



## Ancestor Figure

### Date

20th Century

### Primary Maker

latmul

### Medium

Wood, shell, pigment and cassowary feather

### Description

This is a standing wood funerary sculpture of a man created by the latmul people of the Middle Sepik River region of Papua New Guinea in the 20th Century. These funerary figures were created by members of the deceased's clan and then decorated with objects depicting feats they accomplished. They serve the dual role of honoring the recently deceased and as individuals and as embodiments of their great ancestors. Funerary tradition along the Sepik is rich, and is heavily represented by multi-medium objects created by the latmul. The overmodelled skulls created by the latmul are further evidence of this.

### Dimensions

54 × 11 1/2 × 7 in. (137.2 × 29.2 × 17.8 cm)