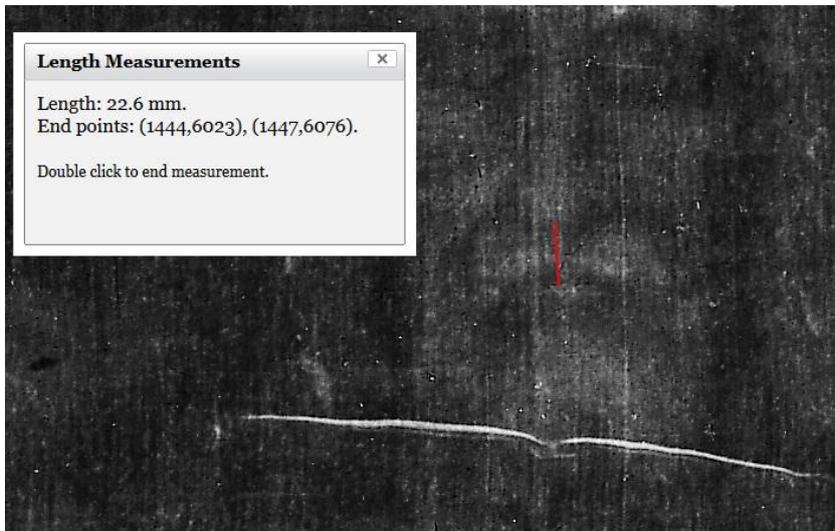


Those are teeth. New view.

Several researchers claimed observation of teeth on the Shroud photographs.¹ Others disagree, considering it pareidolia. Here I would like to present my view on the issue.

My motivation was coming from the comparison studies between the Shroud and Manoppello Veil and Sudarium of Oviedo. On Manoppello we see mouth being a little bit open. On Sudarium we see large stain of blood flowing out of the nose, as well as of mouth, suggesting that latter was not completely closed.

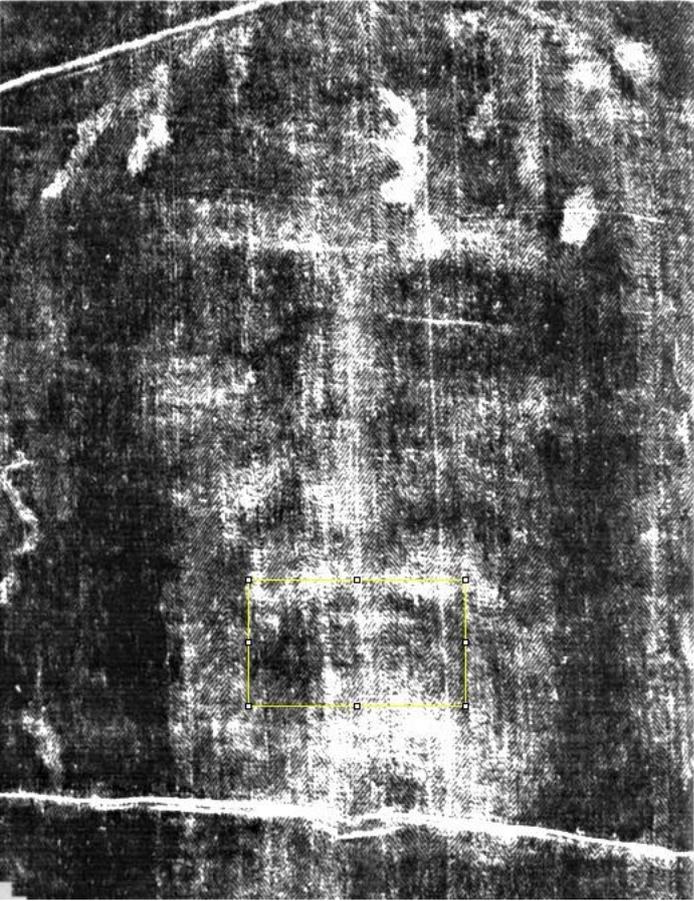
First, using [ShroudScope](#), a mirror in a bathroom and primitive cardboard ruler, I established that the purported teeth are correct size and in a correct position –where they supposed to be.



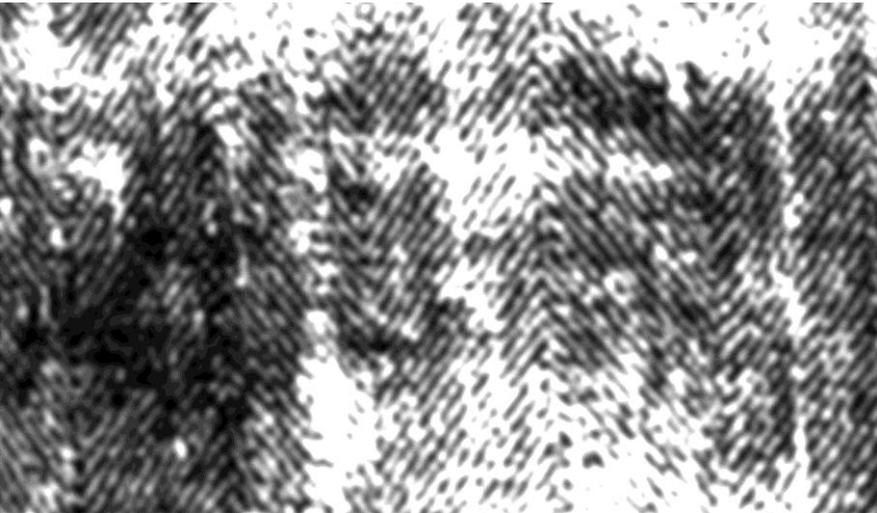
It is in agreement with Whanger's result –on [his page](#) he presents a beautiful comparison of human skull and negative photograph of the Shroud face:



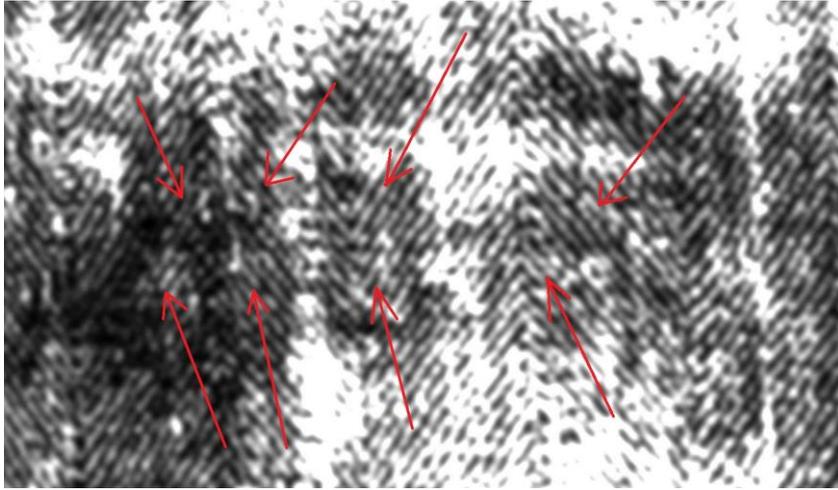
So the alleged teeth are where they suppose to be. Let's have a close look at them. I used two Enrie photos, one scanned from the cover of Badde's book, another sincerely provided to me by Barrie Schwartz:



Scanned image (after Gaussian blur)



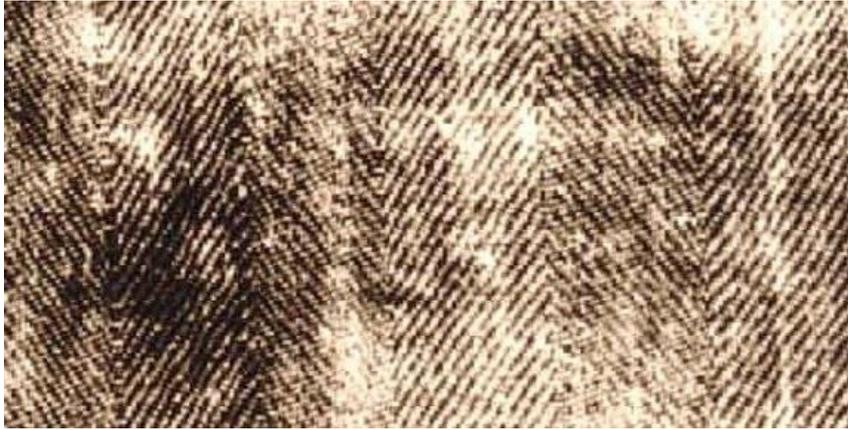
Alleged teeth area.



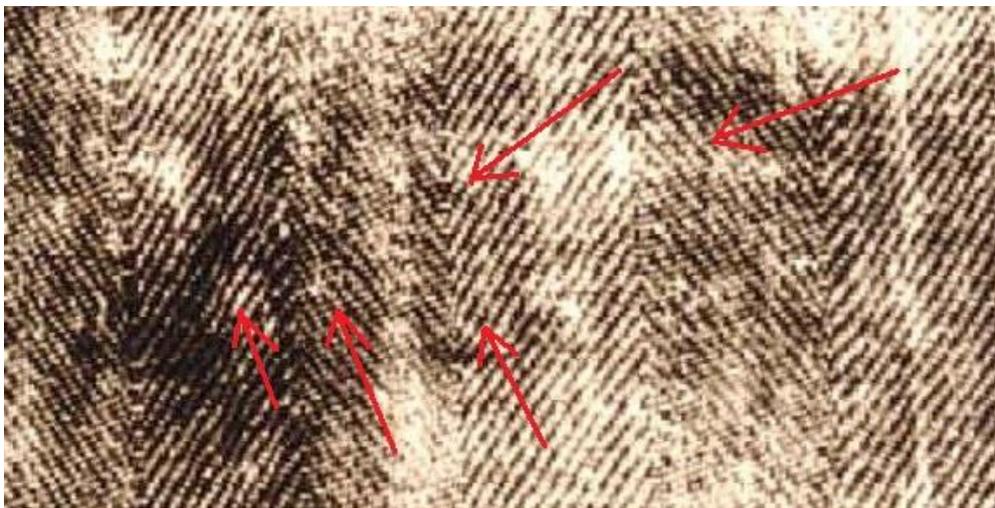
Supposed teeth.



Enrie's photo provided by Barrie.



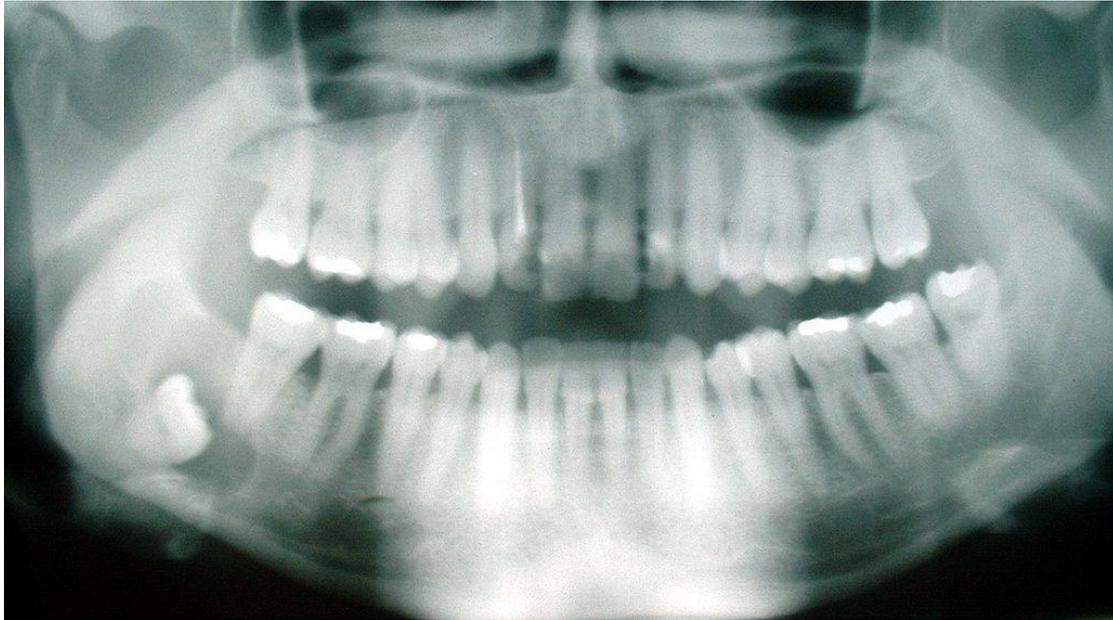
Teeth area.



Supposed teeth.

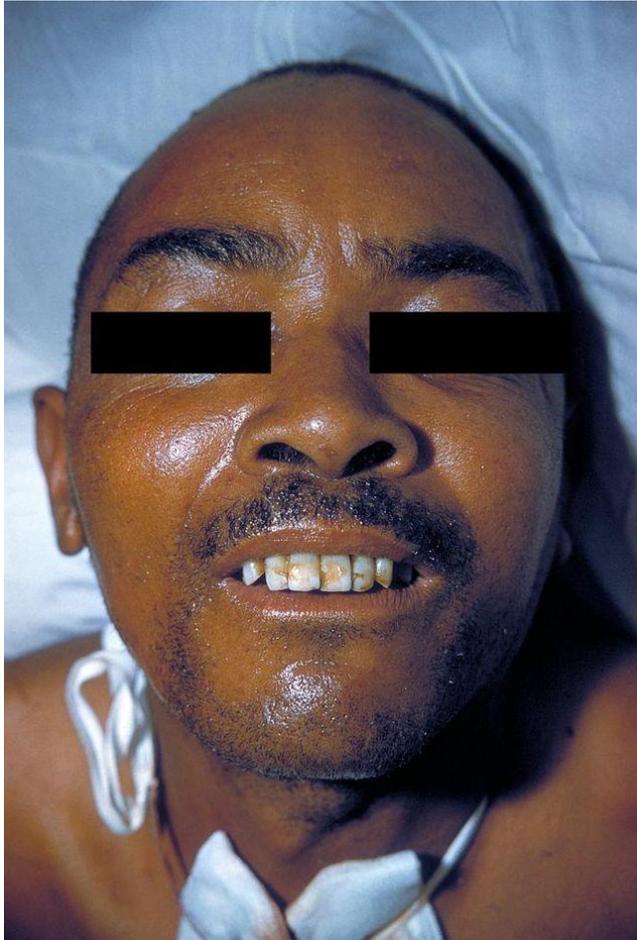
A photo and X-ray of human teeth for comparison:





Discussion: Of course one can be very careful when assessing so vague images. Although they are not clear as there are several background impurities, which make discerning most individual teeth impossible, yet it is possible to localize 4-5 of them along with some breaks between them. Adding a fact that they are in the proper place, I am now 99 % convinced that those are indeed teeth (and not for example a band of darker yarn).

This raises another issue, if those are indeed teeth images, how have they got recorded on the Shroud? Some researchers postulated that the Shroud has X-ray properties. I think the solution is much simpler (and terrible):



***Risus sardonicus*, known also as **rictus grin**.**

That is a spasm of facial muscles producing characteristic grinning.²

Forget all stories about serene majestic face of Christ, gently tolerating His suffering. From a Christian perspective, it rather shows how much He decided to pass through, “descending into inferno”, for our salvation.

¹ See for example [The Shroud: A Critical Summary of Observations, Data and Hypotheses by Colorado center](#), I24.1

² This symptom is mentioned for example In: R. W. Hynek, *Święty Całun, Męka Pańska w oświetleniu nauki*, Księgarnia Św. Wojciecha 1937, pg. 68.