

# DIORAMA DEBRIS

SILICONE RUBBER MOULDS  
FOR  
MILITARY MODELLERS

## Noville School Diorama Part 1 Introduction



What is left of the school in Noville 1945 and the diorama we built.

### Introduction

This diorama is based on a photo of the old school in Noville, Belgium 1945. The boy's section of the school was completely destroyed in the Battle of the Bulge.



The colour version of the photo above.

We had three goals when we built this diorama:

- To scratch build a 1:35 scale building using brick wall sections cast with the 1:35 Scale Brick Wall Section Mould plus other moulds as required, bits of wood and other stuff you might find around an amateur model builders workshop.
- It should demonstrate how the parts might be assembled and cover many of the tasks common in building construction both inside and out.
- Our final goal was to see how close we could get to duplicating a scene in a photo from WWII.

The hardest part was finding an old photo that showed a suitable building. We needed one that showed both internal and external features including a roof and tiles.

In the end we had to compromise and choose the old school house in Noville. This looked perfect, a building that was almost cut in half showing everything we needed from broken plaster on the internal walls to a roof with trusses and tiles.

So what was the compromise? Well we needed to demonstrate using the Brick Wall Section Mould and the old school at Noville was not made of brick.

The other problem was that the building was too long to model in the time we had available and even if we had the time it would be about 4 ft long in 1:35 scale.

So how do you terminate a large building or even a terrace building without building the whole thing?

Well you could model the rest of the building or adjoining buildings as having been destroyed. This is common practice and works well if you are not trying to recreate a real building. As there are other well known photos showing the rest of the old school at Noville we decided against this.

In the end we decided to only model the part that is shown in the old photo. We decided to terminate it like an open dolls house, the same as they do on film sets.



This would allow us, if we wanted, to add furniture, pictures on the walls and other items to make it interesting to anyone viewing the model from this direction. It is said that a good diorama should be interesting whatever direction you view it from.

**Note:** *The base was constructed using same method described in the Building a Simple 1:35 Scale Stone Block Ruin Guide.*

In Part 2 we will be covering the building design and how to use the 1:35 Scale Brick Wall Section Mould to build the walls.