

North-VA Williamsburg, VA
Layout #4

2026 MER Convention – Tracks to Tidewater
Layout Tour Book & Operating Sessions Guide

PRR Elmira Branch			Open for Viewing (free)		Operating Sessions (\$10.00 charge)	
Owner: Alan Balma			Date(s)	Time(s)	Date(s)	Time(s)
S	18' x 28''	Trackwork and electrical 100%, scenery 50%	Thursday	10a.m.–1p.m.		
Accessibility: Layout is in an up-stair room. Not handicapped accessible. NOTE: Ford Colony is a gated community. The staffed gate is on the corner of Fords Colony Drive and John Pott. Please, give my name and address to gain entry.						
			12 Guests at a time around layout			

Description: This is a fine scale, S gauge layout which means scale couplers and wheels riding on Code 100 rail (Not an American Flyer Layout). Relative to other scales, there are very few layouts in this category. I think you will see the “S” is the perfect size”. An NCE DCC system manages the layout, and every locomotive has a sound decoder installed. Over 40 custom turnouts are control by



either stationary decoders or Berret Hill Touch Toggles.

The layout models two towns on the PRR Elmira Branch, Penn Yan and Canandaigua, NY. This is in the heart of the Finger Lakes. Penn Yan rail ships both fresh produce and processed foods such as apple cider, sauerkraut, and wine. Canandaigua is the

division end-point classification yard and a major interchange with the New York Central. A long siding leads to the dock at Canandaigua Lake, so fresh fruit and vegetables can be loaded straight from lake boats into refrigerated rail cars. Majority of cargo is destined for New York City and Philadelphia. This is a switching layout where the focus of operations is dropping off empties that have come from the east and picking up loaded cars from the industries, in these two towns for shipment to the big cities.

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