

Finch & C^o



A COLLECTION OF 16 OCEANIC TRIBAL FISH HOOKS COMPRISING:

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A NEW ZEALAND MAORI LARGE WOODEN HOOK USED FOR SHARK FISHING, THE BONE BARB LOST
A NEW ZEALAND MAORI WOOD SHANKED AND HALIOTIS SHELL INLAID TROLLING LURE WITH BONE HOOK SECURED WITH
FLAX CORD

A NORTH WEST COAST TLINGIT HALIBUT HOOK OF SPRUCE ROOT, CEDAR WOOD AND BONE
SEVEN SOLOMON ISLANDS FISH HOOKS SOME WITH GLASS BEADED LURES ONE HOOK WITH AN ADDED MOTHER OF
PEARL STRIP CARVED TO RESEMBLE A BONITO FISH RESTRICTED TO MALAITA ISLAND

TWO TONGAN TRIDACNA SHELL HOOKS ONE WITH A BARBED SHELL HOOK THE OTHER WITH A BONE POINT

TWO MARSHAL ISLANDS FISHHOOKS MADE FROM TRIDACNA SHELL OF TYPICAL FORM

TWO HAWAIIAN ISLANDS TINY MOTHER OF PEARL FISH HOOKS DECORATED WITH STYLISED MARKINGS

LATE 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 2CMLONG - ¾ INS LONG (MIN) / 17CMLONG – 6¾ INS LONG (MAX)

LITERATURE

THE FISHHOOK IS AN ANCIENT FORM OF HUNTING FOR FOOD. FISHHOOKS OF FLAKED STONE HAVE BEEN FOUND DATING FROM NEOLITHIC TIMES AND FISHING IS STILL OF ENORMOUS IMPORTANCE AS A FUNDAMENTAL SOURCE OF PROTEIN TO MANY OF THE PEOPLE'S OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

FISHHOOKS BESIDES BEING BARBED AND BAITED ALSO CARRIED BRIGHTLY COLOURED BEADS OR OTHER MATERIALS, WHICH REVOLVING IN THE WATER SIMULATE A SMALL FISH AND ACT LIKE AN ARTIFICIAL SPINNER TO BAIT AND HOOK A LARGER FISH.

CONSIDERING THAT NONE OF THESE SIXTEEN HOOKS ARE MADE OF ANY FORM OF METAL, AND WERE CONSTRUCTED WITH TOOLS OF STONE AND SHARKS TEETH AND THEN TIED WITH SPECIALLY PREPARED FIBRE, THEY ARE A TRIUMPH OF STONE AGE TECHNOLOGY.

