

O Scale in a Small Space The Clayville & Butterwood Traction Railway

Wayne Price

My mini-layout was built to develop the skills necessary to create a full-sized traction module that would interface with others from the East Penn Traction Club. My inspiration came from a mini-layout built by Dick Bell, which I originally saw in 2003. The traction line on my layout runs through the city of Wayne, located between Clayville and Butterwood. It includes a part of the downtown and a rural station. There is urban street running as well as rural trackage on a ballasted roadbed.

The layout is 30" x 36" in size and is built on a 3/8" plywood base supported by a 1x4 pine frame. The track consists of code 125 rails with the turnouts handbuilt in place. I built both a single point turnout as part of the street trackage, and a regular turnout in the rural area. The curves are all 9-inch radius with the rail bent by a Fast Tracks rail-bending tool. The buildings all have interiors and are lighted. They include kits from Walthers, Ameri-Towne, PA Heritage Models and DPM. The figures are from Artista and Woodland Scenics. The power is supplied through the 0.020" bronze overhead wire with hanger castings from Rivers Trolley & Traction. The poles are a combination of 3/16" brass and 1/4" dowels. The fleet of cars includes a LaBelle Ohio Electric interurban, and a LaBelle Lake Shore Electric freight motor. Both cars were shortened to a scale 40' long so that they can negotiate the tight curves. Both have Current Line detail parts and are powered by Q-Car trucks. I also have a Q-Car GE 50 ton steeplecab that was selected because of the short wheelbase.

I have achieved my goals for the layout and I am amazed at how much fun it is to run traction cars. I hope to begin a module and a larger layout in the near future. ♦



The corner soda fountain at 1st & Main. All of the figures are by Artista.



Station stop at Wayne.



Main Street. My wife actually owns the real Price & Sons Books.



Second & Main. The combine is a LaBelle Ohio Electric kit that was shortened.



Overview of the layout showing both rural and city tracks.