

4. Mat Thompson's Farmhouse & Bakery



I grew up in farm and ranch country in Oregon. Farmhouses like this were typical. The model is HO scale, scratchbuilt, inspired by an article in *Mainline Modeler*. I think the prototype was in Illinois but I have seen houses like it all across the nation.

Fred Meyer is a chain of stores in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska. Started in 1931, they were the Walmart of small towns across the area long before Walmart was ever known. It was the place to buy groceries, nails, blue jeans, and records (remember them?) The chain merged with Kroger in the 1990s but stores are still branded as Fred Meyer. My building is an imagined company bakery where products would be prepared and wrapped and then shipped out to area stores around Portland, Oregon.

Mat Thompson, MMR

