

## ❖ LOOK AGAIN ❖



### Not a Decoy

THIS HEADDRESS, WORN BY THE MASKEGAN OR SWAMPY CREE, CONSISTS OF A loon skin lined with wool tartan and a peak made of rawhide tinted most likely with laundry blueing. The eyes of the loon have been replaced with what appear to be brass upholstery tacks. Its head is stuffed with human hair, which according to Cree beliefs, could be charged with supernatural powers. The headdress was collected by Lieutenant Governor Alexander Morris while he was negotiating the North-West Angle Treaty at Lake of the Woods in 1873, and became part of the ROM's ethnology collections through the Edmund Morris bequest. ❖

PHOTOGRAPH BY BRIAN BOYLE