

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN GALLERIES

Teachers' Notes

Galleries 4 and 61-66



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- **Gallery 4 (Lower Floor)**

Gallery 4 is the Egyptian sculpture gallery. It contains examples of monumental sculpture. The present arrangement of sculptures is arranged chronologically from south to north. The gallery contains a number of statues of pharaohs and ancient Egyptian deities. At the north end of the gallery are a range of massive stone sarcophagi – bases and lids. The Rosetta Stone is situated at the centre of the gallery.

- **Gallery 61 (Upper Floor)**

This gallery contains a wide range of artefacts from ancient Egypt. Part of the gallery is devoted to information on the development of the collection and current research being undertaken by the Museum. The gallery also contains displays on everyday life in ancient Egypt (cases 35 -39) and hieroglyphs (cases 3-26). The famous Gayer-Anderson cat is on display in case 35.

- **Galleries 62 and 63 (Upper Floor)**

These galleries contain many objects connected with funerary practice in ancient Egypt including mummies, coffins and other tomb artefacts. The galleries also examine the use of modern technology for investigating mummies, with x-ray and CAT-scan images of some of the exhibits. In Gallery 62 case 2 is devoted to the display of a range of wooden coffins illustrating the development of the coffin in ancient Egypt. There are also a number of animal mummies in case 29 and a good display of papyri in case 24. The mummy of Artemidorus in case 22 includes a CAT-scan image of his mummy inside the coffin. Gallery 63 contains further examples of mummies and coffins including the stunning gold gilded coffin of Henutmehyt in case 9. In case 6 there is a display of canopic jars associated with the mummification process whilst case 11 contains wooden and pottery models placed in tombs. Cases 15 and 16 contain an extensive display of tomb shabti figures. There are a number of mummies on display in this gallery which demonstrate the use of modern technology to investigate mummies without unwrapping them.

- **Gallery 64 (Upper Floor)**

This gallery covers the development of early Egypt from the Stone Age to 3000BC. It contains objects which reflect the change from a hunter-gatherer society to the beginnings of dynastic rule. Objects on display include pottery, stone tools, stone palettes and basketwork. The gallery contains an early natural sand dried mummy and examples of early burials in reed and wooden coffins.

- **Gallery 65 (Upper Floor)**

This gallery examines the relationship of Egypt with the ancient cultures of north-east Africa, particularly Nubia directly to the south of ancient Egypt. The objects on display date from prehistory through to the medieval period. Objects on display include pottery, wall paintings, jewellery, textile and basketwork. Many of the objects demonstrate the influence of Egyptian culture in the region.

- **Gallery 66 (Upper Floor)**

This gallery contained objects from the Coptic Christian period of Egyptian history (4th – 8th century AD). Material includes textile, pottery, sculpture and architectural elements.