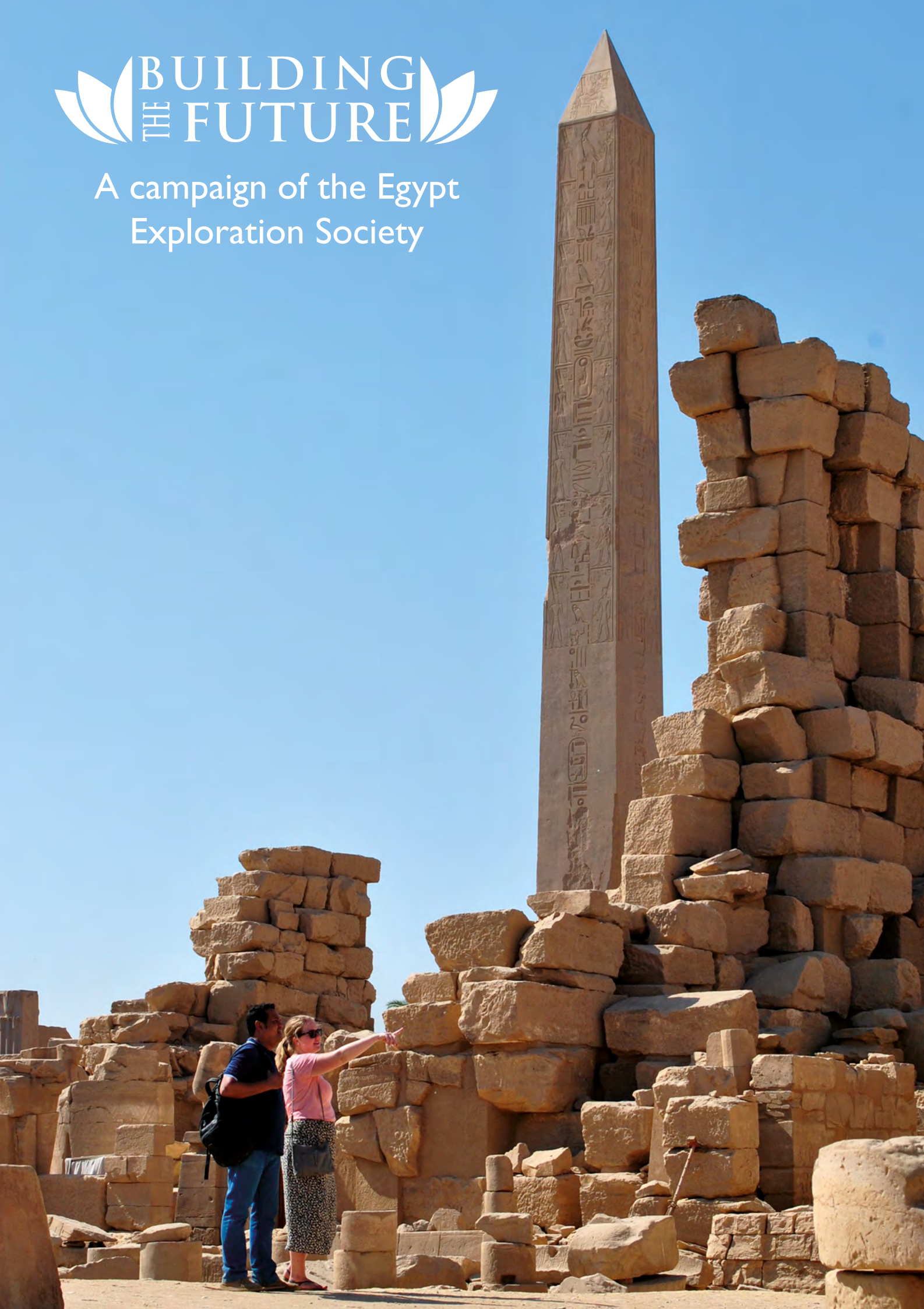


BUILDING THE FUTURE

A campaign of the Egypt
Exploration Society



The largest Howard Carter
watercolour in our collection.



EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1882

Supporting and promoting Egyptian cultural heritage

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You can find the latest campaign information in the pocket at the front of this pack.

OUR VISION

We envisage a world where the cultural heritage of Egypt is preserved for posterity.

OUR MISSION

To support and promote Egyptian cultural heritage.

Today, the Society supports Egyptological research projects around the world. We rely almost entirely on donations from members and the wider public to fund this work and run an extensive educational programme of publications and training, as well as events to convey the results to interested audiences.

“An opportunity to transform the home of British Egyptology and secure the future of one of the world’s oldest institution for the study and preservation of Egyptian cultural heritage.”



We are excited to share with you these plans to build an accessible, innovative and sustainable future for the next 100 years of the Egypt Exploration Society (EES). Our plans will develop a new heritage centre on the footprint of our existing London headquarters (see left), which will:

- Secure the future of the world’s largest papyrus collection, the Oxyrhynchus Papyri, in a new Papyrology Centre.
- Establish a Learning Hub where everyone will have the opportunity to engage with Egyptian heritage, and where we can nurture the next generation of archaeologists and heritage professionals working in Egypt and Sudan.

The Egypt Exploration Society is not only an important and active player in the field of Egyptian heritage, but it holds a remarkable record of Egyptian-British relations collected over its 140 year life. I welcome these plans aiming to address the urgent need to protect those records and support the continuing work of the Society in promoting scholarship and engagement both in Egypt and the UK, and I look forward to their successful implementation.

HE Mr Sherif Kamal
Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland

BUILDING THE FUTURE

How the redeveloped
EES premises could look.



جمعية
استكشاف مصر
ليست فاعلاً مهماً ونشطاً في
مجال التراث المصري فقط، ولكنها تمتلك
سجلاً رائعاً للعلاقات المصرية البريطانية التي تم
جمعها على مدار 140 عاماً منذ تأسيسها. أرحب بهذه الخطط
التي تهدف إلى معالجة الحاجة الملحة لحماية تلك السجلات ودعم العمل
المستمر للجمعية في تعزيز المنح الدراسية والمشاركة في كل من مصر والمملكة
المتحدة، وأتطلع إلى تنفيذها بنجاح.

معالي السيد شريف كامل
سفير جمهورية مصر العربية لدى المملكة المتحدة بريطانيا العظمى وأيرلندا الشمالية



‘Building on old foundations’: the challenge we face

For 140 years, the EES has been at the forefront of enriching the world’s understanding of Egypt’s cultural heritage: a source of inspiration and a precious part of our shared human story.

Throughout that time, our mission has been to ensure that Egypt’s heritage survives and that knowledge of it is disseminated for the benefit of all, from members of the public to world-leading researchers.

We have pursued that mission in spite of many threats to Egypt’s irreplaceable artefacts and history faced over the years. We continue to strive towards our goal, working in partnership with communities and scholars in Egypt and around the world.

Our work rests on two foundation stones: the rich legacy of our collections, and our innovative research, learning, and engagement programmes.

About us: A brief history of the EES

Amelia Edwards (see right), Victorian novelist, travel writer, and campaigner, visited Egypt in 1873 and sailed ‘A Thousand Miles up the Nile’. In her travel book, published in 1876, she raised awareness of the deterioration of Egypt’s wonders through the threats of mass tourism, looting, and irresponsible archaeology. In 1882 her manifesto for an organisation to excavate and record the archaeological remains of Egypt’s past, and to create a lasting record of the discoveries made, led her to found the Egypt Exploration Society.

Over the past 140 years, the EES has surveyed and excavated at more than 150 different sites and monuments across the northern Nile valley and shared the results in more than 350 volumes of scientific research. Innumerable people around the world have been inspired by artefacts and texts uncovered on these excavations, whether by visiting them in museums in Egypt and internationally or by encountering them in our events programme. More recently, local community projects in Egypt have demonstrated the enriching power of heritage through our grant programme, which continues to promote innovative research and engagement for the benefit of future generations.



**Our collections are threatened
by structural instability.**



Globally significant collections

The first foundation stone, our collections, consists of a unique archive of British-Egyptian relations in the field of archaeology, as well as cartonnage and mummy masks, specialist and rare books, historic photographs, diaries and sketches and, perhaps most significant of all, the Oxyrhynchus Papyri.

The Oxyrhynchus Papyri are the largest papyrus collection in the world (at over half a million fragments). This vast repository of Greek, Egyptian, Latin, Arabic, Hebrew, Aramaic, Syriac, and Pahlavi manuscripts contains previously lost texts of Greek literature (from Sappho to Sophocles), as well as some of the earliest fragments of the New Testament. It has been said that the Oxyrhynchus Papyri are to the New Testament

what the Dead Sea Scrolls are to the Old. Over 90% are still to be translated.

Inspiring new ideas

The second foundation stone, research, learning, and engagement, is just as central to our efforts to support Egyptian heritage as caring for collections. The EES maintains an active programme of events, courses, and training programmes, through which we spread knowledge of the culture and history of Egypt. We provide training to scholars and heritage professionals from Egypt, the UK and beyond, whose careers make a lasting impact on preserving Egypt's cultural heritage. Our research projects, including the EES Delta Survey (supported by the British Academy), continue at archaeological sites across the northern Nile Valley.

However, these foundations are under strain. The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, which are currently stored off-site, urgently need to be rehoused and kept in conditions that will ensure they survive for future generations. Structural damage to our London premises endangers our other collections as well as our users and staff. Our work to promote learning and engagement is hampered by the limitations of the building, meaning we are unable to include everyone in our programmes.

In short, our ability to do our part to preserve and support Egyptian heritage – at a time when that help is needed most – is in jeopardy.

In 2022 we celebrated our 140th anniversary, but if we are to be here for our 150th and 200th anniversaries, we must act now. And we need your help.



“Thanks to EES online training courses and a skills school run in Cairo, I implemented new engagement and archiving programmes in my team! The opportunity to visit London to create educational resources using EES collections during September 2022 means that I can now inspire new generations in Egypt to take up the call to explore and preserve their heritage.”

Noura Seada, Senior lecturer; October 6th University Cairo.



Around 350 people undertook a total of over 60,000 hours of training since 2020

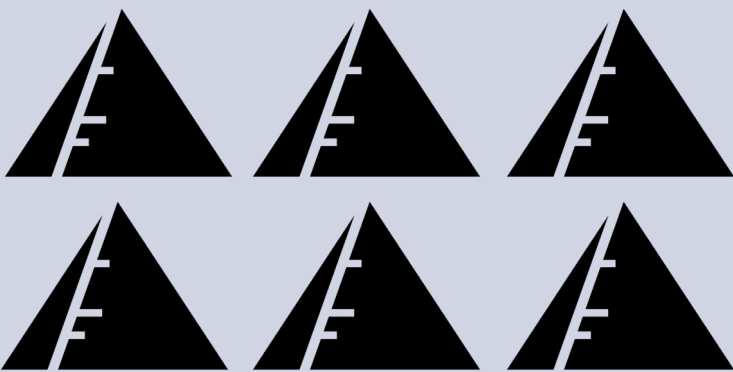


30,000+ free archive images are available to browse online

Members in over 60 countries with over 23,000 people attending online events since 2020



6 projects supported focusing on heritage at risk in 2021



The solution: 'Building the Future'

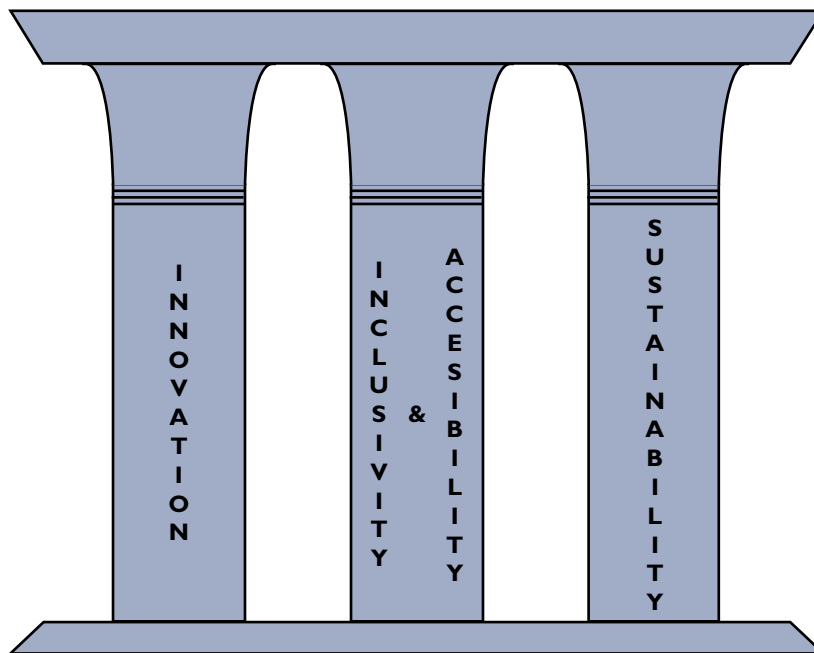
We face a great challenge, but **we have a plan**. A plan that will not only allow us to maintain our work, but to reach our full potential, engaging wider and more diverse audiences while building a community for the study and appreciation of Egypt's heritage from prehistory to the present day. Our community will welcome curious minds from among the general public and academic circles alike.

But we need your help to make it happen.

Over the next three years we are running a campaign to redevelop our premises to create a new Papyrology Centre with safe facilities for the storage and study of the Oxyrhynchus Papyri and our other collections, and a welcoming Learning Hub for discovering and engaging with Egypt's heritage and history.

Though born out of an urgent need to rebuild our London home before our collections and operations are irreparably compromised, this redevelopment presents an opportunity to build a bright future for Egyptian heritage.

We have worked with a London architectural firm, Studio Becoming, to design a scheme that puts people first, regardless of needs, age, or background. The result is an exciting space for learning and discovery, built around three pillars:



These pillars are based on an ethos embedded deep in the Society's DNA: a desire to spread the word and share the importance of Egyptian cultural heritage with even wider audiences around the world. Without this, as Amelia Edwards recognised 140 years ago, all that we cherish is at risk.



Sharing our legacy: The EES Collections

A new Papyrology Centre within our redeveloped building will, for the first time, provide for the proper storage and study of the Oxyrhynchus Papyri (see above). The Centre would include climate-controlled storage rooms for the papyri, as well as space for their study, translation, and publication. This new Centre will ensure the survival of these exceptional manuscripts for both scholarly research and public benefit.

We will also be able to put on public display many of the irreplaceable items in our collections for the first time. These include Howard Carter's largest watercolour, and fascinating archival records of some of the earliest British excavations in Egypt and Sudan.

Making these, as well as our Library and Rare and Antique Book collections (see below), more accessible to visitors will help us to expand and enhance our research capacity alongside engaging the next generation of scholars.



Supporting innovation: The Learning Hub

The Learning Hub, located on the ground floor, will engage interested audiences, school groups, and Egyptian and UK university students and scholars with Egypt's incredible heritage. We will be able to offer digital facilities, a library, and display space for our collections (including papyri and cartonnage mummy masks). The Hub will be a place for building relationships with the local community, with the wider world online, and for nurturing the next generation of heritage professionals, researchers, and enthusiasts.

This flexible space will transform into an event venue where a lively programme of hybrid events and educational activities will help us to reach international audiences from our London base.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the EES was the first Egyptological organisation to develop an interactive online programme, which received over 23,000 registrations in its first year, contributing to a growth in membership that means the EES now has members in over 60 countries. The time to build on this growing appetite is now.

As well as the ability to host in-person events, our new facilities will have digital engagement at their core, allowing us to expand our provision of essential skills training to early career researchers across the world. With increasing demand in Egypt, this is more important than ever. To ensure that today's and tomorrow's specialists benefit from the work of past scholarship, we must increase our online provision and build an international community.





Building partnerships

Our premises will embody the close historical ties between the UK and Egypt and the bilateral partnerships that we continue to build. We will work closely with emerging Egyptian artists and designers to display their crafts throughout the building, and relay their stories and traditions to our UK and international audiences. In doing so we will demonstrate that Egypt's heritage is as much about today and tomorrow as it is about the past; Egypt's voice will resonate throughout our entire building.

A new, welcoming space for all.



Creating an inclusive and accessible space

If we hope to make Egyptian heritage accessible for all, then we must begin with an inclusive space that welcomes everyone as they explore that heritage. After the planned redevelopment, our collections and services will finally be accessible to everyone whatever their needs or background.

Plans include stair-free access to all floors via a platform lift that will finally make our services fully open to wheelchair users and those with mobility needs (see below). Around the building, innovative fixtures and fittings will be designed with access needs in mind, such as hearing loops and handrails with braille signage.

Those wishing to explore Egypt's rich cultural history will be welcomed by an inviting façade, opening into a bright and airy Learning Hub where they can make their own discoveries through virtual tools, collection displays, and a lending library.

Creating an accessible and inclusive future for Egyptian heritage.





Promoting sustainability

The redeveloped premises will make use of cutting-edge design to meet the latest environmental standards. Our architects, Studio Becoming, place environmental sustainability at the core of their work. They have designed our new base to be as low-carbon as possible, with the aim of achieving zero carbon energy usage; as a 'passive building' it will require minimal energy to run and will even contribute excess energy back into the national grid.

A new roof extension with outdoor sensory garden will be planted with species that also grow in the Nile Delta. Interpretation panels and murals will invite visitors to consider the effects of climate change on an ecologically distinctive and threatened landscape, and how decisions made in the UK may impact communities living in Egypt.

The communal nature of the garden is just as important as its educational potential. This will be a space for everyone – from scholars to school children – to come together and exchange ideas, building a sustainable community with heritage at its core.



Why should I support this Campaign?

This is your chance to be part of a transformative moment in our history. To safeguard an irreplaceable heritage, and to help pave the way for new discoveries to come. We are embarking on a once-in-a-generation journey and invite you to join us.

We ask you to support this Campaign:

- Because the EES does vital work to promote Egyptian cultural heritage, for the benefit of the public as well as researchers. But our ability to continue that work is under threat.
- Because redeveloping our premises will allow the EES to make Egyptian heritage accessible to all and will ensure the survival of the globally important Oxyrhynchus Papyri and the EES's unique archive collections.
- Because the EES wants to create an innovative, environmentally and financially sustainable future, so that we can continue to explore Egyptian heritage for generations to come.

With your help, we can realise this vision.



Building a secure home for the world's largest collection of papyri



“The EES is a leader in bringing those on the periphery of Egyptology into the centre, providing a platform for training and research. I have been fortunate to attend their Skills Schools in London which led to me gaining fieldwork experience in Egypt. Since returning to Brazil, I have continued to collaborate with the EES in online events and as an EES-affiliated research project.”

Dr Thais Rocha da Silva, University of São Paulo
and Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford

Cost of this Campaign

Building costs	£2,160,000
Architects' fees (RIBA stages 1-6)	£170,445
Office costs (relocations, clearance, systems review, etc.)	£122,000
Collections management (uplift, storage, rehousing, etc.)	£43,000
Fundraising costs (staffing, materials, events, etc.)	£222,300
Governance costs	£10,000
10% contingency	£272,775
Total	£3,000,520

To see how far your gift could go, take a look at the Scales of Giving included at the front of this pack.

If more funds are raised than required, then the Society will use them to support the charitable purposes of the EES. If the campaign does not achieve its target in the allocated time, then the funds generated at that point will be held in a Development Fund and used to support the future of the Society, which could include a phased approach for the redevelopment.

How can I support this Campaign?

We need £3 million to realise our vision, to save our collections, and to build an accessible, innovative, and sustainable future for Egyptian cultural heritage. We cannot do this without you.

While contributions of any size are gratefully received, major gifts are essential for the success of our Campaign. You will find a copy of our latest “Scales of Giving” in this pack. We would be privileged to offer naming opportunities within our new premises to recognise those making transformative gifts, in accordance with our Gift and Naming policies. A list of current naming opportunities is included in this pack and we’d be delighted to discuss this further with you.

Gifts don’t have to be large to have a large impact. Regular gifts pledged over time become major gifts, particularly with the addition of Gift Aid. Our supporters in North America may also benefit from tax deductions if they make gifts via our partners at the British Schools and Universities Foundation. Take a look at the Scale of Giving to see how far your gift could go.

If you’d like to talk to someone at the EES about your gift and how you can make a difference, you can get in touch with us using the details at the front of this pack. We want you to feel as excited about this project as we are, so please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

A landmark in the community: What the new premises will look like.



Together we can build an exciting future for Egyptian cultural heritage and benefit generations to come. Please help us by supporting our campaign today.





EGYPT
EXPLORATION
SOCIETY
FOUNDED IN 1882

Help us build this vision
of the future

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