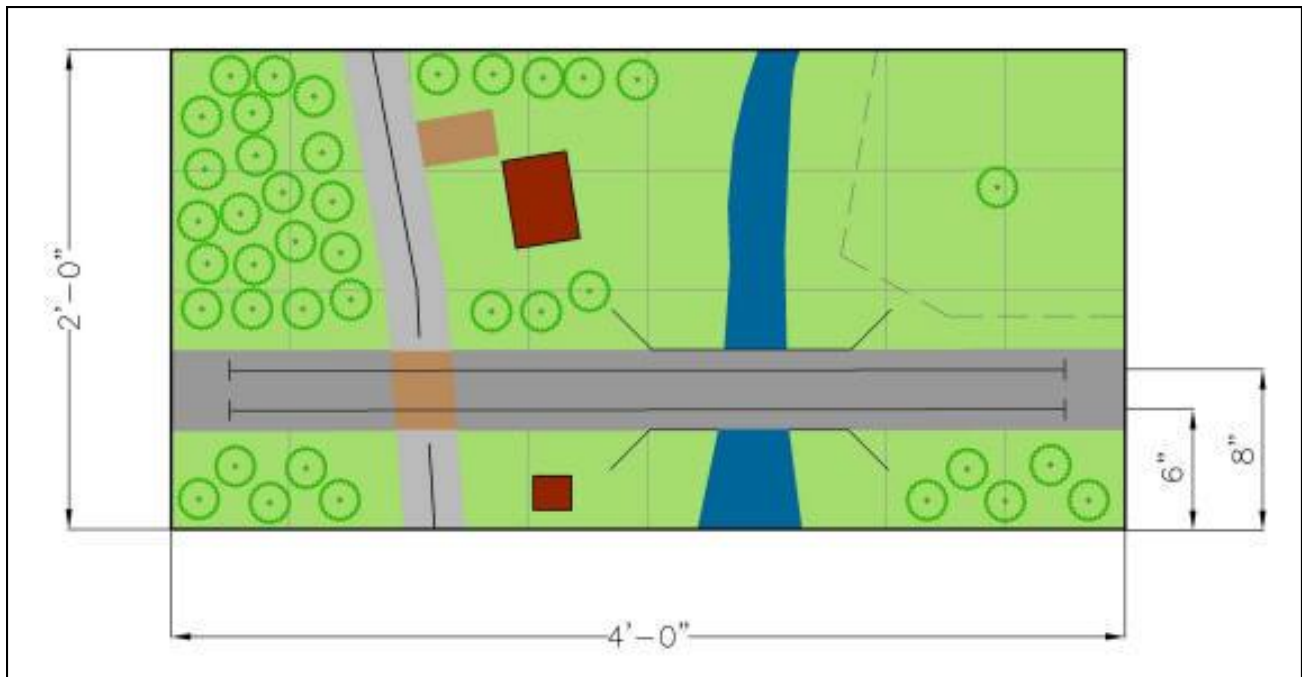
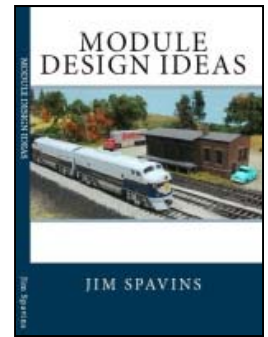




OWL Module Design





OWL Module

This plan is featured in the book *Module Design Ideas*. If you are interested in seeing all the designs from the book, visit the [store](#) or Amazon.com to purchase your copy today!

One of the legendary railroad photographers was O. Winston Link. Link is well known in railroad circles as the person who captured the last days of steam on the Norfolk and Western Railway in stunning black and white night photographs. This is a module that would be designed for the model photographers to recapture a few of those same shots.

Design Facts and Figures

Scale: HO

Size: 2'x4'

Standards: NMRA HO

Type: Scenic

Features: Stream, House

Era: Late 1950s

The main scene is a bridge over a creek. This scene should replicate one of O. Winston Link's more well known photos featured in his book *Steam Steel and Stars* on pages 66-67. The scene features a Norfolk and Western J-class crossing Bridge No. 425 at Arcadia and what makes the shot unique was that Link took photos on both sides of the bridge simultaneously. It also makes for an interesting scene in both the day and night.

One of the features almost universal to Link's style is that the focus of the photos is of human activity with trains passing through the background. For this reason, the other features on the module are designed to allow those types of photos to be replicated on the module. The crossing and crossing shanty allow photographs to focus on the railroad workers who used to run these locations.

The house should offer opportunities to show people working in the yard or relaxing on the porch after a day of hard work. The scenery should be undulating to simulate that similar to south western Virginia and lower West Virginia. The open field could also be a setting for another of Link's well known photos also in *Steam Steel and Stars* on page 88 where a tree in the middle of field serves as a foreground to *The Pocahontas* running through the night.

This is a small scenic module but provides a nice break in between modules featuring towns and cities. The module offers some interesting modeling challenges in the bridge and house with plenty of opportunities for details to set the scene. Plenty of photo opportunities abound.

