4.0 Other Types of Lighting

4.1 Flames

Historically flames were the first form of artificial lighting. They are occasionally still used to create a particular atmosphere, but they are not considered as major sources of artificial light, as most energy emitted is heat.



Figure 79

4.2 Candle

It is said that the ancient Egyptians invented the candle. They made candles by soaking reeds in molten tallow (animal fat). However this was not the candle as we know it today as it had no wick as such. It appears that the Romans made the first true candle with a wick, but it still used tallow rather than the later wax as the fuel source. See Figure 80.



Figure 80

4.3 Oil

The oil-lamp has been around for a very long time. Some of the earliest examples are hollowed out stones that were filled with oil and these may be 70,000 years old. There are examples of earthenware lamps made by all the ancient civilisations. In Europe the most common oils used in these lamps were olive and colza. The wick was generally made out of bark, moss or plant fibres. See Figure 81, 82.



Figure 81 Ancient Oil-lamp



Figure 82 'Modern' Oil-lamp