



Kempsey Indigenous Paper Bark Canoe

Vessel number

HV000162

Description

The more pliable nature of the paper bark used to construct this Indigenous canoe has allowed both ends of the vessel to be gathered in a series of folds and then pulled tight with a bark twine. There also appears to be a thin branch pierced through the folds as a peg to help

secure the ends, which are then creased across the hull and raised upwards, to form a bow and stern. The crease is also secured with a branch across the canoe holding the parallel sides apart. The inside has a smooth finish while the outside remains very fibrous. There are no reinforcing branches along the sides. The shallow depth of this vessel restricts its movement to lakes and calmer waters on river systems. This vessel is currently on display in the Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery, South Australian Museum.

Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 2.85 m x 0.46 m (9.35 ft x 1.51 ft)