

Fletcher Head

IMPACT ID: IMP00080

Institution: South Australian Museum

Designation: A40439

Date of Acquisition: 1942

Contact: Dr. Barry Craig
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Image Modality:

Country: Egypt

Site: Unknown

Time Period: Unknown

Dynasty: Unknown

Date: Unknown

Sex: Female

Age: Unknown

Background:

There is not much background known for the Fletcher Head. Most of the known information comes from the museum's catalogue, but certain aspects of the item's catalogue entry have been debated. First, the catalogue claims Dr. A. S. Randell to be the donor of the head, but there are notes in the entry that an individual referred to as Fletcher has claimed that he is in fact the donor (Day, n.d.). This has been considered as a possibility due to other potential errors which have been indicated within the entry. Namely, there is a note about personal communications with Michael O'Donaghue, in which he believed this item, as well as A40438, to have been accessioned in 1901, rather than 1942 as the catalogue claims (Day, n.d.). Additionally, the entry records (from an unknown source, D. Cox) that Sir Francis Grenfell is the person responsible for the unwrapping of the mummy's head (Day, n.d.). However, there is another contradiction from Fletcher, who stated that while Grenfell was the individual for whom the mummy was unwrapped, he implied that another individual did the actual unwrapping (Day, n.d.). The entry also suggests that the hand, A40438, was taken by Fletcher from the same mummy as this head, and while the mummy and its hand are in a rather poor state of preservation, the head is doing well considering (Day, n.d.).



Figure 1. The Fletcher Head at the South Australian Museum (Australian Stuff, 2015).

References

Day, J. n.d. Fletcher. Entry in the South Australian Museum Catalogue.
2015, February 18. Mummies @ the SA Museum. Australian Stuff.
<https://australianstuff.wordpress.com/2015/02/18/sa-museum-pt-2/>