

Rear Wall (9).

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Thanks for purchasing this Cornerstone® kit. Please read the instructions and study the drawings before starting. All parts are styrene, so use compatible glue and paint to finish your model.

Originating with the network of horse-drawn coaches that once carried mail and passengers across much of Europe, longdistance bus lines have provided speedy and affordable service to generations of travelers. As Americans shifted from horses to horsepower in the teens and 20s, the improving network of county, state and federal highways saw a corresponding increase in the number of intercity bus operators. Railroads were also quick to operate their own buses, as a way to reach customers in areas not served directly by the railroad, or to trim costs while still providing service to branch line communities. The Depression years saw a dramatic increase in ridership just as the streamlining craze began to sweep the country. A key part of this modern motor age, bus companies quickly unveiled up-to-the-minute equipment and station facilities. These were usually built close to other transportation hubs in the downtown area so that passengers could transfer to and from buses quickly. Inspired by the emerging Streamline Moderne style that projected speed and movement, and built using affordable materials, these new stations included such details as rounded walls, porthole windows, ribbed aluminum trim, low horizontal profiles, curved canopies and wraparound glass to project a modern image for the company and the community. The fast-growing interstate highway system and the popularity of traveling in your own car soon impacted bus service just as it had passenger trains. As service was cut back and older routes through town replaced with bypasses, many of the once elegant bus stations were abandoned and torn down to make way for other businesses. Some survivors were refurbished as community centers, theaters or restaurants, while some still serve as city bus terminals. Today, buses continue to roam the roads serving urban commuters, students, city-to-city travelers and tourists, providing an essential link between trains, planes and local mass transit. This unique model is right at home in the central business district of cities large and small, and with appropriate figures, vehicles and other details, fits layouts from the late 30s to the present. See your local hobby shop, the current Walthers HO Reference Book, or visit us online at walthers.com for additional ideas to detail your scene.



