

# Basic Detail Report

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00018804

**Title**

Untitled (Waterside worker pulling cart behind him)

**Date**

1958

**Primary Maker**

Clem Millward

**Medium**

Pen and ink on paper; white ink highlights and black wash on blue paper.

**Dimensions**

Sheet: 330 x 205 mm Mount: 605 x 435 mm Overall: 605 x 435 mm, 0.03 kg

**Name**

Drawing

**History**

This work by Clem Millward reflects his experience working on the waterfront. Millward had studied painting in Australia and overseas, and worked casual shifts as a wharfie, enabling him time to pursue his art. Millward sketched wharfies in the union canteen during meal breaks and slack periods at work, producing paintings from those sketches afterwards. These men, often anonymous, represent the character and culture of the wharf workers environment at the time. Millward was also active in the Waterside Workers Federation Art Group, and together with Nan Hortin and Vi Collins, presented art classes for waterside workers' children on Saturday mornings from 1956. Maritime unions in the mid-twentieth century fostered cultural and educational groups within their ranks. The Waterside Worker's Federation - with a communist-based philosophy - saw a broad role for trade unions in society. Waterside workers lived as well as worked together and were also receptive to the union filling some of the roles of a local social club.