

Narsuaal Tsonga - head-rest

1981.3.77



object type: head-rest	acc no: 1987.3.77		
vernacular:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">           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: 12,5 cm	diam:	
date executed:	w: 17 cm	mounted:	
artist name, sex: male	d: 6 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. 50/978

object type translation:

catalogues: Wanless, AN&N 27(5):208

physical description:

JOHANNESBURG ART GALLERY  
ARCHIVE SHEET II  
PROVENANCE

ARTIST:

ACC. NO.:

Collected by Rev. A. A. Jacques  
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.

JOHANNESBURG ART GALLERY  
ARCHIVE SHEET V  
LOANS / LOCATIONS REGISTER

ARTIST:

ACC. NO.:

Placed in [REDACTED] 1987

Placed on display in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] early 1989.

112 50/976

Size:	Height	140 mm
	Length	180 mm
	Width	65 mm
	Length of base	125 mm

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

*Lugs:* Small filled half cylinders running front to back.

*Column:* Two roughly circular, inward-curving pillars bisected at centre by a horizontal bar made of two flat ovoids decorated front and back with three rows of chevrons carved in relief, and having a ridge running along centre top and bottom. The whole column is blackened.

*Base:* Roughly ovoid, flat, with one notch out of the sides, and two notches out of centre front and back. Blackened.

✓ 113 50/977

Size:	Height	140 mm
	Length	225 mm
	Width	80 mm
	Length of base	150 mm

*Description: Crossbar:* Roughly rectangular, flaring at ends, curved, and decorated approximately 40 mm from the narrow ends with a row of zig-zags carved in relief.

*Lugs:* Filled half cylinders running from front to back and pierced through centre from side to side. One lug has a small band of red and green beads threaded on animal tail hair tied through the hole. Both lugs are blackened.

*Column:* Two roughly circular, inward-curving pillars, bisected at centre by a horizontal ovoid bar which is decorated at front and back with three rows of chevrons carved in relief, and which is blackened at the sides. A small ridge runs across the centre above and below the bar.

*Base:* Flat ovoid with two notches out of centre front and back.

114 50/978

Size:	Height	125 mm
	Length	170 mm
	Width	60 mm
	Length of base	130 mm

*Description: Crossbar:* Rectangular, curved and decorated near the narrow ends with a row of small diamonds carved in relief.

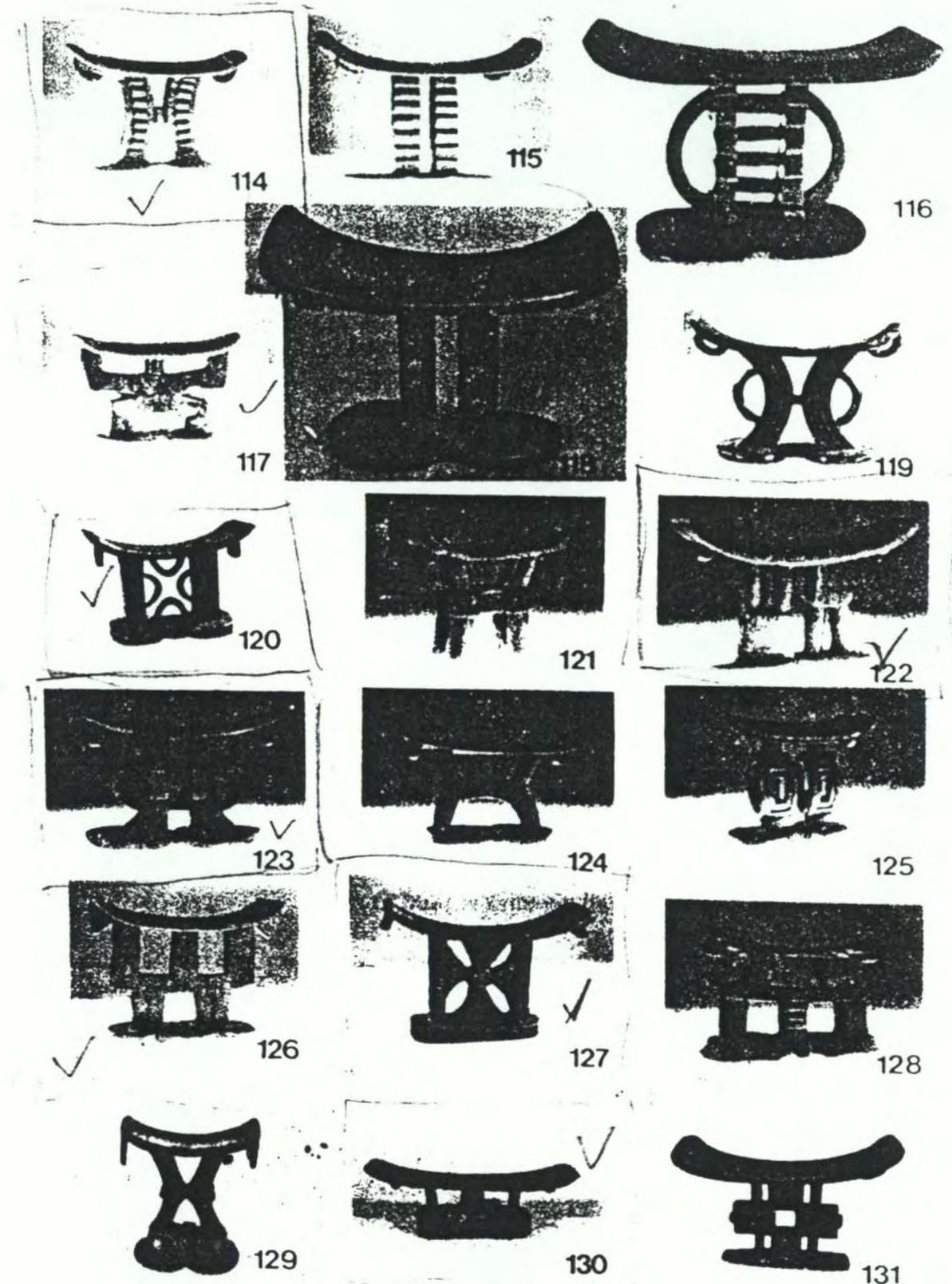


Plate 4 Shangaan head-rests

*Lugs:* Closed arches facing front.

*Column:* Two rectangular pillars curving inward slightly and decorated with a row of horizontal pleats running the length of the centre front and back. The pillars are joined at the centre by a horizontal, multi-faceted bar.

*Base:* Two flat circles joined by a rectangular bar.

✓ 115 50/979

*Size:*

Height	145 mm
Length	205 mm
Width	70 mm
Length of base	150 mm

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

*Lugs:* Closed, shallow arches, facing front.

*Column:* Two rectangular pillars carved front and back into a series of rounded horizontal corrugations.

*Base:* Three flat linked circles in a row.

✓ 116 50/980

*Size:*

Height	140 mm
Length	205 mm
Width	80 mm
Length of base	140 mm

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

*Lugs:* Filled half cylinders running from front to back.

*Column:* Two roughly rectangular pillars with broader parts facing sides, carved front and back into a series of horizontal, rounded corrugations, alternately blackened. Two open, front-facing arches extend out from almost the top to near the bottom of the outer sides. Inside, the pillars are connected by five horizontal, roughly cylindrical bars.

*Base:* Flat ovoid with a square piece cut out of centre front and back. Blackened.

✓ 117 50/981

*Size:*

Height	110 mm
Length	155 mm

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Width	60 mm
Length of base	115 mm

*Description: Crossbar:* Rectangular, very slightly curved, and undecorated. It has flattened narrow ends, and there is a piece missing from one corner, though the scar is worn and well patinated.

*Lugs:* None.

*Column:* Two open, front-facing rectangles, the upper is wider and has a short vertical cylinder joining it to the crossbar at the centre. The overall appearance is that of a stylised human form with legs apart and arms raised to support the crossbar.

*Base:* Two flat ovoids linked by a small triangle at centre front and back.

*Comments:* This piece is smaller than average.

✓ 118 50/982

*Size:*

Height	140 mm
Length	200 mm
Width	80 mm
Length of base	145 mm

*Description: Crossbar:* Roughly rectangular but flaring at narrow ends, curved, and undecorated. It has a pronounced slope from the back down to the front.

*Lugs:* Roughly rectangular, facing front.

*Column:* Two rectangular pillars blackened on sides, and joined at top and bottom by small closed half cylinders.

*Base:* Two flat linked circles of unequal size.

*Comments:* The whole head-rest is roughly and unevenly carved.

119 50/983

*Size:*

Height	135 mm
Length	215 mm
Width	70 mm
Length of base	165 mm

*Description: Crossbar:* Rectangular, curved, and decorated at narrow ends with a row of zig-zags carved in relief. One corner is broken off but the scar is well worn and patinated.

*Lugs:* Open arches facing front.

*Column:* Two rectangular, grooved pillars curving inward until they almost meet in the centre, where they are joined by a short, horizontal cylinder. On the outside of each pillar is an open, front-facing arch similar to, but larger than, the lugs.

*Base:* Two flat thin circles joined by a rectangular bar.

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