



News & Notes

Issued confidentially to members and friends

No. 127 January - February, 1991

Not for publication

MUSEUM VIEWS

Laura D'Alessandro, Conservator



Manuscript fragments referring to "The Thousand and One Nights." Paper. 9th century A.D. Believed to be the oldest piece of paper extant outside the Far East.

With all the wonderful objects here at The Oriental Institute, it is very easy to get caught up in their care and forget that the collection is made up of two-dimensional objects as well as the more well-known three-dimensional ones. I am speaking about our fairly extensive collection of papyri and manuscripts which traditionally has been housed in the vault.

This collection ranges from hieroglyphic copies of the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead and ancient Greek and medieval Arabic commercial documents to a Torah scroll. One of the more special pieces is a paper manuscript dated to 879 A.D. that refers to the "1001 Nights" and may be both the earliest surviving reference to this story and the oldest paper document in the West. Two marvellous pieces from the collection in the vault, lithographs from David Roberts' *Egypt and Nubia*, can be seen on display in the new Coptic Exhibit in the Palestinian gallery.

The vault was the logical place for our collection of manu-

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ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 1990 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR TO EGYPT

October 12-31, 1990

A Report by John A. Larson, Archivist

For three glorious weeks in October 1990, we were fourteen "characters" on a virtually empty stage, set with the spectacular, ever-changing scenery of Egypt. For those members and friends of The Oriental Institute who were not able to be a part of our stalwart band of travelers in the Land of the Pharaohs, we thought that you might be interested in learning something about our experience.

All of us were watching developments in the Middle East with great interest and anxiety as our departure date of October 12 drew near. We knew that many tours were being cancelled, but we remained hopeful that our Egypt tour would not be seriously affected by the events that were taking place across a thousand miles of desert to the east.

Ordinarily, we would have scheduled an orientation day at The Oriental Institute before our departure, but since we had only one Chicagoan in our group, I arranged to meet the the tour in Zurich for the last leg of their *Swissair* flight to Cairo. Already in Switzerland were four members of the family of James Henry Breasted, the founding Director of The Oriental Institute. Helen Ewing Breasted, widow of James, Jr., had visited Egypt in 1930, on a trip around the world with her parents. Three of her five adult children—James Henry Breasted III ("Jimmy"), Barbara Breasted Whitesides, and Helen Garrison Breasted (Horton)— would be seeing their famous grandfather's "turf" for the first time.

At Zurich, I began to watch for telltale "Archaeological Tours" tags on the hand luggage of transit passengers at the terminal. By the time our gate was ready for boarding, I had found Carleton and Patricia Hodge from Bloomington, Indiana. Soon we were joined by Pam Gehman from Nashville, Tennessee; Jack Graham from Cottage Grove, Oregon; and May Weber of Chicago. But where were the Breasteds? They had been in Switzerland for three days, and I even thought that I might see them before the others arrived on their connecting flight from the States. I looked in vain for a group of four that might fit their descriptions. Suddenly, as the flight crew was preparing to close the doors, four frantic backpackers rushed on board and took their seats near the rest of us — the Breasteds!

About four hours later, as the plane approached Cairo, I

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MUSEUM VIEWS

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scripts and papyri before the advent of the Organics Room, but now that a more stable, appropriate environment is available, the time has come for their transfer.

The move to provide collections with a climate-controlled environment is part of the recent general conservation trend towards preventive conservation. This rather medical sounding term means exactly what it sounds like. The goal is to prevent deterioration where possible rather than concentrating only on the objects in need of treatment. The reasons for this are two-fold: by providing artifacts with an environment conducive to their long-term survival, the need for conservation treatments is reduced and the introduction of chemicals and altering of the original material is kept to a minimum. In addition, over the long-term, preventive conservation is ultimately a more economical alternative to the high cost of conservation treatments which of necessity are highly labor intensive.

But transferring the collection from the vault to the Organics Room involves more than simply loading the manuscripts and papyri onto carts and bringing them down to the basement. In order to house them properly, a different type of cabinet is needed. To acquire these, a source of funding had to be identified and a grant written. The Institute of Museum Services (IMS), a federally funded granting agency which supports conservation projects, was approached last January, and this August we learned that our grant had been approved.

An integral part of the move will entail the inventorying of the collection and changes in the registration information to reflect each object's new location. This is where the work of Ray Tindel, our registrar, and his faithful band of volunteers come into

their own. The physical inventory and the important information which accompanies the objects are almost as important as the piece itself. This is very time-consuming work and requires a great deal of patience on the part of the registrar and the volunteers working with him.

Once the manuscripts and papyri have been inventoried, they will be brought downstairs to the Organics Room. This modified area of the basement, made possible by a 1988 IMS grant, is maintained at a stable 50% relative humidity and 68°F temperature on a year round basis. In order to safely transfer the collection from the vault with its seasonal variations with attendant extremes of relative humidity, the transfer must take place during the spring or fall when conditions between the areas are compatible.

Once they have been relocated to the Organics Room, I will inspect each document and fill out an individual survey form which will document their current condition and assess their need for treatment. The information on these forms will then be entered into a database program and used to provide a basis for future funding requests to bring in paper and book conservators specializing in this type of material.

The most exciting (at least for staff!) aspect of the grant, and the reason for requesting funds, was to enable us to purchase brand-new, museum quality cabinets for this part of the collection. The term "museum quality" refers to the type of materials used in the manufacture of the cabinets. Museum collections have stringent requirements because of the preservation aspect of their storage. Many modern materials give off vapors which are harmful over the long term to the materials with which they come in contact. This fact is not usually of concern in the course of daily life as most of the objects we use are not meant to last "forever". But one of the most important functions of a museum is to serve as a preservation agency for the material culture in its care. This means that all aspects of collection storage and exhibit must be constantly evaluated to ensure that the objects are in a protective environment.

After investigating various manufacturers of museum-quality cabinets, a firm was chosen which provided the most customized cabinets for our collection at a competitive price. These cabinets are built of stainless steel and painted by means of a special powder coating which eliminates the need to use certain chemicals in the paint formulation. Traditional paint formulations give off vapors as they age (cure) and these potentially harmful vapors would accumulate in the storage area's closed environment and lead to an increased rate of deterioration of the collection. Even the materials used in the bearings and sealants must be conservation-approved quality products that will not add harmful chemicals to the air.

The new storage units will also differ from the cabinets presently in the Organics Room in another major way. The cabinets which date to the founding of the museum are primarily multi-purpose storage cabinets which were never intended to house museum artifacts. They are able to be somewhat inefficiently adapted for storage of three-dimensional objects, but they are entirely inappropriate to the storage of documents and manuscripts. Manuscript cabinets require shallow, strong drawers



Illuminated Ethiopian parchment scroll. Fragile organic material and high color surface requires high degree of climate control.



Basement vault shows current storage conditions.

which are able to be removed from the cabinet. The documents are then placed in the drawers, one piece per drawer or space. This change from stacking them several inches high is one of the major benefits the change over to shallow drawers will provide. The shallow method of storage minimizes handling and crushing of the various documents and will add immeasurably to the life of the pieces. The removable drawers also enable them to be safely carried to a work area, if necessary, and facilitate their use by faculty and visiting scholars with a minimum of wear and tear on the artifacts. And the cabinets themselves will be "compact storage compatible". This means that if the future plans of the museum turn to compact storage facilities to more efficiently house the collection, this portion of the collection which is ideally suited to a compact storage set-up will be ready to be adapted.

While the inventorying and surveying is going on and the cabinets are being manufactured, our two preparators, Phil Petrie and Mary Carlisle, will do their part in this project. A bank of the old cabinets will have to be removed to make room for the new cabinets. Since their installation in the 1930's, they have never been dismantled and we are very curious to see how they will stand up to it. Due to their great age and poor condition and the rusting of screws and joints, we think that they will have to be rather roughly taken apart. It is very unlikely that they will be able to be reused.

We all look forward to the beginning of a new storage system here at The Oriental Institute, one which will meet the basic museum standards set by the museum community. A future installment of Museum Views will show the new cabinets in place and our collection of manuscripts and papyri in their new home.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR TO EGYPT

Continued from page one

found Anita Kreiser of Tallmadge, Ohio, another tour member whom I had not yet met. Anita had been injured recently in a horseback riding accident, and despite a broken jaw, a broken ankle and a bad cold, "wild horses" could not keep her from fulfilling her lifelong dream of a trip to Egypt.

We were met at the Cairo International Airport by Mr. Mamdouh El-Sebai, the representative of Egyptian Express, who accompanied our group for the entire trip. Mamdouh is now an old friend of The Oriental Institute and has conducted a number of Egypt tours for us. That evening, in the Ibis Cafe of the Nile Hilton, I met Maryln and Steve Jacobson and Ed Lipnick from California, who had arrived ahead of us. Steve wrote an article about our tour for the December 2, 1990 Sunday Travel section of the *Chicago Tribune*.

Our tour guide for the trip was Mrs. Aleya Shoukry, who studied Egyptology at Cairo University with Dr. Henri Riad (a long-time friend of Chicago House). We began on Sunday, October 14, at the site of the ancient capital city of Memphis, the highlights of which are the 18th Dynasty "alabaster" sphinx, and the open-air museum that encloses the fallen colossus of Ramesses II. In 1987, a smaller "Colossus of Memphis" was restored and loaned to Memphis, Tennessee, for the *Ramesses the Great* exhibition. After a triumphal tour of several American cities, this statue of Ramesses II now stands at one end of the antiquities park at Memphis, Egypt. At Saqqara, we saw the reconstructed Step Pyramid complex of King Djoser and the 5th Dynasty pyramid of King Unas with its chambers decorated with painted hieroglyphs from ancient Egyptian funerary literature known as the "Pyramid Texts." It was already becoming evident to those of us who had been to Egypt in recent years that this was not to be a "normal" tourist season. Where was everyone?

Monday and Tuesday were full days that were spent sightseeing in Cairo and its immediate vicinity. From the Nile Hilton, we were able to walk the short distance to the Egyptian Museum, and Aleya conducted a splendid introductory tour. There was one disappointment; the American press had reported that the royal mummies would be on view again for the first time in ten years, but it proved not to be the case.

Many of the important and interesting sights in Cairo are not pharaonic. We went up to the Citadel and visited the Alabaster Mosque of Mohammed Ali, where one of Egypt's greatest 19th century (A.D.) rulers is buried. In Old Cairo, we toured the Coptic Museum, the Church of Abu Serga (St. Sergius), and the Ben Ezra Synagogue. Both of these antique religious buildings — church and synagogue — are undergoing extensive long-term renovation programs, and their present condition is considerably disturbed.

I was curious to see how things were at Giza. We found that even the Giza Plateau was virtually deserted. The Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops) was open and I agreed to go inside with those members of the group who were determined to see the "Grand Gallery" and the "King's Chamber." At 80, Mrs. Breasted gamely scrambled deep inside the Great Pyramid with the rest of

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR *Continued from page three*



Jimmy Breasted at Karanis—Photography by John Larson

us. Farther down the plateau, we saw the remnants of scaffolding that still stand at the right shoulder of the Great Sphinx. The monument has become a cause célèbre and its preservation something of a political issue in Egypt this year.

We left Cairo by air-conditioned motorcoach early in the morning on Wednesday, October 17. On our way south, we would see few tourists until we reached Luxor. We stopped in the Faiyum, at Beni Hassan (where the donkey ride from the riverbank to the base of the cliff is a thing of the past; now one goes by mini van or by foot), at Hermopolis and Tuna el-Gebel on the west bank and the site of El-Amarna on the east bank. After recrossing the river, we had a long drive through the countryside of Middle Egypt to Nag Hammadi where we stayed at the Aluminium City Hotel, a friendly relic of the 1960's.

At Luxor we began to appreciate the extent of the impact that the Persian Gulf crisis was having on the Egyptian economy. Normally at this time of year, Luxor is jammed with tourists. The Etap Hotel, where we were staying in Luxor, had only ninety rooms booked out of four hundred. The venerable Winter Palace Hotel was running a "special" at the unbelievably low rate of

£E15 (less than \$6) per night. Along the Luxor Corniche, dozens of empty tourist ships were tied up at the riverbank—sometimes three and four abreast—their engines running constantly to maintain lights, pumps, and air conditioning.

Sightseeing in Luxor couldn't have been better for us. Imagine being the only group at Deir el-Medina, Medinet Habu, and the Ramesseum! I spent one of our free mornings photographing at Karnak and didn't see another tourist for two hours. Deir el-Bahri and the Valley of the Kings were a bit more "crowded," but nothing like they would have been normally. In the Luxor Museum, we expected to see the newly installed statues that were recovered beneath the paving stones of the sun-court at Luxor Temple. A recent American Research Center in Egypt newsletter had announced an October opening, but it now appears that the new exhibit will not be completed for some time. A huge crane looms over the Ninth Pylon at Karnak, where reconstruction work is continuing. The Tomb of Queen Nefertari in the Valley of the Queens was still closed for restoration and, on October 1, the Tomb of Tutankhamun in the Kings' Valley was closed indefinitely for conservation. Happily, we found that the magnificent royal tomb of Sety I was open again.

During our stay in Luxor, the Staff of Chicago House were our guests for dinner at the Etap Hotel and, due to the unusually small size of our group, they were able to have us all for dinner at Chicago House. A visit to Chicago House with a tour of the library is always on the itinerary of our Oriental Institute tours, but the group size usually precludes the possibility of dinner with the staff. This was, indeed, a special treat for us, and we felt that we provided a welcome diversion for our friends at Chicago House, who will probably not be seeing very many American visitors this season.

Our four-day Nile cruise on the *Sheraton Hotp* was almost like having our own chartered yacht. The ship, which has accommodations for about 150, had only 21 passengers on board for our cruise from Luxor to Aswan. There were about four crew members for each tourist!

Luxor (ancient Thebes) may be the city of "a hundred gates" but, in my opinion, Aswan has the most picturesque setting of any town on the Nile. By the time we reached Aswan, the unseasonably warm weather had begun to change, and the steady breezes around the Island of Elephantine were a delight. We had three nights in Aswan on this trip, one on the boat and two in the Old Cataract Hotel.

We had an early morning flight to Abu Simbel and were able to tour the rock-cut temples before the temperature got oppressively hot. As at other sites, we encountered restoration work in progress. The façade of the Temple of Ramesses II was encumbered by wooden scaffolding, and workmen were scurrying about the great seated colossi. Inside, conservators were busy brushing a strong-smelling solution onto the painted reliefs in one of the side chambers.

From Aswan, we flew to Cairo, where we embarked on the long bus ride on the desert road to Alexandria. We stayed in the luxurious Palestine Hotel which is located in the lush gardens of an early 20th Century Italianate royal palace overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. A few traces of ancient Alexandria survive

today at places such as "Pompey's Pillar," the catacombs at Kom el-Chogafa, and in the Graeco-Roman Museum. Alas, the famous Lighthouse, the great Library, the tombs of Alexander the Great and the Ptolemies, and the ancient royal palaces are long gone. I had promised myself a visit to the Royal Jewelry Museum; perhaps I will make it there next time.

We returned to Cairo on the morning of Tuesday, October 30. In the wee hours of Wednesday, October 31, the majority of the group left Egypt for the long trip home. For most of us, the tour provided a unique—sometimes eerie—opportunity to see the country and its ancient monuments in an unhurried and uncrowded atmosphere.

This isolation made us all more keenly aware of the race against time that is being fought by the Egyptian authorities and our American and European colleagues in the field who daily confront the deteriorating condition of many sites.

Perhaps Egypt's tragedy—a dramatic drop in the number of tourists—was our gain. For the Breasteds, the trip served as a backdrop for learning more about the life's work of the grandfather they never knew. In one respect, I felt like a transmitter of the family history, since The Oriental Institute is the repository of the Breasted family papers. It was great to be able to share Egypt with this special group of dedicated "Egyptologists." In a way, I suppose, I'm really not sorry that more of you didn't decide to come with us.

New Evening Hours



The Museum and the Suq gift shop are now open until 8:30 pm every Wednesday.

1155 East 58th Street (312)702-9521
Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat: 10-4:00
Sun, 12-4:00, Wed: 10-8:30
Closed Monday Admission Free

We invite you to take advantage of the extended Wednesday evening hours to visit the museum and archives and to shop at the Suq after work. Remember, parking is easier to find in the evening, and you are invited to stroll through galleries and browse the archives at your leisure.

Groups may combine an evening tour of the museum with dinner at the Quadrangle Club; arrangements can be made through the museum Education Office (702-9507).

A REMINDER: HIEROGLYPHS-BY-MAIL, PART I

The introductory Hieroglyphs-by-Mail course taught by Frank Yurco will begin February 1, 1991. It will consist of ten lessons. As you complete each lesson and return it to the instructor, he will correct the exercises, answer any questions you might have, and return them to you along with the next lesson. It will take several months to complete the course. In addition to the introductory Hieroglyphs course, it is necessary to take the Hieroglyphs: Part II course, which deals primarily with the verbal system, before all the grammar has been covered. The Hieroglyphs: Part II course is offered when there are enough interested people who have completed the introductory course. These courses are adult education courses and no academic credit is given.

The two necessary texts will be Gardiner's *Egyptian Grammar* and Faulkner's *Concise Dictionary of Middle Egyptian*, both of which can be ordered from the *Suq*. Current prices for books are \$69 for Gardiner and \$45 for Faulkner, but prices are subject to change. Please write or call the *Suq* (312-702-9509) to confirm prices before ordering.

Tuition is \$80 plus the annual membership fee of \$25 (\$30 in the Chicago area). Please register by January 15, 1991.

Please enroll me in the Egyptian Hieroglyphs-by-Mail course.

- I am a member and my check for \$80 is enclosed.
- I am not a member, but also enclose a **SEPARATE** check for annual membership in The Oriental Institute.
- I would like to order Gardiner's *Egyptian Grammar* from the *Suq* and enclose a **SEPARATE** check (subtract 10% members' discount, add 8% sales tax and \$3.00 shipping charge).
- I would like to order Faulkner's *Dictionary* from the *Suq* and enclose a **SEPARATE** check (subtract 10% members' discount, add 8% sales tax and \$2.50 shipping charge).

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please make all checks payable to
THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE with **SEPARATE**
checks for tuition, membership, and *Suq*.

Return to Education Office, Oriental Institute, 1155 East
58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637. (312) 702-9507.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS WINTER 1991

These four workshops are recommended for children ages 7-12 and may be taken separately or as a series. Each workshop includes a gallery tour and a craft activity in which the student will make a project to take home.

The fee is \$6 per workshop. Preregistration is necessary and enrollment is limited. For additional information, please call (312)702-9507. To register, please return the form below by January 14. After January 14, please call to be sure space is available before registering by mail.

A Child's Life In Ancient Times

January 19, 10 am - noon

The introduction and gallery tour will illustrate the daily life of children and their parents in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia. Ways in which they worked, learned, played and travelled about will be featured.

Craft: Each child will construct a model of a chariot based on an ancient Mesopotamian example.

How Marduk Became King of The Gods And Created the World

January 26, 10 am - noon

The workshop will begin with a retelling of this creation myth, and the gallery tour will highlight the care and feeding of the gods in their temples.

Craft: Each child will construct an image of the god Marduk and his team of dragons. For children who have attended the previous workshop, these will be made part of the chariot already constructed.

The Discovery of King Tut's Tomb

February 2, 10 am - noon

The class will talk about this great archaeological discovery and about the tomb itself. The gallery tour will point out the colossal

statue of King Tut and look at models of other types of king's tombs from ancient Egypt.

Craft: Children will construct a scale model of the burial chamber from Tut's tomb and decorate its walls.

The Mummy of King Tut

February 9, 10 am - noon

The introduction will describe the sarcophagi of King Tutankhamun and the gallery tour will look at mummies, mummy masks, statues of tomb-owners and other equipment necessary for a proper burial.

Craft: Children will construct a sarcophagus for King Tut with a mummy to go in it and guardians to protect it.

REGISTRATION FORM

To register for the Children's Workshops, please return this form no later than January 14 to Education Office, Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637. Make checks payable to The Oriental Institute.

Child's name _____ Age _____

Parent's name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City State Zip _____

Check workshop/s desired:

Jan. 19 Child's Life Feb. 2 Tomb

Jan. 26 Marduk Feb. 9 Mummy

FREE SUNDAY MOVIES AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

All films will be shown at 2 p.m. in Breasted Hall

JANUARY	6	Of Time, Tombs and Treasure
	13	Iraq: Stairway to the Gods
	20	Champollion: Egyptian Hieroglyphs Deciphered
FEBRUARY	27	Egypt: Gift of the Nile
	3	The Egyptologists
	10	Megiddo: City of Destruction
	17	Preserving Egypt's Past
MARCH	24	Iran: Landmarks in the Desert
	3	Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World
	10	Myth of the Pharaohs/Ancient Mesopotamia

DOCENT COURSE PLANNED FOR SPRING

The volunteer office is planning the 1991 Docent Training Course. The 9 week course will start the last Monday of March and continue through the first week of June. It will include lectures by Institute faculty members, films, readings and gallery workshops. After taking the course, volunteers are expected to lead museum tours one-half day a week.

Interviews are now being scheduled for those interested in taking the course. To arrange for an interview, or for further information, call Janet Helman in the education office at 702-9507.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Lectures will be presented at 8 p.m. in Breasted Hall at The Oriental Institute. You are invited to meet our featured speaker at an informal reception immediately following the lecture.

- February 6, 1991 Donald Whitcomb, The Oriental Institute, The Archaeology of Ayla: A Red Sea Port.
- February 27, 1991 Douglas Esse, The Oriental Institute, *Village Life in the Third Millennium B.C.: New Excavations at Tell Yaqush, Israel.*
- March 13, 1991 Holly Pittman, The University of Pennsylvania, *Egypt and Elam in the Fourth Millennium B.C.: A View from the East.*
- April 10, 1991 Robert Hohlfelder, University of Colorado, Boulder, *Secrets from an Ancient Sea: Three Decades of Underwater Explorations at Caesarea Maritima, Israel.* A joint lecture with the Chicago Society of the A.I.A.
- April 24, 1991 Karen Wilson, The Oriental Institute, *The Oriental Institute Museum Revisited.*
- May 1, 1991 Peter Dorman, The Oriental Institute, *Chicago House 1990-1991: A Tale of Two Temples.*
- May 20, 1991 Annual Oriental Institute Dinner in the Museum

PUBLICATIONS

Just Published

Town and Country in Southeastern Anatolia, Vol. I: Settlement and Land Use at Kurban Höyük and Other Sites in the Lower Karababa Basin. T. J. Wilkinson. 1990. Oriental Institute Publications 109. Pp. xix + 315; 90 figures, 4 plates, 20 tables. \$55.00.

Town and Country in Southeastern Anatolia, Vol. II: The Stratigraphic Sequence at Kurban Höyük, Two Vols. (Text and Plates). G. Algaze, ed. 1990. Oriental Institute Publications 110. Pp. xl + 438; 139 figures, 50 tables; 169 plates. \$110.00

The Road to Kadesh: A Historical Interpretation of the Battle Reliefs of King Sety I at Karnak. W. J. Murnane. 1990 (2nd Edition Revised). Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization 42. Pp. xvi + 157; 3 maps. \$20.00

The prices do not include shipping and handling and 8% Illinois sales tax. Members receive a 20% discount. Please contact Mr. Louis Anthes of the sales office for exact costs before sending payment. (312) 702-9508. Publications Sales Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637.

WINTER MEMBERS' COURSES

Saturday morning courses:

Ancient Egyptian History, Part II: Archaic Period and Old Kingdom

Instructor: Frank Yurco
Class begins January 12

Coptic Egypt: From the Beginnings of Christianity to the Tenth Century A.D.

Instructor: Terry Wilfong
Class begins January 12

Wednesday evening course:

The Idea of the Trojan War in History and Myth

Instructor: Ronald Gorny
Class begins January 23

For descriptions of these classes, see last issue of *News and Notes* or call education office at 312-702-9507.

MUSEUM EXHIBIT: ANOTHER EGYPT CONTINUES THROUGH JUNE 30, 1991



Many people are familiar with Medinet Habu, the magnificent mortuary temple of Ramesses III at Luxor. However few know of the thriving Christian community that once dwelled in and around the great pharaonic monument a thousand years ago. Another Egypt: Coptic Christians at Thebes, 7-8th centuries A.D." is the first exhibition of finds from the Theban churches and dwellings excavated by the Oriental Institute from 1926-31. This exhibition, continuing through June 30, 1991, provides a unique view of the daily life and beliefs of the Christian community at Thebes.

Full Color Poster: Detail of David Roberts engraving of the ruins of the Coptic church in the temple of Medinet Habu; 20 x 30 inches, \$8.95 (Plus \$3.50 postage and packing). Please send your check to The Suq. 10% discount for members. Include 8% sales tax.

THE SUQ سوق



Winged Bull Charm

Gold-plated replica with fine detail of our own Assyrian bull. The original flanked the throne room of Sargon II. 3/4" x 3/4". \$ 15.00



Civilization

You start with the dawn of history and try to develop your civilization from 8000 B.C. to 250 B.C. balancing the activities of nomads, farmers, and citizens. \$31.00



Kilim Cosmetic Bag

Made from beautiful old kilims this bag is lined with plastic and zippered. Each is unique so the colors will vary. \$ 22.00

10% discount for members. Everyone owes 8% tax. Postage \$3.00



The Oriental Institute

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