



Arrow

Date

early to mid 20th Century

Medium

Bamboo, wood, wicker, grass and string

Description

This arrow was collected from the Torricelli Mountain area of Papua New Guinea's Sandaun Province. Integral to battle in New Guinea is the ability for a warrior to use his quiver of arrows - and to be a good marksman. Each arrow is carefully designed and carved for maximum pain once the arrow has hit its intended, and sometimes human, mark. Notice the intricate barbs designed to tear at the skin when there is an attempt to remove the arrow. In addition, each arrow is carefully carved and etched by the warrior to charge the instrument with energy.

Dimensions

69 3/4 × 1 1/8 × 5/8 in. (177.2 × 2.9 × 1.6 cm)