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Museum Project Follow Up Post
April 27th, 2016

Having the opportunity to explore in-depth a specific ship model was an amazing experience and educational process in my overall understanding of the field of marine archaeology. From first-hand access to the model of the war canoe, to the prior foundation that Anthropology 1218 had already provided me with as a critical starting point for my research, I viewed the project as a perfect capstone to the course.

With that being said, there were definitely various obstacles and difficulties that constituted an unavoidable part of the research process. First, there was very little information provided with the model itself, other than a reference to the “River Dayak,” which resulted in a relatively unfocused and general initial research process in an attempt to gain any relevant identifying information for the model. Secondly, having determined a likely place and time of origin, it was extremely difficult to find primary sources, and only a few secondary sources touched upon the type of canoe I was looking at, so I felt that my references were limited. Finally, I did find that all of the procedural/citation requirements were somewhat cumbersome and prevented the inclusion of particular images in my blog posts.

Overall, though, I definitely found the entire process worthwhile. It almost felt like I had the opportunity to step into the shoes of a marine archaeologist, from identifying an unknown ship model to figuring out the most effective way to present and share my findings with the public.