The Daily Echo

Discovery of the Century

Tutankhamun’s tomb discovered at last!

After many years of searching, Tutankhamun’s undiscovered tomb has eventually been found by Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon.

Yesterday, after years of being left undiscovered, Tutankhamun’s tomb was finally completely uncovered by a team of Egyptologists and archeologists led by Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon.

After travelling to Luxor in late October, Howard Carter began works on the excavation of the tomb of Ramses VI. On this date, at around 10am, a water boy working for the excavation team stumbled upon a step. All efforts were then focused upon emerging this step, and after some hours, it was clear that this was a steep staircase that led downwards.

There was a large amount of rubble in the way of the stairway and at sunset on the 5th November, after spending a full day clearing the rocks, the 12th step was finally cleared. From this step, a sealed doorway emerged. The seal contained the mark of Anubis, which represented a King. Carter and his men worked tirelessly, removing rubble from the doorway, for the next 3 days, until contact from Carnarvon was made. Carnarvon was on his way, and work had to halt until he was able to join Carter in Luxor.

On Monday 20th November, Carnarvon and his daughter, Lady Evelyn, arrived in Cairo, and then on 22nd November, joined Carter in Luxor. This ensured that the uncovering of the tomb could commence on 23rd November. At this point, the team were able to uncover all of the steps, which totaled 16. On November 25th, the doorway at the bottom of the stairs was opened, and revealed yet more debris. The men worked again at clearing this area, and on November 26th, the 9 metre long corridor was finally cleared. This corridor led to another sealed doorway.

With only candlelight to aid them, Carter and Carnarvon made a small hole in the doorway to enable them to see past it. Through this door, they were able to see a number of glistening objects. They sealed the hole and returned the next day to continue their excavation. On 27th November, the tomb was inspected with an electric night, and the sheer volume of items perplexed the team- was this a tomb, or purely a Royal Cache? Another door was discovered during the evening of the 27th, presumed to be the entrance to the tomb.

November 28th was spent preparing for the official opening of the tomb and the time preceding this date was filled with numerous official visits. Sunday, December 3rd was spent refilling the entrance of the tomb with boards and rubble to ensure that it would not be opened again because a protective steel gate needed to be ordered to protect the tomb. Carter had to travel to Cairo to place this order. On December 13th, Carter left Cairo to return to Luxor, along with the steel gate. The tomb was reopened on December 16th and the gate was fitted on the 17th.

Carter will now be moving forward with this project, by aiding and involving researchers. Many of the artifacts will or have been moved to museums and Cairo to help Egyptologists.