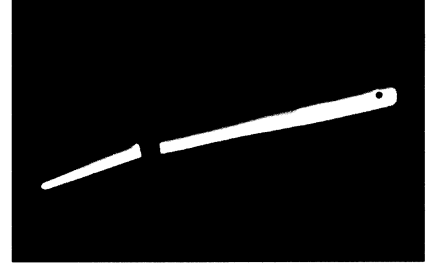


BONE BODKIN

MELANSON SETTLEMENT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Function
(How was it used?)

A bone bodkin is a long, thick needle with a ballpoint end and usually has a large, elongated eye. The bone bodkin can be flat or round and is generally used for threading elastic, ribbon, or tape through casings and lace openings.



Site Description
(Description of site where artifact was found)

Melanson Settlement contains the archaeological remains of a pre-Deportation Acadian community (c.1664–1755). The archaeological resources of the site reflect the family communities settled by Acadians and the unique dykeland agriculture practised along the Annapolis River (formerly the Dauphin River).

Material
(What was it made of?)

bone (usually deer bone)

Manufacture
(How was it made?)

Sawn and filed with drilled hole

Date
(When was it made?)

18th century (modern reproduction)

Ascription
(Where was it made?)

Unknown

Size
(How big is it?)

Length—8.9 cm; width (at widest point)—0.7 cm; diameter of hole—0.1 cm

Status
(Who used it? Was it used every day or for special occasions?)

Every day

Comments

A very similar complete bone bodkin was excavated at the Melanson Settlement National Historic Site.

Artifact-Related Websites

<http://www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/ns/melanson/index.aspx>

<http://www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/ns/melanson/natcul/natcull.aspx>