Build a 1:22.5-scale SR&RL caboose

by Ted Stinson | Wiscasset, Maine



his is a modified, 1:22.5 scale, SR&RL caboose. It closely follows the lines of the N° 556 SR&RL caboose. However, the model has been widened so that it looks correct when operating on gauge-1 track. (It looks even better when operated on 0-gauge track.)

Construction

Begin construction with the frame. Cut a piece of $\frac{1}{4}$ " ply that is $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x $12\frac{1}{16}$ ". On what will become the bottom side, add the stripwood framing, per the drawing. Drill holes for the truss rods, which are made from $\frac{1}{6}$ " dia. rod. Finally, cut, fit, and glue the end beams in place. Make the steps from $\frac{1}{6}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ " stripwood and heavy cardstock. The cardstock can be sealed with thin CA glue. The handrails and brake wheel can be added later.

Now make the car body substructure. The sides and ends can most easily be cut from $k'' \ge 4''$ balsa. Assemble the substructure with the ends inside the sides. Add a couple of roof beams inside the body walls to help maintain correct width. Make the doors and windows. Check that they fit but do not glue them in place yet. The substructure should fit snugly over the previously-assembled frame.

When the substructure is assembled to your satisfaction, surface the exterior with the 1/16" stripwood fascia and scribed wood shown on the drawings. Begin by adding the 1/16" x 7/16" fascia on the sides. Now surface the ends and sides with 1/32" thick x 1/8" spaced, scribed wood. Cut the openings for the doors and windows at this time. Fit and glue the windows in place, flush with the interior wall. Add the 1/16" x 3/16" stripwood at the sides and top of each window. Fit and glue ¹/₁₆" x ³/₁₆" stripwood in the baggage door openings (see the plan). The baggage doors are glued to the back of this stripwood surround. Do not add the clear plastic glazing until after the car has been painted. The end doors are treated like the windows and should be glued flush with the interior wall. Glue 1/16" x 1/8" stripwood around the opening. Add the roof using 1/16" sheet.

Now make the cupola using layers of ¹/₁₆"thick sheet balsa. Fit and glue the cupola in place. Add the roof to the cupola. Add the ¹/₁₆" strip under the side windows of the cupola.

At this point, seal the car body with clear laquer, sanded lightly after it dries. Using Krylon spray-can Red Primer, apply two light coats of paint. Allow to dry 48 hours before handling. The bottom of the car can be brush painted flat black.

All details added from this point should be prepainted before gluing in place. Begin with the roof walk, then add metal parts such as the grab irons. Finally, add the ladders. These are glued to the roof end and just rest on the rail. Add lettering of your choice, then trucks and couplers.

Next time, I will cover the interior and underbody details.

This is an online supplement to the December 2009 issue of *Garden Railways* magazine. To purchase previously published paper plans, see the list of those available at <u>www.sidestreet.info</u>

A kit for the SR&RL caboose is available from Northeast Narrow Gauge for \$60, less trucks and couplers + \$6 s&h (via priority mail to the US). Order from Northeast Narrow Gauge, PO Box 191, Wiscasset ME 04578. Web site: <u>www.nemodel.com</u>

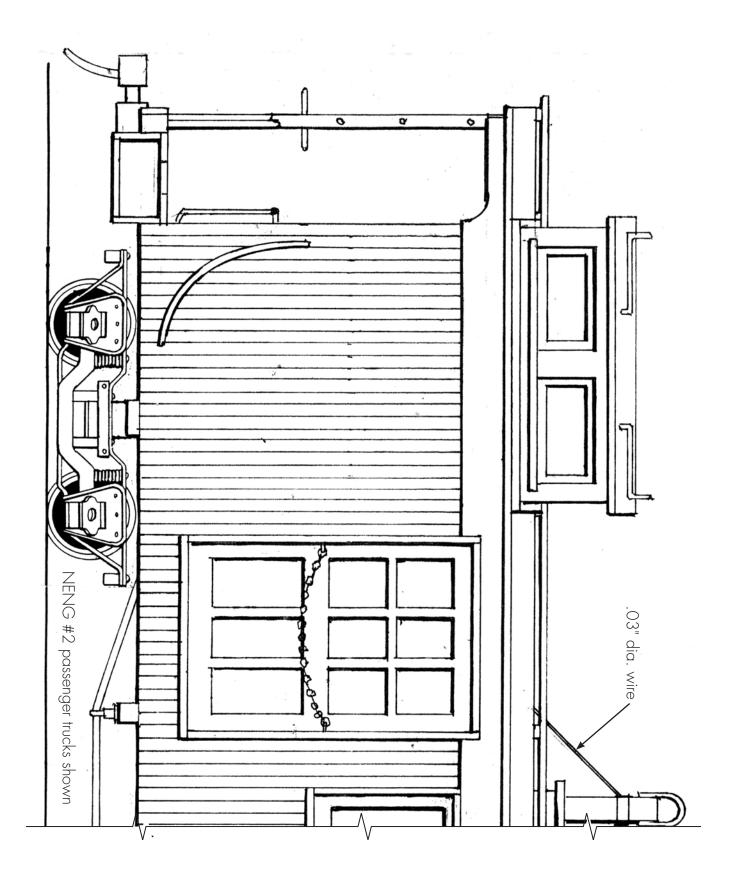
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Are you working in a different scale?

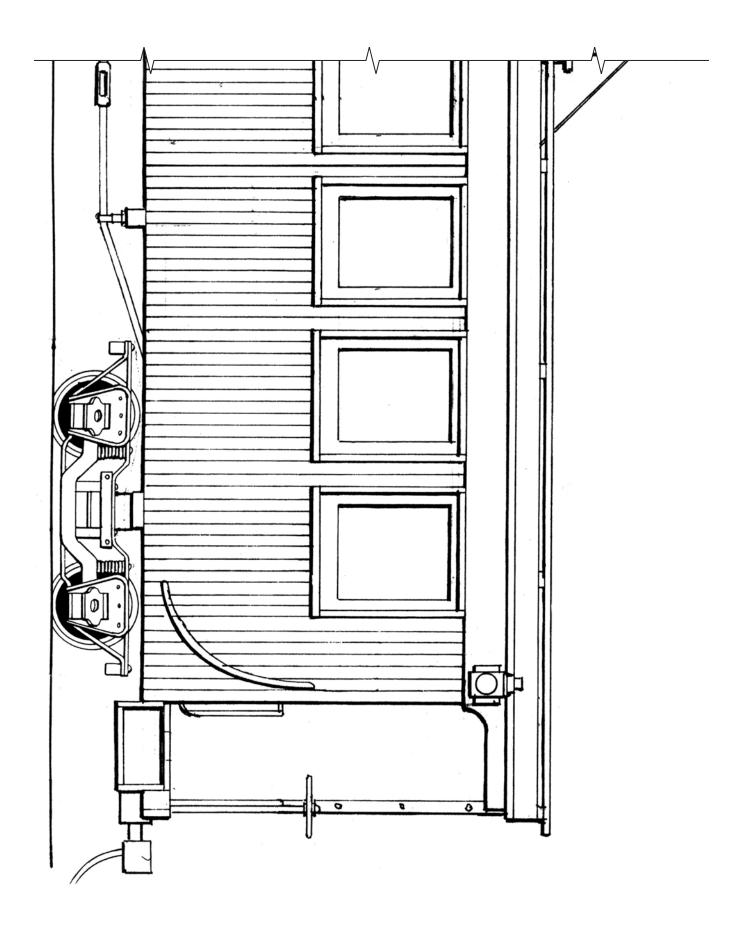
If you are working in 1:24 scale, reduce these drawings to 94%. If you are working in 1:20.3 scale, enlarge these drawings to 111%. If you are working in 16mm scale (1:19), enlarge these drawings to 118%. If you are working in %" scale (1:13.7) enlarge these drawings to 164%.



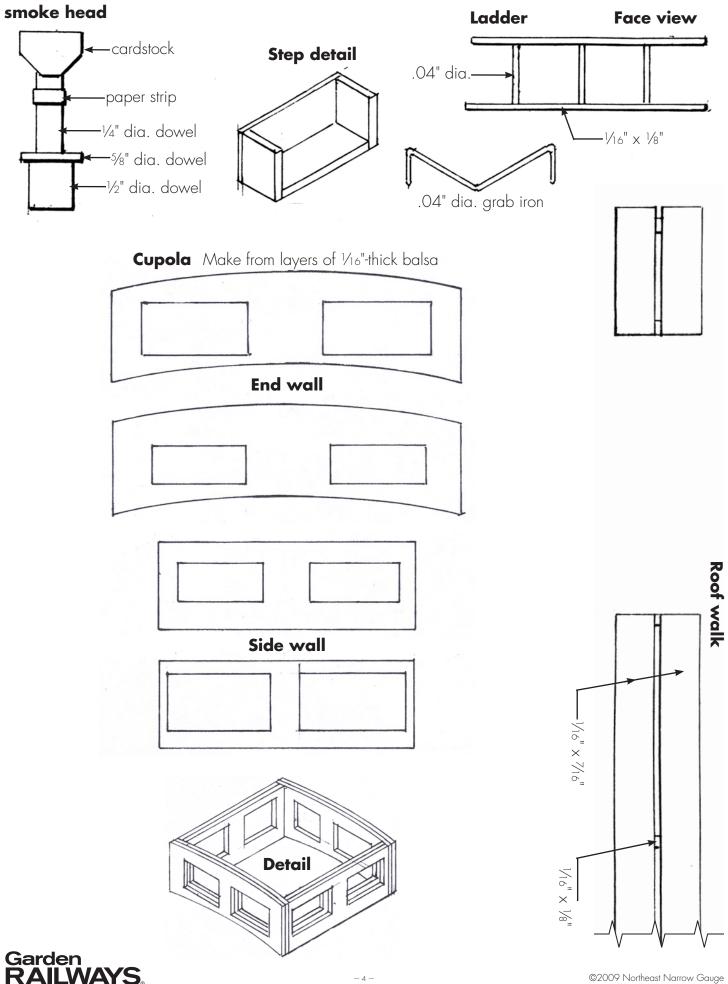
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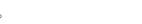


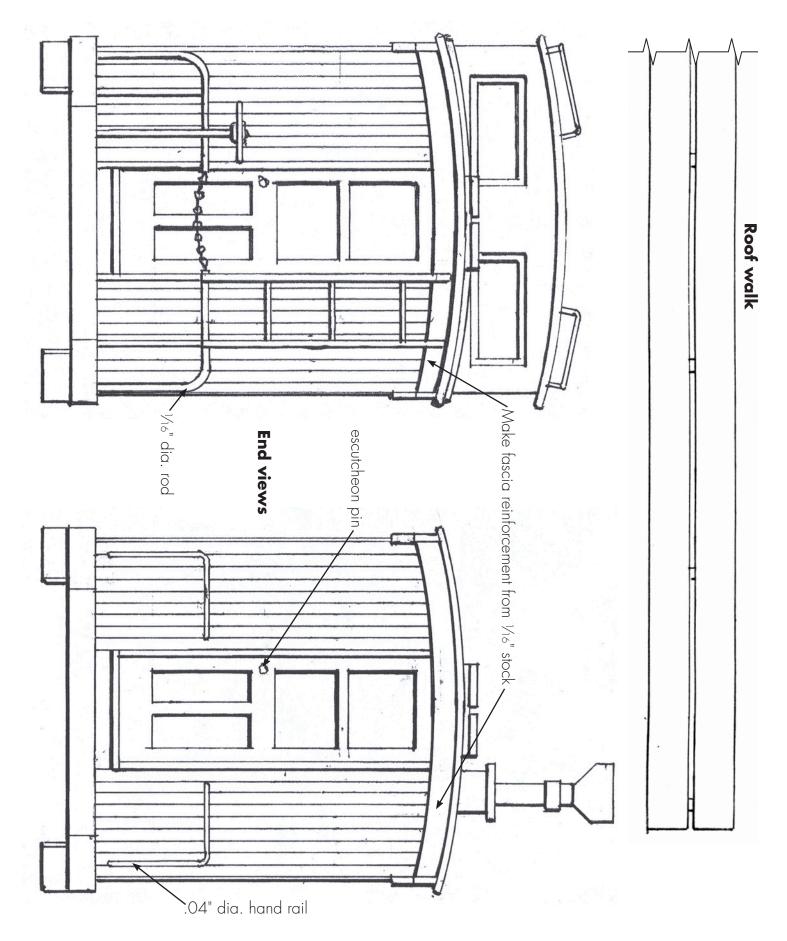






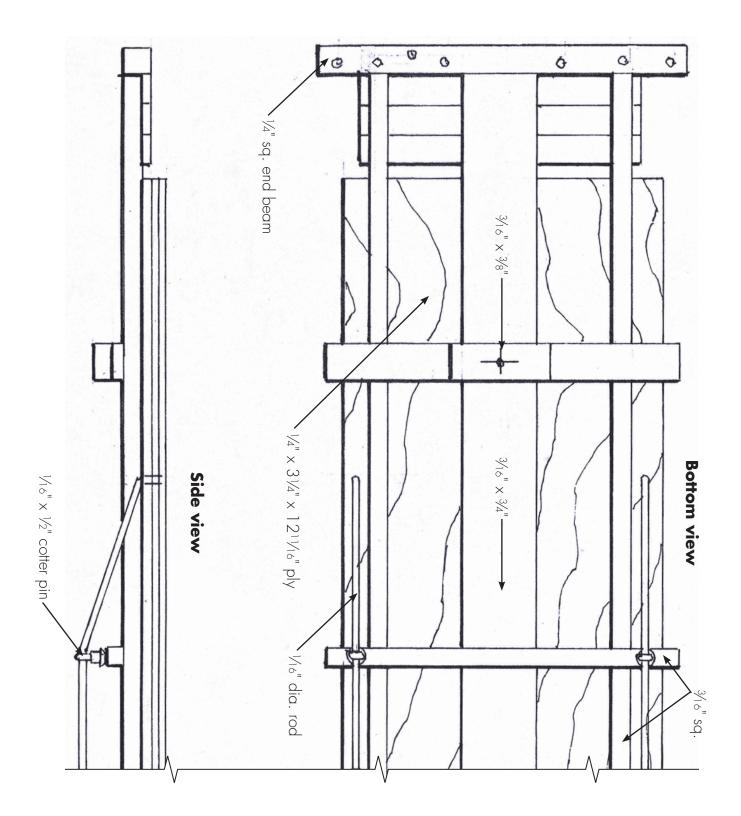




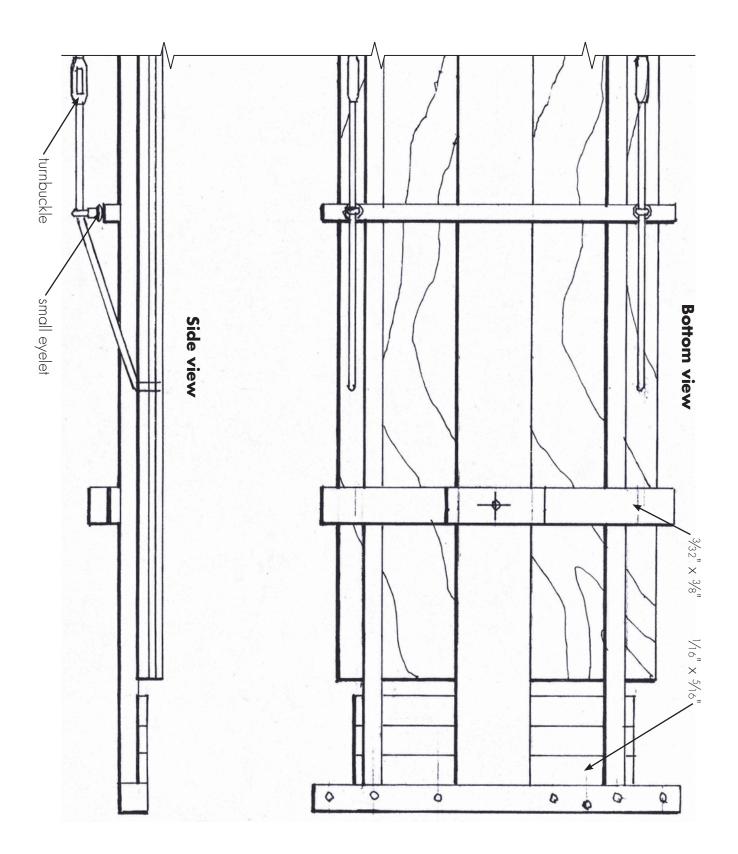




Frame

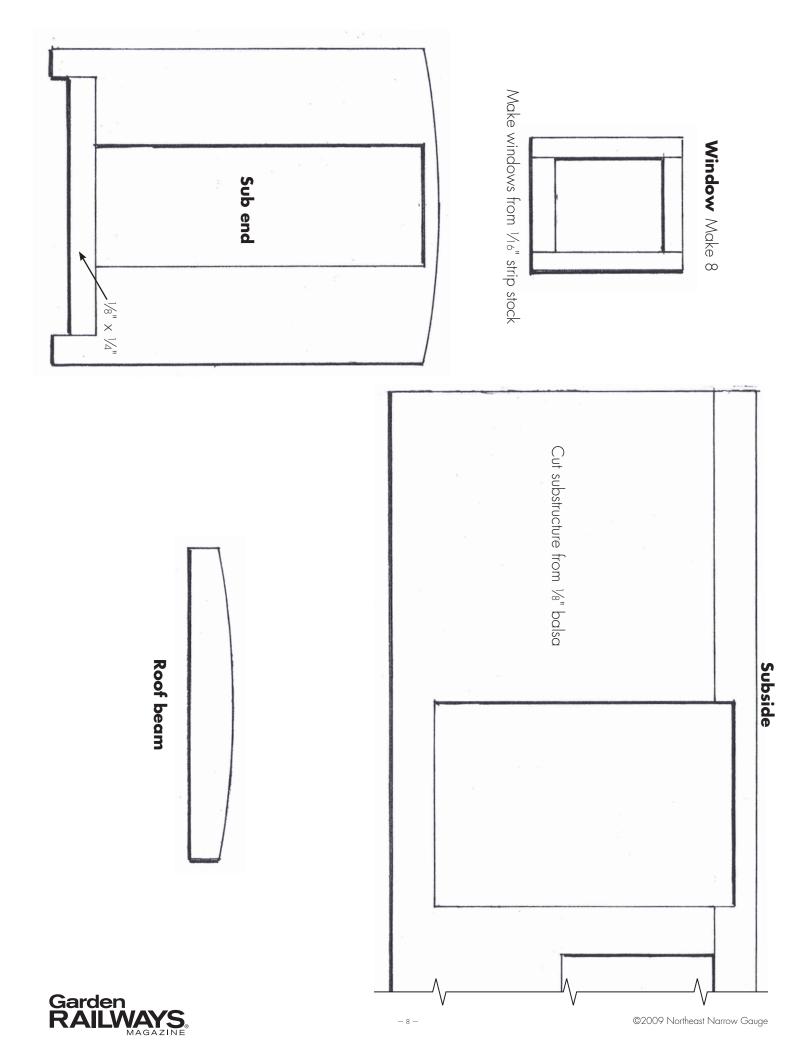


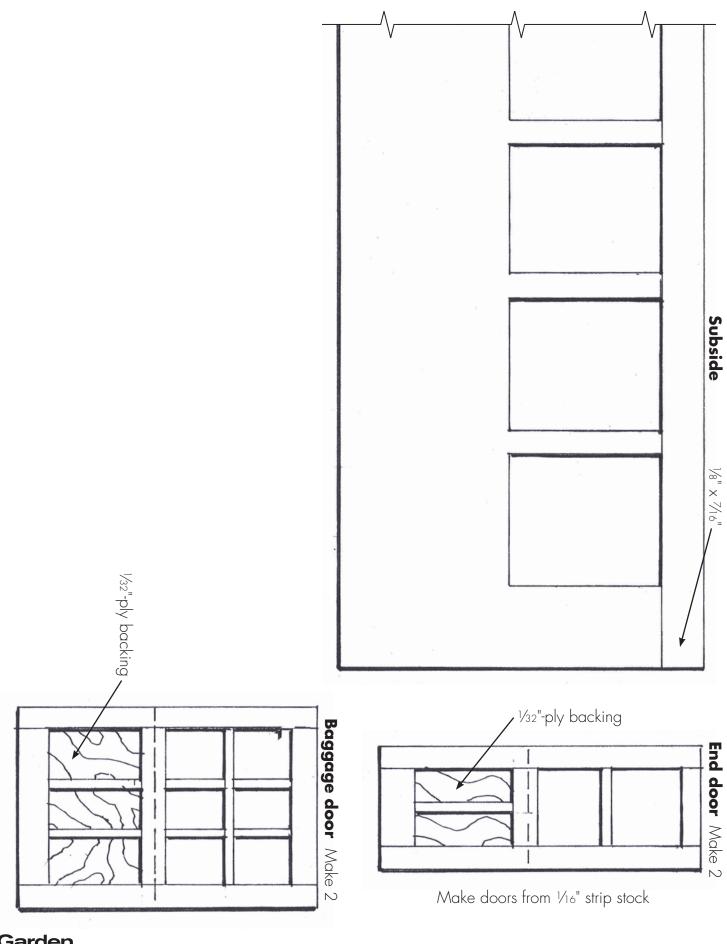
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Frame







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