



On the 12th of May, 1897, a man working in the Stijfveen peat bog - near a [village called Yde](#), in the Dutch [province of Drenthe](#) - was startled to find something highly unusual. What he saw was a well-preserved mummy of a teenaged girl, referred to as *Het Meisje van Yde* (Dutch for "The Girl from Yde").

Unlike Tollund Man, who had been turned-over to experts as soon as it was discovered, "Yde Girl" was not given to authorities for investigation until two weeks had passed. By that time, the mummy had undergone [significant damage and deterioration](#).

Carbon-14 dating indicates that Yde Girl likely died sometime between 54 BC and 128 AD when she was approximately 16 years old. Her hair, which was remarkably well-preserved, was long and reddish-blond. One side of her head had apparently been shaved before her death.

Body scans reveal that the teenager had scoliosis of the spine. She was found wearing a woolen cape. Around her neck was a woolen band which had been braided, causing experts to believe that perhaps she had been executed (or sacrificed).

The tannic acid in the marsh water, [where Yde Girl was found](#), helped to preserve her. Although Richard Neave (a facial-reconstruction specialist) has [rendered a likeness](#) of how she may have appeared, while she was alive, the real mummy is now cared-for at the [Drents Museum](#).

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Yde Girl Mummy

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