



Bathurst Island Indigenous Bark Canoe

Vessel number

HV000159

Description

The Indigenous canoe is formed from a single bark sheet, from an unidentified type of tree. The open ends are stitched together to close them off by forming a short double thickness flat panel. The sides are then opened out with short lengths of branch and bark lashings to form beams. These two beams, along with a third one placed towards the middle of the canoe, are lashed to two long branches that support the top edge on either side. These branches are parallel to each other and are also lashed or sewn to the bark. The branches form a framework that provides strength to the structure and maintains the craft's shape. This vessel is on display in the Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery, South Australian Museum.

Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 1.81 m x 0.34 m (5.94 ft x 1.12 ft)