



◀ Watercolor by
M. Louise Baker

■ Treatment of one of the Museum Archives' largest works of art on paper has just been completed by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia. The conservation effort was undertaken prior to loaning the work to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art for its major traveling exhibition *The American Discovery of Ancient Egypt*. The exhibition, which will tour several American cities in 1995-96, features a number of exceptional artifacts from the Museum's Egyptian collections. The Archives' watercolor measuring 57" x 42" was painted by Museum artist Mary Louise Baker in 1920. It illustrates a theoretical restoration of the throne room in the Palace of Merenptah at Memphis, based upon precise measurements and plans made by Clarence Stanley Fisher, who directed the Museum's excavations at the site during the 1920s. Mary Louise Baker (1872-1962) led a distinguished career at the Museum with many accomplishments to her credit, including the first reconstruction of the *Bull-Headed Lyre* from Ur, fine illustrations

of Mayan pottery for publications, and the three-dimensional model of the Merenptah throne room on display in the gallery. LACMA generously financed the conservation of the watercolor, costing more than \$3,000.