

Modelling Notebook



Fettler's Shed

Fettler's sheds/camps were located at many stations around Queensland and provided storage for the tools and section cars used for track maintenance. Several small fettler's cottages might be located nearby since daily track maintenance was provided by locally-based crews, rather than today's 'as needed' crews despatched from centralised maintenance depots with trucks and 4WD vehicles.



QR style fettlers camp built in 1:48 scale for Ron Aubrey by Jim Hutchinson. Ron Aubrey photographer.

This note shows two shed designs with detailed photos from Mount Morgan in Central Queensland. John Armstrong's plan on the page 3 represents a single bay shed from early in the 20th century but general construction techniques are similar to the more recently built sheds.



South end of the Mount Morgan fettler's shed, October 2008. Note the shape of the fascia board end and the painted sheathing. A door lock can be seen at the top of the first door, the lock on a door further along is at waist level..



The fettler's shed at Mount Morgan now has tracks to only four of its eight bays. All Mount Morgan photos Lynn Zelmer photographer, 2008. A photorealistic model based on this shed is described in a July 2012 *Narrow Gauge Downunder* article. It's also available as a free download from <http://QldRailHeritage.com/mrqc/>.

Modelling the Railways of Queensland Convention



Basic dimensions for Mount Morgan fettler's shed.



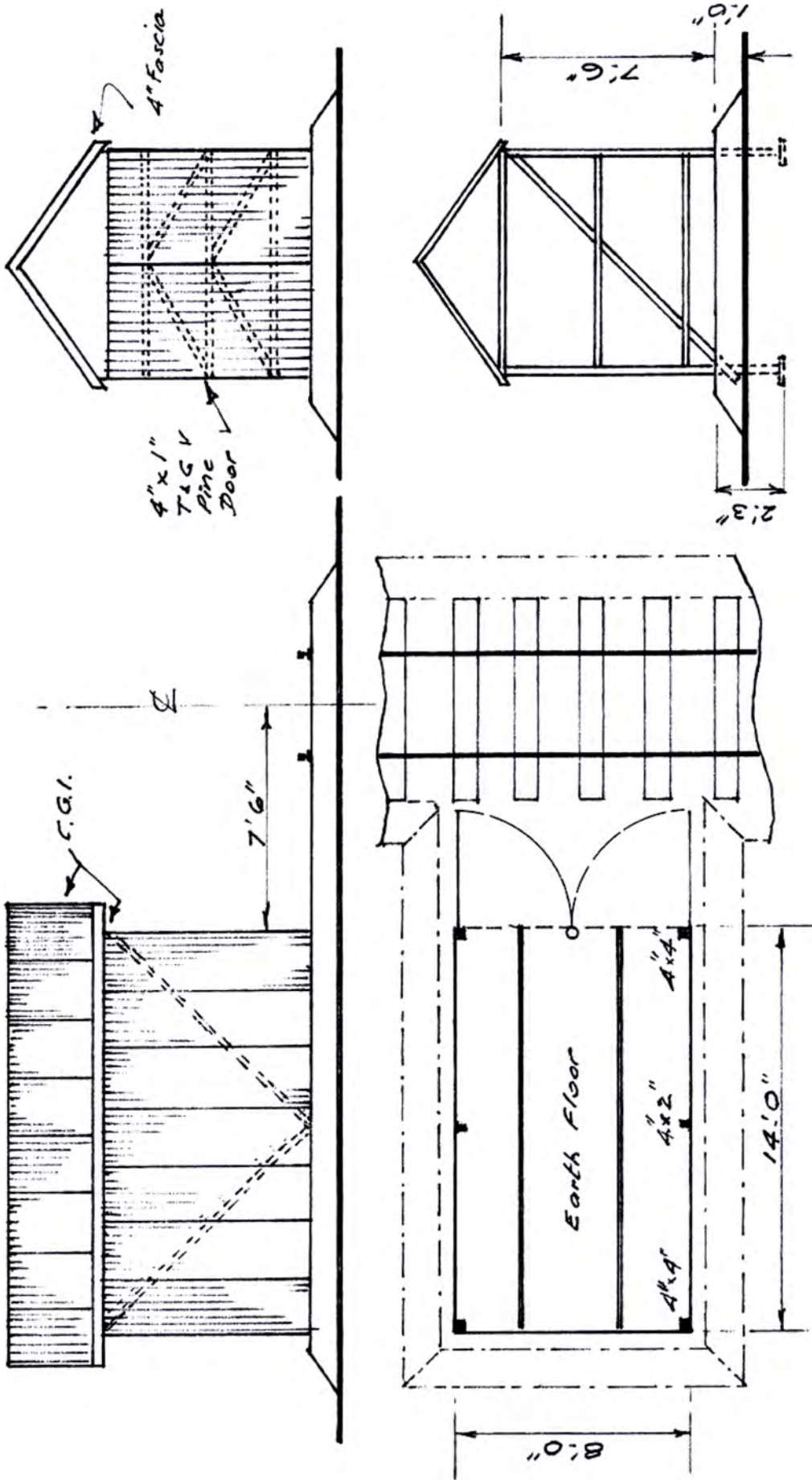
Similar but different; this fettler's shed has been relocated to the Emu Park Museum and is used for storing their section cars, tools and surplus artefacts/exhibits. Lynn Zelmer photographer, at a 2003 Central Queensland rail heritage group meeting.

Regardless of its size or roof style, the fettler's shed was a steel-clad timber framed shed, often with ventilated doors. The floor and apron might have been concreted at a major terminal but was likely dirt at smaller depots.

From a modelling perspective the doors are probably the most critical element in achieving a believable model. A newly built shed will be neat and clean, an older shed will show signs of use, and sometimes abuse or neglect.

Right: Door detail, Mount Morgan shed. Note lock at waist level and timber stops to prevent door being rolled both directions or forced open from the bottom.





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Q.G.R. TROLLEY SHED

Scale 3/16 in = 1 ft.

1:64
J.A. 101