WHAT CAN A BURIED WARHORSE TELL US ABOUT ANCIENT EGYPTIAN WARFARE?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Archaeologists excavating a 3,000-year-old fortress in Egypt's Nile Delta have found the complete skeleton of a young horse, buried with parts of a chariot harness. The site also contains houses, roads, grain stores, pottery ovens, jewellery and inscriptions linked to Ramesses II and his son Merneptah. The fortress protected Egypt's western frontier from attacks and was also home to soldiers and other residents. The discoveries give a clearer picture of both military life and everyday life during Egypt's New Kingdom.

WHY IS THIS INTERESTING?

The find connects famous pharaohs and battles with the ordinary organisation of a military settlement. It also shows how historians use buildings, animal remains, food stores and inscriptions together to reconstruct the past. Students can consider what evidence tells us about power, warfare and the relationship between people and animals.

THINK LIKE A HISTORIAN

"Why would an Egyptian warhorse be given a special burial?"

Source: Smithsonian Magazine

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/a-3000-year-old-warhorse-burial-and-a-ramses-ii-tablet-among-other-relics-have-been-discovered-in-an-ancient-egyp