

# Tucson Botanical Gardens Grain Elevator Repair

*By Glenn Mitchell*

Several years ago someone, unknown to me, built a structure in the form of a “grain elevator” for the Tucson Botanical Garden railroad layout. Over the years the rain, sun and insects have been unkind to it. The sides were warping, joints between panels were coming apart and the paint was deteriorated. I thought the building fit the railroad nicely and so decided to attempt to rehabilitate the structure. The accompanying photos and captions give a little before-and-after view of the process. Hopefully the grain elevator will be in service for at least a few more years.



This is pretty much how the building looked on the layout. You can see that it is weather-worn and coming apart.

A major reason for the structural failure is that termites had eaten most of the internal bracing.





New bracing and two new sides being installed. New parts have been glued and brad-nailed in place.

Repaired structure has been sanded and is ready for primer and paint.





Primer and paint complete. The paint is official TBG Acent Green.



Finished building with reattached roof decks, new window and TBG "agave" logo ready for the railroad.