

# 1:20.3 scale diner — Red's Eats

Plan set #79

by Ted Stinson | Wiscasset, Maine

This is a generic, 1:20.3-scale diner. One of the staples of the tourist business is the diner. Thousands of tourists stop here for a hamburger, hot dog, or lobster roll. There is a real Red's Eats on Rt. 1, next to the railroad, in Wiscasset, Maine. The real building is not much bigger than a couple of garden sheds reworked as a kitchen.

When I began to draw this diner, I had Red's Eats in mind. I wanted to fit it into the same small space, but offer indoor seating (the real Red's Eats is only open in the summer because you have to eat outside). When finished, I approached Allen (Red) Gagnon, who built, owns, and runs the real diner, and he gave me permission to use his name—and so I did. Here is Red's Eats, the diner.

## Construction

Begin construction with the floor. Use  $\frac{1}{8}$ " ply cut to  $8\frac{1}{8}$ " x 16", or make it up from two strips as shown in the plan. On one side, add the stripwood framing as per the drawing. On the other side, at each end, add the  $\frac{1}{16}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ " planking. If you are going to locate your diner on a flat surface, add several  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1" dowels to the underside, to represent concrete posts. Paint these concrete gray.

Now make the building substructure. Use  $\frac{1}{8}$ " plywood for the subsides and subends. Assemble the substructure according to the detail. This should just fit over the previously assembled floor. Though the detail does not show it, you will probably find it easier to make up the windows and doors first. Glue them in place, along with the fascia, before assembling the substructure.

When the substructure is assembled to your satisfaction, surface the interior with scribed wood as shown on the drawings. Surface the ends and sides with  $\frac{1}{32}$ " thick x  $\frac{1}{8}$ " spaced scribed wood. Add the front roof section and the short extensions using  $\frac{1}{16}$ " sheet.

Make the clerestory side (do not add the clear plastic glazing until the car has been painted). Glue this in place and add the balsa block and stripwood that fits around the outside edge. Now fit and glue the remaining roof in place. Sand the roof smooth and apply your favorite imitation tar paper.

At this point, seal the car body with clear lacquer, sanding it lightly after it dries. Now, using Rust-o-leum, Krylon, or Ace house brand flat-white paint in a spray can, apply two light coats. Allow to dry 48 hours before handling. Paint the scribed-wood siding

primer red. The bottom of the car can be brush-painted flat black. The roof should be aluminum. Now surface the outside of the back wall with black construction paper to represent tar paper.

All details added from this point should be pre-painted before gluing in place. Begin with the smokehead, then do the steps and railing. Finally, add the sign. Clear plastic can be fitted in the windows and the interior developed to suit.

\* \* \*

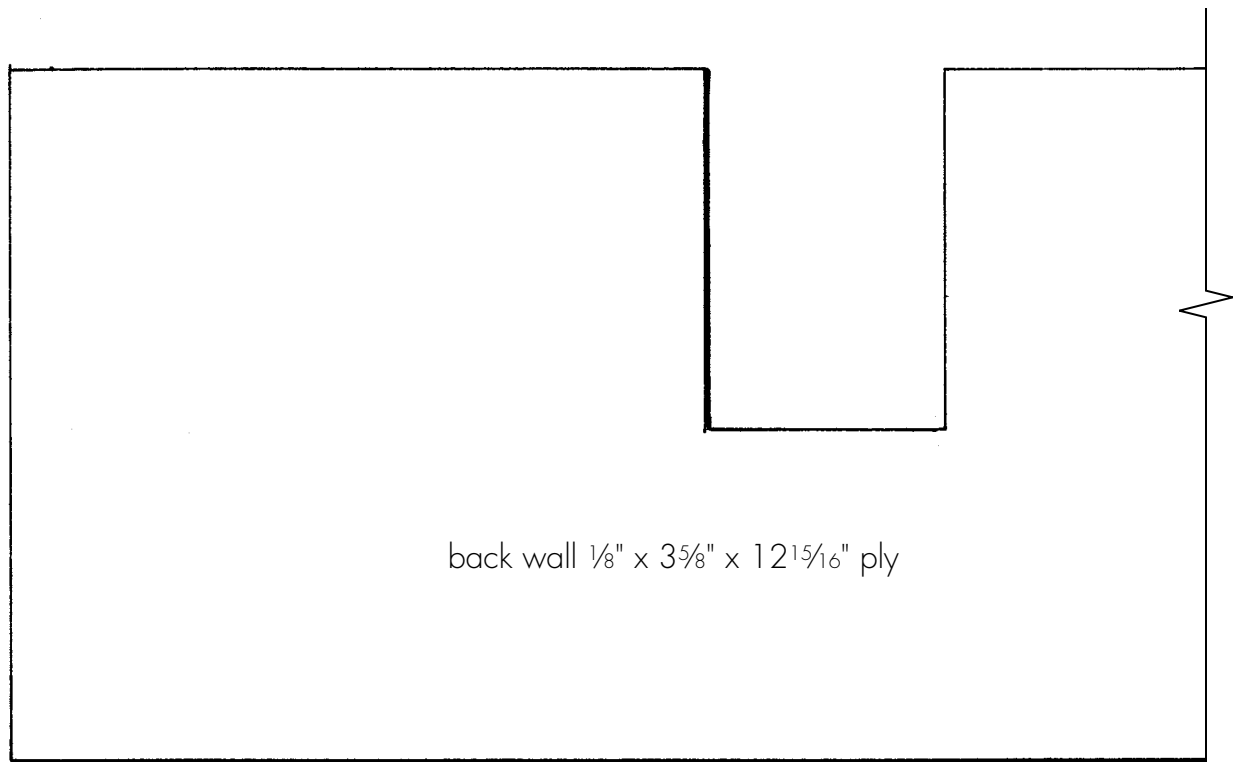
This is an online supplement to the February 2007 issue of *Garden Railways* magazine. To purchase previously published paper plans, see the list of those available at [www.sidestreet.info](http://www.sidestreet.info)

A complete kit for this project (#NNG285) is available from Northeast Narrow Gauge for \$75 + \$7.50 s&h. Order from Northeast Narrow Gauge, PO Box 191, Wiscasset ME 04578. Web site: [www.nemodel.com](http://www.nemodel.com)

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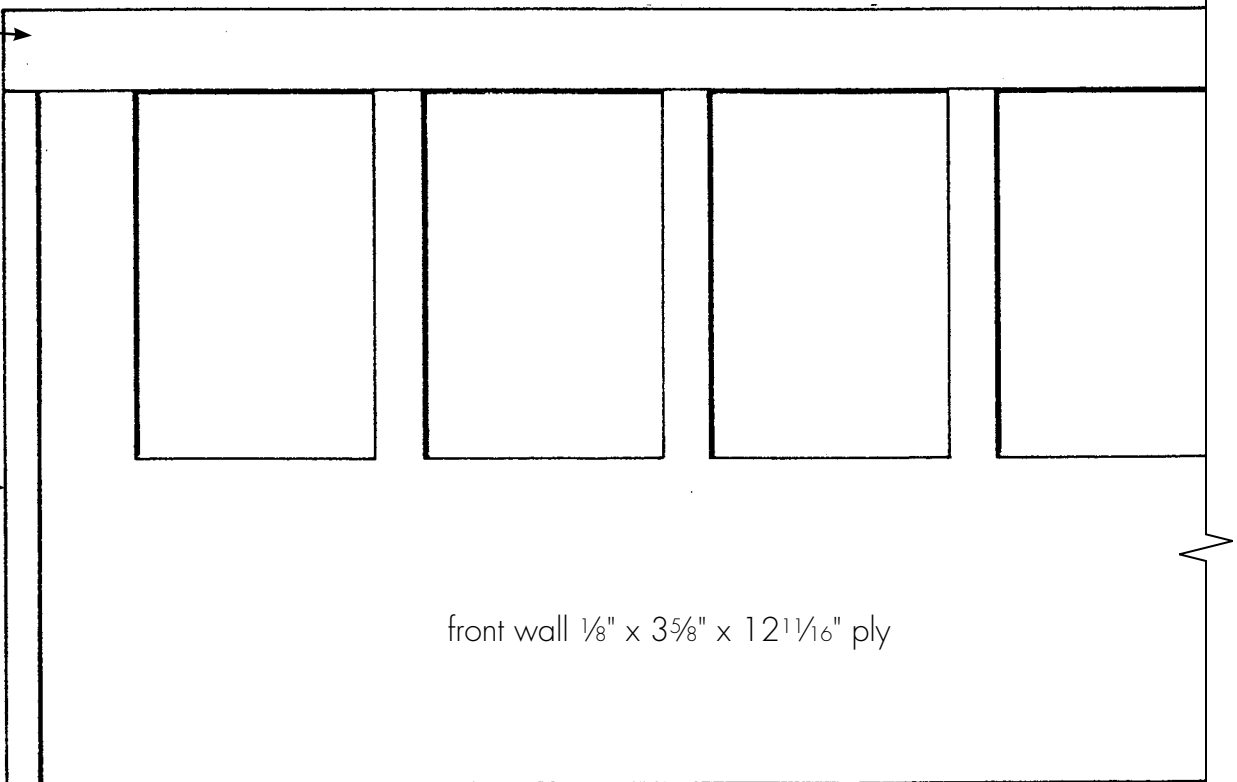
## Are you working in a different scale?

- If you are working in 1:32 scale, reduce these drawings to 63%.
- If you are working in 1:29 scale, reduce these drawings to 70%.
- If you are working in 1:24 scale, reduce these drawings to 88%.
- If you are working in 1:22.5 scale, reduce these drawings to 90%.
- If you are working in 16mm scale, enlarge these drawings to 107%.
- If you are working in 1:13.7 ( $\frac{7}{8}$ " scale), enlarge these drawings to 148%.



back wall  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $12\frac{5}{16}$ " ply

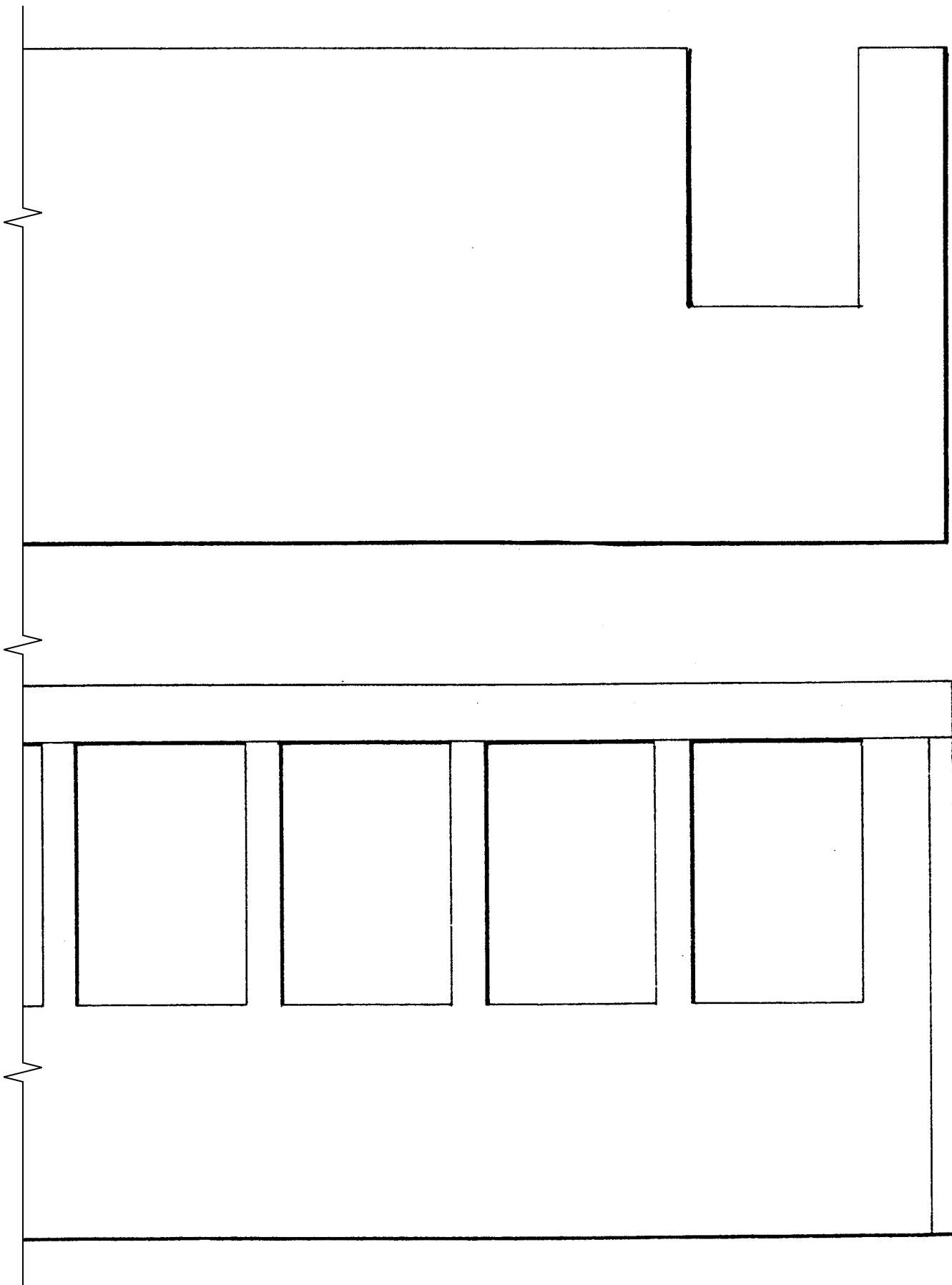
$\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $\frac{7}{16}$ "

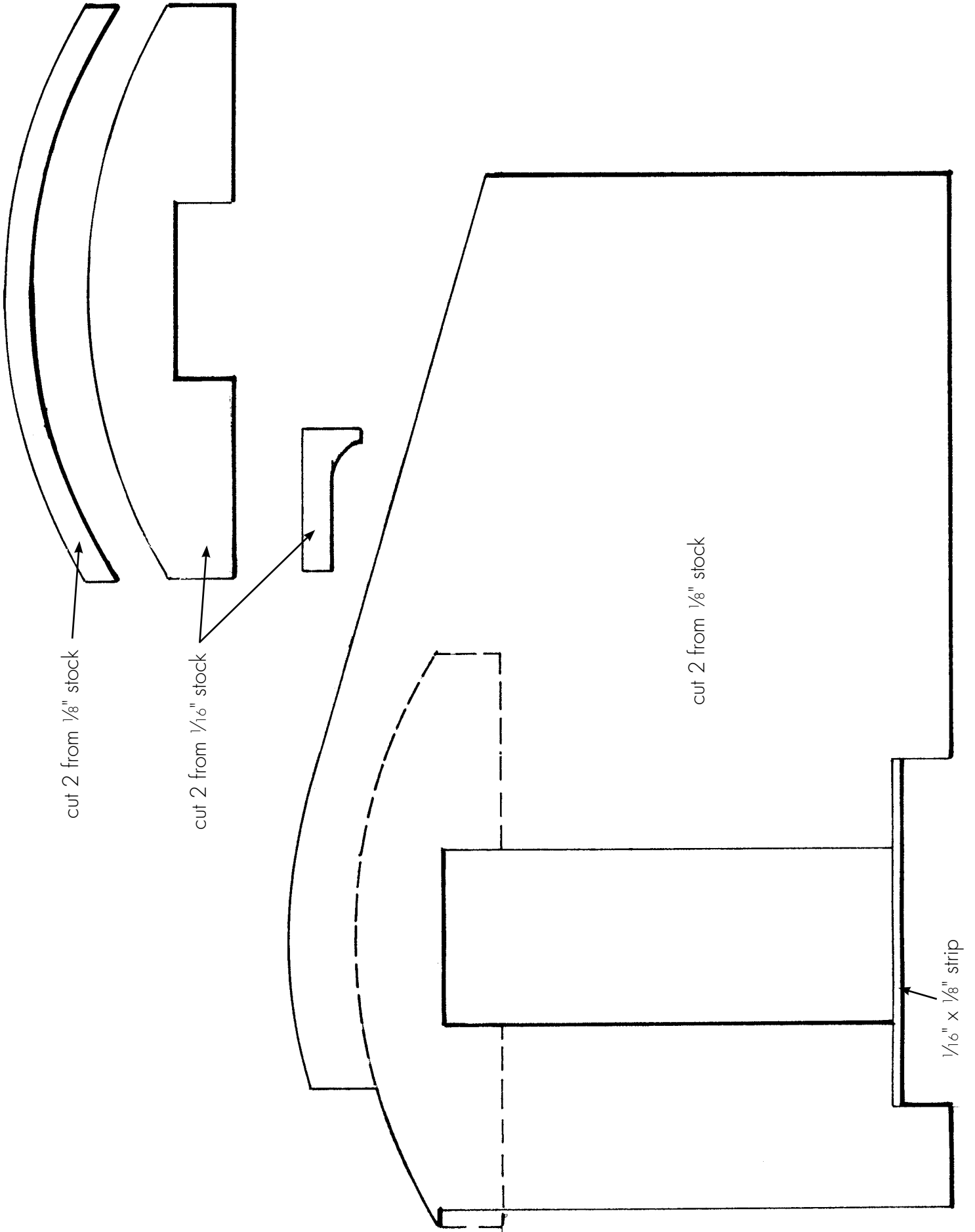


$\frac{3}{16}$ " sq.



front wall  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $12\frac{1}{16}$ " ply





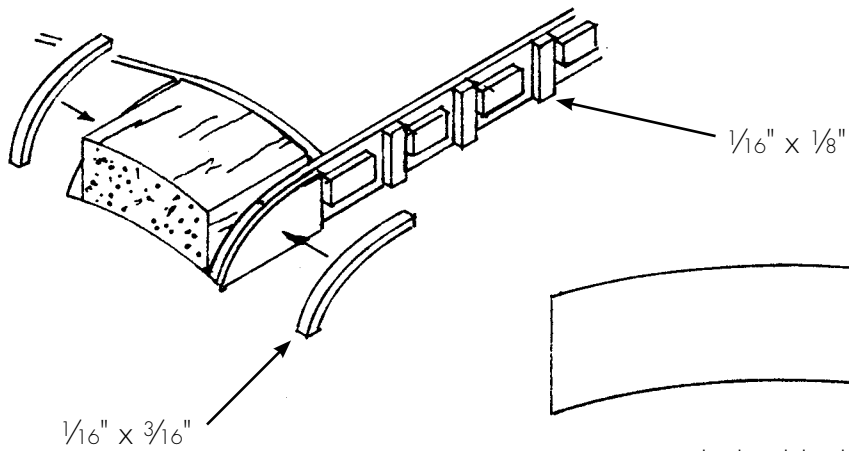
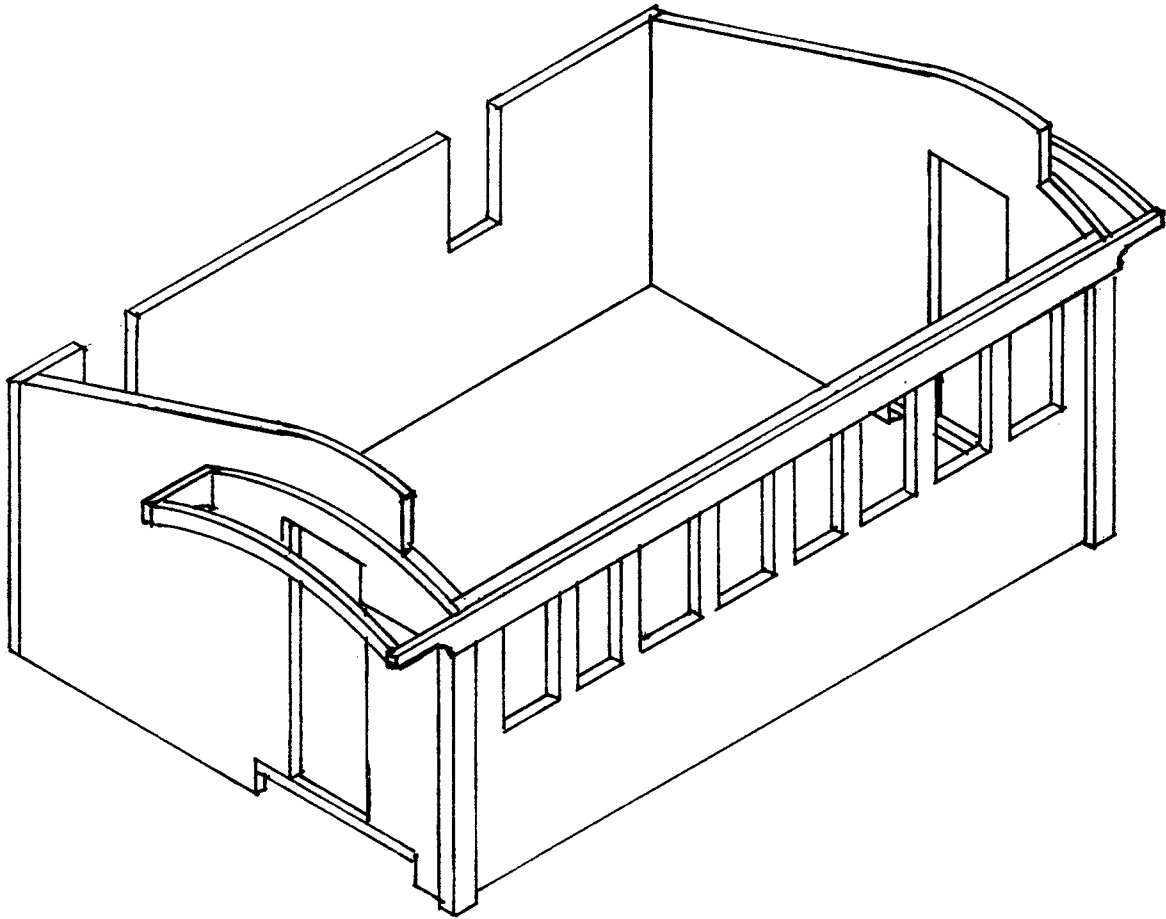
cut 2 from 1/8" stock

cut 2 from 1/16" stock

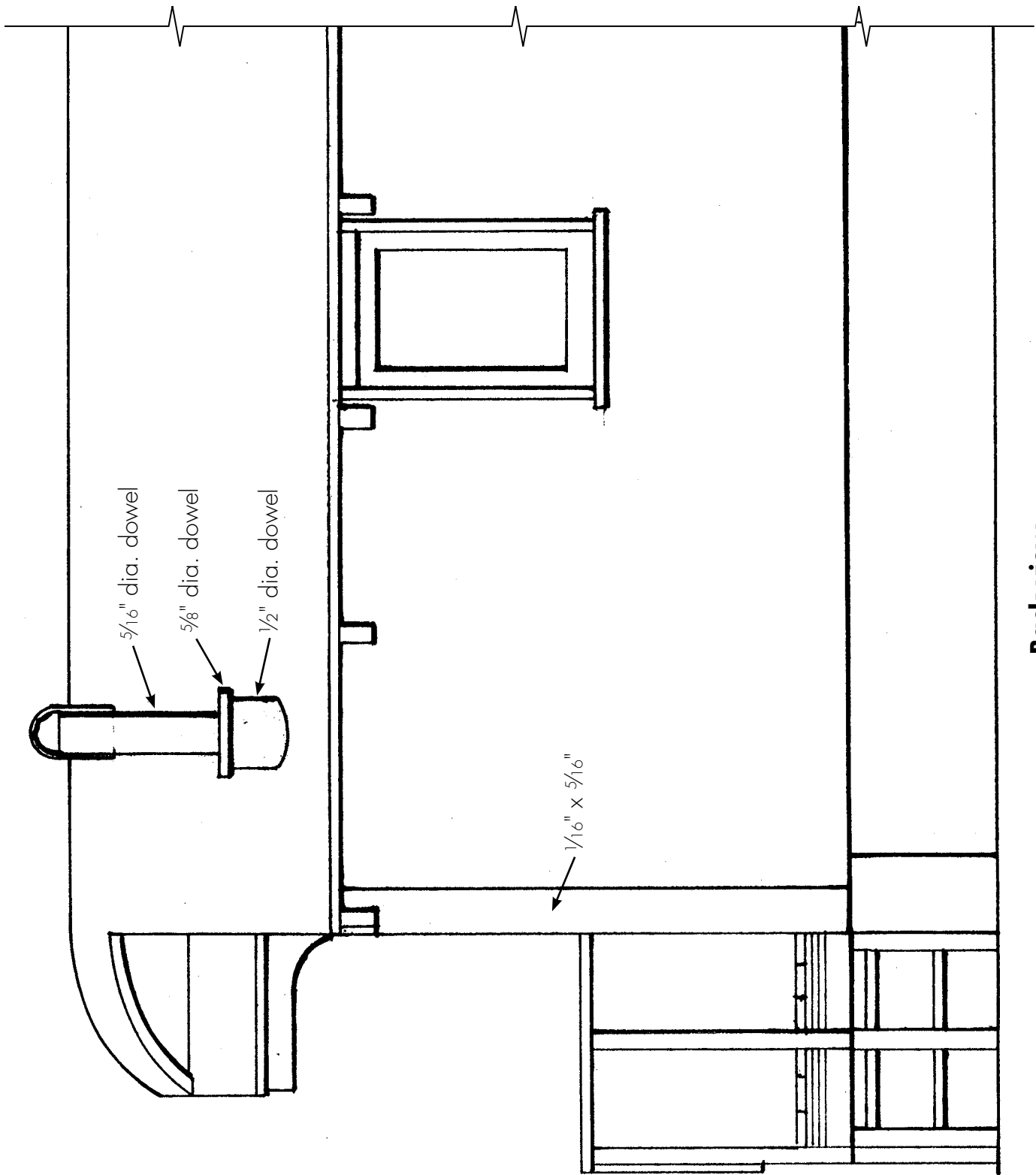
cut 2 from 1/8" stock

1/16" x 1/8" strip

## Body substructure detail

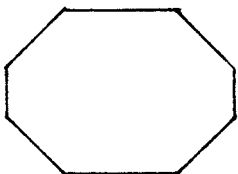


balsa block  
end pattern



**Back view**

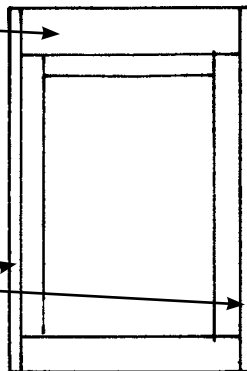
**Stove head**  
cardstock

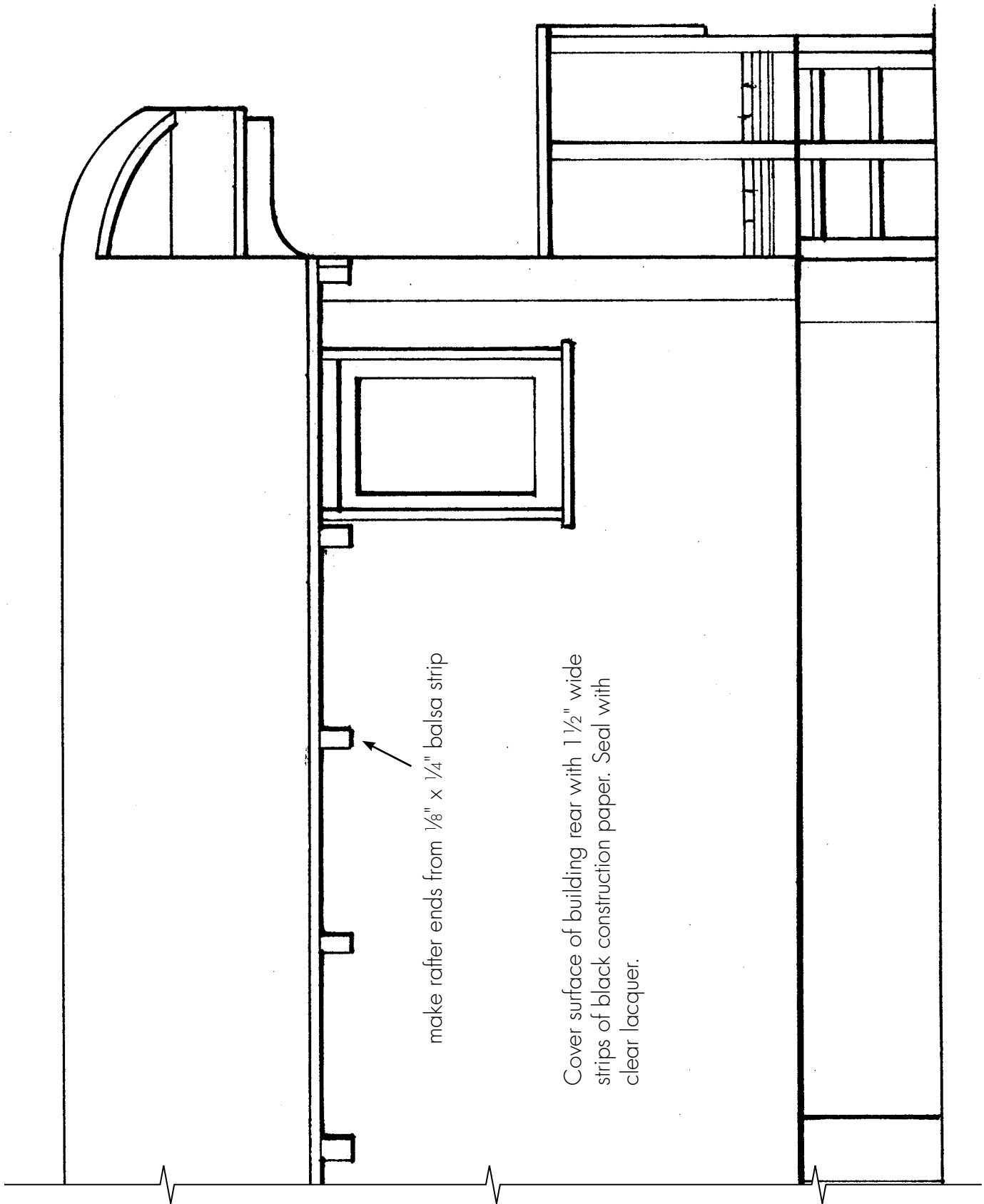


$\frac{1}{16}'' \times \frac{1}{4}''$

**Window**  
make 10

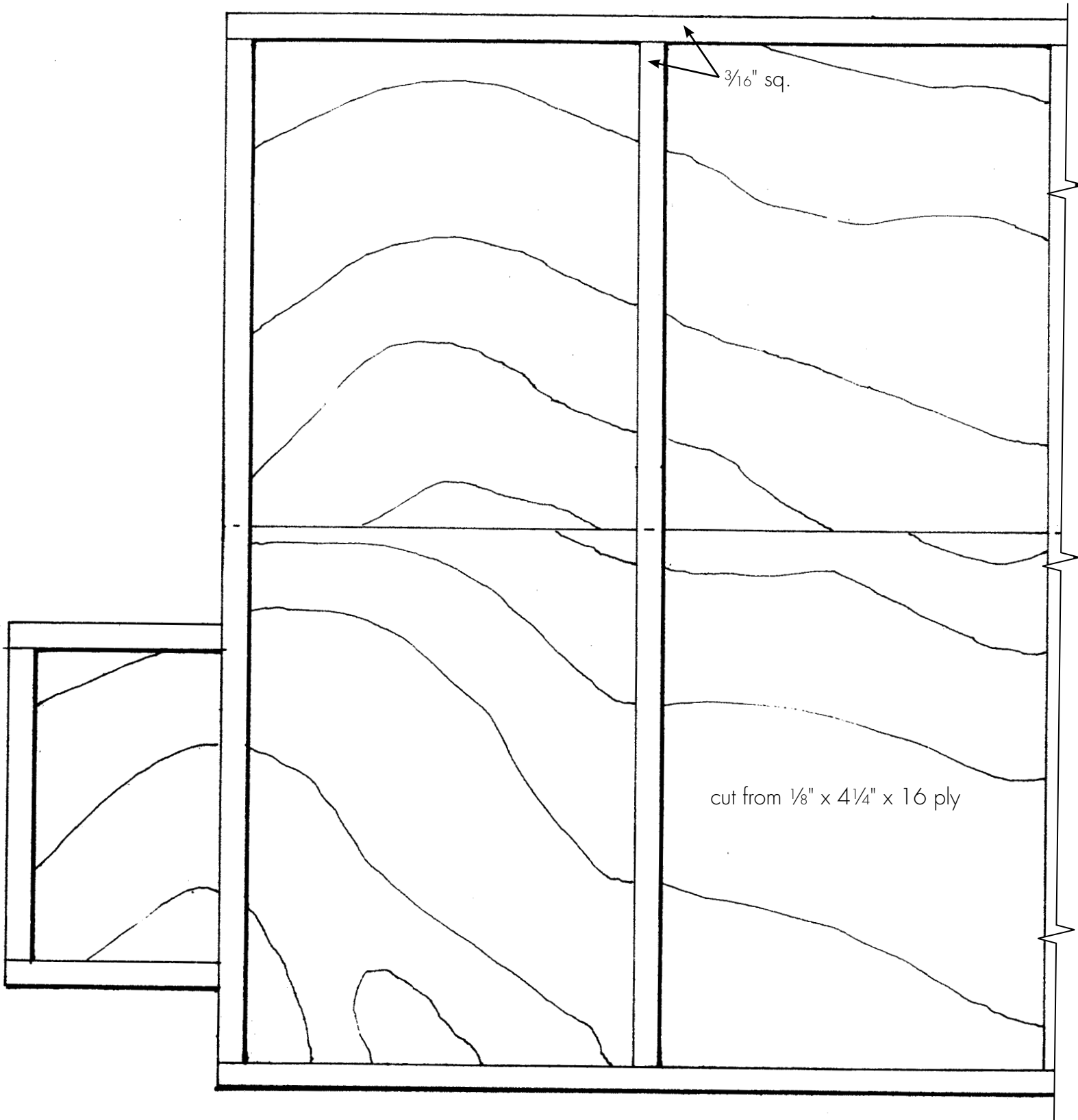
$\frac{1}{16}'' \times \frac{1}{8}''$



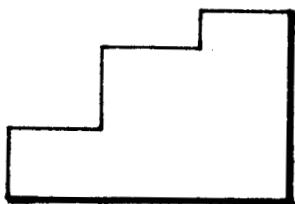


make rafter ends from  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ " balsa strip

Cover surface of building rear with  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide strips of black construction paper. Seal with clear lacquer.

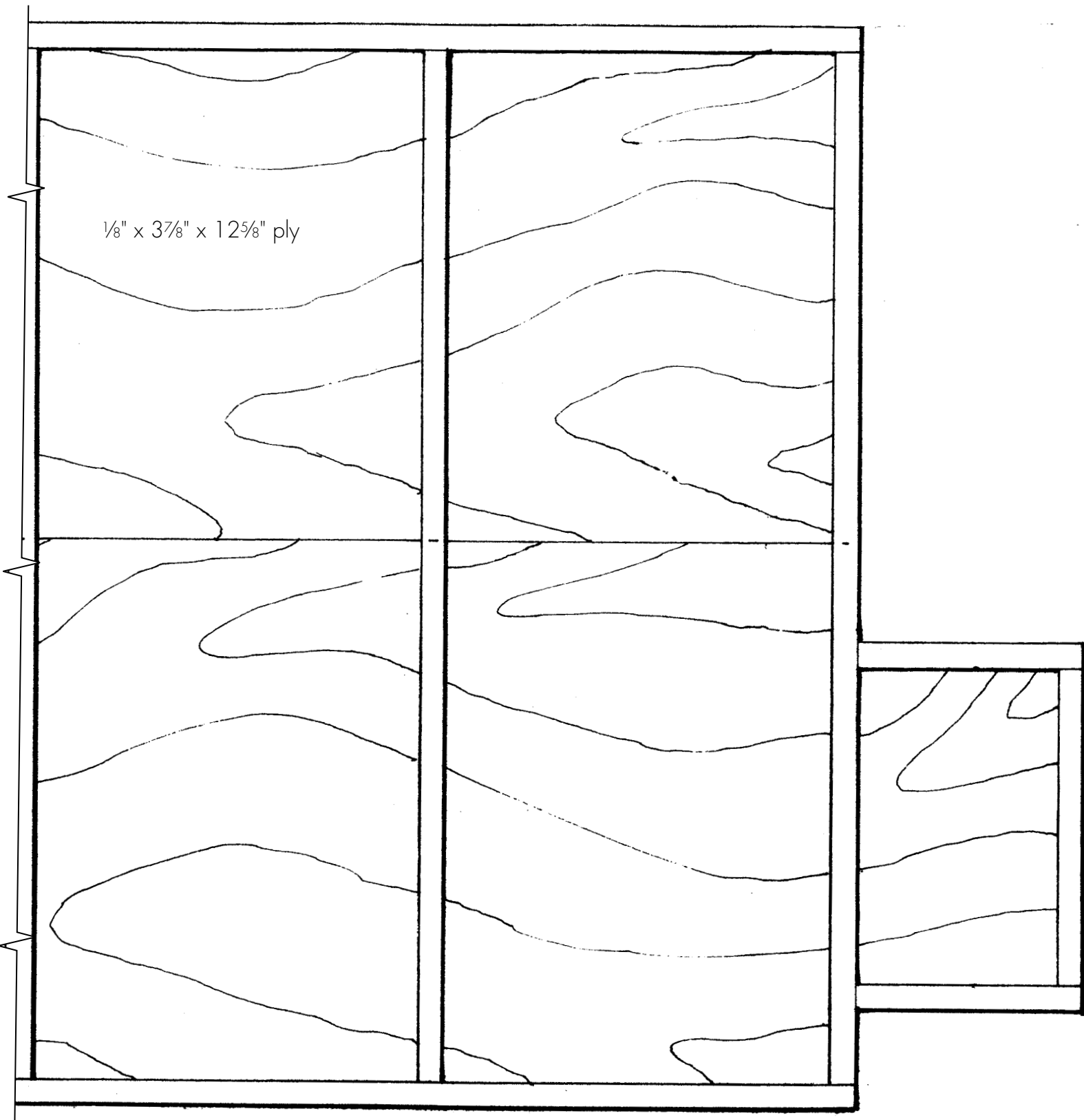


**Floor—bottom view**



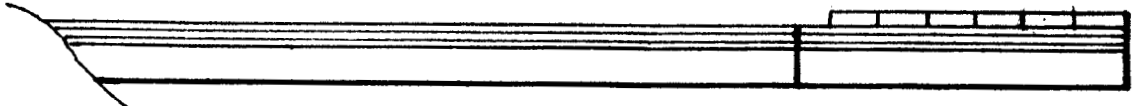
make 6 from 1/8" stock



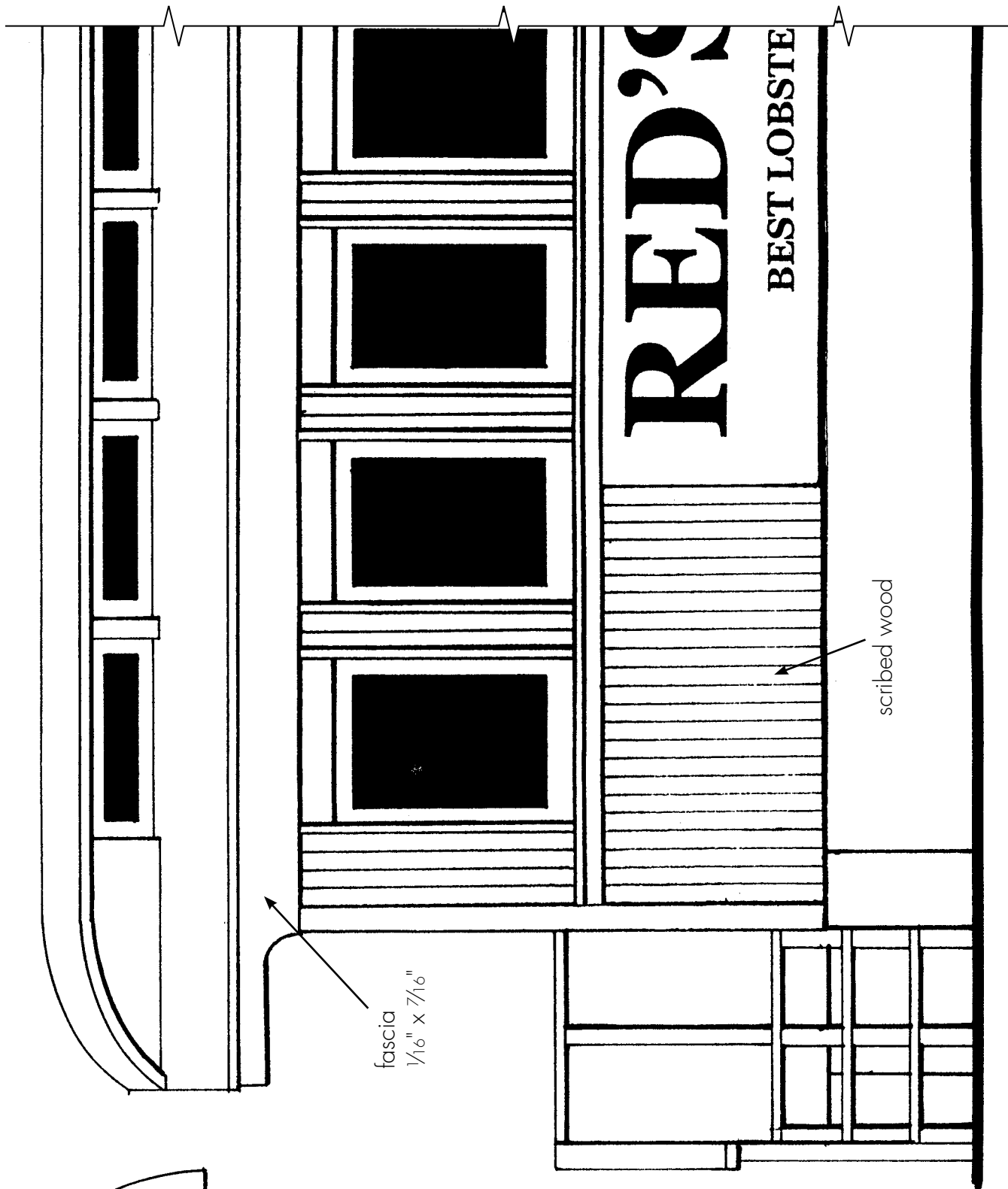


1/8" x 3 7/8" x 12 5/8" ply

plank top surface with 1/16" x 1/4" strip

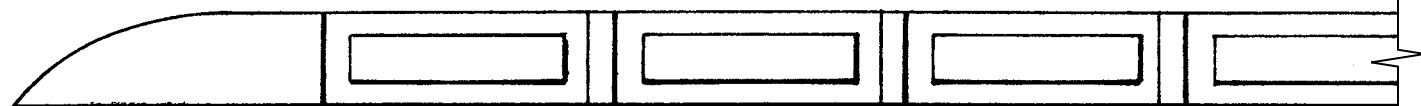


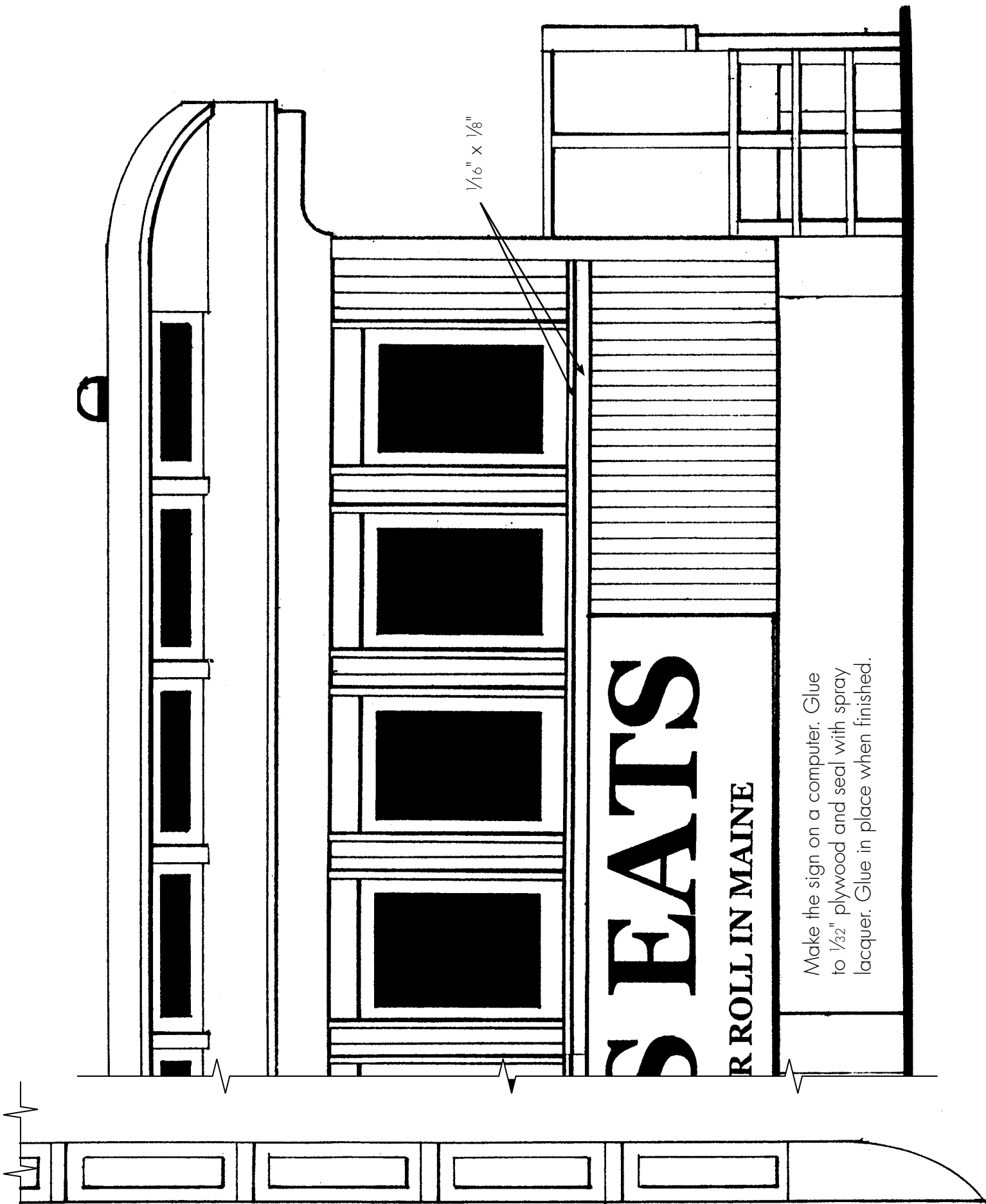
side view



cut from 1/8" balsa

clerestory side—make from 1/16" x 1/2" stripwood





Make the sign on a computer. Glue to 1/32" plywood and seal with spray lacquer. Glue in place when finished.

**End view**

