

NVRRRA Scenery Chair Report – April 2023





Reminder - Scenery Inventory

- An electronic version has been sent to the NVRRA mailing list, can be used to do searches for specific items
- A 3-ring notebook has been placed on the top shelf of the scenery cart
- If you use anything on the cart and there is little to nothing left please fill out the form at the beginning of the book
- Please return all inventory when done back to the original location



Scenery – Reminder Scenery Work

- Anyone who wants to contribute to the layout scenery efforts welcome and strongly encouraged to do so
- All scenery efforts need to be reviewed and coordinated with the Layout and Track chairs in order to ensure that everything fits as planned
- If you have an idea, please let me know before any work is started



Scenery Update - Ayer

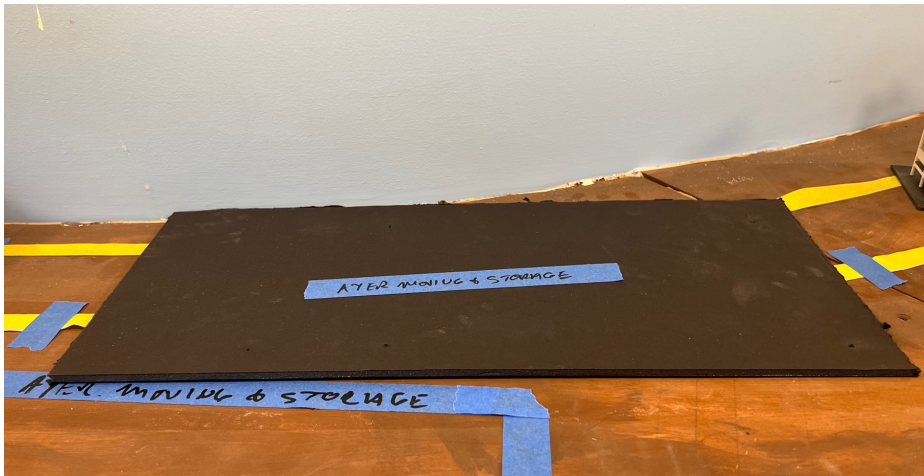
- Buildings
 - The old Ayer Auto Repair mock-up showed that a 1:1 representation of the building was too large for the space on the layout. Stuart did some selective compression to make the building fit on a 30x45' scale footprint. He created a new mock-up with scaled-down dimensions and put it on the layout (and removed the old mock-up)
 - Nick has completed the mockup of the Ayer Auto Trim building
 - Don C. will be modeling one of the remaining buildings, which building is TBD at this point





Scenery Update - Ayer

- Matt recommend pushing all the buildings towards the backdrop, even move the large ones up against it. This change will provide more space between the buildings and the railroad, allow the access road along the mains thru CP-AY, and room for the signal mast 50' west of Harvard-Groton Rd. Making this move would also eliminate Central Ave, thus eliminating a few intersections, but adding to the real estate at the tracks. This suggestion was discussed in the Layout Committee meeting today and it was decided that we need additional building mockups to allow for different placement scenarios to be done before a final decision is reached.





Scenery Update - Ayer

- Matt also suggested that the auto repair shop be turned 90° to allow for viewing of the business side of the building, potentially with doors open and cars in the bay or on a lift. This business benefits from the extra land, as does the moving company. This may allow for the use of the siding as a team track/pellet trans load as it is sometimes used. Further discussion on this will need to happen before a final decision is reached





Scenery Update - Ayer

- Additional Concerns

- It has been agreed that the junkyard is not feasible, the auto repair place, the Rix type structure are the only viable options
- If we had a mixture of box car at the building, and a pellet car closest to Sandy Pond Road, it would allow us, if we wanted, to complicate switching if we state that the pellet car must stay during an Op session
- Don C. expressed an interest in making the apple storage building and the committee has asked Don if he would like to model that.

- Next Steps

- Use a different color tape to show the road moved back



Scenery Update - Ayer

- Doug is working on the Ayer Truss Bridge
 - 3D CAD drawings in process
- Work to be done:
 - Foundation
 - Retaining walls
 - Associated installation scenery integration





Scenery Update - Mechanicville

- Joe continues to make excellent progress in Mechanicville. He has the plywood and foam covered up with the first coat of scenery.
- Patrick Kubala has made progress on the scratch building of 4 different buildings that are needed in Mechanicville
- Work is continuing with different layers of grasses and material just to get the first rough coat on everything that will eventually have added many layers of different colors and textures
- Patrick Kubala is also working on the Mechanicville station
- The bridge has been completed and the detail is outstanding, the railings are made of actual wood





Scenery Update - Mechanicville

- Work in process - continued:
 - Sidewalks and bridge work needs to be over the CP main and the freight main at Noonan's
 - Larry M. has been researching the prototype for the Route 67 bridge, this will be started later this summer
- Work to be done:
 - Install the sidewalk and curbing
 - A hand laid curve turnout at Noonan's needs to be installed
 - An additional 4 scratch-built buildings need to be made
 - A working stoplight on the road that goes up the hill and the intersection of Rt. 67 needs to be installed



Scenery Update - Schaghticoke

- Proposed Location – Comments Requested
 - Stuart has completed the Greek Revival farmhouse and it has been placed on the layout and in this proposed location for members to comment on and accept. Idea is hill would be flattened, a barn created from a photo and glued to the backdrop, a little driveway area created, maybe a small outbuilding.
 - Larry R. discussed the possibility of a more extensive rework that would include a barn (in the background) and a farm road leading down the hill, across the tracks via a farmers crossing, and into the plowed field. The committee agreed with Larry's suggestion and planning will start once Larry has some free time





Scenery Update – Adams

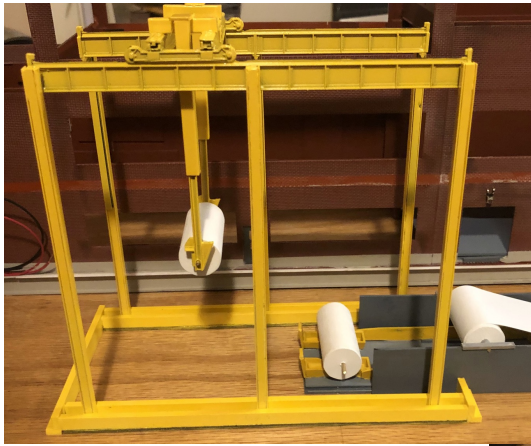
- Nick continues to make significant strides in Adams which include
 - The Old Mill has been modified with a Digestor Tower added to top of that structure and installed on layout. Nick also installed the blower support structure (i.e. conveyor belt plus supports)
 - The brick mill, recovery building (power plant), old mill and Whitner Storage buildings are now wired and connected to the new 12-volt system. There is a toggle switch under Adams to turn lights on and off





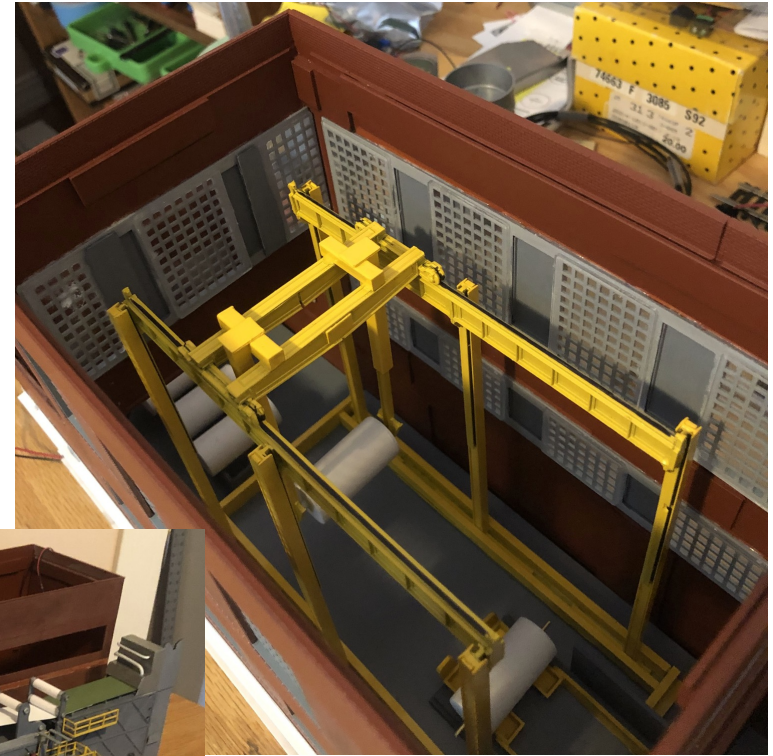
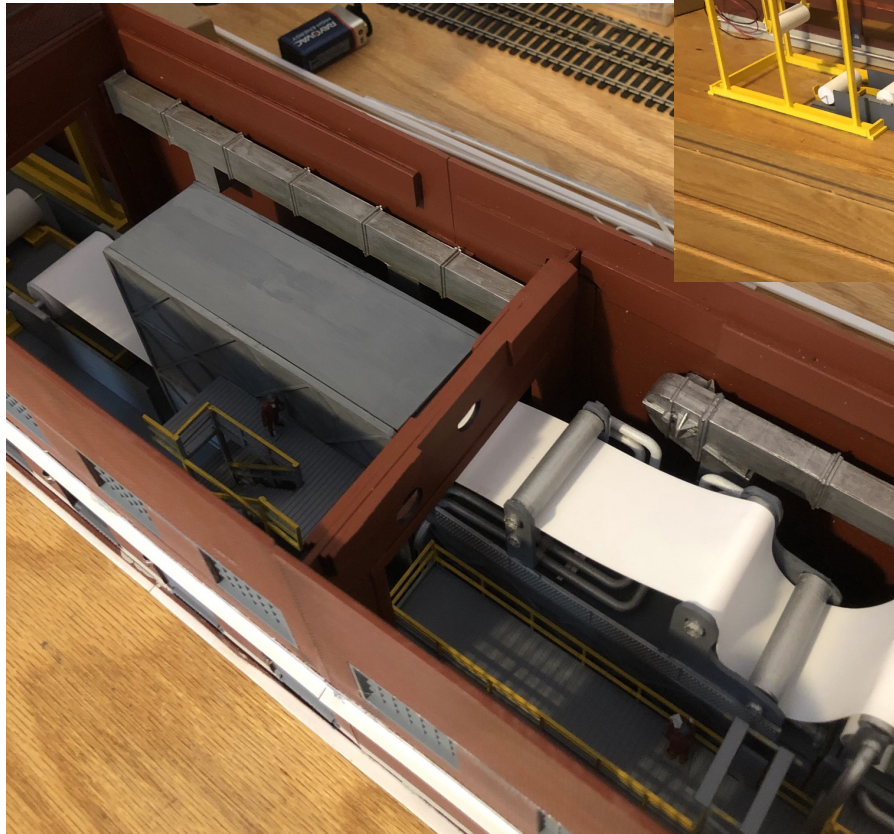
Scenery Update – Adams

- Nick has created extremely detailed machinery inside the paper mill





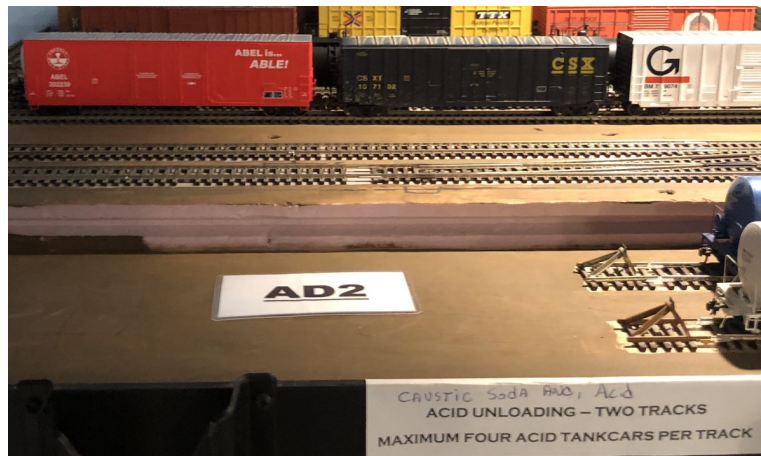
Scenery Update – Adams





Scenery Update – Adams

- Nick and Larry M. have started the planning process for the acid and base storage tanks in Adams, these will be located where the “AD2” tag is currently located
- The prototype configuration has been selected and the modeling approach has been established, and prototypes have been placed on the layout
- Loading racks from the Worcester collection have been identified for use.
- The model space has been measured and preliminary tank and rack footprints have been added
- Larry M. will provide plans for two tanks and will submit these to the Layout Committee for review/approval once ready
- Eric L. painted the forest in the area that was not painted, the committee will speak with Eric about adding clouds to the background above Adams and request that the clouds fade away the further to the right side of the backdrop in Adams





Scenery Update – Adams

- Work to be done
 - Finish wood chip unloading area
 - Create wood chip pile
 - Install wood dust where appropriate
 - Chemical tank pit, complete ground cover, and potentially some backdrop painting if the chip structure does not cover the bald spot



Scenery Update – NEM Mill Area

- In Process

- Eric has started wiring the lights on the NEM Mill and has some of them connected to the 12-volt supply, more lights are being added

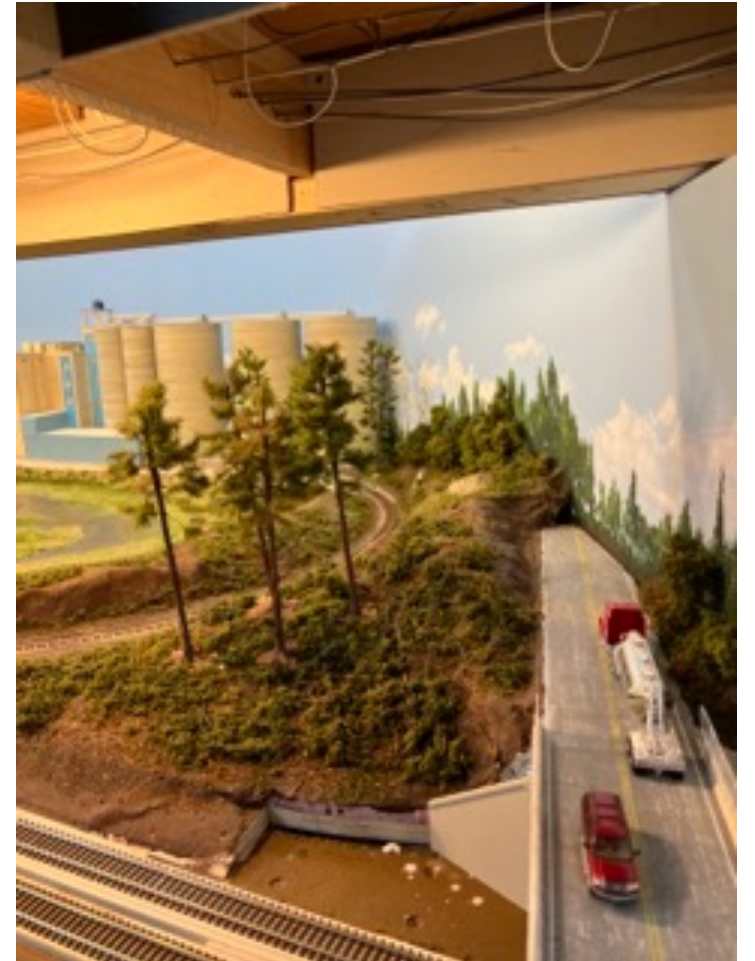
- Planning in process for:

- Beginning stages of planning out Catania Spagna and the piping that will go along with it. Once measurements are done then the build will begin



Scenery Update – NEM Mill Area

- Work left to be done:
 - Paint tracks and place ballast around the loop and weather both
 - The front fascia at the bridge needs to be completed
 - Model the Catania Spagna processing building





Scenery Update - Fitchburg

- Nick and Cory have started working on the Fitchburg area of the layout
- Nick has finished the long brick structure for Fitchburg Layover yard. Corey and Nick are planning on building some other features there such as remnants of old turntable plus 2 locomotive terminal blocks.





Scenery Update – Gardner

- Completed:
 - Joe A. has done his usual exceptional work on the Rt 2. bridge in Gardner
- Work to be done:
 - Joe requested that someone else complete the remaining scenery work, I am looking for volunteer to complete this work, if interested please let me know
 - Zach will work with Stuart on the banks next top the bridge to add soil and other items found there





Super Trees

- Completed:
 - Super Tree drying stand which can hold a maximum of 144 trees at a time. A drying rack and a work rack were created. The dimensions of this rack are 4' High X 4' Wide X 3' Deep
- In process:
 - A test batch of Super Trees were coated with Matt Medium and are drying in the rack.
 - Out of the 21 colors on the chart the top 5 colors chosen were selected. Samples of paint have been purchased and as soon as the weather cooperates paint testing with a Wagner power paint sprayer will commence
 - An additional ~350 Super Trees have been ordered, once they arrive a sample will be painted with the sample paints and completed (leaf flock and final sealing) for review by the Layout Chair and other interested membership.
 - Once a decision has been made to proceed then tree production volume will increase. If any one would like to contribute to this effort, please contact the Scenery Chair





Mt. Roberts Refresh and O'Connor Orchard Scenery

- Mount Roberts

- Mt. Roberts will need to be temporarily removed so the scenery can be updated, trees can be installed, and final buildings can be installed. The remove and work on Mt. Roberts will require the use of a temporary table which will take up isle space and impede the ops session. All of this will require a coordinated effort so the whole process can be done between scheduled ops sessions. Larry R. will make the buildings for Mt. Roberts

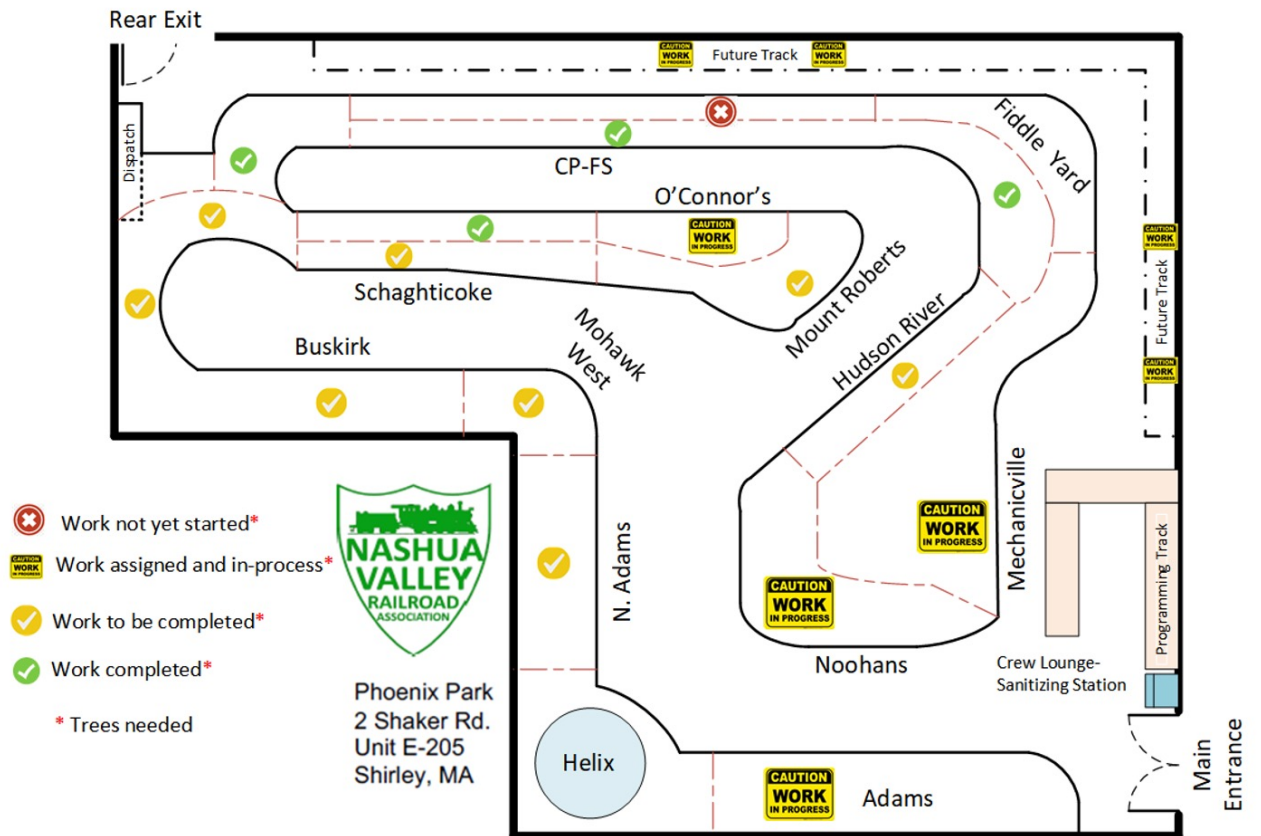
- O'Connor Orchard

- The O'Conner Orchard building will need additional detailing, some selective compression, as well as additional scenery work



Scenery – Work Areas

- Larry R. and Claude will work to bring these maps the various work areas up to date and they will detail the following:
- In process
 - Who is working in an area
 - What is bring done
- Needs work to be done
 - Area available for work
 - What needs to be done
- Once completed they will be sent to all members





Scenery – Work Areas

Upper Deck Scenery Work Remaining to be done

Adams

Location:	Member performing work	Work completed:	Remaining/future work to be done:
Adams - Berkshire Mills	Nick C.	Mill building	Wood chip unloading area
	Nick C.	Recovery building	Wood chip piles
	Nick C.	Mixing building(original to Bolton club)	Exterior and interior storage
	Nick C.	Whitener loading structure	Create piping to transport wood chips from unloading/pile to the mixing plant
	Nick C.		A small slurry unloading platform
	TBD		Backdrop needs clouds
	TBD		Trees
West Portal	TBD		Lighting work
North Adams	TBD	Basic ground cover	Buildings need finishing touches
	TBD		Ccrap yard needs finishing touches
	TBD		Hillside and Little Hoosac portal need lots of work
	TBD		Backdrop needs painting and clouds
	TBD		Trees
			Lighting work
Mohawk West	TBD		Needs sealing/painting inside tunnel
	TBD		Cover could use some basic ground cover/shrubs and loops/handles for removal
	TBD		Trees