



Date:

1660

Identifier:

T0265

Description:

Since late prehistoric times Haudenosaunee artists carved effigy-decorated combs made from wood, bone and antler. The combs were worn by men, women and children. After the introduction of metal tools in the 17th century, the carvings became more elaborate with finely cut teeth. The carvings reached their peak in development between 1650 and 1700, after which they slowly went out of fashion. The carver of this effigy comb skillfully made use of negative space to create balance and symmetry in his design of two wolves that face each other. The wolf figures may represent clan affiliation.

Physical dimensions:

height 4.75 in ; width 2.5 in

Format:

Comb

Coverage:

New York ; Seneca (Haudenosaunee)

American Indian Art

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