

1. IDENTIFICATION: (Artist, title, date, size, country of origin, period/style)

009. THE AMBUM STONE

Ambum Valley, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea
ca. 1, 500 BCE

2. FORM: (use of design elements/ principles: color, shape, value, texture, line, space; balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, etc.)

Dark color, grainy, intricate detail,
balance/symmetry, round shape

3. MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUE: (art making processes)

Greywacke (sandstone)

4. CONTENT: (subject & genre: iconography, symbolism, the story)

Mortar & pestle

Appears to be the embryonic form of a long-beaked spiny anteater



5. ORIGINAL CONTEXT/ SITE/ INTENDED FUNCTION OF THE WORK: (Overlap to #6)

Found in Papua New Guinea, found with a hundred other stone objects, has the shape of a pestle and may have had a ritualistic purpose, however it is unknown

6. INTENDED PURPOSE & MOTIVATION (why was it made?); **PATRON/AUDIENCE** (who was it made for?); **ARTIST'S DECISION MAKING:**

Pestle, unknown

7. INNOVATION/ CHANGE(S):

A lot more time devoted to artwork, art used for a practical purpose

CONVENTION/ TRADITION(S):

Focus on animals, sculpted from local rock, portable

8. THEME(S):

Animals

COMPARE TO ANOTHER WORK:

Sacrum: Both depict an animal, though this piece shows an embryonic form. They were likely both for rituals, but this one has a practical use as a pestle.