Finch & Co



THREE SOLOMON ISLANDS MELANESIAN FISHING LURE HOOKS

A COLLECTION OF THREE SOLOMON ISLANDS MELANESIAN FISHING LURE HOOKS
A. A SMALL DELICATE LURE HOOK MADE FROM A SINGLE PIECE OF PEARL SHELL WITH BLACKENED LINE AND DOT DECORATION. SOUTH EAST REGION OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS
B. A SOUTH EAST SOLOMON ISLANDS LURE HOOK USED AS A SPINNER WITH A TURTLE SHELL POINT BOUND TO A PEARL SHELL SHANK WITH A GLASS TRADE BEAD AND FIBRE HACKLE
C. A SOUTH EAST SOLOMON ISLANDS LURE HOOK USED AS A SPINNER. A CARVED TURTLE SHELL POINT BOUND TO A PEARL SHELL SHANK. A V-SHAPED LINE TIE WITH A GLASS TRADE BEAD AND COLOURED LINEN TRADE CLOTH HACKLE
19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 12.5CM LONG – 5 INS LONG (MAX.)

LITERATURE

FISH WAS AN IMPORTANT NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE STAPLE DIET OF YAMS AND TARO ROOT GROWN ON THE SOLOMON ISLANDS. THE COASTAL PEOPLE DEVELOPED GREAT EXPERTISE IN THE CATCHING OF FISH AND ANY EXCESS CATCH WAS OFTEN TRADED WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE INTERIOR. THE ONE-PIECE LURE HOOKS MADE OF PEARL SHELL WERE CAST WITH RODS FROM THE BOW OF THE CANOE WHILST THE COMPOSITE LURE HOOKS WERE TROLLED FROM THE STERN.