


Minang house model

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	67.75.1.1-5 
Type:	metalwork; model
Date of production:	19 – 20th century
Place of production:	West Sumatra, Indonesia, Southeast Asia
Materials/Technique s:	brass, cast, chiselled, openwork
Dimensions:	height: 33. 5 cm

This brass model of a Minang (Sumatran) house is part of the Minangkabau village model set. This type of building represents the main (communal) house (rumah gadang), and its importance is indicated not only by its size but also by the six spires that reach up to the sky.

Its pinnacles refer to the horn of the buffalo, an animal of fundamental importance in Minang culture. Its roof ridge and openwork side walls represent a typical Minangkabau building type. From the collection of Ernő Zboray.

The Minangkabau are a Malay ethnic group living in Sumatra; where inheritance is matrilineal and, unlike other ethnic groups, it is usually the future husband who moves into the bride's house.

