Serie ARTE ROMANICO 40079 ROMANICA 5 (St. Climent de Taüll). English

LOCATION

The town of Taüll, at an altitude of 1,482 metres, is located in the ancient road of Capdella. The town is formed by two centres, with the main area located near the church of Santa María de Taüll, and a second area which continues along an extended road, and takes us to the church of Sant Climent.

BRIEF HISTORY OF SANT CLIMENT DE TAÜLL

The church of Sant Climent is extremely similar to that of Santa María. It has three naves separated by cylindrical columns, with a wooden roof with two slopes, and three semicircular apses decorated by arches and half columns.

The square belfry is made of six floors, five of which have windows with arches and columns. It is decorated on the outside with Lombard arches and jagged friezes which indicate the separation between the floors.

The church of Sant Climent was sponsored by the Erill when they attempted to create a monastic centre in the valley. The church was restored in 1922 and 1970. During the most recent restoration, additional Romanesque paintings were discovered. Those which were found at the beginning of the century decorating the central apse and the walls of the chancel have been restored and transferred to the Museum of Art of Catalonia.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANS AND MATERIALS

PLANS AND PATTERNS

Two types of plans can be found in the box. One set is printed on cardboard and numbered from 40079/1 to 40079/14. The other set is printed on normal paper and numbered from 40079/11 to 40079/22.

The cutout pieces can be found in the first of these sets. These pieces shall be used to form the base on which the ceramic pieces are assembled, as described further on.

The second set of plans is simply descriptive. It shows the process to be followed during assembly for the ceramic pieces as well as the cardboard cutouts.

There are two types of lines printed on the cardboard: continuous lines and broken lines. The continuous lines are the lines to follow when cutting out the printed figures and the broken lines indicate where the figures are folded.

To cut out the figures, obtain a ruler (we recommend a metal ruler) and a cutting tool (cutter or scalpel). Place the ruler on the line and follow the line with the cutting tool. Try to cut out the figures as exactly as possible.

To fold the pieces, the most suitable method is to place the ruler on the broken line and make a mark along the line with the tip of a pair of scissors. It is important not to cut the cardboard. Apply the pressure needed to make the mark.

We recommend making the marks for the folds before cutting out the figures.

The cardboard pieces are marked with numbers which indicate the areas which should be glued to the board and to one another.

BASE OF THE BUILDING

A printed base is also included. Due to limitations of space in the box which contains the material, this base is divided. Put glue on the edges of both pieces of board and glue them together so that they match exactly. The numbers on the base indicate the position of each of the cardboard figures. These should match exactly with the pieces glued in these positions.

The printing also indicates the areas where the flanges on the figures should be placed and glued. The areas on the boards with slanted lines indicate the thickness of the walls. These are the areas where construction should begin.

CERAMIC PIECES

The characteristics and hardness of the ceramic pieces are suitable so that they can be modified or adapted to the area were they are going to be installed. Use a fine tooth file or sandpaper to adapt the pieces. A jar of glue can also be found in the box.

ATMOSPHERE

In the box you shall also find a bag with natural moss. This can be used to provide the final atmosphere.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Begin construction by preparing the cardboard figures marked with number 1 on page 40079/1, figures 2 and 10 from page 40079/2 and figure 9 from page 40079/3. (Remember the system described previously). Glue figure 9 to the base of the board. Install figures 2 and 10, gluing these to the flanges of figure 9 and also to the base of the board. Glue figure 1 in the appropriate area located on the base and to the flanges of the two prior figures. See descriptive plan 40079/11, which provides further details regarding the installation process. It is important that figure 9 be installed exactly in the area reserved for it on the base board.

Cut out and prepare figure 4, which is found on page 40079/7, and attach it to the appropriate area on the side wall. See plan 40079/11.

Prepare figure 3 from page 40079/9. This figure represents the first section of the tower. Install it in the appropriate area on the base, gluing it to the base and to figure 4, which was installed previously. See plan 40079/12.

Cut out figure 6 from page 40079/4 and install it on the base. It is important to glue the flanges of this figure exactly in the appropriate areas of figure 9. See plan 40079/12.

Construct the flight of stairs with 10 x 2 mm lath. Plans 40079/12 and 40079/13 indicate the position of the stairs.

Cut the support pegs and install them in the appropriate areas on the base of the board with 10 x 10 mm lath. The pegs should be adjusted exactly to the height marked by the line on the shaded area of the cardboard pieces. The purpose of the pegs is to support the weight of the construction.

Prepare the second section of the tower. This figure can be found on page 40079/9; the lower flanges are marked with 1 and the upper flanges are marked with 2. Install it as shown in plans 40079/12 and 40079/13. It is very important that the sections of the tower are perfectly installed and vertically aligned. Install the floor which shall support the second flight of the stairway with 10 x 2 mm lath. Construct and install the second flight of the stairway.

Cut and prepare the third, fourth and fifth sections of the tower. The appropriate figures are found on the cardboard sheets 40079/4, 40079/8 and 40079/9, respectively. Install the floor and the appropriate flight of the stairway on each of these. In the fourth section, install the bell, using 5 x 5 mm lath as a support. See plans 40079/13 and 40079/14.

Prepare the figures for the apses. These are found on cardboard sheet 40079/10 and numbered with 5, 7, and 8. Install them on the marks of the base board and in the appropriate areas of the figures which have already been installed. See plans 40079/13 and 40079/14. It is very important to install these figures exactly. Also see the assembly detail on page 40079/22.

Prepare figures A, B, C and D, which are found on the cardboard sheets 40079/5 and 40079/6, and install them as shown on plans 40079/14 and 40079/15. Thus we shall form the irregularities which actually exist on the land where the church shall be placed.

Note that figures A, B, C and D have slanted lines which refer to the vertical walls. This is the area where installation of the ceramic pieces of the walls shall begin.

Cut out and install the final section of the tower. Use the figure which is found on page 40079/9, with the lower flanges marked with 5. See plan 40079/15.

The construction of the walls should preferably begin with the walls of the nave. Leave the walls of the apses and belfry until later on. Use the largest pieces in the corners of the building and along the edges of the perimeter of the doors and windows. These pieces should be installed in the corners of the building and joined to one another as shown in plans 40079/16 and 40079/20. To construct the arches for the doors and windows the pieces should be filed and adjusted until they have a rounded shape like these.

In the process of construction of the walls you should adapt some ceramic pieces to the area where they are going to be installed, so that there are no gaps with unusual measurements. The pieces which form the sloping parts of the roof must also be adapted in order to form a perfectly aligned ridge.

Once the construction of the walls of the nave of the church has been completed, begin building the walls of the base of the belfry, using the pieces found in the bag marked with B. These pieces are 7.5 mm thick and they should be installed up to the height of the first window of the belfry. The area which should be constructed with these pieces is marked with slanted lines which cross one another. Then, install the pieces found in bag C in the corners of the tower. These have a small notch on one edge and should be installed so that the notch is located on the other side. See plan 40079/17. Install the serrated pieces along the entire perimeter of the tower, but only in those areas indicated on the cardboard pieces of the tower. The installation of the corners and friezes should be done throughout the entire height of the tower.

Then, install the ceramic pieces placed in the holes of the tower windows, using the normal pieces. Form the walls of the windows in the first section of the tower. In this section, there is only one window. Install a piece from bag 5 to form the rounded point of the window arch. These pieces are 5 mm thick.

After you have finished the walls of each section of the tower, you should install the arches. These are 3 mm thick and are marked with 4 in the bag and in the tower diagram. See the diagram on page 40079/22. The arches should be in the same plane as the angular pieces on the corners.

Then, you can also build the windows on the upper sections. To construct the rounded point on the windows use the different arches as shown in the diagram printed on page 40079/22. To build the columns for the windows, use the circular pieces which are found in the bag. After you finish installing a window, cut the extra cardboard so that the hole of the window is open.

Install the pieces which form the walls of the facade for the apses. See plan 40079/18. The arches in bag 4 and the friezes which decorate these should be installed on the walls. Use the pieces with a rounded edge to form the columns of the apses. The flat end of the cardboard should be glued to the apse. See the detailed view in plan 40079/18.

The areas printed in black on the cardboard of the apses indicate the measurements and the location of the windows. The pieces should be adapted to form the perimeter of these.

After completing construction of all the walls and their appropriate decorations, the cardboard pieces which form the roofs of the three apses should be prepared. These can be found on pages 40079/3 and 40079/10. A brief indication of the area where the pieces are to be located is printed on each figure. Install these in the appropriate areas.

Cut the pieces which form the roofs of the main nave. These pieces are located on pages 40079/7 and 40079/8 and, as the prior pieces, the proper location of each piece is indicated.

Prepare the two pieces which form the roof of the belfry. These pieces are located on page 40079/3. To install the cardboard figures for the roofs, see plan 40079/19.

Install the tiles which form the roofing. Place them in an irregular pattern so that the joints are not aligned with one another. You may even break some pieces to obtain the rustic atmosphere which the building attempts to recreate. Begin installation on the lower rows, that is, on the lower parts of the roofs. The pieces for the upper rows should be installed 1 mm above the lower row, so that the roof is not completely flat. See plans 40079/20 and 40079/21.

Construct the archway of the main facade in accordance with the measurements indicated on plan 40079/22.

Construct the decoration for the roof of the main nave in accordance with the instructions shown on plan 40079/22.

To add a finishing touch to the atmosphere in the area surrounding the building, glue small pieces of moss in the areas you consider suitable, or use the photograph on the front cover as an approximate guide. Cover small portions of the base board and sloping cardboard parts with glue. Apply the glue with a brush and cover it with common sand before it hardens. This will make the area around the construction much more realistic.

We hope you have had an enjoyable pastime during construction of the model.

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