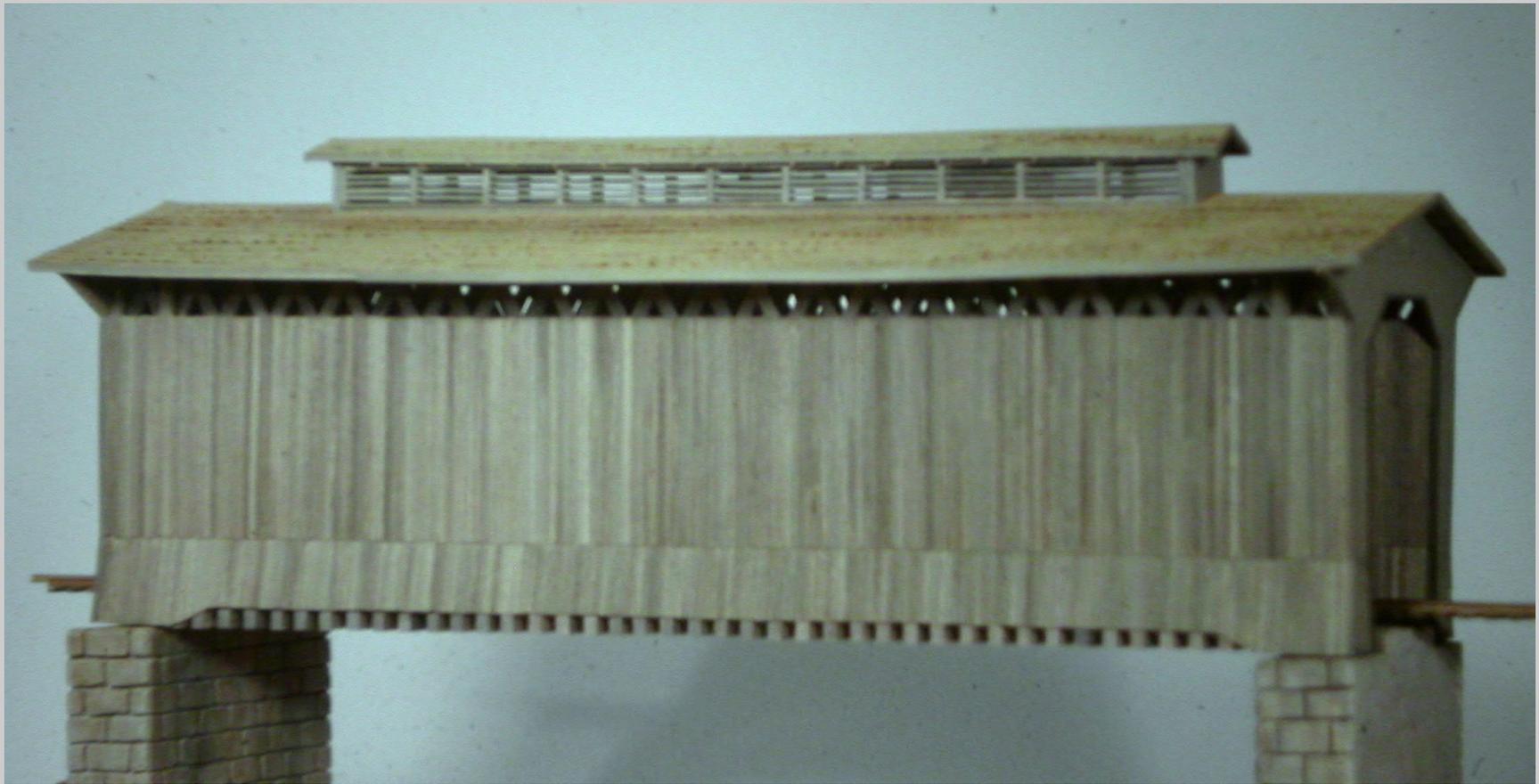


Spring 2001 Baldwin Trophy Winner Paul Allard's Fishers Railroad Bridge



History & Background

The model is based on Fisher Bridge which is located in Wolcott, VT on the Lamoille Valley Railway, formally the St. Johnsbury and Lamoille County Railroad which was formally the St. Johnsbury and Lake Champlain Railroad. A scale drawing was published in *Model Railroader* in the November 1968 issue. At that time, the bridge deck was being modified by the addition of steel deck beams and a center support piling. The model depicts the original bridge construction without the steel beams and center piling. The bridge at that time had rolled roofing on top of the board-by-board roof deck. The model was built with a shingle roof to represent an earlier period. The MR drawing was enlarged from N scale to HO scale using a photocopier.

Model

The model was built from dimensional lumber that matched the scale drawing. Individual boards were glued together using medium, gap filling CA. This gave a short period of time during which excess glue could be removed before it set. Most of the model was constructed board-by-board including: double side lattice, frames, deck, vertical siding walls both inside and out, deck ties and stringers, ridge pole, roof rafters and roof smoke vents. The portals and smoke vent ends are the only exceptions; being built from clapboard siding that was cut to fit. The roof is removable to allow viewing of the full, double lattice construction. It is covered with Campbell shingles. All dimensional lumber was pre-stained before construction. Each piece was painted with thinned Floquil grimy black and allowed to dry. They were pulled through a cloth that was saturated with thinned Floquil grime. The end result was a blending of the two colors that gave a slight variation in color from board-to-board. The bridge abutments were cast as two solid plaster pieces. The final abutment detail was added by hand and colored with Badger paint washes. Code 83 rail was installed by hand and fastened using Walters Goo. The rails were locked in place by heating the Goo to set it.

The model contains all of the details found on the scale drawing including NBW castings, tie rods and deck support plates with NBW castings. The lattice is tied together with simulated pegs and rods.