Musings and Visions from the Director’s Desk

Readers will note that Expedition has a new and, we hope, inviting look, with the addition of five short departmental pieces coupled with a more open design. The departments will appear on a regular basis in the magazine. Two of them, “What in the World?” and “From the Archives,” will spotlight artifacts, photographs, and documents that tell significant stories about our collections, research, and history. “Research Notes” and “Science and Archaeology” will offer the Museum’s researchers and staff opportunities to present brief snapshots of current projects or intriguing scientific discoveries or applications. “Museum Mosaic” will report on our newsmakers and staff in general.

In addition, a four-page newsletter insert from the Development Office will appear in the middle of the magazine to report on the Campaign for the East Wing and related fund-raising issues and to honor our generous donors.

As readers will see in Douglas Haller’s informative article in this issue, 1999 is the centennial of the first of the Museum’s five buildings.

What better way to celebrate this centennial and architect Wilson Eyre’s vision than to complete the $16.7 million capital campaign for the new Collections Storage and Study Wing and related renovations before the close of the year? The successful completion of the campaign will allow us to break ground for the new wing in the spring of 2000 and enter the new century (and millennium) well prepared to fulfill our trifold mission of research, preservation, and education at the highest possible levels. Readers interested in learning more about the planning for the new wing or supporting the campaign should consult the Museum’s website (www.upenn.edu/museum) or contact Ms. Leslie Krugh, Associate Director for Development and Special Events (215-898-4251 or krugh@deu.upenn.edu).

Jeremy A. Sabloff
The Williams Director

Keeper Lucy Williams at one of the present American Section storerooms. The new wing will provide state-of-the-art storage for all of the Museum’s collections.

Photograph courtesy of The Philadelphia Inquirer