

Finch & C^o



ESKIMO INUIT ARCTIC WALRUS PENIS BONE CLUB

AN ESKIMO INUIT ARCTIC WALRUS PENIS BONE CLUB THE END DECORATED WITH THE HEAD OF A POLAR BEAR CARVED
IN WALRUS IVORY

LATE 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 58.5CM LONG – 23 INS LONG

CF: THE ZOOMORPHIC COLLECTION OF JOHN HAWKINS EXHIBITED JUNE 2010 PAGE 55, ITEM NO. 44

LITERATURE

POLAR BEARS ARE OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH ESKIMO INUIT SUBSISTENCE, BUT WERE ONCE RARELY FOUND SOUTH OF
NORTON SOUND PREFERRING TO STAY NORTH HUNTING SEALS ALONG THE ICE EDGE. SOMETIMES THEY WERE
CARRIED DOWN THE COAST ON FLOATING ICE, BUT UPON REACHING LAND THEY WOULD ALWAYS INSTINCTIVELY BEGIN
TO TRAVEL BACK TO THE NORTH. POLAR BEARS WERE THE CHIEF PREDATORS OF SEALS AND THE CARVING ON THIS
CLUB IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL POWER TO THE HUNTER.