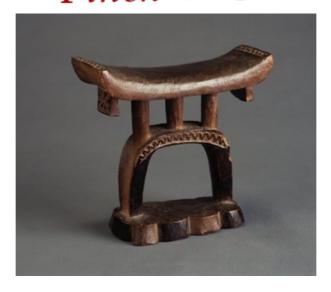
## Finch & Co



## A FINE SHONA / TSONGA, ZIMBABWE / MOZAMBIQUE CARVED WOOD HEADREST 'MUTSAGO'

A FINE SHONA / TSONGA , ZIMBABWE / MOZAMBIQUE CARVED HEADREST 'MUTSAGO' OF ARCHITECTURAL FORM . FINE OLD PATINA

## 19 TH CENTURY

THE LUSTRE OF THE PATINA IS OBTAINED BY CONTINUOUS USE. THE WOOD BECOMING SATURATED WITH HAIR OILS;
THE HEADREST TAKES ON THE IDENTITY OF THE SLEEPER AND COMES TO BE SEEN AS THE INDIVIDUAL'S SPIRITUAL
REPRESENTATIVE. HEADRESTS FROM THIS AREA WERE OFTEN BURIED WITH THEIR OWNER.

A DISTINCTIVE FEATURE OF THESE HEADRESTS ARE THE VERTICAL LUGS EXTENDING FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE CROSS BAR WHICH IS DECORATED WITH SMALL CHEVRONS. THE LOBED BASE SUPPORTS A CARVED CENTRAL SUPPORT FROM WHICH RISE THREE UPRIGHT BEAVIS. HEADRESTS FROM THIS AREA HAVE A GREAT INVENTIVENESS IN THE FORMAND VARIATION OF DESIGN OF THE CENTRAL SUPPORT, AND ALTHOUGH THEY WERE NOT MADE TO BE RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM ONE ANOTHER IT IS THE SUBTLE VARIATIONS THAT DISTINGUISHES EACH REMARKABLE PIECE.

## LITERATURE

SEE: FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 4 (ITEMNO. 108 AND 129) FOR COMPARISONS