

1987. 3-105

Transvaal. Tsonga - head-rest



object type: head-rest	acc no: 1987.3.105		
vernacular:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> contact prints </div>		
sub-type:			
community: Transvaal Tsonga			
sub-group:			
geographical location:	location:	[REDACTED]	
	shelf	[REDACTED]	
	b/w:	c/t:	c/s:
	dimensions:		
date and place collected: Elim, Transvaal, c. 1930	h: 11 cm	diam:	
date executed:	w: 17,5 cm	mounted:	
artist name, sex: male	d: 5 cm		
use: for resting the head while sleeping	medium: wood		

~~purchase~~ / donation / ~~bequest~~: Anglo American Johannesburg Centenary Trust

price paid: - (R168 000 incl. GST paid by Trust for Collection)

insurance value: R346 291 (114 objects in Jaques Collection) (1990)

authority: AGC 1987-03-26
MC 1987-03-30

original collection no: Jaques Coll./
Africana Mus. 50/1009

object type translation:

catalogues: Wanless, AN&N 27(8):146

physical description:

JOHANNESBURG ART GALLERY
ARCHIVE SHEET II
PROVENANCE

ARTIST:

ACC. NO.:

Collected by Rev. A. A. Jaques

Lent to the Africana Museum in 1950

JOHANNESBURG ART GALLERY
ARCHIVE SHEET IV
REFERENCE

ARTIST:

ACC. NO.:

Wanless, A Africana Notes and News, see acc. card
for vol. and page no.

✓ 145 50/1009

Size: Height 110 mm
Length 175 mm
Width 50 mm
Length of base 110 mm

Description: Crossbar: Rectangular, curved and decorated with a differently arranged row of incised triangles at each flattened narrow end.

Lugs: Small, rectangular blocks.

Column: Two rectangular pillars form a "V" which rests on a rectangular block.

Base: Two flat linked circles with a tiny triangle at centre front and back.

✓ 146 50/1010

Size: Height 145 mm
Length 175 mm
Width 55 mm
Length of base 135 mm

Description: Crossbar: Rectangular, curved and decorated at one narrow end with a row of incised triangles. The other end is worn.

Lugs: One lug is broken off, the other is a side-facing rectangle decorated with two brass studs.

Column: Six short pillars radiate out from a central sphere, three to the crossbar and three to the base. The four outer pillars are decorated with incised triangles, and the sphere is decorated with two brass studs at the front.

Base: Roughly rectangular, narrowing slightly at centre to form two small, triangular niches.

Comments: The brass studs used to decorate this piece are eyelet hooks of the type used on boots from the end of the nineteenth century.

✓ 147 50/1011

Size: Height 155 mm
Length 195 mm
Width 70 mm
Length of base 155 mm

Description: Crossbar: Rectangular, curved and decorated at the narrow ends with a row of zig-zags carved in relief.

Lugs: Side-facing open rectangles. The one on the left has a large piece broken off it, the right has two protruding filled arches.

Column: Four rectangular pillars, two at front and two at back forming a double "X" shape.

Base: Two flat circles joined by a rectangular bar.

✓ 148 50/1012

Size: Height 165 mm
Length 190 mm
Width 65 mm
Length of base 175 mm

Description: Crossbar: Rectangular, curved and decorated on either side of centre with two triangles made up of six incised triangles, and on the flattened narrow ends with a series of short incised lines.

Lugs: None.

Column: Three pillars in a row each made up of a front-facing narrow "X" intersected by a circle. Decorated with parallel grooves on the "X" and on the circles with incised concentric circles with varying numbers of rough diamond shapes.

Base: Two flat linked circles with a small semi-circle at centre front and back. A large piece is broken off one side, and the sloping edges are broken in many places.

Comments: This head-rest has several features which show Shona influence. (See number 140).

✓ 149 50/1013

Size: Height 130 mm
Length 200 mm
Width 65 mm
Length of base 150 mm

Description: Crossbar: Rectangular, curved and decorated near the narrow ends with two rows of small zig-zags carved in relief.

Lugs: Filled arches facing front.

Column: Two rectangular pillars curving inward slightly, and decorated with a row of narrow, horizontal, rounded pleats running down centre front and back, as well as three open arches inside and one outside.

Base: Two truncated cones linked at centre by an inverted truncated cone at the base of which is cut an unusual ovoid at front and back.

Comments: In her article "Artindigène et appuis-tête",¹ L. Jaques remarks that the inspiration for some designs seem to have come from the grill of an Arab window.