

# Ankhpephor

IMPACT ID: IMP00085

Institution: Boston Museum of Fine Arts

Designation: 2.4837a

Date of Acquisition: 1872

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Image Modality:

Country: Egypt

Site: Thebes

Time Period: Third Intermediate Period

Dynasty: early Dynasty 22

Date: 924 BCE – 818 BCE

Sex: Male

Age: Unknown



Figure 1. Ankhpephor's mummy inside their cartonnage at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (Gupta et al., 2008).

Background:

The mummy is thought to be that of a young male (Marx & D'Auria, 1986). He remains within his cartonnage case and inscriptions on the case lid refer to "the Offerer of Southern Heliopolis, Ankhpephor" (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). The provenance of Ankhpephor's mummy is thought to likely be Thebes. In 1836, the mummy resided in the collection of Robert Hay in Scotland. In 1963, Hay passed the mummy on to his son, Robert James Alexander Hay. The mummy of Ankhpephor was then purchased by Samuel A. Way through dealers in England in 1868, with the mummy remaining in the Way Collection in Boston from 1868 to 1872. In 1872, Ankhpephor's mummy was gifted to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts by the son of Samuel Way, C. Granville Way (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). The mummy was accessioned into the museum system on June 28, 1872 (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.).

Pathological Features:

Ankhpephor is said to have died at a rather young age from some form of illness. However, what this illness may have been is currently unknown (Arnold, 1988). CT scans which were performed on the mummy suggest that the mummy is a male who died young (Marx &

D'Auria, 1986). The young age-at-death estimate was made by Dr. Myron Marx and Sue D'Auria (1986) on the basis of good bone mineralization and strong teeth in addition to large leg muscles. Marx and D'Auria (1986) also took the significant size difference between left and right pectorals muscles to be suggestive of the individual's right-handedness. In terms of mummification, Buckley (2001) reports that Ankhpefhor's eyes were preserved through the pouring of resin into the eye orbits, while Marx & D'Auria (1986) report the replacement of Ankhpefhor's eyeballs with wax and small stone amulet coverings. There is evidence of packing material present in the mummy's mouth and neck (Buckley, 2001).

## Resources

Arnold, D. 1988. Egyptology; Here's the inside story on mummies CT scans of Boston museum's Egyptian collection uncover some grisly and fascinating tidbits. The Boston Globe.

Buckley, S. A. 2001. Chemical Investigations of the Organic Embalming Agents Employed in Ancient Egyptian Mummification. Thesis. University of Bristol. Available from: <https://research-information.bris.ac.uk/files/34498395/396674.pdf>

Marx, M., D'Auria, S. H. 1986. CT Examination of Eleven Egyptian Mummies. RadioGraphics. 6(2): 321-330.

Museum of Fine Arts. n.d. Mummy case and mummy of Ankhpephor. Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Available from: <https://collections.mfa.org/objects/137166>