

Basic Detail Report



Fish Hook

Date

20th Century

Medium

Shell

Description

This object is a curved shell fish hook from Wuvulu Island. Island Oceania is divided into Melanesia, Micronesia, and

Polynesia, but trade and migration have created a great deal of commonality among these cultural and geographic subregions. Despite being only 100 miles away from the coast of New Guinea, the center of Melanesian culture, most individuals on the island of Wuvulu are of Micronesian descent. Some of the earliest theories about the island’s connection to Micronesia were surmised from the use of similar shark tooth weapons to those used in the Gilbert Islands. To this day the unique functional and decorative objects produced on Wuvulu show influences from both Melanesia and Micronesia.

Dimensions

2 3/4 × 1 1/4 × 7/16 in. (7 × 3.2 × 1.1 cm)