

Needle Monument from Battlezone Scenics (www.terrainwarehouse.co.uk)

Review by Jonathan Aird

This is a tale that is either cautionary or celebratory, however you decide to view it. Whilst visiting Salute earlier this year I passed by the Terrain Workshop stand and perused their rather extensive range of fields, rock formations, defences, bunkers and other odd stuff. And there it was – the Needle monument, a classic Egyptian style standing stone of “Cleopatra’s Needle” fame. They had quite a few of them, both unpainted and a couple of painted examples. “Hmm, think I’ll get some of those but first I just want to look at ...,” I thought to myself.



Of course, when I returned they only had the one painted example left. Drat! I’d by this time decided to buy a couple of unpainted ones. A little more humming and haring and I persuaded myself to get the one painted one left – otherwise I’d have nothing at all. And so the cautionary part of the story – don’t hesitate, buy it when you see it. And the celebratory part? Well, the painted example looks wonderful, and at £6 was only a couple of pounds more than the unpainted example and (perhaps rather obviously) it is painted! I’d say the paint job is pretty good – a base colour and a couple of washes makes for an effective looking piece. So, that’s one less job for me to do!

It’s a fine four-sided obelisk standing a good 15cm tall – which is impressive enough for 28mm figures, and simply staggering (but not impossibly so) in height with 15mm figures! There’s a semi-circular marking half way up it, but only on one side. I think it would be pretty straightforward to add painted features, such as hieroglyphics, if starting from an unpainted example.

As well as the obvious Ancient Egyptian settings it’s also going to be useful for fantasy and science fiction games (“Fascinating, Captain, clearly a construction of an advanced civilisation”) as well as for 1930s style pulp games (maybe for “murder in the archaeological expedition” or as a relic of the Old Ones in a C’tulhu game).

“Armed Minifigs harpies...why did it have to be armed Minifigs Harpies ?”

