

Basic Detail Report



Feast Ladle

Date

c. 1840

Primary Maker

Coast Tsimshian

Medium

Alder, paint

Description

This ladle was used to serve various courses at a feast such as a potlatch. Its large size demonstrated the chief's abundant resources and hospitality. The crest imagery on the handle, symbolizing the affiliation of a family or clan, combines attributes of a bear or wolf, a human, and a whale. The bear or wolf-like head rests at the top of the ladle, overseeing the transfer of food. The animal's human-like body is curled up, knees to chest, and its hands clasp and support each side of the ladle. A large dorsal fin on its back extends up the handle, blending in with the grip

Dimensions

Overall: 9 × 9 × 35 1/4 in. (22.9 × 22.9 × 89.5 cm)