



Walking Stick

Date

20th Century

Medium

Wood and metal

Description

This thin wooden walking stick or cane was collected in Ethiopia. The coiled metal piece at its top suggests it may have previously had a finial which has now been lost, and otherwise it is unadorned. For centuries, walking sticks and canes have been used by various cultures and peoples around the world, primarily as an aid for walking over uneven ground, but also as a defensive weapon or a symbol of status and authority. A simpler walking stick such as this one likely served a utilitarian purpose.

Dimensions

53 × 1/2 in. (134.6 × 1.3 cm)