



# HO Structure Kit TRACKSIDE POST OFFICE 933-4063

Thanks for purchasing this Cornerstone® kit. All parts are styrene plastic so use compatible glue and paint to complete your model. Please read the drawings and study the drawings before starting.

Although railroads are believed to have begun handling small amounts of mail as early as 1831, their many advantages over stagecoaches led the Post Office to designate all existing rail lines as suitable mail routes by 1838. As the service expanded and improved into the early 20th century, a new problem emerged in January of 1913 with the introduction of Parcel Post. Some four million packages were moved in its first five days of operation and the incredible volume quickly created difficult working conditions for railway mail clerks in cramped cars as well as existing post offices. To more efficiently handle the traffic, dedicated facilities known as Terminal Railway Post Offices were built in about 100 major US cities close to or as part of the main passenger station and staffed by Railway Mail Service employees. Some also incorporated a city Post Office, operating as a separate facility to receive and distribute local mail. While the street side of the building loaded and unloaded trucks, trackside operations were coordinated so that cars were spotted, loaded and moved with arrival and departure times. While much of this traffic moved in Railway Post Office cars, bulk mail such as magazines or storage mail in pouches moving between cities and not sorted en route were loaded in baggage cars, express reefers and express boxcars equipped for high-speed passenger service. As the Post Office began relying more on trucks and airplanes, and developed newer and faster ways to sort mail, trackside terminal offices were gradually retired, with the last closing in the 1960s, although some are still serving other owners today. A great addition to your city scene, your new model will be right at home close to the main passenger station, train shed and other support facilities. For additional ideas to detail your model see your local hobby shop, check out the latest Walthers Reference Book, or visit us online at [walthers.com](http://walthers.com).

## WINDOWS & DOORS

Front Wall (7); Triple Windows (4x 20) and Triple Glass (4x 21) on upper stories; Single Windows (3x 22) and Single Glass (3x 23), Entry Door (18) and Door Glass (19).

Rear Wall (9); Double Windows (2x 24) and Double Glass (2x 25); Single Windows (3x 22) and Single Glass (3x 23), Entry Door (18) and Door Glass (19)

Side Walls: NOTE: Left and Right Side Walls (8) are identical and parts for both truck and rail car loading doors are included; you can also enclose two of these openings with the optional Large Brick Inserts (2x 11) if desired.

Upper Floors: glue Double Windows (#24, 16 per side) and Double Glass (#25, 16 per side) as shown.

Street Side/Truck Dock: glue Truck Door Inserts (4x 26) to openings along ground floor.

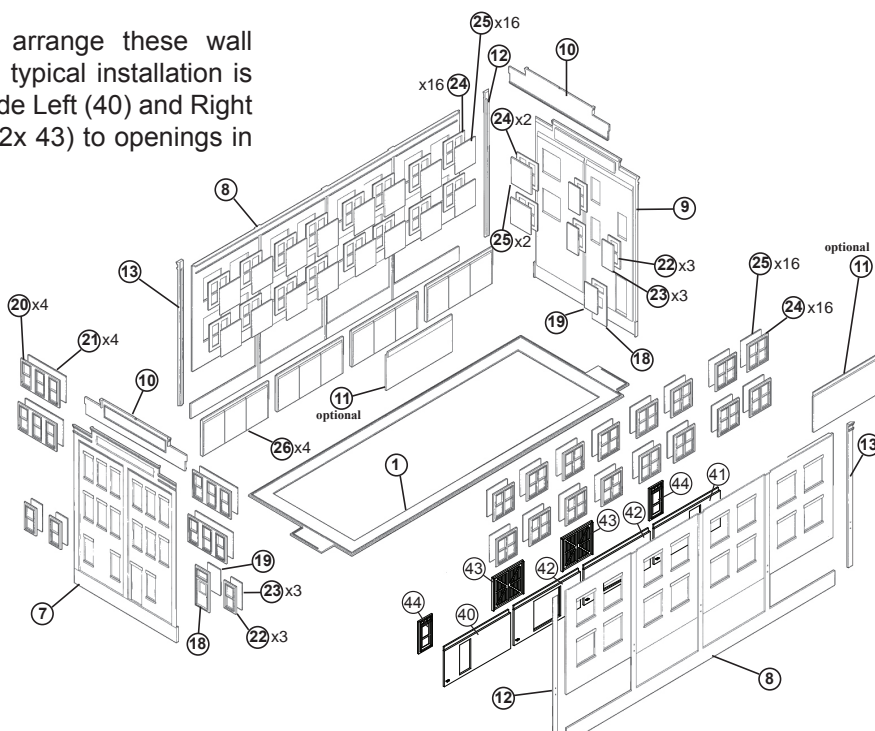
Trackside/Rail Car Dock: NOTE: You can arrange these wall sections along the ground floor as desired; a typical installation is shown. Glue Personnel Doors (2x 44) to Outside Left (40) and Right (41) Wall Inserts. Glue Rail Car Dock Doors (2x 43) to openings in Dock Wall Inserts (2x 42).

## MAIN ASSEMBLY

1) Glue Upper Wall Facade (10) to rear and Wall Caps (15, 16, 17) to top of Front (7) and Rear Wall (9).

2) Glue Right (2x 12) and Left (2x 13) Corner Pilasters to ends of both Side Walls (8) as shown.

3) Using raised ridges on Base (1) to help align parts, glue completed wall assemblies (7, 2x 8, 9) to base and at inside corners where parts meet.



4) Glue Vents (4x 30) to the tops of Skylights (4x 29). Glue completed Skylights to openings in Roof (27). Roof may be set on raised ridges inside walls to add lights or interior details (sold separately), or glued in place as desired.

5) Entry Stairways - make two: glue Hand Rails (3, 4) to outside edges of Steps (2) as shown. Glue completed Steps to raised ridge on Base and on front and rear End Walls where parts meet.

#### Truck Dock:

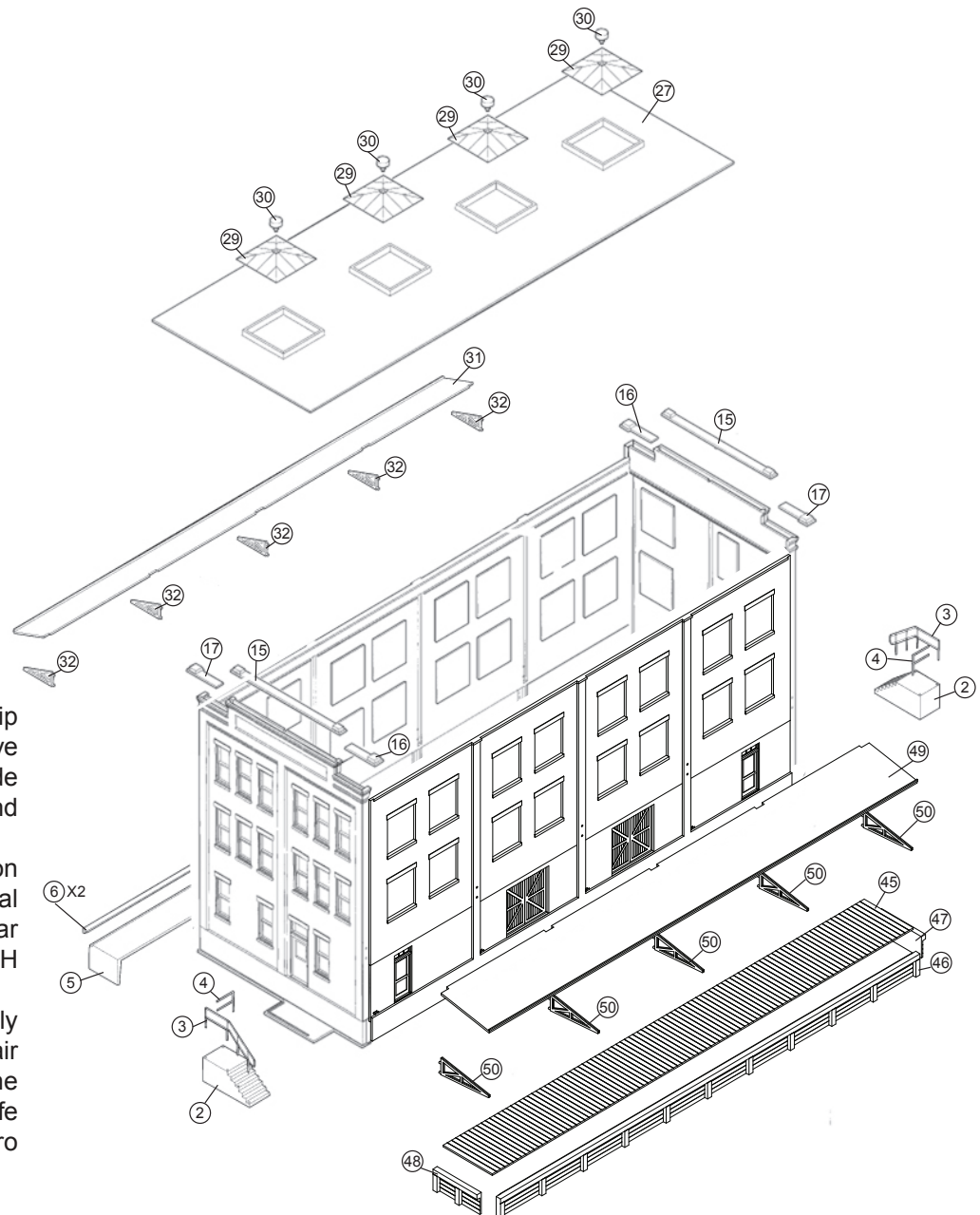
6) Glue Roof Brackets (5x 32) into holes in Side Wall. Glue Truck Dock Roof (31) to top of each bracket and Side Wall where parts meet.

7) Glue Dock Bumpers (2x 6) to Front of Truck Dock Platform (5); make sure the completed platform is below the doors, and glue to Side Wall.

#### Railcar Dock:

6) Glue Long Roof Brackets (5x 50) into holes in Side Wall. Glue Rail Car Dock Roof (49) to top of each bracket and Side Wall where parts meet.

7) Using ridges on underside of Floor (45) to align parts, glue Track Dock Front (46), Left (48), and Right (47) Walls where parts meet. Make sure the completed platform is below the doors, and glue to Side Wall.



## DECALING

1. After cutting out the decal, dip in water for 10 seconds, remove and let stand for 1 minute. Slide decal onto surface, position and then blot off any excess water.

2. Lightly brush Micro Sol® on top. This will soften the decal allowing it to conform to irregular surfaces. DO NOT TOUCH DECAL while wet!

3. When the decal is thoroughly dry, check for any trapped air bubbles. Prick them with the point of a small pin or hobby knife blade and apply more Micro Sol®.