

Nesmutaatneru

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Image Modality:

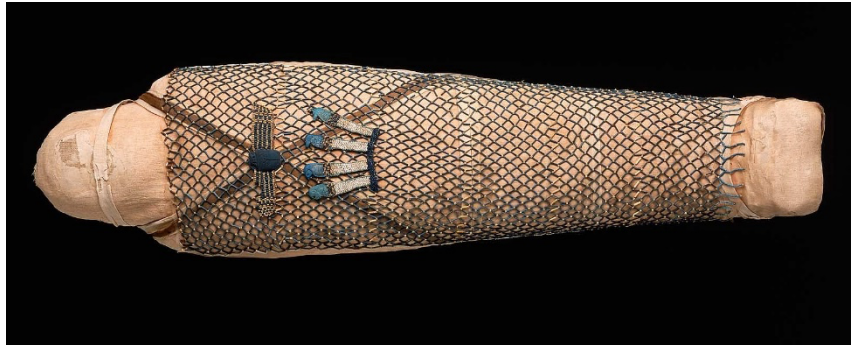


Figure 1. The mummy of Nesmutaatneru at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.).

Country: Egypt

Site: Thebes

Time Period: Late Period

Dynasty: 25th

Date: 760 BCE – 660 BCE

Sex: Female

Age: Elderly Adult

Note: See end of document for full-body anteroposterior x-rays of Nesmutaatneru.

Background:

The mummy is that of an elderly female named Nesmutaatneru (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). Nesmutaatneru was the wife of a priest (Arnold, 1988) and a Lady of the House (Marx & D'Auria, 1986). Her parents were Tjaenwaset and Neskhonspakhered, and her son was Djeddjehutyiefankh (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). In 1895, the mummy was discovered by the Egyptian Exploration Fund at the temple of Hatshepsut at the site of Deir el-Bahari in Thebes (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). The excavations were performed by Edouard Naville in 1895. Following excavations, the Egyptian government gave the remains to the Egyptian Exploration Fund which placed them in the possession of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.).

The mummy is wrapped in layers of linen of varying coarseness (Marx & D'Auria, 1986), as well as a pink linen shroud (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). Radiolucency of the wrapping suggests that the interior-most layers of linen are coarser than the exterior-most layers. This would have been done as finer linens were more expensive than coarser ones and therefore were preferred for the use of outer layers (Marx & D'Auria, 1986). A blue faience bead net lies over

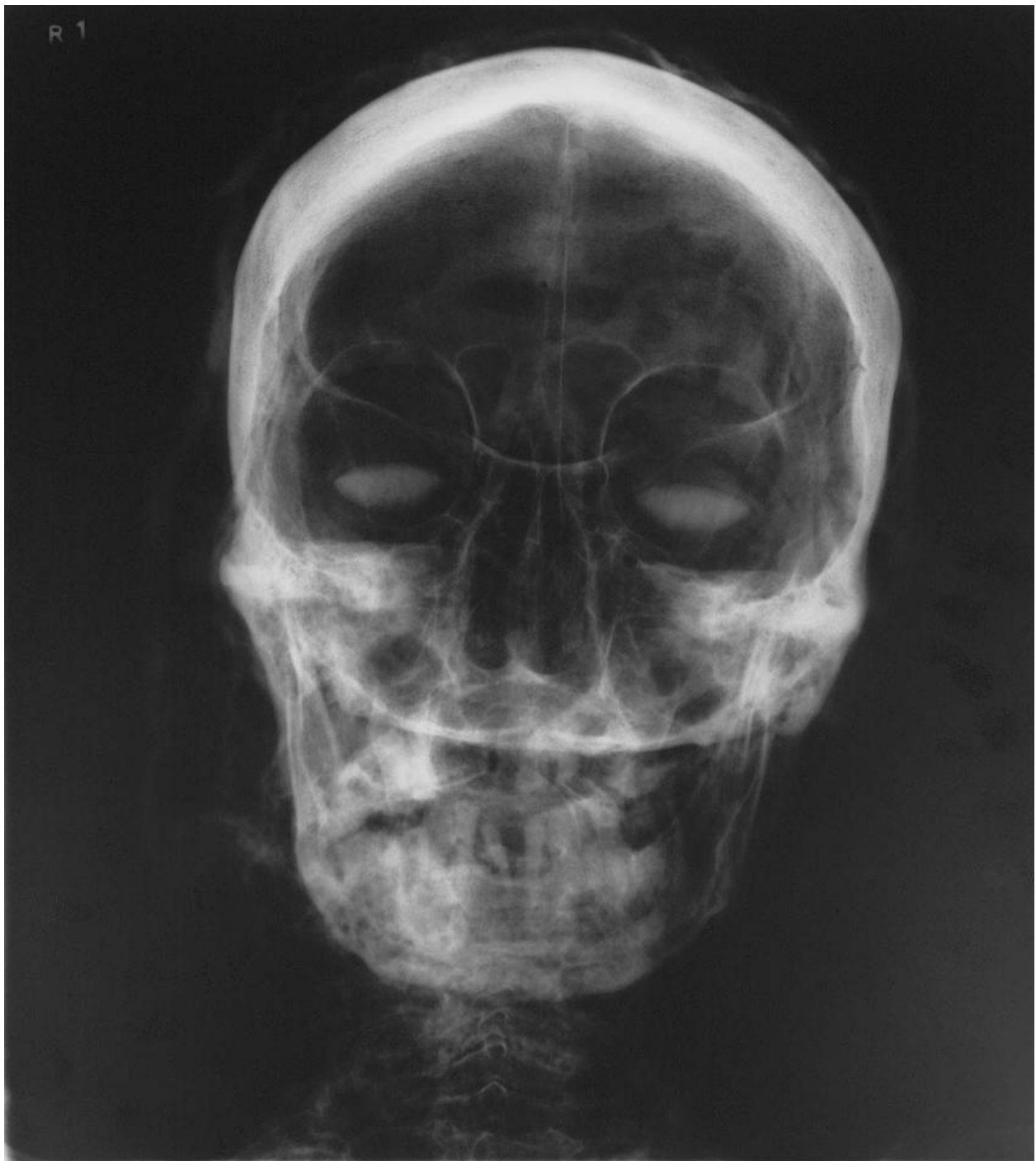
the wrappings and includes depictions of a winged scarab and the four sons of Osiris (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.).

Pathological Features:

Pathologies observed in Nesmutaatneru's skeleton were arthritis of the neck (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.), a broken collar bone which was not reset, and significant dental disease, including a deep mandibular molar abscess (Arnold, 1988). The arthritic changes of Nesmutaatneru's neck have been taken as an indication of her advanced age (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.). There is no evidence of organs within Nesmutaatneru's thoracic and abdominal cavities, which were filled with a homogenous substance including rocks and pebbles (Marx & D'Auria, 1986). Canopic jars were present in Nesmutaatneru's tomb and four abdominal packages were discovered over her legs. Three of these packages lie in the area of the proximal femur and the remaining package lie over the knees (Marx & D'Auria, 1986). A collapsed aorta is visible on Nesmutaatneru's CT scans (Marx & D'Auria, 1986).

Figure 2. Full-body anteroposterior x-rays of Nesmutaatneru (Museum of Fine Arts, n.d.).

a) Anteroposterior x-ray of Nesmutaatneru's skull.



b) Anteroposterior x-ray of Nesmutaatneru's thorax.



c) Anteroposterior x-ray of Nesmutaatneru's abdomen.



d) Anteroposterior x-ray of Nesmutaatneru's pelvis.



e) Anteroposterior x-ray of Nesmutaatneru's femora.



f) Anteroposteriorx-ray of the medial and distal aspects of Nesmutaatneru's thighs and her knees.



g) Anteroposterior x-ray of Nesmutaatneru's knees and the proximal and medial aspects of her legs.



h) Anteroposterior x-ray of the medial and distal aspects of Nesmutaatneru's legs and her feet.



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.

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 of Nesmutaatneru. Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Available from: <http://www.mfa.org/collections/object/mummy-of-nesmutaatneru-132441>

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