

Basic Detail Report



Bowl (Brukei or Ndrekei)

Date

19th to early 20th Century

Medium

Wood

Description

This object is a large wooden feast bowl from Bipi Island in Papua New Guinea's Admiralty Island group. Ritual food

bowls were only used symbolically at important events, including funerals to honor the dead. Food would be prepared for the deceased and exhibited in front of the gathering of the clan members as a ritualized social exchange. The bowls would be handed down from generation to generation, carefully cared for and used only during special occasions. Carvers often favored depictions of marine animals or birds like this frigate bird as decoration.

Dimensions

6 5/8 × 23 9/16 in. (16.8 × 59.8 cm)