

Needs of the Oriental Institute

Some of our Visiting Committee members have asked that a short statement be appended to this year's report which would discuss some of the Institute's current and long-range needs and the funding required for each. The following is a select list of some of the major needs for the Institute as a whole over the coming years:

Renovation of existing Oriental Institute building, including installation of climate control	\$3,000,000
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*Building of a new wing to the east of the present building (Center for Near Eastern Archaeology)	1,600,000
*Endowment for an Oriental Institute library	950,000
*Professorships in Archaeology, Egyptology, Cuneiform Studies or related ancient fields	600,000 each
*Conservation Laboratory for Museum	40,000
*Photographic Laboratory	20,000
Publications (of excavations, Epigraphic Survey and Assyrian Dictionary work, etc.), per volume	12,000-30,000
New Sound System for Breasted Hall Auditorium	3,500

*The items may be named after a donor.

This is obviously just a partial list, since we need additional funding to support field operations and to maintain the Epigraphic Survey in Egypt (about \$20,000 more per year each), and the like.

The building projects are vital concerns because of our present cramped museum, laboratory, and office space. We are considering the erection of a new wing to the east of the present building; this would contain additional galleries for exhibition and space for new laboratories, offices, and storage facilities. Our existing building needs climate control because many of our antiquities, after surviving for thousands of years in the dry climate of the Near East, are now rapidly deteriorating under Chicago's fluctuating temperature and humidity.

Further information on these or other projects may be had by writing or phoning to the Office of the Director, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Ill., 60637 (312-753-2471 and -2472).