

Package-3

Freight house. - (origin)

Inbound cars =
40' boxcars with LCL freight

Outbound cars =
refilled 40' boxcars

Scene elements =
closely spaced parallel tracks for boxcar pass-through loading
large building for freight sorting and temporary holding, with a public counter
freight delivery truck loading area

Large warehouse building with public counter is used for sorting less-than-carload (LCL) freight received/delivered from both boxcars and trucks (or even hand carried to the building, because as a common carrier, railroads are required to haul LCL freight from anyone). Mail order houses are big customers, as are department stores. One side of the building has multiple back-in docks for delivery panel-trucks and big-rig truck trailers. The other side of the building is paralleled by THREE very closely spaced spurs, each capable of holding at least TWO 40' boxcars, so pass-through loading can take place through unseen boxcar spaced doors in the buildings wall. Cuts of boxcars are all spotted in the early morning, stand open all day, then are all taken away in the early evening. Since parked boxcars are obscured by each other due to the close track spacing, we might as well create a very different model scene. We will locate the buildings truck docks on the side facing the layouts front, and place the boxcar tracks on the buildings back side. We will keep the building height low enough though, so that the boxcar roofs can always be seen by the layout operator. Each of the spur leads will be equipped with an uncoupler magnet, so a cut of cars can be left without having to reach past the building to manually uncouple them.