



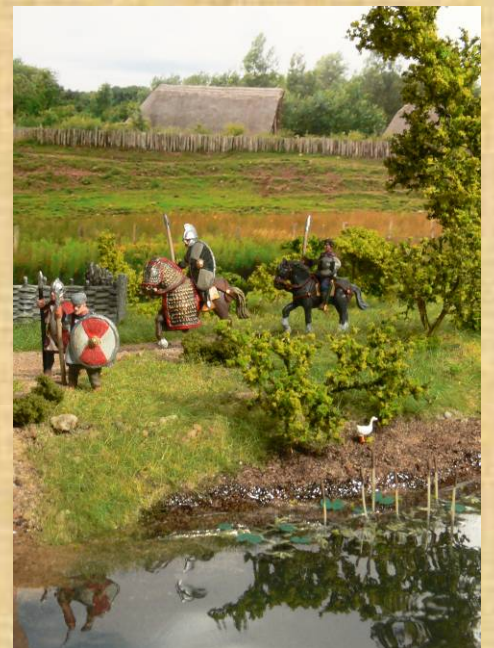
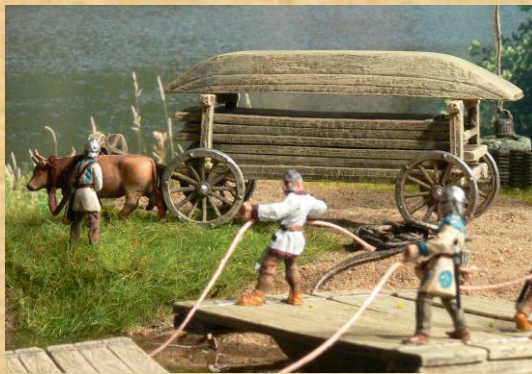
This diorama is called “Pontoon Training” and shows some Late Roman soldiers expertly (more or less) operating a pontoon bridge. The scene is located somewhere in Roman Lower Germany (comprising parts of modern Northwestern Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands), and the background photos used here are from this area.





The water surface was made using polyester resin: a nasty stuff that appears deceptively simple to apply, but that turned out to be a real troublemaker (terrible smell, surface remains sticky etc.).









The pontoon itself is based on the HäT set 8108 French Pontoon for the Napoleonic era. I could not find a genuine reconstruction of the transportable Late Roman pontoons. But the funny thing is that the boats in the HäT set really have distantly similar shape (although quite different dimensions) as the Roman barges that were actually used in this region.



The soldiers are by HäT, MiniArt and Italeri, with additional figures by Zvezda and Hecker & Goros. The animals are from sets Pegasus 7052 and the good, old Nexus ATL 013 Stampede; the bridge is the Italeri 6128 Stone Bridge.

© Text and pictures 2017 Stephan Berry / www.stephan.berry.de