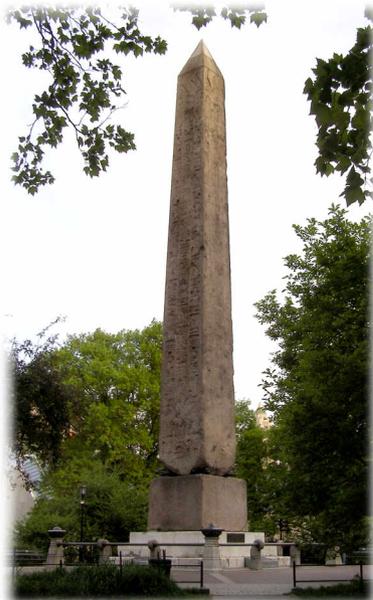
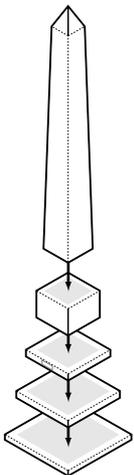
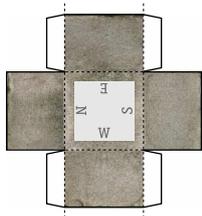
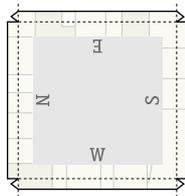
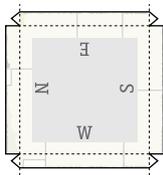
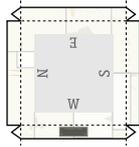
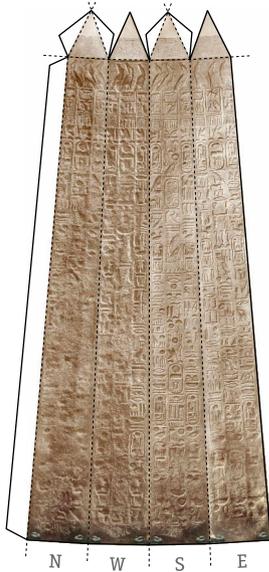


Build your own New York

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE

a 1:300 scale paper model



AN ANCIENT RELIC IN CENTRAL PARK,

this Egyptian obelisk was carved to honor Pharaoh Thutmose III and raised at the capital Heliopolis in roughly 1443 B.C., along with a matching stone which now stands in London.

It was toppled when the Persians sacked Egypt, and lay in the sand for 500 years.

Around 10 B.C., the Romans moved the pair of obelisks to Alexandria where they were re-erected at the entrance to the temple to Julius Caesar. Bronze supports in the form of strong crabs were added to the damaged corners and a platform of steps.

Many centuries and other empires later, other obelisks were taken off to Constantinople, Venice, Rome and Paris. One of this pair was given to England, and the Americans asked for their share, too. Finally, in 1879, the khedive of Egypt granted the obelisk as a gift of friendship and trade to the United States to commemorate the completion of the Suez Canal.

Transporting the immense block of granite to Central Park safely was an engineering feat which took two years. First, a wood and iron apparatus was built around the obelisk to tip and lower it to a horizontal position. At last a ship was found strong enough to transport the 200-ton obelisk and 50-ton base and they were steaming across the Atlantic.

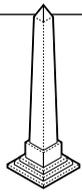
The arrival of the ancient monument in New York stirred great interest in all things Egyptian. Many watched as the great stones were moved by temporary tracks from the Hudson River through narrow streets and then up wooden trestles to a site atop Graywacke Knoll behind the newly-built Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The obelisk was dedicated in a cold January 1881 before a dedicated crowd of thousands who came to welcome this newest and oldest immigrant to New York City.



for more miniature paper models see:
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Build your own New York

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE

A translation of the hieroglyphics on the faces of the obelisk

NORTH

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Beloved-of-Ra,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra,
Chosen-of-Ra,
Ra, created by the gods, who
founded the Two
Lands, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-
Amun,
.....
.....
.....
there is no-one who did what
he did, in the house of his
father,
the Lord of the Two Lands,
User-maat-ra,
Chosen of Ra, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved of Amun,
granted life like Ra,

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Appearing-in-Thebes,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt,
Men-kheper-ra, who embellishes
the house of him who created
him,
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
(the Son of Ra, Thutmose),
beloved of (Atum),
lord (of Heliopolis), May he live
for ever.

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Son-of-Ra,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra,
Chosen-of-Ra,
the Golden Horus,
Mighty-in-years-and-great-of-
victories, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
the Lord of the Two Lands,
User-maat-ra,
Chosen of Ra, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun.

WEST

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Son-of Ra,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra, Chosen-of-
Ra, he of the Two Goddesses,
Protector-of-Egypt-and-curber-
of-foreign-lands, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses Beloved-of-Amun,
a king excellent like Ra,
.....
.....
.....
the Lord of the Two Lands,
User-maat-ra,
Chosen-of-Ra, the Son of Ra,
the Son of Ra, Ramesses,
Beloved-of-Amun.

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Beloved-of-Ra,
the King of Upper and
Lower Egypt,
Men-kheper-ra; he made (it)
as his monument for
his father Atum,
Lord of Heliopolis,
erecting for him two great
obelisks, whose pyramidions are
of fine gold,
.....
Heliopolis
.....
.....
.....
(the Son of Ra, Thutmose),
may he live for ever.

The Horus, Strong-Bull-Loving
Truth,
the King of Upper-and-Lower
Egypt,
User-maat-ra. Chosen-of-Ra,
lord of festivals like his father
Ptah-Tatenen,
the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved of Amun,
veritable god star of the Two
(Lands, who is versed
in the laws and is worthy in
(his) actions,
the Lord of the Two Lands,
User-maat-ra,
Chosen-of-Ra, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved -of-Amun,
granted life

SOUTH

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Son-of-Khepri,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra, Chosen-of-
Ra, the Golden Horus,
Mighty-in years-and-great-of-
victories, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
who came forth from the womb
in order to receive
the crowns of Ra, who created
him to be sole lord the Lord of
the Two Lands,
User-maat-ra Chosen-of-Ra,
the Son of Ra.
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
one serviceable to Ra and
granted life like Ra.

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Appearing-in Thebes,
he of the Two La Goddesses,
Enduring-of-kingship-like-Ra-
in-heaven, Bodily son of Atum,
whom the Mistress of
Heliopolis bore to him,
Thutmose,
whom they created in the
temple in the beauty of their
members, knowing that
he would exercise enduring
kingship throughout eternity,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, Men-kheper-ra,
beloved of Atum,
the great god,
together with his Enneat,
granted all life, stability, and
dominion like Ra for ever.

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Beloved-of-Ra,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra,
Chosen-of-Ra,
Ra, created by the gods, who
founded the Two Lands,
the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
the noble youth, beloved like
Aten when he shines on the
horizon,
the Lord of the Two Lands,
User-maat-Ra,
Chosen-of-Ra, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
one serviceable to Ra and
granted life like Ra.

EAST

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
loving-Truth,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra, Chosen-of-
Ra, lord of festivals like his
father Ptah-Tatenen, the Son of
Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
whom Ra created in order to
make Heliopolis festive and to
provide the sanctuaries of him
who created him with food
offerings,
the Lord of the Two-Lands,
User-maat-ra, Chosen-of-Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun
granted all life like Ra.

The Horus, High-of-the-White-
Crown-Beloved-of-Ra,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, Men-kheper-ra,
the Golden Horus,
Contented-with strength-who-
smites-the-rulers-of-foreign-
lands-who-attack-him,
according as his father Ra has
ordained for him victory against
every land and strength in his
efforts to extend the
boundaries of Egypt,
the Son of Ra, Thutmose,
granted all life forever.

The Horus, Strong-Bull-
Son-of-Ra,
the King of Upper and Lower
Egypt, User-maat-ra,
Chosen-of-Ra, he of the Two
Goddesses,
Protector-of-Egypt-and-curber-
of-foreign-lands,
the Son of Ra, Ramesses,
Beloved-of-Amun,
a valiant king active with his
arms in the presence of every
land,
the Lord of the Two Lands,
User-maat-Ra,
Chosen-of-Ra, the Son of Ra,
Ramesses, Beloved-of-Amun,
granted life like Ra.

