Basic Detail Report



Figurine

Date

1700-1900

Medium

Wood, twine, iron, cloth

Description

One of two figures from a model two-man Biadarka or kayak. The figure is carved of wood, with a painted face, black head, printed cloth around the body and arms of iron wire, holding wooden paddles and a fishing net. Small wooden models were most often used as children's toys or sold to tourists when Alaskan and Canadian art became popular collector's items. With the dramatic increase in European exploration to this region, Inuit began making functionless art for the sole purpose of trade. Miniature canoes and kayaks were especially prominent. Alaska, Aleutan or Ounalaska, now Unalaska.