



Figure with head missing

On display

Title/Description: Figure with head missing

Object Type: Figure, Fragment

Materials: Walrus ivory

Measurements: h. 197 w. 60 x d. 40 mm

Accession Number: 730

Historic Period: Punuk period (c. AD 500-1200)

Production Place: Alaska, Bering Sea, North America, The Americas

Credit Line: Purchased with support from Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1980

The shortened arms held at the sides suggest that his large figure is of Punak origin. In its uprightness and simple block-like treatment the sculptor has achieved a 'monumental' effect belied by the figure's actual size. Two small holes have been drilled at the navel and there is a further hole beneath each breast. The slightly swelling breasts and abdomen, with the genital cavity, indicate a female is represented.

Steven Hooper, 1997

Entry taken from *Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection, Vol. 2: Pacific, African and Native North American Art*, edited by Steven Hooper (Yale University Press, 1997) p. 230.

Provenance

Purchased by the Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia from Arbutus Limited on the advice of Robert Sainsbury in 1980 out of income from the Sainsbury Purchasing Fund.
