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In Europe, the walrus is the only native source of ivory. Its tusks, known as 'morse', were often believed to have magical properties. Whalebone and the teeth and bones of the hippopotamus were used as less expensive substitutes for ivory during the Middle Ages. Deer antlers and horn from goats and cattle were also worked to look like ivory.

Medieval and Renaissance ivories | National Museums Liverpool

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Walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) ivory, from the Arctic and Subarctic seas, was much appreciated in northern Europe and the British Isles throughout the Middle Ages and was a sought-after substitute for elephant ivory when the latter was in short supply. Similarly, whalebone was occasionally used as an ivory substitute because the larger pieces could approximate the breadth of African elephant dentine, but the more porous material was less amenable to carving and retained a matte surface.

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Medieval Ivories - Medieval Studies - Oxford Bibliographies

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Ancient Ivories In The Middle East 14 This Volume Only ...

The ivories were first discovered in the mid-nineteenth century by renowned Victorian traveller and adventurer Austen Henry Layard, but it was not until the mid-twentieth century that the extent of the treasure was realized by Max Mallowan, the husband of Agatha Christie.

Ancient Ivory - Thames & Hudson

Tel Megiddo (Hebrew: תל מגידו; Arabic: تل معجيدو, Tell al-Mutesellim, lit. "Tell of the Governor"; Greek: Τηλμεγιδδου, Megiddo) is the site of the ancient city of Megiddo, the remains of which form a tell (archaeological mound), situated in northern Israel near Kibbutz Megiddo, about 30 km south-east of Haifa. Megiddo is known for its historical, geographical, and theological ...

Tel Megiddo - Wikipedia

India was a major centre for Ivory carving since ancient times, as shown by the Begram ivories. Murshidabad in State of West Bengal, India was a famed centre for ivory carving. A set of ivory table and chairs, displayed at Victoria Memorial, Kolkata is an exquisite example of carving done by Murshidabad Carvers. This chair is a five legged arm chair, where three legs culminate into Tiger's claw while remaining two culminate into open mouthed tiger's head.

Ivory carving - Wikipedia

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The ivories comprise plaques decorated in relief with intricate carvings of sphinxes, lions, serpents, people, flowers and geometric motifs, as well as carvings of female heads and female figurines. They were carved in various locations across the Ancient Near East, including Egypt, modern Syria and Lebanon, with relatively few carved locally.

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Nimrud ivories - Wikipedia

RICHARD D. BARNETT: Ancient Ivories in the Middle East Here, for the first time, is a general survey of ancient ivory work, of value to both the general reader and the specialist. The finds discussed in this volume come from a wide extent of countries from Spain to India and range in date from the late

RICHARD D. BARNETT: Ancient Ivories in the Middle East

Following a six month campaign to raise £1.7million, the museum has secured the Nimrud Ivories, the finest collection of carved, decorative ivories excavated in the Middle East. Some of these precious pieces of elephant ivory are nearly 3,000 years old and were excavated from Nimrud in modern day Iraq in the mid 20th century.

Successful campaign brings ancient Iraqi Ivories to ...

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Ancient Ivories Middle East - AbeBooks

This is a first-century AD sardonyx three-layered cameo of the Roman Emperor Augustus holding an eagle sceptre. This is a processional cross; it is encrusted with 102 gems and 36 pearls. "An interest in classical antiquity never waned altogether during the centuries of the Middle Ages.

How the Middle Ages Processed and Recycled Roman Culture ...

In the ancient Near East, ivory was a highly valued item. Ivory workshops existed throughout North Syria, which Samaria was a part of. Both biblical texts and archaeological evidence attest to the importance of ivory carving in the kingdom of Israel. For example, the Hebrew Bible refers to ivory houses that Yahweh will destroy (Amos 3:17).

Ancient Israelite Art - Ancient History Encyclopedia

Decorated ostrich eggs were traded around the Mediterranean during the Bronze and Iron Ages. Research on their origins has focused primarily on decorative techniques and iconography to characterise the producers, workshops and trade routes, thereby equating decorative styles with cultural identities and geographic locations.

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The origins of decorated ostrich eggs in the ancient ...

When Cornish mystery plays were performed in the Middle Ages the mermaid was used as a symbol to explain the two natures of Christ - God and Man. Several Cornish churches have mermaid frescoes, but this is the only carving.

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