

13. Rich Steinmann's Bridge



The bridge is based on Erie-Lackawanna Railroad Stone Arch Bridge over the Whippany River in Morristown, NJ. The bridge was built as part of the Morris and Essex Railroad's extension from Morristown to Dover, which was constructed between 1838 and 1848. The prototype is difficult to access since it is on private property, and thus not easily accessible for photography. Nonetheless, I was able to find a public location from which to photograph the North side of the bridge, which is the side which faces the aisle on my layout. The photo shows the original stone arch bridge as well as the concrete walls added when the track level was elevated as part of a grade separation project in the early 1900's. I constructed the stone arch bridge by making a styrene mold and casting it with Hydrocal plaster. The joints and stones were further carved to provide additional depth. The model was stained gray and then dry-brushed to provide contrast. The concrete walls were constructed of styrene sheets and strips painted concrete and then weathered. The keystone is a paper overlay with what I believe to be an appropriate date (1839) given the time frame of the Dover extension. My photo of the prototype was not distinct enough to get a good look at the date. In the background is a freelance model of the Speedwell Avenue bridge over the Whippany River. *Rich Steinmann, MMR*