

Basic Detail Report



Spring-Hook

Date

1800-1900

Medium

Bone

Description

Bone spring-hook component from a fishing spear. It consists of a long flat bar of bone, with an inward-curving, pointed hook inserted at one end. It has been detached from the rest of the spear. Harpoons and spears used in hunting sea mammals such as whales and seals were designed to pierce the body of the animal and included spring hook components with long ropes that would stay attached to the underside of the animal's hide as it pulled away. The rope or cord line would unwind from the harpoon and the hunter would keep hold of the end. As the animal swam to escape the hunter it would tow the kayak behind it. The objective was to tire the animal so that it was easier to kill. Inuit. Arctic.

Dimensions

Object/Work: 47 x 185 x 15 mm