



So, you want to do scenery

Building 5 miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch

We will be touching on:

- **Planning**
- **Materials**
- **Rock casting (lightly, more to come later)**
- **Planting trees (lightly, more to come)**
- **Coloring**
- **Adding vegetation**
- **Cleaning up**

Planning

What you will need:

- Define what you want to do
- Building new or re-vamping existing scenery
- Plan the whole scene then work down to the individual parts
- Blend all the scenery elements together
- What structures are to be included
- How will the scenery “work” with the operational intent of the whole railroad



Have you ever had this situation?

The Problem

Canterbury needs more “distance”.

Town of Canterbury



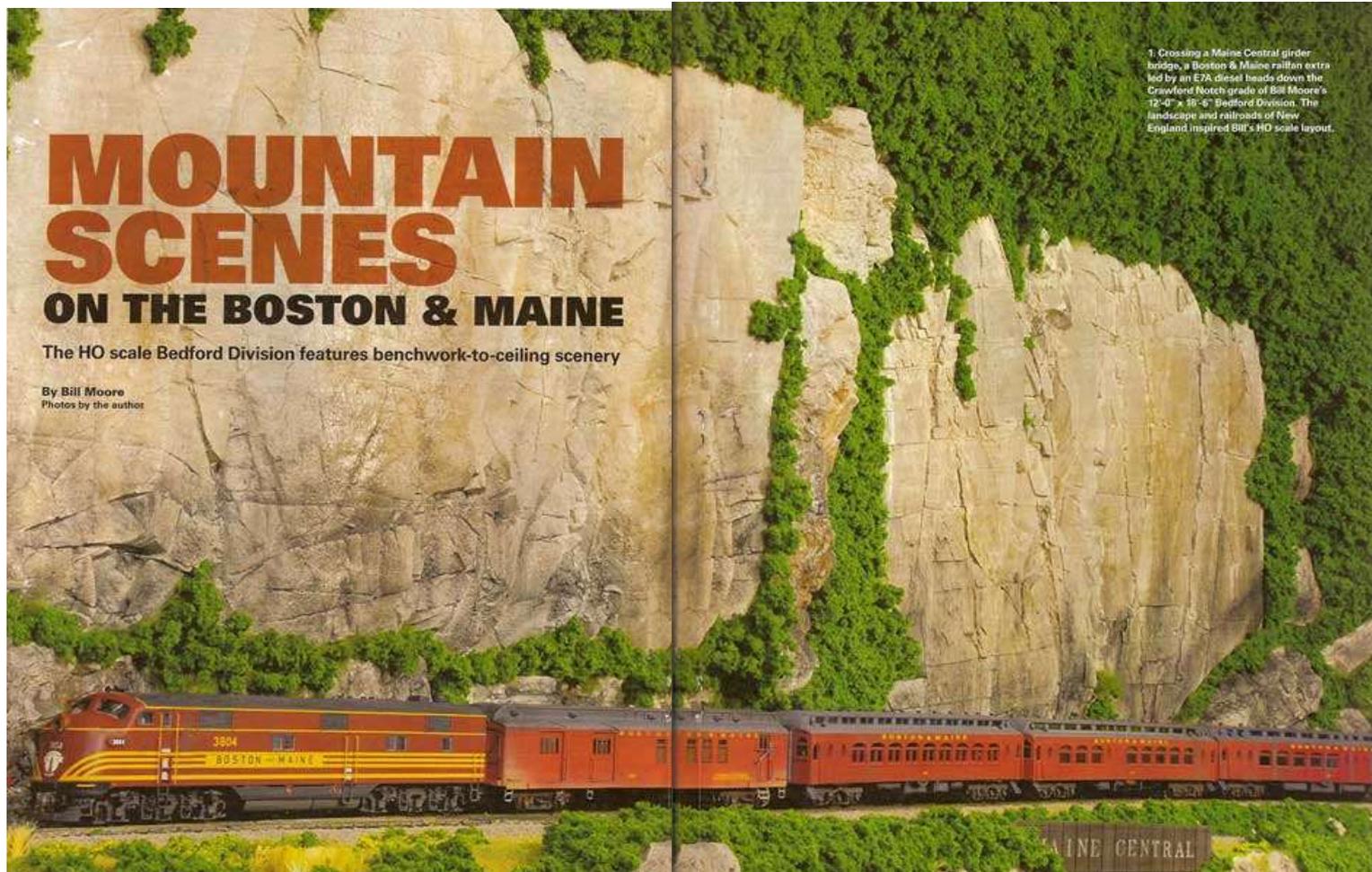
Problem: lack of depth



Problem: Track too close to back drop

INSPIRATION

This photo center spread by Bill Moore appeared in the August 2012 Model Railroader magazine. This is what I wanted Canterbury to look like.



ROAD TRIP!



Conway, NH looking west from Rt. 16

ROAD TRIP!



Mount Chocorua, Albany, NH

ROAD TRIP!



Crawford Notch, NH looking west from RT. 16

Road Trip!



Crawford Notch, NH

Materials

What is needed

Materials used to create profile boards:

- **Foam core ¼” thick any color**
- **Adhesive- white glue, Liquid Nails**
- **Plaster impregnated cloth**
- **Patching plaster or joint compound**
- **Shallow pan/bowl with water**
- **Water spray bottle**
- **Bowl of water to wet hands/fingers**
- **Masking tape**
- **Narrow spatchler ½” wide**
- **Rock molds and Hydrocal plaster**
- **Acrylic paint colors (tubes)**
- **Ground foam and trees**
- **Lots of old newspaper**
- **Paper towels**

Rock Castings



**Rubber molds by Woodland
Scenics**

**Rock cast from mold and
colored**

(Rock casting and coloring will be the second part of this topic)

**Now that we have touched on the elements
we'll take a look at how to build a scene.**

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch

The goal is to create a backdrop scene that looks like it is five miles deep with only $\frac{3}{4}$ " of space available.

Town of Canterbury



Canterbury before adding new scenery



This is the problem: not enough depth between track and existing back drop.

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch

Getting started



**Work space cleaned out and prepared to make a mess.
Demolition of existing plasterwork has been done.**

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



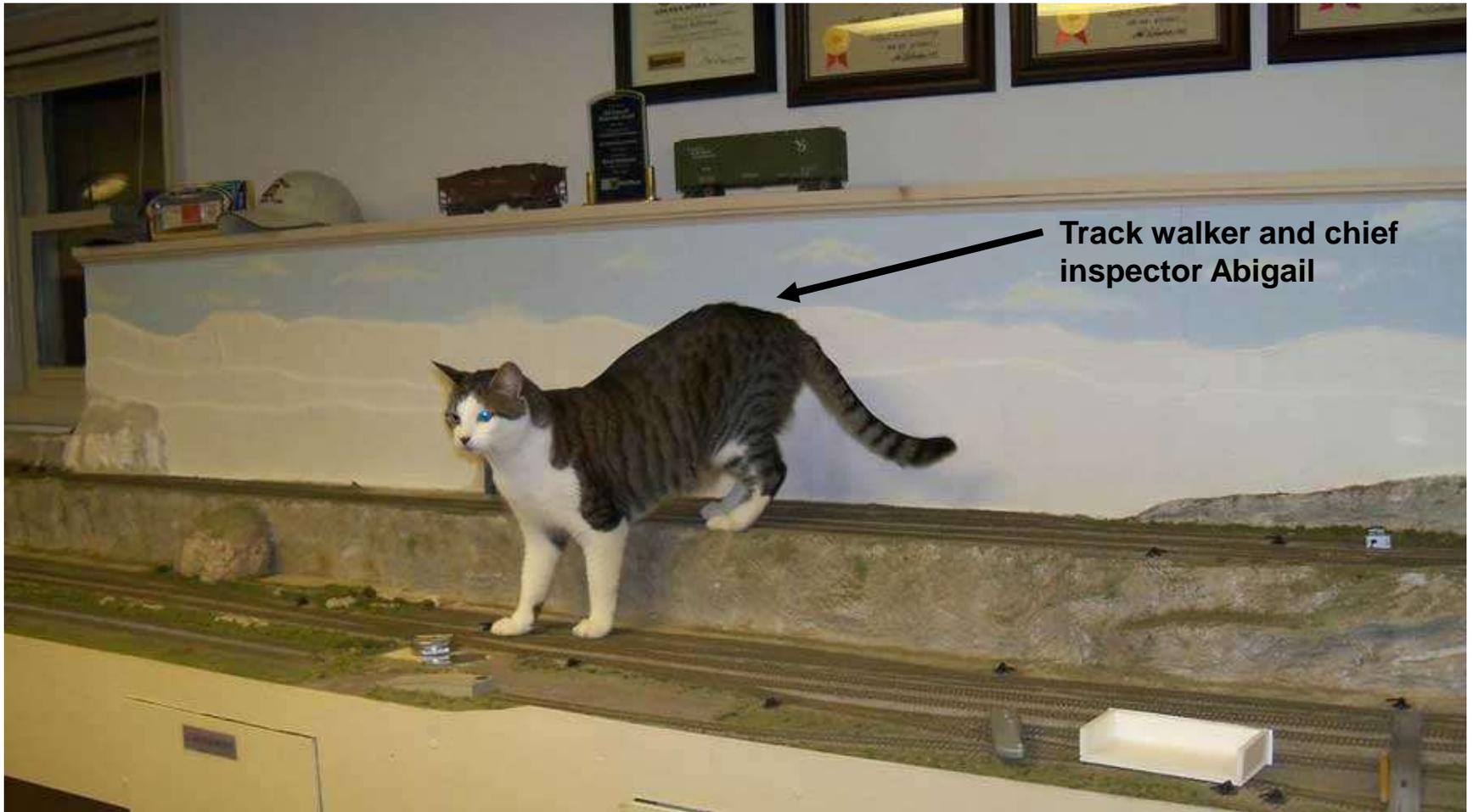
Foam core profile board (black), first layer, installed. The profile board is held in place with masking tape to test fit of pieces.

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



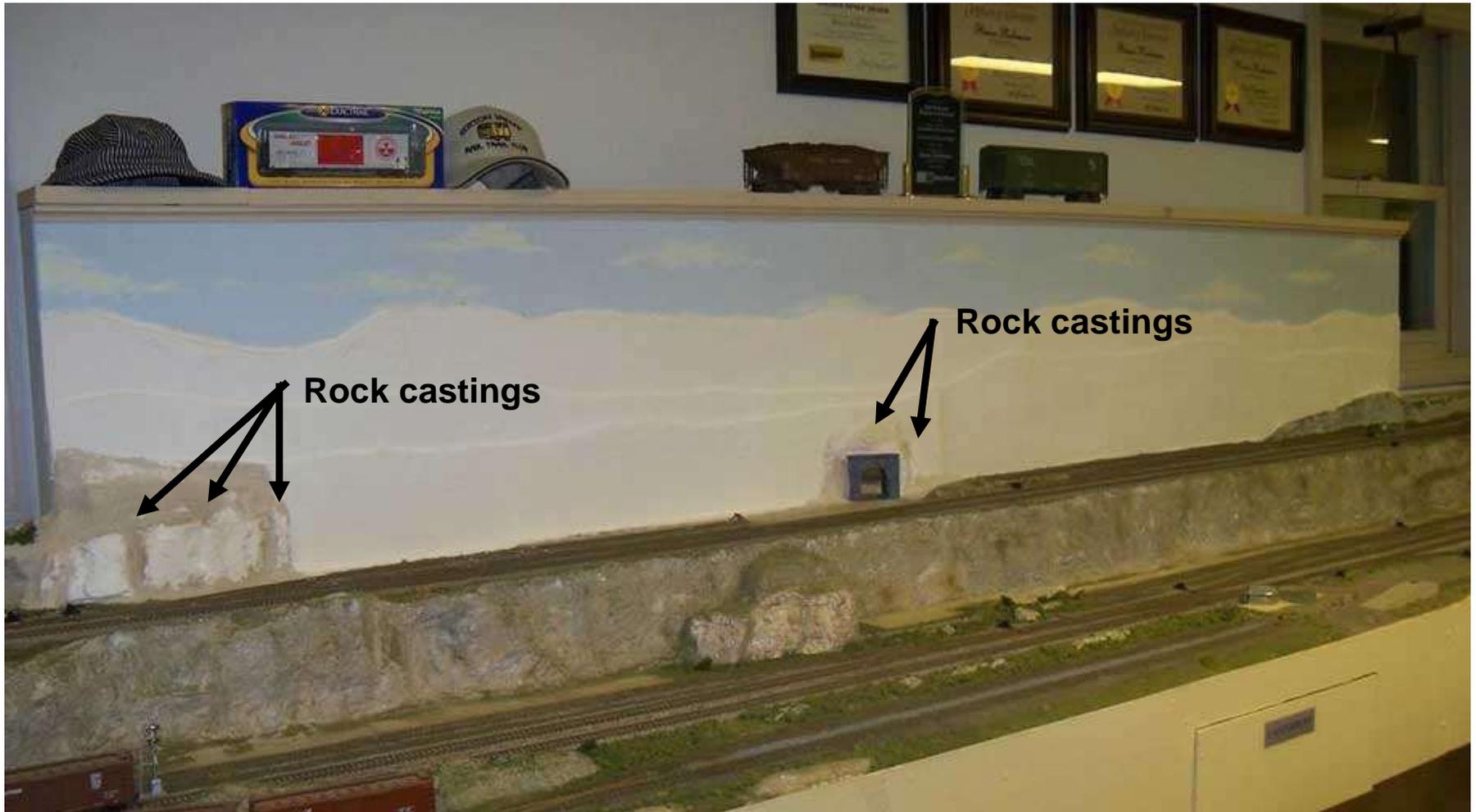
Profile boards covered with plaster impregnated cloth then covered with patching plaster. Use the spatchler in a swirling motion to create a smooth :texture”.

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



Further work was halted until the proper inspection and approval process was completed.

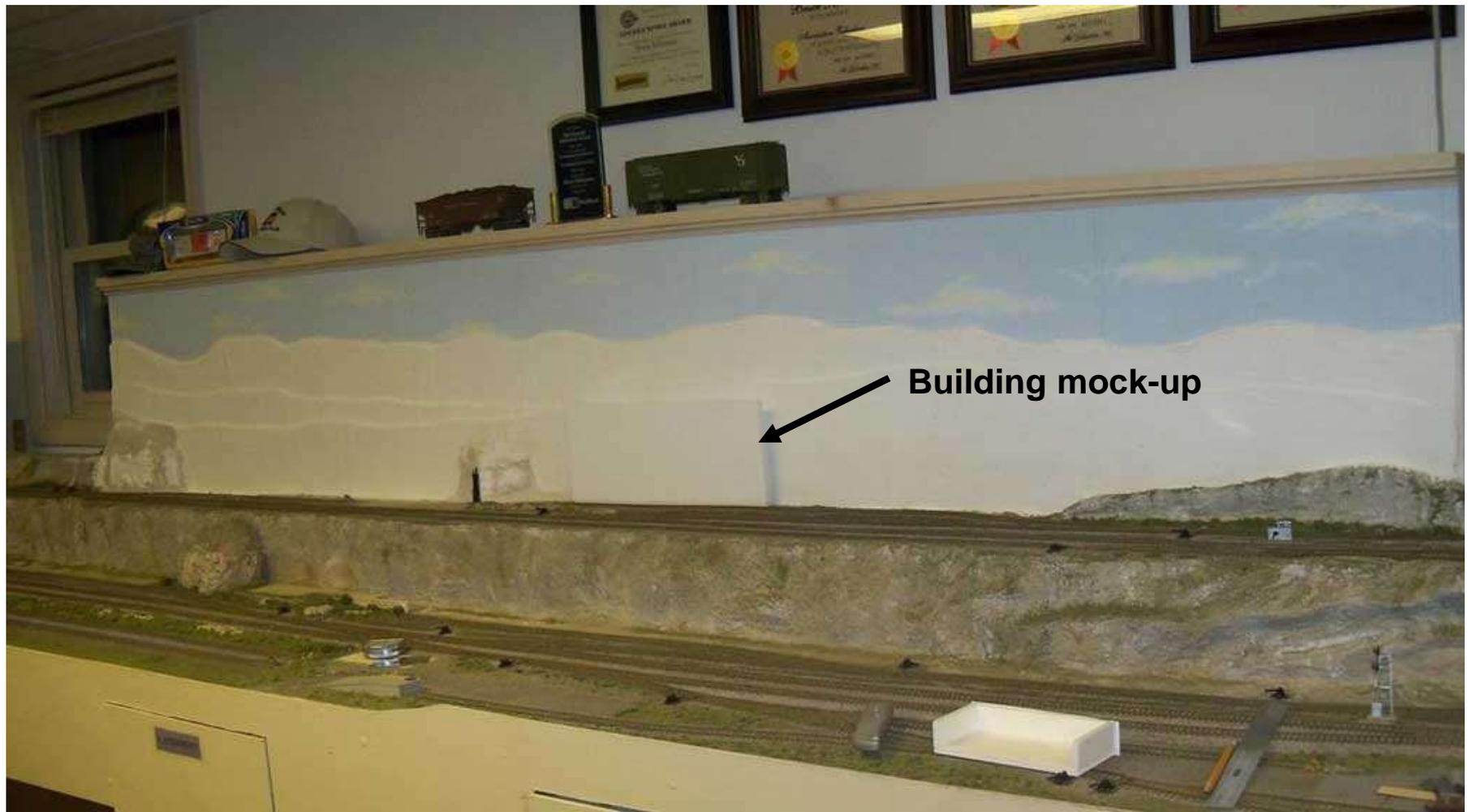
Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



Rock castings added to create a transition from existing scenery and to create a road outlet from the scene.

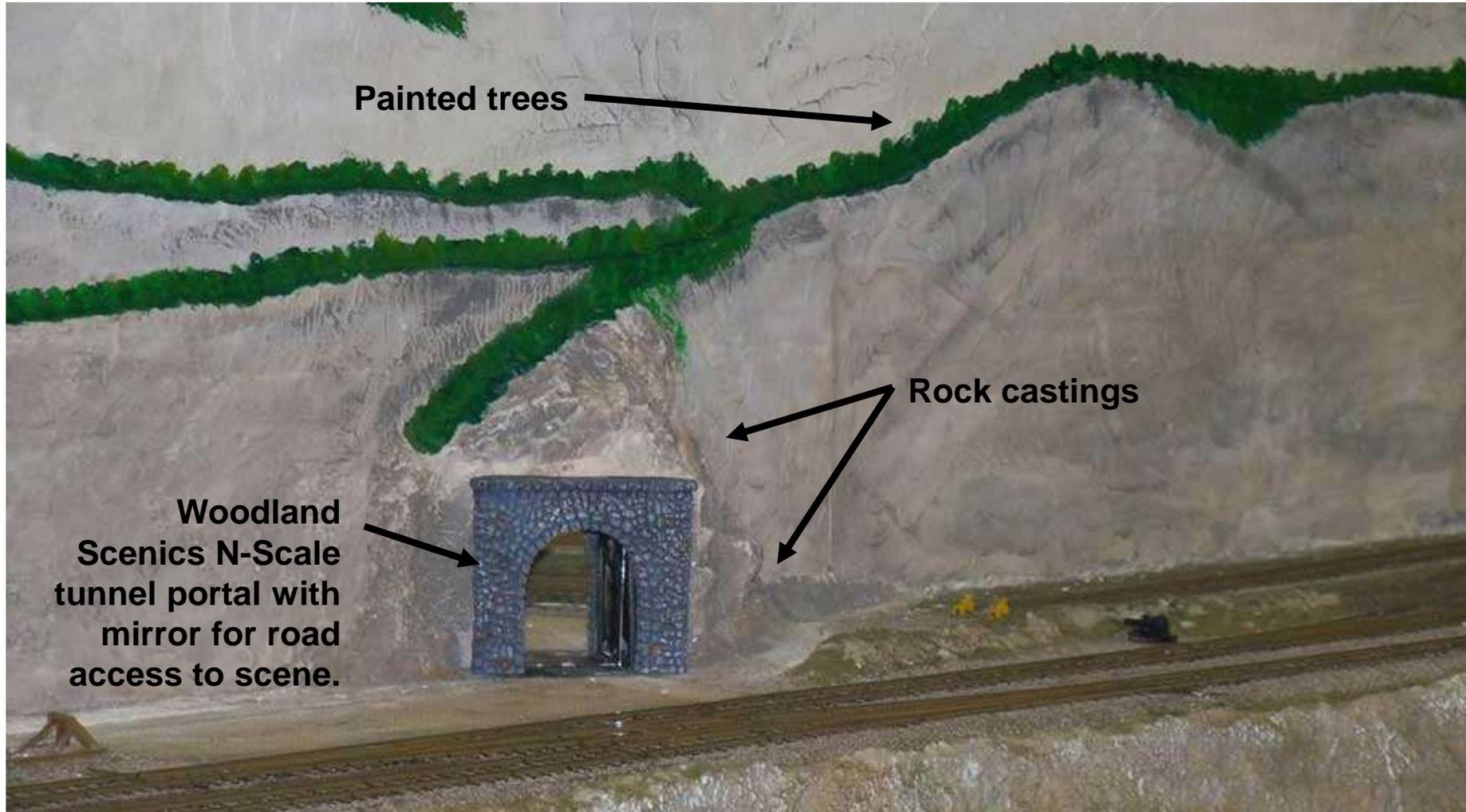
(More on Rock casting.....later)

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



A building mock-up is placed in front of the scene to gauge proportions. Two industries, a milk platform and the station are planned along with other background building to fill in the scene.

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



Painted trees

Rock castings

Woodland
Scenics N-Scale
tunnel portal with
mirror for road
access to scene.

Roadway access to scene

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



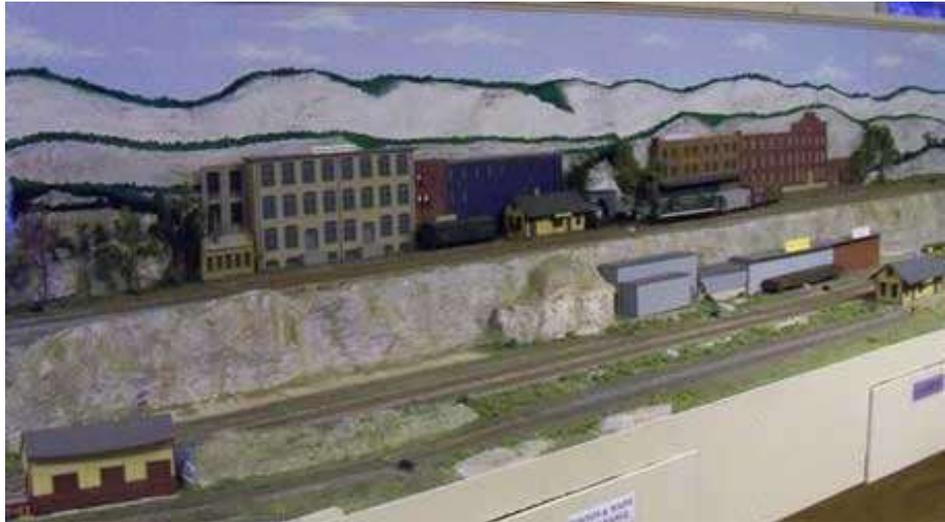
The plaster has been given a wash of grey, blue and umber water color and dry brushed with burnt umber and white. The tree line has been painted in using acrylic tube colors (light green, phthalocanine green, green gold, chromium oxide green).

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



Buildings are added: Levinson Manufacturing with its boiler house, milk shed and station.

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



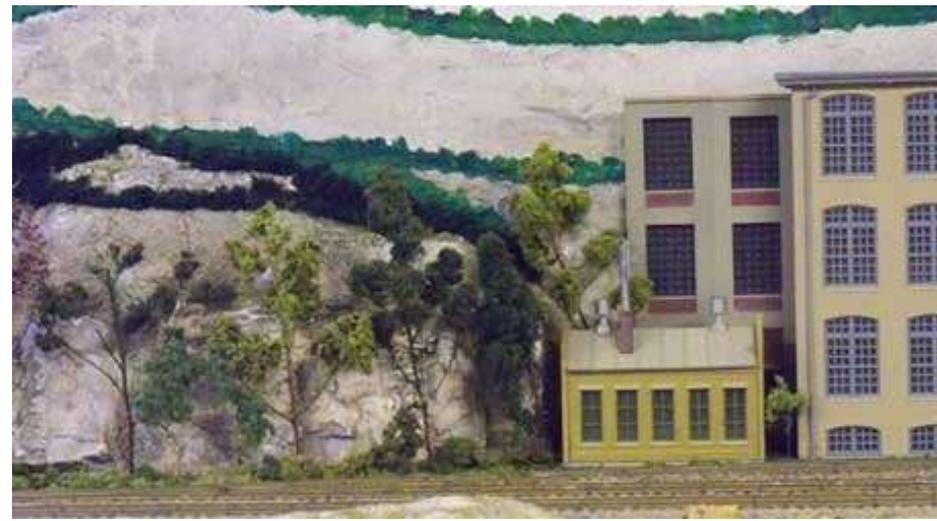
Buildings added on west side of station



Train VAFR switching Eastern Tablet Company



Buildings added on east side of station



Trees, Trees and more Trees

Five Miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch



**Over view of Canterbury and its relationship to the rest of the railroad
Canterbury occupies a space of 12" x 8'-9"**

Cleaning up

After the scenery items are complete the next steps will be to bring the scene to life

Add the details

- **People**
- **Equipment**
- **Crates**
- **roadside fences and guard rails**
- **cars and trucks**
- **utility poles**
- **signs**

Now that you have soaked the scenery with water and white glue don't forget to clean the track and un-stick the turnouts!



Remember to always watch your signals !

(that is because the dispatcher gave you clearance only to the next signal)