



## Figure with head missing

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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

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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.

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## 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.

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