

Tetkhonsefankh / Ankhesenaset / Liverpool 9

IMPACT ID: IMP00066

Institution: World Museum
Liverpool

Designation: M14000

Date of Acquisition: 1833

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Figure 1. Tetkhonsefankh at Liverpool World Museum (World Museum).

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Image Modality: X-ray

Country: Egypt

Site: Thebes

Time Period: Third Intermediate Period

Dynasty: Dynasty 22

Date: 945 BC – 715 BC

Sex: Female

Age: Adult

Background:

Ankhesenaset means “she lives for Isis” (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). Her husband was a priest called Djedkhonsiufankh (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). She was a woman from high status who became a Chantress of Amun and provided musical accompaniment for the daily rituals of the temple of Karnak (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.).

Her mummy is within a cartonnage mummy case made of glued linen and plaster and is laced shut at the back (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). Her coffin has now darkened due to the wartime bombing of Liverpool in 1941 and hides the previously painted decorations

(National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). The gilded face mask is damaged and the cartonnage below the feet was missing, however, was later found in March 2020 (M14000a) (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). The laces at the back of the cartonnage are arranged in a criss-cross style (Gray and Slow, 1968).

Pathological Features:

The arms of the mummy are extended. The palms of the hands, with the fingers extended, cover the pedunda, and notably, this is a somewhat unusual position for female mummies (Gray and Slow, 1968). Ankhesenaset's internal organs were removed, wrapped in linen, and subsequently returned to the body (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). Her brain was removed, and the skull was packed with linen (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.). Her eye sockets have been stuffed with linen and eyes made with stone or ceramic are placed over them (National Museums Liverpool, n.d.).

The skull is rotated a bit to the right. The mouth is closed, however, there is evidence of dental attrition and many of the teeth are missing from the upper jaw (Gray and Slow, 1968).

The cavities are filled with packing material thought to be the traditional four visceral packs with the inclusion of sawdust and sand (Gray and Slow, 1968). Some sclerosis of the vertebral endplates is noticeable despite the packing material (Gray and Slow, 1968). There may also be a heart scarab overlying the first lumbar vertebra. The pelvis also is filled with packing material (Gray and Slow, 1968). The legs appear within normal limits.

Resources

Gray, P. H. K., Slow, D. 1968. Egyptian Mummies in the City of Liverpool Museums. Liverpool Bulletin. 15: 1-74.

National Museums Liverpool (n.d.). Human Remains; Mummified Body.
<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/artifact/mummy-of-ankhesenaset>

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