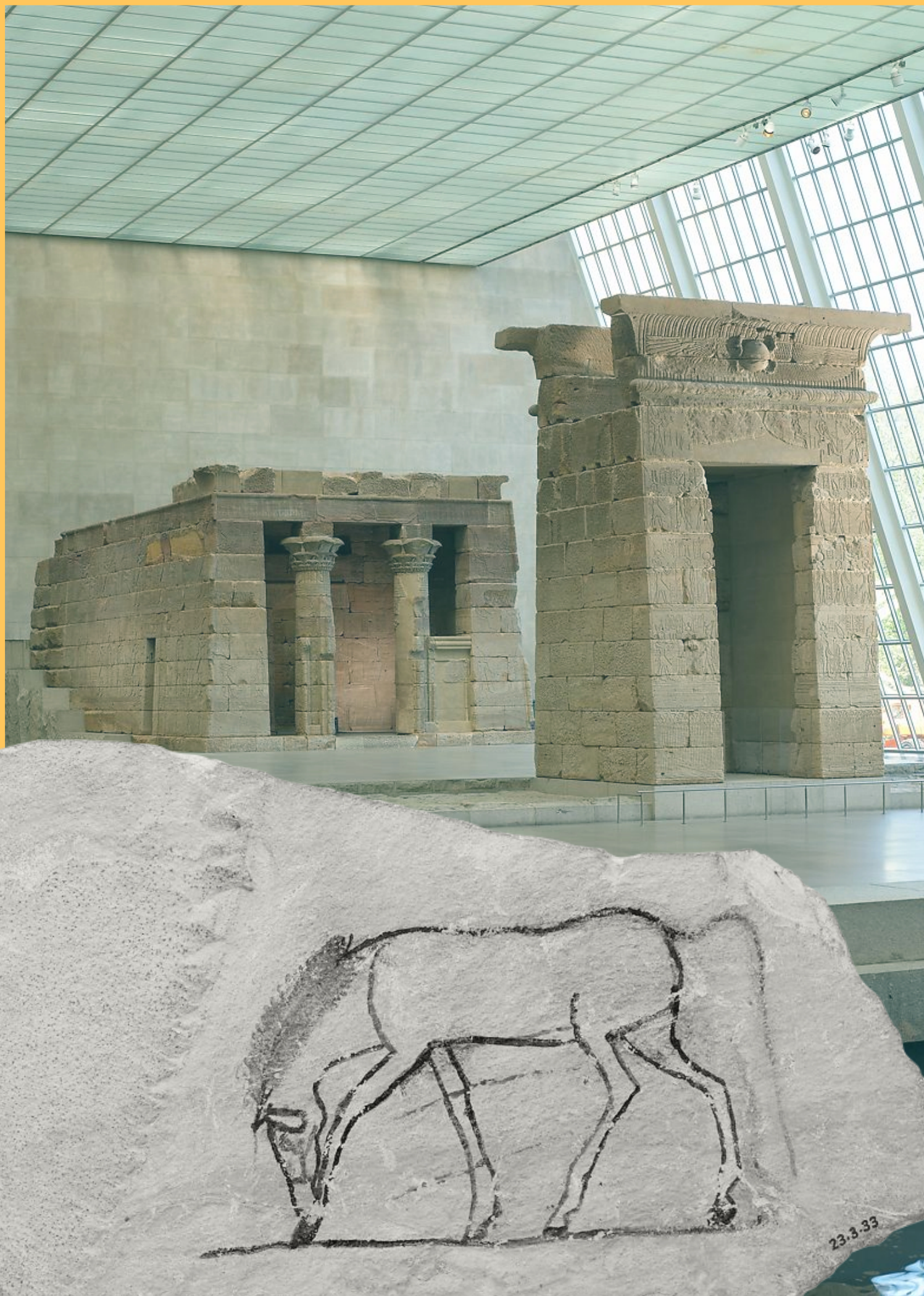


THE EGYPTIAN WING



According to archeological evidence, the first horses were introduced to Egypt in the New Kingdom, that is, about 1700-1550 BC. Surprisingly, horses weren't actually ridden much; they were instead used to pull chariots (hence the subjects of the selection). This might have something to do with the fact that horses were symbols of extreme prestige and power, never used in a context that denoted any sort of labor. Hunting and chariot-racing were pastimes belonging to royalty and the wealthy, and their horses were considered magnificent creatures who deserved to be revered and respected— no riding! That said, there is even a story of Rameses II telling his officers that from then on he would be eating dinner with his horses, rather than with them, as the horses were better behaved and more noble than they were. Fair.



1



2



3



4



5

1

Title: Faience Tablet
Period: New Kingdom
Dynasty: Dynasty 18
Reign: reign of Thutmose IV
Date: ca. 1400–1390 B.C.
Medium: Faience
Accession Number: 17.194.2297
On View: Gallery 118

2

Title: Hunting from a Chariot, Tomb of Userhat
Artist: Charles K. Wilkinson
Period: Twentieth Century; original New Kingdom
Dynasty: Dynasty 18
Reign: reign of Amenhotep II
Date: A.D. 1922; original ca. 1427–1400 B.C.
Medium: Tempera on paper
Accession Number: 30.4.42
On View: Gallery 135

3

Title: Galloping Horses
Period: New Kingdom, Amarna Period
Dynasty: Dynasty 18
Reign: reign of Akhenaten
Date: ca. 1353–1336 B.C.
Medium: Limestone, paint
Accession Number: 1985.328.17
On View: Gallery 131

4

Title: Artist's Sketch of a Horse

Period: Ramesside Period

Dynasty: Dynasty 19-20

Date: 1295–1070 BC

Medium: Limestone, ink

Accession Number: 23.3.33

On View: Gallery 127

5

Title: Whip Handle in the Form of a Horse

Period: Late Period

Dynasty: Dynasty 25–29

Date: 525–380 B.C.

Medium: Faience

Accession Number: 26.7.1011

On View: Gallery 127