

Egyptian Revival



Napoleon invaded Egypt 1798 to deny Egypt to the British.

Hundreds of scholars and students (the *savants*) accompanied the expeditions and were feted but eventually abandoned by Napoleon.

Vivant Denon wrote an account of travels in upper and lower Egypt which was rapidly translated into English.

- but the main output was the massive *Description of Egypt* published in several parts, initially under the authority of Napoleon, but after he was deposed under that of the restored monarch - this despite many of the scholars being treated abominably under the new regime.

The *Description* was the first source of images for contemporary artists to use in emulating ancient Egyptian style



French use of Egyptian idioms started soon after with the Empire Style utilising elements.

The first wave of Egyptian Revival in the United States was primarily architectural, including buildings such as Benjamin Henry Latrobe's original Library of Congress (1808) and the Washington Monument (begun in 1848), in addition to many examples of Egyptian-inspired cemetery and funerary architecture.



Second wave – about 1870 – triggers were intense archaeological discoveries, opening of the Suez Canal and visitation to Egypt rising, Victorian love of decoration

Third Wave – Carter's opening of Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922 – some elements to Art Deco - has not ever stopped

Expressed in

- Architecture and monuments
- Interior decoration
- Jewellery
- Small possessions

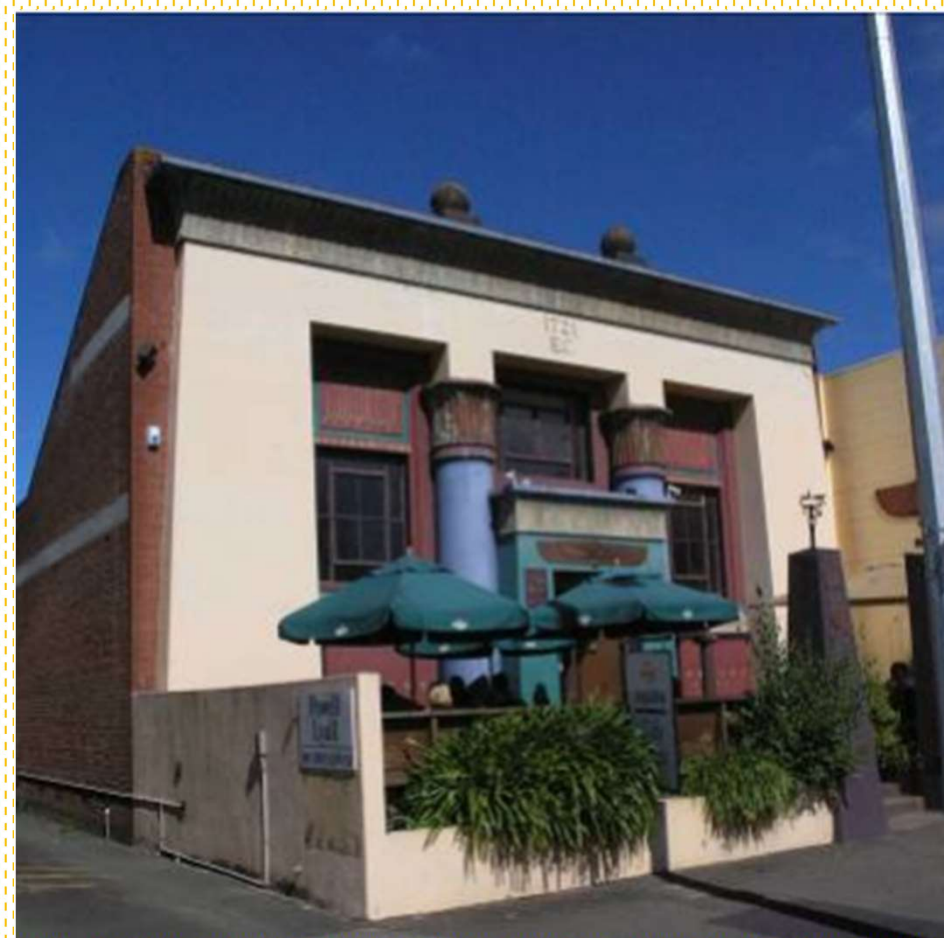


Some of the Colonial Powers had real antiquities to display – others had to make their own





Temple of Palmistry
Seattle 1909



United Manawatu Lodge
Palmerston North 1931

Downtown Presbyterian Church (Nashville) 1848

