

Name: _____ Date: _____



Find out about the tomb of Fu Hao, then use what you know to draw a reconstruction of what the tomb would have looked like before it was covered over with earth in 1200 BC.

Some things to think about...

- Remember Fu Hao's coffin was wood covered with red lacquer.
- Were the cowry shells laying on the floor or in a bag?
- Remember bronze, when new, is shiny like gold, not dark green like in the photos.
- Would the vessels all have been upright?
- Was there food and drink in all the bronze vessels?
- Remember the slaves wouldn't have been skeletons then. What would the slaves have been wearing?

An undisturbed tomb was found near Anyang in 1976 and excavated by archaeologists. It had not been looted by grave robbers like so many other tombs.



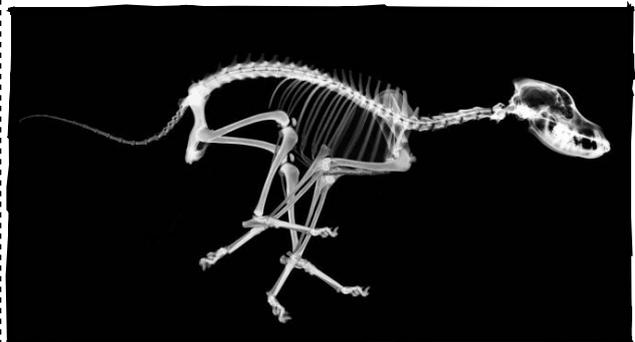
The burial pit of the tomb measured 5.6m long by 4m wide. Inside it was evidence of a large wooden chamber 5m long, 3.5m wide and 1.3m high.



Inside the burial chamber the skeleton of a woman was found buried inside a wooden coffin that had since rotted away. The coffin was covered with red lacquer (a kind of paste that hardens and becomes shiny).



Under the coffin in the grave was another smaller pit with the remains of six dogs that had been sacrificed for the burial.



Cut into the wall above the main chamber of the tomb were little shelves on which sixteen dead slaves had been placed after being sacrificed for the burial too.



Inside the tomb, 755 jade objects were found, including older objects from the Stone Age which she had probably collected.



Inside the tomb, 564 bone objects were found, including 500 hairpins and 20 arrowheads.



Inside the tomb, 468 bronze objects were found, including over 200 ritual bronze vessels, 130 weapons, 23 bells, 27 knives, 4 mirrors and 4 tiger statues.



Inside the tomb, 6,900 cowry shells were found. Cowry shells were used as currency during the Shang Dynasty.



Many of the objects were inscribed with the woman's name, which was Fu Hao. When archaeologists read the inscriptions they realised that she was the same woman described on about 170 oracle bones as being the wife of Wu Ding and she had died about 1200 BC.



The woman in the tomb, Fu Hao, had been one of the King Wu Ding's 60 wives but, according to the history books, also became High Priestess as well as a military general, leading several campaigns.

King Wu Ding built a hall above Fu Hao's tomb and held many ceremonies there, including sacrifices, to ask her to help him win more battles after her death.

