



Shield

Date

early 20th Century

Primary Maker

Chambri

Medium

Wood and pigment

Description

The shields of the Chambri people are very similar to the more prolific shields of the Iatmul. Here too, we see a large incised anthropomorphic face. The surrounding circles have been described in other Chambri shields as spirals. Looking closely at the pair of circles just below the face we can see that the design does indeed spiral outward here, but holistically looking at the seven ovals their surrounding designs appear to be ripples emanating from them. A number of Chambri shields have been sourced back to makers on the Salumei river, indicating

that this shield may have been traded for by the Chambri.

Dimensions

55 5/8 × 11 5/8 × 2 1/8 in. (141.3 × 29.5 × 5.4 cm)