



Architectural Finial

Date

c. 1930

Primary Maker

Dayak

Medium

Wood, pigment, and shell

Description

Dragon-Aso architectural finial with large shell eye. Roof finials served as guardians of the house below. They often signified female deities of the earth and of the underworld, and were associated with fertility. Many other reptilian forms exist, such as water snakes and crocodiles. The dragon, or aso, is a creature made up of the body of a crocodile, the head of a dog, and the snout of a wild boar.

Dimensions

19 1/2 × 75 × 1 in. (49.5 × 190.5 × 2.5 cm)