



Bowl

Date

1800-1850

Primary Maker

Wishxam or Wasco

Medium

Bighorn sheep horn

Description

The chip-carved zigzag lines on this sheep horn bowl reflect the ancient geometric design style of southern Northwest Coast cultures near the Lower Columbia River. The chip carving also frames several stylized human-like faces that may represent guardian spirits related to annual root-gathering rituals. The faces are characteristically geometric, with straight lines defining the brow and nose, a pointed oval representing the mouth and half-circles for the eyes.

Dimensions

Overall: 5 1/2 × 5 1/4 × 8 1/2 in. (14 × 13.3 × 21.6 cm)