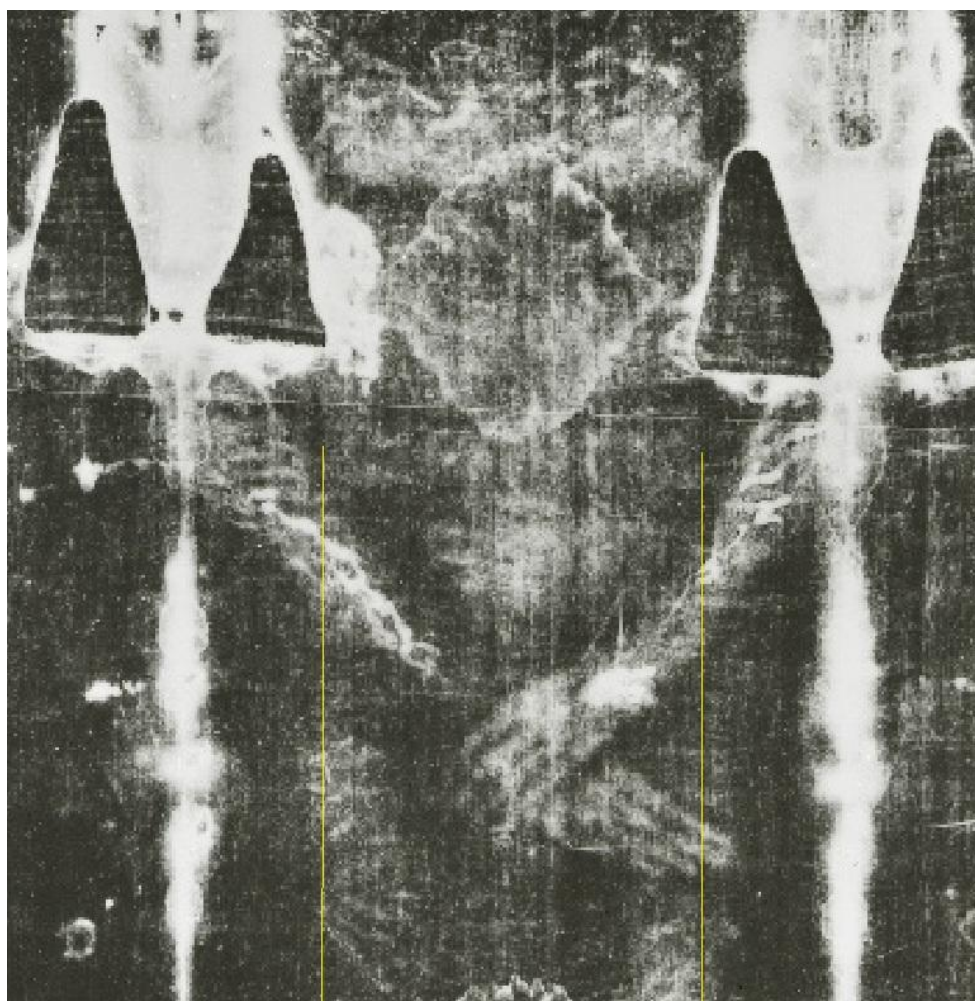


Brightness Profile of the Waist of Christ

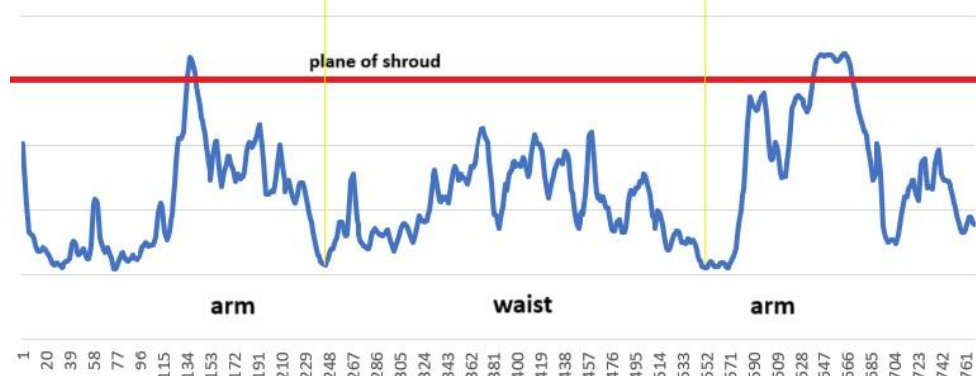
By Craig Paardekoooper

The waist is indicated by what might be a belt around the waist area. The belt has parallel edges that remain equidistant along its length.

The brightness profile shows that the waist was progressively more distant from the Shroud as we move from the center towards the sides of the body. The maximum brightness level is 160, which means the apex of the waist was below the plane of the Shroud, since zero distance from the Shroud would be a brightness of 200. Also, the Shroud was also not touching the arms, since they also have a lower brightness than 200.



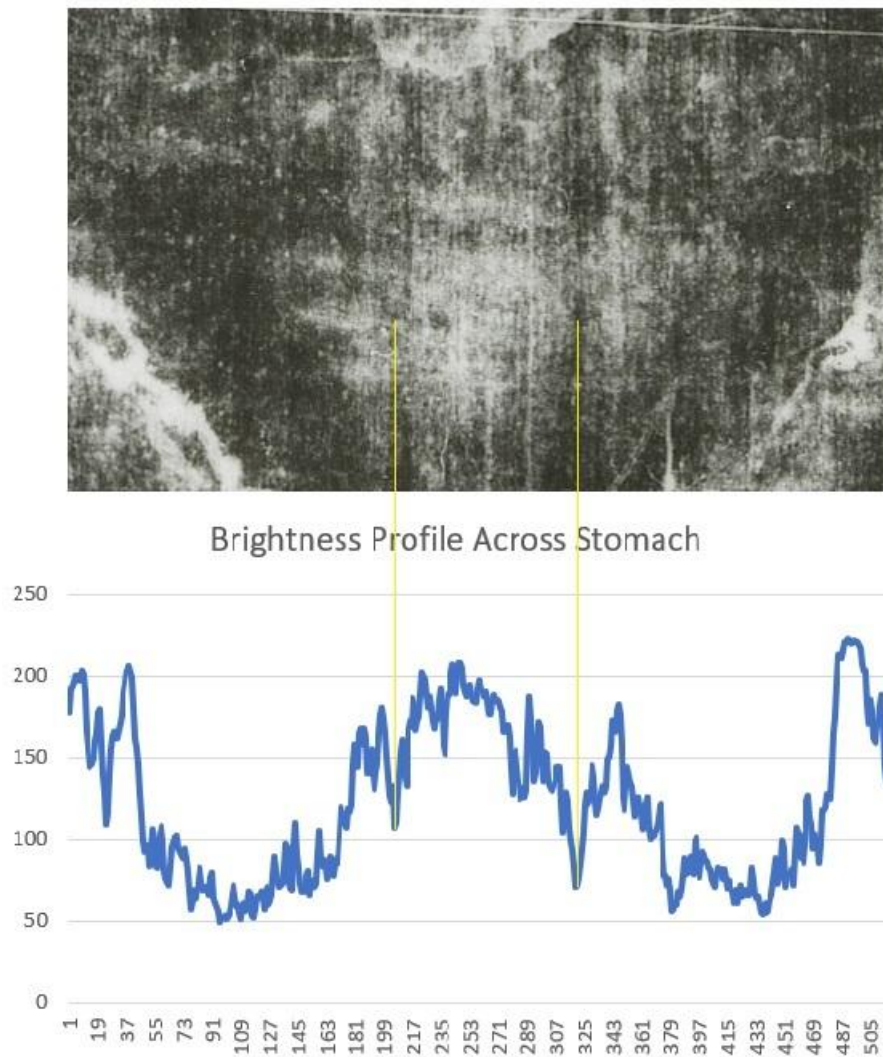
Horizontal Brightness Profile Across the Waist of Christ





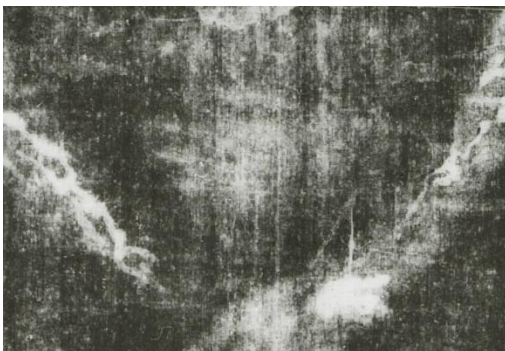
The waist is marked by what might be a belt. The width of the belt is constant along its length.

I also took a cross section across the stomach.



The stomach area has a curved profile, same as the waist.

The stomach protrudes more than the waist, reaching a higher elevation. Though this extra brightness may be due to a circular disc that seems to be covering it.



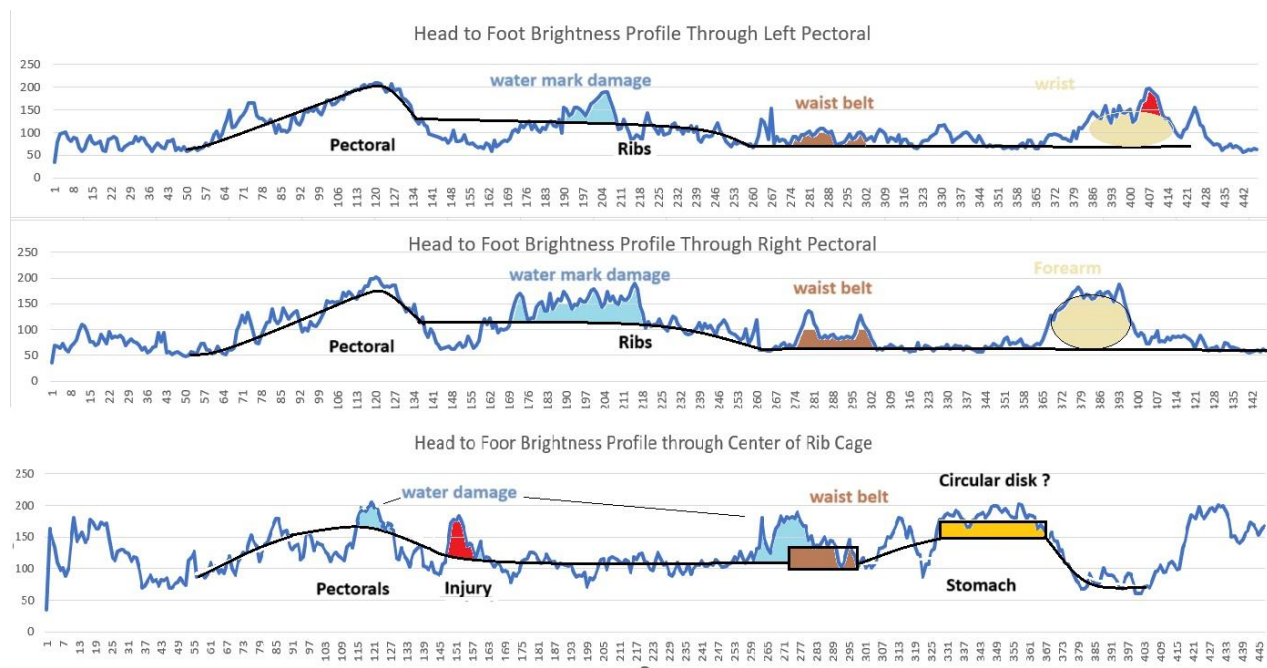
The contours of the stomach seem too circular to be natural. It is possibly some kind of circular buckle attached to a belt resting on the hips.

Conclusion

The left to right brightness profiles of both the waist and the stomach indicate a greater distance from the Shroud as we move outwards from the center. This means that the Shroud lay in a horizontal plane relative to the body from left to right.

Longitudinal Profile across Chest and Abdomen

Taking longitudinal head to foot profiles we get the following results for the chest area –



The pectorals have the highest brightness, and therefore elevation. Water damage has caused brighter areas on the abdomen, but before and after the water damage, the brightness of the abdomen is only 100. The only other raised areas are the waist belt and where the forearms fold across the lower abdomen.

We can see from these profiles that no part of the abdomen touched the Shroud except the pectorals, indicating that the images were not produced by contact. Rather, the Shroud was positioned along the 200 level.