Manhattan Terminal Railroad

Bruce Ryan

The Manhattan Terminal Railroad is a 1.6 mile proto-freelance layout focused on urban switching on the west side of Manhattan in the mid-1960s. The layout is inspired by terminal railroads in New York Harbor, which received cars only by car float, and the New York Central's West Side Freight Line, particularly the High Line, an elevated freight line that ran south of 30th Street Yard. The layout features urban scenery and details on the streets of Manhattan.

Bruce Ryan
44 North Lansing School Road
Groton, New York 13073
607-533-3587 (landline)
607-227-6950 (cell)
bruceryan44@gmail.com

Layout at a Glance:
Scale: HO
Size: Shelf layout, 75 linear feet, 18-24 inches deep
Prototype: New York Central West Side Freight Line
Locale: West Side of Manhattan, New York City
Era: Mid-1960s
Style: Walkaround Shelf Layout
Mainline Run: 71 Feet
Minimum Radius: 26 inches
Minimum Turnout: #6
Maximum Grade: 2 percent
Benchwork: Hollow Core Doors on Shelf Brackets
Height: 50 inches
Roadbed: Extruded Foam
Track: Code 83
Scenery: Urban/Complete
Backdrop: Urban Structures, Photos, LARC Graphics
Control: NCE Wireless DCC with ProtoThrottles

Operating Positions: Two crews of two persons each, one engineer and one brakeman/conductor. One crew works 30th Street Yard and unloads the car float, distributes cars to the yard, and switches local customers near the yard. The other crew runs a local to switching districts south of the yard and switches customers there. Crews use ProtoThrottles to run the trains and switch lists that list deliveries and pick ups.

Note – Bruce's layout is about an hour travel from Syracuse but is every bit worth the travel. Due to the time involved to drive there Bruce will start 1 hour earlier than others on Saturday Session #1, giving operators plenty of time to get back to Syracuse for your night session and hotel. Sunday operators will start an hour later than the rest to accommodate the travel time after the group breakfast.