

TOP TEN OBJECTS

Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology self-guided tour

For more information about these objects visit:
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Tarkhan Dress

Middle of the main gallery on the right
 This dress was excavated from a tomb at Tarkhan in 1913 and dates to Dynasty 1 (3050–2800 BC). It is the oldest garment from Egypt on display in the world.



One Day in Lahun

Back of main gallery on left
 Lahun was a thriving pyramid town in the Middle Kingdom (1850-1700 BC). Petrie excavated the mud brick houses in 1889 and found many daily-life objects from cosmetics to tools to games to rat-traps.



Hawara Mummy Portraits

Middle of main gallery
 The mummy portrait panels were found by Petrie at Hawara. They date from the Roman Empire and appear to be portraits of individuals, while also acting as a mummy mask.



A Pyramid Text

Main gallery stonework: inscriptions near the entrance
 'Pyramid texts' are some of the oldest religious texts in the world. This is from Pepy I's pyramid at Saqqara (2300-2181 BC) and give formulae for the King's ascent into heaven.



Akhenaten and the rays of the sun god Aten

Main gallery stonework: inscriptions near the entrance
 This alabaster fragment shows the Pharaoh Akhenaten (headless), Queen Nefertiti and daughter Meritaten before an offering to which the hands (or rays) of Aten are extended.



Pot Burial

Main gallery on right near the back stair gallery
 This case displays a male skeleton as 'found' near the village of Badari, which now refers to a distinct civilisation called Badarian. It is from the earliest farming culture in Middle Egypt (4400-4000 BC).



Fish, flowers and natural world from Amarna

Middle of the main gallery
 The palace / town of Amarna was created by Akhenaten (1352-1336 BC). Famous for its decorative arts, these naturalistic fragments of faience tiles, showing flowers, fish and ducks, give a dazzling glimpse of the palace.



Dancing girl cosmetic spoon

Pottery gallery: Object by type near Petrie portrait
 Ankh shaped wooden spoon. The handle depicts a nude dancing girl with a lute in a boat, nestled among tall lotus flowers. From the tomb of governor Menena at Sedment Dynasty 18 (1400-1293 BC).



Bead net dress

Pottery gallery
 This dress was excavated by Guy Brunton at Qau in 1923, but it wasn't re-constructed like this until 1994. The dress may have been worn for dancing as the shells make a rattling noise.



Pottery from Meroë, Sudan

Pottery gallery, pottery case 36
 This painted cream ware amphora and bowl illustrate the innovative art of Meroë, capital of Ancient Kush, in Sudan. Occupied for a millennium, there are more standing pyramids around Meroë than in Egypt.

VISITOR INFORMATION
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