

Hunting—*Pisurtaallriit*

The carved tools in this category are associated with both marine and terrestrial hunting and trapping (Table 8.4, Figures 8.12 and 8.13). This includes some of the gear used by hunters as well as weaponry.

Table 8.4. Alutiiq terms for hunting tools

English	Alutiiq	Comment
Arrow Point	Ruuwaq ^m	Term for the whole arrow
Arrow Shaft	Ruuwaq ^m	Term for the whole arrow
Bow	Qitguyaq ^m	
Dart Butt	Ayaqum nullua ^c	
Drag Handle	Agaq ^m	
Foreshaft	Ayaqum pegsuutii ^c	“the spear’s thing for letting go”
Finger Rest	Suawik, Lliiwiat ^c	
Gorge	Saqullkam naryarua’a ^c , Qatuqmaq ^h	“choking thing”
Gut Skin Jacket Cuff Clip	Kanagllum tayarnaa ^c	
Knife Handle	Nuusim puunga ^c	
Lance	Kapsuun ^m ; kapiun ^h	
Non-toggling Harpoon Point / Dart	Iquq ^m , qalugyaq ^h	
Point Sheath	Iqum patua ^c	
Quiver	Ruuwauteq ^c	“thing for holding arrows”
Shaft	Ayaqum puunga ^c	“the spear’s handle/grip”
Sinew Twister	Qikarllum qipsuun ^c	
Slotted Point		
Snare Pin	Negam ilakua’a ^c	
Socket Piece	Ayaqum arunart`staa ^c	“the spear’s thing for heaviness”
Throwing Board	Nuqaq ^m	
Throwing Board Pin	Nuqam kuuliangcua ^c	
Toggling Harpoon Point	Iquq ^m , Paiktuq ^h	
Wound Plug	Mallarsuuteq ^c	

m = term in modern usage, h = historic term, c = term created by Elder Alutiiq speakers

* = suggested term needing additional review

Figure 8.12. Bird hunting gear from Karluk One (AM193).



Figure 8.13. Three examples of nesting harpoon assemblies with objects from Karluk One (AM193).





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Arrow Point	Alutiiq Names	Ruuwaq
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting
		Function	Bird Hunting
Common Materials	Antler, bone, wood		
LxWxD (cm)	5 to 15 cm long		
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Uyak, Settlement Point, Karluk One
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>These common artifacts are typically made of bone, although there are a few wooden examples. Most are but a small number of much larger arrows are present in some collections and may be designed for other uses (e.g., hunting other prey, warfare).</p> <p>Carved arrow heads have a conical proximal end (oval or square in cross section), designed to fit into a narrow shaft about the same width as the arrow head. Above the conical end is a slender, cylindrical body that typically comes to a point. Some arrow heads, however, are blunted. The end is flat. This design stuns rather than wounds its prey, and protects the bird's skin from damage.</p> <p>Most arrow heads are self armed (pointed or blunted), but a few feature an end slot for an endblade. Similarly, most arrows are unbarbed. However, a few feature barbing, particularly unilateral barbs.</p> <p>Linguistic note: The term ruuwaq can be used to describe both the arrow head and the entire arrow assembly (with nocked shaft and fletching)</p>		
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.		
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

ARROW POINT

Antler and bone arrow points from Karluk One (AM195) – ca. 5 to 15cm long



Blunted wooden arrow points from Karluk One (AM195) – ca. 8cm long



Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

Barbe and end slotted arrow point from Karluk One (AM193)



Arrow points from Settlement Point site (AM33)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Arrow Shaft		Alutiiq Names	Ruuwaq	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Bird Hunting
Common Materials	Wood				
LxWxD (cm)					
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Shafts and shaft fragments of many diameters are common in Alutiiq assemblages with wood preservation. It can be very difficult to determine the intended function of these pieces - as linear wooden carvings are common parts of a variety of traditional objects (e.g., rig spreaders, vessel handles, killing lances, harpoons, leisters, etc.)</p> <p>Arrow shafts can be distinguished by their uniform, narrow width and roughly circular cross section, as well as the presence of a nock at the proximal end and a socket (hole) at the distal end.</p> <p>Some of the arrow shafts in the Karluk One collection, and in historic collections, are painted. Painted designs may have helped hunters identify their arrows and the prey they shot.</p> <p>Linguistic note: The term ruuwaq can be used to describe the arrow head, the arrow shaft, and the entire arrow assembly.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

ARROW SHAFT

Painted arrow shafts (proximal end) from Karluk One (AM193)



Wooden arrow shafts from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Bow		Alutiiq Names	Qitguyaq	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Bird hunting
Common Materials	Wood (with sinew reinforcement?)				
LxWxD (cm)	up to 1 cm thick,				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Wooden bow parts were a common find at Karluk One and illustrate that people used slender wooden box to fire arrow. The bows have either a distinct rounded knob or diamond shaped knob at both ends for securing a string. They taper toward both the ends and the center (for gripping).</p> <p>The archaeological examples are relatively short, thin, and lightweight, not like the heavier example found in ethnographic collections from Kodiak. It is unclear whether they had a backing (reinforcement of sinew). However, several sinew twisters (tools for tightening such strands) were recovered from Karluk One.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
Last Update	07/13/2021		Updated By	Amy Steffian	

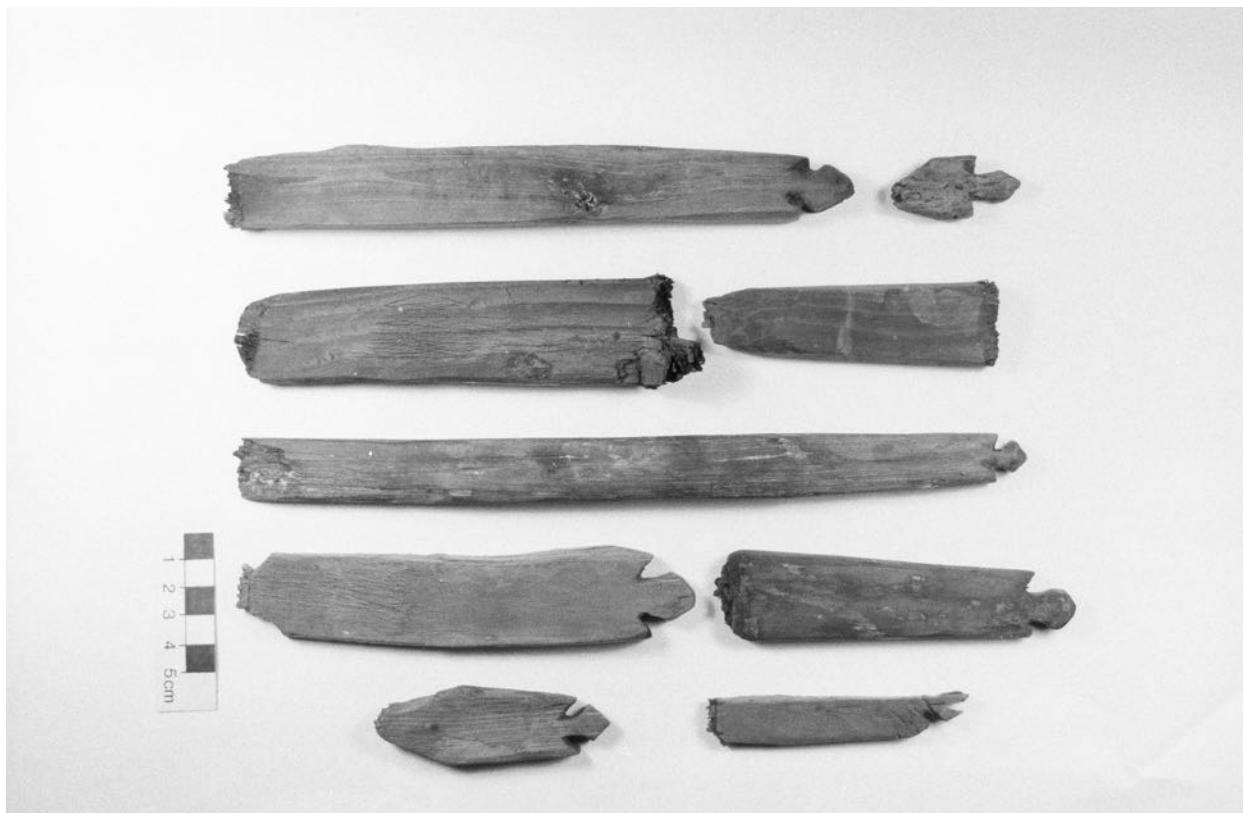
Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

BOW

Bow and arrow fragment from Karluk One (AM193)



Bow parts from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Dart Butt		Alutiiq Names	Ayaqum nullua	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Steady dart in throwing board
Common Materials	Wood				
LxWxD (cm)	ca. 10 cm long				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>These wooden pieces represent the proximal end of a dart intended for launching from a throwing board. Such darts were used in sea otter hunting, and are well known from historic era collections.</p> <p>Dart butts have a wide, bell-shaped proximal end with a small divet in the center. This divet rests against the pin at the distal end of a throwing board, helping to steady the weapon in the board and launch it cleanly.</p> <p>In the middle of these pieces there is a groove cut around the perimeter, perhaps to aid in attaching feather fletching to the dart.</p> <p>On the distal end of each dart butt there is a steeply carved, scarfed joint for attaching the butt to a wooden shaft.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

DART BUTT

Dart butts from Karluk One (AM193)



Dart butt from Karluk One (AM193), proximal detail, painted red



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Drag Handle		Alutiiq Names	Agaq	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Transporting a sea mammal
Common Materials	Wood, bone or antler				
LxWxD (cm)	up to 14 cm long and 2 cm in diameter				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One, Pestrikof collection		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>These artifacts are typically made from a minimally worked piece of wood (e.g., a segment of a branch) or a reworked (recycled) piece. They have a notch or a groove carved near the center. A cord tied to a sea mammal (e.g., though a hole cut through its cheek) was looped over this notch, secured to the handle, and used to tow the animal home in the water.</p> <p>Found in Koniag assemblages, but may also be present in Kachemak assemblages, as there is a bone example in the Pestrikoff collection that has many Kachemak objects.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

DRAG HANDLE

Wooden drag handles from Karluk One (AM193)



Antler (?) drag handle from the Pestrikoff Collection (AM330)





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry **Activity** **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

These small, roughly triangular pieces were lashed to a harpoon shaft to aid a hunter's throwing grip. The are flat on the bottom with a hole drilled through the bottom and then out one side of the piece. The over all form is roughly triangular, but with gently curved sides. The proximal side curve in to accommodate a finger, the distal curves outward.

References

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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

FINGER REST

Finger rests of bone and antler from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Foreshaft		Alutiiq Names	Ayaqum pegsuutiic	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Part of toggling harpoon assembly
Common Materials	Bone, wood				
LxWxD (cm)					
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Uyak site, Settlement Point, Karluk One		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Foreshafts are part of toggling harpoon assemblies and they allow the harpoon head to be easily released. Toggling harpoons first appears in Kodiak's archaeological record during the Kachemak tradition.</p> <p>Foreshaft typically have a wedge-shaped base and long, tapering conical body that ends in a rounded point. A toggling harpoon head sits on top of the forshaft, with the tapered, rounded proximal end of the foreshaft fitting into the hole at the base of harpoon head. The proximal end of these peices is broader than the body and wedge shaped. This base supports hafting the foreshaft to the next piece in the assembly, a wooden shaft.</p> <p>Some foreshaft bases feature and offset line hole, for securing the foreshaft to the harpoon shaft and preventing loss of the piece.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

FORESHAFT

Wooden foreshafts from Karluk One (AM193)

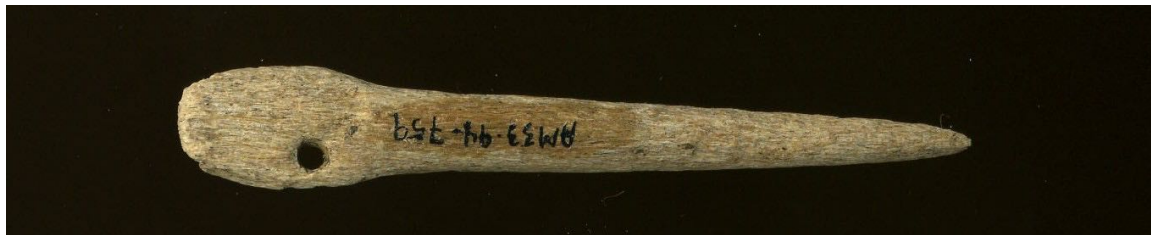


Toggling Harpoon

Bone foreshaft from Karluk One (AM193) – photo courtesy Amy Margaris



Bone foreshaft from Settlement Point (AM33)





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Gorge	Alutiiq Names	Saullkam naryarua'a, Qatuqmaq		
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Bird hunting
Common Materials	Bone, Wood				
LxWxD (cm)	up to 6 cm long				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Uyak, Karluk One		
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Alutiiq hunters also used gorges to harvest birds. These simple but ingenious tools feature a short piece of bone or wood, sharply pointed at each end and tapered, grooved, or notched in the center to hold a string. A hunter baited the gorge then unraveled the string and waited for a bird to take the bait. When the gorge stuck in the animal's gullet, the hunter could pull it to him and dispatch it.</p>				
References	Steffian, Amy F., Marnie A. Leist, Sven D. Haakanson, and Patrick G. Saltonstall, 2015, Kal'unek—From Karluk, Kodiak Alutiiq History and the Archaeology of the Karluk One Site. University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

GORGE

Bone gorges from the Uyak Site (AM3)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names

Gut Skin Jacket Cuff Clip

Alutiiq Names

Kanagllum tayamaa

Industry

Carving

Activity Hunting

Function

Keeps water from entering jacket

Common
Materials

Baleen

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition

Ocean Bay

Kachemak

Koniag

Alutiiq

Miniature

Yes

Example Sites Found

Karluk One

No/Unknown

Description

This object looks like a bracelet with a groove cut around the center of the outer face of the narrow band. There is a small opening where the end of the band are roughly square and gently rounded.

Hunters tied such cuffs around the wrists of the gut skin jackets to prevent water from running up their sleeves. This helped to keep them dry and prevent hypothermia when paddling and hunting.

References

Steffian, Amy F., Marnie A. Leist, Sven D. Haakanson, and Patrick G. Saltonstall, 2015, Kal'unek—From Karluk, Kodiak Alutiiq History and the Archaeology of the Karluk One Site. University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks.

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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

GUT SKIN JACKET CUFF CLIP

Gut skin jacket cuff clip of baleen from Karluk One (AM193)





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry **Activity** **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Alutiiq hunters used large, double-sided slate knives for butchering sea mammals - known as flensing knives. Drill holes suggest these tools were hafted in wooden handles. A sturdy wooden handle from Karluk One features a pair of drill holes at the end that suggest it may have been used to haft a flensing knife. The handle has a rounded proximal end and tapers toward the center to assist the user's grip. The distal end has a thinned flat area with two drilled holes and a narrow channel between them (vertically) for tool hafting.

References

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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

KNIFE HANDLE

Slate flensing knives and a wooden handle from Karluk One (AM193)





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry **Activity** **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

An unusual bone piece from the Settlement Point site is carved in the shape of a lance. It resembles the large slate lances of Ocean Bay II times - with a rectangular stem, weak shoulders, and a long triangular blade. It may be a dagger.

References

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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

LANCE

Bone lance from Settlement Point (AM193) – photo courtesy of Amy Margaris



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Non-Toggling Harpoon Point		Alutiiq Names	Iquq, Qalugyaq	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Sea mammal hunting
Common Materials	Antler, bone				
LxWxD (cm)					
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Rice Ridge, Uyak, Settlement Point, Karluk One		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>These are fixed harpoon heads, meaning that they are designed to penetrate animal skin and stay in place as a result of barbing. They do not toggle - turn sideways - inside their prey. This is the oldest style of harpoon head in Alutiiq assemblages, present from Ocean Bay 1 to the historic period.</p> <p>Non-toggling harpoons occur in a variety of sizes and can have a number of features and barbing patterns. The oldest examples tend to be symmetrically, bilaterally barbed around with a wedge-shaped base and have a pair of small knobs (line guards) just above the bases. These lack a line hole, a feature of later barbed harpoon heads. In later examples, there may be an offset line hole in the wedge-shaped base.</p> <p>Later harpoons tend to be unilaterally barbed, but a variety of barbing techniques appear in assemblages. In these examples, the barb extends out to about the width of the base and the line hole is below the tip of the barbs in the base.</p> <p>These tools were fitted into a socket piece tied to a wooden shaft and launched with a throwing board (larger examples) or shot with a bow (smaller examples)</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

NON-TOGGLING HARPOON POINT / DART HEAD

Dart heads from Karluk One (AM193)



Non-toggling harpoon heads from Karluk One (AM193) – Photo courtesy of Amy Margaris



Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

Non-toggling harpoon heads and preforms from AFG-004, Pestrikof Collection



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Point Sheath		Alutiiq Names	Iqum patua	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Protect slate projectile
Common Materials	Wood				
LxWxD (cm)	about 12 cm long				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One		
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Alutiiq hunters protected their slate lance heads with two-piece wooden sheaths. Sheaths also protected the hunter's boat or clothing from being pierced by a lance.</p> <p>These long, narrow, triangular sheaths feature two identical pieces (sides) designed to hold a point and the top portion of its shaft. An indentation carved on the inside accommodates the shaft. The outer edge of the inside features a raised rim, to provide some room for the sheath's contents. Small notches carved on both sides of each piece, and sometimes small grooves across the outer surface of the pieces, facilitated lashing the sheath over a point.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

POINT SHEATH

Two-piece point sheath from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Quiver		Alutiiq Names	Ruuwauteq	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Holds arrows
Common Materials	Wood and lashing material				
LxWxD (cm)					
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	None - ethnographic		
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Alutiiq hunters used different kinds of arrows for hunting on land and sea. Arrows for caribou and game birds had fixed heads and people carried them in a skin quivers. At sea, hunters carried arrows with detachable heads in sturdy quivers lashed to the deck of their kayaks. These quivers were carved from wood or woven from spruce roots. A pair of hunters paddling in a two-man kayak might share one quiver positioned between them.</p> <p>Quivers are rare ethnographic objects. However given the large number of arrow heads found in ancestral sites from the past 2,500 years, arrows were common and quiver were likely widely used. A rare ethnographic example of a wooden quiver is included here due to the ubiquity of arrows and items of bentwood technology. There are a variety of bentwood objects in the Karluk One assemblage that could be quiver fragments.</p> <p>This body of this quiver is made from a single piece of wood, carefully carved, bent to shape with steam, and lashed closed. The owner slid his arrows into the quivers point first, so that the wide top of the container protected the arrow's feather fletching.</p>				
References	This manual				
Last Update	07/13/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian		

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

QUIVER

Historic bentwood quiver and arrow AM797.





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry **Activity** **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

These artifacts are linear segments of wood, often round to slightly oval in cross section, that are like pieces of arrow, leister, harpoon and lance shafts (e.g., the medial and proximal segments of composite hunting tools). It is also possible, however, that some of these are segments of other linear pieces of, artifacts with shaft-like components, e.g., rig spreaders, vessel handles, mask and rattle braces. In short, this category lumps a variety of carved linear pieces of unknown function.

References

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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

SHAFT

Shaft fragments from Karluk One (AM193)





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry **Activity** **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

These small, s-shaped pieces of wood are designed to tighten the sinew backing on a bow. They feature a long, straight central area with a sloped ends (sloping in opposite directions).

References

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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

SINEW TWISTER

Sinew twisters from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

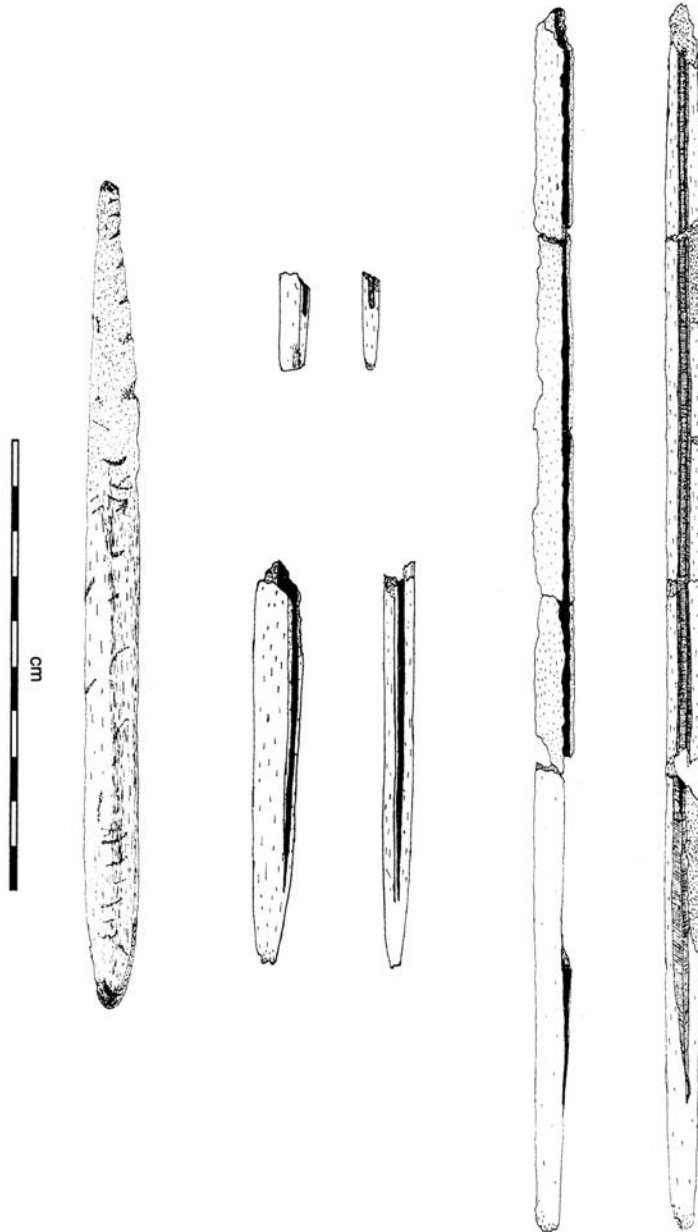
Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Slotted Point		Alutiiq Names		
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Weapon head that holds microblades
Common Materials	Bone, antler				
LxWxD (cm)	> 28 cm long				
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Rice Ridge		
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>At the Rice Ridge site, archaeologists found chipped stone microblade technology in association with long, carved, bilaterly slotted bone points. These are long, slender pieces of bone or antler with deep grooves along each side. Each point has two grooves, parallel to the length of the piece, on opposite sides. The points have a tapered base and a pointed tip. The grooves are just wide enough to accommodate a microblade. In cross section, these point are I-shaped, due to the deep grooving along opposite margins.</p> <p>These tools are associated with Ocean Bay I assemblages and resemble a few other examples of slotted microblade points found elsewhere in Alaska.</p>				
References	Steffian, Amy F., Elizabeth B. Pontti, and Patrick G. Saltonstall, 2002, Early Sites and Microblade Technologies from the Kodiak Archipelago. Anthropological Papers of the University of Alaska NS 2(1):1-38.				
Last Update	07/14/2021		Updated By	Amy Steffian	

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

SLOTTED POINT

Slotted point fragments from Rice Ridge site (AM199)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Snare Pin		Alutiiq Names	Negam ilakua'a	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Stake out a snare
Common Materials	Wood				
LxWxD (cm)	Up to 13 cm long				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One, Malina Creek		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>These artifacts are interpreted as stake for woven snares - design to hold the edges of the snare down. They look like ten stakes. There are two styles. Both have a pointed distal end. One style has a rounded end (like a nail). The other style has a knob with a notch below it.</p>				
References	<p>Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.</p>				
Last Update	07/14/2021		Updated By	Amy Steffian	

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

SNARE PIN

Snare pins from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Socket Piece		Alutiiq Names	Ayaqum arunart`staa	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Hold weapon head in harpoon
Common Materials	Bone, wood				
LxWxD (cm)	Up to about 17 cm long				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Uyak, Karluk One, Maline Creek		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>A socket piece is part of a harpoon assembly. It sits between the harpoon and the shaft, and acts as both a holder and a shock absorber. Socket pieces are paired with fixed (non-toggling or barbed) harpoons and in some cases, with lance heads. These are common tools used throughout Alutiiq history and there are several types.</p> <p>The most commonly found type of socket is a one piece tool that looks like a clothes pin. It has a bifurcated proximal end, designed to accommodate a wooden shaft. The distal end is gently rounded and features an oval hole designed to hold the trapezoidal base of a barbed harpoon. An example from Karluk features some packing / shims in the hole that helped to keep the harpoon in place. These pieces are up to about 2 cm in diameter.</p> <p>A similar, one piece wooden socket from Karluk One features a slotted distal end and a tapered The socket is longer and more delicate than the sturdy one piece bone examples described above.</p> <p>A third style - a two-piece socket - features a pair of identical wooden pieces with a depression carved in the inner, distal end of each side. Some have a groove or notches on the outside (dorsal side) of the pieces, just below the depressions, for tying the sides together. These may be designed to hold lance heads.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
Last Update	07/20/2021		Updated By	Amy Steffian	

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

SOCKET PIECE

One piece bone sockets from Karluk One (AM193)



One piece wood sockets from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

Two-piece wood sockets from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Throwing Board		Alutiiq Names	Nuqaq	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Launching harpoons
Common Materials	Wood				
LxWxD (cm)	36 cm long				
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One, Uyak Site (miniature), Malina Creek		
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>A throwing board is a tool used to launch a harpoon, dart, or other hunting projectile. A complete example from Karluk One is about 46 cm long. It had a handgrip on one end, a long, triangular body with a central groove for a harpoon shaft, and a small pin at the far (distal) end. A hunter laid a harpoon in the thrower and then held the complete assembly behind his shoulder. When he was ready to throw, the hunter simply swung his arm forward and snapped his wrist to launch the harpoon. The leverage provided by the thrower acted as an extension of the hunter's arm, creating a faster, more powerful throw.</p> <p>Examples of historic throwing boards from the Alutiiq homeland are similar in size and design to archaeological examples. However, a number of historic pieces have been decorated with carvings of sea otters on the back (dorsal) side. These carvings are positioned right below the handle - at the proximal end of the groove that holds the weapon shaft.</p> <p>Throwing boards have only been found in Koniag assemblages, but they are assumed to be part of older assemblages based on other evidence. First, throwing board pins were among the artifacts recovered from Ocean Bay context at the Rice Ridge site. Second, there is a tiny ivory carving of a throwing board from the late Kachemak excavations at the Uyak site (AM3). Third, the harpoon technology found in the Ocean Bay tradition persists through the Koniag tradition, suggesting that the tools used to launch these harpoons were similar across time.</p>				
References	Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.				
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THROWING BOARD

Throwing boards from Karluk One (AM193) – top: ventral view; bottom: dorsal view



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Throwing Board Pin		Alutiiq Names	Nuqam kuuliangcua	
Industry	Carving	Activity	Hunting	Function	Steady weapon in board
Common Materials	Bone				
LxWxD (cm)	maximally 4cm long				
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Horseshoe Cove, Karluk One		
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>Throwing boards pins have been found in Ocean Bay, transitional Kachemak, and Koniag assemblages (as a broken pin embedded in the end of a complete throwing board) and are presumed to be part of assemblages throughout Alutiiq history. These small artifacts are typically carved of bone and designed to be inset into the proximal end of a throwing board. One end of the pin rests above the groove in the throwing board and is designed to link to and stabilize the dart / harpoon for launching from the board.</p> <p>A pin from a transitional Kachemak assemblage is an open (wide) L-shape, with a rectangular distal end and a cylindrical body that is cut at an angle at the proximal end.</p> <p>Examples from Ocean Bay deposits at Rice Ridge have a rectangular distal end and cross section that widens and thicken to a bifurcated end with a notch between two rounded spurs - one shorter than the other.</p>				
References	This manual				
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Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Carved Organic

THROWING BOARD PIN

Throwing board pins from Rice Ridge (AM19)



Throwing board pin from the Horseshoe Cove site (AM498)



Throwing board detail from Karluk One (AM193) showing position of pin (this example is broken)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names

Toggling Harpoon Point

Alutiiq Names

Iquq, Paiktuq

Industry

Carving

Activity Hunting

Function

Sea mammal hunting

Common
Materials

Bone, antler

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition

Ocean Bay

Kachemak

Koniag

Alutiiq

Miniature

Yes

Example Sites Found

Uyak, Karluk One

No/Unknown

Description

These small triangular harpoon heads features, a central line hole drilled through the body and sometimes, an end slot. This tool is designed to sit on a foreshaft (fitted into the hole drilled vertically into the proximal end of the harpoon body). A lined. When used to strike an animal, the harpoon toggles. It turns sideways in the animal and prevents the weapon from coming out of the wound.

Toggling harpoon heads appear in Kodiak archaeological record in the Kachemak tradition, where they were common. They were used in the Koniag tradition as well, but are less common.

Sometimes, the distal ends of these harpoon heads are resharpened so much that they become short and rounded. Some toggling harpoons have etched designs. At least three examples from the Uyak site have a circle and dot motif on the surface. Another toggling harpoon head from the site has a small caribou hoof carved into the proximal end of the tang (the long piece of the harpoon head that extends below the body on one side).

References

Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.

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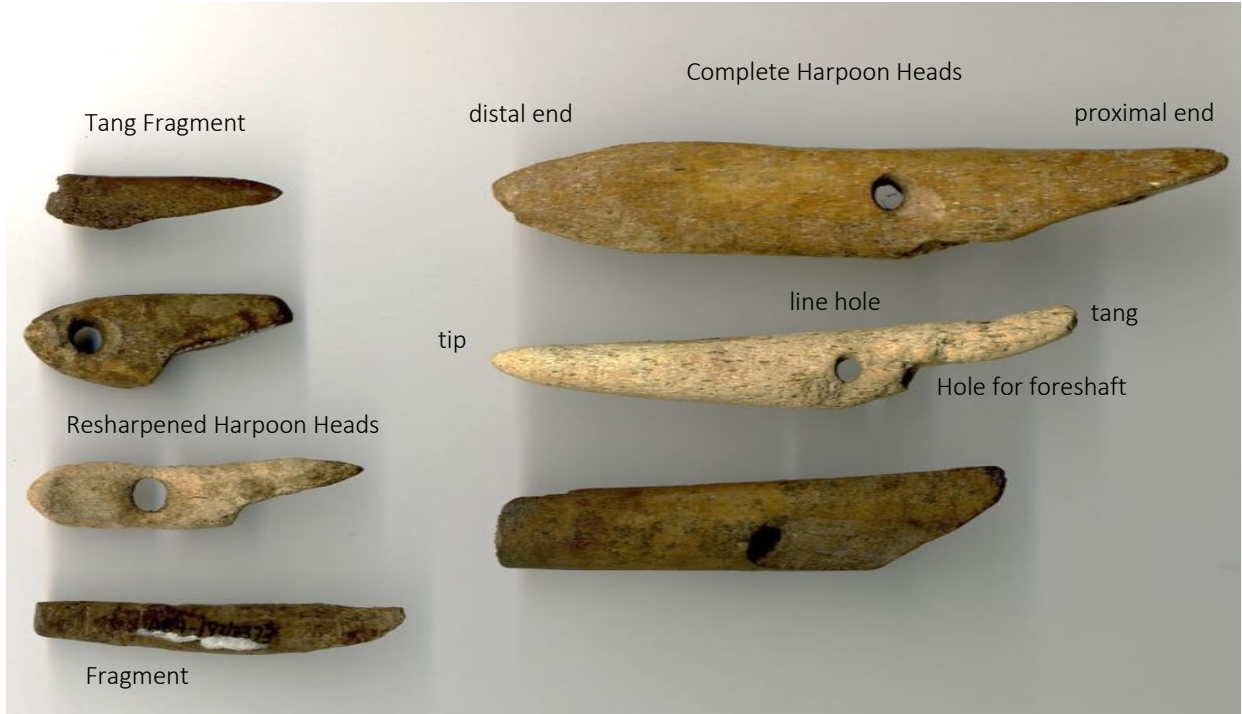
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TOGGLING HARPOON POINT

Toggling harpoon points and fragments from Karluk One (AM193) – Photo courtesy of Amy Margaris



Toggling harpoon points. Left: Settlement Point (AM33) – two views, Right: decorated toggling harpoon from the Uyak site (AM3).





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry **Activity** **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Wound plugs filled the wound created by a hunter's weapon, retaining the animal's blood for later use.

These tools are conical, taper from a distal end with a drilled hole (for keeping a set of plugs on a string) to a fatter, rounded end designed to fit in a wound. There is an groove around the wide distal end.

References

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WOUND PLUG

Wound plugs from Karluk One (AM193)

