

2. Marty McGuirk's Country Store and Gas Station



I've always been a sucker for country stores - both prototype and model. When South River Modelworks released their kit for the Streeter's store a number of years ago I was one of the first purchase one! The kit lived in its box for a number of years until I dug it out during Covid and built it. The structure itself is stock, but it came with gas pumps too early for my era. I

replaced them with pumps more like those seen during the 1940s and 50s. I also wanted to include a gasoline sign on a post, a common element of country stores in New England. I started with the post from a JL Innovative gas station detail set that I painted flat white. Then I painted a piece of thin (.005") styrene dark blue and applied Microscale Esso decals to the styrene. I snuggled the decals in place with Solvaset and let them dry. Once they were dry, I carefully trimmed around the edges of the decal, flipped the sign over and applied a second Esso decal sign to the opposite side. I allowed the decals to dry completely overnight. I rusted the edges of the sign and the post with Raw Umber and Mississippi Mud acrylic paints applied sparingly with a piece of torn sea sponge. I fabricated the crossarm for the sign from various thicknesses of brass wire. The base is basswood coated with Ceramic Stucco to give it a little concrete texture. I painted it with light tan acrylic paint and weathered it with some rust-colored chalks. **Marty McGuirk**

