Arnold S.: A 1:24-scale yard tug
Part 2: The deckhouse

by Ted Stinson | Wiscasset, Maine

Refer to the plans. Make a photocopy of all of the parts. Temporarily rubber cement these drawings to 1/8"-thick balsa and cut out the parts.

Assemble the plans first. Use a T-square to be sure that the walls are square with the ends. Now assemble the pilothouse. Glue C3, C4, C5, and C6 together according to the plans. Use this assembly with 1/8" sheet balsa.

Using the paper pattern, cut the windows in the pilothouse. Don't glue the pilothouse roof in place at this time. Glue the pilothouse to the cabin. Fit the deckhouse to the hull, sanding the bottom edge a little at a time until it fits flush on the deck.

Now glue the deckhouse two coats of clear lacquer, sanding lightly between coats. Cut and glue the cardstock doors in place. Add the 3/4"-square and 1/2"x1/2" stripwood strips to the deckhouse. The deckhouse can now be painted. Recommended colors are as follows:

- Cabin door—black
- Searchlight, horn, and propeller—brass
- Sidewall and pilothouse—white
- Lifeboat interior—natural

As a final touch, the nameboards can be cut from the plans, glued to a piece of strip wood, lacquered, and glued in place. If you intend to operate the model, motor, batteries, and radio control can be added at this time.

This sheet is a supplement to the October 2003 issue of Garden Railways magazine. While supplies last, extra copies of these drawings can be had by sending $1.00 per set (including shipping) to Sidetread Enterprises, 4000 Aspen Drive, Denver, CO 80210, USA. A complete list of available plans can be found at www.sidetread.com. You may also send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the above address.

Northeast Narrow Gauge offers a kit for this tugboat (P3143) for $109.74. Also available is a power package (P3143P), which includes motor, belt drive, and running hardware for $39. The company can also supply K/C servo, speed controllers, additional servos, etc. Order from Northeast Narrow Gauge, PO Box 149, Wiscasset, ME 04578. Web site: www.nnnrail.com

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Are you working in a different scale?

If you are working in 1:32 scale, reduce these drawings to 75%.

If you are working in 1:20 scale, reduce these drawings to 62.5%.

If you are working in 1:20.5 scale*, enlarge these drawings to 112.8%.

If you are working in 1:22.5 scale*, enlarge these drawings to 120.5%.

If you are working in 1:38.7 (1/8") scale, enlarge these drawings to 175.1%.

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pilothouse window pattern
Cut out and tape to pilothouse after applying 3/16" sheathing. Mark and cut windows from the sheathing using this pattern as a guide.