



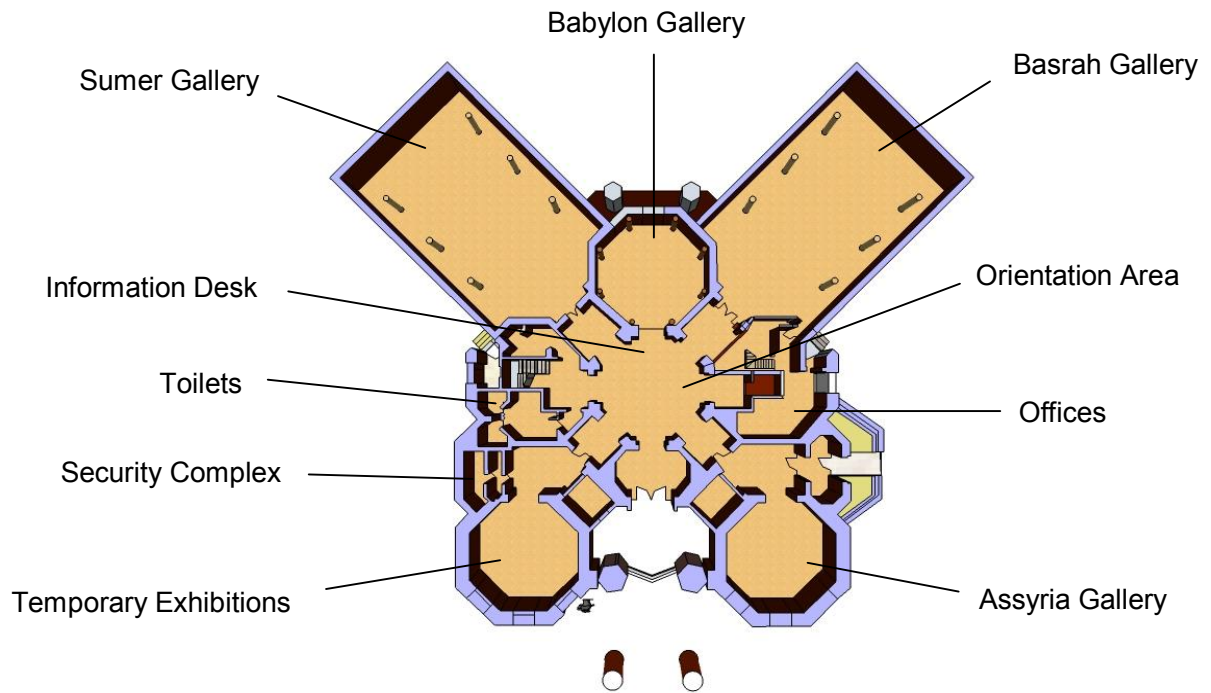
BASRAH MUSEUM SPACE PLAN



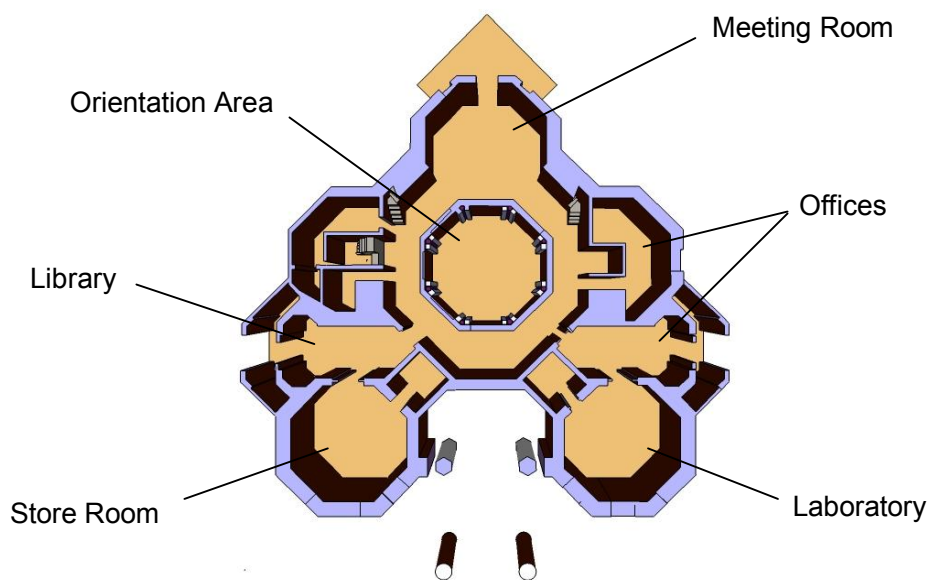
The Lakeside Palace on the outskirts of Basrah will make an ideal museum. It is in surprisingly good condition and requires only a modest amount of refurbishment and renovation. The palace is exactly the right size to provide the amount of display area appropriate to an important regional museum together with the other spaces that are essential for the smooth functioning of a modern museum.

The purpose of the museum is to show the history of all parts of Iraq from about 3300 BC down to about 1800 AD. Although the scope of the museum is national, the emphasis will be on southern Iraq and the Basrah region in particular. Most of the objects for the museum will be sent from Baghdad, where they are currently in secure storage, but some will be sourced locally. The gallery plans have pictures indicative of the type of objects that will be displayed, not the objects themselves. More than 1000 sq. m. of exhibition space is available in the museum, divided between five galleries. The Sumer Gallery (378 sq. m.) will cover Southern Iraq in the period 3300 – 1900 BC, the Babylon Gallery (111 sq. m.) will deal with the great period of Mesopotamian civilization between 1792 and 539 BC, the Assyria Gallery (106 sq. m.) will be about Northern Iraq between 883 BC and 612 BC, and the Basrah Gallery (378 sq. m.) will show cultures in the local region from 200 BC down to the beginning of the 19th century. A temporary display area (106 sq m) will make it possible to mount special exhibitions that are locally generated, come from elsewhere in Iraq, or come from abroad. It is hoped that longstanding relationships with museums outside Iraq such as the British Museum will lead to small special exhibitions being sent to Basrah from time to time. There will be new display cases throughout the museum, and the exhibitions will be mounted according to the latest international standards. To take full care of the needs of visitors, provision is being made for a retail outlet and for a refreshments area. There will also be educational facilities in the museum. Back-of house functions will include offices, a meetings room, a laboratory, a library and a storeroom.

It is confidently expected that the new Basrah Museum will not only provide a much-needed resource but will also set a new standard for the entire region.



GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



Sumer Gallery

Gallery title: Sumer

سومر

Subtitle: The Age and Invention of Writing

عصر الاختراع والكتابة

Dates: from 3300 to 1900 BC

من 3300 الى 1900 ق.م

1 – Introduction and background:

This large gallery is located in the north-west corner of the building. It is rectangular in shape and has six columns, with an area of 378 m². It will contain different objects from main sites and independent city-states.

2 – The aims and targets:

The large size of this gallery will enable us to display many objects from this rich period of Iraqi history, in order to demonstrate the different stages of the cultural development of the people who lived in the southern part of Iraq.

3 – Contents:

Pottery, sculptures, terracotta objects, stele, seals and model of tomb

4 – Installations:

6 display cases

1 large display case

4 benches

Plasma screen

Touch screen

CCTV

Barriers to surround the ex-case objects

Free standing labels for the model, stele

5 – Graphics:

Gallery title

Information panel 1: Ziggurat of Ur

Information panel 2: Images of Sumerian sites

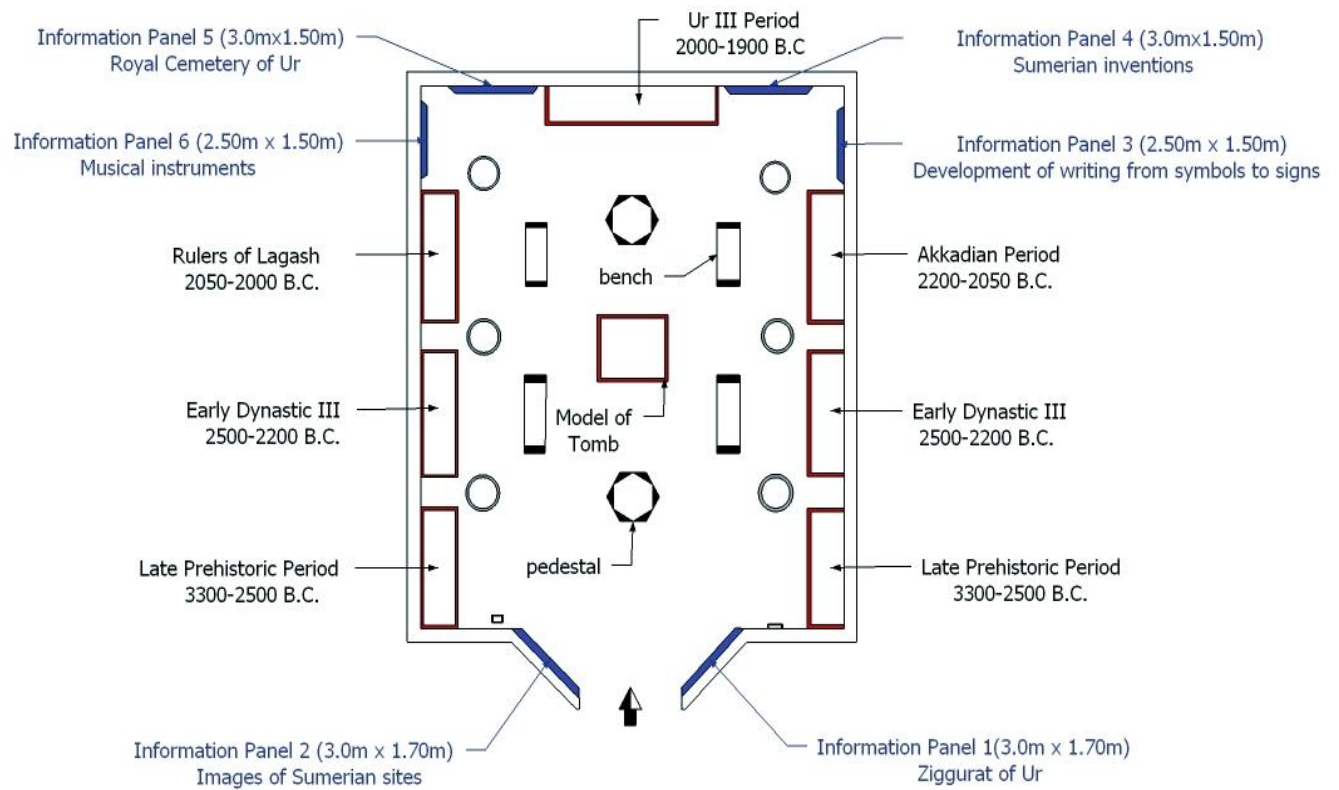
Information panel 3: Development of writing from symbols to signs

Information panel 4: Sumerian inventions (wheel, seals, royal game)

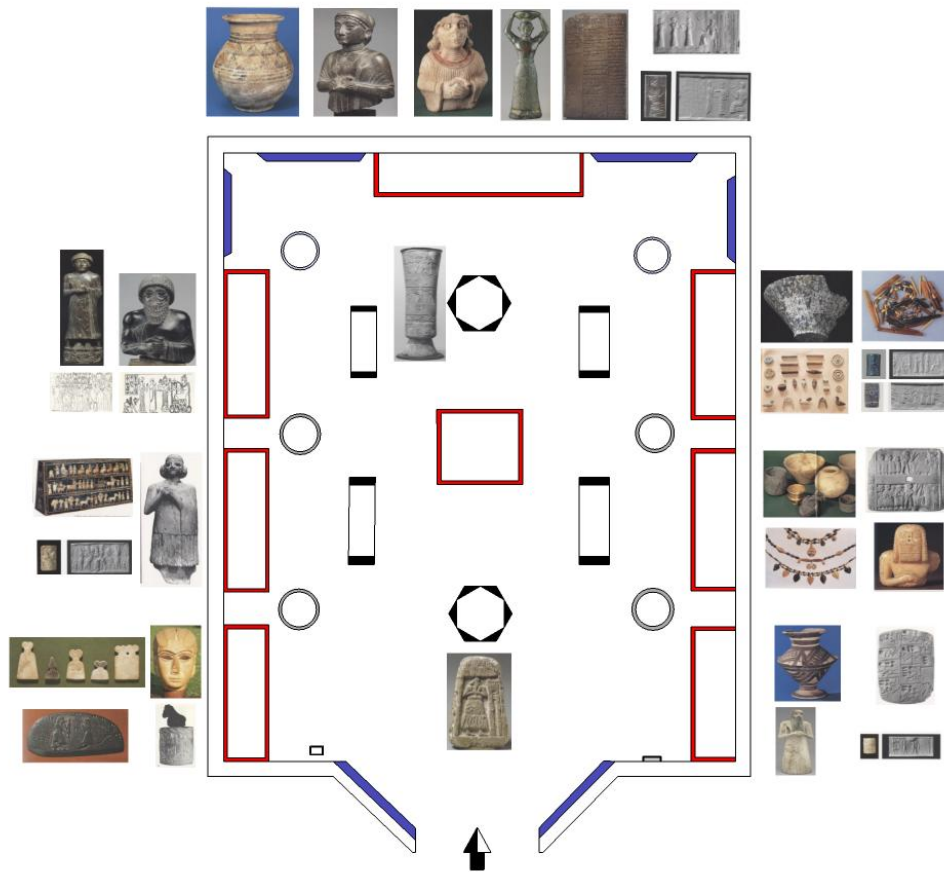
Information panel 5: Royal Cemetery of Ur

Information panel 6: Musical instruments

Small objects labels



Sumer Gallery



Sumer Gallery



Babylon Gallery

Gallery title: Babylon

بابل

Subtitle: The Age of Law and Administration

عصر القانون والإدارة

Date: from 1792 to 539 BC

من 1792 الى 539 ق.م

1 – Introduction and background:

This gallery is located at the northern end of the building, directly opposite the main entrance. It is octagonal in shape, with an area of 111m², and is distinguished by eight wooden columns in the corners. The gallery will contain important objects from Babylonia.

2 – The aims and targets:

The main purpose of the display in this gallery is to show the daily life of the Babylonians and their ability to apply laws.

3 – Contents:

Pottery, sculpture, glazed bricks, stele, model of Ishtar Gate

4 – Installations:

4 display cases

2 vertical display cases

Barriers to surround the ex-case objects

Free standing labels for the model, stele

CCTV

5 – Graphics:

Gallery title

Information panel 1: Floor plan, history of Babylonia

Information panel 2: Code of Hammurabi

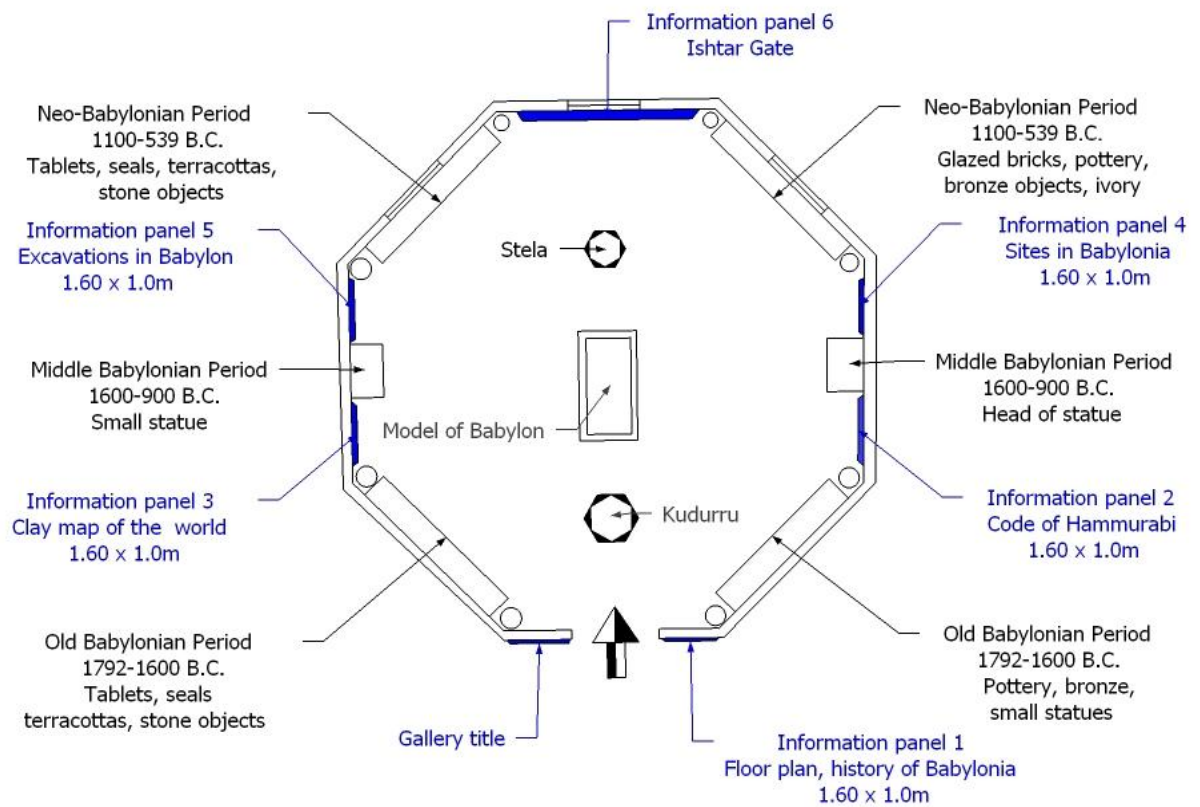
Information panel 3: Clay map of the world

Information panel 4: Sites in Babylonia

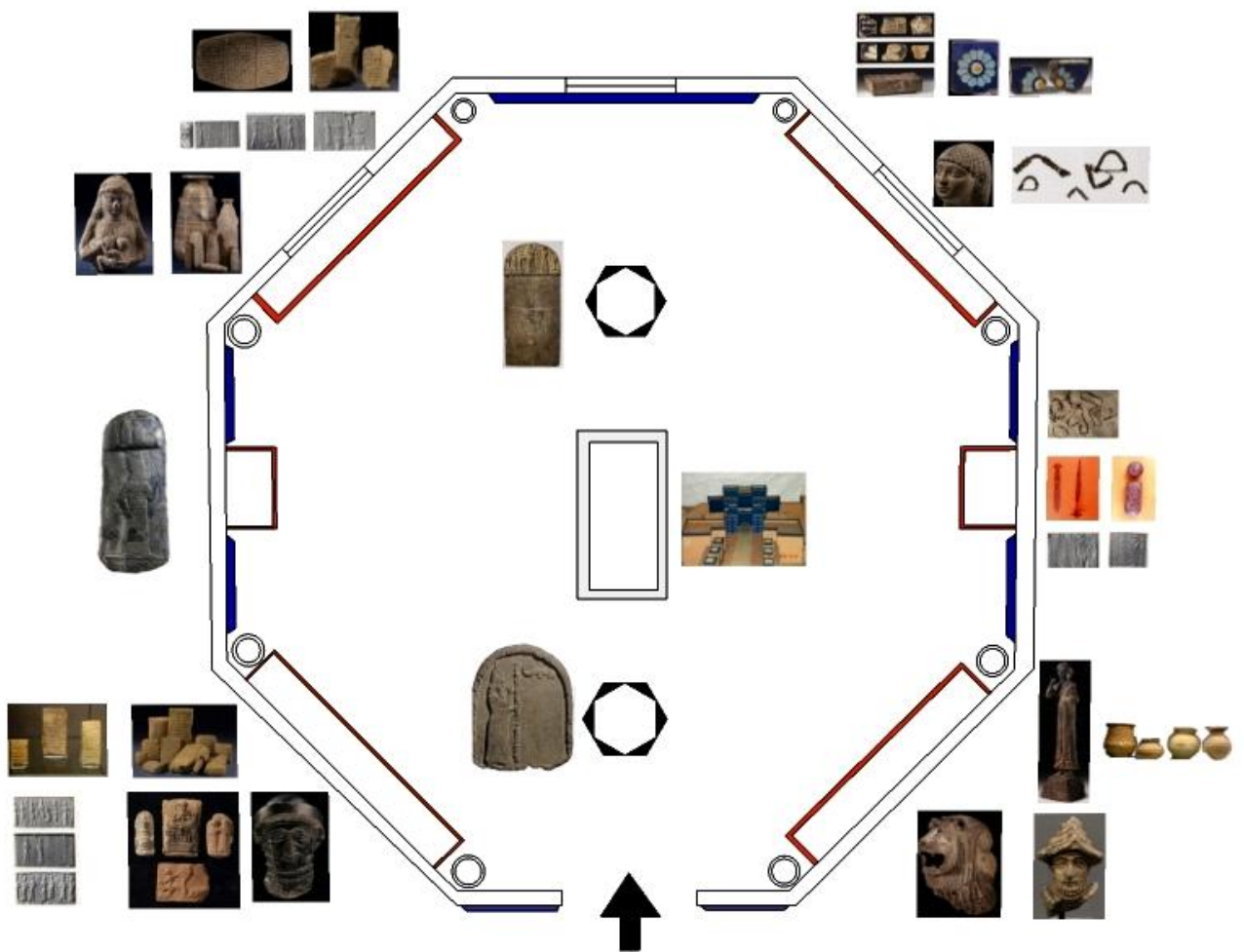
Information panel 5: Excavations in Babylon

Information panel 6: Large panel showing Ishtar Gate

Small objects labels



Babylon Gallery



Babylon Gallery



Assyria Gallery

Gallery title: Assyria

آشور

Subtitle: The Age of Power and Conquests

عصر القوة والفتوحات

Dates: from 883 to 612 BC

من 883 الى 612 ق.م

1 – Introduction and background:

This gallery is octagonal in shape and lies in the south-east corner of the palace, with an area of 106m². It has one main entrance and three windows opposite it. Our focus will be on Assyrian power and their achievements in war, architecture and art. It will contain a collection from different times of the Assyrian Empire with a variety of materials.

2 – The aims and targets:

The gallery aims to display Assyrian daily life in detail, to give all museum visitors a good background about this nation.

3 – Contents:

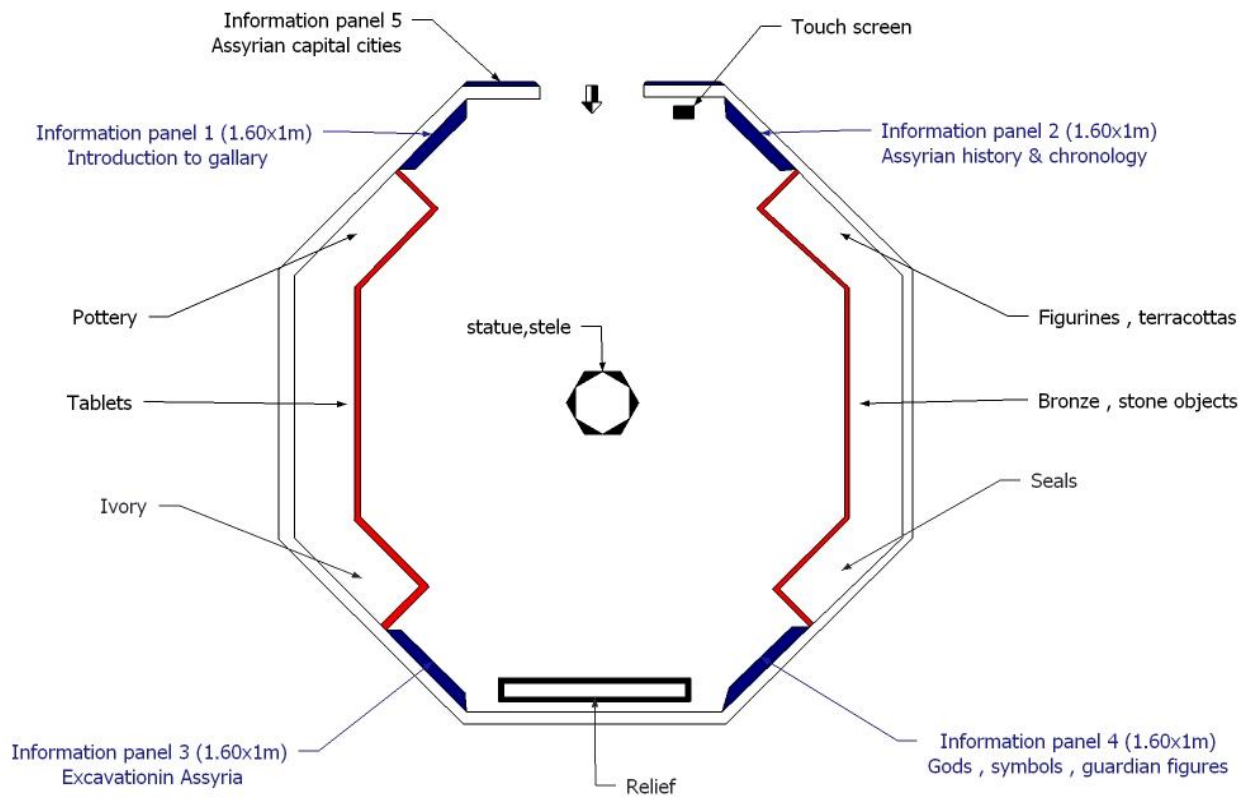
Pottery, tablets, seals, ivory, bronze objects, statues and stele

4 – Installations:

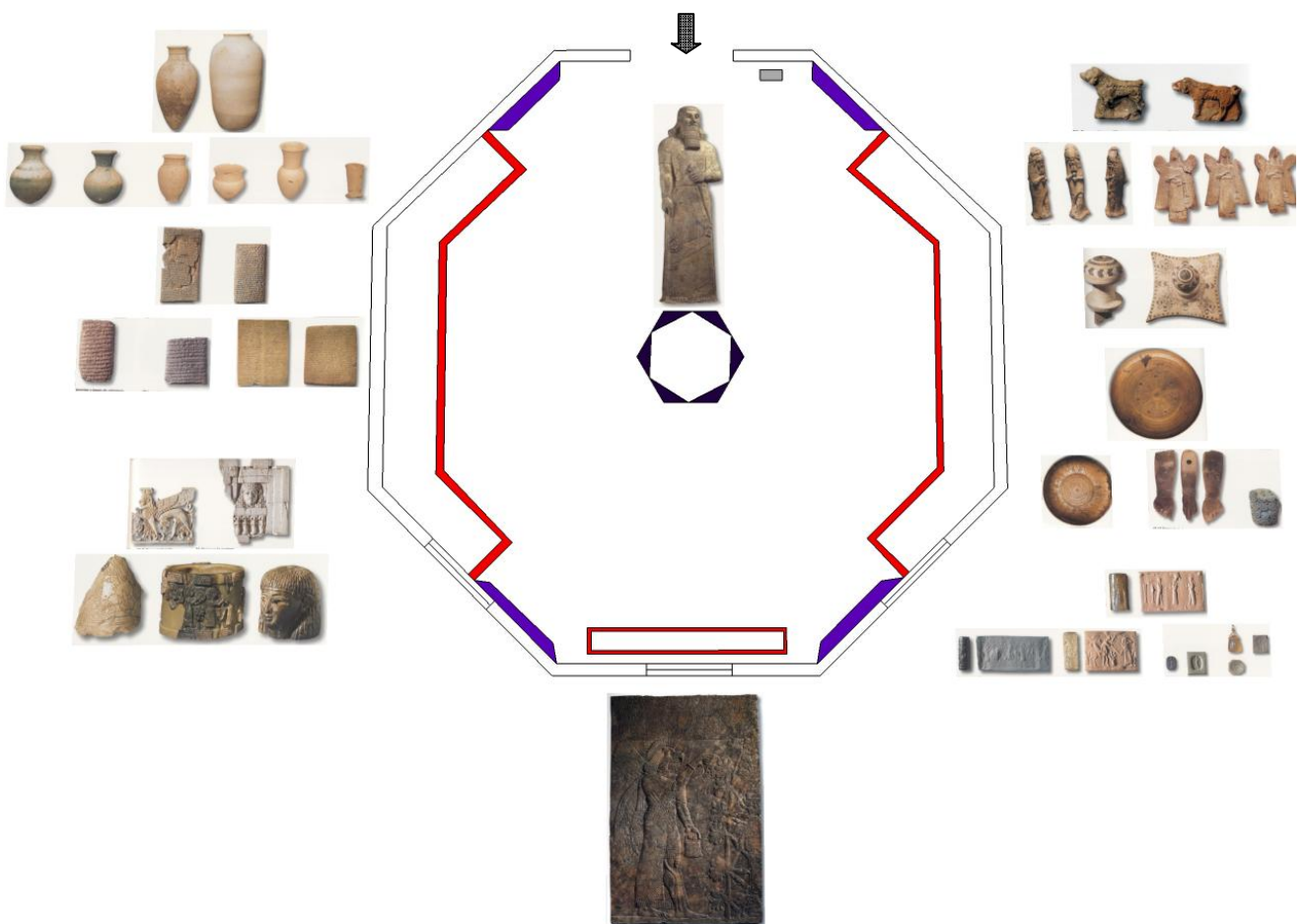
2 large display cases on each side of the gallery
2 free standing labels for the relief and the statue/ stele in the middle
Touch screen
Chairs
Barriers to surround the ex-case objects
CCTV

5 – Graphics:

Gallery title
Information panel 1: Introduction of gallery and map of general Assyrian Empire
Information panel 2: Assyrian history and chronology
Information panel 3: Excavations in Assyria
Information panel 4: Gods, symbols and guardian figures with simple illustrations
Small object labels



Assyria Gallery



Assyria Gallery



Basrah Gallery

Gallery title: Basrah

البصرة

Subtitle: The Age of Trade and Culture

عصر التجارة والثقافة

Dates: from 200 BC to 1800 AD

من 200 ق.م الى 1800 م

1 – Introduction and background:

This large gallery is located in the north-east corner of the building. It is rectangular in shape and has six columns, with an area of 378 m². Most of the objects will be from the Islamic period, but the gallery will also contain various objects dating to the Hellenistic, Parthian and Sassanid periods.

2 – The aims and targets:

The aim of this gallery is to put an emphasis on Basrah as a commercial and cultural centre, from its establishment in 14 AH /637 AD and thereafter throughout Iraqi history.

3 – Contents:

Pottery, glass, statues, wooden objects, coins, stone and metal objects

4 – Installations:

7 display cases

4 benches

Plasma screen

Touch screen

CCTV

Barriers to surround the ex-case objects

Free standing labels for the ex-case objects

5 – Graphics:

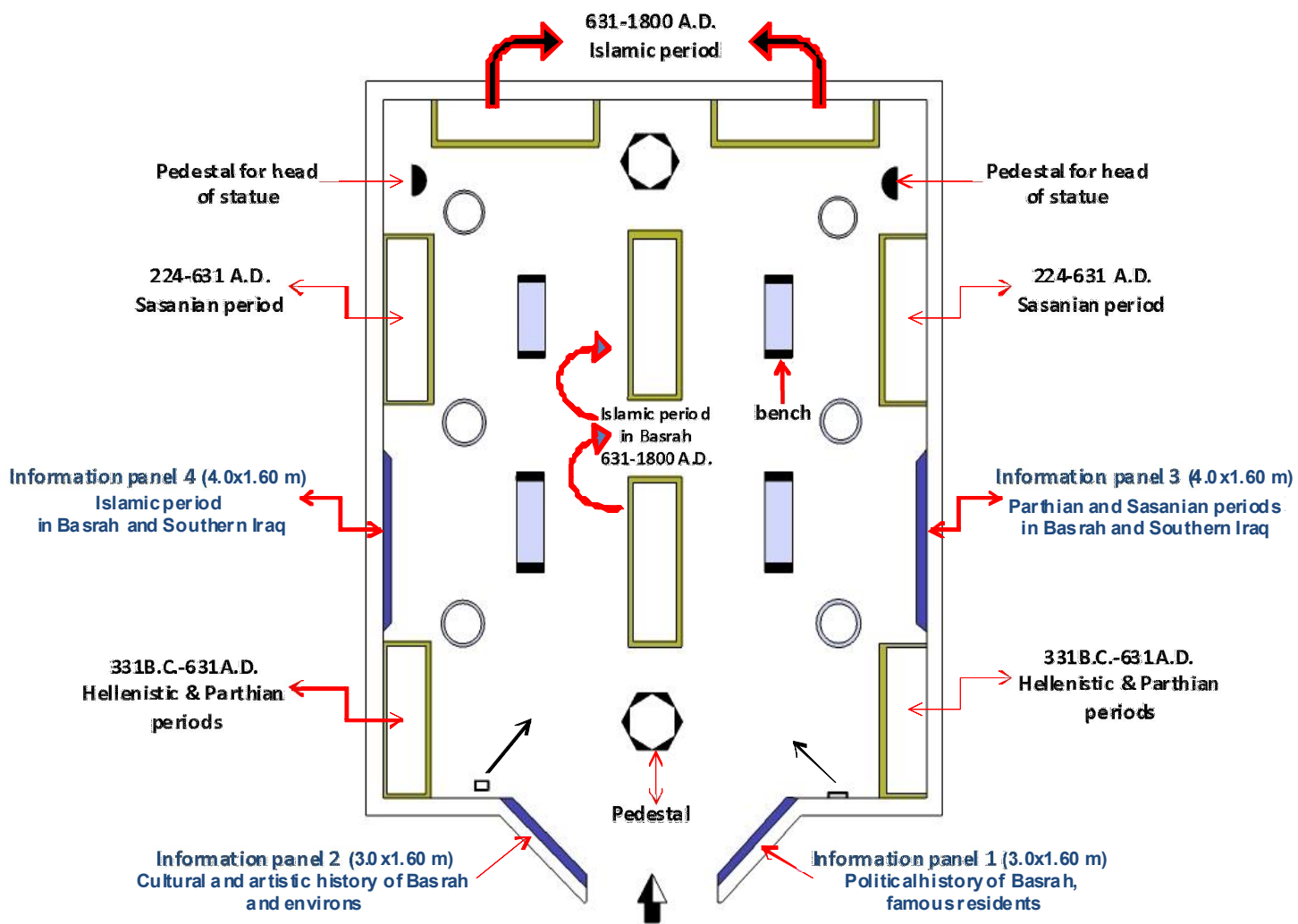
Gallery title

Information panel 1: Political history of Basrah, famous residents

Information panel 2: Cultural and artistic history of Basrah and environs

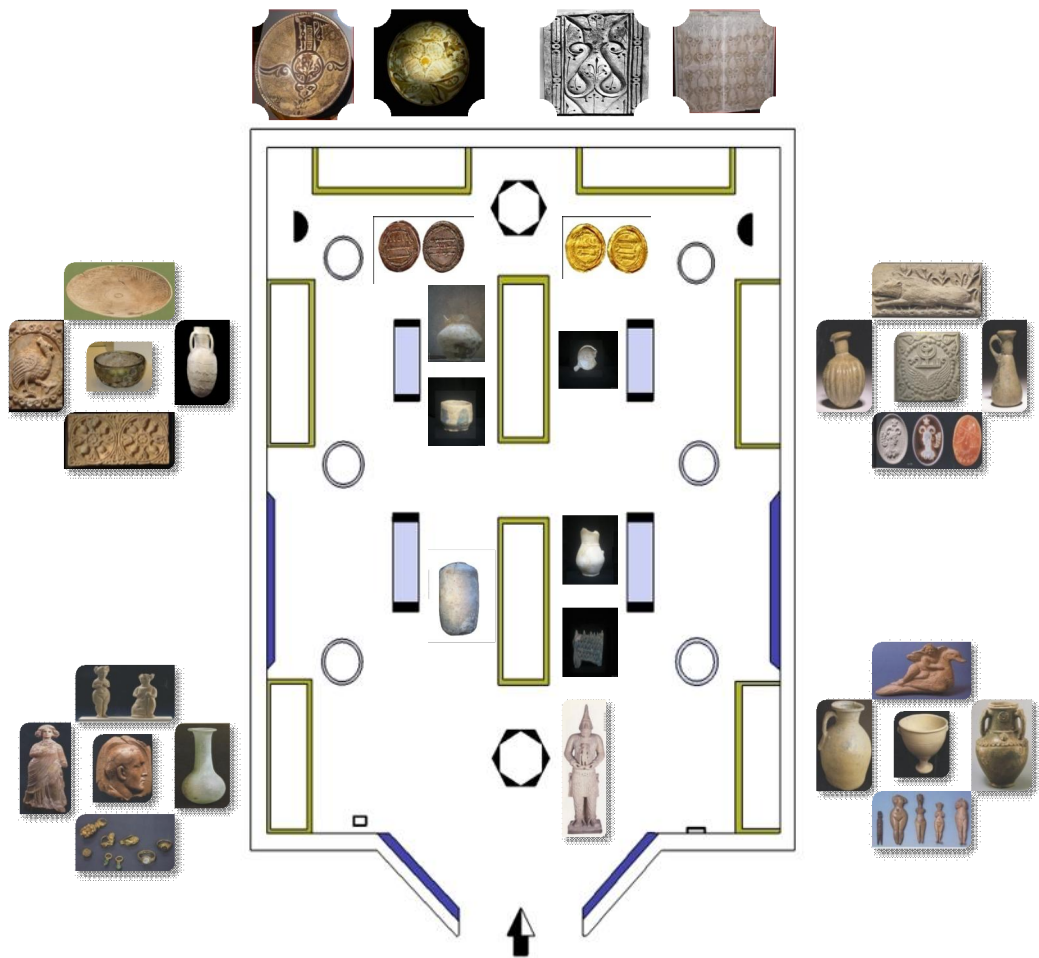
Information panel 3: Parthian and Sassanian periods in Basrah and Southern Iraq

Small objects labels



Basrah Gallery





Basrah Gallery