



News memo
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Editorial

<http://sites-archeologiques.perso.sfr.fr>

In brief:

Museum vs collector: an old dispute

While developing our new section (cf. opposite), we received some comments criticizing the presence on our website, of pages intended for collectors.

Both parties' arguments are well known. If, despite regulations, many places are hopelessly plundered each day, this is because unscrupulous collectors encourage it, through a market controlled by illegal dealers.

"Why", say the collectors, "we buy our items in a most legal way, from renowned suppliers, we take care of them, and indeed most museums would not even display such items".

And they add that many museums have been enriched by old private collections, and that if archaeology had no such enthusiastic supporters (collectors or not), there would be less visitors in museums and exhibitions, and even less money for archaeological researches.

Is there any middle ground? In any case, this immediately led us to add on our pages some warnings for collectors and – in the french part – a summary of the french regulation.

Like for environmental protection, can better information help to reduce the danger? We are ready to open a forum on this point. What do you think about it? Tell us your opinion!

René Kauffmann

Special issue French museums

Museums and archaeological sites in France

We started in late June 2011 to expand our chapter "Where to see items and sites of ancient civilizations" by developing an interactive map and a directory of French museums dedicated to archeology or having a section devoted to this field, and quoting the French archaeological sites.

This is now done, and the new chapter is online.

Click on [THIS LINK](#) to access it directly.

Other developments have been suggested, so we renewed the whole structure of our site, in order to accommodate them later on... After 10 months of existence, our website was fully redesigned to welcome all future topics: an ambitious project!

A new look at our site

Here is our new home page ... It's awaiting your visit!



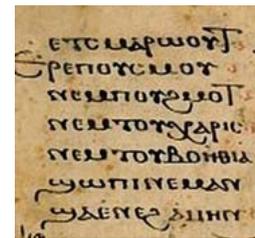
To set up a directory of French museums and ancient sites - after having collected all the material available on the Web - we began with a survey of the main museum in every french "department"... This enriched our thinking and also helped us to avoid many inaccuracies.

In a second step, we sought the opinion of all the museums listed (more than 300!). We thank all those who contributed, sent us their comments and advice, and allowed us to display their pictures on our Web site.

Of course, it's not too late to change some points on these pages: contact us!

Had you already seen this?

In ALL sections (Romans, Etruscans, Greeks, Phoenicians and Egyptians), there is now a page devoted to the language of these civilizations, their writing, their alphabet, their numbers and the numeral system they used.



Please send us your comments, and meet you soon in our pages for the next steps !!

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