

MOTEL
OF THE
MYSTERIES

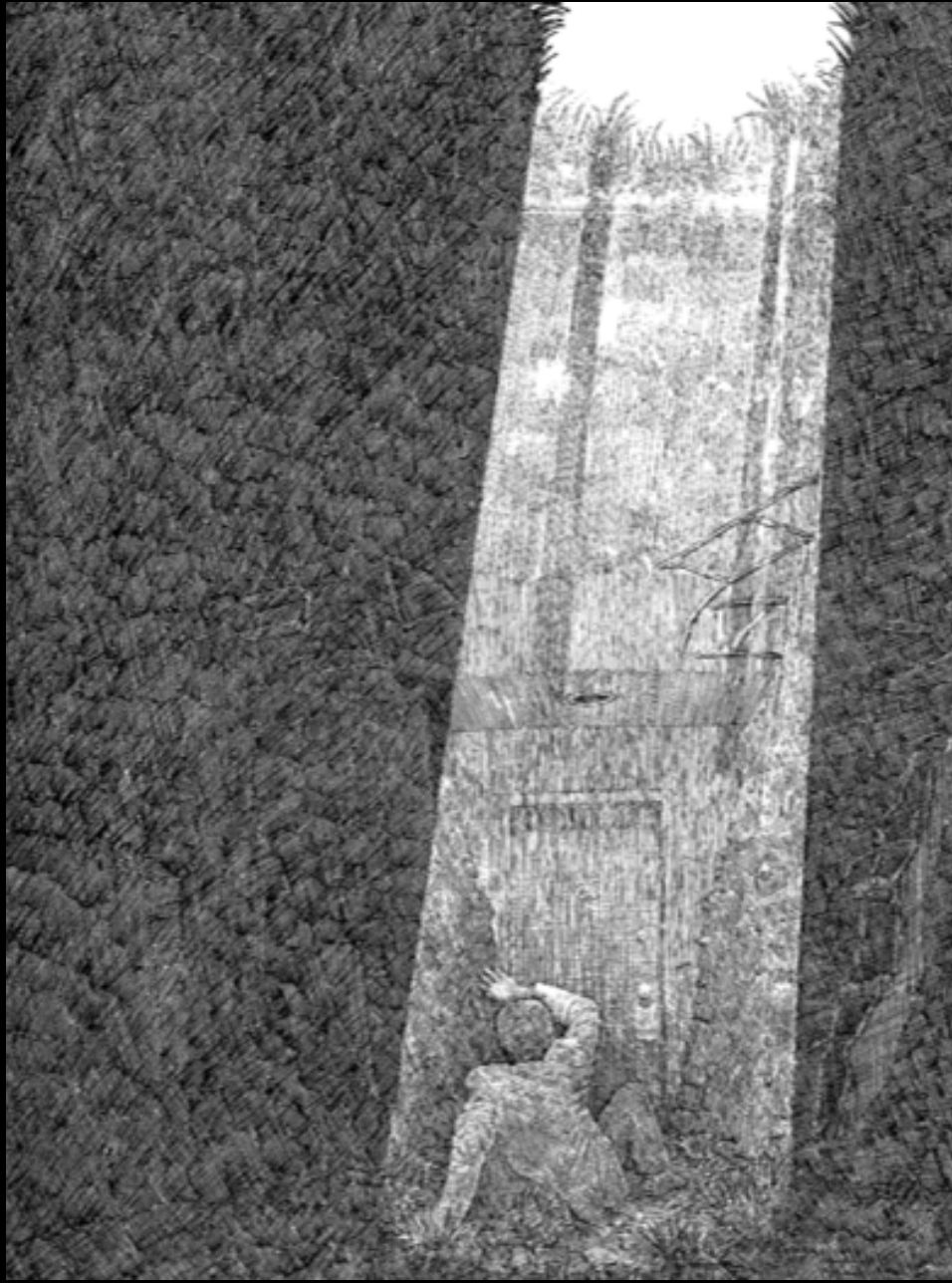
IN 2013 A CATAclySMIC EVENT
OF HUGE PROPORTION
EXTINGUISHED VIRTUALLY ALL
FORMS OF LIFE ON THE THE
NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.

BECAUSE OF A REDUCTION IN
POSTAL RATES, MAIL LITERALLY
BURIED THE NORTH
AMERICANS UNDER TONS OF
BROCHURES AND FLIERS.

IN LESS THAN A DAY, THE MOST
ADVANCED CIVILIZATION OF THE
ANCIENT WORLD HAD PERISHED.

IN THE YEAR 4022, HOWARD
CARSON (AN ARCHEOLOGIST) SET
SAIL TO TO EAST USA TO TRY TO
CHIP AWAY AT THE GREAT
RUBBLE LEFT BEHIND ON THE
CONTINENT. ...

LESS THAN A MONTH LATER HE
ARRIVED AMONG THE GREAT
RUBBLE ALONG THE PERIMETER
OF A DESERTED EXCAVATION
SITE....



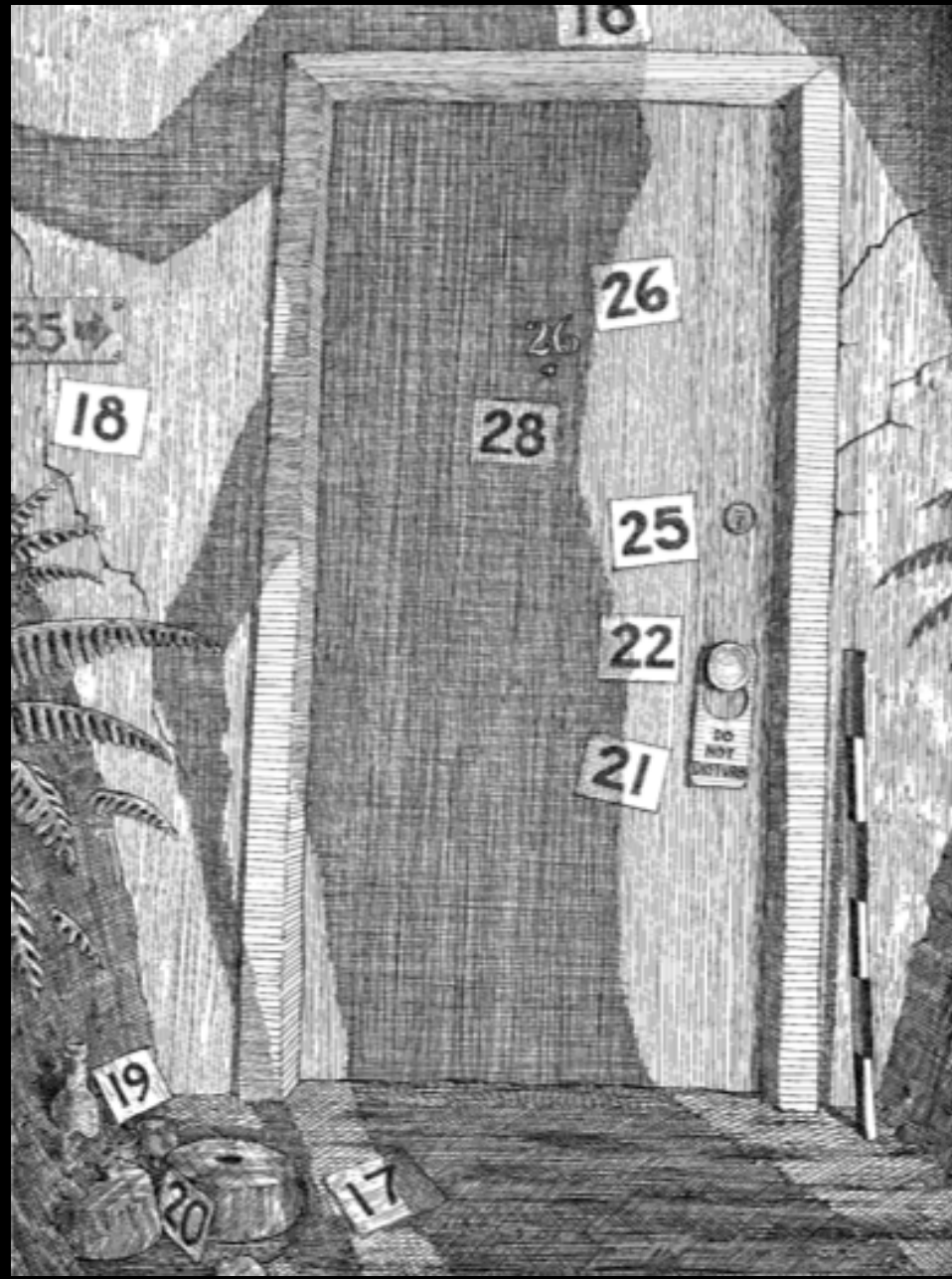
THE GROUND
BELOW HIS
FEET
SUDDENLY
GAVE WAY.

HE FOUND
HIMSELF AT
THE BOTTOM
OF A GREAT
SHAFT...

WHERE HE
SAW A TOMB
DOOR.

CARSON,
WITH HIS
COMPANION
HARRIET
BURTON,
BEGAN SEVEN
YEARS'
WORK OF
EXCAVATION
OF THE
MOTEL OF
MYSTERIES
COMPLEX.

TOMB 26...

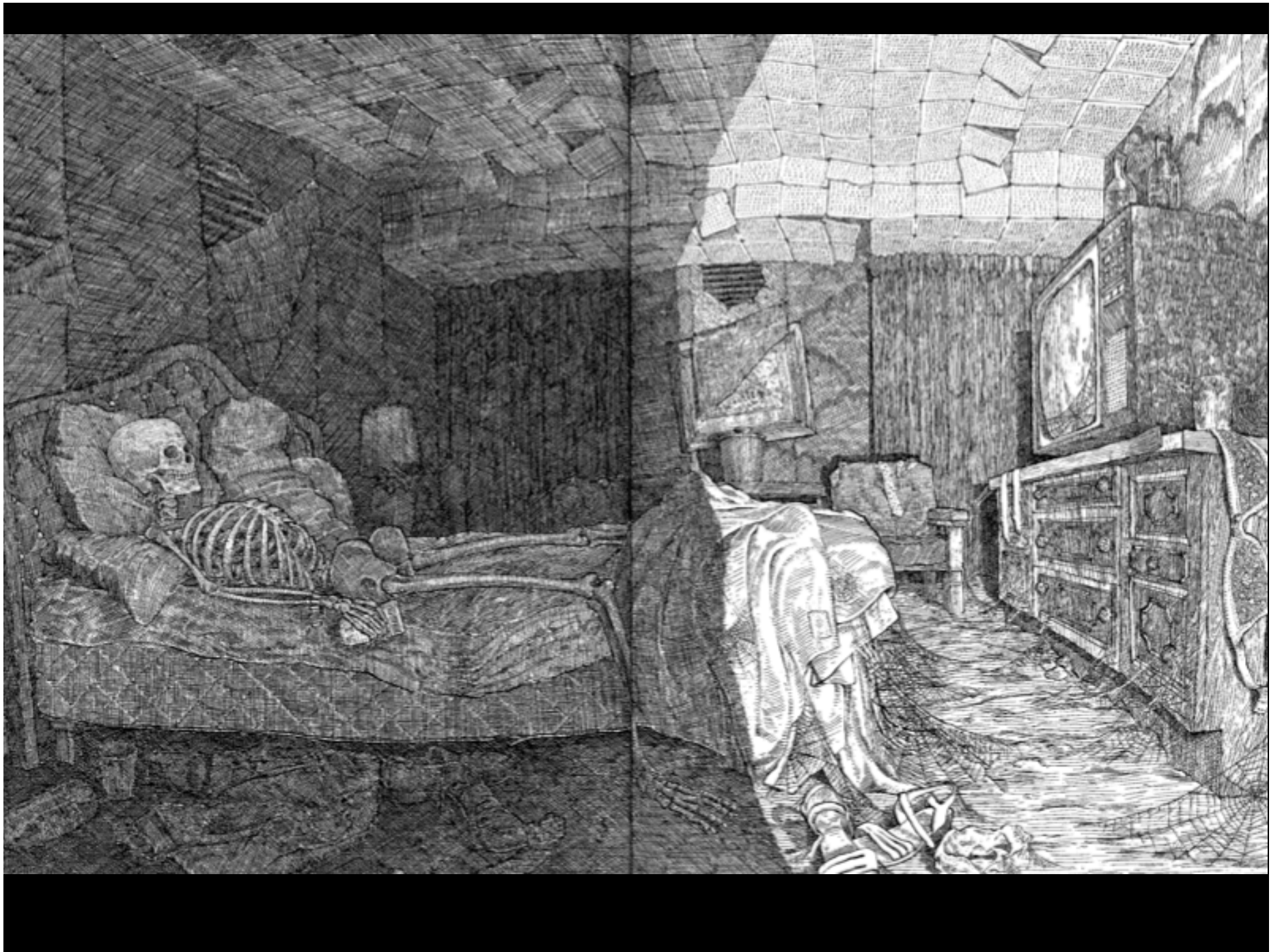


AT FIRST
EVERYTHING
WAS DARK.

"HOWARD,
CAN YOU SEE
ANYTHING?"

"YES," HE
REPLIED,
"WONDERFUL
THINGS!"





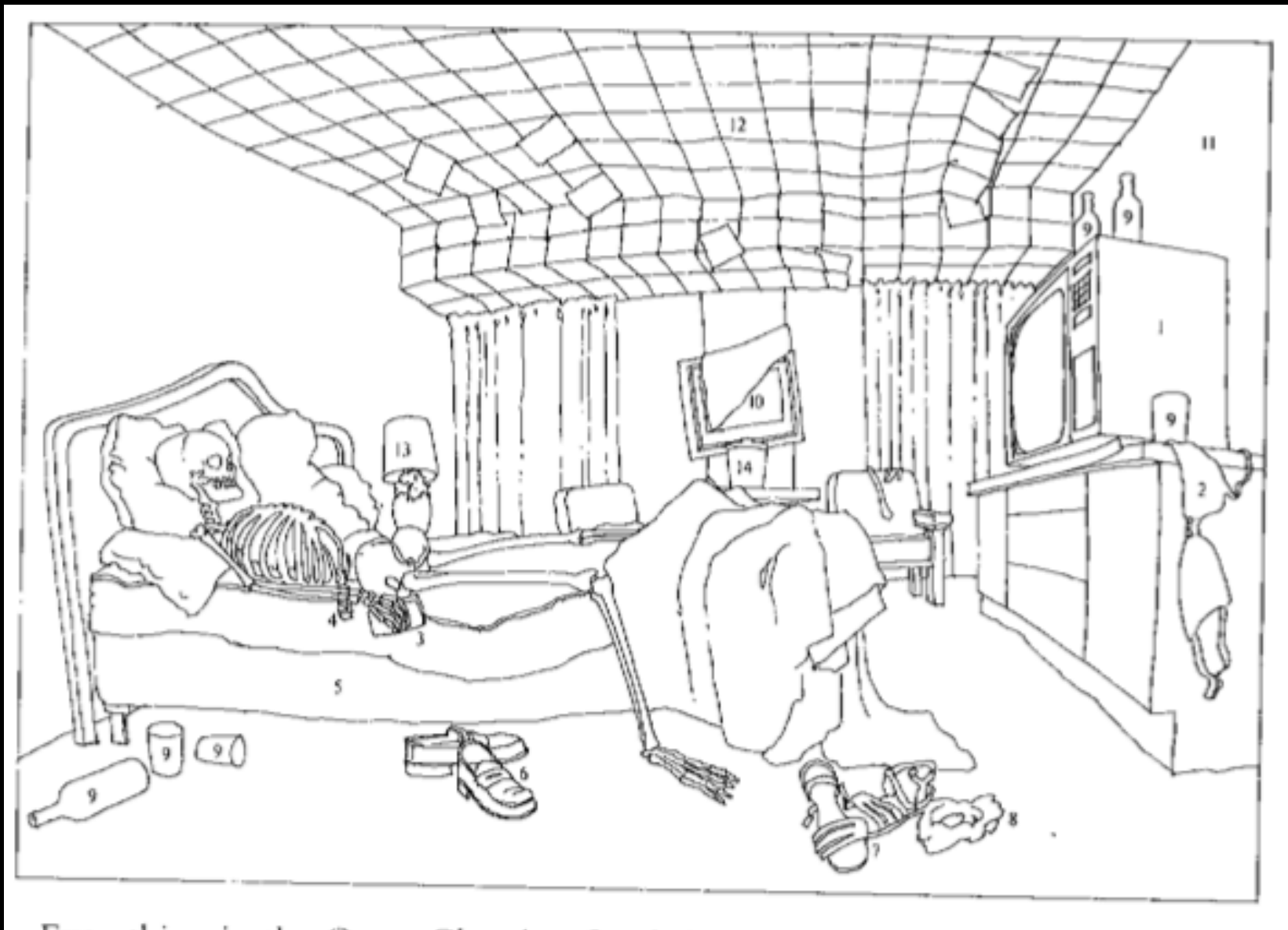


Figure 1: A cluttered room with numbered items 1 through 14.

SEEING TWO
PAIRS OF SHOES
IMPLIED A
DOUBLE
BURIAL.

SO HE
IMMEDIATELY
BEGAN
LOOKING FOR
ANOTHER
CHAMBER.



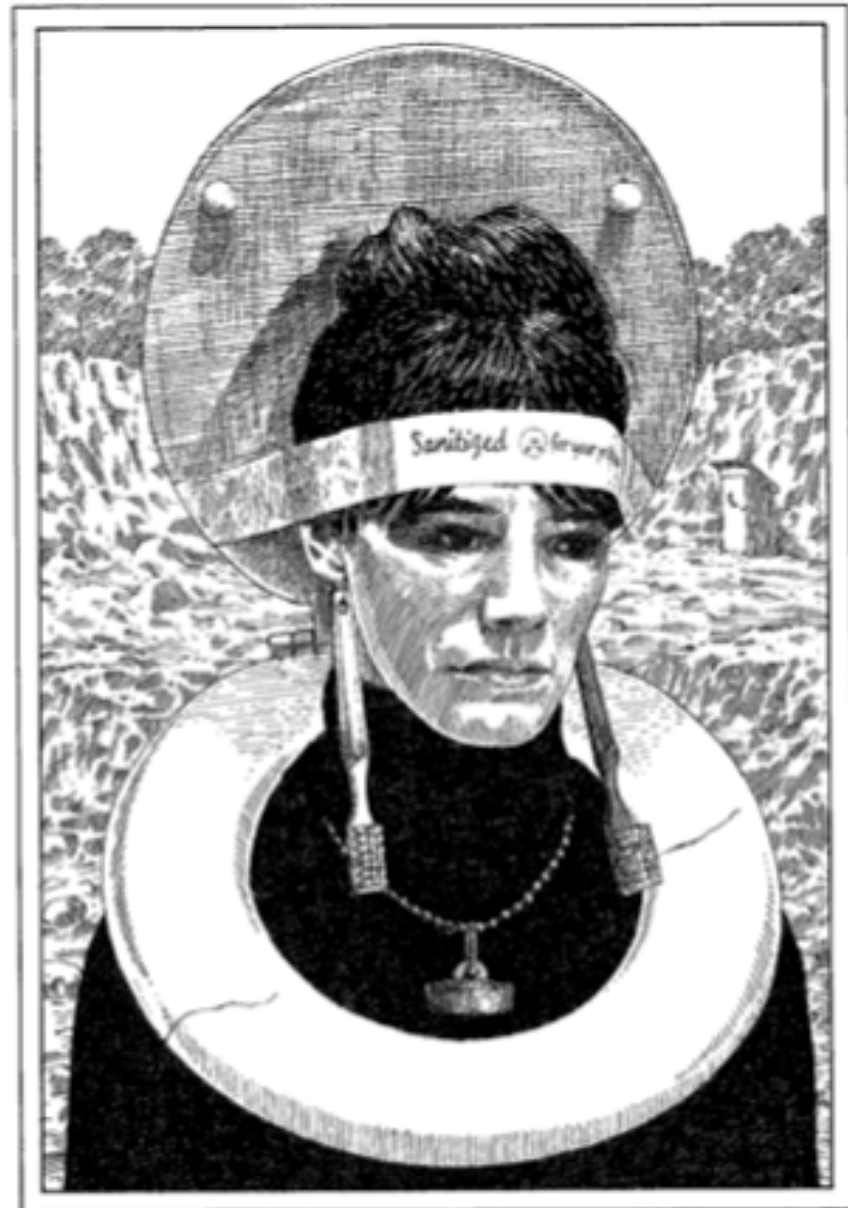


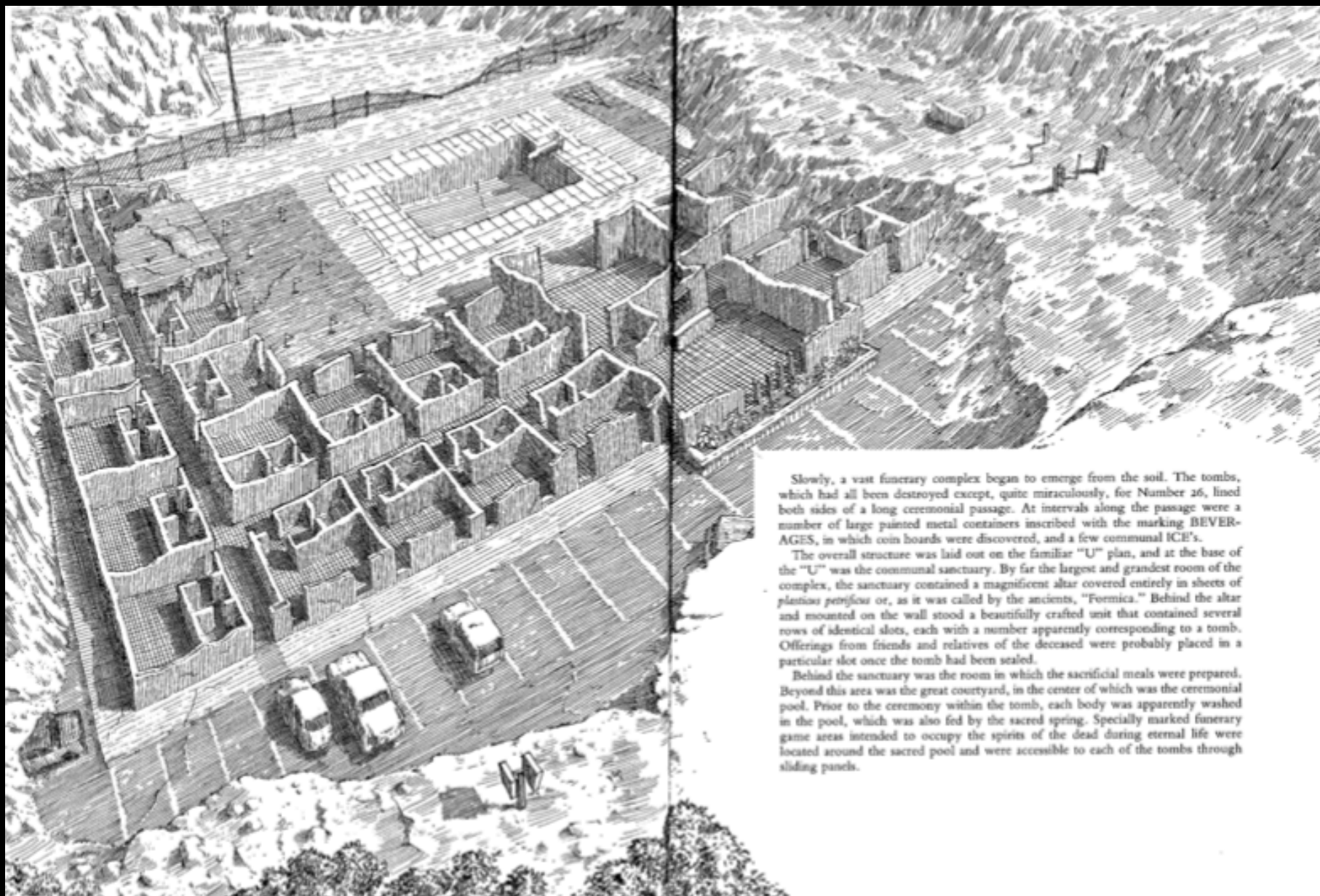
THE CONTENTS
OF THE INNER
CHAMBER
WERE EVEN
MORE
DAZZLING
THAN THOSE
ALREADY
DISCOVERED.



THE
EXCITEMENT OF
THE EARLY
DAYS GAVE
WAY TO THE
DRUDGERY OF
CATALOGUING
AND DRAWING
EACH ITEM IN
THE TOMB.

HARRIET
PROUDLY
STRODE
AROUND THE
SITE WEARING
THE SCARED
COLLAR AND
MATCHING
HEADBAND.

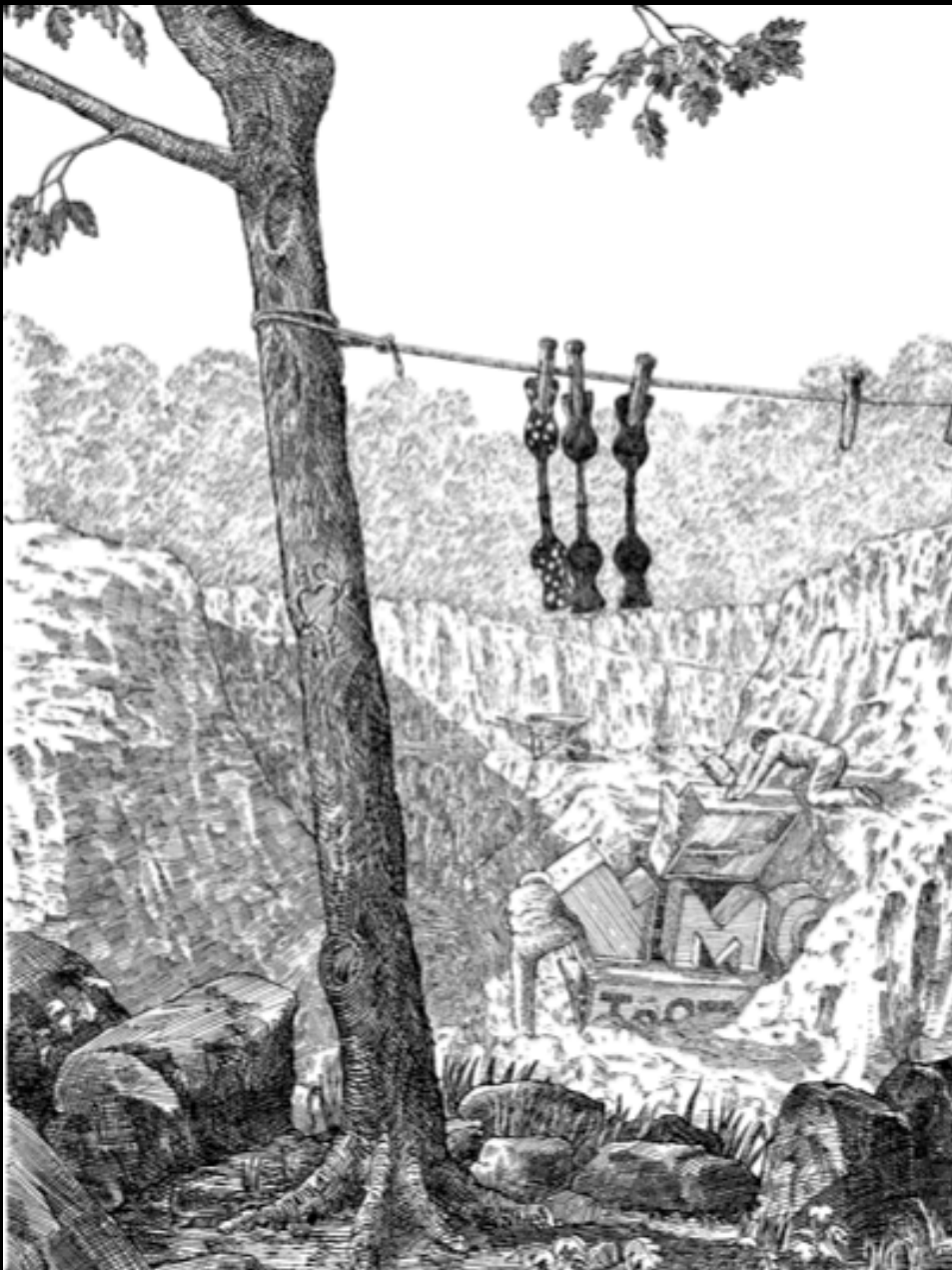




Slowly, a vast funerary complex began to emerge from the soil. The tombs, which had all been destroyed except, quite miraculously, for Number 26, lined both sides of a long ceremonial passage. At intervals along the passage were a number of large painted metal containers inscribed with the marking BEVERAGES, in which coin boards were discovered, and a few communal ICE's.

The overall structure was laid out on the familiar "U" plan, and at the base of the "U" was the communal sanctuary. By far the largest and grandest room of the complex, the sanctuary contained a magnificent altar covered entirely in sheets of *plinius perijous* or, as it was called by the ancients, "Formica." Behind the altar and mounted on the wall stood a beautifully crafted unit that contained several rows of identical slots, each with a number apparently corresponding to a tomb. Offerings from friends and relatives of the deceased were probably placed in a particular slot once the tomb had been sealed.

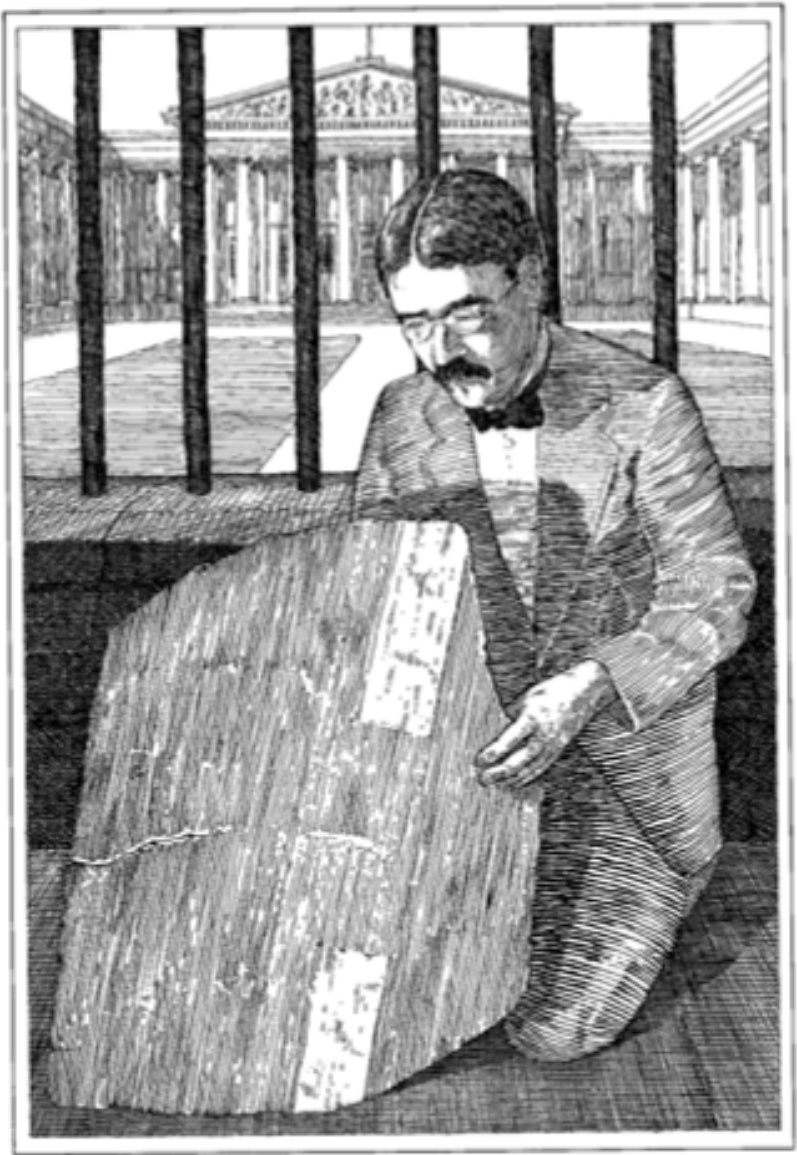
Behind the sanctuary was the room in which the sacrificial meals were prepared. Beyond this area was the great courtyard, in the center of which was the ceremonial pool. Prior to the ceremony within the tomb, each body was apparently washed in the pool, which was also fed by the sacred spring. Specially marked funerary game areas intended to occupy the spirits of the dead during eternal life were located around the sacred pool and were accessible to each of the tombs through sliding panels.



TWO
VOLUNTEERS
BEGAN TO
EXCAVATE THE
GREAT SIGN.



THE MUSEUM
FINALLY
AGREED TO
SHOW THE
TREASURES
FROM THE
MOTEL OF THE
MYSTERIES IN A
MAJOR
EXHIBITION.



CARSON
SPONTANEOUSLY
PUT ON THE
SACRED COLLAR
AND CEREMONIAL
HEADBAND AND
PERFORMED THE
RITUAL CHANT
TO THE SACRED
URN.





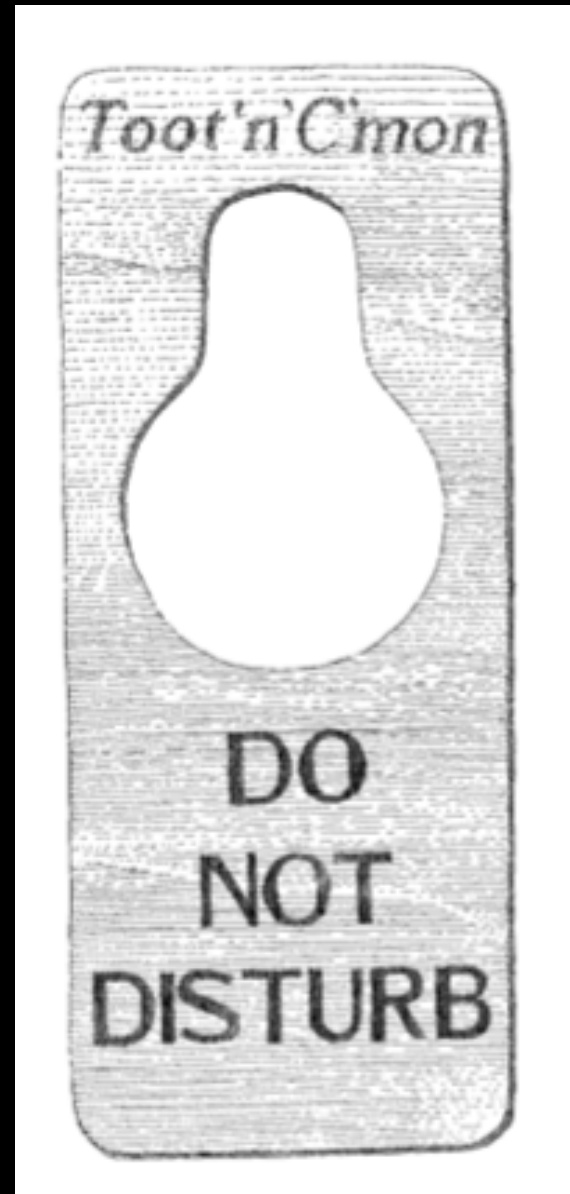
THUS FOR THE
PAST 32 YEARS
HUNDREDS OF
PILGRIMS HAVE
FLOCKED TO THE
MOTEL OF
MYSTERIES...

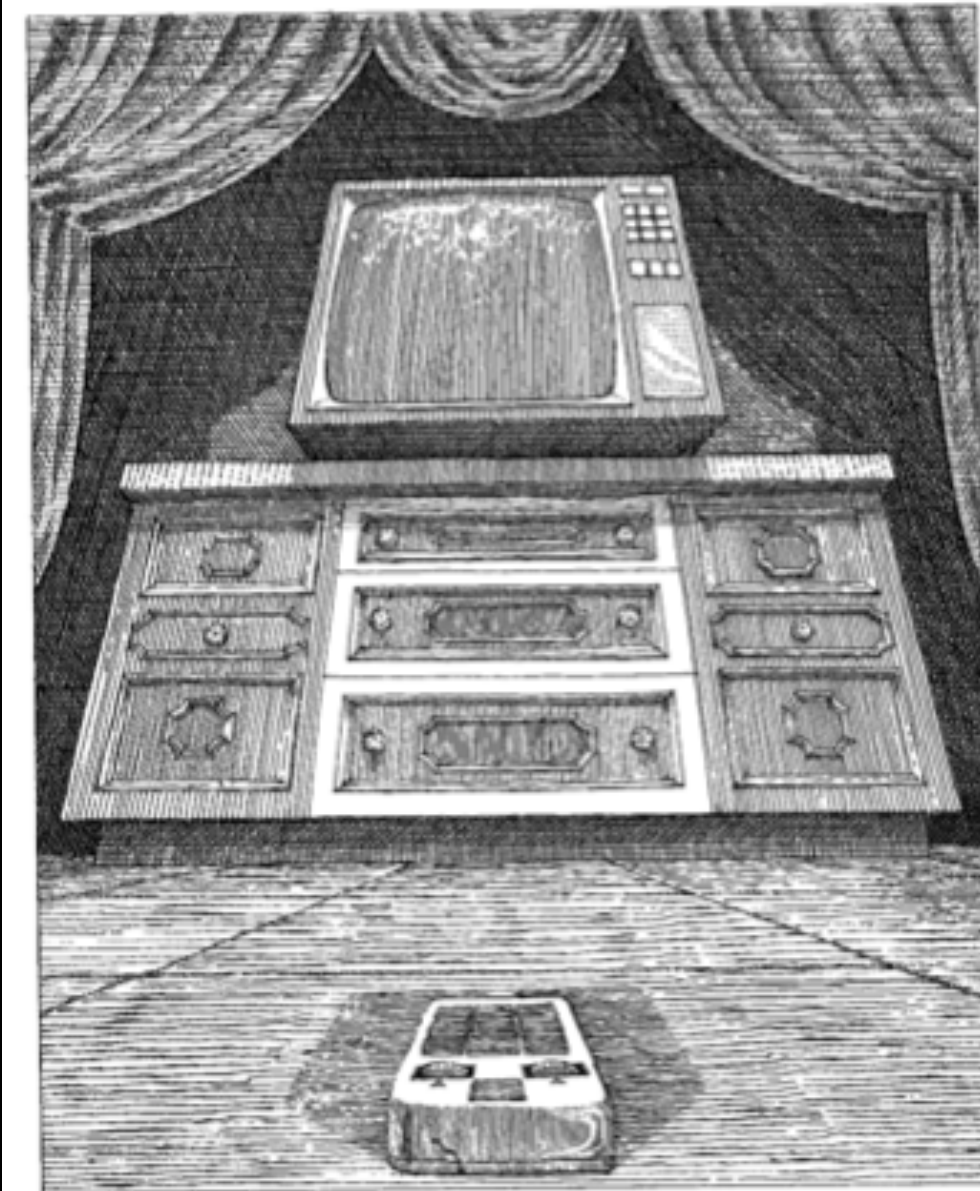
THE TREASURES

THE SACRED SEAL

Constructed from plasticus eternicus.

It was placed upon the handle of the great outer door by officials following the closing of the tomb.





THE GREAT ALTAR

Everything in the outer chamber was directed toward this magnificent structure. It represents the religious communication as practiced by North Americans. It primarily communicated with the gods MOVIEA and MOVIEB.

Communication with the altar was symbolically continued into eternal life by placing the communicator box in the hand of the dead.

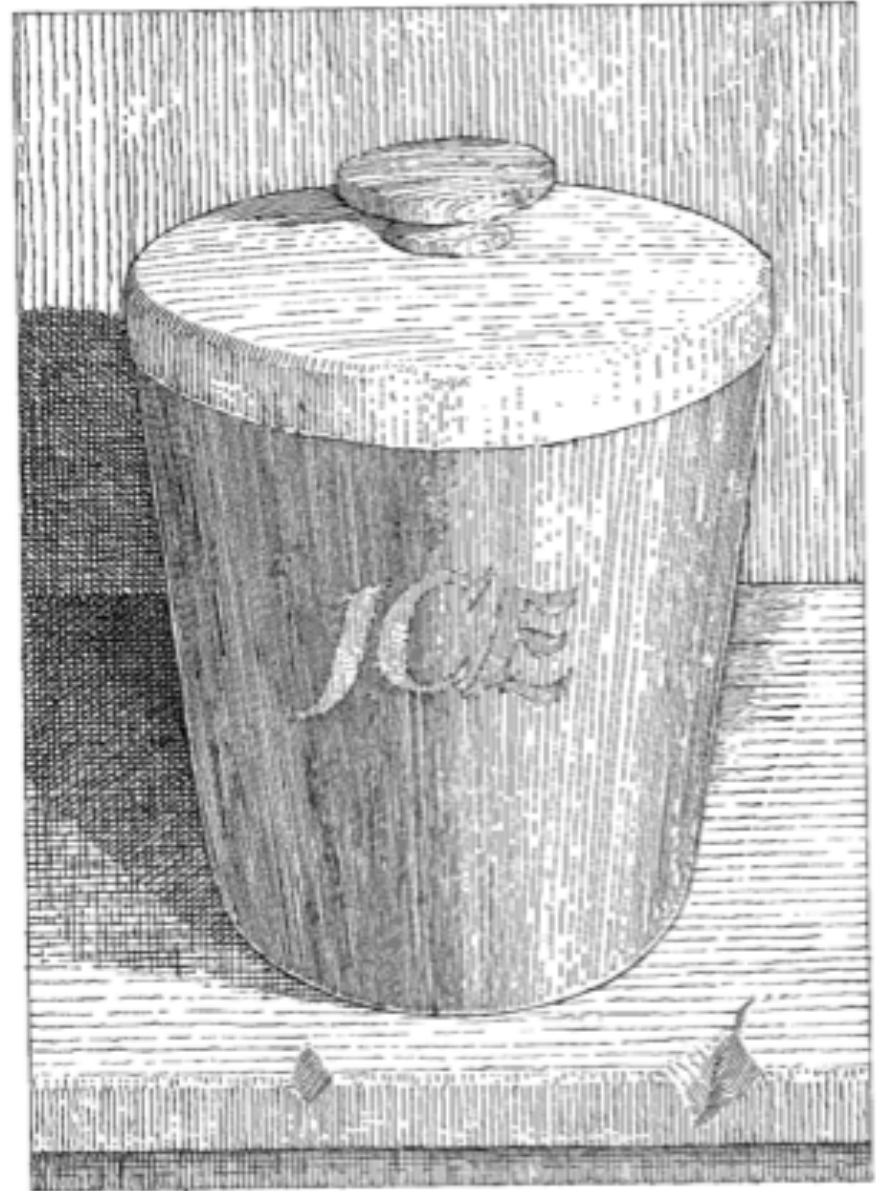
THE BELL SYSTEM

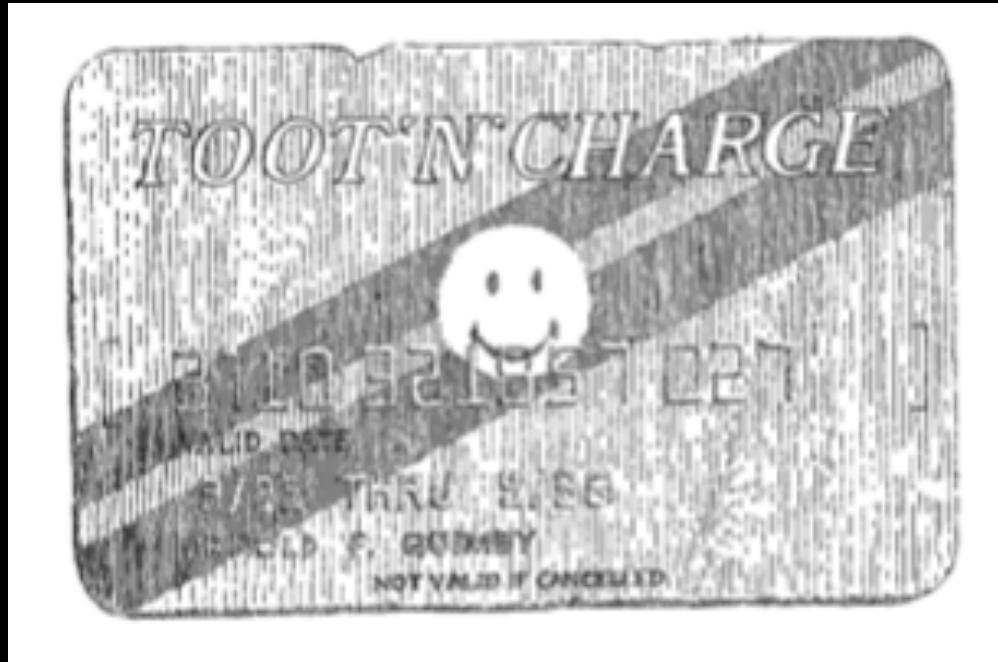
This percussion instrument was found near the statue of WATT. It may have been used to make connections with the gods. The Bell System was used by holding half of the instrument in each hand and banging them together in a pattern. The impact would cause a small bell on the inside to ring.



THE INTERNAL COMPONENT ENCLOSURE

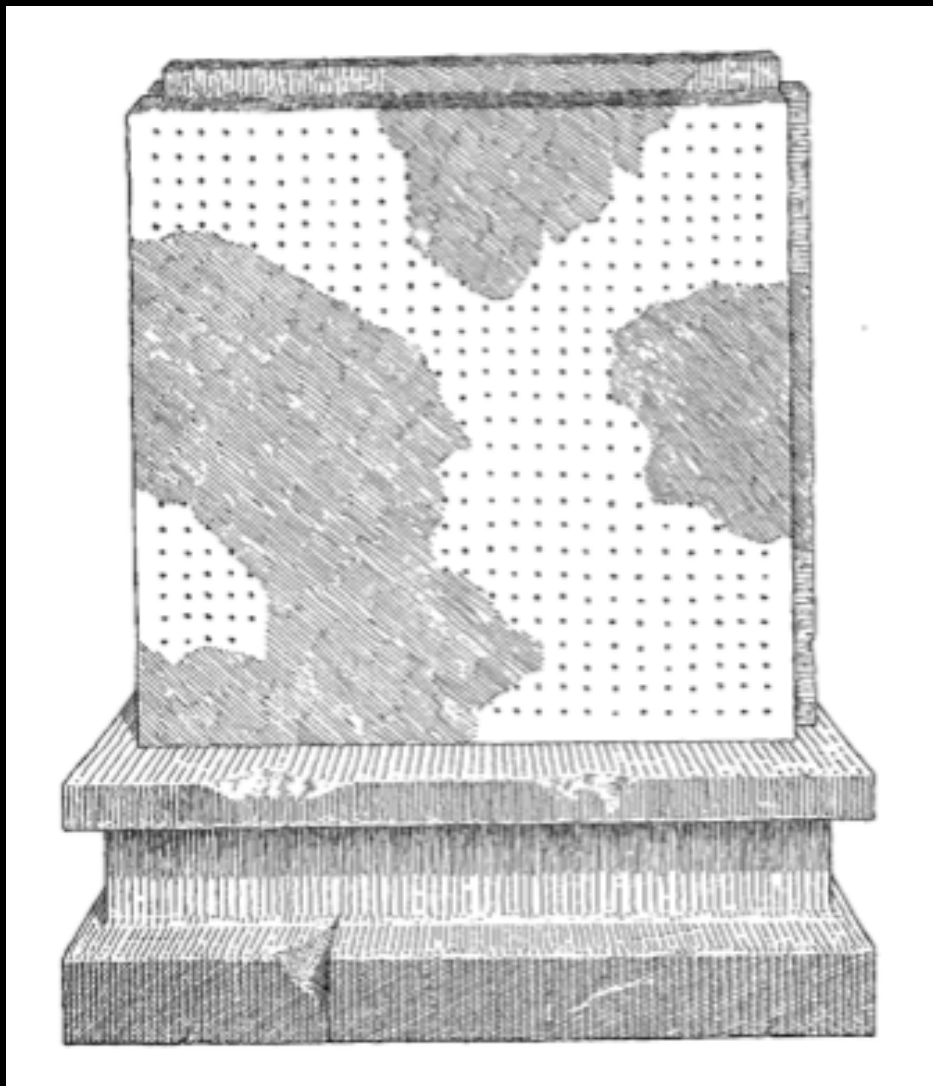
This container stood on a table in the outer chamber. Made of plasticus petrificus it is most likely priceless. Since no trace of an internal organ was found in the ICE, its function as a Canopic Jar is merely symbolic.





SMALL RELIEF

This fine piece of workmanship served as a portable shrine. It's delicate inscriptions were intended to identify an individual's religious preference along with the burial site to which the body should be delivered.



A MOSAIC TILE

Ancient North American's covered the ceilings of their buildings with mosaics. Each tile was decorated with a series of perforations and then color was added by applying the occasional watermark.



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The two trumpets on the left were attached to the inner chamber. Music was played by forcing water through the trumpets under great pressure. The instrument on the right was probably of the percussion family, but the method of playing remains a mystery.

THE SACRED PENDANT

This piece of jewelry was found lodged in a hole in the floor of the sarcophagus. It is carved out of rubber and hangs delicately on a silver ring and a silver chain.



THE CEREMONIAL BURIAL CAP

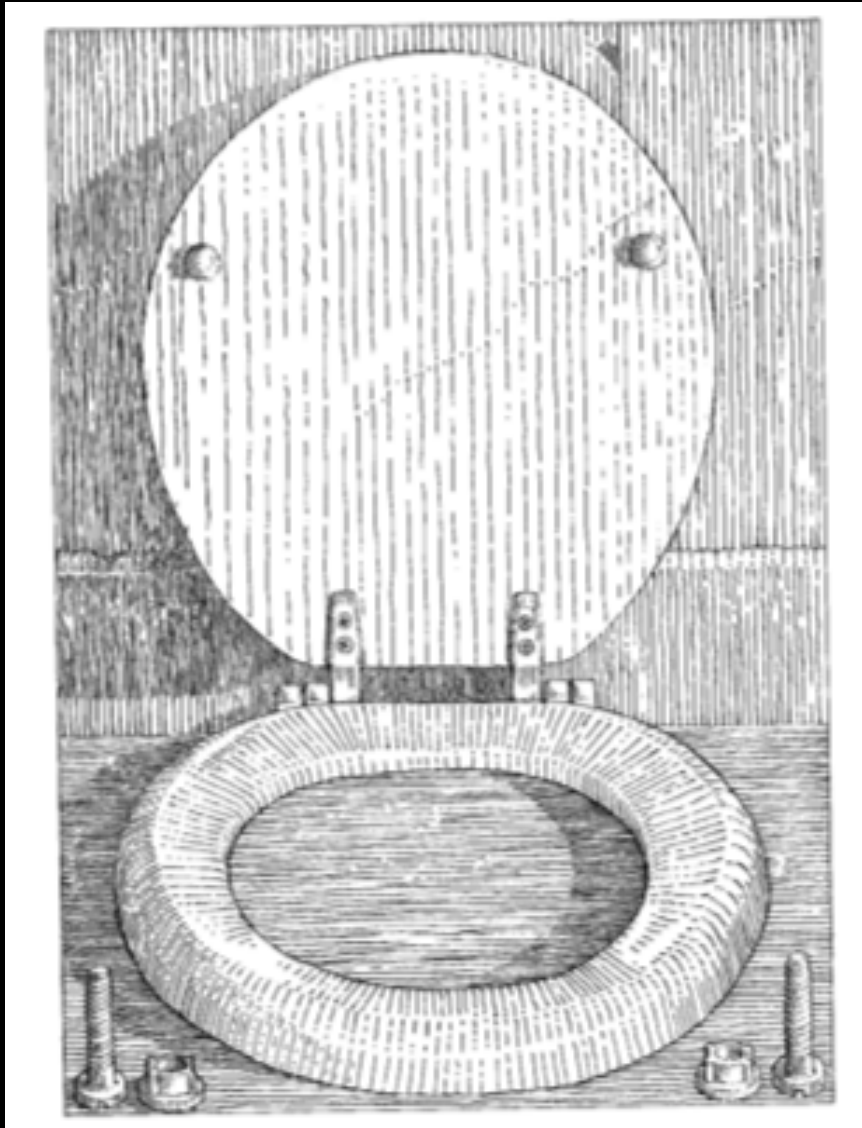
This headdress was made for
the deceased.





THE SACRED URN

This most holy of relics was discovered in the Inner Chamber. It was carved from porcelain and highly polished. The URN was the focal point of the burial ceremony. The celebrant would kneel before the URN and would chant into it while water from the sacred spring flowed to mix with the sheets of the sacred parchment.



THE SACRED COLLAR

This article was worn
at the burial
ceremony. One
would place it over
their head and wear
it around their neck.
Experts date this
collar at A.D. 1979.

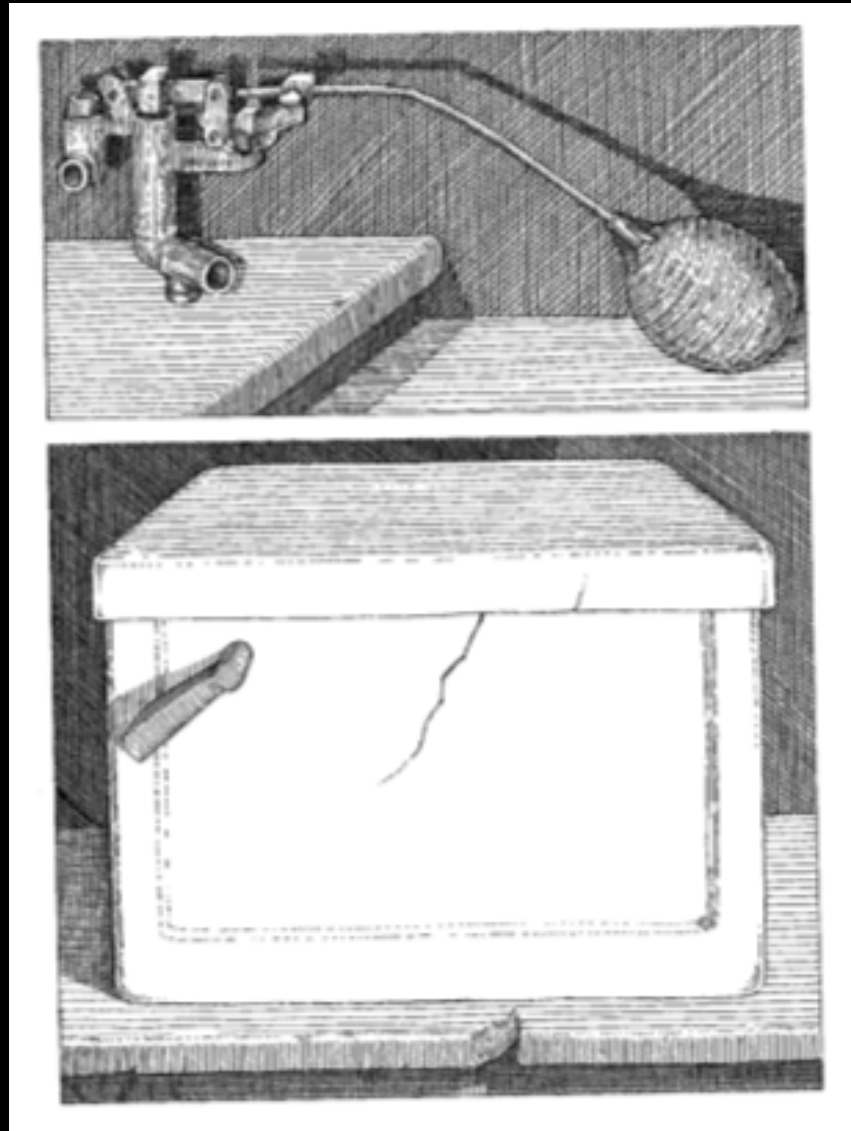


THE SACRED HEADBAND

Another priceless treasure, the Headband was worn to hold the sacred collar in place. The inscription on the front is the holy chant.

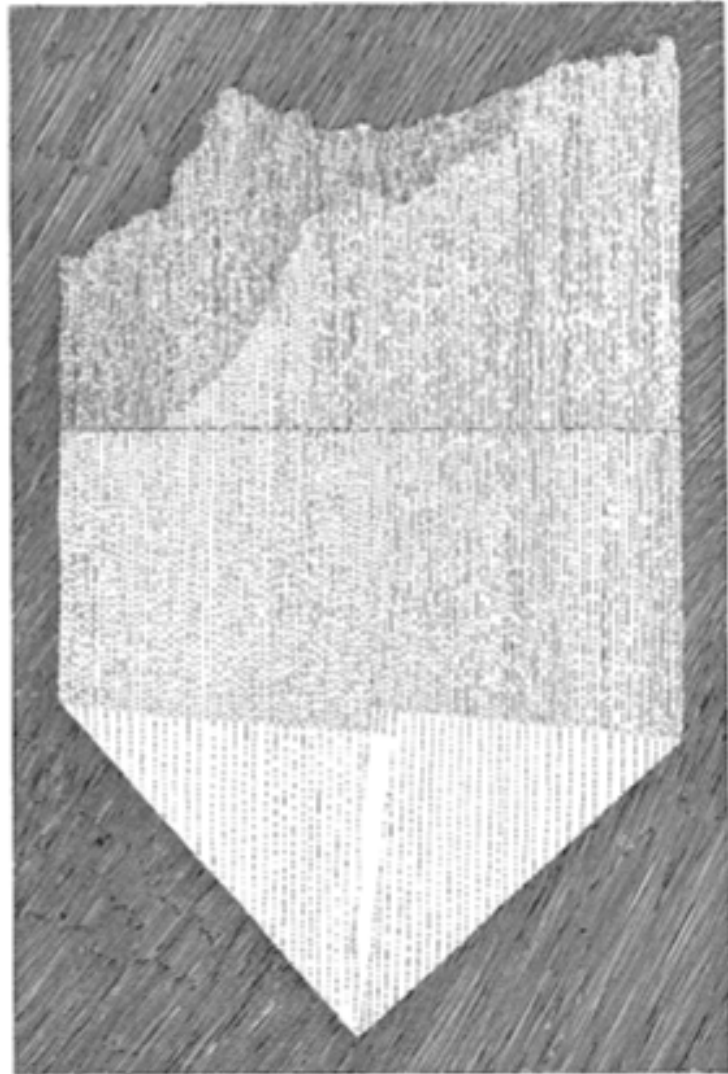
THE MUSIC BOX

This instrument was found about the SACRED URN. By pulling the handle, the flow of water would create a simple musical accompaniment which would last for the duration of the ceremony.



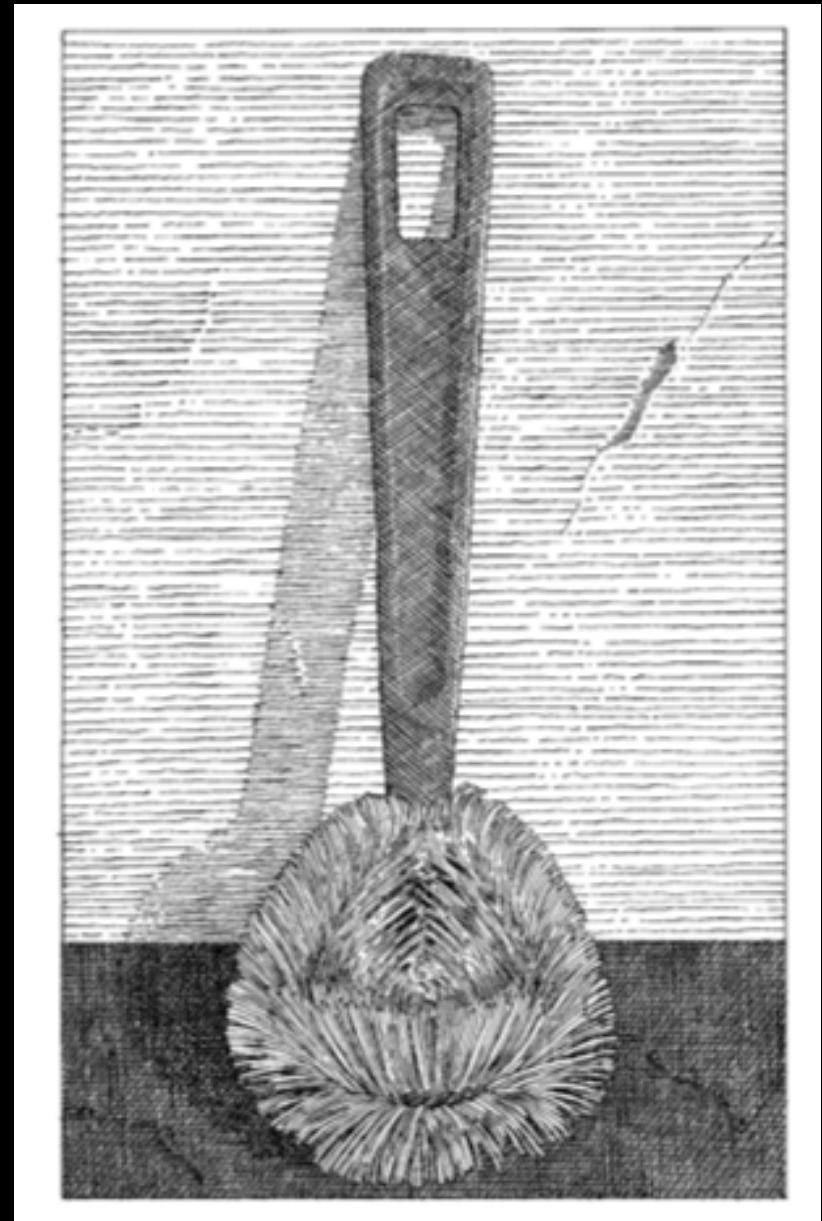
THE SACRED POINT

Very little is known
about the origin of the
Sacred Points except
that they were very
rare and Carson
thought they pointed
the way to eternal life.



THE SACRED ASPERGILLIUM

This beautifully
crafted instrument
was dipped in the
water of the Sacred
Urn and shaken over
the deceased. This
represented the
cleansing of the
eternal home.



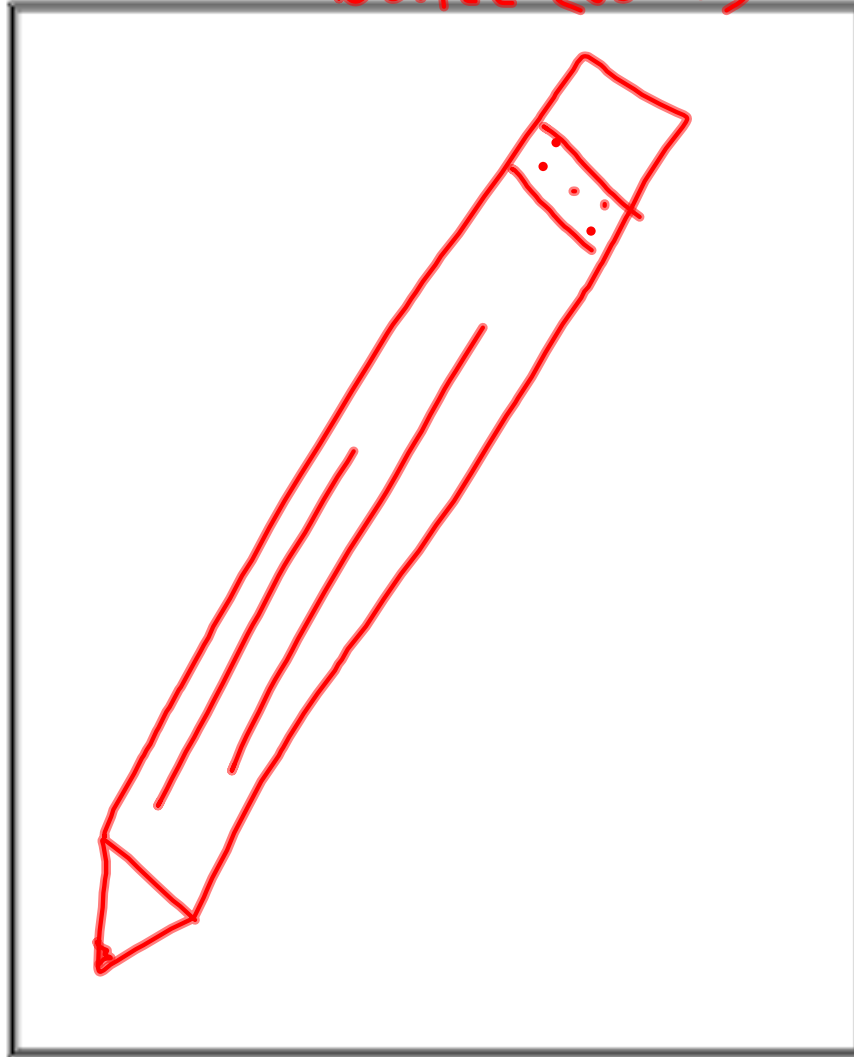
IMAGINE YOURSELF AS A FUTURE ARCHEOLOGIST, HUNDREDS OF YEARS FROM NOW. YOU STUMBLE ACROSS A STRANGE ARTIFACT FROM THE PAST. WHAT IS IT? WHAT WAS IT USED FOR? IS IT AN EVERYDAY OBJECT OR SOMETHING USED FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION?

YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS TO CHOOSE AN OBJECT FROM YOUR HOME, SCHOOL, OR EVERYDAY LIFE AND DESCRIBE IT AS THOUGH YOU DON'T ALREADY KNOW WHAT IT IS USED FOR. IF SOMEONE ELSE FOUND THE OBJECT YEARS FROM NOW, HOW MIGHT THEY MISTAKE IT FOR SOMETHING ELSE?

ON THE BACK OF THIS WORKSHEET, DRAW AND COLOR YOUR ARTIFACT AS SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT MISINTERPRET IT. PLACE THE NAME OF YOUR ARTIFACT ON THE LINE BELOW THE FRAME.

ARTIFACT NAME:

Sacred Organ Removal
Device (SORO)



Be sure to answer the questions in detail and in a humorous manner!

MYSTERIOUS ARTIFACT (NO. 1)

NAME OF THE ARTIFACT: _____

WHAT MATERIAL IS YOUR OBJECT MADE OF?

WHO OR WHAT CREATED YOUR ARTIFACT?

 HOW WAS YOUR ARTIFACT USED IN THE PAST?

WHAT DOES YOUR ARTIFACT TELL FUTURE ARCHAEOLOGISTS ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO USED IT?

Tips:

- 1) Try to think of a random object
- 2) You cannot use anything that was in the text yesterday.
- 3) Be FUNNY!
Creativity matters!

ARTIFACT NAME: Exotic Nose Plug

