Finch & Co



RARE CAROLINE ISLANDS, MICRONESIAN CARVED WOODEN SPEAR

A VERY RARE CAROLINE ISLANDS, MICRONESIAN CARVED WOODEN SPEAR
THE HANDLE WITH FINELY PLAITED COCONUT FIBRE BINDING
OLD DRY SURFACE
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 120CM LONG – 47¼ INS LONG

LITERATURE

MICRONESIA MEANS 'LITTLE ISLANDS' AND IT IS COMPOSED OF FOUR MAJOR GROUPS OF WIDELY SCATTERED TROPICAL ISLANDS IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC: THE MARSHAL'S, THE GILBERT'S, THE MARIANAS AND THE CAROLINE'S. SCULPTURE IS UNCOMMON IN MICRONESIA, IT IS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF WEAPONS, CANOES, ORNAMENTS AND FISH HOOKS THAT THE ISLANDERS EXCELLED. THE TRIDACNA OR CLAM SHELL BLADED ADZE WAS THE PRINCIPAL TOOL USED TO CARVE WOOD, AND THE MICRONESIANS WERE EXPERT MAKERS OF COCONUT FIBRE CORDAGE BOTH TWISTED AND PLAITED, WHICH THEY USED ON THE BINDINGS OF WEAPONS AND TOOLS SUCH AS THIS ALL WOOD SPEAR.