

as armatures of spears and arrows used in the capture of fish.

Spear points that were employed by the aborigines as fishing implements are characteristically slender, very long in proportion to their width. From the fact that they are numerous along the banks of rivers and creeks it is supposed that they were largely, if not exclusively, used in spearing or shooting fish.

It is well-nigh impossible to positively identify a spear point as having been used for fishing purposes. The proximity of good fishing grounds and, to some small extent, the size and shape of the implement, are all the basis one has for surmising a specimen's former utilitarian function.

"Even among the finished implements it is often difficult to decide whether a specimen may have served the Indians as a knife or as an arrow or spear point; some would appear to have served almost equally well for any and all these purposes." (C. E. Brown, vol. 20, no. 1, Wis. Archeol.)

Simon Kahquados (Quitos) a Forest county Potawatomi, informed Dr. Alphonse Gerend that "the historic or modern Indians in Sheboygan county made cylindrical spear heads from deer horn with which they speared fish." Dr. Gerend reports that such specimens have been found on the Black River village sites. (Wis. Archeol., vol. 19, no. 3)

The Indian fishing spear consisted of a shaft at the head of which was a copper, bone, horn or thin, elongated flint point. The spear was generally used in the taking of large fish.

Spearing was a favorite Indian mode of taking fish. The Indian fisherman was very expert in striking fish when they came up the rivers to spawn. Along the banks of rapid streams the Indians stationed themselves on rocks and speared fish as they passed.

"In former times fishing among the Winnebago Indians of Wisconsin seems to have been done exclusively by spearing or by shooting. The spear (woca) consisted of a long stick provided with a bone or horn point. Spearing was done preferably at night with the aid of torches made of pine pitch." (Dr. Paul Radin, "The Winnebago Tribe", 37th Annual Report, Bu. of Am. Eth.)