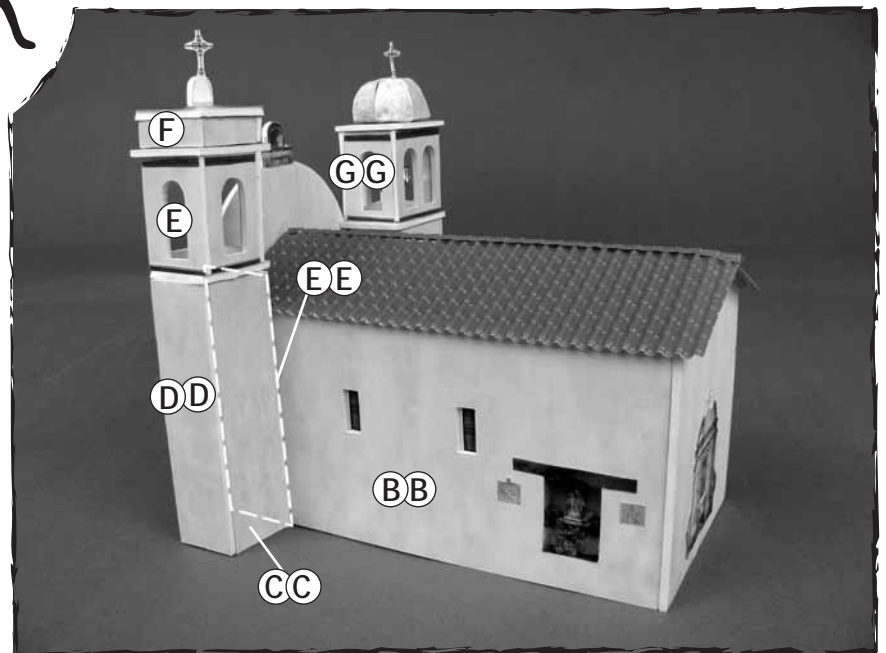
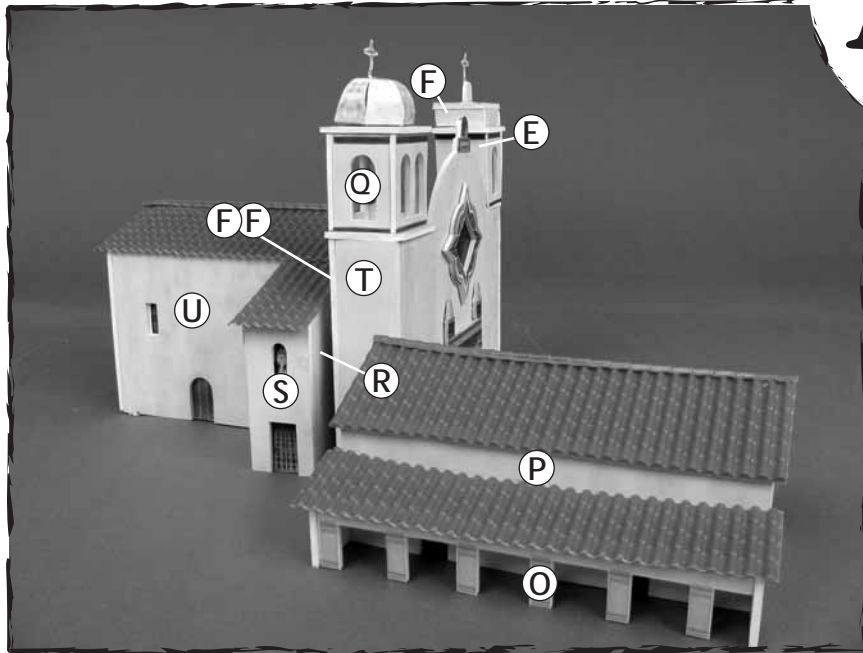
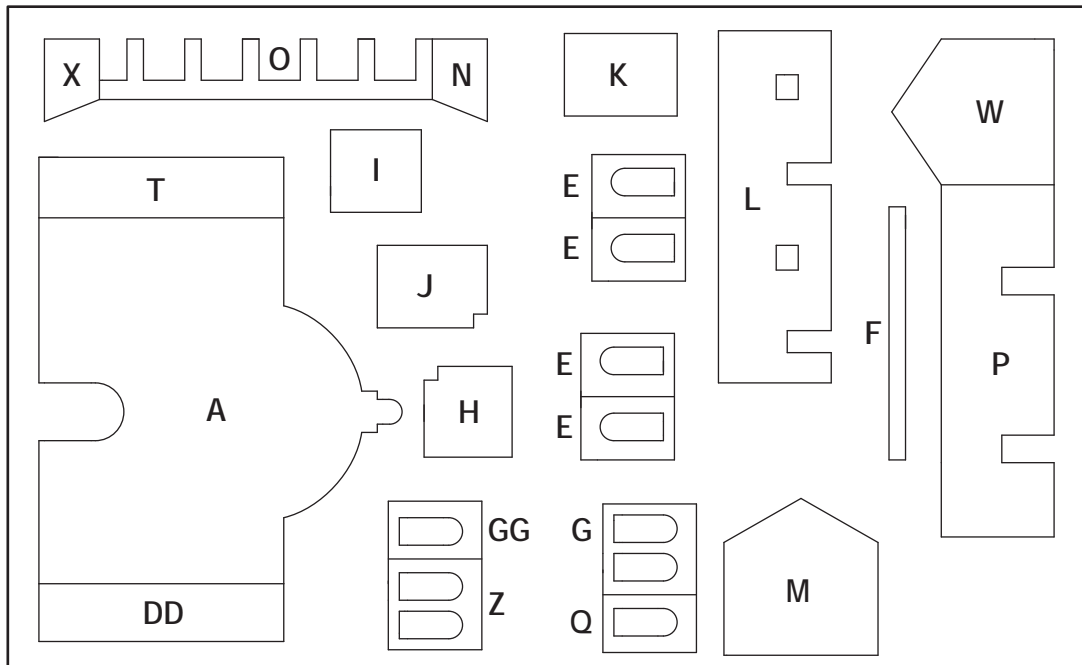
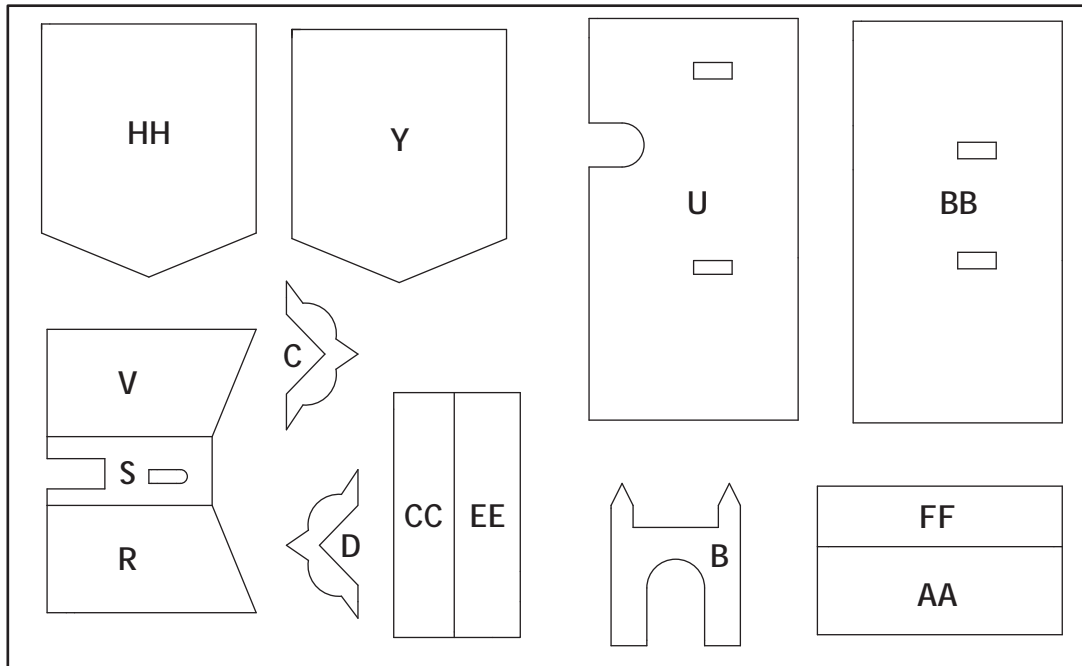


MR



Mission San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo



Mission San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo

Number in Series: 2

Founded: June 3 1770 by Blessed Junipero Serra

Named for: Saint Charles Borromeo

Nickname: Mission Carmel

Indian Name: Eslenes (or maybe Esselen)

Founded second in the mission chain on June 3, 1770, San Carlos Borromeo (named for St. Charles Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan) is believed by many to be the most beautiful of all the California missions. It is here that Father Junipero Serra made his headquarters, and where he was laid to rest along with Father Crespi and Father Lasuen.

In 1797 a large stone church was built around the original adobe one, using sandstone from the Santa Lucia Mountains. Its individuality is illustrated by a Moorish dome, geometric star-designed window and ornate false front.

Following secularization, the great stone church was abandoned and stood roofless until 1884. The latest restoration was begun in 1931, and resulted in one of the most beautiful and authentic of all the missions. Two years later Carmel Mission became an independent parish, and in 1961 the mission was honored and designated as a Minor Basilica by Pope John XXIII. It remains a very busy and active parish church, declared venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1985.