwards to represent newer signs.

### Kit basics:

Our kit consists of laser-cut wood components. Many of the parts are backed with a peel and stick coating to ease assembly. Assembly is not difficult, but being such an ornate house be prepared to spend a little time on the house.

You will need a few basic tools and supplies to build the kit. A sharp hobby knife and white glue are all that is required for most of the assembly. Some modelers might find a single-edged razor blade helpful.

Components are held on the larger sheets with small tabs. Use a sharp knife or razor to remove the parts by cutting through the tabs. We recommend that you remove the parts as you use them. It's easier to keep track of them this way....

We use white glue (Elmer's or similar) for the wood-to-wood joints. Yellow carpenter's wood glue or ACC ("super glue") can also be used. It can be helpful to use bits of masking tape to hold corners together while the glue dries.

The peel and stick adhesive allows the part locations to be adjusted slightly when first applied, but will set up to a permanent bond in a few hours.

### Painting and weathering tips:

We find it easier to paint many of the parts before or during assembly. If you choose to use water-based paints please be sure to paint both sides of the wood siding to minimize warping. Don't panic if the wood warps while the paint is still wet, in most cases it will straighten out after the paint dries.

