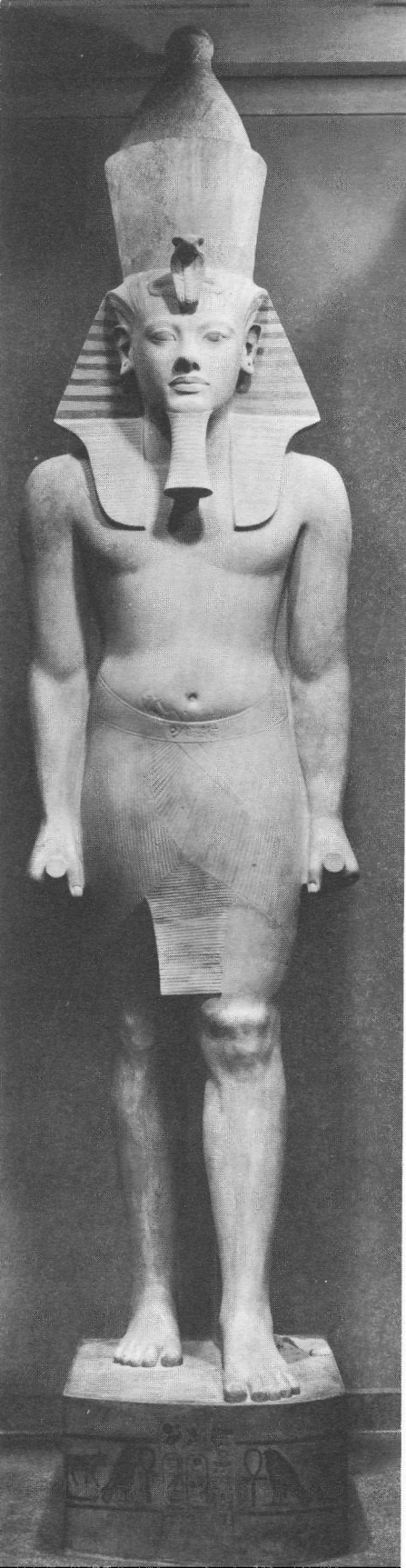


THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM

STAFF: Pinhas Delougaz, *Associate Professor of Archaeology, Curator.*
Watson Boyes, *Secretary of the Museum and Keeper of Records.*
Jessie Abbott, *Reference Secretary in charge of Photographic Services.*
Ursula Schneider, *Museum Photographer.*
Robert H. Hanson, *Museum Preparator.*
Anton Timoszewski, *Assistant Preparator.*
W. Morden and R. Melillo, *Guards.*

To achieve its purposes, the Oriental Institute needs to communicate the results of its work to others. One of the ways it does this is to exhibit in its Museum objects and works of art representing the successive civilizations of the ancient Near East. The exhibits include a nucleus presented to the University of Chicago in 1896 by Mrs. Caroline F. Haskell in memory of her husband and originally housed in Haskell Hall. The field expeditions of the Institute eventually provided so much important new material that a new building, the gift of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., was constructed in 1930, providing five museum galleries, a lecture hall, two floors of offices, a library, and extensive laboratories. By that time some of the spectacular finds of the Khorsabad expedition had been shipped to Chicago, so that the great Assyrian winged man-bull (see Frontispiece) could be set on its own foundation and the other relief sculptures mounted on the walls of the galleries. The colossal statue of King Tutankamon, unearthed during the excavation of the temple at Medinet Habu, was restored and installed in the Egyptian Hall. The Persian expedition claimed a separate gallery for its objects, even though its work had only started. The Persepolis bull's head was not mounted until ten years later.



Other important items in the Museum are the decorative ivories found in the treasury of a ruler of Megiddo in Palestine; the votive statues and figurines, of gypsum and of copper, found in the ruins of Sumerian temples at Tell Asmar and Khafajah; the models from Egyptian tombs, which symbolize the extent of the services needed to provide adequately for the dead in the afterlife; the cylinder seals that demonstrate so well the development of the glyptic art of Mesopotamia; figurines from Syria, the oldest cast copper known from that region; the articles of daily life from ancient Egypt; gold treasures of Syro-Hittite, Achaemenian, and Hellenistic times; and the Dead Sea Scrolls jar.

Since the Museum acquires most of its objects from the Institute's excavations, its cavernous receiving rooms, laboratories, and storage vaults play an important part in its operation. Here the finds of the expeditions are organized for study, treated, classified, prepared for publication, and eventually stored for further reference. Certain classes of objects lending themselves to exhibition are mounted for Museum display. Other objects are assembled for purposes of instruction. Students, staff members, and visiting scholars use the study material with the permission of the Curator.

To handle the many-sided work

of the Museum, a large staff is needed. In addition to the Curator, who has general supervision over the exhibits, loans, and exchanges, the Museum has a Secretary with a staff of clerical and secretarial assistants, two preparators, and a photographer. Volunteer helpers from the Chicago community assist in the processing and repair of individual objects, and student research assistants work under the direction of professors upon classification and interpretation of materials from the field.

The collections of the Institute also provide an instrument without parallel in the Midwest for service to education at the precollege level. It is a part of the Institute's long-range planning to extend its services to the schools of Chicago, its suburbs, and the outlying communities by making its holdings available in connection with social studies and student course work in history, art, religion, and civics. To this end the Institute is adding to its staff a docent, who will be its special representative in its outreach to the high-school teachers and their students. Guided tours of the Museum will be provided for groups of students from outside institutions.

The Museum is open to the public daily, except Monday, free of charge, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and has an average annual visitor attendance of over thirty thousand. A printed plan of the Museum, showing the organization of its halls and exhibits, is available at the desk in the lobby. Photographs of important objects on display, postcards, copies of Museum objects, and literature bearing upon the Institute and the Museum are available in the Museum offices.

