
PAGODA RED



AFO HOE CURRENCY

\$2,880

c. 1900 • Nigeria • Iron • Collection #CAA0673

W: 17.75" D: 2.75" H: 25.5"

In many pre-colonial regions of Africa, iron was so valuable that tools often doubled as currencies for rare but significant transactions. This large iron form is a currency piece from the Afo peoples of northern Nigeria, and is modeled after the blade of a hoe. Used to till the hard soil and harvest crops, the hoe was highly valued as a symbol of the community's reliance on the earth and traditional agriculture. With its clean lines and irregular surface texture, the currency blade resembles a minimalist metalwork sculpture, commanding the space with its simplicity.



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