Basic Detail Report



War Helmet

Date
c. 1750-1800

Primary Maker
Tlingit

Medium
Wood (probably spruce), copper, opercula, human hair, twine, paint, leather

Description
This carved helmet is a classic of the war helmet tradition, masterfully incorporating a red-breasted merganser bird into the helmet’s functional design. The pegged-in human hair extends and exaggerates the bird’s crest, lending a sense of animation to the helmet. War helmets are unique to Tlingit traditional culture. The imagery on each helmet is distinct.

Dimensions
Overall: 11 1/2 × 10 1/2 × 11 1/4 in. (29.2 × 26.7 × 28.6 cm)