



Dagger

Date

c. 1890

Primary Maker

Tlingit

Medium

Copper, abalone shell, horn, native tanned hide

Description

The being depicted on the hilt of this dagger is a shark or dogfish, recognized by gill slits on the pointed forehead. Iridescent abalone inlay, a valuable material imported from California, highlights the eyes. Copper daggers were most likely made for sale because copper is too soft for effective combat.

Dimensions

Overall: 23 × 3 1/2 × 1/2 in. (58.4 × 8.9 × 1.3 cm)