

ANCIENT EGYPT TIMELINE

Chronological Archaeological Record

C. 5000 - 3100 BCE

Predynastic Period

Development of agriculture, early hieroglyphs, and unification of Upper and Lower Egypt.

Sites: Naqada, Hierakonpolis

C. 3100 - 2686 BCE

Early Dynastic Period

Dynasties I-II. Foundation of Memphis. Development of mastaba tomb architecture.

Sites: Abydos, Saqqara

C. 2686 - 2181 BCE

Old Kingdom

The "Age of the Pyramids." Centralized authority and monumental stone construction.

Sites: Giza Plateau, Djoser's Step Pyramid

C. 2055 - 1650 BCE

Middle Kingdom

Cultural reunification. Expansion of trade and classical Egyptian literature.

Sites: Beni Hasan, Amenemhat III's Labyrinth

C. 1550 - 1069 BCE

New Kingdom

The Peak of Empire. Era of Thutmosid and Ramesside pharaohs. Rock-cut architecture.

Sites: Valley of the Kings, Karnak, Abu Simbel

C. 664 - 332 BCE

Late Period

Last eras of native Egyptian rule interspersed with Persian conquests.

Sites: Sais, Mendes

332 BCE - 395 CE

Greco-Roman Period

Conquest by Alexander the Great, the Ptolemaic Dynasty, and eventual Roman annexation.

Sites: Alexandria, Temple of Edfu, Philae