

Basic Detail Report



00000623

Title

Trout cod (Maccullochella macquariensis) includes inset of head compared to head of M pelli

Date

1977 - 1984

Primary Maker

Walter Stackpool

Medium

Acrylic on card

Dimensions

Overall: 250 x 380 mm Display Dimensions: 760 x 1040 x 50 mm

Name

Painting

History

Walter Stackpool was originally planning to be an artist prior to joining the army in WW2. He enlisted in 1942 and became a lieutenant in the 2/8 Field Regiment which was primarily formed from men from the eastern states of Australia. During the course of the war his artistic skills were noted by a fellow soldier and publisher and on his return to Australia and discharge from the army in 1946, Stackpool became a popular illustrator for what became widely known as "pulp fiction". These included Westerns and detective or crime novels. Stackpool also found a talent for illustrating children's and history books, with over 100 to his credit. His belief was that illustration "apart from being an art form, was essentially a didactic craft - even when it is ostensibly only to amuse". He listed the three essentials of illustrating as sound draughtsmanship; accuracy of detail; and good clear technique in rendering, whether in colour or black and white, for good reproduction in the printing". (<http://www.austlit.edu.au/austlit/page/A51372>)