



Dagger

Date
1800-1850

Primary Maker
Tlingit

Medium
Steel blade, bone, abalone shell, 2-strand native fiber, native tanned leather, canvas

Description
This dagger may have acquired its name “Swimming-Across-Wolf-Knife” from its second owner. He is said to have commissioned the carving of a wolf’s head. Its jaw is

raised as if swimming through water and the blue abalone shell eyes, ears, nostrils, and teeth also suggests the water’s reflection. Blood stains on the leather thong are a grim reminder of the dagger’s history.

Dimensions
Overall: 14 7/8 × 2 5/8 in. (37.8 × 6.7 cm)