

## Example of oared galley with bow projection of ram dated 701 B.C.E.

Triremes - Inquiry Unit, Document 1B (2)



Oared galley on an Assyrian relief found in the palace of Sennacherib at Kuyunjik.

**Photograph of ship on Assyrian Relief taken at the British Museum, posted under GNU Free Documentation License via WikiCommons.**

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:AssyrianWarship.jpg> (Accessed: 29 Jan. 2017)

"Fragment of a stone panel from the South-West Palace of Sennacherib.

This fragment shows a Phoenician ship. 'Phoenician' is the Greek name given to the inhabitants of Canaanite cities along the Levant coast. They were an extremely wealthy people, profiting from the trade that linked Mesopotamia and Egypt and the Mediterranean. The Assyrians expanded westwards to control these trade routes and acquire the wealth of the cities through tribute, booty and taxation. The demand by the Assyrians for materials led the Phoenicians to explore the Mediterranean and establish trading colonies at such places as Sicily, Carthage in North Africa, and Spain. At some point during the eighth century BC ships were designed with the rowers split into two tiers, upper and lower. In the earliest examples the lower tier rows from the gunwale, and the upper tier from the height of the deck. By 700 BC, as this fragment shows, naval architects had improved the design, to a compact galley with a deepened hull, in which the upper tier rows from the gunwale and the lower through ports cut in the side. To fit everybody in with economical use of space, the oars of the two tiers are staggered."

**From the Collection of the British Museum, via Google Arts & Culture, <https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/beta/asset/fragment-of-a-stone-panel-from-the-south-west-palace-of-sennacherib/nwEsXfnF67bZZQ> (Accessed: 29 Jan. 2017)**

**Source: The British Museum, Assyria: Nineveh (Room 9), "Fragment of a stone panel from the South-West Palace of Sennacherib "**

[https://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/galleries/middle\\_east/room\\_9\\_assyria\\_nineveh.aspx](https://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/galleries/middle_east/room_9_assyria_nineveh.aspx)  
(Accessed: 30 Jan. 2017)