What Can Dioramas or Displays Do For You?

Chuck Endreola

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Agenda

1. Diorama vs. Display
2. Definition & Composition of Displays
3. Displays as a Hobby
4. Purpose of this Presentation
5. Reasons to Create Displays
6. How I Design and Create Them
7. Additional Examples

Contain Elements and a Story

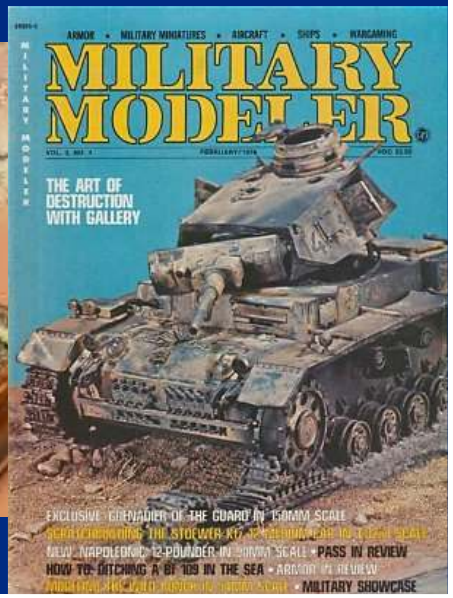


Figures & Details Advance Story



Military Modelers Historically a Hobby In Itself





Purpose of Presentation

To demonstrate and motivate you to create displays to enhance your enjoyment in this great hobby

Reasons to Create a Display

1. Experimentation
2. Access and Comfort
3. Portability
4. Stand-alone Display
5. Swapping Scenes

1. Experimentation

Bad product ?
or
Misapplication ?

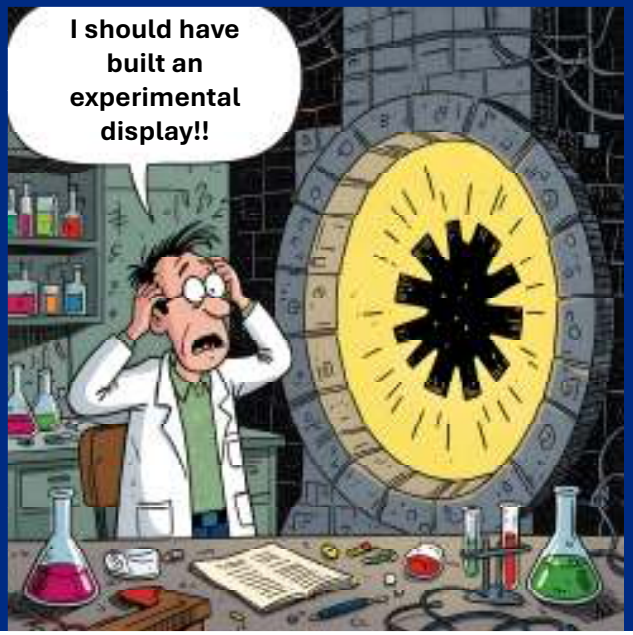
= DISASTER !



Big Ordeal to Fix this?



Why Suffer Modeler's Remorse?



2. Access & Comfort



"Sure Is Comfy Up Here"



Aah! - Access and Comfort



3. Portability



This Display first entered at a regional



Then Installed on Layout

4. Stand-alone Display

by Bob Lawson

80% Scratch Built



5. Swapping or Trading Scenes



Scene Swapping Spot on Layout





One of 2 displays for this spot

How Do I Start?



Which Inspiration Comes First? The Theme or Elements?

Element Inspired



Element Inspired



Theme Inspired





I Looked for Element Inspiration

From over 200 kits in my underground warehouse

You Too?



My Chosen Element

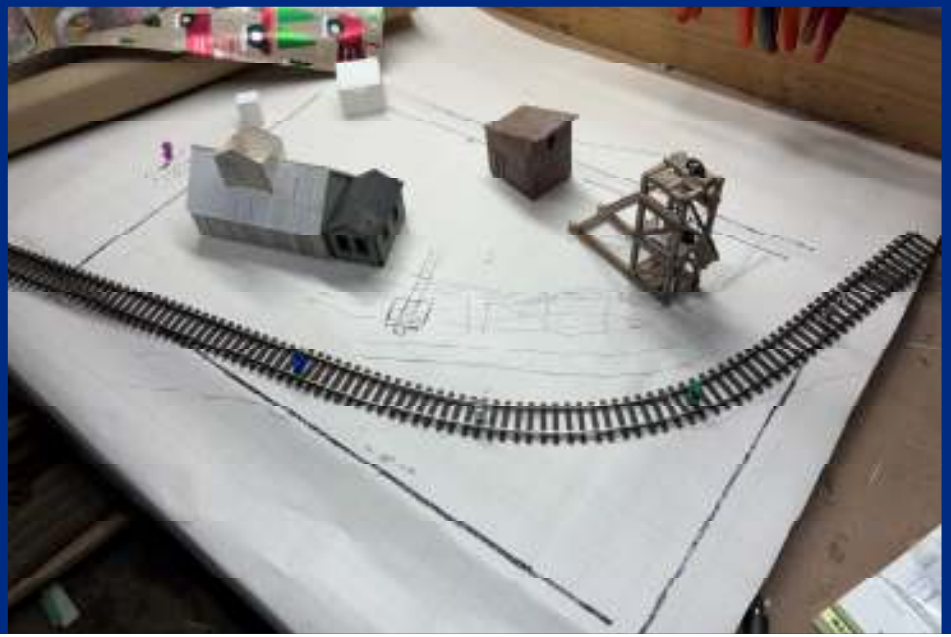


A very old kit purchased by a kid, recently given to me by ...

Sam Parfitt age 6, 1872



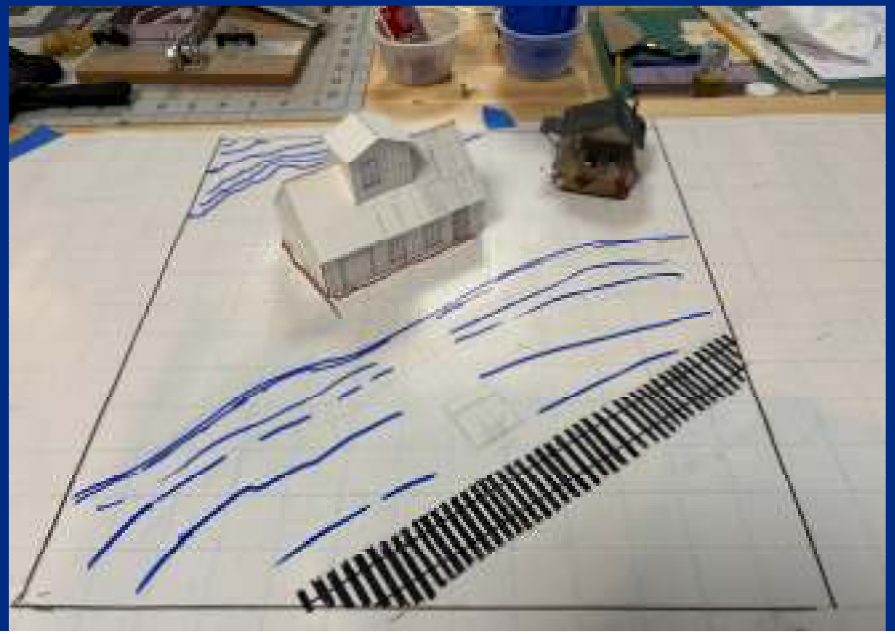
I Explored Arrangements



Mock- Up



Arrangement with Topography



Base Material Choices

MDF

Plywood

OSB

Masonite

Beaded Styrofoam

Foamcore

Gatorfoam

Ultra Board

Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)

Qualities of XPS

- Light
- Strong
- Available
- Several Thicknesses
- Easy to Cut
- Easy to Shape
- Easy to Modify
- Paintable

Tools For Foam





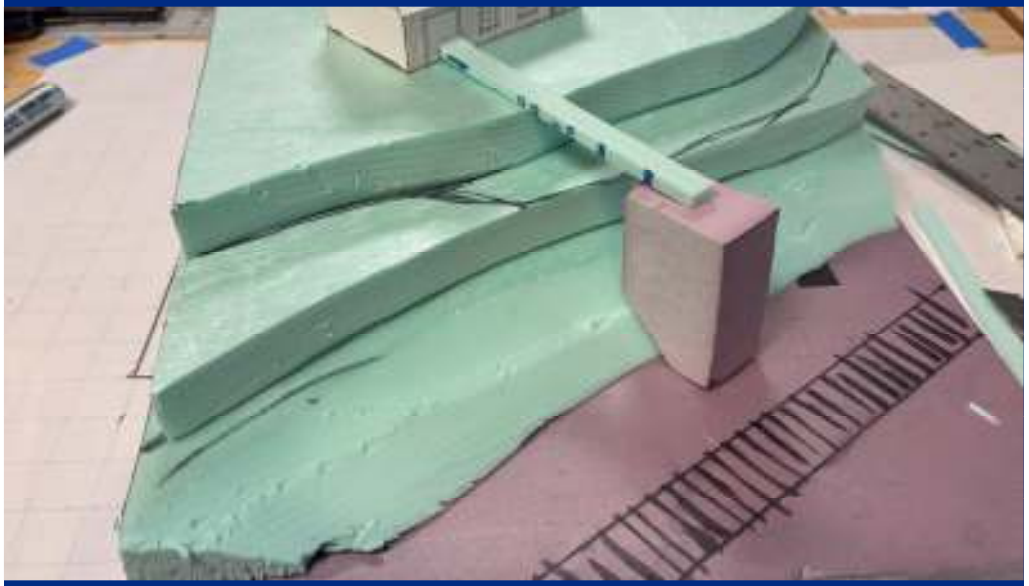
Forming Topography Layers



Rough Out the Design



Added New Structure



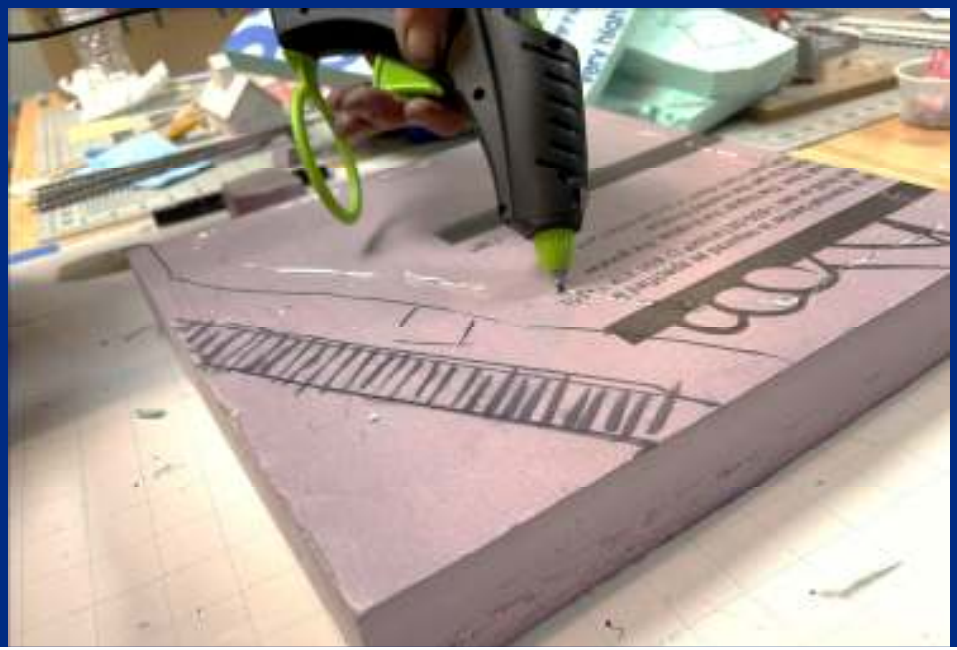
Foam Friendly Adhesives

- Low Temp Hot Glue-Need Dual Temp Gun
- Construction Adhesives - “foam safe”
- Loctite “Power Grab”
- White Glue (e.g. Elmer’s) or Woodland Scenics Foam Glue - for attaching details
- Super Glue - for details or small layers
- Dry Wall Screws - coarse thread

Unfriendly to Foam

- Solvent Based Contact Cements, like Pliobond or Walthers “Goo”
- Solvent Based Paints - including most “Rattle” Spray Cans
- General Construction Adhesives - those not labeled “foam safe”
- Single Temperature Glue Guns or Dual Temperature Guns on “High”

Low Temp Glue Around Perimeter



Building Topography In Layers





Work Quickly

Quick Assembly With Hot Glue





Initial Rockface Shaping

This Area Will Be Greatly Modified



Carved and Added Outcroppings

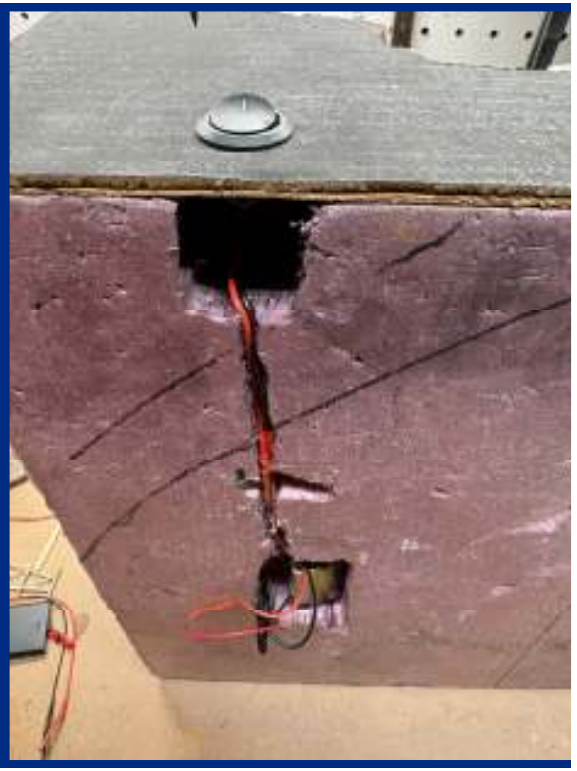




Ultra Light Weight Spackle “Patch and Paint”

Building Lighting

Foam Hollowed Out To Accommodate LED Circuit





Tape Provides Containment and Access to Battery

Base Coat Painting



Temporary Structure Bases



Remember Ease & Comfort?



Ground Cover & Structures



Finished Display



Final Arrangement



Tells a Story



Available For Viewing



Some Additional Examples

All Built At Workbench and Installed Into Layout







NOT

“The End”

The Beginning of Your New Modeling Experience