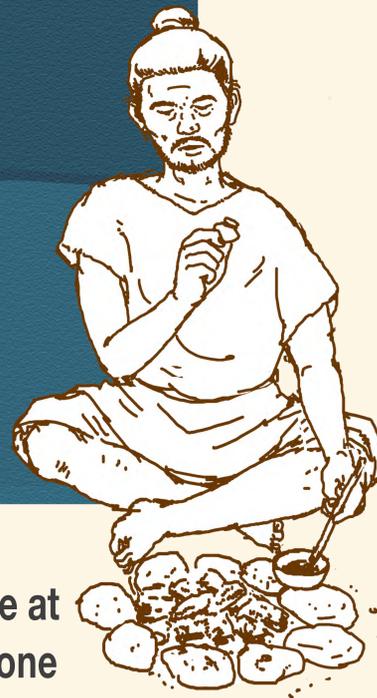


縄文人はアスファルトを どのように 利用したか？

How did the Jomon people use asphalt?



Melting

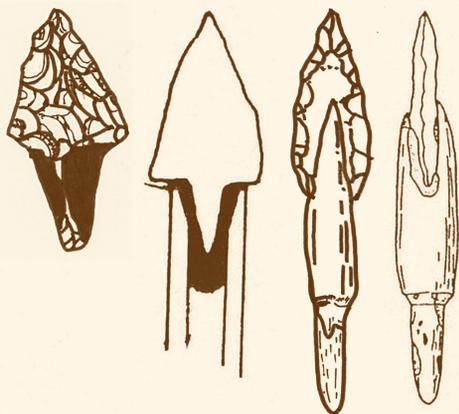


(Goshono Site, Iwate Prefecture)

Warm asphalt with a large piece of pottery and melt it.

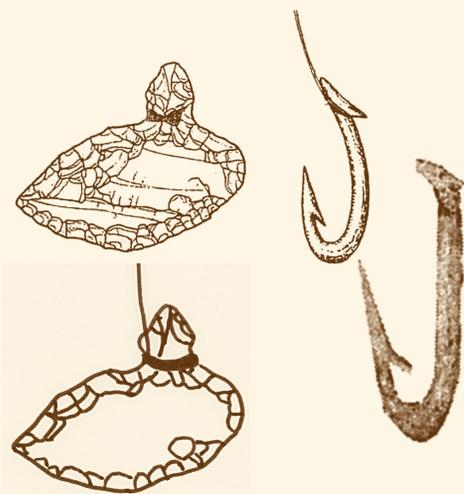
Asphalt was transported in containers such as pottery. In villages it was used a little at a time after being melted by being heated up on a sunken hearth in dwellings. Stone arrowheads and stone knives with asphalt on them were discovered at the Miyahata Site. Asphalt was used to attach stone arrowheads to arrows or to harden the strings with which the knives were tied. In other Jomon-period villages, asphalt was also used as a glue to repair pottery or as a color to paint the eyes of clay figures.

Mounting



Asphalt used as a glue to mount stone arrowheads or hooks to handles.

Winding string



(Sangandi shell mound, Shinchimachi)

Asphalt used to wind a string around a portable stone knife or a hook.

Depicting



(Wadai Site)

(Tsukanoshita Site, Akita Prefecture)

In very rare cases, asphalt was used as a paint to draw on the faces of clay figures by depicting their eyes.

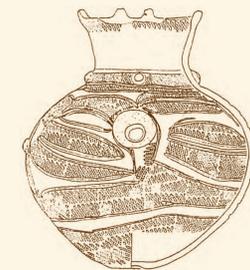
Repairing



(Hanabatake Site, Aizubangemachi)



(Hanabatake Site, Aizubangemachi)



(Sangandi shell mound, Shinchimachi)



(Kazahari I Site, Aomori Prefecture)

Asphalt was used to repair broken pottery or clay figures by applying it to the edges of broken sections.