

Finch & C^o



PAPUA NEW GUINEA LOWER SEPIK REGION HEADREST

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THE TERMINALS CARVED WITH STYLISTIC REPRESENTATIONS OF ANCESTORS

THE BENT CANE FEET, NOW MISSING. OLD WORN DRY PATINA

19TH – EARLY 20TH CENTURY

SIZE: 37.5CM WIDE, 7CM DEEP (MAX) – 14¾ INS WIDE, 2¾ INS DEEP (MAX)

LITERATURE

HEADRESTS WERE A MORE PRACTICAL PROPOSITION THAN FEATHER PILLOWS DURING THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT IN THE FOREST JUNGLE AND ALSO ENABLED THE USER TO PROTECT HIS OFTEN ELABORATE HAIRDO. HOWEVER, HEADRESTS CARRIED AN IMPORTANCE BEYOND THEIR EVERYDAY USE. THE ANCESTRAL CARVINGS ON THIS HEADREST REPRESENT A SPIRITUAL BEING THAT WILL COMMUNE WITH THE SLEEPER PROVIDING HIM WITH HELP AND PROTECTION AND KNOWLEDGEABLE ADVICE THROUGH DREAMS CONCERNING IMPORTANT DAILY EVENTS.